



# E-Gazette

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July 2008:

- Graduation Ceremony July 2008
- The MPP experience according to... Anne-Marie Tosserams
- Maastricht becoming a hub in the International Migration and Integration landscape
- DEMOS presents: New Committee
- AAU The Aid Effectiveness Puzzle – Completing the Picture? (14-15 October)
- MGSOG Alumni Day
- Nice to meet you... Laura Brown
- The MPP experience according to... Anke Schliwen
- Seminar on EU Policies and Inter-European Cooperation on Migration (22-24 September)
- Recent publications
- Upcoming events

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Graduation Ceremony July 2008





The 8<sup>th</sup> of July 2008 was again a very memorable day for the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance. More than 42 students with family and friends gathered to celebrate their graduation after a year of lectures, heated discussions, studying night after night and fun. The ceremony took place in the wonderful setting of the Bonbonnière, a former theatre built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. During the official part of the event, the students were addressed by the school's academic director Chris de Neubourg; SPF/SPD coordinator Jessica Hagenzanker who spoke on behalf of the ILO, and the new president of DEMOS Nestar Lakot. The teaching staff of the MPP programme was represented by Morag Goodwin (Faculty of Law) and Maud Huynen (ICIS) who entertained the audience with some classroom anecdotes and even shared some useful details about globalisation and sustainability. The programme coordinators addressed each student personally and made sure the students wouldn't go home empty-handed. After the official part everybody was invited to toast to the successful end of the academic year. The drink took place at the premises of School of Governance to show the family and friends where their beloved ones had been studying.

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### The MPP experience according to... Anne-Marie Tosserams

MPP Graduate, 2007  
Junior Project Manager Africa  
Co-operation Agency of the Association  
of the Netherlands Municipalities



In my motivation letter for the master Public Policy and Human Development (MPP) I wrote that I hoped *"to obtain the tools necessary to be able to develop, analyse and implement policies which will contribute towards making a better life for those 'less' fortunate"*. My year at the Maastricht Graduate School of

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Governance more than met this objective.

I first came in contact with the School, whilst writing my final thesis for my previous studies, International Business. I received some great guidance and support from the School, but what struck me most was their great knowledge and expertise regarding public policy making and good governance for the developed and the developing world. Even more so regarding their know how on social protection. Willing to gain some of their expertise, I decided to do an additional master. I choose for the track Social Policy and Labour (as it was called then) as I figured this would complement best my already acquired knowledge and give the best tools to enter/tackle the real world.

The courses, all taught by experts in the international playing field were very diverse and highly challenging. Working on various case studies, in small groups made the learning experience very intense. Being with approximately 35 people, coming from 30 different countries with all various sorts of backgrounds, making this group quite unique; a miniature version of the real world. This diversity was not always easy; it often led to heated debates, but these discussions were filled with such a richness I feel privileged to have experienced.

Via the School's contacts I had the opportunity to carry out an internship with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Netherlands. Working for the department 'Direction Effectiveness & Quality' was a very valuable learning experience. The department examines the effectiveness and quality of development cooperation activities by collating, recording and analyzing relevant data. As a result the department makes policy recommendations and develops as well as maintains instruments for implementing policies on cross-theme and cross-country issues. MPP could not have been a better preparation for this. My main assignment here concerned capacity building. This is a complex issue and is one of the most fundamental elements for successful Development Cooperation; without capacity building, a successful and sustainable policy can not be implemented. In addition I was assigned a position on the organization committee for a conference that involved all Heads of Development Cooperation, who are normally based at Dutch embassies around the world, which enabled me to sneak preview the diplomatic world.

Through this internship I made contact with my current employer; the International Co-operation Agency of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities. This organisation aims to facilitate decentralisation and to strengthen local governments in developing and transitional countries. My career direction, as it is now, is exactly where I hoped to be when I started with the master's programme. The School could not have prepared me any better!

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## Maastricht becoming a hub in the International Migration and Integration landscape

Slowly but surely Maastricht is becoming an internationally renowned location in the migration and integration research landscape. After successfully hosting two high end Migration conferences in March (World Bank Migration and Integration Workshop, Advanced Academic Update on International Migration), from 16-17 July the School of Governance once again turned into an intellectual meeting place for the international migration and integration community. The School was approached by the European Network of Excellence in International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion (IMISCOE) to host a specialised conference themed 'Local Dynamics and Immigrant Economic Outcomes' with the aim to bring together leading researchers across Europe and abroad to discuss local aspects relating to immigrant economic integration. Topics of discussion included among others local immigrant economic contributions to receiving countries, and the relative importance of local dynamics and social networks for immigrant economic outcomes. Next to immigrant labour market outcomes, many workshop contributions including the inspiring keynote speech by Robert Kloosterman of the AMIDSt Institute (University of Amsterdam) discussed the growing phenomenon of immigrant self-employment.

