

Mr. Jorrit Kamminga, Director of Policy Research, ICOS – International Council on Security and Development, Valencia

In 2002, Jorrit Kamminga received a Masters degree in International Relations from the University of Groningen, The Netherlands, after the completion of a final thesis on the linkages between international terrorism and the global drug problem. During this period, Mr. Kamminga worked at the Supply Reduction and Law Enforcement Section (SRLES) of the United Nations Drug Control Programme (UNDCP, now UNODC) at its Headquarters in Vienna.



Following his studies, he worked for more than two years at the political section of the Netherlands' Embassy in Madrid. Part of his portfolio were Spain's bilateral relations with Morocco, Algeria and Cuba, and the policy issues Gibraltar, Western Sahara, domestic and international terrorism and Spain's regional politics.

Mr. Kamminga has been working as Director of Policy Research with ICOS – International Council on Security and Development since October 2003, spending roughly half of his time in Afghanistan. He has been working extensively in Kabul and southern Afghanistan (Kandahar and Helmand provinces), organizing events, conducting field research and delivering food and medical aid. In March 2007, Mr. Kamminga has briefed both military and civilian staff at NATO's Headquarters about the security and development situation in southern Afghanistan. He has spoken at many international conferences, seminars, university courses and press conferences.

As spokesperson and expert, Mr. Kamminga contributes regularly to various current affairs and political programmes including Al Jazeera, France 24, BBC Radio, BBC Mundo, CBC, CTV, Islam Channel TV, Voice of America and Deutsche Welle. He has been interviewed on several occasions by international newspapers such as the Financial Times, Guardian, the Independent, El Mundo and El País and has written opinion articles in El País, the International Herald Tribune, The Washington Quarterly and all important Dutch newspapers (NRC Handelsblad, de Volkskrant, Trouw, de Staatscourant, etc.). In the Netherlands, he has featured on important news and political TV programmes including NOS Journaal, NOVA, RTL Nieuws and Pauw en Witteman.

Mr. Kamminga has been living in Spain since 2002, first in Cordoba, then in Madrid and now in Valencia. He currently is a PhD candidate at the Department of Constitutional Law, Political Science and Administration at the University of Valencia, within the programme *La Europa de las Libertades*.