Central European University and Royal Netherlands Embassy, Budapest
cordially invite you to the inaugural lecture of the

**Milders Lecture Series at CEU**

*in memory of Ambassador Robert Milders*  
*(1948-2012)*

On August 19, 2012, Dutch ambassador Robert Milders passed away in The Hague. Ambassador Milders was widely regarded as a committed diplomat who performed his duties with great enthusiasm. He enjoyed his work and his many professional and personal Hungarian, Dutch and international contacts, many of whom became his friends. Through his own working method—a combination of openness, directness and a sense of humour—he had the unique ability to connect people, and to inspire them.

Policy fields in which he was active in particular were the promotion of transparency in business and politics, as well as the rule of law. During the course of his stay in Budapest (2009-2012), Ambassador Milders initiated embassy projects in those fields and became an important advocate of the foreign policies of both the Netherlands and Europe, in Hungary.

In order to preserve the memory of his unwavering stance and efforts, the Dutch embassy in Budapest will launch a series of annual lectures at Central European University, an international graduate institution of advanced research and teaching, with which the Embassy has cooperated on several occasions. The Milders Lecture Series at CEU is conceived as a three-year series.

“**Preventing Conflict Escalation. Hearts & Minds. Boots & Brains.**”

delivered by

**Jan Pronk**

Professor, United Nations University for Peace (UPeace), Costa Rica  
Former Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of Mission, United Nations Mission, Sudan  
Former Deputy Governor, World Bank

*Welcome and introduction: John Shattuck, President and Rector*

*Date: Thursday, May 8, 2014  
Time: 5:30 p.m.  
Venue: CEU Auditorium (Nador u. 9)*

**JAN PRONK** is a Dutch politician, diplomat, and professor. Pronk was a member of the Labour Party (PvdA) from 1965 to 2013. Between 1973 and 2002 he served three terms as Minister for Development Cooperation and one term as Minister of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment—the latter at which he presided over the United Nations World Climate Negotiations in 2000 and 2001. Pronk left Dutch politics in 2002 and was appointed Professor at the Institute of Social Studies (ISS), The Hague. From 2004 to 2006, he was the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of Mission, United Nations Mission, Sudan. In 2007, Pronk returned to The Netherlands and resumed his position at the ISS.

Since retirement, Jan Pronk has lectured at various universities. His main professional interests are sustainable development, development cooperation, conflict and development, and international relations in general. Pronk has been awarded numerous honors, and has authored four books and been published in numerous magazines and newspapers.

*Reception to follow*