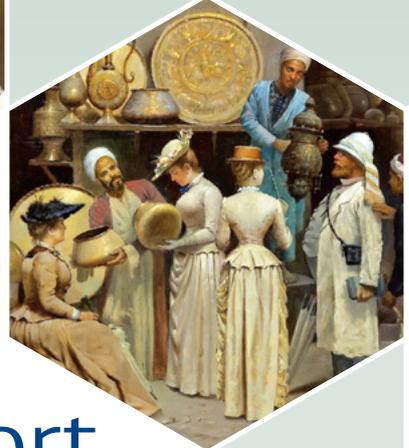


# LUCIS Annual Report 2017



LUCIS | Leiden University Centre  
for the Study of Islam & Society



Universiteit  
Leiden

# LUCIS Annual Report 2017

## Text

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## Leiden Islam Blog

[www.leiden-islamblog.nl](http://www.leiden-islamblog.nl)



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LUCIS | Leiden University Centre  
for the Study of Islam & Society

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## List of abbreviations

<b>AMT</b>	Asian Modernities and Traditions (research profile Leiden University)
<b>ASCL</b>	African Studies Centre Leiden
<b>CA-DS</b>	Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology
<b>FSBS</b>	Faculty of Social and Behaviourial Sciences
<b>GLASS</b>	Global Asia Scholar Series
<b>GI</b>	Global Interactions (research profile Leiden University)
<b>IIAS</b>	International Institute of Asian Studies
<b>KNAW</b>	Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences
<b>KITLV</b>	Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies
<b>LIAS</b>	Leiden University Institute for Area Studies
<b>LUCIS</b>	Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam and Society
<b>LUF</b>	Leiden University Fund
<b>LUP</b>	Leiden University Press
<b>LURIS</b>	Leiden University Research and Innovation Services
<b>LUCSoR</b>	Leiden University Centre for the Study of Religion
<b>LUCL</b>	Leiden University Centre for Linguistics
<b>MES/MOS</b>	Middle Eastern Studies (MA) and Midden-Oostenstudies (BA)
<b>NIMAR</b>	Netherlands Institute in Morocco
<b>NISIS</b>	Netherlands Interuniversity School for Islamic Studies
<b>NWO</b>	Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research
<b>SMES</b>	School of Middle Eastern Studies
<b>VVI</b>	Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law, Governance and Society (Faculty of Law)

## About the Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam and Society (LUCIS)

LUCIS was established by the Executive Board of Leiden University in 2009 as an interfaculty knowledge and networking centre that brings together academics from various faculties of Leiden University, offering a multidisciplinary and comparative view on Islam and Muslim societies.

### Mission statement

LUCIS promotes high-quality research on Islam and Muslim societies and communicates the insights and findings of that research to the larger public. By bringing together scholars from a range of disciplines, LUCIS stimulates new perspectives on the vibrant field of Islamic studies at Leiden University.

### Tradition

Leiden University has a long tradition in the study of Islam as a religion and a cultural practice in its many historical manifestations across the world. Our expertise in the languages, cultures, religions, legal systems and histories of Muslim societies provides a uniquely fruitful platform from which to understand Islam as a dynamic, global phenomenon and as reflective of its local context.

### Infrastructure

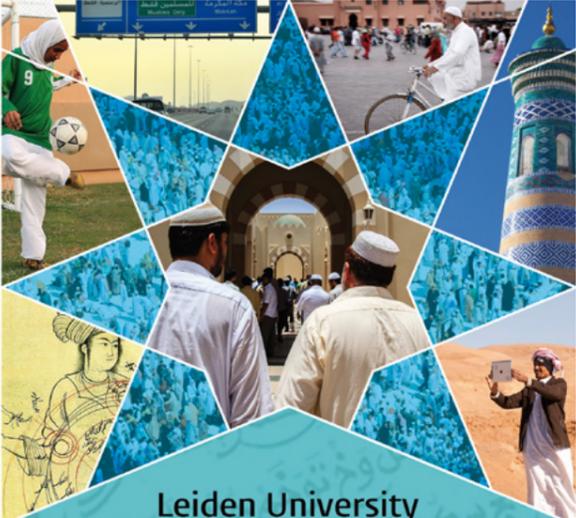
The university's historical leadership in the field of Islamic studies has resulted in exceptional scholarly resources, including extensive and very important library holdings, as well as specialty expertise in each of the regions in which Islam plays a pivotal role, from the Arabian Peninsula and the Maghrib, to Europe and Southeast Asia. Distinguishing features of Leiden's broad expertise and rich resources are:

- global and comparative perspectives
- deep knowledge of regional and local diversity
- a thorough knowledge of relevant languages
- a deep understanding of Islamic theology
- a keen eye for historical depth
- a multidisciplinary approach.

The aims of LUCIS are:

- to strengthen research on Islam and Muslim societies, in the broadest sense, at Leiden University;
- to enhance cooperation between Leiden scholars working on Islam and Muslim societies;
- to increase national and international visibility of Leiden University's expertise in the field of the study of Islam and Muslim societies.

### A multidisciplinary and comparative view on the Muslim world



Understanding Muslim societies is essential in a globalised world. Drawing upon its tradition and unparalleled resources, LUCIS is the Netherlands' premier knowledge centre for that understanding.

As one of the largest teaching centres in the Middle Eastern and Islamic studies, LUCIS has a leadership in the field that has resulted in extensive library holdings, including extensive library holdings of renowned Oriental manuscripts and specialty expertise in the regions in which Islam plays a pivotal role, from the Arabian Peninsula and Southeast Asia.

The diversity of Muslim societies is the focus of our research. By bringing together scholars from diverse backgrounds – including linguists, historians, and opinion leaders – we aim to increase knowledge and understanding of Islam as a religion, a political force, and a cultural phenomenon. By actively communicating our research to a wider audience, LUCIS aims to enhance the public debate throughout the public arena.

Engage and challenge you in our varied lectures, conferences, and expert public events. On our Leiden Islam blog and others respond to current affairs in Muslim societies while also sharing our research.

**STAY INFORMED**

- > Visit our website: [lucis.leidenuniv.nl](http://lucis.leidenuniv.nl)
- > Read our Leiden Islam Blog: [leiden-islamblog.nl](http://leiden-islamblog.nl)
- > Check out our research dossier: [www.onderzoekgebieden.leidenuniv.nl/islam-and-society](http://www.onderzoekgebieden.leidenuniv.nl/islam-and-society)
- > Register for our newsletter by sending an email to: [lucis@hum.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:lucis@hum.leidenuniv.nl)
- > Follow us on Facebook or twitter  

**Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam and Society**

Understanding Muslim societies

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These aims are made explicit in the following performance indicators (2015-2017):

- strengthening of interfaculty cooperation through research activities and expert meetings in the field of Islamic studies, defined broadly;
- support of individual and collaborative research applications at national and international grant bodies;
- the creation of a research environment that attracts and supports international scholarship in the form of PhD positions, scholarly exchange, etc., in the field of Islamic studies;
- dissemination of Leiden expertise in the field via public debates, media and the like.

## Introduction by the director



I am pleased to be able to present you the eighth annual report of the Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam and Society (LUCIS), which records the diverse range of our activities in 2017.

As an interfaculty centre, LUCIS's aims are twofold. On the one hand, LUCIS stimulates interdisciplinary research on Islam and Muslim societies by establishing university-wide co-operation. On the other hand, we are committed to sharing and translating our academic results for the benefit of society as a whole. As you will see in this report, the variety of our initiatives in the past year – in terms of topics, formats and audiences – clearly reflects these objectives.

This year has been marked by a continuation of our successful programme, and by our efforts to secure funding after 2017. These have resulted in the creation of a new co-operative infrastructure from 2018 onwards, with substantive funds coming from Leiden University's Executive Board and the Board of the Faculty of Humanities, and additional contributions to the programme from the Van Vollenhoven Institute (VVI) and the African Studies Centre Leiden (ASCL). Important additional funding from external sponsors further strengthens the impact and scope of our programme, especially concerning public outreach activities.

The support of these partners enables LUCIS to continue to strengthen and extend Leiden's historical commitment to research on Islam and Muslim societies in the years ahead. And their willingness to invest in the future of LUCIS is a strong affirmation of the high academic and wider national and international reputation of the centre.

We have also been very fortunate in the quality and ongoing engagement of the LUCIS network. LUCIS now has 104 members from five faculties, the African Studies Centre Leiden and Leiden University Libraries. Through them we are able to deliver programmes – including scholarly meetings, networking events, press briefings, cultural activities, and a range of publications – that strengthen the Leiden academic community and reinforce Leiden's standing in the Netherlands and round the world as a source of outstanding expertise on Islam and Muslim societies.

In order to maximise the programme's focus and impact, and to be as relevant as possible to our stakeholder community, the LUCIS steering committee has identified three major research themes for the coming three years:

- [Unity and Diversity: Negotiating Islam](#)
- [Interpreting Islam from Inside and Outside](#)
- Norms, Institutions and Practices in State and Society

Photo © Marcus Reichmann.

The aim of identifying these themes is to channel LUCIS activities and programmes to advance our understanding in three major scientific and societal areas, while showcasing Leiden's special expertise and resources.

Our regular and competitive funding scheme strengthens the engagement of our members in the LUCIS programme through collaborative and interdisciplinary activities. It also successfully supports grant applications of LUCIS members. In the past year three LUCIS members affiliated to different faculties have benefited from our Seed and Breed funding scheme ([see 3.2](#)).

We organised several activities in cooperation with outside partners, such as the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs ([see pp. 85-88](#)), the National Museum of Antiquities (RMO) ([see 1.3.4](#)), and the Leiden International Film Festival ([see 1.3.3](#)), which allowed us to connect to a variety of audiences and themes.

Active cooperation with representatives of the media, as well as our publications and online activities – including our regular Islam blog – continue to bridge the gap between academic expertise and societal concerns. LUCIS intends to continue such collaborations with external partners to engage new audiences, explore innovative formats and connect to public interests ([see 1.3](#)).

