

2009

# Piet Akkermans Memorial Lecture

## Commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Fall of the Berlin Wall as events that advanced dramatically the cause of human rights and freedom

Plantin-Moretus Museum (UNESCO World Heritage), Vrijdagmarkt 22-23, 2000 Antwerp  
2009 November 21 - 6 p.m.

We are delighted to announce the *Piet Akkermans Memorial Lectures* of the European Association for Education Law and Policy and the College of Europe.

The Lectures are held as a recurring activity with the purpose to strengthen the discussions on fundamental European challenges.

The European Association for Education Law and Policy, to be considered as an institution furthering European cooperation in the educational and cultural field, has a responsibility towards promoting discussions on important Education challenges that lie ahead.

It is our hope that the *Piet Akkermans Memorial Lectures* will prove to be the right platform to promote for these aims.

At the same time, it is a great honour that we can pay in this way tribute to Piet Akkermans.

**Professor Dr. Jan De Groof,**

President of the European Association for Education Law and Policy,  
Professor at the College of Europe (Bruges) and TIAS (the Netherlands)

**Professor Dr. Paul Demaret,**

Rector of the College of Europe

- The College of Europe and the Board Members of ELA are pleased to invite you to the *Piet Akkermans Memorial Lecture 2009* which will take place in Antwerp - on Saturday, November 21-2009, at 6 p.m.
- The *Piet Akkermans Memorial Lecture*, will be followed by a mayoral reception at the Plantin-Moretus Museum (Vrijdagmarkt 22-23, 2000 Antwerp).
- You are kindly requested to be seated before 5.50 p.m.

We have the honour to announce that the *Piet Akkermans Memorial Lecture 2009* will be delivered by:

**Dr. Laura Lundy** – Queen’s University Belfast – ‘The 20th Anniversary of the Convention of the Child: the impact on education rights in Europe’

Short introductory documentary film about the Stasi and the Stasi prison in Berlin-Hohenschönhausen

**Dr. Hans-Eberhard Zahn** – Stiftung Gedenkstätte Berlin-Hohenschönhausen – ‘The 20th Anniversary of the Fall of the Berlin Wall – Using the remains of the Stasi headquarters as a space for truth and for educating against indifference’

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**Dr. Laura Lundy** works at the School of Education at Queen’s University, Belfast and is a barrister at law. She directs the Queen’s University Research Forum for the Child ([www.qub.ac.uk/child](http://www.qub.ac.uk/child)), an interdisciplinary research network which has over a hundred members from eleven disciplines working on aspects of childhood studies. She is also director of the research cluster on Children’s Rights and Participation in Education and is on the management committee of the Improving Children’s Lives initiative ([www.improvingchildrenslives.org](http://www.improvingchildrenslives.org)). She has published widely in the area of education law and children’s rights and has been the principal investigator in a number of interdisciplinary research projects, including a major study on children’s rights for the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People. She was chair of the Working Party on Education Rights for the proposed Northern Ireland Bill of Rights and is a former Equal Opportunities Commissioner for Northern Ireland.

**Dr. Hans-Eberhard Zahn** was born in 1928 in Stettin. He studied psychology at the free university in West-Berlin and financially supported family members and friends in the eastern part of Berlin. In 1953 he was arrested by the Ministry for public security (so-called Stasi) because of “Endangering universal peace” and “Activity as a foreign agent”. He was a long time in remand and then sentenced to seven years of prison. Most of that time he spent in Bautzen and the secret labour camp in Berlin-Hohenschönhausen, the central complex of the Ministry for State Security - Stasi prison).