



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## N.W. POSTHUMUS INSTITUTE

RESEARCH SCHOOL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORY

N.W. POSTHUMUS INSTITUTE



## N.W. POSTHUMUS INSTITUTE RESEARCH SCHOOL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORY

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- Eindhoven University of Technology (TUE), School of Innovation Sciences
- Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR), Erasmus School of History, Culture and Communication
- Fryske Akademy (FA)
- Ghent University (UGent), Faculty of Arts and Philosophy
- International Institute of Social History (IISH)
- Leiden University (UL), Faculty of Humanities
- Radboud University Nijmegen (RU), Faculty of Arts
- Maastricht University (UM) / Centre for the Social History of Limburg (SHCL)
- University of Amsterdam (UvA), Faculty of Humanities
- University of Antwerp (UA), Faculty of Arts
- University of Groningen (RUG), Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Economics and Business
- Utrecht University (UU), Faculty of Humanities
- Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Faculty of Arts
- Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU), Faculty of Humanities
- Wageningen University (WUR), Rural & Environmental History Group

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The N.W. Posthumus Institute is *the* major platform in social and economic history in the Netherlands and Flanders aimed at both senior and junior researchers in the field. The N.W. Posthumus Institute organises a bi-national community of researchers around a range of research and training activities. It provides a carefully thought-through, internationally oriented PhD training programme tailored to the individual candidates' needs and research projects and offers a Research Master programme that allows master students to acquire the knowledge and skills in social and economic history they need to embark on their own research in the field.

The year 2021 required, once again, adaptations to the COVID-19 situation. The theme of the annual Posthumus conference, 'Epidemics and Social Inequality' was inspired by the circumstances. The conference took place online, on May 20-21, and was well attended by fellows and junior researchers affiliated with the Posthumus community. Most of the seminars, courses and other activities that form the core of the PhD training programme were also transformed to an online format. We are very proud of our PhD students, who mostly coped very well with the difficulties of the situation. In order to give them as much support as possible, the COVID-19 PhD Fund that was established in 2020 to cover unexpected costs due to COVID was prolonged for another year and a highly successful writing retreat was organized for PhDs in the final states of thesis writing. Fortunately the Research Design Course in October 2021 could take place in a live setting in Lisbon from 18 to 20 October.

The courses in the Posthumus Research Master programme also largely took place online, but were nevertheless successful in terms of participation and completion rates. This was also the case for the new course *Data Management for Historians*, a course that contributed significantly to the coherence and appeal of the Research Master programme.

The research networks were obliged to postpone or cancel several academic events they had been planning. However, since the lifting of most COVID regulations in early 2022 a record number of masterclasses, workshops and other academic activities supported by the research networks have taken place, demonstrating that the Posthumus community is as vibrant as ever.

Jessica Dijkman  
Scientific Director

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The N.W. Posthumus Institute (NWP) is the Research School for Economic and Social History in the Netherlands and Flanders and has 15 members. It embodies the cooperation between almost four hundred economic and social historians attached to 15 universities and research institutions in the Netherlands and Flanders. The institute functions as an international platform for research activities in economic and social history, and organizes the PhD training as well as a series of Research MA courses. The Posthumus Institute was founded in 1988 as the *Netherlands Interuniversity Institute For Graduate Training in Economic and Social Historical Research*. In 1994 the NWP was officially recognized as a Research School by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW). The official accreditation was renewed in 1999, in 2004, and in 2011 for periods of 6 years. From 2018 formal assessment of the NWP is embedded in the assessment of the university acting as ‘penvoerder’ (see below). NWP has established a durable platform for collaboration among scholars in the field of economic and social history. Since 2004 the Flemish universities of Antwerp (UA), Brussels (VUB) and Ghent (UGent) officially participate in the Institute. In 2017 Maastricht University joined the Posthumus Institute as a full member.

Economic and social history can be distinguished from the broader field of the historical discipline by its strong empirical and theoretical orientation and an acute awareness of methodology. Economic and social historians often seek interdisciplinary cooperation and connections outside the field of history, with social scientists coming from various disciplines. Whilst economic and social historians clearly take their inspiration from the social sciences, they maintain a strong focus on historical time and the importance of historical context.

The N.W. Posthumus Institute is committed to creating a joint community of Dutch and Flemish scholars in which academic excellence is fostered and in which all scholars, both junior and senior, can grow to achieve their full academic potential. The NWP pursues this goal in different ways. First of all, it is strongly committed to educating the next generation of economic and social historians by offering high-level courses for Research Masters and PhD candidates. Candidates are encouraged to have an open mind towards new scientific developments and to engage with the academic world beyond the narrow national boundaries. An important part of the PhD training in Posthumus is therefore provided within the European framework of the ESTER programme. Secondly, the NWP promotes and stimulates innovative and advanced interdisciplinary research initiatives by bringing together junior and senior scholars in joint research networks. In this way, a Dutch and Flemish forum is created which may further the communication between local research groups with a view to research collaboration. Finally, the NWP operates as a nodal manager of existing international research and training networks, and defines quality indicators to meet international publication standards and the standards of the quality assessments in Flanders and the Netherlands.

As an interuniversity research institute the NWP has its own budget, supporting staff, and secretariat. The institute organizes a successful research training programme for PhD candidates, courses for Research MA students. The NWP stimulates interuniversity research networks and financially supports workshops and conferences to initiate new research activities or to support the dissemination of research results. For both postgraduate candidates and senior scholars the Posthumus Institute provides access to a wide range of information and expertise, and it has a large international network of experts in social and economic history.

The Posthumus Institute has a rotating secretariat. The secretariat organizes or coordinates the organisation of all educational activities of the research school, and maintains contacts with other research schools in the Humanities, as united in LOGOS. It also distributes a frequent newsletter by e-mail and takes care of the maintenance of the website. In 2021 these tasks were transferred from the Faculty of Arts at Radboud University Nijmegen to the Humanities Faculty of Utrecht University. The ‘penvoerder’ is responsible for the appointment of the scientific director, the education programme director and the office manager, supported by the executive committee of the general board. Former ‘penvoerders’ were Utrecht University (1988-1994), Erasmus University of Rotterdam (1994-1998), Radboud University Nijmegen (1999-2003), University of Groningen (2004-2009), Leiden University (2010 – 2016), and again Radboud University Nijmegen (2016-2021).

The General Board of the N.W. Posthumus Institute, consisting of the chair holders in economic and social history at the participating institutions, met twice in 2021: on 9 February (online) and 28 September (in Utrecht). The six research programmes are headed by the research programme directors. The Posthumus Institute has two other committees that monitor the quality of its teaching activities: the Education Committee and the Examination Committee.

The N.W. Posthumus Institute organizes educational activities for Master students (from Flanders), Research Master students and PhD Candidates. More information about the different activities can be found in Appendix 2.

### 2.1 Basic training for PhD candidates

#### *Basic Training for PhD Candidates*

The core curriculum of the Posthumus PhD training programme consists of three seminars ('My project in a nutshell', 'Work in progress', and the 'Research Design Course') in which first-year PhD Candidates present and discuss each other's research design under the supervision of senior researchers. By doing so, the focus on the Basic Training is on how to interact professionally in the academic community and receiving highly specialised feedback to improve the PhD project. The Basic Training ends formally in the Individual Assessment, in which two fellows of the N.W. Posthumus Institute will reflect on the progress made during the Basic Training and assess the expectations concerning the remainder of the project (see also Appendix 1 and 2). In 2021, 19 PhDs (cohort 2019) received their Basic Training certificate.

Date	Activity	Cohort	Location	EC	PhD Participants	Total EC awarded
February-March	Individual assessments	2019	Online	1	19	19
6-7 May	Seminar 2: Work in progress	2020	Online	6	22	132
18-20 October	Research Design Course (ESTER)	2020	Lisbon	8	23*	184
2 and 3 December	Seminar 1: My project in a nutshell	2021	Online	2	16	32

\*In addition 13 PhDs from universities in other European countries participated

### 2.2 Advanced training for PhD Candidates

After the Basic Training, PhD candidates of the Posthumus Institute engage in the individual trajectory of the Advanced Training. Once the criteria of this training are fulfilled and positively evaluated, the PhD Candidates receive the Advanced Training Certificate. In 2021 six certificates were awarded. The training activities listed below are part of the Advanced Training. Other activities are presenting conference papers and publishing an article in an academic journal.

Date	Activity	Location	EC	Participating NWP PhDs	Total EC Awarded
20-21 May	Annual Conference	Online	2	16	32
30 August – 2 Sept	Writing Retreat	Soeterbeeck (Ravenstein)	2	8	16
11-03-2021	Masterclass prof. John Styles*	Online	2	2	4
31-08-2021	Masterclass prof. Alan Strathern*	Online	2	4	8
03-09-2021	Masterclass prof. Jon Wilson*	Online	2	2	4

\*The masterclasses were also open to other junior scholars.

### 2.3 Research master activities

Since the academic year 2011-2012, the N.W. Posthumus Institute has its own Research Master programme that focuses on debates, sources and methods in Economic and Social History. This programme allows Research Master students to gain knowledge of the Posthumus specialisation and its specialists, by providing courses that they can follow as an elective in their home university



programme. The Research Master provides a combination of two courses that introduce students to important debates, methods and sources in the field of Economic and Social History (*Debates in Global Economic and Social History* and *Keys to the Treasure Trove*) and two courses that train them in specific skills used in the field: *Data Management for Historians* and *Quantitative Methods for Historians*. The course *Data Management for Historians* is a new addition: 2021 was the first year in which it was taught. In this course students are trained in the use of software that helps them to transform rudimentary data into an intelligible dataset. The four courses are complementary, but it is also possible to follow them separately. In 2021, a total of 33 individuals (3 PhDs and 30 master students) have registered with the Posthumus Institute to participate in one (or more) of the Research Master courses. As can be seen in the table below, most students who registered for the courses *Data Management for Historians* and *Quantitative Methods for Historians* also completed it. Completion rates are lower (about 50%) for the other two courses. Students that did not complete the course (or never actually started it) indicated that they did so because of personal reasons or because they had enrolled in too many courses and could not finish them all. The more general character of these two courses, which contrasts with the more specialized character of the last two, may have played a part here: students that registered for *Data Management* or *Quantitative Methods* may have been more determined to complete the course because they needed the skills taught there, whereas students who registered for the first two courses may have been less convinced of the choice they had originally made. In 2022 participation and completion data will be carefully monitored. Also, the information on the content of all Research Master courses and their position in the programme will be updated to make sure that students have the information they need to make choices that fit their profile and preferences.

Date	Activity	Location	EC	ResMa Registered	ResMa finished course	EC Awarded
Oct 2020 - Jan 2021	<i>Debates in Global Economic and Social History</i> Organisation: dr. Matthias van Rossum and dr. Filipa Ribeiro da Silva	UU-Online	10	15	8	80
Jan - June 2021	<i>Keys to the Treasure Trove: Methods and Sources of Economic and Social History</i> Organisation: dr. Christiaan van Bochove and dr. Paul Puschmann	RU-Online	5/10	15	7	60
Jan - April 2021	<i>Data Management for Historians</i> Organisation: dr. Bram van den Hout and dr. Rick Mourits	IISH-Online	5	11*	11*	55
April - June 2021	<i>Quantitative Methods for Historians</i> Organisation: dr. Robin Philips	UU-Online	5	10	7	35

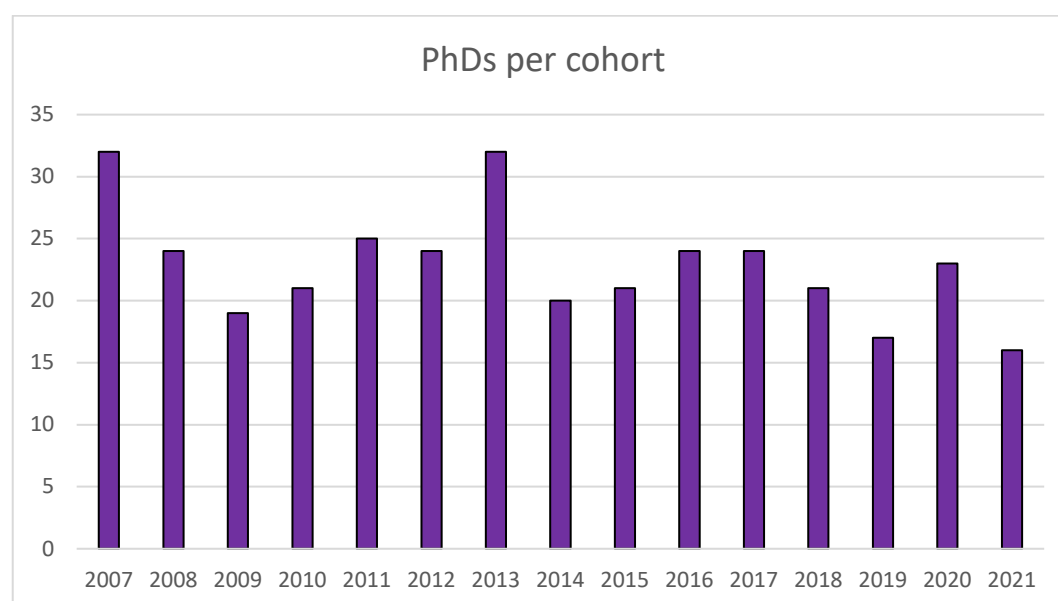
\*Including three PhD-students.

The success rate of students in finishing their PhD thesis is operationalized by calculating two variables: the completion rate (i.e. the percentage of completed PhD projects) and the average duration (i.e. the number of months between start and completion). It is important to realize that the figures for duration are influenced by parttime instead of fulltime employment (mostly for 80 or 90%) and by contract extensions caused by a variety of reasons that include illness and maternal leave. Also, duration is calculated between the starting and the date of the defense, while the time between completion of the dissertation and the defense can be two to six months. As a consequence, an average (formal) duration of four years is not realistic. Our mission is to increase the completion rate and shorten the average duration in months; but we have to keep in mind that PhD students who finish their dissertation with perseverance after eight years increase the cumulative completion rate but stretch average duration. Table 1 provides a general overview of the performance of the 2007-2016 cohorts, and Figure 1 shows the number of registrations per cohort during the period 2007-2021 (situation 31 December 2021).

Table 1: Enrolment and Completion rates N.W. Posthumus Institute 2007-2016

Cohort	Started	Stopped	Completed within 4 years	Completed within 5 years	Completed within 6 years	Completed within 7 years	Completed total	Completed percentage	Average duration	Standard deviation duration
2007	32	7	2	9	16	19	22	69	5.7	1.6
2008	24	5	0	7	15	15	18	75	5.9	1.9
2009	19	2	0	7	11	13	17	89	6.1	1.8
2010	21	2	2	10	14	16	18	86	5.1	1.0
2011	25	3	0	6	11	13	17	68	6.0	1.8
2012	24	1	4	7	12	14	14	58	5.0	1.0
2013	32	3	0	6	17	19	22	69	5.6	1.0
2014	20	4	0	4	8	9	9	45	5.2	0.6
2015	21	1	0	3	12	13	13	62	5.1	0.8
2016	24	2	2	9	12	12	13	50	4.8	0.7

Figure 1: Registered PhD students for each cohort (2007-2021)



Research by the VSNU (Vereniging van Samenwerkende Nederlandse Universiteiten) for the Netherlands shows that for during the period 2009-2018 the average duration of PhD trajectories was fairly stable at around 61 months (or 5.1 years) on average. For the Humanities, the average is slightly higher: about 5.5 years months. About 73% of Dutch PhDs that started their PhD between 2006 and 2013, completed it in



or before 2018. For the Humanities this figure is, at 65%, lower.<sup>1</sup>

The results within the N.W. Posthumus Institute for the cohorts 2007-2016 are shown in figures 2 and 3. About 67% of the NWP PhD students of the cohorts 2007-2016 completed their PhD thesis before 1 September 2022: this is below the Dutch average mentioned above, but it is higher than the corresponding figure for the Humanities. The average duration of the PhD trajectory of these PhDs was 5.4 years over the entire period 2005-2016, which is at the same level as the Dutch average for the Humanities. Almost all NWP PhD students obtained their PhD between 3.6 and 8 years, and about 60% did so between 4.6 and 6.0 years. The latter can also be observed in Figure 2, where the number of PhD students who complete their PhD within 4, 5, 6, 7 or more years is visualized, and in Figure 3, which plots the spread of the duration per cohort. The mean and median per cohort remain fairly stable between 5 and 6 years.

