



CCI
Christian Council
International



CCI Annual Report

2024

Content

CONTENT.....	1
MANAGEMENT REPORT	2
FINANCIAL REPORT.....	8
JANUARY - MARCH	9
FIELDS OF WORK.....	9
<i>News from Africa (ACP)</i>	9
<i>News from the UN New York</i>	9
United Nations Fellowship New York great success	9
Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people	10
<i>News from America</i>	12
Good interest in CCI's message in North America	12
Threats to Religious Freedom	13
<i>News From Europe</i>	14
Two different worlds in Geneva - report from UN Fellowship Geneva	14
The family, care or blessing? Good turnout at CCI meeting in Kesteren.....	15
Family Seen?! CCI meeting March 28 in Leerbroek	16
May 3 and 4: Päivi Räsänen in the Netherlands	16
APRIL - JUNE	17
<i>Video (4 min) CCI event with Päivi Räsänen</i>	17
<i>The Dutch Christian Confronting the International Left</i>	17
<i>Let's introduce</i>	20
Wilmer Hak	21
Sylvia Mesesi	21
FIELDS OF WORK.....	22
<i>With pandemic treaty, WHO becomes a global authority</i>	22
<i>Dark Clouds for Health Sovereignty</i>	23
<i>News from Africa (ACP)</i>	26
<i>News from the UN New York</i>	27
Commission on Population & Development 2024	27
<i>News from America</i>	28
Affirmative Action?	28
<i>News From Europe</i>	30
Worldwide abolition of surrogacy - Rome - April 5-6 ...	30
Speeching at the SGP youth day – Utrecht, The Netherlands - April 13.....	30
77th World Health Assembly (WHO) Geneva - May 27	30
Peace March – Budapest – June 1	31
JULY - SEPTEMBER	32
FIELDS OF WORK.....	32
<i>CCI Opens Office in Geneva</i>	32
<i>CCI's Global Advocacy Highlights</i>	33
<i>News from America</i>	35
Present at a rally with Donald Trump at Falk Productions in Walker, Michigan – September 28, 2024.....	35
Title IX and Its Impact on American Schools	35

<i>News From Europe</i>	37
Meeting with Hungarian Ambassador to the Netherlands Daniel Landeck – July 25, 2024.....	37
Visit to Geneva – September 9, 2024 – Human Rights Council.....	37
Visit to Brussels – September 10, 2024 – MEPs informed about the WHO	37
CCI at Inland Navigation Meeting Day - September 14, 2024	38
CCI at SGP electoral association Elburg-Doornspijk – September 19, 2024	38

OCTOBER - DECEMBER..... 39

<i>The Americans are choosing “not a national pastor”</i>	39
<i>Reasons for gratitude amid worrying developments</i>	39
<i>The Conversation - God's lobby on the world stage</i>	41
FIELDS OF WORK.....	42
<i>News from New York</i>	42
Reflections on the Summit of the Future	42
The UN, an intimidating place - report on the Third Committee 2024.....	42
<i>News from Geneva</i>	43
Update on the Pandemic Agreement.....	43
<i>News from Africa</i>	43
World Media Conference in Lagos, Nigeria	43
<i>News from America</i>	44
<i>American Elections</i>	44
Election Results and What They Mean to Education	44
<i>News From Europe</i>	45
Visit Strasbourg – October 22-23, 2024	45
Conference 'Patriotic Intellectuals For Europe' in Budapest – October 25, 2024.....	45
Family Days – October 29-31, 2024.....	46
America evening of SGP Goeree-Overflakkee – November 2, 2024.....	46
March for Life – November 16, 2024	46
VI Transatlantic Summit 'For freedom and a culture of life' – December 2, 2024	47
OPINIONS	47
<i>Vaccines, Parental Rights and Government</i>	47
<i>Right to abortion on the rise - what do Christians stand to do?</i>	47
THE WORK OF CCI IN A NUTSHELL.....	49

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COLOFON 52



Management Report

2024

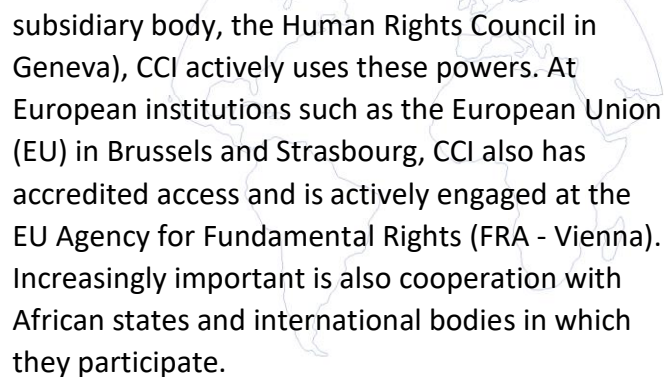
Purpose

Christian Council International defends and promotes life, family and freedom, worldwide. It is committed to the development of an international network of people involved in public policy to promote Christian perspectives in our societies and translate them effectively into public policy.

CCI influences public policy primarily at the international level among international organizations and member states from a Christian perspective. National sovereignty and the principle of subsidiarity, meaning higher authorities should only act when lower levels cannot handle the matter effectively, is an important starting point here. With a core mission-oriented government, it seeks to protect and promote classic freedoms such as freedom of religion and education and free association, pro-life values, with the family as the cornerstone of society. Protection of the position and way of life of Christians is an important goal in this regard.

Strategy

Accreditation with international organizations is an important tool. It gives CCI powers to effectively translate its objectives into policy or influence it where it is made. That authority includes the right to attend official meetings, to contribute written positions in advance, to speak at meetings, to meet with official government delegations, to organize parallel events during meeting sessions and to participate in debates, interactive dialogues, panel discussions and informal meetings. At the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE - in Vienna and Warsaw) and at the United Nations (UN - primarily in New York and at the UN's



subsidiary body, the Human Rights Council in Geneva), CCI actively uses these powers. At European institutions such as the European Union (EU) in Brussels and Strasbourg, CCI also has accredited access and is actively engaged at the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA - Vienna). Increasingly important is also cooperation with African states and international bodies in which they participate.

CCI Organizational Playbook

In connection with preparations to establish CCI in Canada as well, CCI went back to the drawing board and held several strategy sessions in 2024, led by a Canadian organizational expert, to clarify what CCI stands for. We came up with the following result:

1. Why do we exist – **Purpose**

“Providing a Christian answer to turn the secular tide”

2. What do we do – **Mission**

Research global policies that affect life, family, and freedom and work with allies to influence and advise policy makers

3. How do we behave/What do we stand for – **Values**

United – *Humility, Love, Compassion, Faithful, Empathic, Dignity, Respectful, Service, Courage, Just, Family, Caring, Teamwork*

Faith – *Christian Values, Belief in Almighty God, Fellowship, Christian Foundation, Throw the Anchor*

Never Give Up – *Quality, Optimism, Positive Realism, Principled, Resourceful, Resilient, Perseverance, Creativity, Truth, Global, Always On*

On It – Dedicated, Dependable, Reliable, Accountable, Responsible, Always On, Integrity, Ownership, Resourceful

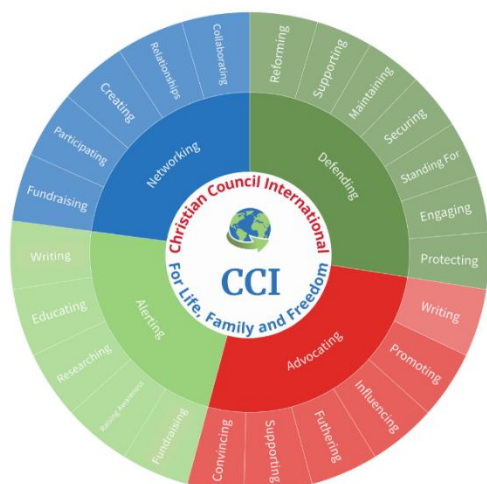
4. How will we succeed – **Strategic Anchors**

Alerting – ... by *writing, raising awareness, speaking, researching, educating, fundraising*

Defending – ... by *Reforming, Supporting, Maintaining, Securing, Protecting, Standing For, Engaging*

Advocating – ... by *Convincing, Writing, Promoting, Influencing, Furthering, Supporting*

Networking – ... by *Fundraising, Participating, Creating an Enabling Environment, Relationships, Collaborating*



Results

Africa

2024 was a strong year for Christian Council International (CCI) in Africa. As global pressure continued to mount on the continent through treaties, policies, and funding tied to controversial ideologies, CCI remained committed to defending African values in life, family, and freedom. This year, the organization expanded its reach, deepened its influence, and built meaningful partnerships across Africa. Here is a summary of some of CCI's notable achievements:

- **From May 1–3, CCI participated in the 2nd Interparliamentary Conference on Family Values in Entebbe, Uganda.**

The conference brought together lawmakers from across Africa to discuss how to protect family values and national sovereignty in today's global landscape. CCI emphasized the need for African countries to stand firm against ideological pressure from the West. The event helped strengthen relationships with key MPs and laid the groundwork for ongoing collaboration through CCI's Pan-African network.

- **On May 8–10, CCI joined a side event of the UN Civil Society Conference in Nairobi hosted by the Kenya Christian Professionals Forum.**

Youth representatives from across Africa came together to speak up about issues affecting their countries, especially around family, faith, and identity. CCI supported the declaration that came out of the event, which called for policies that respect African values rather than impose Western ideas. It was a strong example of young people stepping into leadership with clarity and conviction.

- **In Lagos, Nigeria, CCI helped organize a World Press Conference focused on the Pandemic Treaty and the EU-ACP Agreement.**

Together with local allies, CCI highlighted the dangers hidden in global agreements especially how they could undermine national decision-making and promote controversial agendas around sexuality and reproductive rights. The event sparked important conversations and gave momentum to countries pushing back or demanding changes before signing.

- **CCI hired a new Policy and Advocacy Officer based in Nairobi to lead its work across Africa.**

The officer is working to set up a Pan-African network of MPs who share CCI's mission and to build stronger ties with diplomats, institutions, and advocacy partners. This role is aimed at expanding CCI's presence on the continent and ensured that African voices are better represented in regional and international forums.

- **Throughout the year, CCI hosted a series of strategic calls to raise awareness about the WHO Pandemic Agreement.**
Many African countries supported the treaty, not realizing the full implications. These calls helped explain the risks such as loss of national health sovereignty and pressure to adopt policies that don't reflect African values. They were crucial in helping officials ask the right questions and raise awareness about the Agreement's concerning provisions.
- **CCI submitted a virtual statement during the UN Informal Consultations on the Summit of the Future.**
The statement called for the protection of the family and the role of parents in education. It was a timely reminder to global leaders that strong families are key to development and that African countries want to chart their own course, not follow a progressive global agenda.
- **CCI's Africa and Geneva teams co-authored articles and commentaries throughout the year on key issues like abortion, marriage, and freedom of religion.**
These publications helped explain the deeper meaning behind international treaties and policies and equipped CCI's allies across Africa with arguments rooted in faith and truth. Writing and research remain a key part of how CCI shapes the conversation and brings clarity to complex debates.



United Nations (UN) Geneva

2024 has been an important year for CCI in Geneva. With several treaties, resolutions and policies endangering the foundations of Christian values, CCI's presence in Geneva was more crucial than ever before. Our key achievements this year where:

- **On the 26th of February CCI launched the first UN Geneva Fellowship Programme.**
The unique Fellowships Programme educated young professionals and students on standing strong within an international legal environment that threatens Christian values and taught them how to defend Christian values within such an environment.
- **On the 5th of March, CCI spoke on a resolution concerning the rights of intersex persons in Geneva, Switzerland.**
During the drafting of this resolution, CCI emphasized that only two biological genders exist and that people with DSD (Differences of Sex Development) should be treated with medical respect, without being categorized as a third sex, something most of them do not seek themselves.
- **On the 20th of June, CCI successfully launched its global campaign against the sovereignty infringements of the WHO Pandemic Agreement and amendments to the International Health Regulations.**
The campaign in 2024 consisted of ten international strategic calls with policymakers, advocacy officers, doctors and legal experts from all over the world. The campaign also published and spread several legal one-pagers for diplomats and members of parliament with negotiation advice, initiated an independent WHO content source and published several articles relating to the WHO.

- **CCI hired a new Policy and Advocacy Officer based in Geneva to lead its work across the UN.**

The officer worked on the establishment of a network of delegations and developing an effective engagement mechanism with the United Nations Human Rights Council to defend and promote life, family, and freedom grounded in Christian values.

- **During the 56th and 57th sessions of the Human Rights Council, CCI actively defended life, family, and freedom, and monitored numerous negotiations, events, UPR sessions, and debates.**

Thanks to direct access to the United Nations, CCI continuously monitored the sessions and engaged with like-minded diplomats, advocacy officers, and politicians throughout both sessions to defend Christian values.

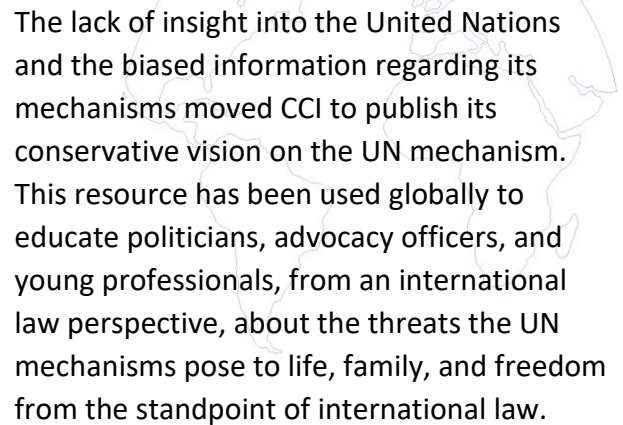
- **On the 2nd of September, CCI officially established an office in Geneva, near the Human Rights Council.**

The establishment of an office helped CCI to forge strong connections with like-minded stakeholders and enhanced our advocacy efforts in stopping fabricated human rights from being promoted in (inter)national policy.

- **CCI strengthened the EU-Geneva partnership in defending Christian values.**

Due to the establishment of strong communication channels between the European Union and the Human Rights Council, we were enabled to address the inconsistencies of UN policy at a European level, enabling policymakers there to potentially refute EU policy violating Christian values.

- **On the 12th of December, CCI printed the first educational booklet on the functioning of the United Nations from a conservative point of view.**



The lack of insight into the United Nations and the biased information regarding its mechanisms moved CCI to publish its conservative vision on the UN mechanism. This resource has been used globally to educate politicians, advocacy officers, and young professionals, from an international law perspective, about the threats the UN mechanisms pose to life, family, and freedom from the standpoint of international law.

