

The Board of Directors of the THIMUN Foundation –The Hague International Model United Nations- is much honored to announce that Her Royal Highness Princess Mabel van Oranje-Nassau has accepted to become Patron of the THIMUN Foundation for a period of five years. HRH Princess Mabel will deliver the Keynote address to the General Assembly during the Opening Ceremonies of the XXXIX session of the THIMUN Conference, on Monday 22 January 2007 in the World Forum Convention Center in The Hague.

Princess Mabel is the London-based International Advocacy Director of the Open Society Institute, which is part of the Soros Foundations Network. The network aims to shape public policy to promote democratic governance, human rights, and economic, legal, and social reform. On a local level, it implements a range of initiatives to support the rule of law, education, public health, and independent media. Between 1997 and 2003, Princess Mabel was the Executive Director of the Open Society Institute-Brussels, the representative office of the Soros Foundations Network in Western Europe ([www.soros.org](http://www.soros.org) and [www.osi.hu](http://www.osi.hu)).

Princess Mabel holds master degrees in Economics and in Political Sciences (cum laude) from the University of Amsterdam. During her studies, she had various internships – including at the United Nations Secretariat, Department of Administration and Management (New York, spring-summer 1993). Princess Mabel co-founded and used to be a board member of the Dutch foundation War Child (1995-1999). In 2005, the World Economic Forum elected her as one of its Young Global Leaders.