Figure 2: Number of PhDs per cohort who complete the PhD within 4, 5, 6, 7 or more years (cohorts 2007-2016)

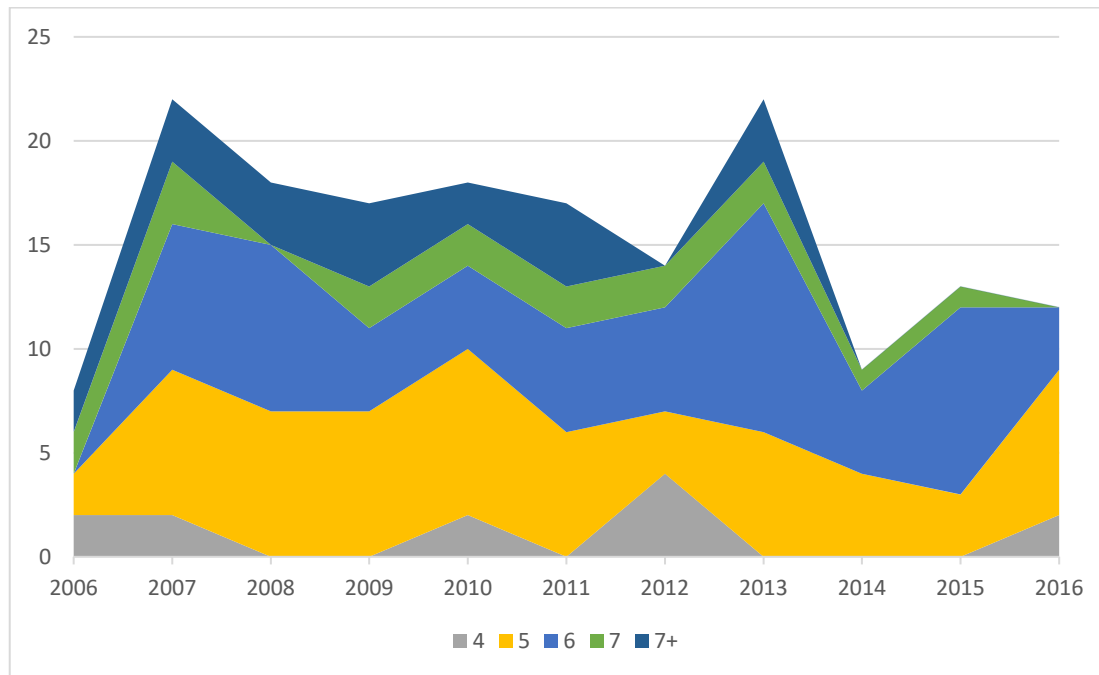
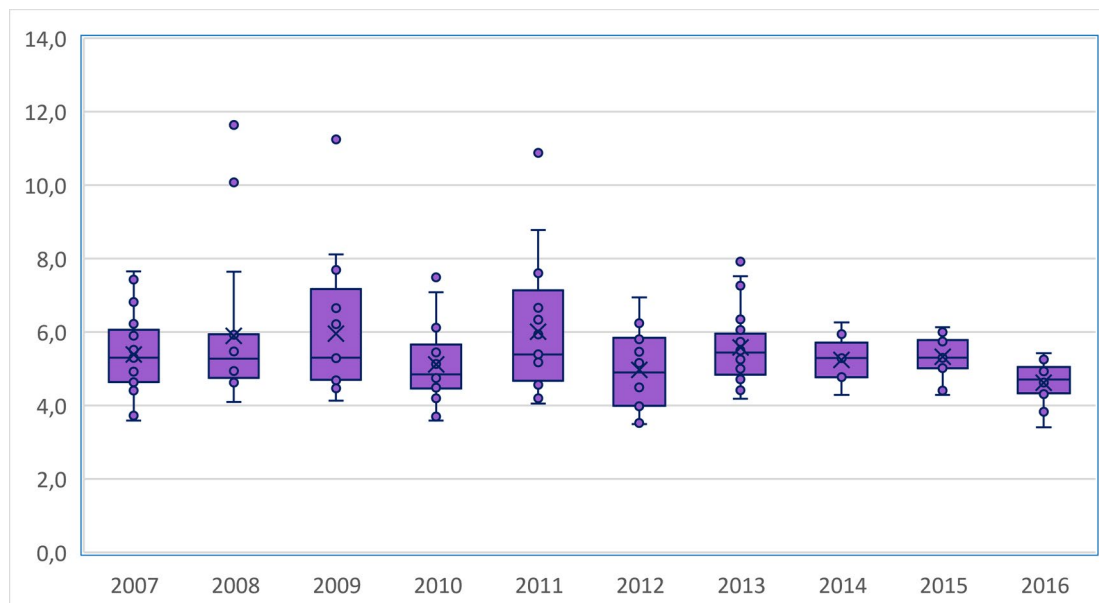


Figure 3: Boxplot of the duration of completed dissertations in years 2007-2016



<sup>1</sup> VSNU/KUOZ, datafile 'promovendi 2018', available at [F. C. Onderzoek downloads \(vsnu.nl\)](https://www.vsnu.nl/onderzoek/downloads). Date of consultation: 2 Sept 2022.

The six research networks active in the N.W. Posthumus Institute bring junior and senior scholars together and in this way promote and stimulate communication and collaboration between local research groups. Due to COVID-19, the networks organized only a few (online) activities in 2021, although plans and preparations were made for future meetings.

### A. Economy and Society of the Pre-industrial Low Countries in Comparative Perspective

Research directors: dr. Pepijn Brandon (IISH) and dr. Heidi Deneweth (VUB)

#### Theme

This program brings together Dutch and Flemish scholars working on different aspects of the economy and society of the Low Countries between 1300 and 1850. The main objective of the network is to embed ongoing research in a larger comparative perspective that identifies differences and commonalities both within the Low Countries and with other countries and regions around the globe. Both the Dutch and Belgian case offer excellent opportunities for comparative research in major ongoing international debates. In this respect, key examples are questions related to the character of early modern growth, the dynamics of social inequality, questions related to the impact of European and global/colonial trade on the domestic economy of the Low Countries, and questions related to the early industrialization of Belgium. Conferences and workshops, inspired by one of the projects of the fellows, or in collaboration with other research networks, address the internationalization of a specific theme. Additional objectives are the dissemination of information between network members, coordination of activities and networking.

#### Activities

- The bi-annual workshop “Another Peek at the Neighbours’ Grass. New research in Belgium and The Netherlands” (organisation: VUB-HOST, IISH and N.W. Posthumus), Brussels, 19 February 2021 (online event because of Covid-19) offers a platform for junior and senior researchers to present ongoing research and discuss it in a comparative perspective. The themes discussed were social and economic approaches to medieval revolts, litigation and arbitration, elite formation, early modern industries, agrarian capitalism, child mortality, orphan champers and modern trust offices. Apart from 9 authors and 7 referees from UA, UGent, VUB, KULeuven, UU, Radboud and UvA, 23 attendees registered for the online seminar.
- The scope of our network has slightly changed by opening the perspective from the Low Countries and surrounding regions to a global comparative perspective. This was briefly introduced during two sessions at the Annual Posthumus Conference (May 2021), where this network organised a roundtable that was mainly attended by junior researchers who were interested in the possible support of this network for workshops and master classes. This was followed by a panel discussion “How has comparative research shaped the social and economic history of the Netherlands?” Panel members were Pepijn Brandon (VU/IISH, moderator), Maïka De Keyzer (KULeuven), Marjolein ‘t Hart (Huygens, VU), Maarten Prak (UU) and Wouter Ryckbosch (VUB).

#### PhD projects

The following PhD candidates (cohorts 2017-2021) were working within this programme in 2021 (candidates marked with a \* were also active in another programme):

#### Cohort 2021:

- Max-Quentin Bischoff (UA): ‘Anticipating the Future in Situations of Crisis. The Case of the Tucher Family (16th century)’ (2021-2023).

#### Cohort 2020:

- Tom De Waele (UGent)\*: ‘Dynamics between princely fiscality and seigneurial surplus-extraction in Flanders (ca. 1440 - ca. 1795)’ (2020-2025).
- Adam Hall (VUB)\*: ‘Managing Markets: Commercial Institutions in the Core Principalities of the Burgundian-Habsburg Low Countries Compared’ (2020-2023).
- Jesse Hollestelle (UGent): ‘Lordships in Flanders between the late 15th century and the first half of the 18th century’ (2020-2022).
- Lennert Jensen (UA): ‘Decision-making and resilience mechanisms of great estates facing shocks’ (2020-2025).
- Bente Marschall (UA)\*: ‘Extraterritorialiteit in de laatmiddeleeuwse stad. Stedelijke “agency” en de betekenis van enclaves en vrijheden in het stedelijke sociale en economische weefsel (14de-16de eeuw)’ (2020-2024).
- Stan Pannier (KU Leuven)\*: ‘Enterprising merchants in the global Atlantic: Austrian-Netherlandish trade with West and

Central Africa, 1776-1786' (2020-2024).

- Robin Rose Southard (VUB): 'The Organization of Urban Food Supply (1550-1800): Reality and Fiction of the Corporative System' (2020-2024).
- Jurriaan Wink (VUB)\*: 'Managing Markets: Commercial Institutions in the Eastern Principalities of the Burgundian-Habsburg Low Countries Compared' (2020-2024).

#### Cohort 2019:

- Elisa Bonduel (UGent): 'Bulk trade in medieval Flanders through the Zwin estuary between 1150-1350' (2019-2023).
- Bram Hilken (EUR): 'Opportunities of Death? The Redistributive Effect of Epidemics in Early Modern Europe'. (2019-2023)
- Weixuan Li (UvA): 'Artists and the Creative Urban Space: Deep-mapping painters' locations in Golden Age Amsterdam' (2018-2021)
- Jeroen Oosterbaan (UL): 'From barrels and casks to trade networks. Research into trade networks between the 13th and 18th century based on barrels and casks'. (2019-2024)
- Richard Velthuizen (EUR): 'Modern Dutch Shipbuilding' (2019-2021)

#### Cohort 2018:

- Maartje A.B. (RU): "Mirror of mutual relations: communication between Hanseatic cities" (2018-2022).
- Lore Helsen (UGent): 'Agriculture, wage labour and household economies in eighteenth-century Flanders: a regional and integrated analysis' (2018-2022).
- Liesbeth Langouche (UA): 'The use of clear window glass in Flanders in the 15th till 19th century' (2018-2021).
- Alessandra De Mulder (UA): 'Aesthetics for a polite society. Secondary markets and product quality constructions in the eighteenth century.' (2018-2022).
- Dennis De Vriese (VUB): 'Naturalness, tradition and quality of meat products during the 18th and 19th centuries' (2018-2022).

#### Cohort 2017:

- Ana Avino de Pablo (UGent): 'Economic Growth and Inequality in the Pre-industrial England.' (2016-2020).
- Sander Berghmans (UGent): 'The abbey of the dunes as a mirror of the socio-relations in coastal Flanders' (2016-2020).
- Junhao Cao (UU): 'A comparative study of divergence and its causes of agrarian economies between Netherlands and China from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century' (2017-2021).
- Bas Machielsen (UU): 'The rise and decline of patrimonial capitalism in The Netherlands' (2017-2021).
- Patrick Naaktgeboren (UM): 'Private partnerships in early modern Antwerp' (2017-2021).

#### *Dissertations defended in 2021:*

- 5 March 2021: Sietske Van Den Wyngaert (UA)
- 18 May 2021: Wout Saelens (UA)\*
- 27 August 2021: Stef Espeel (UA)

## **B. Globalization, Inequality and Sustainability in Long-Term Perspective**

Research directors: dr. Robrecht Declerq (UGent), dr.ir. Frank Veraart (Tu/e) and dr. Pim de Zwart (WUR)

### *Theme*

The NWP programme Globalization, Inequality and Sustainability in Historical Perspective (GIS) is the continuation of the NWP programme 'Drivers and Carriers of Globalisation'. It seeks to bring together the work of NWP fellows and PhD students on (1) the determinants of worldwide/regional integration of markets, technological systems, business systems, and politics ('Globalisation'); and (2) origins of the rise of global inequality ('Inequality') and the historical shaping of issues of sustainability and transnational trade-offs between economic, social, human and natural resources ('Sustainability'). This research network is organized around these three interrelated and key themes that are central to current debates in the social sciences: globalization, inequality and sustainability. These themes arguably represent some of the greatest societal challenges facing the world today. Our network aims to contribute to a better understanding of these challenges by rooting these themes in a historical perspective. The network hosts a variety of approaches, like comparative and transnational, and stimulates the use of both quantitative and qualitative methods. We are not confined to a particular period of time. The network welcomes research initiatives, projects and thinking that tackle issues of globalization, inequality and sustainability on a longue-durée perspective.

### *Activities*

In 2021, the network Globalization, Inequality and Sustainability in Long-Run Perspective organized a session on “Running Global Empires” at the online Posthumus Conference in May 2021 (see Appendix X). In addition, Pim de Zwart initially aimed to organize a public lecture on “The Asian Miracle” by Prof. Deepak Nayyar (JNU-New Delhi), and a workshop on “Globalization and Development in Africa and Asia, 1800-2020”, which included the participation of several Posthumus members (such as Ulbe Bosma, Robrecht Declercq, Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk, Kate Frederick, Michiel de Haas, Tanik Joshipura, and Ewout Frankema) in December of 2021. Just two weeks before the events were supposed to take place they had to be cancelled due to the deteriorating Covid-situation in the Netherlands. The public lecture and workshop were re-scheduled to June 2022.

### *PhD projects*

The following PhD candidates (cohorts 2017-2021) were working within this programme in 2021 (candidates marked with a \* were also active in another programme):

#### *Cohort 2021:*

- Karoline Da Silva Rodrigues (VUB)\*: ‘Labour, inequality and inclusion in the Brussels construction sector’ (2021-2026).
- Konstantinos Sevdalakis (RUG)\*: ‘Fertility and Mortality Transitions in Sub-Saharan Africa, 1880-1980’ (2021-2025).
- Thalassa de Waal (RUG): ‘The allocation of capital: do stock exchanges matter for economic growth?’ (2022-2026).

#### *Cohort 2020:*

- Ishka De Smedt (UGent)\*: ‘Tracing the roots of resistance. Critical communities and the protest against genetically modified organisms in Belgium, The Netherlands and France (1983-2003)’ (2019-2023)
- Adam Hall (VUB)\*: ‘Managing Markets: Commercial Institutions in the Core Principalities of the Burgundian-Habsburg Low Countries Compared’ (2020-2023).
- Anne Heslinga (EUR): ‘Mainstreaming the game: digital participatory culture and consumer society in the Netherlands (1980–)’ (2020-2024)
- Stan Pannier (KU Leuven)\*: ‘Enterprising merchants in the global Atlantic: Austrian-Netherlandish trade with West and Central Africa, 1776-1786’ (2020-2024).
- Peter Postma (UL): ‘“Nothing Matters but the Future.” Dutch Captains of Industry in-exile and their Visions of the Netherlands in a Changing World Order (1938-1948)’ (2020-2025).
- Melinda Susanto (UL)\*: ‘Making sense of the tropics: Health, medicine and knowledge production in the Indonesian archipelago’ (2020-2023).

#### *Cohort 2019:*

- Rosa Kösters (IISG/UL): ‘Between solidarity and fragmentation: the consequences of and reactions to changing labour relations at the Dutch shop floor, 1970-2010’ (2020-2025).
- Jeroen van Veldhoven (UL): ‘The social partners and the flexible labour expansion (1980-2020)’ (2019-2023).

#### *Cohort 2018:*

- Damion Bunders (UU): ‘Platform Cooperatives: Are User-Owned and User-Governed Platforms Viable? (2018-2022)’.
- Arlinde Vrooman (RUG): ‘The Colonial Legacy of Health Inequalities’ (2018-2022).

#### *Cohort 2017:*

- Manon Moerman (UM): ‘Early modern private partnerships in Amsterdam.’ (2016-2020).
- Judith Siegel (EUR): ‘Dutch shipbuilding, 1914-1945. War, economic crisis and fluctuations.’ (2017-2021).
- Mark Straver (EUR): ‘Dutch shipbuilding, international competition and state intervention, 1945-1983.’ (2017-2021).
- Amaury de Vicq (UU): ‘Financial Innovation By Banks, 1900 – 1970’ (2016-2020).

### *Dissertations defended in 2021*

- 2 June 2021: Maarten Manse (UL)\*
- 29 June 2021: Ruben Peeters (UU)
- 4 June 2021: Harm Zwarts (WUR)



### C. Societies in context: Interactions between humans and rural-urban environments

Research directors: dr. Katharine Frederick (UU) and dr. Wouter Ronsijn (UGent)

#### *Theme*

This network focusses on three sub disciplines, which relate to the field of Social and Economic History: rural history; environmental history; and planning history. Rural history analyses patterns of continuity and change in rural communities, including city-countryside relations. Environmental history gives central stage to the reciprocal relationship between environmental and climatic factors on the one hand and the institutional, social and economic constellations of human society on the other. With its focus on planning history, this network scrutinize the social, economic, cultural and political construction of space. Targeted on these three perspective of regional and urban development, this network brings together PhD-candidates as well as mid-career and senior researchers.

#### *Activities*

In 2021, the research network “Societies in Context: Interactions between Humans and Rural-Urban Environments” had fewer events than previous years due to Covid-19. However, over the course of this year, the network reoriented its mission as well as its name and brought on two new research directors: Wouter Ronsijn and Katharine Frederick. The renewed version of the network was kicked off at a network session at the annual Posthumus conference entitled ‘Dealing with nature: drought control, pest management and food storage in the pre-industrial Low Countries’. The network also supported or helped prepare a number of initiatives leading to activities that took place in 2022. These have included an online colloquium organized by Dániel Moerman and Lena Walschap entitled ‘The Impact of Climate and Weather on the Premodern Provision of Food and Water: New Historical Perspectives on Resilience and Vulnerability’ (16 February 2022), a workshop at the University of Antwerp organized by Charris de Smet entitled ‘Politics And Consumption in the Modern Age: New Research Perspectives’ (10-11 February 2022), as well as a session at the 2022 annual Posthumus conference (jointly organized with the research network Economy and Society of the Pre-industrial Low Countries in a Comparative Perspective) entitled ‘Hazards and Fractures: Social and Economic Shocks, Inequality and Space in the Preindustrial Low Countries’.