In the years ahead, we will continue to develop new opportunities for academic co-operation across the university and reach out to wider audiences beyond the academy. In doing so, we are actively deepening the involvement of LUCIS members, to explore new research approaches and develop targeted programmes that involve increasing numbers of Leiden scholars.

For 2018, we have designed [eight research programmes](#) – both thematic and regional – to boost interfaculty and interdisciplinary co-operation, which intersect with the three identified research themes. The programmes address topics identified as particularly relevant for LUCIS, as they build on Leiden expertise and reach out to a large constituency inside and outside the academy. As from 2018, an annual call for proposals for the development of various specific research programmes that appeal to a larger group of LUCIS members will be opened.

As a robust platform for interfaculty co-operation and outreach with a professional infrastructure, it is time to further embed LUCIS across the university in the coming years. I am very pleased that so many LUCIS members have already committed themselves to this and look forward to the wide array of exciting activities to come.

Petra Sijpesteijn  
Academic director LUCIS

## 1. Sharing Leiden's knowledge: visibility and outreach

### 1.1 Visibility

The centre takes full part in worldwide academia by organising international academic conferences and by publishing two international book series at Brill and Leiden University Press (LUP). Our series at LUP is entirely available in open access, and from 2018 onwards we have made available funds to publish books that are a direct result of LUCIS activities in our series at Brill in open access too.

[LUCIS members](#) fully participate in the international academic field through advisory positions in institute boards, editorial boards, and research grant bodies, by being involved in academic evaluations of institutions, publications and research proposals – both in the Netherlands and abroad. They lecture and write about their research, and regularly speak at international conferences and other venues. Expert meetings organised in Leiden and sponsored by the [LUCIS funding scheme](#) in preparation for grant applications by LUCIS members are another important way to disseminate Leiden's expertise in the field.

#### 1.1.1 Public outreach

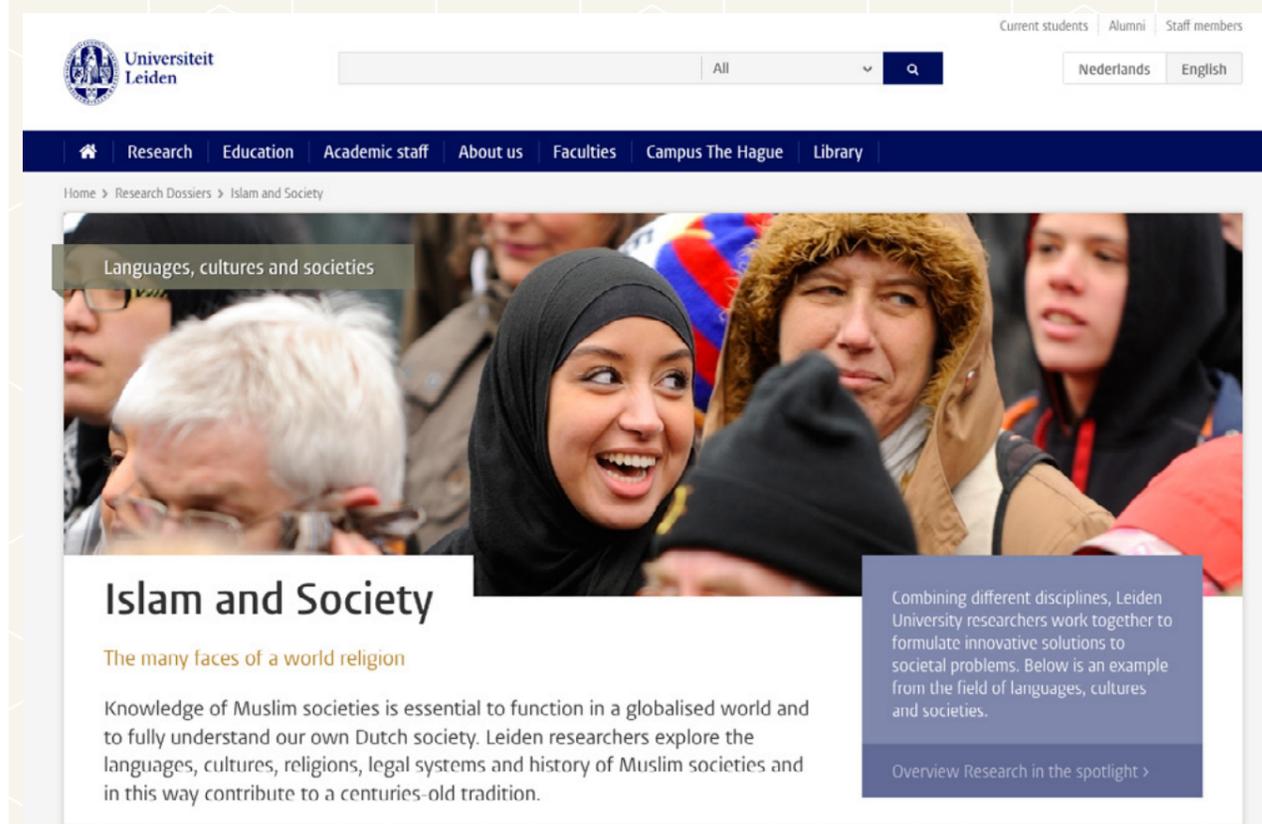
By involving external speakers – journalists, representatives of NGO's and industry, politicians, and policymakers – LUCIS offers a platform where its audience can engage with experts from different professional backgrounds, a format that appeals to new and different audiences. LUCIS has built solid ties with Dutch government officials, the corps diplomatique, strategic advisory bodies, and think tanks in order to contribute to policy debates. This has resulted in LUCIS members participating in expert meetings at the ministry of Foreign Affairs, offering advice to policymakers and cooperating in research projects, lectures and public outreach events with Dutch embassies abroad. Researchers affiliated to LUCIS are consulted on a regular basis by ministries, municipality councils, the judicial power, police and security forces.

Furthermore, LUCIS engages with the public debate about Islam and society through its Leiden Islam Blog and by organising public activities about current topics, which meet the growing demand for valorisation of knowledge. LUCIS members also take part in the public debate through various media outlets, including podcasts, digital media platforms, national newspapers, radio and television programmes. Through participating in informative videos, online interviews and online teaching, LUCIS members make full use of the opportunities that social and online media offer. LUCIS maintains a Twitter, Facebook and Instagram account to broadcast achievements and events relevant to the field, not limited to, but nevertheless mainly focused on Leiden University, while individual LUCIS members engage in public debate on social media.

LUCIS activities are open to the public and regularly attract a varied audience of Leiden students and faculty, students and colleagues from other Dutch universities and academic institutions abroad, journalists, policymakers, and other interested parties. They are announced via different channels, including the LUCIS website, posters, the bi-weekly newsletter which reaches approximately 1100 subscribers, and social media channels ([Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#)). In addition, LUCIS activities are promoted through various faculty and university-wide channels, such as their websites, newsletters, and the university's weekly magazine *Mare*, and through external channels, such as local media.



Since 2015, the research dossier "[Islam and Society](#)" has been online as a result of continual cooperation with the central Strategic Communication and Marketing department. This dossier is one out of twenty-six multidisciplinary research areas that Leiden University's central department has chosen to put in the public spotlight.





### 1.1.2 Science ON AIR

Since 2015 LUCIS has been working with [Science ON AIR](#) to connect its members to Dutch media. For that purpose, a number of LUCIS members received a media training. In addition, several [video profiles](#) were produced for journalists to access. In the past year, LUCIS and Science ON AIR have been successful in quickly responding to various media opportunities, linking an increasing demand for substantiated information about Islam and society to an established platform of experts.

When former president of Iran Rafsanjani died in January 2017, Maaïke Warnaar published an insightful obituary in several regional and local newspapers of the *Holland Media Combinatie* (HMC) ("[Iran verliest Rafsanjani](#)" 9 January 2017). In April she wrote an analysis of the upcoming presidential elections in Iran which was published in national newspaper *Trouw* ("[Ahmadinejad wil weer president worden, maar de ayatollah ziet het niet zitten](#)", 13 April 2017). News website NU.nl interviewed her in July about the humanitarian crisis in Yemen ("[Cholera in Jemen: hoe een geopolitiek conflict uitmond in een ramp](#)", 28 July 2017). Maaïke appeared in the VPRO radio programme "Bureau Buitenland" on 20 September 2017, to [comment](#) on the status of the 2015 Iran nuclear deal between Iran, US, UK, France, Germany, China and Russia. In October she was interviewed by Dutch weekly magazine *Vrij Nederland* to share her thoughts on the central question of the article: [what will the next war in Europe be about?](#) (26 October 2017).



Turkey expert Petra de Bruijn regularly commented in several HMC newspapers on what came to be known as the 'Rotterdam riot', which started when a Turkish minister was expelled from the Netherlands and escorted back to Germany by Dutch police after being prevented from addressing a Rotterdam rally ("[Rotterdam-rel komt Erdogan uiterst gelegen](#)", 13 March 2017; "[Heilig geloof in allerlei complotten](#)", 14 March 2017; "[Altijd een complot](#)", 14 March 2017). News website NU.nl [interviewed](#) her in April about the upcoming Turkish referendum to vote on constitutional amendments. On *wetenschap.nu* Petra wrote an [article](#) about the play "Akşam Yemeği", based on Herman Koch's international bestseller *The Dinner*. A few days later, the article was picked up by national newspaper *NRC Handelsblad* ("[Het Diner' in Turks theater is groot succes](#)", 5 December 2017).