- **Published several articles worldwide to raise awareness on UN policy related to life, family, and freedom**

By publishing several articles addressing the urgent challenges Christian values face at the United Nations, CCI informed and equipped individuals from all over the world to stand strong for their religious values.

United Nations (UN) New York

On behalf of CCI, Peter Smith was able to attend various annual committee meetings at the UN in New York:

- March: the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 68).
- April: Committee on Population and Development (CPD57)
- November: the 3rd Committee (3Com) of the General Assembly

Smith has attended UN meetings to lobby with the pro-life/pro-family NGOs at the UN for the past 25 years and has attended approximately 150 meetings. Normally he was in the corridors encouraging diplomats to remove references to bad language from resolutions and replace them with good ones. In 2024, Smith followed the meetings online.

CCI UN Fellowship New York

Under the leadership of our US representative,

Mark den Hollander, the first *CCI UN Fellowship New York* program took place in March 2024. A group of students participated in CSW68 and the CSWF counter-conference. Read more about this in the annual report.

North America

Our board member in the US, John Van Der Brink, has kept us informed of the political situation in the US through his articles. He gave his views on the following topics:

- Threats to Religious Freedom
- Affirmative Action? About racial discrimination
- Title IX and Its Impact on American Schools
- Election Results and What They Mean to Education

In January and February, several meetings were organized for the CCI support base in **Sunnyside WA, Chilliwack BC, Monarch AB and Hillsdale MI**.

Europe

Attacks on Christianity are increasingly observable in Europe as well. Several activities took place around this theme.

- Member of Parliament Päivi Räsänen in **Finland** has been indicted for her statements on (gay) sexuality. CCI supports her in the lawsuit filed against her. In early May, she and her husband came to the Netherlands at the invitation of CCI and spoke at meetings in Gouda and Urk.
- In April, CCI attended a meeting on global abolition of surrogacy in **Rome**.
- In June a peaceful march was attended in **Budapest** in defense of Christian principles, peace, democracy and national sovereignty in

the face of international organizations such as the EU and NATO.

- In October, our board member from the USA, George Roller came to the Netherlands with his wife to speak about the American elections in **Bodegraven**. With them, as part of a collaboration between the Driestar-Wartburg College from Gouda and CCI, 25 students were allowed to visit the European Parliament in **Strasbourg** at the invitation of Mr. B.J. Ruissen of the SGP. Furthermore, CCI attended the 'Patriotic Intellectuals For Europe' conference in **Budapest**.
- In November, CCI participated in the March for Life in **The Hague**.
- In December, CCI attended the VI Transatlantic Summit 'For Freedom and a Culture of Life' in **Madrid** and the European Prayer Breakfast in **Brussels**.
- Several meetings were organized to inform supporters in the **Netherlands** about CCI's work.

Media

CCI was able to convey its message to various media:

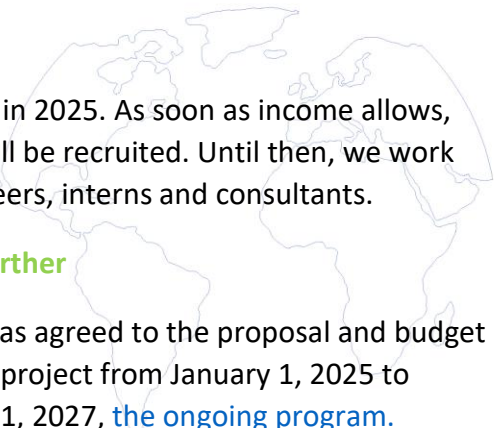
- Reformatorisch Dagblad, May 4, 2024: <https://www.rd.nl/artikel/1062207-vervolgde-finse-politica-rasanen-waarschuwt-christenen-dit-kan-overal-gebeuren>
<https://youtube.com/live/1HPuGruW-Fs>
- The European Conservative, May 8, 2024: [The Dutch Christian Confronting the International Left](#) by Jonathon van Maren
- Reformatorisch Dagblad, May 28, 2024: <https://www.christiancouncilinternational.org/news/opinion/2024/pandemic-treaty-who-becomes-global-authority>
- Reformatorisch Dagblad, October 24, 2024: [Congress pastor in US: Americans do not elect a national pastor](#)

- Nederlands Dagblad Podcast, November 1, 2024:
https://youtu.be/Y8zB_RzJS8s?si=HYwnH4wc_ykt-IbLO
- Dit is Tijs, November 3, 2024:
https://dit.eo.nl/kijk-en-luister/VPWON_1360098/het-dilemma-van-amerikaanse-christenen
- Bar Laat, November 5, 2024:
<https://www.bnnvara.nl/barlaat/artikelen/bar-laait-de-amerikaanse-verkiezingen-1>
- Bar Laat, November 6, 2024:
<https://youtu.be/LJxWknJxNDo?si=fxksqWo-GzNC73LO>
- Reformatorisch Dagblad, November 23, 2024:
<https://www.christiancouncilinternational.org/news/opinion/2024/recht-op-abortus-opmars-wat-staat-christen-te-doen>
- The Conversation - God's lobby on the world stage, December 2024:
<https://www.youtube.com/embed/cxRMhV2DXD0?feature=oembed> (Dutch spoken)

Notes on Finance

The revenue for CCI NL of 2024 is comparable to 2023: approx. €240.000,- plus a €27.500,- transfer from CCI USA. In addition to personnel costs, there has been investment primarily in informing and raising awareness of CCI's goals in Canada and setting up the Canadian entity.

The Supervisory Board of CCI consists of Jan Schippers (chairman) and Johannes Luiten (treasurer) and Leonard van Schothorst (secretary). They perform their duties without pay. The member of the Board of Directors, the policy officer Geneva (0.6) and the Administrative Assistant (0.4) are paid as employees, taking into account the BBRA salary scales. The salary of the member of the Board of Directors deviates downwards from the average salary that is common in small charity organizations. This will



be adjusted in 2025. As soon as income allows, new staff will be recruited. Until then, we work with volunteers, interns and consultants.

2025 and further

The board has agreed to the proposal and budget for a 3-year project from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2027, [the ongoing program](#).

In Canada in 2024, hard work was done to incorporate CCI there. On March 18, 2025, Christian Council International Canada became a reality.

With the CCI program we will firstly use our consultative status with international organizations such as the United Nations and the European Union and our permanent presence in Africa to strengthen the protection of classical freedoms and counter the attack of a threatening to reverse secularism. Second, as irreplaceable allies, we will strengthen transatlantic ties based on the Judeo-Christian tradition in various ways. In order to do this work thoroughly, we want to have permanent supervision at the aforementioned international organizations and member states and the US Congress. Substantial financial support is a prerequisite for this.

Deo Volente.

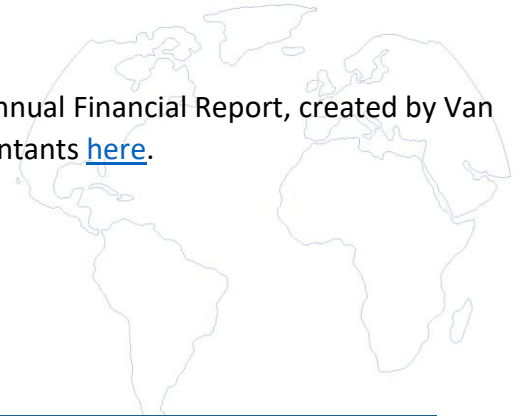
Bodegraven, May 2025

H.J. van Schothorst

Board of Directors

Financial Report

Find the Annual Financial Report, created by Van Ree Accountants [here](#).



Expenses	Amount	Income	Amount2
Accountant costs	€ -2.744,52	Donations General	€ 216.307,20
Bank costs	€ -751,55	Donations Canada	€ 22.418,04
Board costs	€ -487,71	Transfer CCI US-CCI NL	€ 27.585,88
Business Network NL	€ -2.422,37		
Business Network US/CA	€ -8.031,26		
Communication Support Base	€ -7.002,53		
Office costs	€ -2.388,66		
Marketing materials	€ -893,30		
Other	€ -285,00		
Salary administration	€ -423,15		
Project Africa/ACP	€ -38.108,42		
Project Europe	€ -46.850,70		
Project UN Geneva	€ -38.505,08		
Project UN NY	€ -29.596,72		
Project US/CA	€ -48.016,55		
General Management	€ -28.997,68		
Set up CCI Canada	€ -6.844,07		
Assurances	€ -448,08		
Reserves	€ -821,00		
Total expenses	€ -263.618,35	Total income	€ 266.311,12

January - March

Fields of Work

News from Africa (ACP)



African Values are not to be exchanged for European Funding- Rt Hon. Thomas Tayebwa Deputy Speaker of the Ugandan parliament

2024 started with a hard to swallow truth. While almost half of the 79 African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) countries did not sign the EU-ACP Agreement during the signing ceremony on 15 November 2023, by the time it was January 2024, most of those initially-refusing countries also signed; including Uganda and Malawi. While those two countries in particular had been quite vocal against the Agreement, the EU was able to convince them to sign by promising that they had the chance to make reservations within the first year after signing. The EU even appointed CCI's close friend and vocal opponent of the Agreement, Uganda's Deputy Speaker Hon. Tayebwa, to represent East Africa in the Organization of African, Caribbean, and Pacific States (OACPS). Luckily, Nigeria did not sign yet, partly thanks to the World Press Conference held by CCI's close allies in collaboration with CCI.

CCI will continue working with the National Parliaments of the ACP countries to help their governments (through a resolution) to request

for an Amendment to the Agreement in relation to the violations against life, family and freedom.

One way in which CCI aims to strengthen its presence on the African continent is by hiring 1-2 interns to support in setting up a Pan-African Network of CCI allies in each African country in order to level up the lobbying and advocacy activities across the continent.

The newly hired intern(s) will be introduced in the next newsletter.

News from the UN New York

United Nations Fellowship New York great success



12 students mainly from Hillsdale College had a terrific week at CCI United Nations Fellowship New York. Because of increasing progressive dominance at #CSW68, CCI helped organize a really women and family friendly conference #CSWF concentrating on the State, not Status of them.

Read the article 'STUDENTS ATTEND UNITED NATIONS SUMMIT' on the Hillsdale

Collegian: <https://hillsdalecollegian.com/2024/03/students-attend-united-nations-summit/>

Reports on CCI United Nation Fellowship, March 11-16, 2024

The students were asked the following: Please explain your thoughts on the UN, why conservatives should or should not be involved, what you have learned, and how this experience helped shape you. What should other young conservatives know about the UN?

Read here their stories:

<https://www.christiancouncilinternational.org/news/opinion/2024/united-nations-fellowship-new-york-great-success>



Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people

By: Peter Smith

**Commission on the Status of Women - Sixty-eighth session - 11-22 March 2024
Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective**



Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people. Ref 1

For the past two weeks I have observed this meeting by webcam, and read the outcome document of 29 pages and fourteen and a half thousand words. Ref 2 As usual for a UN document there are 91 mentions of rights, but only 4 for responsibility. In the Bible there are 18 references to “rights”, the remainder of the 1200 pages is about our responsibilities towards God and mankind.

There are no positive comments about men, nor is marriage promoted, nor sexual purity. However there is a good paragraph on the family, Ref 3. A group of countries speaks on behalf of the family, Ref. 4 In opposition to this group is UN Free and Equal – LGBTI + Ref. 5

There were 9 references to reproductive health in many variations. Fortunately there is a reference to the Cairo and Beijing documents, which means abortion is only allowed where legal, no international right to it. See Ref. 6. My Culture of Death award this year goes to France. Their delegate bragged about how they have included a right to abortion in their constitution. No doubt a reaction to the US supreme court voting down its federal right to abortion (Roe v. Wade). Of course the Holy See made the best pro-life statement as they always do.

There was much debate about the feminization of poverty. This will be prevented if a woman finds a good husband and they stick together, for better or for worse. Of course the UN does not like this kind of talk as it sheds a positive light on men. There was also a lot of reference to the gender pay gap, an excellent book has been written on this. Ref 7. One of my favorite speakers on YouTube is Dr. Thomas Sowell, he speaks about wealth and poverty brilliantly. Ref 8.

Diversity is mentioned in this document. However no pro-life/pro-family NGOs were permitted to hold side events. Also none of us were permitted

to speak at the session. This is just one aspect of their hypocrisy and double dealing. At 5.50pm last Friday a facilitator's text was released as there was no agreed document. The Chairman tried to ram through this document, however the delegate from Nigeria objected. I am certain a phone call was made to her Ambassador and she removed her objection. There was not even time to read this document, and no chance to put in reservations, They will now claim this is an **agreed** text.

As I began to be involved with UN meetings back in 1995, I feel that I have a some experience at the UN. There is much talk about gender equality at the Commission on the Status of women. However I believe their plan is to impose **matriarchy** on the world. There is never a push for more lady bricklayers, or diesel mechanics, nor sewerage workers. However there is always a push for women to get high status occupations, be presidents and prime ministers. There is currently a push for the next Secretary General to be a woman.

References

1. Proverbs 14:34
2. [Full document – Ref T129](#)
3. **Family paragraph** - The Commission acknowledges women's and girls' critical contributions to their **families**, and communities and societies. It recognizes the importance of implementing **family-friendly** and **family-oriented policies** aimed at, inter alia, achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and their enjoyment of all human rights by addressing poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty and the feminization of poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective, and also recognizes the need to ensure that all poverty eradication policies and

programs are responsive to the changing needs and expectations of **families** in fulfilling their numerous functions and that the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of **all family members** are respected.

4. **Group of the Friends of the Family** – Bangladesh, Comoros, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Libya, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Fed., Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Tajikistan, Yemen, Uganda & Zimbabwe. Total =25
5. **UN Free and Equal – LGBTI +** This group is co-chaired by Argentina and The Netherlands and also includes Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Israel. Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Nepal, Peru, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Timor Leste, UK, USA, & Uruguay, Total = 43
6. Ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights, **in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and the Beijing Platform for Action** and the outcome documents of their review conferences, including universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programs, and recognizing that the human rights of women include their right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on

all matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free of coercion, discrimination and violence, as a contribution to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and the realization of their human rights, including in addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective.

