

**WORLDVIEW MISSION** **[NGO]** **Chambers of Commerce 53.94.11.36 ANBI ID 85.10.82.403 Beemsterhoek 14**

**2905XA Capelle a/d IJssel**

Date 16 Mei 2012

Regards: **Collaboration Partnership Announcement**

The Bynkershoek Institute and Worldview Mission (WM) are proud to announce a collaboration partnership for the Human Rights in Childbirth Conference of 2012, and the long-term project of Human Rights in Childbirth.

The Bynkershoek Institute’s Research Center for Reproductive Rights (RCRR) and the International and European Law Department of the Hague University are organizing the Human Rights in Childbirth Conference, which will be held in The Hague on May 31 and June 1, 2012. This conference will take a uniquely consumer-oriented, rights-based approach to the legal and human rights issues at stake in the care that women and babies receive around pregnancy and childbirth.

A starting point for the 2012 Conference is the significance and practical implications of the December 2010 holding of the European Court of Human Rights in the case of *Ternovszky v. Hungary*. In that case, the ECtHR held that European women have a right, under Article 8 of the ECHR, to “choose the circumstances” in which they give birth, and that European nations have positive obligations to support and enable that choice.

This Conference will convene more than 40 multi-disciplinary experts over two days to consider the *Ternovszky* holding from a variety of perspectives including medicine, ethics, economics, epidemiology, sociology, and anthropology. The first day of the Conference, on May 31, will focus on the context and circumstances of the case of *Ternovszky v. Hungary*, and the fundamental human rights that it articulates. The second day of the Conference will convene a wide range of stakeholders in the Dutch birth care system for meaningful dialogue about the nature of “woman-centered care” in the Netherlands.

The Conference will be attended by 500 live audience members with professional backgrounds in law, medicine, political science, midwifery, and more, and also students. Many more are registering to live-stream the conference by webinar. A number of Dutch and international media organizations will be represented. 

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The human rights issues under discussion at the Conference are of importance, not only across Europe, but around the world. Emerging scientific research continues to illuminate the connection between the treatment that women receive around childbirth and the long-term well-being of themselves and their babies. Issues of

respect and abuse, legal authority and human rights in childbirth are of significance in global efforts to address Millennium Development Goal 5 (maternal mortality). To the extent that woman-centered care requires the protection of midwifery as a profession, Millennium Development Goal 3 is also implicated.

With that in mind, this Conference will be one of a series on the role of fundamental human rights in childbirth care worldwide. This event will be a starting point for a long-term project exploring the role of human rights in obstetric care in both the developed and developing world, and the formulation of action plans for models of obstetric care that can optimally ensure safety for mothers and babies while respecting the rights and dignity of birthing women.

Elements of the collaborative partnership between the RCRR and WM will include the following:

Worldview Mission will be liaison to the United Nations (UN) for the Human Rights in Childbirth Conference to be held ion 31st May and 1st June 2012  
  
Worldview Mission will inform their partners about the Human Rights in Childbirth Conference:

 UN New York, WHO, Unicef, VIP's UN High-level Officials, UN Ambassadors, Chamber of Commerce, VN Brussels and others.  
  
Worldview Mission and the RCRR will function to collaborate in this project and future international projects.  
  
Worldview Mission will not be responsible for any financial commitments to other parties in connection with the Conference.  
  
 

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Members of the Worldview Mission board who will participate in the Conference will be received as honored guests and partners, and as such will not be charged registration fees.  
WM will support in follow up, if needed, after the Conference, for a period of 30 days.  
  
The RCRR will place the logo and website address of Worldview Mission on the humanrightsinchildbirth.com website as collaboration partners.  
  
Worldview Mission will provide support as needed..

Date of Agreement: May 16th , 2012



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Hélène H. Oord, Chair, Rudy Brouwer, Vice-Chair, Worldview Mission **[NGO]** Worldview Mission **[NGO]**

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Zoa Moeniralam,

Ambassador to Worldview Mission to the United Nations