In March and April 2017, LUCIS and Science ON AIR co-organised a series of four interview and debate evenings ("*Het zijn net mensen revisited: reporting about Islam and the Middle East in 2017*") in which Dutch journalists reflected on their ways of reporting about Islam and the Middle East, ten years after Joris Luyendijk's bestseller *Het zijn net mensen: beelden uit het Midden-Oosten* was published in the Netherlands. In this book, Luyendijk wrote about the yawning gap between what he saw on the ground as a reporter in the Middle East – a multitude of narratives with conflicting implications – and what is reported on in the media, where a filtered or oversimplified version of realities in the Middle East prevails. During the "Het zijn net mensen revisited" sessions, we looked at the situation anno 2017. The participating journalists – Marije van Beek (*Trouw*), Sinan Can (BNN-VARA) (pictured above), Jan Eikelboom (*Nieuwsuur*), Andreas Kouwenhoven (*NRC Handelsblad*), Joost Lagendijk (former member of the European Parliament and columnist), Silvan Schoonhoven (*De Telegraaf*), Nikki Sterkenburg (*Elsevier*) and Ebru Umar (*Metro*) – successfully gave the audience an insight into their daily work.

## 1.2 Academic highlights

As in previous years, several international academic activities marked the LUCIS programme in 2017. In what follows some of them are highlighted. For a full overview, see appendices [A2](#) and [A3](#).

### 1.2.1 What's New?! lecture series

In cooperation with Leiden's Middle East Studies BA and MA programmes, LUCIS organised 20 lectures in its What's New?! lecture series in 2017 (see appendix [A3.1](#)), reflecting an enduring cooperation between LUCIS and Middle East Studies since LUCIS' founding in 2009. Most speakers are researchers based at universities throughout the Netherlands, which make the series an excellent platform for national networking.

Invited speakers are asked to present their current research in an informal fashion inviting debate and discussion with the audience and appealing to colleagues, students, and a general public. Especially students are an important audience to target, as the lectures give students the opportunity to see scholarship in action and to get familiar with new developments in research on Islam and the Middle East beyond their individual fields of interest. At the initiative of LUCIS, the What's New lectures are integrated in the regular curriculum. The lecture series draws students and colleagues from faculties across the university and beyond.

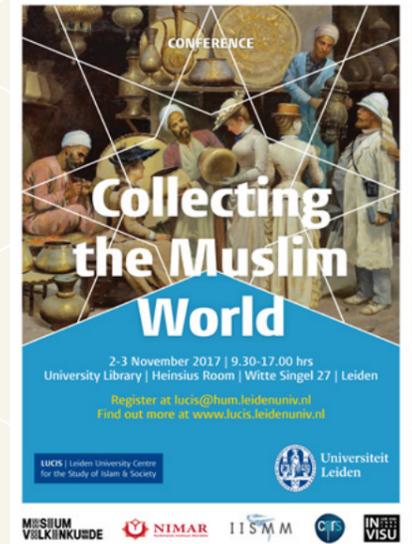


### 1.2.2 Visiting fellows

Twice a year, LUCIS invites outstanding scholars to Leiden for a short visiting fellowship. Through these fellowships, which include a series of five public lectures as well as participation of the fellow in graduate student master classes, we aim to present cutting-edge research in Islamic studies on topics that are not explicitly covered at Leiden University, but that connect with the work of Leiden scholars.

The fellowships also offer students and junior researchers the opportunity to get to know scholars with an outstanding academic track record during their master classes. A compilation of each fellow's lecture series is published in our peer-reviewed series at Brill. These short visiting fellowships offer valuable opportunities for meaningful exchanges between the fellow and various members of the Leiden University community, thereby strengthening Leiden research efforts and building international scholarly networks. They also allow us to fill gaps in the expertise available at Leiden, offering valuable opportunities for future research collaborations.

Sarah Bowen Savant (Aga Khan University, London), who works on book culture and digital humanities, and Mercedes Volait (Institut national d'histoire de l'art, Paris), a specialist of Orientalism in architecture and antiquarianism, were this year's visiting fellows. Savant lectured about transmissions of text in the Middle East in the period of 750-1500 C.E., drawing on recent digital technology methods that measure text reuse. Volait lectured about the study of collecting and disposing of art on both sides of the Mediterranean throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. Together with Léon Buskens, Mercedes Volait also convened a two-day conference on collecting in the Muslim world, focusing on scholarly collecting as a research strategy embedded in a specific intellectual and political context. For more information on the content of their fellowships, see appendix [A3.2](#).

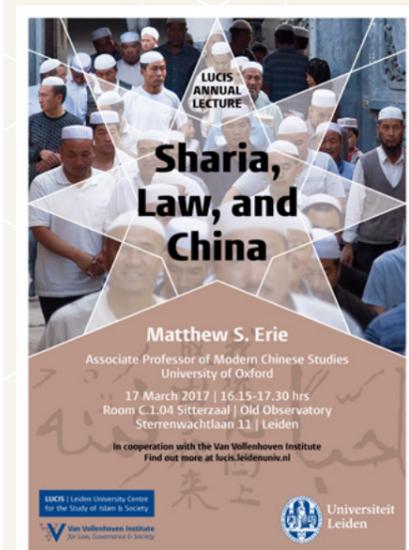




### 1.2.3 Visiting scholars

In 2017 LUCIS invited two scholars from abroad to share their work with different audiences in Leiden. In April, Ziad Elmarsafy, professor of comparative literature at King's College London, visited Leiden. He gave a public lecture in the What's New lecture series in which he analysed the work of Tunisian writer Abdelwahab Meddeb (1946-2014), and participated in a faculty roundtable on the symbiotic relationship between innovation and tradition.

In May Eva Troelenberg, an art historian at the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florence, was brought to Leiden as the third GLASS-Islam scholar. Since 2015 LUCIS has been cooperating with GLASS<sup>1</sup> to bring a leading Islamic studies scholar to Leiden whose work has been influential across disciplinary, regional, and national boundaries. Eva Troelenberg gave a public lecture about Mshatta (the decorated part of the facade of the 8th-century Umayyad residential palace of Qasr Mshatta) and the invention of "Islamic art" as a modern concept. In addition, she conducted a masterclass in which she discussed recent literature concerning alternative archaeologies focused on the Middle East and participated in a faculty roundtable in which questions of cultural heritage and preservation with issues of contemporary art practice and representation in or emanating from the Middle East were highlighted.

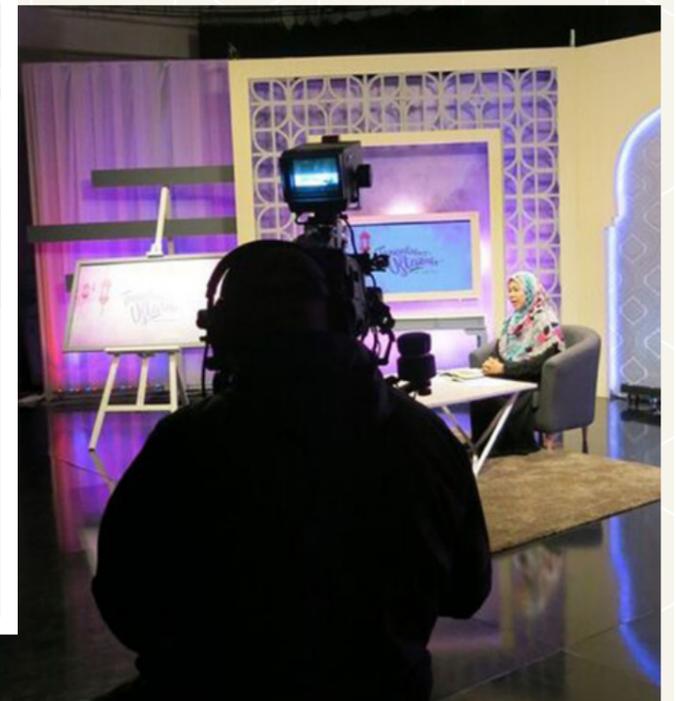
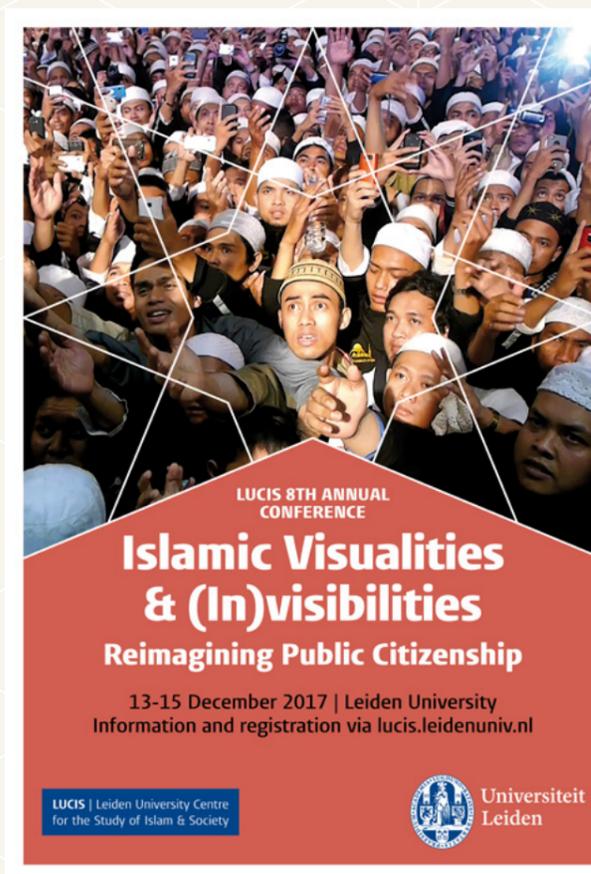


Organising such a series of public and more specialised events around a visiting scholar again proved to be very successful in facilitating a thoughtful and productive exchange between senior and more junior Leiden scholars.

### 1.2.4 Annual lecture

For this year's annual lecture, Matthew Erie, associate professor of modern Chinese studies at the University of Oxford, was invited to Leiden. Erie talked about how China's Muslim minorities abide by sharia in a (post)socialist party-state, and how the party-state has responded to the revival of Islam – and sharia – in today's China. The lecture was co-organised with the VVI and attracted a lot of people.

1. [GLASS](#) Global Asia Scholar Series, a joint initiative of Leiden's research profile areas Asian Modernities & Traditions (AMT) and Global Interactions (GI).