7. A book called , “ The startling truth behind the pay gap – and what women can do about it. **Why men earn more than women** by Warren Farrell Ph.D.
8. Hoover Institution : Wealth, Poverty & Politics <https://youtu.be/sGYl17DiEwo>

Peter Smith represents CCI at the UN in New York

News from America

Good interest in CCI's message in North America

From January 18 until February 2, 2024, CCI had the opportunity to present itself at various locations in North America: Sunnyside WA, Chilliwack BC, Monarch AB and Hillsdale MI. The message of Life, Family and Freedom (of religion and education) was well received. The first week of this fruitful journey, Henk Jan van Schothorst was accompanied by Riekelt Pasterkamp.

Sunnyside WA, USA

January 19, 2024



A presentation was scheduled to be given on [January 18 in Sunnyside](#). However, due to heavy snowfall, this was postponed a day. Despite this, there was good attention for CCI's work. The visit and presentation in Sunnyside was very much appreciated. One of the visitors: "We are happy to see that there is someone at the table presenting the Christian view point. We are living in troubled times with many false and demonic philosophies especially among the elites of the world."

Chilliwack BC, Canada

January 23, 2024



On [January 23, a fundrasing dinner](#) was held, well organized by Gerrit Rozendaal, CCI representative Canada. The evening in Chilliwack was well attended with more than 100 people. Before the CCI presentation there was a dinner. One of the visitors afterwards: "It was a good evening. Henk Jan is a hero and his organization inspires many people for a good cause."

Moderator was [Riekelt Pasterkamp](#).

Monarch AB, Canada

January 30,
2024

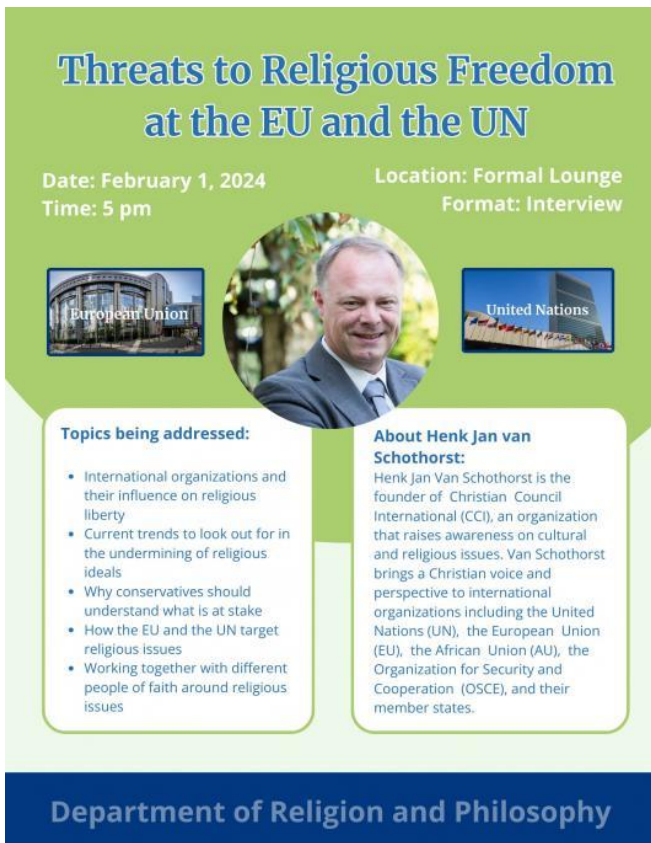
On [January 30 a meeting was held in Monarch AB](#). It was also an encouraging get-together here.



Hillsdale MI, USA

February 1, 2024

In preparation to the [United Nations Fellowship](#), Henk Jan van Schothorst held a talk at Hillsdale College on February the 1st. Mission of the United Nations Fellowship: To provide a first-hand experience to students about the work of the United Nations from a broad Christian perspective at the 68th Commission on the Status of Women.



Threats to Religious Freedom at the EU and the UN

Date: February 1, 2024
Time: 5 pm

Location: Formal Lounge
Format: Interview

Topics being addressed:

- International organizations and their influence on religious liberty
- Current trends to look out for in the undermining of religious ideals
- Why conservatives should understand what is at stake
- How the EU and the UN target religious issues
- Working together with different people of faith around religious issues

About Henk Jan van Schothorst:
Henk Jan Van Schothorst is the founder of Christian Council International (CCI), an organization that raises awareness on cultural and religious issues. Van Schothorst brings a Christian voice and perspective to international organizations including the United Nations (UN), the European Union (EU), the African Union (AU), the Organization for Security and Cooperation (OSCE), and their member states.

Department of Religion and Philosophy

By: John Van Der Brink

There was a very great turnout for the Information Evening on March 15 sponsored by the Religious Freedom Group. The speakers from each of the three organizations provided informative insights to the threats to religious freedoms on at the state, national and international level. The common theme throughout the evening was that there is a coordinated attack on the values, beliefs, and way of life that we hold dear. Reflections were also shared about WHY these things are happening – it is because of our personal and national sins that God withdraws Himself from us and our society. So there is a need for personal and national repentance for God to show mercy.

The speakers also shared some encouraging news. When people become involved and make their voices heard, politicians listen, and the Lord can bless the smallest efforts put forth. It is our desire that the seemingly insignificant means we use may receive His blessing and that the freedoms we have may be preserved for a future generation.

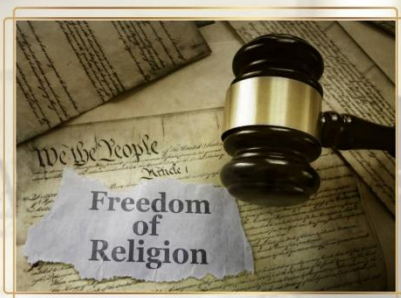
Each of the three speakers spoke for 20 minutes about threats to religious freedoms faced by the organizations they represent – Mr Wright on the state level, Ms. Dulin on the national level, and Mr. Van Schothorst on the international level. They then participated in a panel discussion and a question-and-answer session about various interrelated issues.

Threats to Religious Freedom



Threats to Religious Freedoms

March 15, 2024 - 7:45 PM



Sponsored by Religious Freedom Group

Location: Netherlands Reformed Christian School
 164 Jacksonville Road, Pompton Plains, NJ 07444

For more information, contact John Van Der Brink

973 951 7349 or email:

ReligiousFreedomGroupNJ@hotmail.com

Threats to Religious Freedoms

March 15, 2024 - 7:45 PM
 NRCS, Pompton Plains, NJ

What is happening to religious freedoms in New Jersey, in the United States, and in the World?

The threat to religious freedoms in our state, country, and world has never been more real than it is today. Leftist policies and liberal legislation are constantly being produced, and in many cases go unnoticed until they reach levels that are difficult to resist. However, some organizations and people have dedicated their lives to exposing these dangerous trends. We are privileged to have three such people who are willing to come to our school on March 15 to present and answer your questions.

Each speaker will present for 20 minutes followed by a discussion panel to answer your questions. Literature is available from each organization, and you will have an opportunity to support them if you choose. They will also explain what you can do to get involved in helping us preserve the religious freedoms we hold dear. Please join us for an evening of information sharing and mutual support.



Alan Wright, New Jersey Family Policy Counsel

Allan F. Wright is resident of New Jersey, the executive director of NJ Family Policy Alliance, and has been involved in education in various roles for over thirty years. He is a popular speaker and is the author of twenty books. He is well-informed about the threat to religious freedoms in our state.



Kassie Dulin, First Liberty

Kassie Dulin serves as Director of Government Affairs and Counsel with First Liberty Institute, focusing on appellate litigation and legislative affairs in Washington DC and throughout the United States. Before law school, Dulin served as Chief Communications Officer for First Liberty Institute. She previously worked on local, state, and national political campaigns and consulted for several non-profit organizations.



Henk Jan Van Schothorst, Christian Council International

Henk Jan Van Schothorst is the founder and executive director of Christian Council International which is dedicated to confronting unbiblical legislation at the international level. He has traveled to many countries, is a regular advocate for religious freedom at the United Nations, and regularly visits lawmakers personally to provide direction and support.



News From Europe

Two different worlds in Geneva - report from UN Fellowship Geneva



The first activity took place on February 26, 2024 in the context of the 'United Nations Fellowship Geneva'. A group of interested people from CCI's supporters had the opportunity to meet the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, where the opening of the 55th session of the Human Rights Council took place. The church of John Calvin and the Reformation monument were also visited.

We asked the participants for their reactions. Please read:

"In our short trip to Geneva, we saw two different worlds. First, we saw the monuments and "old" glory of the reformation in Geneva. Great names such as Beza, Zwingli and Calvin. This impressive city holds memories of these people who have mended so much for our faith. However, we also saw a different world. A world where a political agenda, that contradicts our faith, is pushed into the legislation of the nations. We met people who try to combat this practice, we saw the need for more warriors in this battle. To put it in other words, we saw that the work of the CCI is necessary, but also rewarding!"

"The importance of the presence of CCI and its voice was further underlined for me by the fact that a legal officer from Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) told us that there were more than

enough left-wing NGOs represented at the HRC, but unfortunately this does not apply to conservative NGOs. It is therefore important that (more) conservative NGOs are also physically present, so that our voice is not only audible but also given extra strength with literal visibility. In order to create more balance in influencing and to send a signal that in this day and age many people still support the conservative Christian voice."

"The visit to Geneva was a very cool experience. Sometimes you felt like you were in the lion's den. That is why it was so nice to see that there is still an NGO that, with His leadership, makes a conservative Christian voice heard."

A week after the visit to Geneva, we were able to send one of the participants, Wilmer Hak, back to Geneva on behalf of CCI and he spoke during the discussion of the resolution against violence, discrimination and harmful acts against intersex people at the [55th session of the Human Rights Council](#).



The family, care or blessing? Good turnout at CCI meeting in Kersteren



During a CCI meeting in Kersteren, the value of the family was emphasized from politics with Diederik van Dijk of the SGP, education with Pieter Moens of the VGS and the business community with Henk Timmer of Babypark led by Riekelt Pasterkamp. "A watchful eye is necessary!"

Kersteren, February 29, 2024

Diederik van Dijk, member of the SGP faction, received this from CCI director Henk Jan van Schothorst towards the House of Representatives. Van Dijk explained that certain bills are guided silently through the chamber. For example, the word 'mother' on the birth certificate should be replaced by 'parent', so that transgender people can register as a parent instead of a mother. He also gave the example of social freezing, the freezing of eggs so that women can become pregnant at a later time. "These are matters that have a high 'I' content; a free choice at the expense of the child". A vigilant eye on the themes of life, family and freedom is needed not only in the House of Representatives, but also at the UN, the EU and other international institutions. This was argued by Henk Jan van Schothorst. He showed his heart when he told how he and his organization obtained accreditation with the United Nations. "It was no longer my business, but I could leave it in God's hands." Pieter Moens, director of VGS, emphasized that we must stand up against too much government interference, such as the wish of the education inspectorate to speak to

students at school privately. "We must speak out against gender ideology and raise our children ourselves." And: "Stand firm for the order of creation." Henk Timmer, owner of Babypark, is increasingly confronted with differently composed families that deviate from this order. It can also sometimes be seen in the range of products that they are no longer for boys or girls, but gender neutral. Timmer is still able to make his own choices here, but "this becomes difficult for a small self-employed person". He sees the declining birth rate mainly reflected in the workforce. "There is a shortage of young people entering the business community." The evening, which was opened and closed by Rev. Al-Chalabi, was preceded by an entrepreneurial dinner where the importance of the work of Christian Council International was underlined. "What's the problem?" van Schothorst quoted a Canadian donor. "The problem is that there are too few people in front positions where there is insufficient parliamentary control and we want to change that with your help."

Family Seen?! CCI meeting March 28 in Leerbroek



We gathered on March 28 at Den Hartog Riet with well over 100 people in Leerbroek: Family Seen! The Endangered Cornerstone highlighted by Kees van der Staaij from a Dutch perspective, by their deputy ambassador Dr. Krisztina GOSZTONYI, Deputy Head of Mission Hungary, from a Hungarian perspective, by Bert-Jan

Ruissen from Europe and by Henk Jan van Schothorst internationally.

Bert-Jan Ruissen: "The family must again become the cornerstone of society. And the tendency of Brussels to interfere in family law with a progressive-liberal agenda must be stopped. I was able to speak about this on Thursday evening at the invitation of [Christian Council International](#) and [SGP Vijfheerenlanden](#) at [Den Hartog Riet](#) in Leerbroek.

May 3 and 4: Päivi Räsänen in the Netherlands



UITNODIGING

Vrij, Onverveerd!

3 mei - Gouda en 4 mei - Urk

Päivi Räsänen
Vervolg politica, lid Christen Democratische partij Finland

Waarover: Bijbel in de beklaagdenbank?
Wat: Publieke bijeenkomst

Wanneer: D.V. vrijdag 3 mei, 20:00 uur, inloop vanaf 19:30 uur
Waar: Sint-Janskerk Gouda, Achter de Kerk 2, Gouda
Wie: Päivi Räsänen, Bert-Jan Ruissen, Chris Stoffer, Henk Jan van Schothorst, Riekelt Pasterkamp
Muzikaal intermezzo door Vocaal Ensemble Lobet den Herrn o.l.v. Marijn Valk - Orgel/piano Leendert Verduijn

Wanneer: D.V. zaterdag 4 mei, 15:30 uur
Waar: Ichthuskerk Urk, Richel 2, Urk
Wie: Päivi Räsänen, Ds. R. de Jong, Nathanaël Middelkoop, Henk Jan van Schothorst, Riekelt Pasterkamp
Muzikaal intermezzo

Voertaal: Nederlands - Vertaald uit Engels

Aanmelden 3 mei Gouda
Entree: €10,- p.p.
€25,- per gezin

Aanmelden 4 mei Urk
collecte

Voor Leven, Gezin en Vrijheid wereldwijd
www.christiancouncilinternational.org/nl/evenementen
contact: info@christiancouncilinternational.org

Livestream:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1HPuGruW-Fs&t=598s>

April - June

Video (4 min) CCI event with Päivi Räsänen

On May 3, 2024 we had an event with the Finish politician Päivi Räsänen in Gouda, The Netherlands. Watch the video for a short impression.

Theme: Free Brave - Bible in the dock?! The fundamental rights of freedom of religion and expression are threatened.



[Click here for a 12 min. impression](#)

The Dutch Christian Confronting the International Left

"The UN is teeming with leftist organizations. I thought: Someone has to do something. Why shouldn't I try it?"