The workshop provided a relaxed, small scale setting and offered a unique opportunity to discuss some of the latest developments in the field of research, exchange thoughts, and provide a forum for future research cooperation. The workshop programme not only stood out for its highly international scope but also by the interdisciplinarity of the group of assembled experts.

Next to the distinguished academic programme, participants were also treated to a grand-style dinner prepared specially for the occasion by one of Maastricht's celebrated chefs and held in the flashy inner courtyard of the School. The School further proved its fine sense of hospitality in a tailor-made scenic city walk through the historic centre of town offered by the local organiser and PhD research fellow Pascal Beckers.

All in all, yet another great Migration event to put the School and Maastricht on the international Migration and Integration map. Special thanks to the School's Managerial Director, Annemarie Rima, for her warm and enthusiastic words of welcome, and of course to the many local supporters without whom this event would not have been possible.

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DEMOS presents: New  
Committee



We believe some of you have met both of us already but if you have never, we will introduce ourselves. Nestar Lakot Okella (MPP student) is the Vice President, (now taking care of the office of the President of Demos) and Santa Ozolina (MPP student) is the General Secretary of Demos. Demos is an association of the student body of Maastricht Graduate School of Governance. In the last year, Demos has been involved in a number of activities that bring together students of MGSOG.

Some of the activities that Demos was involved in last year included among others:

- organizing international dinners,
- organizing academic trip to the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium;
- assisting in promotion of school activities like graduation ceremonies and also different kind of informal events.

In the coming semester and academic year, Demos is looking forward to welcoming the students that will join MGSOG in September, 2008; organizing an academic trip for the Master's students of the school; assisting in promoting activities that the school may organize like the upcoming alumni day on October 3rd 2008; providing information related to Dutch culture; organizing elections for more representatives to join Demos board. In autumn, MGSOG students will elect the President, Treasurer and Organising Secretary of Demos that will work together with the two of us to make the coming academic year even more exciting and interesting.

As students of MGSOG, we hope for new ideas and challenges! You are all encouraged to make significant contribution to the affairs of DEMOS.

For more information on what Demos is and what they are doing, please visit Demos blog at: <http://demosmgsog.wordpress.com/>

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AAU The Aid Effectiveness Puzzle – Completing the Picture?

Maastricht,

14

-15

October

The effectiveness of development assistance is not a new theme, but the

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issue has taken on a greater urgency in the last few years, following the disappointments with aid results in the past, the need to reach the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and the additional efforts to promote stability, peace and greater equality in developing countries.

This Advanced Academic Update (AAU) on Aid Effectiveness is explicitly scheduled after 'Accra' in order to offer a forum for donors, partners from developing countries and academia to discuss the outcomes of the forum in the light of the gap between political reality and academic scrutiny.

The aim of this AAU is to contribute to a better understanding of the problems that underpin the whole debate on aid effectiveness. The participants will learn about the latest developments in aid research and their applicability for work in the field. [Please click here for more information about the event >>](#)

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### [MGSOG Alumni Day](#)

The 3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2008 will be the first official alumni day organised by the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance. Many alumni that have studied at the School since the foundation will reunite at their home away from home, to share and exchange experiences and catch up with their former fellow classmates and graduates.

After being welcomed by our academic director and having learned about all latest developments within the School, the alumni will be able to catch up with each other over lunchtime. We are delighted to announce that the former prime-minister of Belgium Guy Verhofstadt will be the keynote speaker for the afternoon. During the workshop in the late afternoon some alumni will present the policy challenges they face within their professional lives now and ask fellow alumni for input where possible. During the workshop Community with Endless Possibilities our staff will give an overview of all opportunities offered by the School such as academic research, internships and employment opportunities and the expanding community of professionals. The School is continuously looking for ways to cooperate with, as well as create and maintain an active alumni network. Would an online community of practice be the answer? And if so, how should this community look like? After a fruitful day it's time to let our hair down, enjoy good food, team up for the quiz night and dance to the music! I would certainly know what to do if I were an alumnus; sign up!

[\\*Please note that the deadline to register is the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2008. Click here to view the programme and the registration form >>](#)

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Nice to meet you... Laura Brown



Hi!

I think that now, most of you know me as being an intern at the communication department, but for those who don't: I am Laura Brown, 22 years old; a French student who came to do her internship at the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance. I started my internship on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April 2008 and I like it a lot. I am responsible for the organization of events such as the Alumni Day, Charity Ball, the MGSOG Movie Series etc.