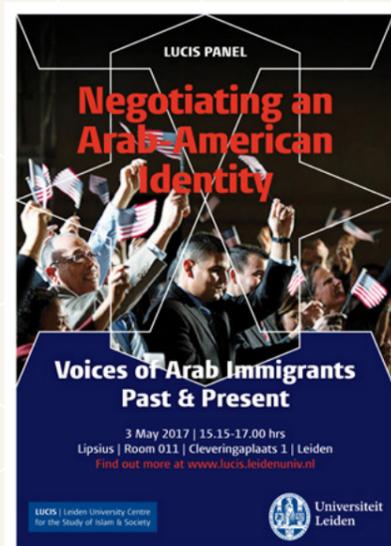


### 1.2.5 Annual conference

In December, the eighth annual LUCIS conference was convened by Bart Barendregt (FSW), David Kloos (KITLV), Leonie Schmidt (UvA) and Mark Westmoreland (FSW). It brought together researchers from different disciplines to reflect on images as sites of religious inspiration, contestation, and imagination among Muslims in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The papers are currently prepared for publication in our peer-reviewed series at LUP.

### 1.3 Opening up the academy: public engagement

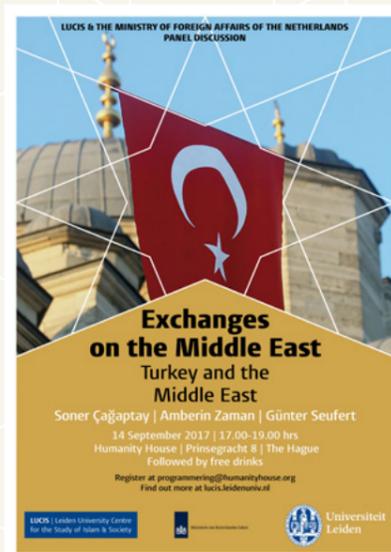
In 2017 LUCIS continued to organise several activities that were specifically aimed at a larger audience beyond the academy. A cultural programme, partially run within the Leiden-Aramco sponsorship programme, and events addressing current affairs related to Islam and Muslim societies form the core of our public outreach activities. For a full overview, see appendix [A3.4](#).



#### 1.3.1 Current events panel discussions

At our current events panels we bring together scholars and other experts on a topic that captures the current interest of the general public as well as university members. As mentioned previously, LUCIS and Science ON AIR organised a series of four interview and debate evenings in spring 2017, in which Dutch journalists reflected on their ways of reporting about Islam and the Middle East. Eight journalists from various national media outlets participated.

In addition, three current events panel discussions took place in 2017. In April, a panel about transitional justice in Libya took place with Ahmed Ghanem, rule of law advisor of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), participating. A panel on integration in light of the recent refugee crisis was organised early May. The panel took Arab-American literature that emerged from the Arab diaspora in the United States as a concrete example from the past, and compared the writers' reflections to the experiences of current refugees coming to Europe. On 27 October, LUCIS brought together specialists on the US, Iran and international proliferation treaties to discuss the background and consequences of president Trump's recent speech in which he announced that he had not recertified the 2015 Iran nuclear deal.



#### 1.3.2 Exchanges on the Middle East

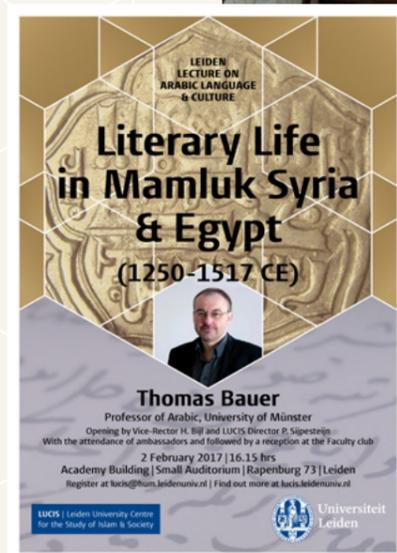
Three series of exchanges between academics, policymakers and societal partners were co-organised with and co-funded by the North Africa and Middle East department of the Dutch ministry of Foreign Affairs. Each of these exchanges – in May, September and December – followed a format consisting of a public lecture and debate in The Hague or Amsterdam, a student workshop, and an expert meeting. Topics addressed were heritage in times of conflict, the relations of Turkey with the Middle East, and prospects for peace and reconciliation in Libya. The series attracted a mixed and international audience

of diplomats, policymakers, journalists, scholars, students, and the general public, and were aimed at informing both public and expert discussions about the Middle East. With this joint series of events in 2017, LUCIS successfully cemented and further consolidated cooperation with the ministry.

#### 1.3.3 Cultural activities

To reach a larger audience beyond the academy, a number activities in the cultural realm were programmed in 2017. In June LUCIS organised two lectures connected to the "Mondriaan to Dutch Design year 2017" which addressed the parallels between Islamic geometric art and De Stijl. At this year's Leiden International Film Festival in October, LUCIS adopted the film *Insyriated* (film still shown below) to be included in the programme.





### 1.3.4 Leiden-Aramco sponsorship programme

This year's Leiden-Aramco sponsorship programme\* included a public lecture in February by Thomas Bauer on literary life in Mamluk Syria and Egypt, the second edition of the Middle Eastern Culture Market in the national museum of Antiquities in September, an Arabic Music Night, and the release of ten Passion in Profession videos featuring researchers specialised in Islamic, Middle Eastern and Central Asian studies. For a more specific overview of activities within this programme, see appendix [A3.5](#).

The impact of these activities on Dutch public opinion, both in terms of generating public interest in the region's cultures and societies and in the effect on the reputation of Arabic and Middle East studies at Leiden University, has turned out to be significant. Recently Petra Sijpesteijn successfully applied for a sixth donation from Aramco which will fund a next series of activities in cooperation with LUCIS in 2018.

\* The Leiden-Aramco sponsorship programme is funded by Saudi Arabia's national oil company, Aramco, an industry partner with whom Leiden University has cooperated since 2013 when it celebrated 400 years of Arabic studies in Leiden. The organisation of this joint programme was integrated in the LUCIS office in 2014. It aims to share Leiden's expertise and knowledge about Arabic and Middle East studies with a wider audience in the Netherlands.



Top: Arabic Music Night featuring Rima Khcheich in concert with Salon Joussour.

Below: The Middle Eastern Culture Market.

### Passion in Profession video series

The [Passion in Profession video series](#) features researchers who are specialised in Islamic, Middle Eastern and Central Asian studies: Ahmad Al-Jallad, Said Reza Husseini, Shuqi Jia, Judith Kindinger, Haneen Omari, Marijn van Putten, Petra Sijpesteijn, Cristiana Strava, Arnoud Vrolijk, and Peter Webb. With the series, LUCIS aims to show what inspires them in their work by highlighting an object or concept that they feel passionate about.



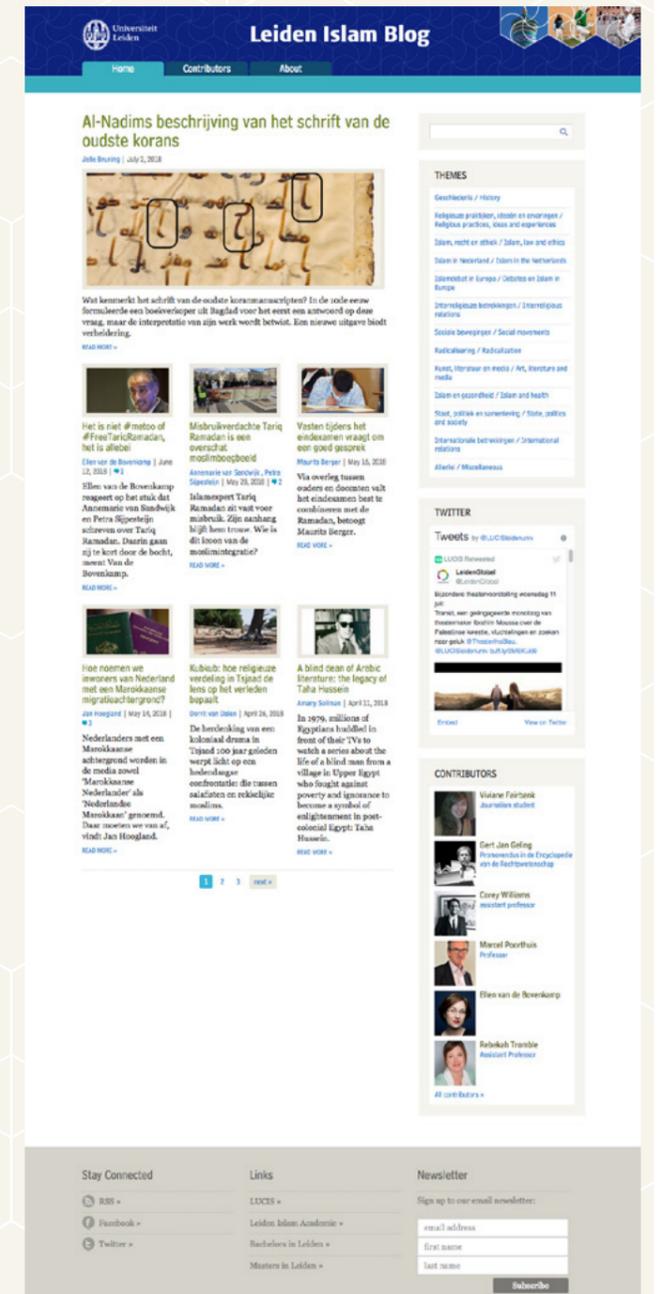
### 1.3.5 Media exposure and Leiden Islam Blog

Over the past year, LUCIS actively engaged in the public debate in the media on a variety of topics related to Islam and Muslim societies, both in and outside the Netherlands. For a complete overview of media contributions by LUCIS members, see appendix [A4](#).