By: Jonathon Van Maren
 — May 8, 2024

Source: [The European Conservative](#)

[Listen to the podcast of The Van Maren Show](#)

After a half-hour audience with Henk Jan van Schothorst, President Chan Santokhi of Surinam

was vexed. Abortion is illegal and opposition to the LGBT movement is strong in the small South American country. But the Surinamese ambassador to Brussels had recently signed a binding trade agreement with the European Union that included mandatory provisions on sexuality and "reproductive rights."—without any public debate. Quietly inserting a radical social agenda into ostensibly economic negotiations is a key neo-colonial strategy of Western powers, and it is very effective.



Praying for the Surinam President – December 2023

Van Schothorst advised the president to withdraw the signature and send the treaty text to the Surinam parliamentary assembly, giving them six months to compare it with the country's laws, and return the Surinam position to the EU. If the EU rejected it, Surinam could simply find other trade partners. "I thanked the president for his time and his attention," he recounted. "'No,' he and his spiritual advisor said, 'We must thank you. God has sent you. Would you please pray for us?'" The Dutch activist and the South American president bowed their heads together in prayer.

Surinam was the last stop on Van Schothorst's whirlwind December tour of four South Caribbean countries. Henk Jan van Schothorst is the founder and executive director of [Christian Council International](#) (CCI), and his mission is to create "a transatlantic and international network

of Christians and conservatives involved in public policy and influence policy from a Christian perspective,” working at the UN, EU, AU, and OSCE (Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe) “to stand up for a Christian voice worldwide with a focus on life, family, and freedom of religion and education.”

On this trip, Van Schothorst briefed Christian parliamentarians, pastors, professionals, and high-ranking politicians on the details of the 20-year ACP (African, Caribbean, and Pacific)-European Union Partnership Agreement. “It intrudes into almost every area of the public and private life in signatory countries,” Van Schothorst noted. “From dictating abortion, to comprehensive sexuality education (CSE), to parental discipline, and social, sexual, gender, and cultural norms and more, the treaty goes far beyond the 2000 Cotonou Agreement it is intended to replace, violating national sovereignty in many ways.” That, of course, is deliberate.

Earlier in 2023, Van Schothorst had been invited to the Caribbean after a series of meetings at the semi-annual EU-ACP Joint Parliamentary Assemblies, where he and his CCI colleagues met and spoke with parliamentarians from Caribbean and Pacific countries; out of 16 Carib countries, 10 had not yet signed the treaty. Van Schothorst detailed the ways that the treaty obligations conflicted with the conservative laws of these countries—and how the inclusion of these provisions was intended to change laws on the issues of abortion and sexuality. In Surinam, after “appearances on radio, TV, and meetings with Christian professionals, spiritual leaders, parliamentarians, and the president, the Surinamese people became aware of the EU’s ideological power grab and a lively public debate

erupted.”



In Grenada—where 96.6% of the population identifies as Christian—he met parliamentarians and pastors; the country later signed the treaty “at the insistence of the EU and with the promise that nothing substantive would change compared to the previous treaty (although that commitment was not included in writing).” MPs and ministers made time to meet in Trinidad (63% Christian) and Tobago (90% Christian); and the government there declined to sign. “On my transit to touristic Barbados, a liberal influx greeted me at the airport,” Van Schothorst told me. “The number of Christians has fallen to just under half of the population. I was not surprised that this country signed on.”

At the signing ceremony in Samoa on 15 November 2023, it turned out that 35 of the 79 countries had not yet signed the treaty. Why? Van Schothorst believes that CCI had something to do with it. “That was partially a result of our raising awareness,” he told me. “Dozens of times

over the past three years, in Africa but also in Europe, we have gone to countries to point out the dangers in the treaty.” His Caribbean tour is one example of CCI’s work and real-world impact.



Henk Jan is the third of ten children from a conservative Christian family in the Netherlands, and his interest in politics was first piqued when he heard his father’s denunciations of socialist prime minister Joop Den Uyl. After military service and a six-month mission in Guinea, West Africa, he became a teacher, studying history in the evenings. At Leiden University, he specialized in European Union studies and did an internship with a newly elected Christian Member of European Parliament. After a week and a half, Van Schothorst recalled, the MEP asked him to stay on.

Van Schothorst spent seven years in Brussels and Strasbourg in the European Parliament, mostly in the Committee on Foreign Affairs. “There, I saw the great power of the European Commission as the institution that initiates legislation,” he told me. “Often out of sight of both the population and its representatives, all kinds of regulations, laws, and treaty negotiations are made and had. The standards by which these invisible, unelected, and mostly permanent bureaucratic elites are increasingly developing in a leftist direction—especially when it comes to sensitive ethical issues. More and more power is being drawn to Brussels.”

Who was watching the proceedings and holding the leftist activists accountable from a Christian perspective? Van Schothorst saw almost no one.

(Later he found some likeminded organizations such as C-Fam and Family Watch at the UN-level, as well as Alliance Defending Freedom.) Conversely, the ideological enemies of Christianity were everywhere, constantly pushing their views and their policy agendas, working with generously subsidized NGOs, and shaping policy at every level. When his young family began to suffer from his frequent absences, he quit Brussels and got a job at the Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy in The Hague on behalf of the SGP (Reformed Party), where he worked for four years. In his new role, he once again witnessed the power of progressive forces.

“I was responsible for the technical support of political parties in the process from one-party government to multiparty democracy in Kenya and Tanzania,” he told me. At the United Nations, he saw an all-out push by Western countries to smuggle abortion and the LGBT agenda into every law, policy, and treaty under the guise of “reproductive rights,” “non-discrimination,” and “sexual orientation and gender identity.” The same trends he had witnessed at the European Union were also underway at the UN.

“At the UN, there is no direct parliamentary control; and without sufficient watch and democratic control, international standards are set there. In negotiations, developing countries are often overrun by rich Western countries with their sexuality and gender ideologies.” Van Schothorst noted. “The various UN agencies are executive bodies of these philosophies rather than impartially serving the member states. It is teeming with leftist organizations. I thought: Someone has to do something. Why shouldn’t I try it?”

To combat the influence of the progressive “deep state” blob of NGOs, activists, and progressive delegates and politicians who dominate international institutions, Van Schothorst founded the Transatlantic Christian Council in 2013, which would later become Christian Council

International. Fundraising proved difficult at first—Van Schothorst applied for charitable status from the Dutch government and was promptly refused. He fought the decision up the chain of command, and then in the courts. After two and a half years, three judges ruled unanimously in his favor with retroactive effect, and the Supreme Court rejected a government appeal in 2015.

Despite his victory, the legal battles cost tens of thousands of euros with little money coming in. Van Schothorst ended up working five years pro bono while his wife supported the family. The connections he made during his time at the EU's Foreign Affairs Committee served him well, and he was able to begin meeting with politicians very quickly—even those with whom he disagreed. "I see my opponents as human beings created in the image of God, and some of them are my friends," he said. "After a long discussion we can put it aside and have a friendly drink and talk about other things."

Since the launch of CCI, raising awareness has been Van Schothorst's primary goal. He is a go-between, informing Christians about the profoundly consequential goings-on within international institutions, and lobbying and educating policymakers about the implications of various agreements. CCI has consultative status at the UN in New York, the Human Rights Council in Geneva, and the EU in Brussels, working hard to bring the Christian worldview to bear on the proceedings and to impact the final text of resolutions and policies (so that they at the least respect national sovereignty and democratically enacted laws of member states).

CCI has also joined with many other Christian organizations to speak out on the political persecution of Christians within Europe, such as Finland's Päivi Räsänen and the targeting of countries such as Hungary for its opposition to the LGBT agenda. Most tangibly, as previously mentioned, van Schothorst believes that CCI's

efforts have contributed to the delayed signing of the EU-ACP treaty.

After a decade of hard work building the organization, Henk Jan van Schothorst hopes to take CCI to the next level. "We have an ambitious three-year program aiming to return Christian perspectives to the very center of public debate and policy in North America, Europe, and worldwide," he told me. "The Program for Life, Family, and Freedom at the UN, EU, AU, US, and its Member States protects Christian values and fundamental freedoms at a time when the Christian basis for these achievements is crumbling."

To accomplish this, Van Schothorst hopes to utilize CCI's consultative powers to mobilize "an international network of politicians, NGOs, legal specialists, educators, and journalists to defend family and freedom to policymakers." In the long-term, this would include offices and employees in multiple locations worldwide. It's an incredibly ambitious plan, and the forces he and his allies are up against are well-funded and culturally powerful. What Henk Jan van Schothorst is suggesting is a Christian version of the Left's long march through the institutions—a generational fight against long odds. But it must be done, nonetheless, and Van Schothorst's mindset echoes that of countless successful activists over the decades: "Why shouldn't I try it?"

Jonathon Van Maren is a contributing editor to *The European Conservative*. He has written for *First Things*, *National Review*, *The American Conservative*, and his latest book is *Prairie Lion: The Life & Times of Ted Byfield*.

- Tags: [European Parliament](#), [ideological colonialism](#), [Jonathon Van Maren](#), [United Nations](#)
See also on lifesitenews.com

Let's introduce

Thanks to your support, we were able to hire two new colleagues, since May the 1st, 2024!

Although they have only been working for a short time, they have already achieved a lot. For example, read further in the newsletter the article about the WHO, which both newcomers worked on.

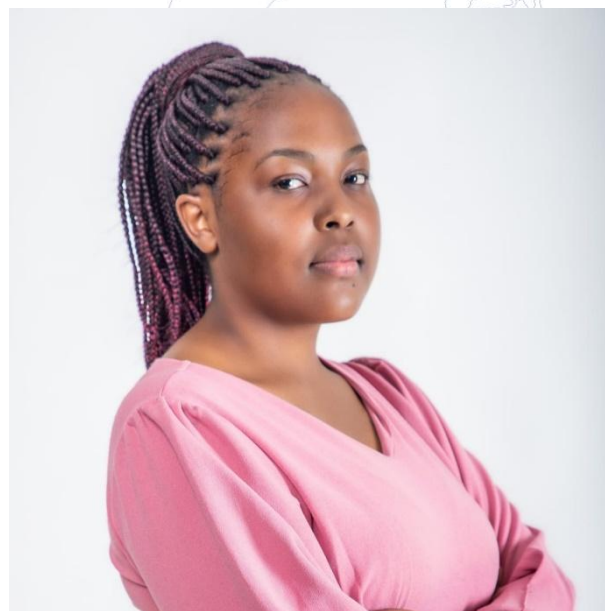
Wilmer Hak



Wilmer Hak is the advocacy and policy officer for the CCI at the United Nations Human Rights Council and the World Health Organization in Geneva. He studies Law at Erasmus University, Rotterdam. Part of his assignment involves the monitoring of treaties and resolutions in Geneva and speaking at meetings on behalf of the CCI. An important part of his work is also to reach out to diplomats/members of parliament/ambassadors from all over the world to advocate for Life, Family, and Freedom. The creation of a network with relevant international actors, to ensure rapid information sharing when needed concerning these principles, is also one of his main duties.

As a law student, he is interested in comparative law and international law. The legal and historical basis of the 'cultural' agenda behind many contemporary international documents has his special interest. The combination of these more legal arguments with Christian norms, values, and ethics is vital to protect and stand strong for Life, Family, and Freedom on an (inter)national playing field.

Sylvia Mesesi



Sylvia Mesesi is as an intern the Policy and Advocacy Officer for CCI in Kenya, Africa. Residing in Nairobi, Sylvia is currently pursuing a degree in International Relations and Diplomacy at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa. Her role at CCI involves significant responsibilities aimed at fostering and protecting African cultural and social values, focusing on Life, Family, and Freedom. In her capacity as CCI's representative in Africa, Sylvia is spearheading the establishment of the CCI Pan-African Network of Members of the National Parliament (CCI PAN-MP) from various African countries. This network aims to create a robust platform for advocacy and policy development to uphold and promote African cultural and social values. Sylvia also engages in online monitoring and reporting of high-level meetings at the African Union (AU) and United Nations (UN) and maintains a comprehensive database of CCI's strategic alliances across Africa.

With a strong interest in international relations and human rights issues, Sylvia brings passion and commitment to her role, working to ensure that African cultural and social values are represented and protected on both regional and international platforms. Her work not only strengthens CCI's presence in Africa but also

contributes significantly to the broader goals of the organization.

Fields of Work

With pandemic treaty, WHO becomes a global authority



The World Health Organization (WHO) must abandon the global pandemic treaty it wants to put to the vote. This treaty would seriously affect the sovereignty of its member states and personal freedom of choice.

By Henk Jan van Schothorst

The World Health Organization (WHO) will hold its annual meeting in Geneva from May 27 to June 1. Months of feverish discussions on a global pandemic treaty came to a standstill on May 24. Almost unnoticed, we had entered a legally binding pandemic treaty, with the WHO as a global health agent. It is interesting to see whether the 194 member states will reach an agreement this week or whether the negotiations will be extended by six months or even a year.

Developing countries are divided and hesitant regarding what many consider to be a colonial and unfair treaty. The Dutch government, on the other hand, wants to push the treaty, together with the EU as a co-initiator, through its own legislation despite a parliamentary motion. According to experts, a possible new health crisis is not the main reason for the WHO's haste. Supporters want to finalize the treaty before the US elections (November). Due to the suspected Chinese influence at the WHO and the lack of

impartiality and expertise during the COVID-19 pandemic, Trump announced plans for the US to withdraw from the WHO. Insiders like Lawrence Gostin, director of the WHO Center for Cooperation on Global Health Law, are thinking that US Republicans and Trump will reject the pandemic treaty. "Nobody says it, but Trump is definitely the elephant in the room," states Gostin.

Infringement

What is the case with the pandemic treaty? As we continue to recover from the devastating COVID-19 pandemic and the various policy responses to it, the WHO is busy drawing up a pandemic treaty. The idea behind the treaty is to be globally more prepared for and responsive to pandemics in a coordinated manner. Although the idea for such an "instrument" may be noble, the mandatory treaty text that is being put to the vote is extremely worrying.

A cause for serious concern is the 'One Health Initiative'. This initiative aims to merge human, animal and environmental health. That would give the WHO unprecedented power. Through this initiative, the WHO could manage human, agricultural and animal health policy in a country in detail. An international, unelected body would then control a country's domestic policy and thus infringe on its sovereignty.

In addition, the WHO, together with many signatory states, considers vaccines very important for combating pandemics. However, the WHO Pandemic Treaty now calls them the only sufficient means to effectively combat pandemics. Pushing through vaccines, sometimes insufficiently tested - and we are not yet talking about digital vaccination passports as a possible Trojan horse - can affect personal freedom of movement and the national health policy of member states.