#### *PhD projects*

The following PhD candidates (cohorts 2017-2021) were working within this programme in 2021 (candidates marked with a \* were also active in another programme):

##### Cohort 2021:

- Alberto Concina (KU Leuven)\*: ‘Rethinking the impact of economic growth: A comparative study of rural market and subaltern economies in early modern Italy (1650-1800)’ (2021-2025).
- Silke Geven (UA): ‘Selling the ‘City of Art’. Urban tourism and the advent of city marketing in Belgium (1880-1980)’ (2021-2023)
- Louise Huba (VUB): ‘Post-deconstruction: A history on material flows and reclamation chains of salvaged building elements in Brussel (1695-2025)’ (2021-2025).
- Afra de Mars (UM): ‘The social and landscape history of the Domaniale Mijn (Kerkrade)’ (2021-2025).
- Rozemarijn Moes (RU)\*: ‘Kitchen or capital? Elite womens’ role in financial household and estate management in eighteenth-century Guelders (2021-2026).
- Mark Raat (FA): ‘The historical development of the Frisian peatland area, 1600-1970’ (2021-2025).
- Konstantinos Sevdalakis (RUG)\*: ‘Fertility and Mortality Transitions in Sub-Saharan Africa, 1880-1980’ (2021-2025).
- Bas Spliet (UA)\*: ‘The embarrassment of riches? Inequality and the Dutch material culture. Amsterdam, 1581-1780’ (2021-2025).

##### Cohort 2020:

- Ishka De Smedt (UGent)\*: ‘Tracing the roots of resistance. Critical communities and the protest against genetically modified organisms in Belgium, The Netherlands and France (1983-2003)’ (2019-2023)
- Tom De Waele (UGent)\*: ‘Dynamics between princely fiscality and seigneurial surplus-extraction in Flanders (ca. 1440 - ca. 1795)’ (2020-2025).
- Rick Lettany (UL): ‘Innovatief in een conservatieve sector: ‘karveelbouw op zijn Hollands’ in een Europees perspectief, 1550-1650’ (2020-2024).
- Albane Lesouple (UA)\*: ‘Food from somewhere? Urban Households, Access to Land and Alternative Food Entitlements in the Late Medieval City’ (2020-2024)
- Bente Marschall (UA)\*: ‘Extraterritorialiteit in de laatmiddeleeuwse stad. Stedelijke “agency” en de betekenis van enclaves en vrijheden in het stedelijke sociale en economische weefsel (14de-16de eeuw’ (2020-2024).
- Dániel Moerman (VU): ‘When the Well is Dry’: Drinking Water and Climate Adaptation in the Eastern Netherlands, 1600-

1850' (2020-2023).

- Lena Walschap (KU Leuven): 'Seas of Risk and Resilience: peasant fishing on the late medieval English coasts as a coping strategy against climate-induced hazards' (2020-2024).

Cohort 2019:

- Charris De Smet (UA): *Revolutionising French consumption? Politics, products values and social identities within Parisian consumer culture (c. 1780 – c. 1870)* (2019-2023).

Cohort 2018:

- Ingrid Schepers (UA): 'Beyond the dots in TODs. Analysing Transit Oriented Development in networked rural-urban places' (2018-2022).

Cohort 2017:

- Wout van de Sompele (UA): 'Doel, dorp in de polder: vijf eeuwen bewoning en bebouwing.' (2017-2021).

*Dissertations defended in 2021:*

- 18 May 2021: Wout Saelens (UA)\*
- 21 June 2021: Rogier van Kooten (UA)
- 23 June 2021: Girija Joshi (RUG)
- 19 August 2021: Matthijs Degraeve (VUB)
- 26 August 2021: Kristina Hodelin-ter Wal (RU)
- 9 September 2021: Ronald Plantinga (FA/RUG)

#### **D. Life-Courses, Family and Labour**

Research directors: dr. Corinne Boter (UU) and dr. Paul Puschmann (RU)

##### *Theme*

This network uses the household as the central unit of analysis to answer micro and macro questions about changes in demographic behaviour and the labour market. It explicitly applies a gender lens to better understand these developments. By discerning patterns in the development of populations, economic structures, and the gender division of labour, our network contributes to understanding historical as well as present-day societies.

The key questions within this network centre around three main themes. First, the three phases of the demographic transition: a Malthusian (high birth and death rates), an intermediate (population growth), and a neo Malthusian (low birth and death rates) phase. Demographic transition theory has traditionally been tested at a high level of aggregation. We study the transition on the micro-level, using individual data, to better understand when, how, and why countries from all over the world have experienced, or are currently experiencing, the demographic transition.

The second topic is migration history. Although the media present the 21st century as an age of migration, people have always been on the move. With the help of register data migration trajectories of individuals and families can be 'reconstructed' and analysed. This increases our understanding of the agency of migrants across time and space, as well as the constraints they were confronted with. By comparing demographic and labour market behaviour of migrants and natives, processes of social inclusion and exclusion can be analysed. On a higher level of aggregation, the study of migration history enhances our understanding of the opportunities and challenges migration poses to sending and receiving areas.

The third, closely related theme is gender inequality in the labour market. Households' demographic behaviour, such as age at marriage, and the timing and number of children, affected the labour division of husbands and wives and thus, indirectly, the composition of the aggregate labour market. At the same time, labour market opportunities and shifting economic structures affected households' demographic behaviour, including migration. This interrelationship shaped women's opportunities and their actual position in the labour market and the household. Researching this relationship is thus crucial for understanding the long-term development and the determinants of gender inequality. Therefore, collecting empirical evidence on women's work and remuneration is high on the research agenda of this network.

##### *PhD projects*

The following PhD candidates (cohorts 2017-2021) were working within this programme in 2021 (candidates marked with a \* were also active in another programme):

#### Cohort 2021:

- Alberto Concina (KU Leuven)\*: 'Rethinking the impact of economic growth: A comparative study of rural market and subaltern economies in early modern Italy (1650-1800)' (2021-2025).
- Rozemarijn Moes (RU)\*: 'Kitchen or capital? Elite womens' role in financial household and estate management in eighteenth-century Guelders (2021-2026).
- Jessica den Oudsten (RU)\*, 'Integration and Social Mobility: The Descendants of Early Modern Immigrants in Amsterdam, 1660-1811' (2021-2025).
- Bas Spliet (UA)\*: 'The embarrassment of riches? Inequality and the Dutch material culture. Amsterdam, 1581-1780' (2021-2025).
- Hanna te Velden (IISH)\*: 'De sociaaleconomische positie van vrouwen in het vroegmoderne Nederlandse koloniale wereldrijk' (2021-2025).

#### Cohort 2020:

- Albane Lesouple (UA)\*: 'Food from somewhere? Urban Households, Access to Land and Alternative Food Entitlements in the Late Medieval City' (2020-2024).
- Jasper Segerink (UA)\*: 'Accommodating (im)mobility. Spaces of accommodation as hubs between global migration flows and local urban life, 1850-1930' (2020-2024).

#### Cohort 2019:

- Joris Kok (IISH): '*Crossing the Current: The Social Mobility of Dutch Jews, 1880-1940*' (2019-2023).
- Maïté Van Vyve (UGent): 'Migration / The Russian migration towards Belgian cities. A network and life course analysis of Russian migrants in Brussels and Liege, 1880-1914' (2018-2023).

#### Cohort 2018:

- Aditi Dixit (UU): 'Race to the bottom? Family labour, household livelihood and consumption in the relocation of global cotton manufacturing, ca. 1750-1990' (2018-2023).
- Maya Murkens (UM): 'Health transition in Maastricht 1864-1955', (2018-2022).

#### Cohort 2017:

- Eva van der Heijden (IISH): 'Intergenerational mobility of the second generation in the Netherlands.' (2017-2021).
- Björn Quanjer (RU): 'Early life and young adult height 1811-1940.' (2017-2021)
- Kristina Thompson (VU): 'Lifetime consequences of young and adult height.' (2017-2021).
- Jiayi Xin (UL): 'Female Crime and Punishment in the Late Qing Dynasty.' (2017-2021)

#### Dissertations defended in 2021:

- 24 November 2021: Nynke van den Boomen (RU)

### E. Inclusion, Exclusion and Mobility

Research directors: dr. Bart Lambert (VUB) and dr. Marion Pluskota (UL)

#### Theme

Inclusion, Exclusion and Mobility is a Flemish-Dutch research network for scholars working on the broad field of the social history of communities from the late Middle Ages to the present. The programme brings together PhD-candidates and postdoctoral fellows and senior researchers from the Netherlands and Flanders who are active in a number of large research projects, such as the projects of Manon van der Heijden (UL) on the topic of crime and gender; the Belgian IUAP-network headed by Marc Boone on 'City and Society in the Low Countries (1200-1800)' and a number of projects of Leo Lucassen (UL), Marlou Schrover (UL), Anne Winter (VUB) and Hilde Greefs (UA), on migration processes. It also welcomes PhD-candidates who work on stand-alone projects that relate to the social history of communities.

The programme looks at the formation of boundaries between social groups, at processes of inclusion and exclusion and at the rise of civil society. 'Civil society' is a central concept in the literature on the social history of communities, and refers to institutions that do not belong to the market or state, but are formed by citizens, such as guilds, churches, voluntary associations, charitable bodies, NGOs, etc. These organisations are often seen as important when studying the processes of group formation, as well as processes of inclusion and exclusion in communities from medieval times to the present. Of particular importance is the formation of boundaries and bridges between social groups, and the causes, and consequences that this produced. Three areas of research are particularly relevant:

1. The inclusion and exclusion of social groups. Due to such factors as real and imagined class, gender and ethnic similarities and differences. Communities were formed and shaped by the delineation of in- and out-groups. Processes of inclusion and exclusion are therefore quintessential to examine the ways communities functioned. Processes of in- and exclusion are strongly linked to the balance of power within communities. In this research group, we want to explicitly look at vulnerable / less powerful groups within communities, what their position was, and their level of agency.
2. The effects of mobility and immobility. Migration - internal, seasonal, emigration, immigration, asylum, forced movement, return – was an integral part of early modern and modern societies. But mobility does not solely relate to the movement of people, but also to products and ideas, as well as social mobility/immobility within societies.
3. The impact that institutions have on society at large: do the ties between the institutions and their members, and among the members themselves, lead to a generalized feeling of trust in society, or, conversely, to social tensions and conflicts?

#### *Activities*

The Inclusion, Exclusion and Mobility research network set up a networking session and a research session about 'Making and Using the City in the Low Countries' at the online Posthumus conference in May. The network was also involved in the organization of a masterclass with Robert Shoemaker on urban crime and agency and a symposium on crime and justice in global perspective (coordinated by network PhDs Karlijn Luk and Samantha Sint Nicolaas), a symposium on Hansards in the World (coordinated by network PhD Alex Collin) and a masterclass in tandem with the Belgian Day for Migration History (coordinated by PhD Maite van Vyve). Due to COVID restrictions, all of these events had to be postponed until 2022.

#### *PhD projects*

The following PhD candidates (cohorts 2017-2021) were working within this programme in 2021 (candidates marked with a \* were also active in another programme):

##### *Cohort 2021:*

- Karoline Da Silva Rodrigues (VUB)\*: 'Labour, inequality and inclusion in the Brussels construction sector' (2021-2026).
- Lith Lefranc (UA): 'Implicit bias in everyday interactions taking place on the streets of the modernising city (ca. 1860-1940)' (2021-2025).
- Jessica den Oudsten (RU)\*: 'Integration and Social Mobility: The Descendants of Early Modern Immigrants in Amsterdam, 1660-1811' (2021-2025).

##### *Cohort 2020:*

- Karlijn Luk (UL): 'Conflicts between locals and newcomers in Leiden and Rotterdam, ca. 1600-1800' (2020-2024).
- Jasper Segerink (UA)\*: 'Accommodating (im)mobility. Spaces of accommodation as hubs between global migration flows and local urban life, 1850-1930' (2020-2024).
- Samantha Sint Nicolaas (IISG): 'Migrants and the Courts in Amsterdam and Delft, 1600-1800' (2020-2024).
- Jurriaan Wink (VUB)\*: 'Managing Markets: Commercial Institutions in the Eastern Principalities of the Burgundian-Habsburg Low Countries Compared' (2020-2024).

##### *Cohort 2019:*

- Hannah Fluit (UA): 'The Role of Religion in Solidarity during Western Modernization (ca. 1650 - ca. 1950).' (2019-2023)
- Sietske van der Veen (Huygens Institute): 'Against the current: the social mobility of Jewish Dutch with a high(er) social status (1880-1940)' (2019-2023).

##### *Cohort 2018:*

- Alexander Collin (UvA): 'Decision Making Under Conditions of Non-Knowledge in Late- and Post-Hanseatic City Governments' (2018-2022).
- Ewout Hasken (UU): 'Running the family business: stakeholders, values, and reputation', (2018-2022).
- Heleen Blommers (VU): 'Deconstructing the War on Poverty: the rise of a policy failure narrative, 1964-1985', (2018-2022).

#### *Dissertations defended in 2021*

- 21 oktober 2021: Dirk Lueb (UA)

### **F. Routes and Roots in Colonial and Global History**

Research directors: prof. Ulbe Bosma (IISG/VU), dr. Elisabeth Heijmans (UA) and dr. Fenneke Sijssling (UL)

#### *Theme*

The research network 'Routes and Roots in Colonial and Global History' convenes Dutch and Flemish scholars, whose aim it is to combine



a global approach with a sensitivity for local and emic perspectives. Projects within this network study globalizing societies starting from a micro level and highlight individual agency. Their focus is on the various ways these local societies and individual persons participated in inter-regional networks, how their encounters with 'others' impacted their (social, cultural, religious) lives on a local level, and how in turn these encounters also had an impact on these supra-local levels. Highlighting the micro level and individual agency involves the use of primary sources born in different cultural and linguistic zones. It also entails using methodologies that are not necessarily always readily available in a historian's toolbox, such as oral history and fieldwork. The 'Colonial and Global History' network brings together knowledge on broad transnational processes such as empire-building, (de)colonization, modernization and globalization, with expertise on specific societies, groups and individuals. There is a wide range of research projects: from cosmopolitanism among the elites at the Indo-Islamic courts, to modern life-styles of contemporary Africans to non-western urbanisation. The network also includes studies on how new hardware, from ships, to roads, to cars, to cell phones, transformed spaces from relatively sequestered into globalised. Research in this network further concerns interactions between colonial/postcolonial policies and grassroots' negotiation of and impact on these colonial/postcolonial policies. Or, focus on how missionary messages were transformed in local cultures and often resulted in indigenous re-translations of external concepts. As a rule of thumb these research projects include critical reflections on the various ways in which people contest, transform and appropriate their colonial heritage. The network invariably concerns research that critically engages with Eurocentric historical markers such as the Early-Modern and the Modern and explores the options for periodizations that are truly global in character

### *Activities*

In the Covid year 2021 the main activities of the network Routes and Roots in Colonial and Global History concerned the session at the annual Posthumus conference, held online, and the planning of workshops that ultimately had to be postponed to 2022. At the annual conference the network organized the session 'Global trade in the eighteenth century', with presentations by Chris Nierstraz, Rafael Thibault en Elisabeth Heijmans. At the same conference an online network meeting was organized. This was successful as it resulted in two ideas for workshops. The first was a lecture and masterclass with professor Kapil Raj, organized by Neilabh Sinha and Melinda Susanto, which was originally scheduled for December 2021 but will now take place in December 2022. The second was a workshop on the themes race, nationalism and sports, organized by Gijsbert Oonk. This workshop was postponed to June 2022.

### *PhD projects*

The following PhD candidates (cohorts 2017-2021) were working within this programme in 2021 (candidates marked with a \* were also active in another programme):

#### Cohort 2021:

- Pichayapat Naisupap (UL): 'Emblematic capital: Elephants and the making of the Dutch overseas empire, 1600-1800 (2021-2024).
- Hanna te Velden (IISH)\*: 'De sociaaleconomische positie van vrouwen in het vroegmoderne Nederlandse koloniale wereldrijk' (2021-2025).

#### Cohort 2020:

- Tessa de Boer (UL): 'Exploiting the empire of others: Dutch firms exploiting French colonial resources, 1650-1850' (2020-2025).
- Joël Edouard (RU): 'Information Networks and the Dutch Slave Trade in the Indian Ocean World (c.1640-1795)' (2020-2024).
- Adam Hall (VUB): 'Managing Markets: Commercial Institutions in the Core Principalities of the Burgundian-Habsburg Low Countries Compared' (2020-2023).
- Ramona Negrón (UL): 'Exploiting the Empire of Others: Dutch Investment in Foreign Colonial Resources, 1570-1800' (2020-2024).
- Melinda Susanto (UL)\*: 'Making sense of the tropics: Health, medicine and knowledge production in the Indonesian archipelago' (2020-2023).

#### Cohort 2019:

- Amza Adam (UL): 'Bordering up: regulating mobility through passes, walls and guards' (2019-2023).
- Tanik Joshipura (WUR): 'Food Trade in sub-Saharan Africa in the 20th Century' (2019-2023).
- Robert Keenan (WUR): 'Economic History of Southeast Asia' (2019-2023).
- Eline Rademakers (UL): 'Empire State of Mind: Negotiations and the Dutch Atlantic Merchant networks in the 18<sup>th</sup> century' (2019-2024).

#### Cohort 2018

- Alexander Geelen (IISH): 'Bordering up: regulating mobility through passes, walls and guards' (2017-2022).
- Alexander van der Meer (UL): 'Institutional memory in the making of colonial culture' (2018-2022).
- Neilabh Sinha (UL): 'The Emblematic Worldview and the Production of Global Visual Knowledge: The Low Countries and

Mughal India, 1550-1700' (2018-2022).

- Philip Post (UL): 'Institutional memory in the making of colonial culture' (2018-2022).

Cohort 2017:

- Luc Bulten (RU): 'Negotiating Fiscal norms, Property and Labour in Eighteenth-Century Dutch Colonial Sri Lanka' (2017-2021).
- Bente de Leede (UL): 'Negotiating Conversion and Family Law in Eighteenth Century Dutch Colonial Sri Lanka' (2017-2021).
- Sophie Rose (UL): 'Sex and Marriage, Social Control, Dutch Colonial Empire' (2017-2021).