The editorial team of the Leiden Islam Blog was also productive in 2017. In total, 23 articles were published in 2017 (approximately one every other week), written by contributors from Leiden University and beyond. Geographic areas covered on the blog vary from the Netherlands, Greece, Morocco, the Indian Ocean world, the Pamir mountains, Malaysia and Indonesia, addressing topics ranging from Islam and organ transplantation, apostasy, and image-making in Islam. Blogs published in 2017 generated an average of 2.096\* views, with a peak of 4.798\* views for Maarten Kossmann's blog about the influence of the language of Moroccan youth on the Dutch language. For an overview of Leiden Islam Blog articles in 2017, see appendix [A5](#). For blog statistics, please go to <http://leiden-islamblog.nl/stats>.

While the blog's editorial team actively anticipates on contemporary affairs related to Islam and Muslim societies, it also publishes blogs which highlight current research about Islam and Muslim societies in past and present, reflected in, for example, a contribution about militant Islam between literature and pre-Islamic history ([Peter Webb's blog](#)) and a blog about anthropological research on Islam in Kyrgyzstan ([Nienke van der Heide's blog](#)). Blog articles regularly attract Dutch media attention, resulting in further publications or media appearances by blog authors.

\* Reference date 2 July 2018.



## 2. Islam and society expertise centre: organisation, internal cohesion and cooperation

### 2.1 Organisation

In its capacity as an interfaculty expertise and networking centre, LUCIS offers a platform for collaboration between academics who are affiliated to the faculties of Humanities, Social and Behavioural Sciences, Law, Governance and Global Affairs, Archaeology, and the Leiden University Medical Center (LUMC).

The faculty of Humanities acts as the coordinating faculty; the Leiden University Institute for Area Studies (LIAS) as administrator. Other interfaculty initiatives with which LUCIS cooperates are the African Studies Centre Leiden (ASCL) and Leiden’s research profile areas “Asian Modernities and Traditions” (AMT) and “Global Interactions” (GI).



Chart 1: LUCIS as an interfaculty knowledge and networking centre

The LUCIS steering committee advises on the policy of LUCIS and initiates its activities. In 2017 it consisted of Gabrielle van den Berg, Maurits Berger, Léon Buskens, Jan Michiel Otto and Nico Kaptein. The steering committee convened five times throughout the year to discuss the policy and programme of LUCIS.

The executive tasks of the LUCIS steering committee are performed by the director of LUCIS, who has regular meetings with the Board of the Faculty of Humanities and with the University’s Executive Board. The director, together with the project manager of LUCIS, also supervises the centre’s budget. In 2017, Petra Sijpesteijn acted as director of LUCIS.

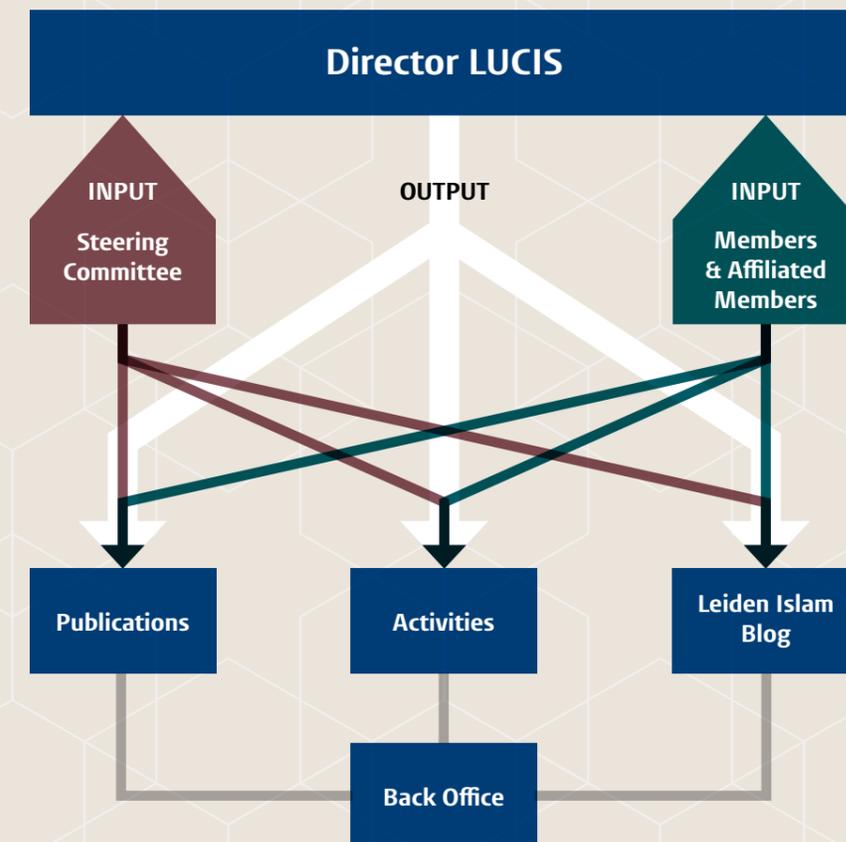


Chart 2. Organisation of LUCIS

## 2.2 LUCIS network of affiliated researchers

LUCIS does not employ research staff or PhD candidates itself. Since the founding of LUCIS in 2009, the centre has brought together a pool of affiliated researchers who are employed at their respective faculties and institutes (see appendix [A7](#)). LUCIS currently has 104 members from five faculties, the African Studies Centre Leiden and Leiden University Libraries. In addition, seven researchers from outside Leiden University are affiliated to LUCIS. Researchers are invited for LUCIS membership by the LUCIS office; whether they accept membership is a personal decision. Affiliation to LUCIS is categorised as follows:

- **LUCIS members** are researchers based at Leiden University (either faculty, PhD candidates or emeriti) whose research deals with Islam and/or Muslim societies or related research areas. LUCIS membership offers automatic eligibility to submit a proposal for LUCIS funding as well as network opportunities.
- **LUCIS affiliated members** are researchers outside Leiden University who are actively involved in the study of Islam and/or Muslim societies and who regularly participate in LUCIS activities. LUCIS affiliate membership offers automatic eligibility to submit a proposal for LUCIS funding as well as network opportunities. This collaboration considerably benefits both parties.

Over the past year, LUCIS has continued to organise networking events and academic meetings to encourage cooperation between Leiden researchers from different academic disciplines. At the annual members' meeting LUCIS members reflect on the LUCIS programme and its direction as proposed by the director and the steering committee.

## 2.3 Engaging the LUCIS community: annual members' meeting & network lunches

In order to stimulate and strengthen members' involvement in the LUCIS' programme, an annual members' meeting is organised to reflect on past activities and to receive input for future events. This year's members' meeting, which convened on 17 March, was followed by the 2017 annual lecture by Matthew Erie on Sharia in China.

During the members meeting, director Petra Sijpesteijn outlined the prospects of LUCIS after 2017, and explained the new cooperative infrastructure as from 2018. In addition, she talked about the successful [funding scheme](#) at LUCIS, exemplified by Gabrielle van den Berg who shared her Seed & Breed funding experience, which contributed to a successful NWO-VICI grant application.

In 2014, Petra Sijpesteijn initiated the setting up of informal regular lunch meetings with LUCIS members in order to strengthen research and teaching cooperation, and to stimulate joint publications and the co-organisation of academic activities. These lunch meetings have proven to be fruitful exchanges and therefore continued in 2017. In March she had a lunch meeting with Nico Kaptein (LIAS), Peter Webb (LIAS), Edmund Frettingham (LUC) and Madeleine Hosli (FGGA); in December with several colleagues from the Arabic studies department.

## 2.4 Educational programmes

LUCIS members are actively engaged in embedding Leiden's expertise in the study of Islam and Muslim societies in the various educational programmes (BA and MA programmes of Middle Eastern Studies and Religious Studies, BA International Studies, Liberal Arts & Sciences undergraduate programme at Leiden University College) as well as in developing new initiatives (Massive Open Online Courses/MOOCs and Small Online Private Courses/SPOCs). The minor ["Islam: Religion and Society"](#) started in September 2015 and was set up in close cooperation with LUCIS steering committee members (Kaptein, Buskens, Berger). In September 2016, the English-taught minor ["Culture and Society in Morocco"](#) started at the NIMAR in Rabat, which gives students the opportunity to immerse themselves in Moroccan culture during three months and to become specialists on contemporary Morocco.

In August 2017, LUCIS organised a successful summer school about philology and manuscripts from the Muslim world, aimed at graduate students and researchers interested in handwritten materials, in editing, and in the tradition of editing in the Muslim world. It offered theoretical lectures as well as hands-on practice with samples from the world-famous collections of the Leiden University Library.

In November and December 2017 LUCIS hosted a five-week course on academic skills for a group of 13 Indonesian participants who were funded by the Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs. The programme was set up and coordinated by Petra de Bruijn and Jochem van den Boogert and aimed at developing and training the relevant skills necessary for writing either a research proposal or a journal article. The programme included an 80-hour course in Academic English offered by Leiden's Academic Language Centre and several individual and group sessions on academic writing led by Jochem van den Boogert. In addition, the participants enjoyed lectures from Ben Arps, Bart Barendregt, David Henley and Nico Kaptein, an excursion to the national museum of Ethnology, and participation in LUCIS activities such as the What's New lecture by Adriaan Bedner and the annual conference on Islamic visualities and in/visibilities.

Although it was sometimes difficult to cater all the individual needs of the diverse participants, the course was very well received by the participants who were enthusiastic and participated actively. Additionally, the programme enabled Leiden faculty to identify potential cooperative projects on an individual (PhD, exchange) or collaborative basis.

### 2.5 Cooperation with other Leiden faculties, institutes and research profiles

Again in 2017, our long-lasting cooperation with the Faculty of Law (VVI) continued, in our joint programme on law and governance in Muslim contexts. This year the programme focused on transitional justice and reconciliation in Libya, with a panel discussion with UN advisor Ahmed Ghamen and a jointly organised series of events with international experts as part of this year's Exchanges in the Middle East programme (see appendix [A3.4](#)). In addition, LUCIS and the VVI joined hands in the organisation of the annual lecture of LUCIS by Matthew Erie on Sharia in China.