Under pressure

Another concern is the ambiguous criteria for declaring pandemics. Under the treaty, small outbreaks can lead to a state of alert that may not even be necessary. The tricky thing is that the treaty gives the WHO the right to put pressure on countries that do not comply with the WHO action plan for these "pandemics".

This pressure is visible, among other things, in the formation of regional blocs between WHO member states. According to the pandemic treaty, a regional bloc can bind a member state to its conditions without consultation. The European Union does this, for example, by almost obliging its member states to sign the treaty. The state however, is autonomous. The notion therefore that a country, because it belongs to a regional bloc, is bound by the treaty conditions, is outrageous. This deprives countries of their constitutional rights and undermines democratic principles.

Affecting freedom of expression, religion and research by obliging Member States to eliminate certain 'misinformation and disinformation' about scientific research or health products is a further problem.

More time needed

Recently, the WHO failed to meet its self-imposed deadline for submitting a final version of the pandemic treaty (Article 55). When implementing this treaty, the International Health Regulations (IHR, drawn up in 2005) would also have to be revised. The fact that the WHO want to introduce these regulations so hastily, possibly in connection with Trump, raises questions. Treaty changes and their ratification are crucial matters and take a lot of time.

Countries should realize that allowing the implementation of the pandemic treaty would give the WHO the power to operate beyond its current legal authority. It is therefore necessary

to recognize that the treaty threatens the national sovereignty and democratic rights of countries and undermines the personal freedom of individuals.

The WHO should therefore not be given any commercial interests or more power. It must retrace its steps and remain a non-partisan organization concerned only with health, free from conflicts of interest and progressive agendas.

The author is director of Christian Council International (CCI). He wrote this article in collaboration with Wilmer Hak (CCI Policy officer Geneva) and Sylvia Mesesi (CCI Policy Officer Kenya, Africa). CCI is in Geneva for advice and supervision.

Published on May 28, 2024 in the Reformatorisch Dagblad: <https://www.rd.nl/artikel/1065021-met-pandemieverdrag-wordt-who-mondiale-autoriteit>



Dark Clouds for Health Sovereignty

By: Wilmer Hak

The last week of May was a busy week for the World Health Organization (WHO) annual meeting. The heavily contested amendments to the International Health Regulations 2005 (IHR) and other resolutions were pushed through the 194 member states of the World Health Assembly (WHA) just 90 minutes before the deadline. This hasty approach is concerning, not only due to the content of the amendments but also because of the impending Pandemic Treaty. With its presence in Geneva, Christian Council

International (CCI) keeps a close watch on the developments.

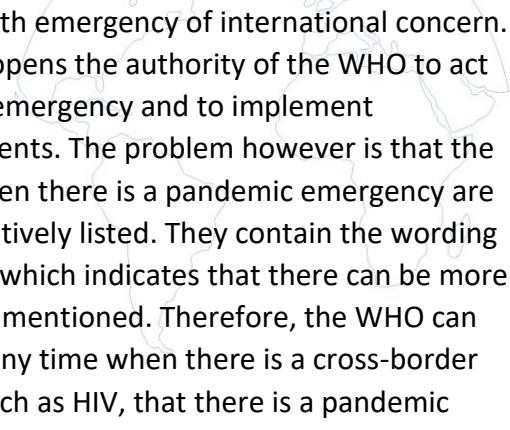
Concerning amendments to the Regulation

The IHR is a legally binding instrument of the WHO that empowers the WHO to prevent and take mandatory actions against international diseases. After the COVID-19 pandemic, negotiations began to tackle the 'problems' faced during the last pandemic in the usage of the IHR. The slow, unfair and unequal approach of member states in tackling the virus was the main issue. The 'new' IHR aims to tackle these problems without considering that humans at the core cannot tackle pandemics themselves.

This idea of unlimited social engineering is not only visible in the fact that the amendments promote vaccines as the best way to tackle and prevent a pandemic. The promotion of the QR code and travel restrictions for unvaccinated people also portray this worrying vision of the WHO. Besides, many leading researchers are increasingly warning about the harmful consequences and side effects of vaccinations.

These more ethical concerns coincide with major power grabs from the WHO through these amendments. This is, for instance, visible in the fact the WHO's Director-General can decide when there is a pandemic emergency. The WHO will then propose a plan to tackle this 'emergency'. The role of national health care in countries is that they must agree with this plan within 48 hours, if they do not agree, the WHO will report this to other countries and the public. This will cause major pressure on a member state because other countries will impose travel restrictions or sanctions, not to mention the public unrest, while there might be no emergency at all.

This infringement on healthcare sovereignty becomes even more visible if we take a close look at the change in terminology in the IHR. It is quite remarkable to see that the new term '*pandemic emergency*' is mentioned in the context of a



public health emergency of international concern. This term opens the authority of the WHO to act during an emergency and to implement measurements. The problem however is that the criteria when there is a pandemic emergency are not exhaustively listed. They contain the wording '*including*' which indicates that there can be more reasons as mentioned. Therefore, the WHO can decide at any time when there is a cross-border disease, such as HIV, that there is a pandemic emergency.

The new Regulation in a Broader Context

If we place this extensive competence of the WHO into a broader context, the real aim of the amended IHR will arise. Just one week after the IHR was adopted, the WHO added with a secret ballot the highly controversial Center of Reproductive Rights (an abortion, LGBTQ+ promoting organization) to the list of official relations with the WHO. In another resolution adopted during the last week of May, the Social Participation Resolution, they also mentioned that SRHR (concerning sexual autonomy, abortion, LGBTQ+, and contraceptives) belonged to primary health care. The third resolution which was adopted concerning hazard response contained a provision to protect vulnerable people. These vulnerable people also included, without any reason, the LGBTQ+ persons.

All these documents are still missing one vital aspect, the Pandemic Treaty (more information: see opinion-article CCI Pandemic Treaty). This document was also pushed by the International Negotiation Bureau (INB), the negotiation bureau of the WHO, but failed to be adopted. This Treaty (it will probably become a treaty) includes the opening of a worldwide stock network of *relevant medical health products*. The WHO will assess with other relevant 'stakeholders' which products are relevant. This is because of the *whole-society approach* the IHR promotes where all relevant actors, including the new ones mentioned above, cooperate. This stock network will prioritize

primary healthcare products, which are also abortion kits, contraceptives and many other products which aren't relevant at all. The IHR mentions their priority as they are already decided as primary health care in the Social Participation Regulation. Therefore, the stockpiles of pharmaceutical 'stakeholders' are already filling up with all of these 'relevant' products to be distributed freely when the WHO decides the next pandemic.

However, this devious approach with all this terminology and resolutions is not a surprise. The major donors and drivers behind all these resolutions and treaties are the European Union and the Biden Administration. Prime Minister Trudeau of Canada, who already has misused an old emergency law and prosecuted many unvaccinated people in the country in a totalitarian way, is also a frontrunner. The Biden administration, for instance, donated more than 1.2 billion taxpayers' money, to the WHO (which is 15% of their annual budget). This does not include the \$829 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The worrying aspect is that many countries worldwide are seeing a fata morgana. This is because of two other, devious approaches from the WHO. First, many countries are triggered by the idea of equitable access to vaccines. The African group, for instance, contains many conservative countries which do not promote the policies mentioned above. However, due to their lack of equal access to medical healthcare products, many aspects which include potential vaccine mandates from the WHO, are being overlooked.

The second deceiving approach to take away sovereignty is even more cunning. The WHO gives trial periods and ratification periods to countries which want to withdraw. In this timeframe, which was mostly around 12 to 18 months but has now changed to 10 months, countries can make reservations on the amendments. Afterwards, the

treaty becomes binding. What is overlooked again is that reservations which are not compatible with the objective of the Treaty, as set out by the WHO, can be rejected by a majority of the WHA. In this way, countries will still obey the rules of the WHO without the national parliaments' consent.

Call to action

The WHO has been busy for a reason. In May this year, all 49 Republican senators in the United States spoke out against the worldwide authority of the WHO. Furthermore, in November 2024, God's willing, there will be presidential elections in the United States. Presidential candidate Trump has already criticized the WHO for their unethical policies and infringements on sovereignty. In 2020, he already suspended all financial support to the WHO and is threatening to do that again. The WHO would be in serious problems if that happens again. But the rush to make all these documents legally binding, including the Pandemic Treaty, is mainly due to the feared and certain loss of power from the WHO in the event of a Republican victory in November.

The INB will gather again in July to negotiate the Pandemic Treaty. If consensus is reached quickly, the treaty could be finalized this year in a special session of the WHA. Otherwise, it will be finalized at the WHA in 2025. To adopt this Treaty, if it will become a treaty, which is quite likely, a two-thirds majority must vote in favour. Afterwards, member states can make objections and reservations. On the already adopted amendments to the IHR member states can make reservations or refuse to ratify the document.

For the Netherlands, a special procedure is put into place. The Dutch delegation in Geneva stated that the new government, not the current caretaker government, must 'approve' these amendments. It is advised to do this before the Pandemic Treaty is put into place to prevent any confusion or obscurity on what to agree on or

not, especially because of the misleading ratification periods. For the new cabinet in The Hague, it is therefore necessary to closely look at the amendments and their effects on national sovereignty and individual rights as soon as possible.

If our personal freedom and national sovereignty are valuable to us, quick action is necessary for all the member states of the WHO. We call upon all members of Parliaments and citizens around the world to resist the amended IHR and all the other resolutions and to refuse the ratification. For the Pandemic Treaty which still must be adopted, we urge all member states, especially developing countries, to withdraw from the document, as this is paving the way for an authoritarian, unethical WHO rather than an advisory WHO. This resistance will be strengthened by supporting the CCI. By making a permanent council and supervision in Geneva, we are capable of drawing attention to important problems within international treaties to diplomats from all over the world. Hereby we advocate for the protection of life, family, and freedom, and in this case also health sovereignty and the protection of personal freedom regarding the decision to vaccinate or not.

Wilmer Hak is CCI Policy Officer Geneva

News from Africa (ACP)

Henk Jan van Schothorst attended two conferences in May. Uganda and Kenya with the aim of making people there aware of the agenda that Europe is trying to impose on them.

2nd African Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Family Values and Sovereignty – Uganda - May 1-3

Henk Jan: “As you sit in the hotel lobby in Entebbe watching the news, you suddenly see yourself appear on screen, with a telling caption: ‘The Speaker of Uganda Parliament has mobilized

African Parliaments: **Don't be intimidated by the West.**” Concluded in Presidential Palace.



[#2024UNCSC](#) Summit of the Future – Kenya – May 9-10

The Summit aims to accelerate meeting international commitments and address emerging challenges through the Pact for the Future. This actionable document will be negotiated and endorsed by countries during the September 2024 Summit at the UN in New York, ‘fostering a more resilient global community for current and future generations’.



A 'common' agenda and a 'pact' is where they are working on. But the spirit in which many reps of

¹ Gen 1:28 God blessed them and said to them, “ Be fruitful and increase in number”

Gen 9:1 Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth
Jeremiah 9:6 Marry and have sons and daughters ; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage , so that they too may have sons and daughters.

orgs expressed themselves, as promoting [#SRHR](#), Feminist Future, lgbt, felt cold, I missed the [#family](#) warmth.

News from the UN New York

Commission on Population & Development 2024

By: Peter Smith

The Bible is very clear about people having children, even when in captivity¹.

In 1994 there was an enormous Conference on Population & Development in Cairo. Last week in New York was the 30th anniversary. There was just a one-and-a-half-page political declaration agreed last Monday, nothing controversial in it².

The idea of linking population and development is a diabolically clever one. Many countries have been fooled into thinking that low fertility rates will lead to development. However the actual results are quite different, see ref.³ where a study by the **World Bank** shows **no linkage between fertility rates and economic development**. This graph of 100 countries is a scatter pattern, no correlation between the Y and X axis.

Attached is a promotional video from UNFPA promoting this **fictional** model of the **Demographic Dividend**⁴. They forget to mention the old dependent people who are to be looked after by fewer and fewer young people. Some 19 countries and two large groups mentioned the



² [Document AM081](#)

³ [World Development report](#)

⁴ Promotional video from UNFPA promoting this fictional model of Demographic Dividend

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bhkrS0qSJlg>

term “demographic dividend”⁵. I have spoken to some delegates previously about this and they say they did not manage the dividend so well. It’s the perfect excuse , you did not get it , as your management was bad.

There was one flicker of light in the dark wilderness at the UN last week. Angola said they were fighting against corruption. I would say war and corruption are the two main barriers to development.

The two worst delegates promoting the killing of unborn children by abortion were the U.K. and France. The group of countries for the family were led by Belarus. Many pro-abortion NGOs were promoting the killing of unborn children. They seemed to think this was the key to female emancipation. Pro-Life NGOs like C-Fam were the small sane voices crying in the wilderness. Youth delegates were unhappy that children could not run the world.

The best delegation for reservations was the Holy See. They promoted the 30th anniversary for the Year of the Family (2024), promoted the sanctity of life from conception and explained that gender was biology , male and female. They also spoke up for the poor.

May 6, 2024

Peter Smith represents CCI at the UN in New York

News from America

Affirmative Action?

By: John Van Der Brink

We live in a country in which racial discrimination is considered one of the greatest crimes that can be committed. Any individual, business, corporation, or institution that speaks or who follows policies that unfairly prefer one person to another based on their skin color is sure to be condemned by those who notice, and often end up in jail or paying a heavy fine. This reaction to punish the perpetrators has often gone to such an extreme that today we often see what is called reverse discrimination – the unfair advantage of those with a certain skin color over those by whom they experienced discrimination in the past. Today’s affirmative action is a prime example of a good thing gone bad. Other cultural uprisings such as Black Lives Matter is another example of gross overreaction.

But what is the root of this discrimination and this overreaction? The answer is that quite frankly our country and some other countries have a sad history of slavery. Thousands of black people were captured from their homes in Africa and forcibly transported to other countries where they were sold as so much property and then forced to work for their masters, often under horrible conditions for the rest of their lives. This sad state of society lasted for many generations in America until the hearts and minds of many leaders began to question and oppose these unjust practices. Even Christian men and women were at odds with each other on the issue of slavery. Some justified it based on Scripture and long-standing custom; others vigorously opposed



⁵ **Demographic dividend** , Countries - Nepal, Panama, Burkina Faso, Sao Tome and Principe. Laos, Costa Rica, China , Cambodia, Gambia, Chad, Niger, Burundi, Comoros, Brazil, South Africa, Sri Lanka & Liberia.