*Dissertations defended in 2021:*

- 28 January 2021: Oran Kennedy (UL)
- 2 June 2021: Maarten Manse (UL)\*

<b>Revenues</b>	<b>Budget 2021</b>	<b>Realised 2021</b>	<b>Budget 2022</b>
Contributions of participating faculties (DLG)	43.5	44.9	44.9
Contributions of non-DLG faculties	36.3	29.3	34.3
Fees PhD Candidates	17	24	20
'Duurzame GW' general subsidy for ResMA	15.5	16.2	16.2
'Duurzame GW' personal budgets ResMA students	5	8.1	7.5
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>117.3</b>	<b>122.5</b>	<b>122.9</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
<b>Office</b>			
Compensation Scientific Director	17	14.7	17.3
Office Manager	28	42.1	33
Education Programme Director	25	26.2	27.3
Student assistancy	0	0	4.8
Expenses for office & meetings (Board, committees)	5	5.1	2.5
Contingencies	3.5	2.5	2.5
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>78.5</b>	<b>90.6</b>	<b>87.3</b>
<b>Educational activities</b>			
NWP Research MA	7.5	5	5
Basic Training: Seminar I	2.5	0.4	2.5
Basic Training: Seminar 2	2.5	2.0	4.5
Individual Assessments	1.5	1.1	1.5
Basic Training: RDC	20	10.1	12.5
Advanced Training (Masterclasses, Adv Sem & Cert.)	2.5	0.5	1.5
Writing Retreat	14	5.4	6
COVID-19 PhD Fund	15	30.1	26
Career Event	2	1.7	0
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>67.5</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>59.5</b>
<b>Research</b>			
General expenses Program Directors	0.5	0	0.5
Expenses for activities of interuniversity research network	18	0.8	12.5
NWP Annual Conference	1.5	0.2	15
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>148.5</b>	<b>174.8</b>
Reserve replacement due to unforeseen circumstances			6
<b>Exploitation result</b>	<b>-48.8</b>	<b>-26.0</b>	<b>-57.8</b>

#### Revenues: some explanatory notes

The revenues of the N.W. Posthumus Institute are based on the DLG/LOGOS agreement. In addition, revenues are generated by contributions from non-DLG participants in Posthumus. The level of these contributions is based on the separate collaboration agreements between the 'penvoerder' and each non-DLG participant. In some cases these contributions are fixed sums, in others they are dependent on the number of PhDs. Another source of revenues are the fees paid by PhD candidates, which amount to € 500 annually (3 years). Enrollment in the Basic Training means that € 1000 is paid from the 'rugzakje', for the Advanced Training an additional sum of € 500 from the 'rugzakje' is needed. From the fund 'Duurzame Geesteswetenschappen' the NWP receives a contribution for the organisation of ResMA educational activities. In addition participants pay an additional fee of € 500 per ResMA student.

In 2021 total revenues were slightly higher than budgeted, mainly because the number of Research Master students was higher than expected and therefore the contribution from the 'Programmabureau Duurzame Geesteswetenschappen' based on these numbers was also higher. The shift in the realisation 2021 between the contributions from the non-DLG participants and the fees for the PhD-candidates is caused by a different system of accounting for the contributions of those non-DLG participants that have agreed to pay a fixed sum.

### **Expenditures: some explanatory notes**

Expenditures are divided in three categories: office expenditure (mainly salaries and compensation of salaries), expenses for the educational activities (such as costs for rooms, catering, travel costs, gifts for guest speakers) and expenses for research activities (mainly costs for the annual conferences and various activities organized by the research networks). Within the category educational activities the COVID-19 PhD Fund takes a special place. This fund was established in 2020 to help PhDs stay on schedule during the COVID crisis, mainly by covering the costs of digitalisation of archival materials and student assistance.

In 2021 total revenues were slightly higher than budgeted, mainly because the number of Research Master students was higher than expected and therefore the contribution from the 'Programmabureau Duurzame Geesteswetenschappen' based on these numbers was also higher. The shift in the realisation 2021 between the contributions from the non-DLG participants and the fees for the PhD-candidates is caused by a different system of accounting for the contributions of those non-DLG participants that have agreed to pay a fixed sum.

Expenditure for the bureau was higher than budgeted: this is partly related to a temporary adjustment of the contracts of the office manager and education programme coordinator in the first half year and partly to an overlap of one to two months in the period of transition between Nijmegen and Utrecht. Costs for education were below budget mainly because the RDC in Lisbon was less costly than anticipated, only one instead of two writing retreats took place, and seminar I (in December 2021) had to take place online. The unused budget for seminar I (2K) has been added to the budget for seminar II for the year 2022 (normally 2.5K, now 4.5K), which is normally budgeted tightly and could now take place in a setting that allowed the PhD students more time for discussion and exchange. Lower expenditure on educational activities was partly compensated by higher expenses for the COVID-19 emergency fund than anticipated. Expenses on research were well below budget since because of COVID-regulations the activities of the research networks were curtailed. The online activities that did take place were not costly. In November and December 2021 two live workshops for which contributions had been scheduled were postponed to 2022 because of the re-introduction of COVID-related restrictions. The funds assigned to these activities (a total of 3.5K) have therefore been added to the budget for the activities of the research networks in 2022 (normally 9K, now 12.5K).

The Posthumus Institute seeks to reduce its current financial reserves in a cautious and well thought-out manner, whilst at the same time maintaining a healthy financial balance for the future. The reason to exercise caution is that the Posthumus Institute cannot simply depend on fixed DLG-revenues only. A large part of our revenues is from sources that are less stable and secure. Either they are from non-fixed and fluctuating sources such as student fees, or they come from non-DLG partners who bring in 30% of total revenues. In view of this, the Posthumus Institute aims to bring down its financial reserve to a level of 20% of its annual budget by mid 2026, when the Utrecht 'penvoerderschap' ends. At the end of 2021, the general financial reserve of the N.W. Posthumus Institute amounted to a total of € 172.602. While new applications for the COVID-19 emergency fund are no longer accepted, commitments made in 2020 and 2021 are expected to result in additional expenses in 2022 of 26K. In addition, the financial reserve will be used to cover expenses related to the annual European Design course (ESTER) and the annual Posthumus conference.



N.W. POSTHUMUS INSTITUTE  
**PhD**  
**DISSERTATIONS**  
**DEFENDED IN 2021**

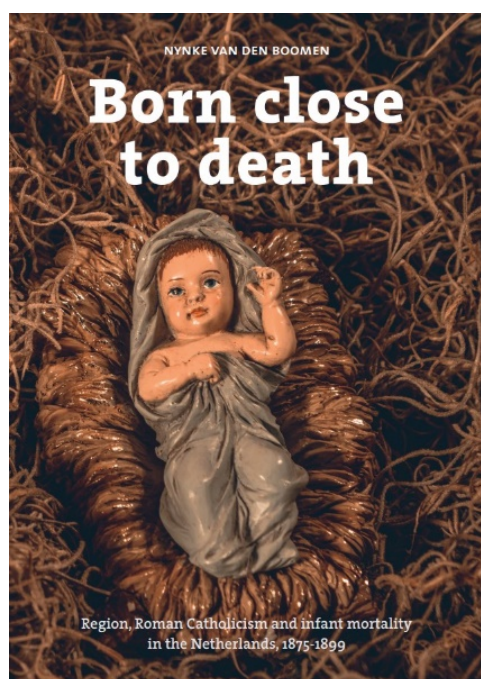
## Nynke van den Boomen (RU)

Title: *Born close to death: Region, Roman Catholicism and infant mortality in the Netherlands, 1875-1899*

Supervisors: prof. Th.L.M. Engelen, prof. A.A.P.O. Janssens and prof. J. Kok

Graduation: 24 November 2021

*Born close to death* centres around the large regional differences in infant mortality in the Netherlands during the final quarter of the nineteenth century. From the 1870s onwards, Dutch infant mortality rates started to decline rapidly, although certain regions began to lag behind. Infant mortality levels in the predominantly Roman Catholic provinces of Noord-Brabant and Limburg started to exceed those in other parts of the Netherlands, leading up to a lively debate over the past 150 years on the relationship between Roman Catholicism and poor infant survival. This study focuses on the question whether Dutch infant mortality patterns between 1875 and 1899 were defined by Roman Catholicism and even looks beyond religion to explore the local and regional contexts that shaped infant survival in the past. For this study, unique source material has been digitized in its entirety: the municipal cause-of-death registers published for all 1,121 Dutch municipalities during the final quarter of the nineteenth century. In addition to figures on infant mortality and causes of death, municipal data on religious composition, fertility, migration, population density, soil type, female and agricultural labour participation, and the number of doctors and midwives have been used to investigate to what extent Dutch infant mortality patterns were determined by Roman Catholicism towards the end of the nineteenth century.



## Matthijs Degraeve (VUB)

Title: *Building Brussels. Construction Entrepreneurs in a Transforming Urban Space (1830-1970)*

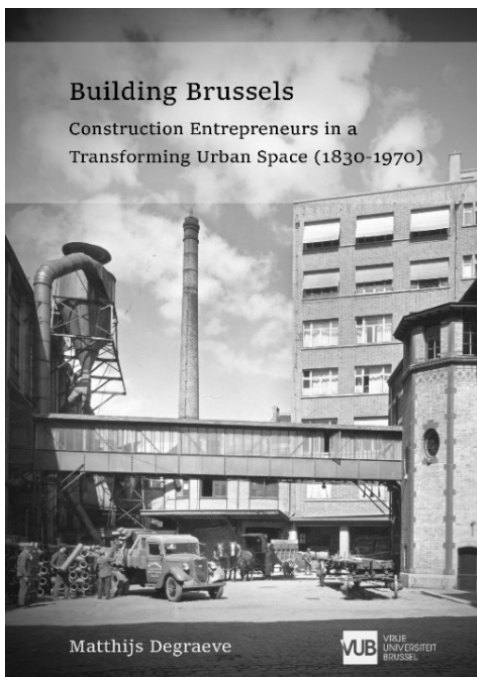
Supervisors: dr. H. Deneweth and prof. I. Bertels

Graduation: 19 August 2021

Entrepreneurs in the construction sector played a crucial role in the production and maintenance of urban space. Yet, there is still an outspoken need for in-depth knowledge of the long-term evolution of construction entrepreneurs and their relationship with that transforming urban space. In my PhD, I therefore mapped out the evolution of the Brussels construction sector (1830-1970) in terms of its presence in the urban economy and space, its structure in various building trades, and its organisation in diverse forms of business and entrepreneurship. Because few direct sources are preserved on construction enterprises, I used indirect sources of trade directories and fiscal registers to compile a database of approximately 25,000 construction enterprises, active in 1833, 1866, 1899, 1932 and 1965, supplemented with case studies via interviews and company archives.

This led to new insights that showed that industrialisation resulted in economies of scale and increasing market concentration, but at the same time, flexible specialisation proliferated as an alternative mode of production that enabled smaller enterprises to adapt to the volatile and variable market conditions in construction. These opposites resulted in a major inequality between construction entrepreneurs, with a great deal of proprietors of small-scale, volatile and transient businesses on the one hand, as opposed to a small but growing number of larger-scale, incorporated companies on the other. It also affected their position in the urban space. The limited spatial needs of most enterprises facilitated their locational flexibility and local embeddedness in the city. They were highly susceptible to

gentrification processes, however, resulting in their gradual displacement from the city centre from the late nineteenth century. By considering them in a broader perspective as ‘city-nurturing’ actors, these findings contribute to our knowledge of how a significant branch of the local urban economy adapted to long-term urban transformation processes.



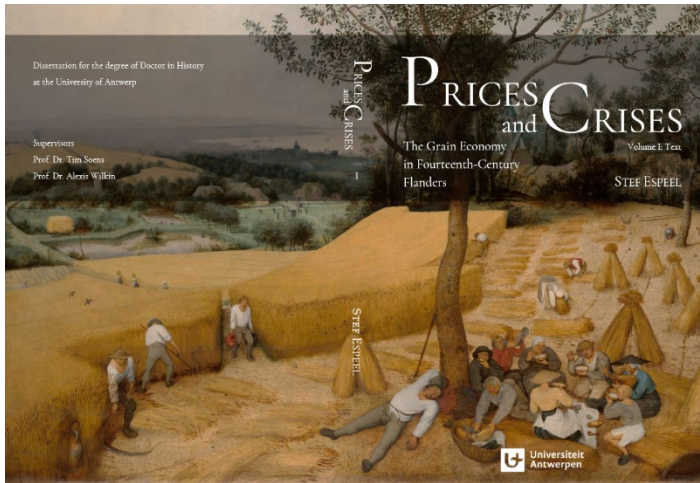
## Stef Espeel (UA)

Title: *Prices and Crises. The Grain Economy in Fourteenth-Century Flanders*

Supervisors: prof. T. Soens and dr. A. Wilkin

Graduation: 27 August 2021

This dissertation focuses on the occurrence of food shocks by investigating both the frequency and intensity of ‘price shocks’ on the grain market in fourteenth-century Flanders, as well as questioning its origins and consequences. The basis is formed by new price series for grain, which were drawn up using a combination of data from both original source material (accounts and financial records) of large landowners and published works for the cities of Bruges, Ghent, Lille and Douai in the county of Flanders and Cambrai just outside it. The study approaches the price shocks on the grain market along four major axes. The first part investigates the price formation of grain. It mainly tackles the many technical challenges of reconstructing a reliable market price series for contexts where the source material is fragmented. Based on these new price series, the second part looks at the frequency, intensity and duration of price shocks. The long and short-term fluctuations of the grain price as well as the integration between the Flemish cities and in a broader European perspective is addressed. The third part studies the vulnerability of the urban population to price surges and the accompanying food shortages on one hand and on the other, it questions the link between mortality crises of the many plague episodes of the fourteenth century and the subsistence crises. Finally, the fourth part of this study focuses on the large producers and exporters of grain. The organization of their activities on the grain market, the differences between the organization of the agriculture of the regions in which these landlords were embedded and the adaptation of the income and expense strategies of grain by the landlords are key here. The main concluding points that emerge throughout the dissertation include the unique character and importance of precisely dated prices. This allowed the frequency, intensity of the price peaks, and their influence on the urban population to be accurately studied. The importance of large landowners in the production and distribution of grain, as well as the institutional constraints and the importance of the different social agrosystems are also noteworthy.



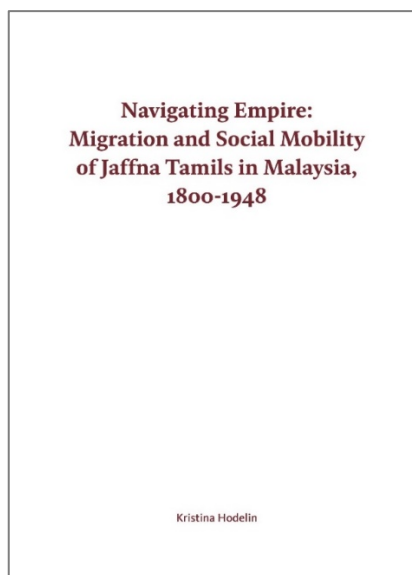
## Kristina Hodelin (RU)

Title: *Navigating Empire: Migration and Social Mobility of Jaffna Tamils in Malaysia, 1800-1948*

Supervisors: prof. J. Kok and dr. D.B.G.W. Lyna

Graduation: 26 August 2021

This thesis examines a case study of a diasporic sub-elite community in colonial Malaysia, the Jaffna Tamils from northern Sri Lanka and those specifically converted to Christianity during the early nineteenth century and originally of Vellalar caste. How does religion and educational access influence class privilege and position in the homeland? How does it inform migration abroad and the experiences of the diaspora in the country of settlement? By answering these questions, this thesis unravels migrant navigation of empire through the position of the Jaffna Tamils as a middling group and their notions of belonging across locales under colonial rule from 1800 to 1948. Their success in colonial Sri Lanka and abroad was a result of education offered by Christian Anglo- and Anglo-American missionaries, socio-economic and employment networks among Christian Vellalars and the performance of British conceptions of modernity. These performances enhanced the options and opportunities of Christian Vellalars within the British empire. Through this investigation we come to understand why middling groups in colonial society fashioned and performed Britishness and the ways indoctrination of colonial rule via missionary education influenced employment opportunities and hierarchization of cosmopolitan colonial societies through the making of model minorities.



