

## **The Institute for Economics and Peace opens its European office in The Hague**

**THE HAGUE, 4 April 2017:** The Hague's Deputy Mayor Saskia Bruines is proud to announce the establishment of the [Institute for Economics and Peace](#) (IEP)'s European office in The Hague. The IEP is a leading organisation in the field of measurement and data analysis which complements the peace and justice ecosystem in The Hague. Saskia Bruines stated: "I believe our international city of peace and justice is the ideal location for IEP to work on innovative data-driven solutions that contribute towards greater peace, justice and stronger institutions around the world".

IEP's fourth international office opened on March 20, 2017, and is located on the premises of the Hague Institute for Global Justice, Sophialaan 10. This expansion was made possible by a generous subsidy from the city of The Hague in light of the efforts to make The Hague a global hub for knowledge and expertise in the field of peace and justice. IEP joins these ambitions with its data driven research that demonstrates how working towards peace brings high and measurable economic value.

This new office presents an exciting opportunity for IEP to further expand its European collaborations and networks. Steve Killelea, Executive Chairman and Founder of IEP said: "IEP's work and influence is expanding and The Hague office provides an excellent springboard to further satisfy this demand. The Hague's futuristic plans to be the world's leading city of peace and justice was a key determining factor in deciding which European city to pick".

Marcel Smits has joined IEP to oversee the European expansion and will be based in The Hague. Newly appointed as Program Director for Europe, Marcel comes from a background of international development and peacebuilding, with more than 10 years' experience working in senior management positions in international not-for-profit organisations. He brings with him the desire to work toward peace and sustainable social changes, holding strength in developing key partnerships and networks.

IEP looks forward to collaborating or partnering with a variety of groups – whether they are researchers, educators, policymakers, business and civil society representatives – to further develop its work and seek new and innovative ways to apply its groundbreaking peace research for the benefit of people around the world.

### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

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