Groups – ESCAP – Economic & Social Commission for Africa & the

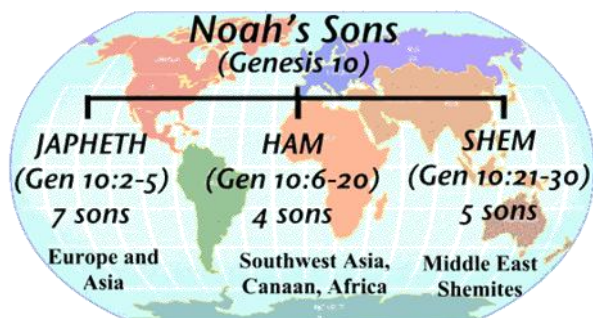
pacific

ECA – Economic Commission for Africa

it because of its cruelty and by citing the same Holy Word. Resistance to abandon what for many was a lucrative business eventually led to a Civil War in our country before it was finally abolished by the Emancipation Proclamation of president Abraham Lincoln .

Or was it really abolished? Is racial segregation gone? Is discrimination a thing of the past? Do all Christians condemn judging others because of skin color?

Slavery in our country is gone. But there are still some people who harbor feelings of superiority over black people and they base their feelings on the Bible! They believe that there is a curse placed by God through Noah after his son Ham mocked his wicked conduct. “Cursed be Canaan, a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren”. This verse has stifled the conscience of many slaveowners and been used to try to justify the slave trade. And it is still used as an excuse, even in Christian circles, to speak disparagingly of those with a dark skin color.



Cursed be Canaan – what does this actually mean and how did it become so misconstrued? Noah had three sons – Shem, Ham, and Japheth. His youngest son was Ham who had four sons – Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan. Since Ham was the son who mocked his father’s nakedness, why did Noah curse Canaan his son? The Bible does not explicitly say why, but it is quite possible that Canaan participated in this event, and Noah condemned the seed of Ham that would descend from Canaan because of his wickedness. Later it was seen that Canaan **was** cursed, they **did** become servants and slaves to their brethren,

and it **was because** of the curse pronounced upon them.

But the other three sons of Ham were not cursed. Some claim that the descendants of Ham settled in Africa, became black in skin color, and therefore black people are cursed, and slavery and mistreatment are justified. But only some of his sons settled there; others including the Canaanites did not settle there, and their skin probably retained a medium skin tone common to most Middle Easterners even today.

So, the Canaanites, who were cursed by Noah, did not have black skin color. To treat black people as if they were the ones who were cursed is based on a flagrant error.

Regardless of what happened centuries ago, it is completely unchristian for anyone today to regard those of any ethnic group or of any skin color to be inferior to their own race. How haughty are they who think their ancestors, or their skin color somehow makes them better than others! There is no curse on a certain skin color, and there is absolutely no biblical basis today for any such thoughts. Before God, we are all the same – sinful creatures in need of washing and cleansing by the blood of Christ.

On the opposite side, and equally appalling are those who use skin color to claim special rights, reparations, affirmative action, or special privileges. This is reverse discrimination, and it also is an insidious evil undermining peace and stability in society.

One more thought. We all are products of our culture. Our way of thinking is often shaped, at least partially, by the way people around us think. That is why some of our forefathers, like John Newton, George Whitefield and others, as well as statesmen like George Washington and others were once slave owners. But when the light of God’s Word focused on the ungodly nature of these practices, some of these same men became the most ardent leaders against slavery. But

change did not happen overnight. In some cases, it took generations, a lot of soul-searching, and a shameful admission of guilt before it disappeared. Perhaps there are still traces of it, even in our own communities, but it should be identified and forsaken.

Our children are growing up in a very confused divided world. They can readily see slavery is wrong. But they also see that an overreaction is wrong. College campuses and work environments are powder kegs of racial sensitivities – one wrong word or action and a social explosion occurs.

We are all descendants of Adam, equally fallen, equally in need of spiritual renewal and restoration. In God's sight, we are all of one race – a fallen human race. May the Lord bind these things upon our hearts. Then no one will place himself above anybody else.

John Van Der Brink, director of the Netherlands Reformed Christian School in Pompton Plains, New Jersey, and a member of the Board of Directors of Christian Council International (CCI)

News From Europe

Worldwide abolition of surrogacy - Rome - April 5-6



On the way to Rome for the protection of natural motherhood and childbirth and therefore for the worldwide abolition of surrogacy. Children and their rights should never be compromised by people who want a child through womb rent.
[#StopSurrogacy](#) [#surrogacyabolition](#)

To protect mother and child:

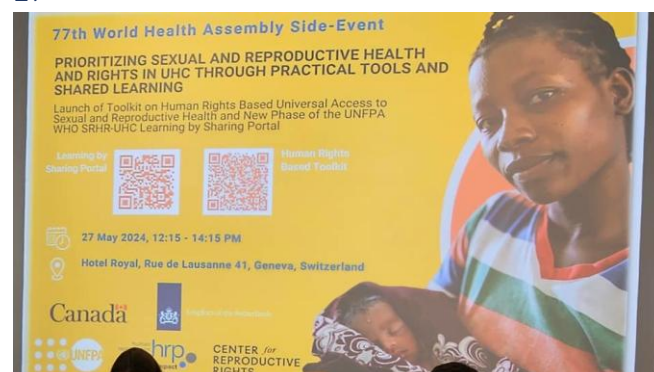
Attention Called for Worldwide Abolition of [#Draagmoederschap](#) met [#CasaDeclaration](#) [#StopSurrogacy](#) [#surrogacyabolition](#) on int conference in Rome. Samen with [Bert-Jan Ruissen](#), [Diederik van Dijk](#) [#SGPnieuws](#), [#RosBettina81](#) from [#ADFIntl](#) and [#refdag](#) <https://www.rd.nl/.../1059106-sgp-vraagt-in-rome-aandacht...> and others.

Speeching at the SGP youth day – Utrecht, The Netherlands - April 13



At the [SGP-jongeren](#) youth day with [Chris Stoffer](#) / [SGP](#) and [Wimco Ester](#) / [Open Doors](#) led by [Florian Pronk](#) participated in a panel on Christian persecution. It is getting chilly in Europe for Christians, like [Päivi Räsänen](#), but at the same time we can know that God hears our prayers.
[#remeuropa](#) [Bert-Jan Ruissen](#).

77th World Health Assembly (WHO) Geneva - May 27



Right at the opening day of [#WHA77](#), the Netherlands and Canada with [UNFPA](#) , presented their priority at a side-event: [#SRHR](#) . So sad, better follow [#Biblical](#) standards on m/f sexuality, marriage and family. Abortion is ending human life and is not an international human right: Right to Life is!



Peace March – Budapest – June 1

Gathered together today in Budapest in a peaceful march in defense of Christian principles, peace, democracy and national sovereignty vis-à-vis international organizations as EU and NATO.

[Read more](#)



July - September

Fields of Work

CCI Opens Office in Geneva

By Wilmer Hak

Christian Council International can gratefully look back on a successful quarter. Several achievements have been made, in Namibia, we were able to support parliamentarians to ensure that traditional marriage remains protected. In New York, we were able to advocate for state sovereignty. Shortly said, we were able to break some of the attacks on traditional Christian values.



The biggest achievement however was the official establishment of CCI in Geneva, with a permanent office and representative at the Human Rights Council. We are humbled that we could make such an achievement. Thanks to all your support and prayers, we were able to achieve this vital position to protect life, family and freedom.



Relevance of Geneva

From the beginning, the CCI board and staff have been committed to opening an office in Geneva. Here, where the Human Rights Council, the World Health Organization, and the United Nations Treaty Bodies are located, many human rights issues are being discussed and unfortunately, also

altered. It is very often at this place that the value of life, family and freedom is undermined. This may happen through several mechanisms, the first and most important one is through resolutions.

Resolutions are non-binding commitments made by States which reflect the political will and commitment of Member States. At first sight, we might be relieved that it is not legally binding, but these documents are unfortunately often used as a tool for political pressure. Many delegates are pressured to sign commitments that often do not align with domestic legislation and values.

This is often done through the inclusion of (non-exhaustive) loaded terms. These terms might look innocent at first hand, but when closely observed, they relate to all kinds of unethical policies.

This happens regularly with abortion, despite abortion having no legal basis in binding international law, even the opposite, many resolutions still refer to it as a human right via misleading terminology. Diplomates are often unaware of this and pressured by NGOs, Member States and the United Nations to agree with the resolution. When being adopted, national stakeholders can misuse the resolution locally by opening abortion clinics.

Another dangerous aspect with resolutions is that they can become legally binding over a certain period of time. The consequence will then be that abortion is regarded, worldwide, as an inherent human right. To prevent this from happening, legal support is needed to help the delegates make the right decision.

New Opportunities

With the permanent office in Geneva, the CCI has new opportunities to legally support the delegations and thereby the national policies of Member States. We can now be present during most negotiations at the Human Rights Council on these resolutions and during the publication of

all other kinds of reports. There we can draw attention to these issues and call for change.

The office can do this through several tools. First and foremost through research. Gathering legal evidence is necessary to show the strength of our values, both from a moral and a legal side. This research also helps us to be aware of what is at stake and what the best response to the situation at hand is.

The second tool the office uses is reaching out to diplomats with the concerns we have. We often face diplomats who are unaware of the language in the resolution. Helping them will guide them through the negotiations and give them the balanced information to make a proper decision when voting.

It also happens that a diplomat does not vote or negotiate in line with its national legislation. This often happens due to the pressure put on them by other organizations of the United Nations. Informing the national parliament or ministry of foreign affairs will help to release that pressure from the diplomat whereby he will operate more in line with the national legislation and values.

Another useful tool for the office is that being in Geneva ensures not only that we can engage more with the diplomats, but also with the human rights system itself. Reports can be presented and submitted to a wide audience on all sorts of topics, including the legality of abortion, state sovereignty and the freedom of religion.

The office also has the opportunity to organize events, speak publicly at negotiations and interact with human rights experts from the United Nations about the human rights situation in certain countries. This often entails situations where abortion or euthanasia is promoted as a human right or when the freedom of religion is not explicitly being mentioned in international documents.

Conclusion

Shortly said, the Christian Council International has widened its opportunities and accelerated its engagement with all kinds of stakeholders. Besides God, we thank all of you for making this milestone possible. On the short term, the office is looking to establish itself more and expand itself to ensure that CCI will become and remain a permanent beacon of hope.

For all of our donors, big or small, we once again want to show our appreciation. Thanks to the contributions made. Through that CCI can continue to protect Life, Family and Freedom on a world stage.

Wilmer Hak is CCI Policy Officer Geneva

CCI's Global Advocacy Highlights

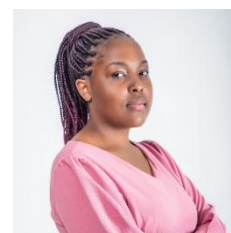
By Sylvia Mesesi

The past three months were not only busy for the Christian Council International but also for other international organizations. Many important international documents were discussed and passed. It was especially a pivotal time for two major international documents that reached headlines in the news for the past two years.

That these documents, the Pact for the Future and the Pandemic Agreement, were so long in the headlines, is not without a reason. Many provisions contained serious negative implications for world sovereignty and Christian values.

Pandemic Agreement

The pandemic Agreement was one of the main issues for the Christian Council International in the past three months. With several like-minded organisations, weekly calls were organised to strategise how to raise awareness among state



representatives. Several projects were set up to protect life, family and freedom at the World Health Organization.

The agreement itself was drafted by the WHO to better prepare the world for future pandemics. In the past three months, some crucial negotiations took place that redirected the course of this Agreement. Mpox, American Elections and growing distrust in the powers of the WHO all resulted in an acceleration of the agreement. Only in that way, the WHO will be able to finalise the document.

Through this acceleration, many important issues remained unnoticed by representatives. The mechanisms put in place by the agreement, which includes a stronger WHO that sets out when there is a pandemic and how countries must respond to that, must be addressed. Many of the recommendations will include vaccine mandates, travel restrictions and other personal freedom-infringing policies.

The possibility of the WHO determining which health products are relevant is also very concerning. Especially since abortion kits and services can be unlawfully labelled as 'relevant health products'.

This can all become a reality in less than two years if nothing changes. The CCI is therefore working around the clock and monitoring all updates closely to address these concerns. Raising awareness among policymakers and supporting them to advocate for change has also been undertaken, and will continue.



Pact for the Future

The past quarter was also crucial for the Pact for the Future, another document that is practically legally binding with the main purpose of redirecting state sovereignty. The only difference however is that this document has already been adopted and therefore will influence world policy.

The aim of the Pact was to better prepare and reflect the commitments of the United Nations, and all Member States, for the future. The fact that this document reflects an unlimited call for social engineering and fails to concretely call for the important role of religion, are some of the many problems.

The main issue in this document is however similar to that in the Pandemic Agreement, as it involves the set-up of new mechanisms that could infringe on sovereignty. This means that, again, United Nations unelected and non-transparent systems can redirect sovereignty from Member States.

This was specifically visible in the fact that the Pact called for giving the Secretary-General new powers to coordinate a global response to a global shock. These shocks include climate emergencies, wars and financial downturns. With this new mandate, it is the United Nations that can coordinate the responses to these shocks and could redirect the 'multilateral system' as they call it. State sovereignty is again undermined in this approach since it will be the Secretary-General who interacts with relevant stakeholders to respond to the shock.

The new censorship mechanisms to address so-called misinformation and disinformation, the promotion of digital IDs and other close feedback mechanisms from the United Nations to Member States are other ways whereby the United Nations violates national and personal sovereignty. These mechanisms can also be used

to pressure Member States to uphold the 'recommendations' the United Nations sets out.

Luckily, some of the text was weakened in its language, although it was a close call. The United Nations tried to adopt the Pact via a silent procedure whereby no clear insight was given in the Pact itself, the amendments and the positions of states. Advocating was therefore difficult. Fortunately, CCI was able to give [an online statement](#) on several family and freedom-infringing articles and helped to advocate on this topic at a global scale.



Conclusion

Shortly said, the past three months were not only crucial for the United Nations but also for Christian Council International. Although the United Nations still pursues some legitimate goals, we are highly concerned that such procedures and documents could occur more often in the near future.

CCI will therefore remain committed in the future to monitor and advocate in light of our values at a global level. Only in that way, the priceless values of life, family and freedom can remain protected.