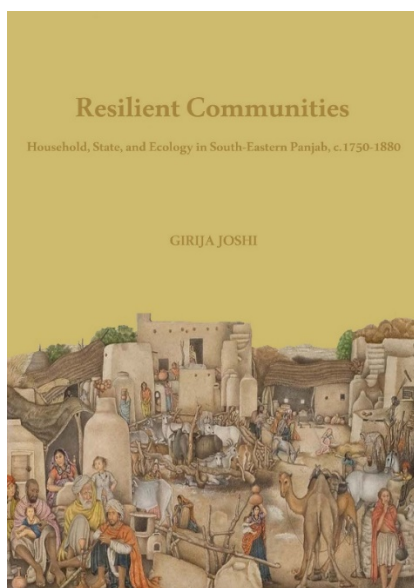
## Girija Joshi (UL)

Title: *Resilient communities: household, state, and ecology in south-eastern Panjab, c. 1750-1880*

Supervisors: prof. L. Lucassen

Graduation: 23 June 2021

This dissertation studies the changes in the rural economy and society of south-eastern Panjab during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This region was an ecological and political frontier, where nomadic-pastoral and agrarian ways of life overlapped, and effective power lay in the hands of different husbanding communities, which were each represented by warlords from established clans. This research seeks to understand the impact of colonization upon south-eastern Panjab, where the British East India Company first acquired a foothold in 1803. The Company faced two main challenges. First, the large number of princes, chiefs, and warlords whose domains dotted the region, and whose authority posed a challenge to that of the British. Second, the itinerant ways of local agro-pastoral populations, which made them difficult to monitor and tax. How did the state's attempts to counter these challenges impact local populations? In particular, how did it affect the households of the husbandman, the warlord and the preceptor, the three key figures in rural society? It is these questions that this thesis seeks to answer. It suggests that while the region was impoverished by colonization, the household-based rural order survived into the twentieth century



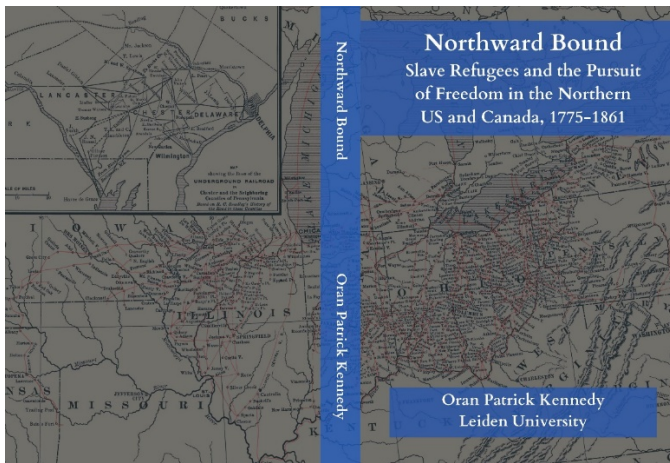
## Oran Kennedy (UL)

Title: *Northward bound: Slave refugees and the pursuit of freedom in the Northern US and Canada, 1775-1861*

Supervisors: dr. D. Pargas

Graduation: January 28th 2021

Between the American Revolutionary War and the US Civil War (roughly 1775-1861), thousands of enslaved African Americans fled from the US South to the northern 'free' states and British Canada. While many fled to British lines during wartime, other self-emancipators availed of interracial freedom networks commonly known as the Underground Railroad. Within their respective receiving societies, slave refugees established new lives as free men and women. At the same time, they encountered numerous challenges and obstacles, such as poverty and unemployment, racial prejudice and discrimination, and the threat of re-enslavement. Through a comparative and transnational lens, *Northward Bound* re-examines the various migrations of African American freedom seekers from the South to the North and Canada. It explores the motivations behind self-emancipation, the routes taken by freedom seekers, and the nature of escape to the North and Canada. Furthermore, *Northward Bound* analyzes the experiences of slave refugees in the northern US, the Canadian Maritimes, and southwestern Ontario. Following Damian Pargas' recent typology, this study demonstrates that British Canada emerged as a space of 'formal' freedom for African American freedom seekers, whereas the northern US developed into a space of 'semi-formal' freedom.



## Rogier van Kooten (UA)

Title: *Antwerpen 1584: Oorlog en ongelijkheid in de stedelijke ruimte*

Supervisors: prof. T. Soens and prof. B. Blondé

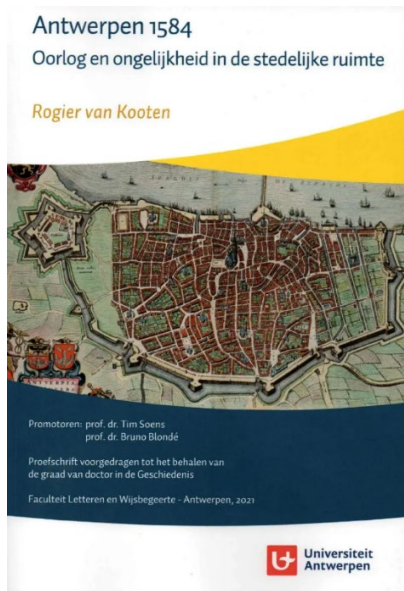
Graduation: 21 June 2021

Using a historical case study, the Fall of Antwerp (1584-1585), this research explores the social and spatial mechanisms that can redistribute income and wealth during a catastrophic shock. It was also the first major test of the *GISTORICAL Antwerp* research infrastructure. Differences between rich and poor, between professional groups or between ethnic and religious groups have been expressed in specific spatial patterns for centuries, sometimes resulting in highly segregated settlement areas. Moreover, social and spatial processes are inextricably linked. Urban space plays an active role in shaping and changing social differences and power relations.

The socio-spatial redistribution effects were investigated by measuring the impact of the fall along a demographic and a material dimension. The demographic dimension was mainly reflected in mass emigration. The emigration led indeed to social and spatial levelling of the Antwerp population. The income and wealth differences between those who stayed in the city decreased. The relatively strong segregation of rich and poor diminished. The social middling groups turned out to be the most resilient because of their focus on the *foundational economy* or luxury industries and because of their strong involvement in the inner-city housing market. Contrary to what one would expect given the forced departure of Protestants after 1585, also many (poor) Catholics left the city.

Via the housing market, we were able to study an important form of material redistribution from which consequences can also be deduced for income and capital positions. The housing market was the domain of the middling groups and therefore not a reflection of the overall capital assets of Antwerp households. Nevertheless, it was possible to investigate whether other social groups would enter the housing market, at the expense of these middling groups, to take advantage of the low prices or, conversely, were forced to do so by their deteriorated economic and financial situation. None of this was the case. The only clear reshuffling that could be observed took place within the existing property relations, between tenants and (former) owners. A second material effect occurred through the differentiated development of rents. Cheap houses recovered in price much faster after 1585 than middle class and expensive houses. As a result, small owners of cheap houses and investors in slums benefited. On the other hand, the decreasing differences in rents also distorted real incomes: while the middle class could strengthen its position, low-income households still had to direct a disproportional share of their income to housing.





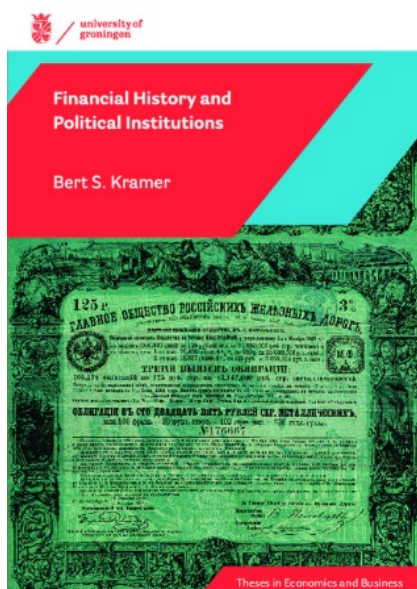
## Bert Kramer (RUG)

Title: *Financial history and political institutions.*

Supervisors: prof. H.J. de Jong

Graduation: 5 May 2021

This dissertation studies the interaction between financial markets and political institutions in a historical context. The body of this dissertation consists of four chapters in the fields of monetary and financial history. Chapter 2 concerns the history of the Russian rouble between 1856 and 1875. This chapter's main question is to what extent the Russian government was able to credibly stabilise its currency in the aftermath of the Crimean War. This chapter shows that foreign bondholders never saw currency reforms by the Tsarist government as fully credible. Chapter 3 concerns the gold standard, the main monetary regime between 1870 and 1914. This chapter studies why countries did or did not adopt the gold standard. Its main result is that countries that had more democratic institutions were, all else equal, less likely to do so. Chapter 4 studies the effects of the introduction of the corporate tax (Vennootschapsbelasting) in the occupied Netherlands in 1942. This chapter shows that the introduction of this tax cost Dutch shareholders over 200 million guilders. Furthermore, firms responded to this tax by attracting additional debt, thus avoiding part of the tax burden. Chapter 5 studies the remuneration of members of Canadian parliaments in the second half of the twentieth century. The main research question is how politicians respond to changes to their remuneration. This chapter shows that the introduction of pension schemes for members of parliament enticed them to remain in office longer, or at least to try to do so by running for re-election.



## Dirk Lueb (UA)

Title: *Smugglers. Cooperation, organization and adaptability of smuggling networks in the Southern Netherlands. 1797 – 1810*

Supervisors: prof. H. Greefs

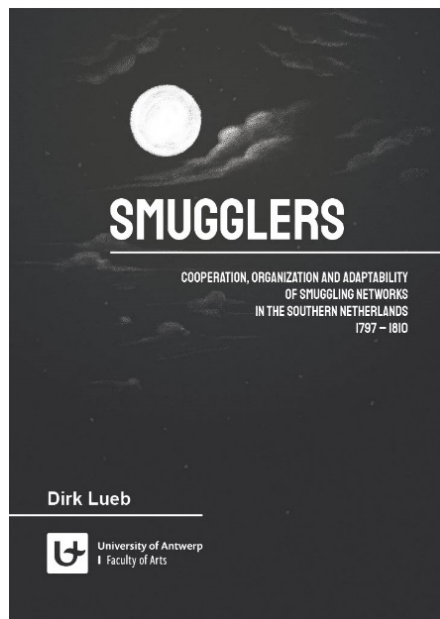
Graduation: 29 October 2021

By applying new perspectives from criminology, this research demonstrates that the organization and adaptability of smuggling networks was partly responsible for the resilience of smuggling during the Napoleonic era. This novel approach shows that smugglers operating in the Belgian departments between 1797 and 1810 developed an elaborate and sophisticated smuggling organization to deal with mounting repressive measures that increased throughout the period. Smugglers adapted to these measures on many different levels and showed ingenuity in dealing with changes in legislation and repression.

The product range that was carried by the contraband trade proved remarkably diverse and was adapted to both market forces and changes in repression. Trafficking itself was done by skilled employees with a certain profile that facilitated smuggling. This occupational embeddedness of smuggling caused carters, day laborers, farmers and innkeepers to be omnipresent in the contraband trade. The supply chain was organized by a network of intermediaries and merchants that formed neither a top-down hierarchy nor a disorganized mishmash of rapidly succeeding enterprises. Instead, the contraband trade was organized by a handful of intermediaries who offered their services to merchants looking to import illicit goods. Furthermore, the practice of smuggling shows an elaborate system of internal and external risk mitigation strategies.

This research has shown that smuggling was not a form of social protest. Rather, contraband networks capitalized on the implementation of restrictive legislation and used the border to make a profit. It also nuanced smuggling as a survival strategy. Smugglers were not small-timers but rather part of a well-oiled machine that was efficiently designed. While it probably still was part of the makeshift economy for many of the lower tier traffickers, the contraband trade was not open to everyone. Instead, only those with a particular profile were able to participate. As such, smuggling was not as socially inclusive as previously claimed.

Networks seem to have capitalized on the implementation of restrictive legislation long before the Continental Blockade was implemented. Rather than causing it, the Blockade seems to have curbed smuggling by forcing smugglers to adapt. Although its scale could not match that of legal trade, this does not necessarily mean smuggling was small-scale. Instead, this period showed an unprecedented scale of illicit trade. The smuggling networks show a level of sophistication that resembles modern-day organized crime. Its organization sought to provide a domestic market with prohibited goods by circumventing mounting measures with a range of rational strategies.



## Maarten Manse (UL)

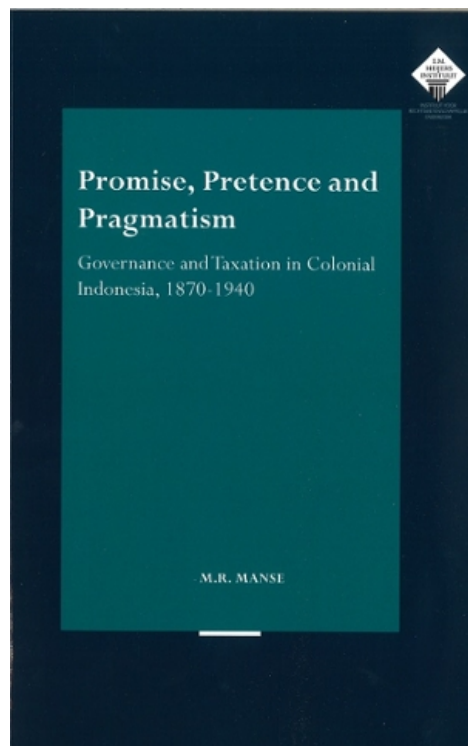
Title: *Promise, pretence and pragmatism: governance and taxation in colonial Indonesia, 1870-1940*

Supervisors: prof. R. Arendsen and dr. A.F. Schrikker

Graduation: 2 June 2021

Taxation was at the core of colonial exercises of governance, state-building and state-society relations. This dissertation analyses taxation in colonial Indonesia between 1870 and 1940. In an era of continuous expansion and reform, colonial statesmen envisioned a full-fledged tax state of equivalent and just forms of tax-payment in accordance with fair laws, a transparent administration and benevolent governance. They saw taxation as an important tool in the project of constructing a modern empire, 'disciplining and improving' its

subjects and unifying and reforming the state. However, despite intricate law-making processes, shrewd strategies of data accumulation and registration, and a sophisticated bureaucratic machinery, the colonial state in Indonesia had limited success in realising its ambitions. On the ground, taxation was controlled by local elites and driven by processes of negotiation, mediation and subversion of the state apparatus. Rather than imposing a Western model of taxation on the colony, the resulting system became an amalgam of Dutch and local interests, while the state itself became increasingly mixed with the local structures and practices it was supposed to change and replace. Instead of a force of extraction and reform, taxation provided an arena for contesting the colonial state. Based on extensive archival research and traversing the Indonesian archipelago from Aceh to the Moluccas, this dissertation unveils the diverse administrative realities of colonial Indonesia as created by colonial officials, intermediaries and subjects. By focusing on taxation, it demonstrates how colonial governance was experienced as hybrid and malleable, thereby contributing to broader academic debates about colonial statecraft, fiscal policy and the consequences of colonial rule



## Ruben Peeters (UU)

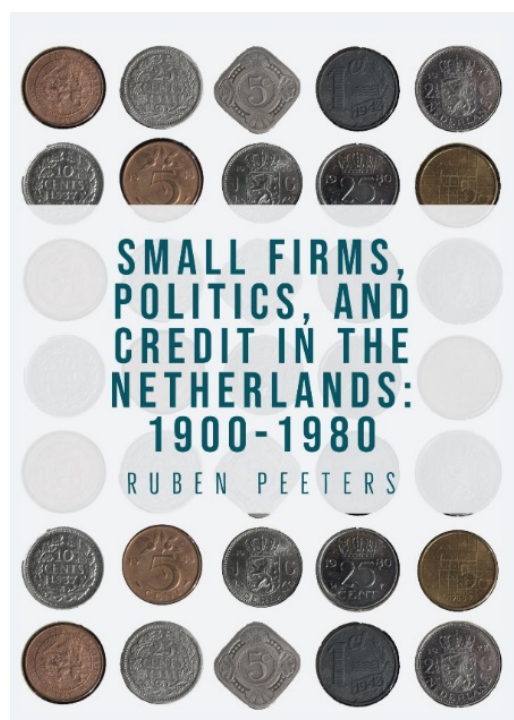
Title: *Small Firms, Politics, and Credit in the Netherlands: 1900-1980*

Supervisors: prof. O.C. Gelderblom and prof. J.P.B. Jonker

Graduation: June 29th 2021

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are a driving force for growth, innovation and job creation, nonetheless smaller companies fail more regularly and often have a hard time obtaining (bank) financing. Because of the economic importance of SMEs, governments are actively trying to support smaller businesses by removing obstacles to their survival and growth. In practice, this means adapting regulations and government policies to the needs of SMEs and improving their access to finance. These interventions do not take place always or everywhere, but depend heavily on the interaction between the government, political interest groups, and financial markets. This dissertation examines the history of government interventions in the Dutch financial system between 1900 and 1980. Throughout this period, the Dutch government, under pressure from small business interest groups, began to play an increasing role in lending to SMEs. I argue that over time, small businesses worked with the government to make changes in the financial system to better meet the credit needs of SMEs. In doing so, the interaction between small businesses, the Dutch government, and the financial system was particularly important in bringing about these changes. These interventions have helped Dutch SMEs, especially during moments of crisis. The second chapter, "SMEs in an Era of Change: Overview of SMEs in the Netherlands, 1895-2000" provides a contextual set-up to the thesis. It aims to provide an overview of the economic changes that the Dutch economy experienced in the twentieth century. The third chapter, "Getting a Foot in the Door: Small Firm Credit and Interest Group Politics in the Netherlands, 1900-1927" explores the link between the history of small firm associations and the development of Dutch financial infrastructure geared toward small firms. The fourth chapter, "The Role of Banks, Notaries and Private Lenders in the Dutch Credit System in the Early 20th Century" is written jointly with Oscar Gelderblom, Joost Jonker, and Amaury de Vicq. This chapter investigates what financial services people made use of in the Netherlands in 1921. The fifth chapter, "Solving the Perennial Small Firm Funding Problem: The Case of the Netherlands, 1900-1940"

builds on the “lending channel” perspective pioneered by Taketa and Udell to investigate responses to changes in the provision of small firm credit. The sixth chapter, “Lending and Coaching: Public Loan Guarantee Funds in the Netherlands, 1934-1978” shows that credit can be effectively provided to small firms at low costs and low risks through the combination of public loan guarantees and intense monitoring. The seventh chapter brings together the conclusions reached in the previous chapters. It briefly reflects on research avenues that were taken but proved unfruitful, several possibilities for further research, and policy implications that can be drawn from this research.



