

**On the necessity of the
rehabilitation of the citizen:**
*peacebuilding and EU accession
strategy for the Western Balkans*

Bucharest, June 28, 2011

Dion van den Berg

IKV Pax Christi, the Netherlands

Looking into the future...



... but still haunted by the past



Peacebuilding priorities (1): overcoming the economic crisis



Peacebuilding priorities (2): unresolved territorial issues



Peacebuilding priorities (3): nationalism



Limits of IPA

(instrument pre-accession assistance)

- Lack of facilities to deal with the heritages of the recent wars
- Lack of motivation from the part of WB governments
- Lack of motivation from the part of Brussels?
- Technical and managerial approaches
- Focus: institutional, top-down reform
- Lack of access for small and rural NGO's

Rehabilitation of the citizen!



Four citizen-centred recommendations

1. widen the state-building concept
2. more focus on dealing with the past
3. extra facility for peacebuilding under IPA
4. extra support for peacebuilding outside of IPA