Sylvia Mesesi is CCI Policy Officer Africa

News from America



Present at a rally with Donald Trump at Falk Productions in Walker, Michigan – September 28, 2024

Henk Jan van Schothorst:

Was a great experience to attend on invitation an entertaining rally from President [Donald J. Trump](#) at [#FalkUSA](#) in [#GrandRapids](#) [#MichiganState](#). Themes passed by like: no man in women's sports, jobs, no tax on tips, overtime, inflation, border, immigration, Kamala's incompetence, etc.

The direction of Title IX, for example, and the gender issues it faces will depend on who is elected in November. Read this in the article by our board member in the US, John Van Der Brink:

Title IX and Its Impact on American Schools

By John Van Der Brink

Title IX states that "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance.



1. What is a Title IX?

Title IX is a civil rights law that bans sex discrimination against students, employees and others at public schools, colleges and universities that receive federal funding. Violators can be prosecuted for any acts that provide favorable treatment to some or exclude from participation on the basis of sex. Today it has become a powerful tool used to introduce and promote many immoral practices in our nation's schools and in society.

2. What is the history of Title IX?

It started out in the 1970s as legislation that provided women equal access to college admissions and to certain sports competitions. Since then, it has mushroomed into many areas including laws related to sexual harassment and violence, especially on college campuses. More recently, it has been used to carve out a place to protect and promote sexual orientation and gender identity. Currently it is used as a political football with Democrats trying to enlarge its definitions to promote a liberal ideology, while Republicans are trying to restrict its impact somewhat.



Center: Betsy DeVos; 5th from left: John Van Der Brink during a US-NL Education meeting with Secr. Betsy DeVos 28 Oct 2019

3. What position regarding Title IX did former Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos take under the Trump administration?

She saw that Title IX was being used as a convenient weapon to accuse and prosecute many people who were accused of sexual harassment. By restricting the definition of harassment, many of the bogus cases of the past were avoided. This was interpreted by the Left as an attempt to provide legal discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community.

4. What did the Biden administration do in regard to Title IX in April, 2024?

It redefined and rolled back some of the reforms of the Trump administration. Specifically, it redefined sex to include issues related to gender identity, sexual identity, and sexual orientation. Teachers now are afraid of lawsuits for calling students by their biological gender or their real pronouns. These alternate lifestyles are now being celebrated instead in our nation's school. This has resulted in redefining discrimination to include gender identity and sexual orientation.

5. What is the legislative status of Title IX today?

It has become a political football for and against a liberalizing/conservatizing influence in our schools and culture. Trump and Harris are on the opposite ends of this spectrum. The direction of Title IX and the gender issues it is related to is dependent on who gets elected in November.

6. Are Christian schools affected by Title IX?

So far, Title IX controls only those colleges, and public schools that receive government funding. If a school that does not receive government funding, it is exempt from the ruling of Title IX provided the religious teaching of the school contradicts Title IX protections. But with the progressive trends promoted by the Harris campaign, those protections are likely to be challenged. Elections matter – they have a trickle affect which reach into every corner of our society.

John Van Der Brink, director of the Netherlands Reformed Christian School in Pompton Plains, New Jersey, and a member of the Board of Directors of Christian Council International (CCI)

News From Europe



Meeting with Hungarian Ambassador to the Netherlands Daniel Landeck – July 25, 2024

We had a nice coffee with the new Hungarian Ambassador to the Netherlands [Daniel Landeck](#), [Embassy of Hungary in the Netherlands](#) .

[#Hungary](#) could use some friendship with the recent behaviour from [Europese Commissie](#) side. We underlined the importance of [#family](#) (businesses). To be continued!

<https://haga.mfa.gov.hu/eng/page/a-nagykoet?s=09>



Visit to Geneva – September 9, 2024 – Human Rights Council

Together with our CCI Geneva Representative Wilmer Hak we had a fruitful and productive day on the start day of the month-long 57th session of the Human Rights Council. There is a lot of work to be done on left-liberal themes such as abortion and overconfident gender self-determination.



Bert-Jan Ruissen - MEP, Wilmer Hak and Henk Jan van Schothorst in the European Parliament Brussels

Visit to Brussels – September 10, 2024 – MEPs informed about the WHO

Today, together with CCI-Geneva, we took the opportunity to inform MEPs in Brussels about Why the WHO is the last organization that can be trusted with the health of the world: Reasons to reject Binding Pandemic Treaty & amendment of international health directive.

Alarming Issues Regarding the New WHO Pandemic Response Mechanisms:

- ❑ **Adopting the amendments to the International Health Regulations (IHR) in an illegal manner**, by not complying with the review requirement of four months before the Amendments can be submitted to the Health Assembly. (Article 55(2) IHR).
- ❑ **Creating economic disruption and exacerbating current international inequalities and national debt**, by building a massive surveillance network for pathogens with a history of causing only minor outbreaks and lowering the threshold for interventions and mass vaccination. (Articles 12, 13 and 20 Pandemic Agreement (PA)).
- ❑ **Reducing the funds allocated for high-priority health risks in low-income countries**, due to misinterpreting pandemic risks. The projected budget is ten times more than that of malaria and other diseases, and comprising 25-50% of annual official health development assistance. These useful resources will now be allocated to minor and theoretical risks. (Articles 12(2) and 20 PA).
- ❑ **Deteriorating the freedom of speech, religion, and independent research** by calling on member states to strengthen their address against 'misinformation and disinformation' on public health risks. (Annex 1 para 41 and 63 IHR and Article 18 PA).
- ❑ **Portraying vaccines, QR-codes and travel restrictions as the best way to tackle a pandemic** without leaving space for traditional, ethical, democratic or religious objections. (Article 36, Annex 6 IHR and the Preamble and Article 5 PA).
- ❑ **Undermining healthcare sovereignty by subjecting it to the Regulation**, by reducing it to a principle, or making it subject to the Regulations. (Article 3(4) IHR, Preamble PA).
- ❑ **Making it impossible for nations to make reservations on certain issues**, by deciding that some reservations are incompatible with the objective of the Regulations, and therefore can be rejected after the ratification period by the WHA. (Article 62(9) IHR).
- ❑ **Circumnavigating cultural and religious approaches concerning reproductive control measures by misusing health emergencies**, in a way that:
 - o **Controversial Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) methods are defined as essential health products** by committing States to a *One Health Approach* and a *Universal Health Coverage* that covers primary health services, which also encompasses controversial SRHR methods like abortion. (Preamble and Articles 6(1) PA).
 - o **Stakeholders who promote non-consensual methods of reproductive control can utilize WHO-coordinated mechanisms to distribute their "health" products** because the term "relevant" is non-exhaustive. It therefore encompasses "relevant" stakeholders such as the Center for Reproductive Rights (CRR) and other bodies of the United Nations like ECOSOC that promote non-consensual methods of restricting reproduction. (Article 1 and 13(8 and 9) IHR and Articles 5(1) and 13(1) PA).
 - o **Essential health products are facilitated based on 'public health needs'**: A new vague term which the Director-General will periodically review and update. (Article 13(8) IHR and Article 13(1) PA).

CALL TO ACTION:

1. **Refuse to ratify the IHR amendments**, reservations are too unstable to be maintained after the ratification period.

Alarming Issues Regarding the New WHO Pandemic Response Mechanisms:

2. **Recognize that the WHO with this power is a threat to national sovereignty and democratic rights** because they will decide when, how and with which values member states must tackle a pandemic.
3. **Insist the WHO to stay within its internationally accepted legal borders.**
 - Do not accept the argument that this new framework provides equitable access to vaccines. These documents give the WHO, together with other stakeholders such as CRR, authority to distribute controversial SRHR products at any moment they think it is necessary without considering national law and other more prominent health issues.



CCI at Inland Navigation Meeting Day - September 14, 2024

We had great meetings with people involved in inland navigation in Woudenberg during their annual meeting day.



CCI at SGP electoral association Elburg-Doornspijk – September 19, 2024

At the invitation of [SGP](#) electoral association Elburg-Doornspijk, [Henk Jan van Schothorst](#) spoke about the work of CCI. The palpable interest was encouraging.



Accreditation prolonged at the European Parliament Brussels and Strasbourg

October - December

The Americans are choosing “not a national pastor”

The Americans are choosing “not a national pastor,” but a president who must be able to run the country like a business and is skilled in diplomacy. George Roller, pastor in the American Congress, said this on Thursday evening, October 24, 2024 in the Luther Church in Bodegraven. There, the Christian Council International (CCI) organized a meeting about the election campaign in the United States.

[Read more](#)

See this evening's live stream below.



Reasons for gratitude amid worrying developments

By Wilmer Hak

As we come to the end of 2024, it is always good to look back and forward. For CCI, 2024 was a blessed year. The increased presence within international organizations, seeing positive political changes, the weakening of the [Pact for the Future](#) and [the slowing down of the Pandemic Agreement](#) makes us grateful.



Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres, after the Treaty of the Future was adopted on Sunday, 22 September 2024.

That said, challenges and concerns remain high about our positions. The international outlook on abortion, freedom of speech, Christian education and family is changing dramatically. This makes propagating God's Word and the values based on it as the first foundation difficult.

Perspective

On the international stage, the pressure on Christian norms and values is particularly evident within the United Nations. The way in which this is done, however, has changed drastically in recent years. In New York and Geneva, the basic principles do not even seem to be mentioned anymore.

First, for instance, they named religious freedom or parental rights within new resolutions (non-

binding exhortations of countries to 'improve' the world) and conventions. Of course, these were always supplemented with all kinds of terminology to negate these rights, but at least they were still mentioned.

Now, however, we increasingly see that rights are just completely ignored. Where previously CCI and other Christian organizations had to point [out the change or removal of text](#), now the first thing to point out is the insertion of new text protecting these rights.

Despite appearing to be a small change, it is one with major consequences. It is an erosion of fundamental legal protection. For instance, the lack of any mention of religious freedom in the Pact for the Future relegated this right to a more secondary role in the future, making it easier for attacks on it occur.



Convention on the Rights of the Child, the original goal of protecting children from abuse and other dangers, has evolved into a mechanism that prefers to see any form of traditional parenting disappear.

This is also visible around children's rights. Whereas in the past the role of parental rights in parenting was always cited, as is also laid down within international treaties, any reference to these rights is now carefully avoided. [The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child even goes so far as to openly portray people who stand up](#)

[for 'family values' from a religious perspective as a danger to the child and its rights.](#)

Polarization

This new task for CCI to work more from the grassroots is additionally made more difficult by increasing polarization at the international level. The US presidential elections showed this in particular. The divide largely outlined by the media was not really about different political views or ways of conducting policy, but about all kinds of groups and views being diametrically opposed to each other.

This thinking in groups is also increasingly reflected within international policy. While the media during the US elections was generous in handing out all kinds of discriminatory stamps on certain voter groups, in the international arena, terms like 'intimidation' and 'hate speech' are increasingly being used.

Although freedom of speech may be limited when people spread hatred or intimidate, there is an increasing attempt to include Biblical norms and values under this. [Ms. Räsänen's still ongoing case](#) is a telling example of this. Here, the word sin is tried to be subsumed under hate speech, and thus indirectly the entire Biblical Message which has major implications for schools, churches and religious freedom.

CCI therefore tries to re-establish the standard of God's Word and international law within all kinds of international organizations to weaken these developments as far as possible.

Education

This shift in perspective and polarization is also increasingly evident in education. At the various national levels where CCI works, [calls for the abolition or restriction of Christian education are getting louder and louder.](#)



The Netherlands during the 2022 UPR session where it did not support a call for the protection of the family as a fundamental group unit (literal passage from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights).

At the international level, this call is particularly visible during the UPR sessions. Once every four and a half years, such a session is held for each country. Here, countries and organizations can raise issues around the human rights situation in that country. Unfortunately, these sessions are also used to push all kinds of political agendas, such as around education.

During the Dutch UPR session, for example, several requests were made to restrict Christian education. Fortunately, this was still rejected on the basis of Article 23 of the Constitution at the time, but for how long will that be done as pressure increases at the international level?

During Canada's UPR session, for example, the country supported a proposal to have more influence on sex education within schools. This could cause a ban on religious norms and values propagated in Christian schools around sexuality.

CCI has therefore launched several initiatives. For instance, through presence and participation in Geneva, we are trying to weaken the attack on religious education. Moreover, we have also set up several training programs that provide students with quick, effective and truthful information about the United Nations. This not only allows us to quickly deploy people at international organizations, but also to provide

students with reliable and honest insights for their future jobs.

Conclusion

These developments and changes within the United Nations are worrying. But despite that, we may and can still share our message. This therefore calls us to gratitude and humility before God. We also pray then that He will continue to bless it in 2025.

Wilmer Hak is CCI Policy Officer Geneva

[The Conversation - God's lobby on the world stage](#)



Simon ([These Days](#)) in conversation with Henk Jan van Schothorst, founder and executive director of Christian Council International and its sister organization in the US. As a representative of the Consultative Organization, he brings a Christian voice to international organizations such as the United Nations (UN), the European Union (EU), the African Union (AU), the Organization for Security and Co-operation (OSCE) and in Member States. He is also committed to strengthening the indispensable transatlantic bond, especially between the Netherlands and the United States of America (US). (Dutch spoken)

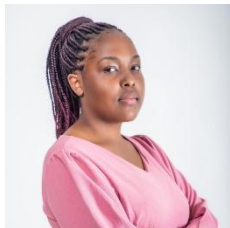
Fields of Work

News from New York

Reflections on the Summit of the Future

By Sylvia Mesesi

The Summit of the Future, held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on September 22-23, 2024, brought together representatives and delegates from across the globe. The Summit aimed to address pressing global challenges and resulted in several key outcome documents. These include the *Pact for the Future*, the most comprehensive and detailed of the agreements, the *Global Digital Compact*, which focuses on technology and digital governance, and the *Declaration for Future Generations*, which emphasizes the protection and well-being of future generations.



This article outlines the major concerns that Christian Council International (CCI), an organization dedicated to defending life, family

and freedom, has identified within these documents. While the **Pact for the Future** claims to build upon existing treaties, it raises a crucial question: what gaps does this document address that previous frameworks could not?

[Read more](#)

The UN, an intimidating place - report on the Third Committee 2024

By Peter Smith

Since 1994 large numbers of Pro-Life /Pro-Family NGOs have been lobbying at the UN. I got involved January 1995. My last trip to the UN was 2020. So, I have met hundreds of delegates at these meetings. The UN is a very intimidating place.



Delegates need to understand what certain terms mean. "Women in all their diversity" includes transgender people. When delegates know the hidden meaning behind words and phrases, then they need courage. Just seeing friendly NGOs in the building helps. Having students attending, under supervision, helps. Many activities are held in and out of UN buildings. Over the years these have attracted sometimes 100 delegates and ambassadors at a meeting. All this helps with education and building courage.