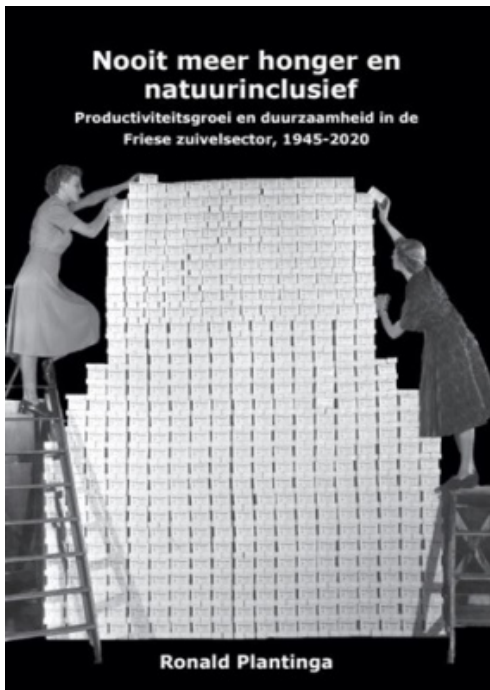
## Ronald Plantinga (RUG)

Title: *Nooit meer honger en natuurinclusief: Productiviteitsgroei en duurzaamheid in de Friese zuivelsector, 1945-2020*

Supervisors: dr. M. Molema and prof. M.J.G. Duijvendak

Graduation: 9 October 2021

The Frisian dairy sector changed radically after 1945. Small dairy farms and dairy factories became large-scale businesses. Manual work was widely mechanized. Productivity increased enormously, while the number of farmers and workers decreased. At the same time, the increase in productivity had a negative impact on the natural environment. Initially, environmental pollution increased, the landscape became less diverse, and biodiversity in the agricultural area decreased. These downsides are now in the public eye, as evidenced by farmers' protests and discussions about climate change. At the same time, there is a loud call for circular and nature-inclusive food production. Regional actors are playing an increasingly important role in realizing this transition. However, it is unclear what role regional actors played during the radical innovation processes in the post-war period. This dissertation analyzes the role of regional organizations in transitions in the Frisian dairy sector. It appears that regional organizations fulfilled the function of intermediary because they translated developments at the national and international level to the regional level. This concerned, for example, strategy formation, the coordination of innovation processes, and knowledge development and dissemination. The historical research provides three insights. First, that regional organizations often acted as intermediaries together with organizations at the national level. Secondly, regional organizations with a central position in a knowledge network were best placed to fulfill intermediary functions. Thirdly, (semi) governments played an important role in stimulating innovation processes. They did this, among other things, by means of legislation and regulation, but also by supporting initiatives of regional organisations.



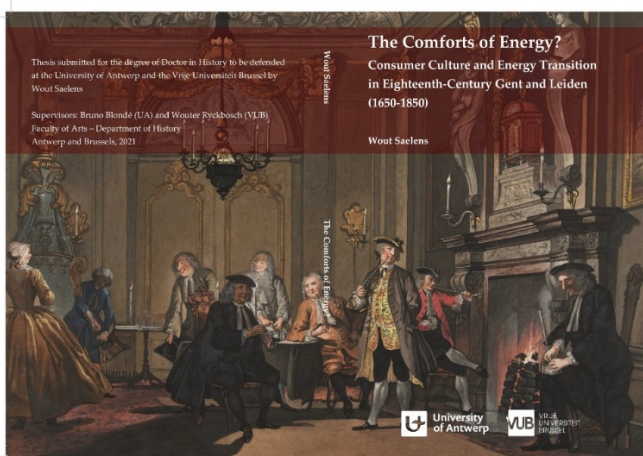
## Wout Saelens (UA)

Title: *The Comforts of Energy? Consumer Culture and Energy Transition in Eighteenth-Century Gent and Leiden (1650-1850)*

Supervisors: prof. B. Blondé and prof. W. Ryckbosch

Graduation: 5 May 2021

In recent years historians have come to bear witness to the unprecedented shift over the past centuries in the nature and scale of the energy consumed in (early) modern societies. Until now, the history of energy transition has mostly been an economic history, reserved for specialists of the industrial revolution. Yet, the transition to fossil fuels already happened well before industrialisation – in a household rather than industrial context. Indeed, it was the decisions of thousands of homemakers that made cities like Gent and Leiden into two major consumers of fossil energy. The purpose of this PhD dissertation is to uncover the social and cultural roots of energy transition as viewed from the perspective of consumption. Using the material culture of home heating and lighting as a window into the complex relationship between energy transitions and consumer culture, it seeks to address how energy left its imprint on everyday life, and how, vice versa, everyday life itself shaped energy. Ultimately, it has been argued that respectable households invented a ‘consumerist’ model of energy consumption in the course of the long eighteenth century which valued fossil fuels for both their physical *and* social comfort, leading to a more demanding – but also more wasteful – culture of energy.





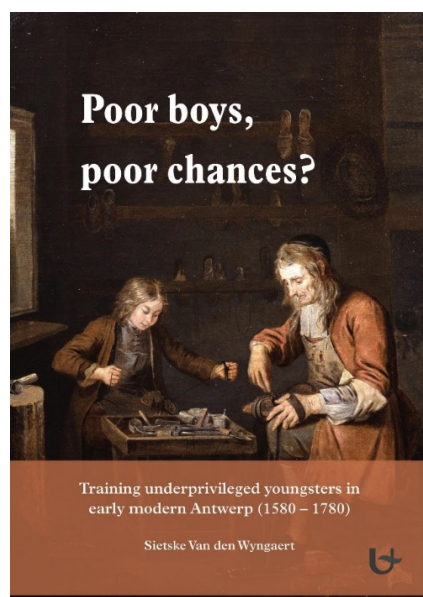
## Sietske Van den Wyngaert (UA)

Title: *Poor boys, poor chances? Training underprivileged youngsters in early modern Antwerp (1580–1780)*

Supervisors: prof. B.D.M. De Munck

Graduation: 5 March 2021

It is generally assumed that from the eighteenth century onwards new manufacturing processes stimulated a type of child labour that was unprecedented in the pre-industrial period. The increasingly mechanised production of standardised goods would have resulted in an enormous increase in the number of children who were working as cheap, unskilled labourers in Europe's large ateliers and earliest factories. The accompanying deskilling of youngsters would moreover have deprived them of genuine career prospects. Youngsters devolved from apprentices into employees who were in a business-like relationship with their employer. As such, this history is often sketched in stark contrast to the pre-industrial period in which the apprenticeship takes centre stage. During an apprenticeship a master artisan passed on his technical skills to a child or teenager, who thus obtained opportunities for a future as a journeyman or a master and, hence, as an independent breadwinner/head of household/wage earner. Culturally too, apprenticeship institutionalised an important transitional stage of the youngster's life during which he served his master and cultivated a subservient relationship with him. An important facet of the master-apprentice relationship was for the master to educate his apprentice in lessons on morality and religion. Because scholars have tended to assume that both types of child labour are two completely separate phenomena, the transition between them has hardly received any attention in the literature and, thus, remains ambiguous. How should we understand this period of transition? Was the unskilled, exploitative type of child labour on a massive scale completely new in the eighteenth century, or was it the result of a long-term transformation of the apprenticeship system? Whereas scholars predominantly argue in favour of the first explanation, this research examines the latter. This study shows that welfare apprenticeship in Antwerp was not necessarily a fast track towards cheap, unskilled labour. The integrated approach applied in this study underlines the fact that the underprivileged apprentices' training practices were not increasingly based on economic strategies nor did they degenerate into exploitative child labour. In contrast, the Antwerp Chamber of the Poor never chose economic considerations over the importance that they attributed to each boy's personal circumstances. As a result, from the late sixteenth to the late eighteenth century the Chamber of the Poor prioritised the acquisition of a training over the boys working to earn an income. Contrary to the expectations set out by historians who describe the motivation of charitable institutions as increasingly financial, the Chamber's welfare apprenticeships were continuously shaped with the apprentice in mind.



## Harm Zwarts (WUR)

Title: *Knowledge, Networks, and Niches. Dutch agricultural innovation in an international perspective, c. 1880-1970*

Supervisors: prof. E.H.P. Frankema, prof. E.J.V. van Nderveen Meerkerk and dr. P.J. van Cruyningen

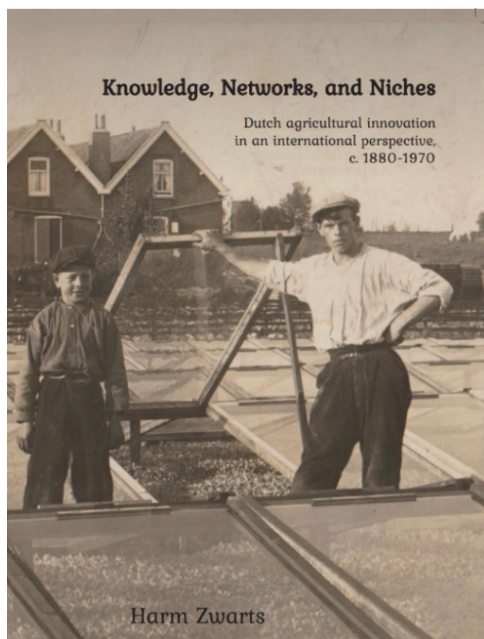
Graduation: June 4th 2021

Dutch agriculture is renowned for its innovation and technological advancement. This PhD thesis explains the success of Dutch agricultural innovation by looking at its historical development between 1880 and 1970. Why were Dutch farmers among the most innovative of their time?



This study applies a threefold analytical approach. Firstly, a comparative perspective is used to juxtapose the Dutch case with several important international counterparts and to compare regions *within* the Netherlands to clarify how and to what extent agricultural innovation differed locally. Secondly, insights from agricultural economics, rural sociology, new economic geography, and innovation studies are applied to better conceptualize historical developments. Thirdly, quantitative and qualitative sources and methods are used at different levels: trade data and agricultural statistics quantify innovation at the national and regional levels, while qualitative archival material enables a case-study approach at the actor level. Special attention is given to the diffusion of artificial fertilizers, the breeding of high-yielding crop varieties, and the technological improvements in greenhouse horticulture.

This study points out that increasing state involvement and the high level of self-organization among Dutch farmers (visible in the high density and variety of agricultural cooperatives) expanded knowledge exchange, which was a prerequisite for the capital intensification that helped Dutch farmers to operate at the technological frontier and to profit from favorable preconditions, such as the proximity to expanding food markets of urban-industrial agglomerations elsewhere in Europe and the presence of the Rotterdam port. In this way this study uses the Dutch case to scrutinize international general theories about long-term agricultural development. While these usually see agricultural innovation as the product of changing land-labour ratios or of the need to lift ecological conditions, this study shows that also proximity to markets is an important determinant for agricultural innovation.



# APPENDIX 1:

## OVERVIEW OF ORGANISATIONAL UNITS

### GENERAL BOARD

Major decisions of the N.W. Posthumus Institute are taken by a School Board, consisting of the holders of chairs in economic and social history at the participating institutions. The board meets two to three times a year. The daily affairs of NWP are in the hands of an executive committee and a scientific director supported by an office manager. The training programme and research networks are headed by respectively an education programme director and research directors. The ultimate responsibility for research activities lies within the faculties and institutions that participate in the NWP. An examination committee and an education committee see to the quality of the candidates and teaching affairs of NWP.

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Dr. P. de Zwart (WUR)

*\*Our system of substitute members guarantees that each participating university is represented at the meetings of the General Board.*

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Dr. Tim Riswick / Dr. Rogier van Kooten – Education Programme Director  
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Dr. R. van Kooten (advisor) (NWP)  
Lore Helsen (UGhent), PhD representative  
Alessandra de Mulder / Jasper Segerink (UA), PhD representative  
Bas Michielsen (UU), PhD representative  
Sietske van der Veen (UU/Huygens Institute), PhD representative

**CONFIDENTIAL ADVISORS**

Prof. E.J.V. van Nederveen Meerkerk (UU)  
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## APPENDIX 2:

# THE POSTHUMUS INSTITUTE TRAINING PROGRAMME

### Aims of the programme

With its PhD training, the N.W. Posthumus Institute contributes to the successful completion of dissertation projects in the domain of economic and social history. The success of a PhD project is determined by the quality of the dissertation and the duration of the PhD project. Normally, projects are designed to be completed in four years. The N.W. Posthumus Institute contributes to the formation of a next generation of excellent researchers.

First, the Institute wants to realise these aims by enlarging and deepening the knowledge of economic or social history as taught to the PhD candidates during their Master studies. The background knowledge of PhD candidates differs. A broad knowledge of the field is important in order both to contribute to scientific progress within the field of economic and social history in general and to successfully transfer knowledge to candidates and the general public within and outside academia.

Secondly, the N.W. Posthumus Institute supports PhD projects by encouraging PhD candidates to write and present their work from the start. PhD candidates are expected to write a series of papers, which will be presented and criticised during seminars. Their individual projects form the main focus of the Posthumus training programme. The programme contributes to the development of PhD candidates by enabling them to become independent and self-confident researchers.

Finally, the N.W. Posthumus Institute intends to integrate PhD candidates into the community of Dutch and Flemish historians specialising in economic and social history and by stimulating them to engage in international activities (the Research Design Courses and Advanced Seminars of ESTER, summer schools, conferences) and thus become part of international networks.

### The general structure of the PhD training programme

The PhD training programme of the N.W. Posthumus Institute covers the entire period of the dissertation project, but in practice, the programme focuses on the first three years. We distinguish two parts: the *Basic Training*, roughly the first year, and the *Advanced Training*, which is tailor made to suit the individual interests and requirements of the PhD student.

The Basic Training consists of three seminars in the course of the first 14 months:

- Seminar 1: My project in a Nutshell
- Seminar 2: Work in Progress
- Seminar 3: Research Design Course

The Basic Training will be formally closed by an Individual Assessment, in which two fellows of the N.W. Posthumus Institute will evaluate the development of the PhD student and his/her project. In case of a positive evaluation, the PhD student receives the Basic Training Diploma during the annual Posthumus Conference.

After the Basic Training, PhD candidates work individually on their Advanced Training. Once they have met the criteria, they apply for the Certificate by handing over their personal dossier. The dossier will be assessed by the Education Programme Director. In case of doubt, the dossier will be sent to the Examination Committee for a second opinion.

### Seminar 1: My Project in a Nutshell

The new cohort PhD candidates get to know each other and their projects during the first seminar lasting one or (typically) two days. In addition to PhD candidates who recently embarked upon their project, the seminar can also be attended by Research Master students who are close to writing a PhD proposal or application of funds. The seminar provides a forum to present initial ideas and get feedback from both other starting researchers and two Posthumus fellows. Prior to the meeting every participant writes a short research note about the historiographical background and the substance of his/ her project: "My project in a nutshell". The aim is to position the project in the academic debate. The research note should be written in English. Participants will read and discuss each other's notes.

### **Minor Paper & Seminar 2: Work in Progress**

The *minor paper* provides a first substantial discussion of the PhD project. It positions the research project in the relevant debates, formulates the research questions and discusses the methodologies and techniques (10-15 pages A4). The minor paper should be written in English and has to be presented during Seminar 2: Work in Progress.

Seminar 2 lasts two days. Each PhD student will present her/his minor paper. Every participant will also be discussant of the minor paper of another PhD student. A senior researcher, usually one of the fellows of the N.W. Posthumus Institute (but external experts are an option too) will give a second comment on the minor paper.

Participants of Seminar 2 read the minor papers of all other participants in their group and take part in the general discussion. Everyone will referee one paper specifically. If they see fit, experts can assign some reading material to the participants. The Education Programme Director of the N.W. Posthumus Institute or a substitute will be present during the seminar.

### **Major Paper & Research Design Course**

The *Major Paper* provides an advanced discussion of the PhD project. It evaluates the major choices made structuring the research and the ultimate thesis. It also justifies these choices in the light of good academic practice. The Major Paper thus gives a well-founded formation of the research question and sub-questions, the expected answers, the methods to be used, the steps to be taken doing research, the timing, the required information, and the (provisional) structure (chapters) of the thesis. The Research Design Course invites to reflect upon issues discussed in the theory of science literature, including the scientific ambitions, the perspectives adopted and rejected, and problems combining theory and empirical investigation. It is expected that such issues, selected upon relevance for the particular project, are included in the Major Paper after the Research Design Course. The Major Paper will result in a draft version of the first chapter of the dissertation. It includes a substantial introduction to the project, and a dissertation plan. The paper, 20-25 pages, is written in English.

The Research Design Course is an international seminar lasting three to five days. The Research Design Course is coordinated in the Netherlands by the Education Programme Director. At the Research Design Course the Major Papers are presented by their authors and discussed by participants and invited senior researchers.

The Research Design Course is open to PhD candidates from all over Europe. That is why this course is organised by the ESTER network and its partners. They bring together an international team of well-qualified historians. During the seminar, PhD candidates will present their Major Paper, but will also be discussant of the paper of another participant and chair a session. Usually, the Research Design Course works with parallel groups. The participants read all the papers of their group and prepare the general discussion of each paper.

The application process is competitive, and enrolment is limited. Participants will be selected on the basis of the progress of their research project and their proposal should meet the minimum standards. Participation in the RDC may be substituted for participation in another activity, such as a summer school. However, PhD candidates who prefer to participate in another course, should contact the Education Programme Director in advance.

### **Individual Assessment**

The Basic Training ends with an individual assessment. During this meeting of approximately one hour, two fellows of the N.W. Posthumus Institute will assess, together with the PhD student and her/his supervisor, the first year of the PhD project and the expectations concerning the remainder of the project. The major aim is to assess whether the PhD project is likely to be completed in time. Problems and possible solutions can also be discussed. If the fellows conclude after the assessment that the PhD student will in all likelihood finish the Posthumus training with a dissertation, then the student will qualify for the Posthumus diploma, provided she/he has fulfilled all the other requirements of the Basic Training. If the fellows conclude that the PhD student is unlikely to complete her/his project, the PhD student can be asked to write an additional paper in which remaining questions must be answered. As a last option, the Examination Committee will be consulted regarding these serious doubts and will be asked to advice on possible termination of the candidate's membership to the N.W. Posthumus Insitute. The PhD student submits a report beforehand in which they include the previous comments they received, as well as a reflection on how they will deal with this feedback.