Collaboration with colleagues from the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences has also continued, including a What's New lecture by anthropologist Nienke van der Heide on epic narration in Central Asia, a roundtable discussion convened by Cristiana Strava on anthropologies of infrastructure and urban space which was chaired by Peter Pels, and the 8th annual conference on Islamic Visualities convened by anthropologists Bart Barendregt, David Kloos, Leonie Schmidt and Mark Westmoreland.

Structural cooperation with the African Studies Centre Leiden ([ASCL](#)), which has become part of Leiden University as an interfaculty institute since 1 January 2016, was set up during exploratory meetings between the then director of ASCL, Ton Dietz, and Petra Sijpesteijn. A joint and regular Islam in Africa programme will be set up as from 2018, also in close cooperation with the renewed NIMAR directed by Léon Buskens. In 2017 Mayke Kaag, senior researcher at the ASCL, received a Seed & Breed Grant from LUCIS to support her application for an ERC Advanced Grant to study the role of transnational Islamic actors and networks in Africa.

Finally, LUCIS continues to closely cooperate with the research profile areas Global Interactions ([GI](#)) and Asian Modernities and Traditions ([AMT](#)). This cooperation takes shape in Petra Sijpesteijn's role as a GI coordinator and in jointly organised events, such as this year's GLASS-Islam visiting scholar Eva Marie Troelenberg who shared her expertise on Islamic art history and heritage studies with a broad audience in Leiden. In addition, LUCIS jointly organised the first lecture (also part of the Gravensteen lecture series) of our fall fellow Mercedes Volait with GI and AMT.

### 2.6 PhD environment

With its activities, LUCIS clearly enriches Leiden's research environment in the field of Islam and Muslim societies, which attracts PhD candidates from all over the world to work in Leiden. LUCIS members are frequently approached to act as supervisors of PhD candidates (for a full list of PhD candidates who are currently supervised by LUCIS steering committee members, see appendix [A9](#)). LUCIS members regularly compete in grant schemes such as the PhDs in the Humanities funding instrument of NWO as well as external funding programmes. Opportunities for PhD positions for Indonesian citizens are especially interesting for LUCIS and are the subject of a special scholarship programme currently in preparation.

While LUCIS does not offer PhD training – which falls under the responsibility of Leiden's graduate schools and of the national research school in Islamic studies (NISIS) – it does provide opportunities for PhD students to engage closely with renowned scholars. Master classes in which our LUCIS visiting fellows participate are open to PhD students, who are indeed actively involved in such encounters. In addition, PhD students were involved in several LUCIS events in 2017, such as our What's New lecture series, which included lectures by LIAS PhD candidates Onur Ada, Ömer Koçyiğit, Çiğdem Oğuz and Francesca Rosati.

### 3. Strengthening research

One of LUCIS' main aims is to advance and strengthen high-quality and focused research at Leiden in the field of Islam and Muslim societies. We aim to realise this by securing a coherent research programme through the identification of core research themes (3.1), and by offering a regular and competitive funding scheme for individual LUCIS members (3.2).

#### 3.1 Core research themes

From 2015 until 2017, LUCIS has decided to focus on the following research themes (please find descriptions in appendix [A1](#)), which structure our programme:

1. Negotiating Islam
2. Production and transmission of knowledge
3. Law and governance.

These prioritised research themes help us to streamline our programme in the wide field of Islamic Studies, to increase visibility and impact, and to stimulate cooperation between LUCIS members from different disciplinary backgrounds. Each year specific activities will be identified to fall in one of the three research themes so as to advance our expertise in these fields over the years. After the three-year period, we aim to have made a significant advance in academic insights in these three fields.

#### 3.2 Funding scheme for LUCIS (affiliated) members

From 2015 onward, LUCIS has allocated a structural part of its budget to fund research and public initiatives by individual LUCIS members, aimed at widening the pool of event organisers and progressing individual and long-term research ambitions. Grants are intended to open up new areas of research in preparation for individual research grant applications, to establish research networks, and to stimulate international refereed publications. From 2015 until 2017 there are three types of funding:

1. Conference Grant: up to € 7500 of funding to cover the expenses for a typical international LUCIS conference organised by a LUCIS (affiliated) member;
2. Guarantee Grant: up to € 2000 for co-funding a conference organised by a LUCIS (affiliated) member;
3. Seed & Breed Grant. This third type of funding is intended to support and stimulate LUCIS (affiliated) members in writing and submitting a research proposal for national or international funding. This support consists of funding up to € 10.000 including assistance by a student-assistant of LUCIS (1 day per week for a full academic year).

An important requirement for individual LUCIS funding is that the applicant's research proposal is related to one of the three major research themes (see [3.1](#)).

In 2017, Welmoet Boender (LUCIS member affiliated to LUCSoR) received a Guarantee Grant to co-fund the conference "Innovative Forms of Islamic Higher Education in Western Europe: between Scholarly and Societal Demand", organised by the Leiden Islam Academy. The conference, which took place on 3 and 4 April, focused on the next phase of Western European higher Islam education in which academic (secular-informed) Islam Studies and (confessional-grounded) Islamic theology increasingly meet with each other and with private Islamic institutions. Felicia Roşu was the beneficiary of a Guarantee Grant which sponsored a two-day workshop and resulting publication about slavery in the Black Sea region as an encounter zone between Christianity and Islam, from c. 900 until 1900.

Three researchers benefited from our Seed and Breed Funding scheme in 2017. Mayke Kaag, senior researcher at the ASCL, received a Seed & Breed Grant from LUCIS to support her application for an ERC Advanced Grant to study the role of transnational Islamic actors and networks in Africa. This grant allows her to hire a student assistant as from November 2017 and to organise two workshops in preparation for her ERC grant application in 2018.

David Ehrhardt (FGGA) successfully applied for a Seed and Breed grant to support an international application to fund a comparative research programme on the roles of Islamic authorities in hybrid democracies. With this money, David was able to appoint two student assistants for several months in 2017, and to organise a workshop on public service delivery and hybrid governance in June and another workshop on brokers in public service delivery in December.

Cristiana Strava (LIAS) received Seed and Breed funding to organise a faculty roundtable in November about anthropologies of infrastructure and urban space in preparation for a NWO-Veni application to fund research in this field with a particular focus on Morocco.

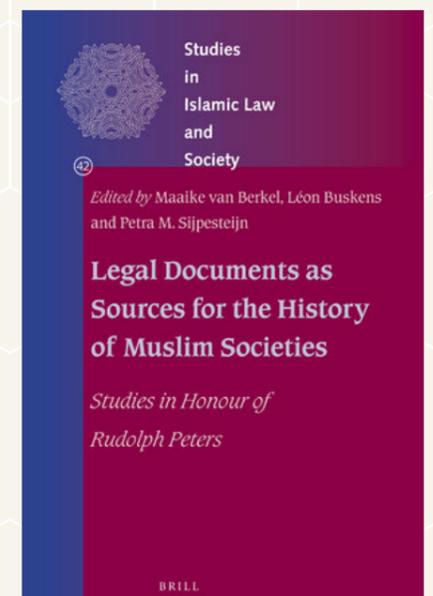
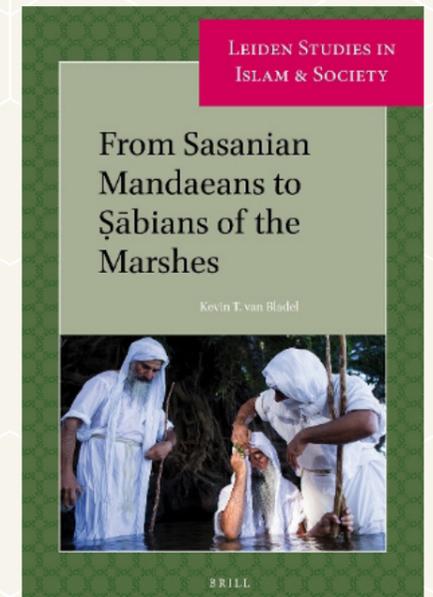
Please find below an overview of expenses related to our funding scheme:

Type of funding	Amount	Beneficiary
Guarantee Grant	€ 2.000	Welmoet Boender (LUCSoR)
Guarantee Grant	€ 3.750	Felicia Roşu (History)
Seed & Breed funding	€ 10.232 (until Dec 2017)	David Ehrhardt (FGGA)
Seed & Breed funding	€ 1.868	Cristiana Strava (LIAS)
Seed & Breed funding	€ 1.318 (SA Dec 2017)	Mayke Kaag (ASCL)
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 19.168</b>	

### 3.3 Scholarly output

LUCIS publishes two peer-reviewed book series. With Leiden University Press, LUCIS publishes a series entitled “Debates on Islam and Society”, which contributes to contemporary debates on Islam and Muslim societies and is aimed at a broad audience. Brill Publishers manages the second peer-reviewed series of LUCIS, entitled “Leiden Studies in Islam and Society”, aimed at an international academic audience. In addition, LUCIS lectures have appeared as scholarly articles and have initiated blogs or online interviews. In 2017, one book was published in the Leiden Studies in Islam and Society series: [Volume 6: Kevin T. van Bladel, \*From Sasanian Mandaean to Ṣābians of the Marshes\*](#).

In addition, *Legal Documents as Sources for the History of Muslim Societies. Studies in Honour of Professor Rudolph Peters*, edited by Maaïke van Berkel, Léon Buskens and Petra Sijpesteijn, was published in Brill’s “Studies in Islamic Law and Society” series in June 2017. The preparation of this volume was made possible by LUCIS and the book was launched on 21 June, in cooperation with NISIS, Amsterdam Centre for Middle Eastern Studies, and Radboud University’s Institute for Historical, Literary and Cultural Studies.



## Appendices

### Appendix A1. Prioritised research themes (2015-2017)

The research areas in which scholars affiliated to LUCIS work require an interdisciplinary approach, involving religious studies, law, social sciences, area studies, philology, and history.