From 4 to 16 Nov. 2024 I monitored 25 resolutions of the 3rd Committee of the General Assembly. Some 9 of these were voted on. The UN hates voting, they like to pretend there is

“consensus”. Most of these resolutions are repeated every two years. There is a pretense that if something is repeated enough times it becomes “customary international law”.

[Read more](#)

News from Geneva

Update on the Pandemic Agreement

By Sylvia Mesesi



The World Health Organization (WHO) has been working hard on a new global Pandemic Agreement, which they claim aims to prepare the world for future health crises.

Leading these negotiations is the International Negotiating Body (INB), a group tasked with drafting the agreement and managing discussions between countries. Essentially, the INB acts as the bridge between WHO’s leadership and the member states, helping to shape the details of this treaty.

Recently, the INB held its 12th meeting (INB 12), and here’s what happened.

INB 12

The most striking outcome of INB 12 (held in November and December) was that negotiators could not reach a consensus to finalize the Pandemic Agreement. This means they missed their goal of preparing the agreement in time for a special session of the World Health Assembly (WHA), which was planned for this December.

To understand why this matters, we must look at the World Health Assembly (WHA). This is the decision-making body of the WHO, made up of

health ministers from around the world. The WHA typically meets in May each year and discusses global health issues.

At the 77th WHA this May, however, they made controversial amendments to the International Health Regulations (IHR), which dictate how nations manage health crises. The Pandemic Agreement was not completed at that time, leading to ongoing negotiations throughout the year.

[Read more](#)

News from Africa

World Media Conference in Lagos, Nigeria

By Sylvia Mesesi

This December, CCI alongside its African network, successfully oversaw a significant world media press conference in Lagos, Nigeria. Organized by the Foundation for African Cultural Heritage (FACH) and supported by 25 legal, civil, and religious organizations, this conference highlighted pressing issues threatening Africa’s cultural, religious, and legal sovereignty.



Held at Home Touch Place, Surulere, Lagos, the event addressed concerns surrounding the Samoa

Agreement, surrogacy, and the WHO Pandemic Treaty. Here's an overview of the issues discussed and their potential impact:

Samoa Agreement

Originally known as the Cotonou Agreement and initiated in 1975 as a trade treaty between the EU and African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) nations, the Samoa Agreement has since evolved to include controversial provisions. Despite public opposition, Nigeria signed this agreement, which now promotes policies that conflict with its laws and cultural values.

During the press conference, it was highlighted that key provisions in the Samoa Agreement endorse LGBTQ+ rights, abortion, and Comprehensive Sexuality Education. For example, Article 36(2) references sexual and reproductive health rights, defined by the EU to include sexual orientation and gender identity. The participants stated that these policies directly contradict Nigeria's Same-Sex Marriage (Prohibition) Act of 2014.

[Read more](#)

News from America

American Elections



Around the American elections, Henk Jan van Schothorst was invited by the Dutch media several times. Herewith a fragment from the

television program 'Bar Laat' on the day after the elections.



Election Results and What They Mean to Education By John Van Der Brink



Election Day 2024 is now a thing of the past. The leadup to this day was filled with tension and anxiety for millions of Americans.

People from every walk of life, from all age groups, and from across the political spectrum looked to November 5 as the most consequential day of the year. Everybody knew that the outcome of this election would turn our nation even further left or that there would be an attempt to conserve some of the norms of the past. And now the results are in, a new president has been elected, and he is already picking the cabinet members who will form and shape his vision for America. The question for us as a school community is, "What will those changes mean for education in America?"

There are several things worthy of note.



Wokism

One change that this administration had promised to pursue is stemming the tide of wokism in our nation's schools. During the current administration, the LGBTQ+ movement has had almost free reign to promote their leftist agenda in our schools.

[Read more](#)

News From Europe

Visit Strasbourg – October 22-23, 2024



Last October, as part of a collaboration between the Driestar-Wartburg College from Gouda and Christian Council International (CCI), 25 students

had the opportunity to visit the European Parliament in Strasbourg at the invitation of Mr. B.J. Ruissen of the SGP. This excursion was designed with the aim of showing young people what the European Parliament means to them and how organizations like CCI are involved in it.

[Read more](#)

Conference 'Patriotic Intellectuals For Europe' in Budapest – October 25, 2024



At the invitation of EuCET Hungary, with CCI-US Board Member George Roller and Riekelt Pasterkamp, contributed to the constructive network conference 'Patriotic Intellectuals For Europe' in Budapest, up and down in 1 day. Theme: EU Gender Wokism: Danger for Chr Family? Stand up!



Family Days – October 29-31, 2024



During the Family Days we presented the Dutch translation of the booklet by Niilo and Päivi Räsänen 'Marriage from a Christian perspective' to SGP MP Diederik van Dijk. He highlighted marriage from Luther's point of view on this reformationday. See his opinion in the [Reformatorsch Dagblad](#).

The booklet can be ordered here:
<https://www.christiancouncilinternational.org/nl/nieuws/huwelijk-vanuit-christelijk-perspectief-niilo-paivi-rasanen>



The booth at the Familiedagen

America evening of SGP Goeree-Overflakkee – November 2, 2024



What a fantastic America evening of SGP Goeree-Overflakkee in a great ambiance with more than 100 enthusiastic SGP young people! Discussion about the work of Christian Council International and the American elections. Beautiful, that warm involvement! #SGP #SGP youth.

March for Life – November 16, 2024

We had a dignified march for the dignity of human life. "Human rights begin in the womb".



VI Transatlantic Summit 'For freedom and a culture of life' – December 2, 2024



Attended the very informative networking VI Transatlantic Summit 'For freedom and a culture of life' in the beautiful Senate building in Madrid.

[#VITransatlanticSummit](#)

[#summit4freedom4life](#)

European Prayer Breakfast in Brussels – December 3-4, 2024



On my way back from Madrid to the Netherlands, I was able to attend meetings around the European Prayer Breakfast in Brussels. A good place to meet new people and to bolster contacts with old friends in the same working field of defending and promoting Christian values.

Opinions

Vaccines, Parental Rights and Government

By Wilmer Hak

A few months ago, a mother with her 4-year-old son entered the Children's Clinical University Hospital in Latvia. Initial diagnosis: diphtheria, an infectious and dangerous disease. Unfortunately, a few days after this diagnosis, the boy developed myocarditis and kidney failure, resulting in his death.



[Image source](#)

This sorrowful message however changed to another level when the media began blaming the parents for their son's death. Even though diphtheria wasn't the main cause of death and subsequent tests failed to detect the pathogen, the parents were blamed for refusing to vaccinate their children against it.

[Read more](#)

Right to abortion on the rise - what do Christians stand to do?

*By Henk Jan van Schothorst and Wilmer Hak
Published in the Reformatorisch Dagblad of November 23, 2024*

Since the scrapping in the US of the infamous Roe v Wade ruling, which took the nationwide right to abortion off the table, more and more countries

actually seem to be strengthening the right to abortion, for instance by setting up safe-access zones around abortion clinics. A dangerous trend.

[Read more](#)



'Part of the European Parliament would prefer to guarantee access to abortion everywhere.' Photo: the Strasbourg building that houses the European Parliament. image AFP, Frederick Florin

Christian Council International in a nutshell



LIFE

What's at stake:

The EU wants to standardize abortion laws, LGBT promotion and sexualizing education internationally, here in a binding trade treaty with a group of 79 African, Caribbean, and Pacific (ACP) countries, more than 1 billion people. But education and health are matters which belong to national competencies. By pressuring these nations, the EU is subverting sovereignty and Christian values.

What we do:

We alert key leaders in ACP countries and in the EU so that complying with this pressure is prevented. Freedom to enact own legislation must be preserved.

FAMILY

What's at stake:

Western countries are trying to use the UN to add a new term to categories protected by nondiscrimination policies. This term is "sexual orientation and gender identity" (SOGI). Proponents would like to define gender as a feeling, a self-chosen identity, and not as a biological distinction. This new gender ideology denies the Biblical creation order.

What we do:

We participate in public discussions at the UN and lobby for worldwide respect for Biblical directives on marriage and the family.

FREEDOM

What's at stake:

Freedom of education, of religion, and of speech is under increasing international pressure, especially in the EU and the United States. Finnish Christian politician Päivi Räsänen is on trial for inciting hatred because of her expressed Biblical views on homosexuality and marriage. In a similar vein, Hungary is also under attack over its child protection laws.

What we do:

We stand up and publicly defend these freedoms. We provide moral and informational support to individuals and countries under attack for their Christian beliefs and culture.

What we achieve:

ACP-EU Treaty

National Sovereignty Secured

1. Due partly to our efforts to alert EU and ACP member states about serious content problems, the signing of the EU-ACP Treaty has been delayed, already for 2 years.
2. We spoke in the European Parliament to identify problems that would result from passing the Treaty. We also drafted written questions for the European Commission to answer.
3. Through our African office, we supported ACP Members of Parliament by asking critical questions during the EU-ACP Parliamentary Assembly.



United Nations

Norm Creation Order Maintained

1. Through our consultative status, we bring a Christian voice to the United Nations meeting rooms and actively monitor the ongoing agenda.
2. We managed to work with supporters to keep sexual orientation, gender identity, sexualizing education, and LGBT promotion out of norm-setting resolutions.
3. We help to prevent abortion from becoming an international human right.



Hungary - Finland - USA

Defense of Christian Freedom Supported

1. By supporting Hungary's defense of Christian values, we help to prevent the EU from reaching European and international consensus on pro LGBTQ+ and gender ideology.
2. Through our support of the Finnish politician Päivi Räsänen, awareness has been raised in the EU and member states that the Bible is on trial.
3. With our CCI branch in the US, a policymaker network is being formed for the defense of freedom of education and of religion.



Financial support needed for CCI

In order for CCI's work to continue and expand, a steady flow of funds is necessary. To get an idea of what the project plan looks like for the next three years, see the picture below or [click here](#). It is an ambitious plan, but every contribution helps us! (In USD: USD 860,000 per year (Alternative plan B: USD 430,000 per year)



FREE, BRAVE SPONSORSHIP PLAN



CAD 1,200,000 per year (Alternative plan B: CAD 600,000 per year)

CCI PROGRAM JANUARY 2025 - DECEMBER 2027

A Christian answer to turn the secular tide.

Christian Council International defends, advances and protects life, family and freedom at international organizations and member states from a Christian perspective.

How?

- By using the powers provided by CCI's Consultative Status at the UN and EU, as well as high-level access in Africa and the US, to protect Christian values and freedoms and national sovereignty.
- By mobilizing an international network, such as from governments, NGOs, parliaments, churches, schools and media, to protect and defend life, family and freedom to policy makers.

What? CCI's main activities across the different project locations

Alerting

- Permanent monitoring of agendas and day-to-day affairs of important and decision-making meetings.
- Equipping like-minded delegates, stakeholders and politicians with insights on matters of concern.

Advocating

- Participating in meetings by presenting oral or written statements and proposing amendments.
- Organizing strategic side-events and awareness-raising conferences on researched concerning policies.

Defending

- Organizing regular online planning sessions to develop joint intervention strategies with key allies.
- Supporting politically persecuted states and Christians (e.g. Hungary, Päivi Räsänen).

Networking

- Maintaining strong partnership relations with likeminded policy influencers.
- Informing interested groups from the support base, students, businesspeople and media

Why? Key focus areas for CCI in international policy

Dangerous policy key words threatening life, family and freedom:

- Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) - sexualizing children
- Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) - abortion rights
- Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity (SOGI) - LGBT promotion
- Global Governance - unaccountable power concentration vs national sovereignty

Goals:

- National sovereignty secured
- Norm of male - female creation order maintained
- Defense of fundamental freedoms supported

Expected Results

- Harmful policies / treaties blocked or amended in favor of life, family and freedom.
- A high-level international policy network established and effective in influencing policy at the US, Canada, UN, EU, and ACP level.

Donate safely
online



Become a member of the CCI Business Network

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Amounts per year.

Christian Council International (CCI)
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Business
Network



OUR PROJECTS

CAD 180,000
per project
per year

(Plan B: CAD 90,000)

Plan A

Plan B



1. PROJECT NORTH-AMERICA

With our presence in Washington DC (and potentially Ottawa), CCI is strategically positioned to work with governments and like-minded organizations on life, family and freedom issues from a Christian perspective. At the international level, from here our influence is spread to the Organization of American States and their 35 member states from Latin America, the Caribbean and North America.

2. PROJECT UN GENEVA

Geneva stands at the core of many international organizations. With our presence here, CCI focuses on the Christian voice and legal advocacy within the United Nations Human Rights Council, the various treaty organizations, the World Health Organization and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. By oral and written input and offering our Christian guidance and research, we strengthen and protect countries from a secular agenda in resolutions and treaties and defend Christian values in international policy.

3. PROJECT UN NEW YORK

Our presence in New York focuses on the General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, Commissions and other United Nations entities. With our consultative status since 2016, our mission is to preserve the male-female order of creation, defend classical freedoms and secure national sovereignty. Through cooperation, participation in meetings and legal research, our Christian voice is amplified to reform treaties, resolutions and international policies that undermine life, family and freedom.

4. PROJECT EUROPE

Through our accreditation and presence at the European Parliament, our office aims to bring a Christian voice and alternative to the European Union bodies in Brussels and Strasbourg. We do this, among other things, by advising parliamentarians and drawing their attention to dangers in the areas of life, family and freedom. We also monitor the agenda's of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights in Vienna and are actively present at important meetings.

5. PROJECT AFRICA

Our presence in strategically located Nairobi, Kenya, broadens the voice for life, family and freedom in Africa. From here we focus on national leaders and public policy makers. We also monitor, among others, the agendas of the African Union (Ethiopia), the Pan-African Parliament (South-Africa), the UN (Kenya) and the Organization of African (48), Caribbean (16) and Pacific (15) states. We try to prevent the export and implementation of secular policies from the UN and the West across the continent.

6. OFFICE NETHERLANDS

Our head office is located in Bodegraven in South Holland, where it all started in 2013, close to the Dutch government center The Hague. It provides an ideal base for coordinating our advocacy efforts around the world. We also work from here on fundraising, communication with our support base and all other general administration, including for our two other branches in the US and Canada.



H.J. van Schothorst



(Part-time) Staff

Office plan A:
 €AD 300,000
 per year

Office plan B:
 €AD 150,000
 per year

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Office NL:

Christian Council International
(Former: Transatlantic Christian Council)

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