## Advanced Training

The Basic Training is followed by an individual curriculum. This Advanced Training aims at assisting the PhD student to position him/herself as an autonomous and known colleague among the national and international community of researchers in Economic and Social History and other relevant disciplines. The N.W. Posthumus Institute assumes that the PhD candidates participate in the research school on an individual basis and design their own portfolio. Since 2016, the portfolio must fulfil five criteria with its subsequent training activities:

1. Internationalisation criterion: One paper in an international journal or one working paper in an international Working Paper series and a paper at an international conference (not being the Posthumus conference);
2. Network engagement criterion: Participation at the annual Posthumus conference, in the second year as commentator and in the third year as speaker;
3. Exercise criterion: presentation of a paper on two research training activities, such as a masterclass, seminar, workshop or colloquium organized by Posthumus or another academic institute other than the home department.
4. Organisation criterion: The organisation of a masterclass, seminar, conference panel or valorisation activity, or similar event;
5. Job preparation criterion: Attending the Posthumus Career Event. Alternatively, the PhD student may fulfil this criterion by following an elaborate coaching trajectory at the home university.

The elements mentioned above constitute a minimum level of advanced learning. PhD candidates can participate in Posthumus activities such as masterclasses or advanced seminars as much as they want. They can also participate in workshops and other activities organised by the research networks of the N.W. Posthumus Institute.

A PhD student qualifies for the Posthumus Research Certificate if she/he has fulfilled the requirements specified above. PhD candidates are encouraged to plan masterclasses and write an article/paper during their second and third year, so that the certificate can be granted well before the end of their project and they can concentrate upon finishing their thesis. The PhD candidates are required to send articles, papers and additional documentation to the office of the N.W. Posthumus Institute.

## Research Training Activities

PhD candidates participating in the PhD training programme of the N.W. Posthumus Institute can participate in as many research training activities as they want. Moreover, they are actively encouraged to organise activities themselves. The N.W. Posthumus Institute's Bureau can help anyone who wants to organise a workshop or a conference with financial as well as personal and practical support. In order to give an idea about the practical forms that are frequently used, several activities are listed below.

### *Masterclasses (2 EC)*

A Posthumus masterclass brings together a renowned expert (the master) and junior academics (early-stage post-docs, PhD Candidates and possibly Research master students) who are more or less working in the field of expertise of the senior researcher. A masterclass will usually last a couple of hours, to have time to discuss 3 to 7 pre-circulated papers. The organisers decide whether there is time for short presentations, but everyone will have read each other's paper in advance. This may be a draft chapter, working paper or provisional text that you want to turn into an article. In any case, the masterclass should be advertised early enough that participants are able to hand in a paper. Preferably, they should connect to the master's expertise. A major advantage of the masterclass is its sheltered setting, where the PhDs do not have to worry about their reputation. There should be ample room for the junior academics to show doubts and uncertainties. One of the major advantages of a masterclass is that this type of private interaction can take place without repercussions for the PhD's position. Participation of Posthumus fellows or senior researchers should therefore be avoided, supervisors in particular (even if they are co-authors).

### *ESTER Advanced Seminar (4 EC)*

ESTER, the European Graduate School for Training in Economic and social historical Research, annually organises an Advanced Seminar around a particular domain of research, intended for advanced PhD candidates. During an Advanced Seminar, PhD candidates are brought together with a number of international



experts and discuss the papers and presentations of the PhD candidates. The Advanced Seminars will be advertised on the website of the N.W. Posthumus Institute.

#### *Annual PhD conference (2 EC)*

Together with the Education Programme Director, the PhD representatives organise a PhD conference as part of the annual N.W. Posthumus Conference, usually in the spring. During this conference third-year PhD candidates will present their research to an audience of peers, expert commentators and senior fellows. They will discuss the most important findings they have done in the past three years. By doing so, the PhD will receive feedback from more experienced researchers as well as their fellow PhDs, emphasising different perspectives on the research. The second-year PhDs will chair the sessions as well as providing the presenter with feedback. This way, they learn more about commenting on a paper, chairing a session etc.

#### *Career Event (2 EC)*

With organising this bi-annual event, the Posthumus institute tries to help PhDs in preparing for the labour market, in- and outside of academia, after they finished their thesis. By providing the opportunity to network and ask questions to Posthumus alumni, we try to offer them more insight into job applications and handles on how to present themselves in CVs and interviews.

#### *Writing Retreat (2 EC)*

During this one-week retreat a group of 10 to (max) 12 PhD candidates have the opportunity to work on their dissertation in a quiet place away from all the hustle and bustle of everyday life. The Writing Retreat is primarily intended for PhDs in the last year of their trajectory. Candidates formulate concrete goals in advance, e.g. completing a specific chapter of their dissertation. Every day is devoted to this purpose. At the end of each day PhDs reflect on their work in small groups of 3 to 4 people, on what went well and what did not; they also make a writing plan for the next day.

### **Research network activities**

The research conducted by the senior fellows of the N.W. Posthumus Institute is grouped in six networks (see Chapter 2). The PhD candidates are expected to join at least one of these networks as their primary choice, and they may add another one as a secondary choice. They are expected to contact the research director(s) of the network they are interested in and to let the Office Manager of the N.W. Posthumus institute know which network they would like to join. The Institute invites the PhD candidates to take part in the conferences or other activities organised by their group. They also can and should suggest group activities with value added to their projects.

## APPENDIX 3: BASIC TRAINING 2021

### ENROLLMENT OF PHD CANDIDATES IN THE 2021 PROGRAMME

<b>1. M. Bischoff (Max-Quentin), Antwerp University</b>	
Research:	Anticipating the future in situations of crisis. The case of the Tucher family (16 <sup>th</sup> century)
Supervisor(s):	Prof. J. Puttevils
<b>2. A. Concina (Alberto), KU Leuven</b>	
Research:	Rethinking the impact of economic growth: A comparative study of rural market and subaltern economies in early modern Italy (1650-1800)
Supervisor(s):	Dr. M. De Keyser
<b>3. K. Da Silva Rodrigues (Karoline), Vrije Universiteit Brussel</b>	
Research:	Labour, inequality and inclusion in the Brussels construction sector
Supervisor(s):	Prof. W. Ryckbosch
<b>4. S. Geven (Silke), Antwerp University</b>	
Research:	Selling the 'City of Art'. Urban tourism and the advent of city marketing in Belgium (1880-1980)
Supervisor(s):	Prof. G. Verhoeven and prof. I. Van Damme
<b>5. L. Huba (Louise), Vrije Universiteit Brussel</b>	
Research:	Post-deconstruction; A history on material flows and reclamation chains of salvaged building elements in Brussel (1695-2025)
Supervisor(s):	Prof. S. van de Voorde and dr. H. Deneweth
<b>6. L. Lefranc (Lith), Antwerp University</b>	
Research:	Implicit bias in everyday interactions taking place on the streets of the modernising city (ca. 1860-1940)
Supervisor(s):	Prof. I. Van Damme and prof. M. Kestemont
<b>7. A. de Mars (Afra), Maastricht University</b>	
Research:	The social and landscape history of the Domaniale Mijl (Kerkrade)
Supervisor(s):	Prof. N. Randerad and prof. Ad Knotter
<b>8. R. Moes (Rozemarijn), Radboud University Nijmegen</b>	
Research:	Kitchen or capital? Elite womens' role in financial household and estate management in eighteenth-century Guelders
Supervisor(s):	Prof. D. Verhoeven and dr. D. Raeymaekers
<b>9. P. Naisupap (Pichayapat), Leiden University</b>	
Research:	Emblematic capital: Elephants and the making of the Dutch overseas empire, 1600-1800
Supervisor(s):	Prof. J. Gommans and dr. Bhawan Ruangsilp
<b>10. J. den Oudsten (Jessica), Radboud University Nijmegen</b>	
Research:	Integration and social mobility: The descendants of early modern immigrants in Amsterdam, 1660-1811
Supervisor(s):	Prof. J. van Lottum
<b>11. M. Raat (Mark), Fryske Akademie</b>	
Research:	The historical development of the Frisian peatland area, 1600-1970
Supervisor(s):	Prof. A.M. Molema and prof. J.A. Mol
<b>12. K. Sevdalakis (Konstantinos), University of Groningen</b>	
Research:	Fertility and mortality transitions in sub-Saharan Africa, 1880-1980
Supervisor(s):	Prof. H. Bras and dr. A. Remund

13. B. Spliet (Bas), Antwerp University	
Research:	The embarrassment of riches? Inequality and the Dutch material culture. Amsterdam, 1581-1780
Supervisor(s):	Prof. B. Blondé and prof. W. Ryckbosch
14. V. Susanto (Vany), University of Amsterdam	
Research:	Colonial citizens? Popular politics and social identities in early modern Batavia
Supervisor(s):	Prof. R. Raben and dr. D.W.A.G. van den Heuvel
15. H. te Velden (Hanna), International Institute of Social History	
Research:	De sociaaleconomische positie van vrouwen in het vroegmoderne Nederlandse koloniale wereldrijk
Supervisor(s):	Prof. U. Bosma and dr. M. van Rossum
16. T. de Waal (Thalasse), University of Groningen	
Research:	The allocation of capital: do stock exchanges matter for economic growth?
Supervisor(s):	Prof. H. de Jong and prof. A. de Jong

## FELLOWS INVOLVED IN THE 2021 PROGRAMME

The N.W. Posthumus Institute relies on fellows from the participating institutions for the organisation of local seminars, for the invitation of guest speakers and for experts who comment on the PhD Candidates' papers. For the Research Design Course additional international experts are recruited for the duration of the RDC.

### Individual Assessments: January-February 2021, online

Cohort: 2019

Coordinator: Tim Riswick

Discussants:

- Corinne Boter
- Robrecht Declercq
- Tim De Doncker
- Jessica Dijkman
- Selin Dilli
- Torsten Feys
- Katharine Frederick
- Coen van Galen
- Hilde Greefs
- Marjolein 't Hart
- Elisabeth Heijmans
- Willem Jongman
- Jan Kok
- Bart Lambert
- Dries Lyna
- Rick Mourits
- Sanne Muurling
- Marion Pluskota
- Paul Puschmann
- Remco Raben
- Filipa Ribeiro da Silva
- Wouter Ryckbosch
- Evelien Walhout
- Justyna Wubs-Mrozewicz
- Richard Zijdemann

**Seminar II - Work in Progress:** 6-7 May 2021, online

*Cohort:* 2020  
*Coordinator:* Tim Riswick  
*Commentators:* Catia Antunes  
Bas van Bavel  
Ulbe Bosma  
Janna Cooman  
Daniel Curtis  
Maïka de Keyzer  
Margo de Koster  
Bert de Munck  
Jessica Dijkman  
Jan Dumolyn  
Marjolein 't Hart  
Els Jacobs  
Samuël Kruizinga  
Lionel Laborie  
Maarten Prak  
Johan Schot  
Alicia Schrikker  
Marlou Schrover  
Peter Stabel  
Arie van Steensel

**Research Design Course:** 18-20 October 2021, Lisbon

*Cohort:* 2020  
*Coordinators:* Rogier van Kooten  
*Experts:* Claude Chevaleyre  
Jessica Dijkman  
Christine Fertig  
Leonor Freire Costa  
Ben Gales  
Francesco Guidi-Bruscoli  
Sarah Hackett  
Angelique Janssens  
Rogier van Kooten  
Rita Martins de Sousa  
Susana Münch Miranda  
Alessandro Nuvolari  
Jorge Miguel Pedreira  
Amélia Polónia  
Eric Schneider  
Annemarie Steidl  
Nuno Valério  
Jaco Zijderduijn

**Seminar I - My project in a Nutshell:** 2-3 December 2021, online

*Cohort:* 2021  
*Coordinators:* Wouter Ryckbosch (also responsible for the methodological introduction on day 1)  
Heidi Deneweth  
Rogier van Kooten  
*Fellows:* Ellen Debackere  
Matthijs Degraeve

Heidi Deneweth  
Jessica Dijkman  
Bart Lambert  
Kristof Loockx  
Wouter Ryckbosch  
Wout Saelens

## APPENDIX 4: RESEARCH MASTER PROGRAMME 'GLOBAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL HISTORY'

As of the academic year 2011/2012 the N.W. Posthumus Institute organizes the Posthumus Research Master programme 'Global Economic and Social History'. This programme allows Research Master students to gain knowledge of the Posthumus specialisation and its specialists, by providing courses that they can follow as an elective within their home university programme. The programme aims to provide students with:

- A thorough knowledge of concepts, notions and perceptions of economic and social history
- Up-to-date knowledge of the state of the art in global economic and social history
- Insight in and ability to take part in the on-going historical debates
- Experience with several most commonly used research methods and skills to conduct research in the field of global economic and social history
- The ability to use varied primary sources to build historical case-studies and redefine theoretical approaches
- The ability to report on research results in written and oral form at an academic level
- The ability to formulate a research proposal for a PhD project.

The Research Master programme provides a combination of two courses that introduce students to important debates, methods and sources in the field of Economic and Social History (*Debates in Global Economic and Social History* and *Keys to the Treasure Trove*) and two courses that train them in specific skills used in the field: *Data Management for Historians* and *Quantitative Methods for Historians*. The course *Data Management for Historians* is a new addition: 2021 was the first year in which it was taught. The courses are complementary to each other, but it is also possible to follow them separately.

### **Debates in Global Economic and Social History (Semester 1, 10 EC)**

The course offers an introduction into debates concerning globalisation, the rise of the West and worldwide inequality, worldwide networks and global-local relations, and the consequences of globalisation for identity formation. The course also looks at a number of in-depth studies related to global history, such as migration, the environment, revolutions, economic growth and capitalism, and science and technology.

### **Keys to the treasure trove: Methods and sources in economic and social history (Semester 2, 5/10 EC)**

This methodological course familiarizes students with the tools for doing professional research in social and economic history. Invited methodological experts in economic and social history teach students the tricks of their trade. At the end of this course, the participants have a basic knowledge of these key methodological themes:

1. Quantitative sources on economic growth
2. Large databases containing demographic sources
3. Statistical methods and interpretation
4. Network analysis
5. Geographical Information Systems (GIS)
6. Analysis of literary sources
7. Municipal archives
8. Discourse analysis
9. Sources on migration, travel and shipping
10. Huygens ING Databases (including site visit)
11. Oral History



**Data management for historians (Semester 2, 5 EC)**

In order to allow master students within economic and social history to process their own rudimentary data and enable reuse according to the FAIR data principles, this course instructs them on the basics of quantitative data management. It introduces the quantitative research cycle, programming in R and SPARQL, and how to report on data questions. Combined, these skills allow participants to understand quantitative research better, make efficient and reproducible enquiries on the data, and clearly report on data questions. As such, the course prepares participants for quantitative research in general.

**Quantitative methods for historians (Semester 2, 5 EC)**

Economic history is a discipline that lies at the crossroads of social sciences and the humanities. It requires its practitioners to be familiar with the research methods of both history and economics. In countries such as the United States and England, most economic historians have a degree in economics but in the Low Countries the majority of students are trained historians. This course aims to familiarise the latter group with the methodological tool kit of the social sciences. Students are introduced to some of the most widely used quantitative methods in economic history research. The course takes a hands-on approach in which students will work on assignments that will familiarise them with the purpose, strengths and weaknesses of these methods.

## APPENDIX 5:

### ESTER NETWORK AND GENERAL BOARD

#### ESTER

The European Graduate School for Training in Economic and Social Historical Research (ESTER) is a European collaboration of prestigious universities and institutions. The ESTER-network aims at improving and internationalising the education and training of young scholars in the field of economic and social history. The current ESTER-network involves more than 60 universities throughout Europe, its organisation currently being led by Radboud University.

The ESTER-network offers high-level research training for PhD-candidates in an international context. This training consists of Advanced Seminars and Research Design Courses (RDC). Advanced Seminars focus on a specific topic within economic and social history, whereas the RDC focuses on the PhD-dissertations of the participants.

#### History of ESTER

In 1989 the N.W. Posthumus Institute took the initiative to establish a European graduate training programme for post-graduates, the European Graduate School for Training in Economic and Social Historical Research (ESTER). More than 60 European universities have become institutional members of ESTER. During the 1990s ESTER participants organised annually three so-called Advanced Seminars, which proved very valuable. From 1999 on these were supplemented by a Research Design Course. The Research Design Courses of ESTER are particularly successful. The number of participants is large and the reactions to the content offered are good. It was decided to give priority to the Research Design Course. Because more PhDs attend the regular conferences, the need for Advanced Seminars seems to decline somewhat. Nevertheless, there still is some demand for specialised meetings particularly conducive for PhDs and young academics. ESTER, therefore, will continue to organise such Advanced Seminars occasionally, such as the seminar together with “F. Datini” International Institute of Economic History.

