

**Workshop on the Study of Modern Greek Jewry
Netherlands Institute at Athens**

**Series of lectures on
*Jews in Greece and the Netherlands:
The Shoah, restoration and rehabilitation***

**Thursday, 4 October 2018
11 Makri Street, 117 42 Athens, 7 p.m.**



Geraldien von Frijtag Drabbe Künzel

*Being and belonging:
Jewish-Gentile relations in the occupied Netherlands through the lens of a microscope*

The lecture looks into Jewish-gentile relations in the Netherlands in the years just before, during and just after the Holocaust. It is a commonly held view among both Dutch scholars, and the general Dutch public at large, that these relations had been good in their country, a believed epitome of tolerance and a safe haven for Jews for centuries. Yet during the five years of Nazi-occupation, an estimated 101,800 Jews were murdered in the Netherlands, i.e. 73% of the pre-war Jewish community. Compared to the victim-percentages in surrounding Western European countries, like Belgium (40%), France (25%) and Luxemburg (20%), this percentage is extraordinarily high. How do we match these two apparently incompatible findings? I argue for a re-examination of the so-called myth of Dutch tolerance and for in-depth and small-scale research into individual trajectories of Jews and their “emotional communities”. Who did they consider to be their peers and friends and how were these feelings of individual and group identity affected by the rise of Nazism, first abroad and then in their home country? Did friendships between Jews and gentiles cool down once the external pressure increased, or, on the contrary, did they become stronger and even grew into bonds of assistance and resistance? How were emotional ties translated in actual help? Did emotional communities revive after the killings and if so, how?

Discussant: **Efi Gazi** (University of the Peloponnese)

Geraldien von Frijtag Drabbe Künzel (G.G.vonFrijtagDrabbeKunzel@uu.nl) is Associate Professor at the Department of Political History, Utrecht University. She has published widely on WWII, the Holocaust and Dutch reactions to Nazi occupation policy. Her latest book, *Hitler's Brudervolk* (Routledge, 2015), examines the Dutch participation in the Germanisation project of the occupied East and the engagement of Dutch “pioneers” in the Holocaust by bullets. Her current research concerns the social fabric of Jews in urban regions of Europe under Nazi-rule. To this end, she coordinates the research team “Microcosms of the Holocaust” and is preparing a new European research project entitled “Negotiation spaces: Jewish-Gentile relations in and around the modern metropolises of Europe”. She was last year’s senior fellow in residence of the USC Shoah Foundation Centre for Advanced Genocide Research (Los Angeles).

The lecture is open to the public. Please register in advance with the Institute’s secretariat; nia@nia.gr, tel. 210-9210760

Η διάλεξη είναι ανοικτή στο κοινό με απαραίτητη την προεγγραφή στη γραμματεία του Ινστιτούτου· nia@nia.gr, τηλ. 210-9210760