

## PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

### Energy, Power and Politics

Michael Klare

*Event in the series of Maastricht Debates*

*November 5, 2007*

On **November 14, 7.30 pm** a public debate will take place on the interrelation between the worldwide demand for energy and international power relations. The debate will be with Michael Klare, author of a.o. *Blood and Oil*, Professor of Peace and Security Studies at the Hampshire College (USA). Michael Klare is in the Netherlands on invitation of the **Society of International Development (SID)**. The moderation is in the hands of Stafford Wadsworth, Editor & Publisher of the Meuse-Rhine Journal.

The debate will take place in the **Auditorium Maastricht University, Faculty of Economics**, Tongerseweg 53, Maastricht. Free entrance as of 7.00 pm.

Michael Klare states that as the worldwide demand for energy intensifies and global supplies dwindle, the competition among major consuming nations will become increasingly severe and unforgiving. In some cases, these competitive pressures will be expressed in the marketplace (in higher prices), but they also will be reflected in military competition, for example in the use of arms transfers as a reward to prospective oil providers. If not moderated, this process will result in increased levels of international hostility and tension, producing a greater risk of war.

Michael Klare is a renowned commentator on the subject of energy security. Next to his academic functions, Klare resides on the boards of directors of Human Rights Watch, and the Arms Control Association. In November 2005, he alleged that a major factor motivating the George W. Bush administration to attack Iran would be its desire to distract attention from domestic political difficulties and to increase popularity for the President.

### Maastricht Debates

The *Maastricht Debates* is a platform for debate and networking on issues of international cooperation and globalisation. Each debate is organised by issue experts from within the Maastricht network together with internationally oriented study associations. See at [www.maastrichtdebates.net](http://www.maastrichtdebates.net).

The *Maastricht Debates* is explicitly seen as one activity within a larger programme of the **Society of International Development (SID)**. SID aims to stimulate the public and political debate on international cooperation in the Netherlands and beyond, among others with its lecture series in Amsterdam.

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For **more information** on the **Maastricht Debates**, see [www.maastrichtdebates.net](http://www.maastrichtdebates.net) or contact Huub Mudde, project coordinator at [info@maastrichtdebates.net](mailto:info@maastrichtdebates.net) or T. +31-(0)621275064.