#### The general board of ESTER

Professor Maria Ågren, Uppsala University  
Professor Guido Alfani, Bocconi University  
Professor Lena Andersson-Skog, Umeå University  
Professor Gareth Austin, University of Cambridge  
Professor Andrés Barrera González, Madrid Universidad Complutense  
em. Professor Huw Bowen, Swansea University  
em. Professor Kristine Bruland, University of Oslo  
Professor Erik Buyst, KU Leuven (Faculty of Economics)  
Professor Claude Chevalere, CNRS, Lyons Institute of East Asian Studies  
Professor Joaquim da Costa Leite, University of Aveiro  
Dr. Maïka De Keyser, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven  
Dr Jessica Dijkman, Utrecht University  
Professor Giovanni Federico, New York University Abu Dhabi  
Professor Lourenzo Fernández Prieto, University of Santiago de Compostela  
Jun.-Prof. Dr. Christine Fertig, University of Münster  
Professor Helder Fonseca, University of Évora  
Professor José Ignacio Fortea Pérez, University of Cantabria  
Professor Leonor Freire Costa, Universidade de Lisboa  
Dr Ben Gales, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen  
Professor Regina Grafe, European University Institute, Florence  
Professor Francesco Guido Bruscoli, Università degli Studi Firenze  
Professor Peter Hertner, Martin-Luther-University Halle-Wittenberg  
Professor Milan Hlavačka, Czech Academy of Sciences

Professor Angelique Janssens, Radboud University  
Dr Rogier van Kooten, Utrecht University  
Professor Michael Kopczynski, University of Warsaw  
Professor Paolo Malanima, Magna Graecia University of Catanzaro  
Professor Tomas Mantecon Movellan, University of Cantabria  
Professor Rita Martins de Sousa, Universidade de Lisboa  
Dr Susana Münch Miranda, Universidade de Lisboa  
Professor Marjaani Niemi, University of Tampere  
Professor Alessandro Nuvolari, Sant' Anna School of Advanced Studies  
Dr Bartosz Ogórek, Pedagogical University of Cracow  
Professor Deborah Oxley, University of Oxford  
Professor Jorge Miguel Pedreira, Universidade Nova de Lisboa  
Dr Sandra de Pleijt, Wageningen University and Research  
Professor Socrates D. Petmezas, University of Crete, Athens  
Professor Amélia Polónia, Universidade do Porto  
Professor Paulina de los Reyes, University of Stockholm  
Professor Biagio Salvemini, University of Bari  
Professor José Manuel Santos Pérez, University of Salamanca  
Professor Phillip Sarasin, University of Zurich  
Professor Carmen Sarasúa, Autonomus University of Barcelona  
Dr Eric Schneider, London School of Economics  
Professor José Vicente Serrão, ISCTE – University Institute of Lisbon  
Professor Annemarie Steidl, University of Vienna  
Dr Deborah Toner, University of Leicester  
Professor Nuno Valério, Lisbon School of Economics & Management, Universidade de Lisboa  
Dr Jaco Zijderduijn, Lund University

## APPENDIX 6: PROGRAMME OF THE 2021 POSTHUMUS CONFERENCE (20-21 May, online)

**Theme:** Epidemics and Social Inequality

**Key note Lecture:** Svenn-Erik Mamelund (Oslo Metropolitan University), 'Social Disparities & Pandemics'.

### PhD sessions

	PhD Presenter	Title	NWP Fellow	Peer-commentator
A.1	Alessandra De Mulder (UA)	<i>Looking for a place at the table. Selling tables in London in eighteenth-century auction advertisements</i>	Jeroen Deploige (UGent)	Maïté Van Vyve (UGent)
	Faheem Rokadiya (UU)	<i>The Gloucestershire Handloom Weavers: family division of labour, gender, and wages (1838-40)</i>	Peer Vries (IISH)	Rosa Kösters (IISH)
B.1	Ewout Hasken (UU)	<i>The evolving political narrative on family firms in the Netherlands since 1945</i>	Mila Davids (TU/e)	Jeroen van Veldhoven (UU/Huygens-ING)
	Mayra Murkens (UM)	<i>Changing diseases, changing mortality? Transitioning early childhood mortality and (in)equalities in Maastricht, 1864-1955</i>	Isabelle Devos (UGent)	Bram Hilkens (EUR)
C.1	Philip Post (UL)	<i>Land, labour and imperial competition in the Moluccas, 1840-1870</i>	Pepijn Brandon (IISH)	Richard Velthuisen (EUR)
	Alexander Geelen (IISH)	<i>Regulating Mobility on the Eighteenth Century Gold Coast</i>	Filipa Ribeiro da Silva (IISH)	Robert Keenan (WUR)
A.2	Arlinde Vrooman (RUG)	<i>The Introduction of Colonial Health Care Provision in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire: ca. 1900-1955</i>	Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk (UU)	Tanik Joshipura (WUR)
	Lore Helsen (UGent)	<i>Female agricultural day labourers in eighteenth-century Flanders</i>	Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk (UU)	Eline Rademakers (UL)
B.2	Dennis De Vriese (VUB)	<i>"A butcher at everyone's fingertips". Urban regulation and meat sector settlement patterns in Brussels, 1816-1866</i>	Yves Segers (KU Leuven)	Jeroen Oosterbaan (UL)
	Rogier van Kooten (UA)	<i>Leveling Through Space?</i>	Wouter Ryckbosch (VUB)	Elisa Bonduel (UGent)
C.2	Liesbeth Langouche (UA)	<i>On the comfort of window glass: each activity its light?</i>	Krista De Jonge (KU Leuven)	Weixuan Li (UvA)
	Alexander van der Meer (UL)	<i>Wars &amp; whispers of ecclesial independence: the fourth Anglo-Dutch war (1780-1784) and the Batavian consistory</i>	Ulbe Bosma (IISH)	Charris De Smet (UA)

A.3	Ingrid Schepers (UA)	<i>Making the working class mobile: the impact of transport infrastructure and railway commute on the spatial organization of Belgium with 1870-1910 as watershed period</i>	Erik van der Vleuten (TU/e)	Joris Kok (IISH)
	Aditi Dixit (UU)	<i>Supply of labour during early industrialization. Agricultural systems, textile factory work and gender in Japan and India, ca. 1880-1940 (Co-authored with Elise van Nederveen Meerkerk)</i>	Jan Lucassen (IISH)	Heleen Blommers (VU)
B.3	Neilabh Sinha (UL)	<i>Persuasive Images: Rhetoric in Mughal and Habsburg Visual Culture</i>	Caroline van Eck (CU)	Sietske van der Veen (UU / Huygens Institute)
	Alexander Collin (UvA)	<i>In Search of Knowledge: How Early Modern Magistrates Pursued Information, Education, and the Limits of Knowledge</i>	Maarten Prak (UU)	Amza Adam (UL)

## Research sessions

Session I: Life courses, Family and Labour <i>Women, households, and labour markets. The effects of women’s work on fertility, behavior and living standards</i>		
Presenters	Paper title	Chair
Corinne Boter (UU)	<i>Sub-regional specialization and the gender wage gap in the Lancashire textile industry, 1886-1906.</i>	Paul Puschmann (RU)
Hilde Greefs (UA), Anne Winter (VUB)	<i>Migration, settlement and working conditions of foreign female sex workers in late nineteenth-century Antwerp</i>	
Graziela Dekeyser (KU Leuven), Paul Puschmann (RU)	<i>Women and men in a changing world. Tracing and eliminating the roots of gender disadvantages.</i>	
Session II: Life courses, Family and Labour & Societies in Context <i>Epidemics and inequality in the Low Countries</i>		
Presenters	Paper title	Chair
Tim Soens (UA)	<i>EPIBEL: Epidemics and Inequality in the history of Belgium/the Southern Low Countries: an introduction</i>	Angélique Janssens (RU/UM)
Tim Riswick (RU), Sanne Muurling (RU), Katalin Buzasi (LUMC)	<i>The last Dutch smallpox epidemic: Infectious disease, public health and social inequalities in Amsterdam, 1870-1872</i>	
Bram van Besouw (UU), Daniel R. Curtis (EUR), Roos van Oosten (UL)  Isabelle Devos (UGent), Sven Vrielinck (UGent), Torsten Wiedemann (UGent)	<i>Stinking Rich? Epidemics and Housing Wealth Redistribution in 17th-Century Leiden</i>  <i>The 1866 cholera epidemic in Brussel: a reconstruction</i>	

Session III: Inclusion, Exclusion and Mobility Making and Using the City in the Low Countries		
Presenters	Paper Title	Chair
Bart Lambert (VUB)	<i>The Make-Up of the City: A Transdisciplinary Study of Urban Society in the Late Medieval Low Countries</i>	Manon van der Heijden (UL)
Marjolein Schepers (UGent)	<i>Of back alleys and dark streets: a spatial history of inns and lodging houses in Leiden around 1800</i>	
Marion Pluskota (UL)	<i>ProSpect – The Spectacle of Prostitution: the impact of prostitution on Amsterdam urban landscape around 1900</i>	
Session IV: Globalisation, inequality and sustainable development in long-term perspective Running global empires		
Presenter(s)	Paper title	Chair
Michiel de Haas (WUR)	<i>Africa and the ‘new history of capitalism’ debate: the case of colonial cotton production, 1820-1960</i>	Pim Zwart (WUR)
Willem Jongman (RUG)	<i>A fresh look at the Roman economy</i>	
Felicitas Becker (UGent)	<i>The dynamics of victim-blaming in rural development, the case of Tanzania</i>	
Ben Wubs (EUR) & Marten Boon (UO)	<i>Tax havens and connected histories: The Kingdom of the Netherlands as an OFC complex, 1915-1960</i>	
Session V: Routes and Roots in Colonial and Global History Global trade in the eighteenth century		
Presenter(s)	Paper title	Chair
Chris Nierstraz (EUR)	<i>Rivalry for trade in tea and textiles. A Global History of East India companies (1700-1800)</i>	Ulbe Bosma (IISH/VU)
Rafael Thiebault (IISH)	<i>Dynamism of the slave status: the case of the Southwest Indian Ocean compared</i>	
Elisabeth Heijmans (UA)	<i>The Future in the eyes of early modern French merchants active in the Mediterranean and the Atlantic trade during the 18th century</i>	

Session VI: <i>Societies in Context: Interactions between humans and rural-urban environments Dealing with nature: drought control, pest management and food storage in the pre-industrial Low Countries</i>		
Presenter(s)	Paper Title	Chair
Thijs Lambrecht (UGent)	<i>The Crow and the Sparrow: Rural Economic Structures and Wildlife Persecution in the Low Countries, c. 1400 - c. 1850</i>	Kate Frederick (UU)
Petra van Dam (VU)	<i>Coping with drought - An environmental history of drinking water: Project presentation</i>	
Wouter Ronsijn (UGent)	<i>Quality, not interest: Explaining seasonal patterns in grain prices in eighteenth-century Flanders</i>	
Session VII: <i>Economy and Society of the Pre-industrial Low Countries in Comparative Perspective Panel discussion: How has comparative research shaped the social and economic history of the Netherlands?</i>		
Presenter(s)		Chair
Maïka De Keyzer (KULeuven), Marjolein 't Hart (Huygens, VU), Maarten Prak (UU) & Wouter Ryckbosch (VUB).		Pepijn Brandon (IISH)



## APPENDIX 7: FELLOWS 2021

*A research fellow is an academic research/teaching position at a university or research institution. This includes (full, associate, assistant) professors, post docs, and senior researchers. Key date: December 2021.*

### *University of Groningen*

#### *Faculty of Arts*

Prof. H.A.J. Bras  
Prof. M.G.J. Duijvendak  
Dr. D. Franken  
Dr. Y. Hilevych  
Dr. W.M. Jongman  
Prof. A.M. Molema  
Dr. R.F.J. Paping  
Dr. A. Singh  
Dr. P.G. Tassenaar  
Dr. H. Zwarts

### *University of Groningen*

#### *Faculty of Economics*

Prof. J. Bolt  
Dr. B. Gales  
Prof. A. de Jong  
Prof. H.J. de Jong  
Dr. G. Lecce  
Dr. M. Malinowski  
Dr. A. de Vicq  
Dr. H. Wagenaar

### *Erasmus University Rotterdam*

Dr. B. van Besouw  
Dr. D.R. Curtis  
Prof. T. De Moor  
Prof. R. Futselaar  
Prof. H.A.M. Klemann  
Prof. C.A. Mandemakers  
Dr. C. Nierstrasz  
Dr. G. Oonk  
Dr. M. Van Dijck  
Prof. B. Wubs

### *International Institute of Social History*

Prof. U. Bosma  
Prof. K. Hofmeester  
Dr. B. van den Hout  
Prof. J. Jonker  
Dr. G. Kessler  
Prof. A. Knotter  
Dr. H. Looijesteijn  
Dr. B. van Leeuwen  
Prof. L.A.C.L. Lucassen  
Prof. C.A. Mandemakers

Dr. R. Mourits  
Dr. E. Odegard  
Dr. F. Ribeiro da Silva  
Dr. M. van Rossum  
Dr. H. Sanders  
Dr. R. Stapel  
Dr. R. Thiebault  
Dr. R. Zijdeman

### *Radboud University Nijmegen*

Dr. C. van Galen  
Prof. A.A.P.O. Janssens  
Prof. J. Kok  
Prof. J. van Lottum  
Dr. D. Lyna  
Dr. R. Mourits  
Dr. S.R.D. Muurling  
Dr. T. van Oort  
Dr. P. Puschmann  
Dr. T. Riswick  
Dr. M. Rosenbaum-Feldbrügge  
Dr. J. van den Tol

### *Technische Universiteit Eindhoven*

Dr. M. Davids  
Prof. R. Oldenziel  
Dr. J. van der Straeten  
Prof. J.P.H. Smits  
Dr.ir. F.C.A. Veraart  
Prof. E. van der Vleuten

### *University of Antwerp*

Prof. B. Blondé  
Prof. G. De Block  
Prof. B. De Munck  
Dr. S. Espeel  
Prof. O. Gelderblom  
Dr. J. Hanus  
Prof. H. Greefs  
Dr. E. Heijmans  
Dr. I. Jongepier  
Dr. R. van Kooten  
Dr. K. Loockx  
Prof. G. Marnef  
Dr. R. Peeters  
Dr. J. Poukens  
Prof. J. Puttevils  
Dr. W. Saelens

Prof. P. Stabel  
Prof. T. Soens  
Prof. I. Van Damme  
Dr. R. Vermoesen

#### *Ghent University*

Dr. F. Becker  
Prof. M. Boone  
Prof. F. Buylaert  
Dr. C. Cristoferi  
Dr. T. De Doncker  
Dr. R. Declercq  
Prof. I. Devos  
Dr. J. Everaert  
Dr. T. Feijs  
Prof. T. Lambrecht  
Prof. M. Limberger  
Prof. G. Mathys  
Dr. W. Ronsijn  
Prof. E. Thoen  
Prof. A. Van Bruaene  
Prof. E. Vanhaute  
Prof. K. Verboven  
Prof. C. Verbruggen  
Prof. A. Vrints

#### *University of Amsterdam*

Dr. M. van Gelder  
Dr. D.W.A.G. van den Heuvel  
Dr. S.F. Kruizinga  
Dr. C.M. Lesger  
Dr. J. Wubs-Mrozewicz

#### *Leiden University*

Prof. C.A.P. Antunes  
Dr. N. Bouras  
Dr. G. Dreijer  
Dr. K.J. Fatah-Black  
Dr. A. Feenstra  
Dr. J. Fynn-Paul  
Prof. J. Gommans  
Prof. M.P.H. van der Heijden  
Dr. B.M. Hoonhout  
Dr. J. Kamp  
Dr. A. Kefford  
Dr. O. Kennedy  
Dr. G. de Kok  
Prof. L.A.C.L. Lucassen  
Dr. R. van Oosten  
Dr. D. Oude Nijhuis  
Dr. D. Pargas  
Dr. M. Pluskota  
Dr. N. Richardson  
Prof. A. Schmidt  
Dr. A. Schrikker

Prof. M.L.J.C. Schrover  
Dr. A. Shield  
Dr. F. Sijssling  
Dr. L.J. Touwen  
Dr. E. Walhout

#### *Utrecht University*

Prof. B. van Bavel  
Dr. C. van Bochove  
Dr. C. Boter  
Dr. B. Bouwens  
Dr. P. Brusse  
Dr. S.G. Carmichael  
Dr. J. Dankers  
Dr. S. Dilli  
Dr. J. Dijkman  
Dr. K. Frederick  
Prof. L. Heerma van Voss  
Dr. R. van Kooten  
Prof. M.H.D. van Leeuwen  
Dr. M. Nath  
Prof. E.J.V. van Nederveen Meerkerk  
Dr. R. Philips  
Prof. M. Prak  
Prof. R. Raben  
Dr. A. Rijpma  
Dr. L. Rosen Jacobson  
Dr. C. Schellekens  
Dr. J. Schenk  
Prof. J. Schot  
Prof. J.L. van Zanden

#### *VU University Amsterdam*

Prof. U. Bosma  
Prof. P. Brandon  
Prof. P.J.E.M. van Dam  
Prof. M.C. 't Hart  
Dr. M. Manse  
Dr. L. Poy  
Dr. W. Verstegen

#### *Vrije Universiteit Brussel*

Dr. E. Debackere  
Dr. M. Degraeve  
Dr. H. Deneweth  
Dr. B. Lambert  
Prof. N. De Mûelenare  
Prof. W. Ryckbosch  
Dr. W. Saelens  
Dr. M. Schepers  
Dr. K. van Gelder  
Prof. A. Winter

#### *Wageningen University*

Dr. P. van Cruyningen

Prof. E. Frankema  
Dr. D. Gallardo Albarrán  
Dr. M. de Haas  
Dr. F. Meier zu Selhausen  
Dr. A. Schuurman  
Dr. D. Teeuwen  
Dr. P. de Zwart  
Dr. I.I.J. de Zwarte

*Fryske Academy*

Prof. A.J. Brand  
Prof. J.A. Mol

*Maastricht University*

Dr. J. Roosen  
Dr. V.C. Lagendijk  
Dr. C. Rasterhoff

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