Before I started my internship, I was living in France where I am currently doing a 2 years master's programme in international management and business. Prior to that, I first did 2 years at the University of Technology of Besancon (my home town) in the field of Information and Communication specialised in corporate and organisational communication. I had the opportunity to do part of my bachelor as an Erasmus student in International Communication in European Studies in Maastricht at the Hogeschool Zuyd. Being in Maastricht really inspired me as an exchange student, especially the higher educational system in comparison with the French system. In order to try to make a change on a higher level in my home country, I thought that I would need to finalise my educational curriculum by adding a strong policy making and governance component to my background. Consequently, I decided to apply for the MPP programme at the School of Governance starting in February 2009, and I hope that I to be admitted for the specialisation in Social Policy Design. From September onwards, I am working at the School in the communication department part-time. You can always drop by my office J

Greetings  
Laura Brown

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The MPP experience according to... Anke Schliwen  
*Writing her thesis at McGill University: Life à la Montréal*

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In April 2008, I decided that it was time for some adventure on the other side of the ocean: I wanted to write my Master's thesis for the MPP Programme in Montreal, Canada, at the prestigious McGill University. No sooner said than done: I was stepping in the plane one month later to start a research internship at the Institute for Health and Social Policy and simultaneously work on my thesis topic: an international comparison of the provision of sick leave for personal health needs. My intention was to recap all my knowledge of empirical academic work in a university setting once more and to apply some econometric skills to real life data. Sick leave is still a very unexplored topic that crosses the lines of health sciences, labour politics and law and so far no large international



study has been conducted. This leaves me with a free hand to find out something totally new. Enjoying the great support of two senior researchers (Jody Heymann, director of the institute and Alison Earle, lecturer at the Harvard school of Public Health) I made good progress: one of the major findings of the study is the positive relationship between the generosity of sickness benefits and the health status of the population. Countries that provide full income replacement when workers become ill for a period of at least 26 weeks or until recovery show a significantly higher healthy life expectancy rate and lower infant mortality. The analyses are almost finished and the process of writing my first publication started. This leaves me with a little more time to enjoy this beautiful city. Montreal is pulling out all its charm in the summer and offers great food, a never ending row of festivals (which was topped by the world's biggest Jazz Festival in June), a multicultural student scene and great people that take good care of me. I might want to stay here for another year as a position at the Institute for Health and Social Policy was offered to me, but no decisions are made yet. But continuing research in the intersection field of health and social policy will be my goal for the next couple of years and completing the Master's programme at MGSOG in Social Policy and Labour proved to be very useful and provided me with the necessary skills and background knowledge.



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## Seminar on EU Policies and Inter-European Cooperation on Migration

*Maastricht, 22-24 September*

This seminar is the first in a series on European Migration Policies and will take place on 22-24 September. The seminars can be taken independently or as one of the components for the executive master programme in European Migration Policies.

It is not a coincidence that the seminar takes place in Maastricht. That is where the common migration policy was for the first time integrated into the institutional framework of the European Union and since then, the interest in migration research took off in several Maastricht-based institutions. The expertise of both, the University Maastricht and European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) has been used in developing the Master programme. Relevant know-how on migration is notably present in the Faculty of Law, the Faculty of Art and Social Sciences, the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, the MGSOG as well as the EIPA Luxembourg and Barcelona Antennae.

This seminar will give an introduction to the *Acquis Communautaire* in the field of EU migration law and policies. In the last nine years the European Union has striven to develop an area of freedom, security and justice, where the free movement of persons is ensured. The results of the actions taken so far are mixed. On the one hand, the Union has managed to reach a harmonisation of rules, at least to some extent, in the sensitive field of immigration and asylum law. On the other hand, several EU measures could be challenged from human rights' perspective or international obligations. During the debates, participants will have the opportunity to formulate their own point of view concerning these issues and discussing these matters on the basis of their national experiences. Next to experts from the host institutions, the lecturers come also from other renowned institutions like FRONTEX, European Commission or Center for European

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Policy Studies. The seminar will be interactive with a mixture of academic and practitioners' lectures, case studies and panel discussions.

Please [click here](#) for information >>

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### Recent publications

Roelen, K. and Gassmann, F. (2008)  
[Measuring Child Poverty and Well-Being: a literature review](#), MGSOG Working paper 2008/001, Maastricht

Hagen-Zanker, J. (2008)  
[Why do people migrate? A review of the theoretical literature](#), MGSOG Working paper 2008/002, Maastricht

Arndt, C. and Omar, C. (2008)  
[The Politics of Governance Ratings](#), MGSOG Working paper 2008/003, Maastricht

Augsburg, B. (2008)  
[Econometric Evaluation of the SEWA Bank in India, Applying Matching Techniques based on the Propensity Score](#), MGSOG Working paper 2008/004, Maastricht

Roelen, K., Gassmann, F. and C. de Neubourg (2008)  
[A global measurement approach versus a country-specific measurement approach. Do they draw the same picture of child poverty? The case of Vietnam](#), MGSOG Working paper 2008/005, Maastricht

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### Upcoming events MGSOG

26 September	Researchers' Night
3 October	Alumni Day
14-15 October	Aid Effectiveness Puzzle: "A Complicated Picture and Some Missing Pieces"
25 October	Master Meeting (Open Day MGSOG)
5 November	U.S. Election Breakfast
24-25 November	Research conference: Solutions for a Complex World

For more details check our [online agenda](#) >>

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