LUCIS' focus on Islam and society takes shape in three research themes, defined in March 2015, which structure our programme:

1. Negotiating Islam;
2. Production and transmission of knowledge;
3. Law and governance.

#### Negotiating Islam

From the formative period of Islam to the contemporary world, Muslims have negotiated changing modalities of being Muslim. This is a dynamic and continuing process, the product of ongoing and unstoppable adaptations to an ever-changing environment and interactions with other cultural domains. This development has taken truly global forms, creating complex new configurations but also tensions.

Research in this area focuses on developments in Islamic thinking and practice, and their interaction with Islamic theological, legal, and political discourses. How are Muslim beliefs and practices given shape in everyday life and how do these relate to Muslim identity and imagination at a specific place and time? Looking at socio-historical circumstances – migration, changing power relations, the influx of new ideas, products and people, and their influence on society – we seek to understand the social visualisations of Islam in their historical context and as expressions of recurrent and recognisable patterns throughout history.

#### Production and transmission of knowledge

Muslim scholars work in a long and rich tradition of knowledge-production in their own culture. Traditionally the dominant form of knowledge was normative, understood in terms of Islamic jurisprudence (*fiqh*) and the writing of history in the form of chronicles, with their compilations of reports and anecdotes. Western understanding of Muslim societies, true to the principles of philology, has from the beginning privileged the study of these written sources.

A critical reflection on the history and practices of the academic study of Islam and Muslim societies, however, has led to a consciousness of Islamic studies as a social practice and an understanding of its relevance for society as both an asset and a potential problem. At present a more nuanced view of what has become known as “Orientalism” has gained currency, stressing the importance of exchange and collaboration between scholars studying Muslim societies and Islam from the inside and from the outside.

In the coming years LUCIS will continue to promote the study of the scholarly production of knowledge on and in Muslim societies, in its complex relation to societal concerns, focusing especially on the exchanges between Muslim and Western scholars. Particular attention will be given to the rich heritage of Leiden University in this field, to be explored in an international context of critical studies of Orientalism.

#### Law and governance

With regard to governance, policies and law, many Muslims and Muslim countries recognise the possibility that Islam has something important to say about the way society is to be ordered, governed, and regulated. The extent to which this religious dimension has materialised into actual policies, laws, regulations, rulings, and government decisions has varied immensely over time, according to place, social sphere, and the subject at hand. These developments and outcomes are subject of ongoing research on “Sharia and national law”.

LUCIS research on law and governance in Muslim countries covers a wide geographical breadth from West and North Africa to Europe, the Middle East, Iran, and Southeast Asia, notably Indonesia. It is not limited to its religious dimensions in a strict sense. Being at least “Islam-sensitive” it also addresses problems such as limited statehood, authoritarianism, dysfunctional bureaucracy, injustices, normative and legal uncertainty, as well as problems of social and economic development.

In sum, LUCIS research on law and governance looks at how state and non-state actors interact to shape and follow formal and informal rules that regulate the public realm. Our studies look at how these interactions take place in “arenas of governance” such as the government, political society, economic society, civil society, bureaucracy, and the judiciary.

## A2. Chronological overview of activities in 2016

Categorisation of activities by colour	Total
What's New?! lecture series	20
Lecture series LUCIS visiting fellow	10
Scholarly meetings	14
Activities relevant for debates in society or related to current events	16
Leiden-Aramco sponsorship programme	4

Date	Co-organisator(s)	Type of activity	Subject, details	Attendees
27 January	Technolab, Aramco	5th workshop about Arabic language, manuscripts and calligraphy	"1001 Secrets of Arab Culture" Technolab Humanities programme	11
2 February	Aramco	5th Leiden Lecture on Arabic Language and Culture by Thomas Bauer & 1st <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture	<a href="#">A Forgotten Heyday of Arabic Culture: Literary Life in Mamluk Syria and Egypt (1250-1517 CE)</a>	78
9 February	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	2nd <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Mohammadbagher Forough	<a href="#">The New Silk Road of China: the Middle East</a>	36
16 February	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	3rd <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Saeedeh Shehnaipour	<a href="#">Representation of Female War Martyrs in Contemporary Persian Novels</a>	28
23 February	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	4th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Stijn Sieckelinck	<a href="#">Reradicaliseren als filosofie en strategie tegen extremisme</a>	48
2 March	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	5th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Yuting Cao	<a href="#">Sino-Arab Cultural Exchanges under Cultural Policies of the Arab League</a>	18
9 March	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	6th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Hasan Çolak	<a href="#">Commercialization as Social Transformation: Ottoman Greeks in Amsterdam</a>	36
17 March	VVI	LUCIS annual lecture by Matthew S. Erie	<a href="#">Sharia, Law, and China</a>	60

Date	Co-organisator(s)	Type of activity	Subject, details	Attendees
22 March	Science ON AIR	<a href="#">Het zijn net mensen revisited: reporting about Islam and the Middle East in 2017</a>	<a href="#">Interview with Ebru Umar and Silvan Schoonhoven</a>	32
23 March	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	7th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Çiğdem Oğuz	<a href="#">The 'Morality Crisis' on the Ottoman Home Front during the First World War</a>	26
29 March	Science ON AIR	<a href="#">Het zijn net mensen revisited: reporting about Islam and the Middle East in 2017</a>	<a href="#">Interview with Joost Legendijk and Marije van Beek</a>	20
30 March	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	8th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Francesca Rosati	<a href="#">Quranic Women's Schools in China's Little Mecca</a>	25
3-4 April	Leiden Islam Academy and LUCSoR	Conference	<a href="#">Innovative Forms of Islamic Higher Education in Western Europe</a>	50
5 April		Faculty Roundtable with Ziad Elmarsafy, Petra Sijpesteijn, Ahab Bdaiwi, Ineke Sluiter and Remco Breuker	<a href="#">Innovation and Tradition: the Odd Couple</a>	12
5 April	Science ON AIR	<a href="#">Het zijn net mensen revisited: reporting about Islam and the Middle East in 2017</a>	<a href="#">Interview with Andreas Kouwenhoven and Nikki Sterkenburg</a>	21
6 April	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	9th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Ziad Elmarsafy	<a href="#">The Sufi and the Idol: Abdelwahab Meddeb's Autobiographies</a>	23
10 April		LUCIS <a href="#">Spring Fellow lecture series</a> : Knowledge, Information Technology, and the Arabic Book (KITAB)   1st lecture by Sarah Bowen Savant	<a href="#">Book Copying and Text Reuse detection</a>	15

Date	Co-organisator(s)	Type of activity	Subject, details	Attendees
11 April		<a href="#">Masterclass</a> by Sarah Bowen Savant	Knowledge, Information Technology, and the Arabic Book (KITAB)	6
12 April	Science ON AIR	<a href="#">Het zijn net mensen revisited: reporting about Islam and the Middle East in 2017</a>	<a href="#">Interview with Sinan Can and Jan Eikelboom</a>	31
13 April	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	10th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Onur Ada	<a href="#">Turkey in Crisis: U-turn or Head-on?</a>	30
18 April	VVI	Panel discussion with Ahmed Ghanem, Jan Michiel Otto and Suliman Ibrahimh	<a href="#">Libya's Long and Troubled Transition: a Discussion of Transitional Justice: Achievements, Failures, and Possibilities</a>	50
20 April	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	11th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Christian Sahner	<a href="#">What Can Zoroastrian Sources Tell Us About Early Islamic History?</a>	26
20 April		LUCIS <a href="#">Spring Fellow lecture series</a> : Knowledge, Information Technology, and the Arabic Book (KITAB)   2nd lecture by Sarah Bowen Savant	<a href="#">Explaining Prolific Writers</a>	
21 April		<a href="#">Masterclass</a> by Sarah Bowen Savant	Knowledge, Information Technology, and the Arabic Book (KITAB)	6
26 April		LUCIS <a href="#">Spring Fellow lecture series</a> : Knowledge, Information Technology, and the Arabic Book (KITAB)   3rd lecture by Sarah Bowen Savant	<a href="#">Identifying Libraries</a>	25
28 April		<a href="#">Masterclass</a> by Sarah Bowen Savant	Knowledge, Information Technology, and the Arabic Book (KITAB)	6

Date	Co-organisator(s)	Type of activity	Subject, details	Attendees
2 May		LUCIS <a href="#">Spring Fellow lecture series</a> : Knowledge, Information Technology, and the Arabic Book (KITAB)   4th lecture by Sarah Bowen Savant	<a href="#">A Book is a Box</a>	20
3 May		<a href="#">Masterclass</a> with Sarah Bowen Savant, Jonathan Silk, Mees Gelein and Maxim Romanov	<a href="#">Text Reuse</a>	12
3 May		Panel discussion with Layla al-Maleh, Hassnae Bouazza and Peter Webb	<a href="#">Negotiating an Arab-American Identity: Voices of Arab Immigrants in the Past &amp; Present</a>	20
11 May		LUCIS <a href="#">Spring Fellow lecture series</a> : Knowledge, Information Technology, and the Arabic Book (KITAB)   5th lecture by Sarah Bowen Savant and Maxim Romanov	<a href="#">Networks</a>	25
11 May		<a href="#">Masterclass</a> by Sarah Bowen Savant and Maxim Romanov	Knowledge, Information Technology, and the Arabic Book (KITAB)	6
11 May	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Exchanges on the Middle East I: public lectures and debate with Amr al-Azm, May al-Ibrashy and Cynthia P. Schneider	<a href="#">Heritage for Citizenship in Times of Conflict</a>	80
12 May	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Exchanges on the Middle East I: student workshop	<a href="#">Heritage for Citizenship in Times of Conflict</a>	12
30-31 May		Conference and workshop	<a href="#">Slavery in the Black Sea Region, C. 900-1900: Forms of Unfreedom at the Intersection between Christianity and Islam</a>	40
13 June	Global Interactions and Asian Traditions and Modernities	<a href="#">GLASS-Islam visiting fellow series</a>   lecture by Eva Troelenberg	<a href="#">Mshatta and the Invention of "Islamic Art" as a Modern Concept</a>	30

Date	Co-organisator(s)	Type of activity	Subject, details	Attendees
14 June	Global Interactions and Asian Traditions and Modernities	<a href="#">GLASS-Islam visiting fellow series</a>   masterclass by Eva Troelenberg	<a href="#">Alternative Archaeologies, Multiple Agencies, Hidden Narratives</a>	8
15 June	Global Interactions and Asian Traditions and Modernities	<a href="#">GLASS-Islam visiting fellow series</a>   Faculty roundtable with Eva Troelenberg, Cristiana Strava, Kitty Zijlmans, Charlotte Huygens and Diederik Meijer	<a href="#">Global Flows, Local Agencies, Significant Pasts: Perspectives in Museum History and Contemporary Art</a>	15
21 June	Spui25, NISIS, ACMES, Institute for Historical, Literary and Cultural Studies (Radboud University)	Book launch	<a href="#">Legal Documents as Sources for the History of Muslim Societies</a>	40
22 June		Guided tour and lectures by Hans Janssen and Eric Broug	<a href="#">Mondriaan and Islamic Geometric Art</a>	57
15-25 August		LUCIS Summer School	<a href="#">Philology and Manuscripts from the Muslim World</a>	16
14 September	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Exchanges on the Middle East II: public lectures and debate with Erik-Jan Zürcher, Soner Çağaptay and Amberin Zaman	<a href="#">Turkey and the Middle East</a>	80
15 September	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Exchanges on the Middle East II: student workshop	<a href="#">Turkey and the Middle East</a>	12
21 September	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	1st <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Ahmad Al-Jallad, Marijn van Putten and Peter Webb	<a href="#">The Future of Arabic's Past</a>	35
28 September	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	2nd <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Carolien Roelants and Marina de Regt	<a href="#">Jemen in de Golfpolitiek</a>	60
30 September	Aramco	Middle East Culture Market	<a href="#">Middle East Culture Market</a>	800

Date	Co-organisator(s)	Type of activity	Subject, details	Attendees
4 October		Lecture by Khairudin Aljunied	<a href="#">Recasting Gendered Paradigms: An Indonesian Cleric and Muslim Women in the Malay World</a>	15
5 October		Masterclass by Mercedes Volait	<a href="#">Patterns of Art Consumption Across the Modern Mediterranean</a>	1
5 October	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	3rd <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Nienke van der Heide	<a href="#">Bringing the Past to Life: Epic Narration in Central Asia</a>	20
6 October	Leiden Global Interactions, Asian Modernities and Traditions	LUCIS Fall Fellow lecture series: Taking Things Seriously: Patterns of Art Consumption across the Modern Mediterranean 1st lecture/Gravensteen lecture by Mercedes Volait	<a href="#">Early Islamic Art Exhibits and Sales in Paris (1865-1869)</a>	23
10 October		LUCIS <a href="#">Fall Fellow lecture series</a> : Taking Things Seriously: Patterns of Art Consumption across the Modern Mediterranean 2nd lecture by Mercedes Volait	<a href="#">The Trade in Antiquities in 19th Century Cairo and Damascus: Conflicted Supply and Keen Suppliers</a>	12
11 October		Masterclass by Mercedes Volait	<a href="#">Patterns of Art Consumption across the Modern Mediterranean</a>	1
12 October	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	4th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Roshni Sengupta	<a href="#">The Invisible Muslim: Dissent, Media and the Crisis of Secularism in India</a>	30
18 October	Embassy of Israel and BASIS (student association of BAIS)	Lecture by Uriya Shavit	<a href="#">Muslims in Europe: a Clash or a Meeting of Civilizations?</a>	50
19 October	Department of Middle Eastern Studies	5th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Ömer Koçyiğit	<a href="#">The World of an Ottoman Horseman Soldier: Kabudlu Mustafa Vasfi</a>	23

Date	Co-organisator(s)	Type of activity	Subject, details	Attendees
24 October		LUCIS <a href="#">Fall Fellow lecture series</a> : Taking Things Seriously: Patterns of Art Consumption across the Modern Mediterranean 3rd lecture by Mercedes Volait	<a href="#">Promoting Reuse: The Incorporation of Salvages and Replicas in Aesthetic Interiors, in Egypt and Elsewhere</a>	25
25 October		Masterclass by Mercedes Volait	<a href="#">Patterns of Art Consumption across the Modern Mediterranean</a>	1
27 October		Panel discussion with Maaïke Warnaar, Mohammadbagher Forough, Sara Polak and Sico van den Meer	<a href="#">Trump and the Iran Deal</a>	35
29 October	Leids Internationaal Film Festival		<a href="#">Screening of <i>Insyriated</i></a>	75
1 November		Masterclass by Mercedes Volait	<a href="#">Patterns of Art Consumption across the Modern Mediterranean</a>	1
2-3 November		Conference	<a href="#">Collecting the Muslim World</a>	30
2 November		LUCIS <a href="#">Fall Fellow lecture series</a> : Taking Things Seriously: Patterns of Art Consumption across the Modern Mediterranean 4th lecture by Mercedes Volait	<a href="#">Collecting Historic Cairo through Drawing, Photography and Artifact: amateur Athur-Ali Rhoné and the Production of Antiquarian Knowledge on the “Well-Protected” in the 1880s</a>	15
7 November		LUCIS <a href="#">Fall Fellow lecture series</a> : Taking Things Seriously: Patterns of Art Consumption across the Modern Mediterranean 5th lecture by Mercedes Volait	<a href="#">Figurative Art in Cairene Streets and Interiors during the Early 20th Century</a>	20
8 November		Masterclass by Mercedes Volait	<a href="#">Patterns of Art Consumption across the Modern Mediterranean</a>	2

Date	Co-organisator(s)	Type of activity	Subject, details	Attendees
8 November	Aramco	Pre-event for invited guests: guided tour Nineveh exhibition, lecture by Ahmad Al-Jallad and dinner at National Museum of Antiquities	<a href="#">Excavating Arabia: the Re-Discovery of Lost Languages and Civilisations</a>	25
8 November	Aramco	Arabic Music Night	<a href="#">Salon Joussour and Rima Khleich</a>	103
9 November	Dept. of Middle Eastern Studies	6th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Olly Akkerman	<a href="#">Codicology in Action: Observing an Indian Ismaili Library at Work</a>	22
10 November		Roundtable discussion with Cristiana Strava, Natalia Buier, Andrew Harris, Rivke Jaffe, Edward Simpson and Peter Pels	<a href="#">Projecting the Future: Anthropologies of Infrastructure and Urban Space</a>	
16 November	Dept. of Middle Eastern Studies	7th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture Nadia Sonneveld	<a href="#">Living on the Other Side: Migration, Citizenship, and Family Law in Morocco</a>	17
23 November	Dept. of Middle Eastern Studies	8th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Charles Melville	<a href="#">Illustrating the History of Tamerlane</a>	75
30 November	Dept. of Middle Eastern Studies	9th <a href="#">What's New</a> lecture by Adriaan Bedner	<a href="#">Principles, Practice and Pragmatism: Islamic Marriage Registration in Indonesia</a>	34
7 December	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and VVI	Exchanges on the Middle East III: public lectures and debate with Claudia Gazzini, Tarek Mitri, Youssef Sawani	<a href="#">Libya: Prospects for National Reconciliation</a>	80
8 December	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and VVI	Exchanges on the Middle East III: student workshop	<a href="#">Libya: Prospects for National Reconciliation</a>	15
8 December	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and VVI	Exchanges on the Middle East III: expert meeting	<a href="#">Libya: Prospects for National Reconciliation</a>	18
13-15 December		LUCIS Annual Conference	<a href="#">Islamic Visualities and In/Visibilities: Reimagining Public Citizenship?</a>	100

## Appendix A3. Report of activities in 2016

This appendix contains reports of activities in 2017 which have been organised by LUCIS or to which LUCIS has substantially contributed, either financially or in terms of organisation. They are categorised as follows:

- What's New?! Current research on Islam and the Middle East lecture series ([A3.1](#))
- LUCIS visiting fellows 2017 ([A3.2](#))
- Scholarly meetings ([A3.3](#))
- Activities relevant for debates in society or related to current events ([A3.4](#))
- Leiden-Aramco sponsorship programme ([A3.5](#)).

### A3.1 What's New?!

#### Current Research on Islam and the Middle East Lecture series Organised by LUCIS and the Department of Middle Eastern Studies

##### Spring 2017: 11 lectures

2 FEBRUARY

1st What's New lecture and Leiden Lecture on Arabic Language and Culture by Thomas Bauer  
*A Forgotten Heyday of Arabic Culture: Literary Life in Mamluk Syria and Egypt (1250-1517 CE)*

It turned out only recently that the Mamluk period, which was neglected, even disparaged, for a long time, was one the most productive and vibrant periods of Arabic literature. On the one end of the spectrum, elite poets and prose authors created some of the most sophisticated and elegant Arabic texts ever written. On the other end, popular poets and storytellers entertained the masses in the towns of Syria and Egypt, in which a larger portion of the population than ever engaged in literature as producer and/or consumer. In his lecture, Thomas Bauer talked about about who wrote and recited which kind of literature for what kind of readership and audience, and about the function of literature in different social layers of Mamluk society. He also give an overview over the most common forms and genres of Arabic literature in this exciting period.

**Thomas Bauer**, Dr. phil., Dr.phil.habil. (Erlangen 1989 and 1997), is Professor of Arabic and Islamic Studies at the University of Münster since 2000. His main research areas are Arabic literature, rhetoric and cultural history from the early times (*Altarabische Dichtkunst*, 1992) and the Abbasid period (*Liebe und Liebesdichtung in der arabischen Welt des 9. und 10. Jahrhunderts*, 1998)

up to the Ottoman period. Recent studies focused on Arabic literature of the Mamluk period, especially Ibn Nubāta al-Miṣrī and the popular poet al-Mi'mār. In the field of cultural anthropology of the pre-modern Arabic world Bauer treated subjects like love and sexuality, death, strangeness, and tolerance of ambiguity (*Die Kultur der Ambiguität*, 2011). Bauer has been appointed member of the North Rhine-Westphalian Academy of Sciences, Humanities and the Arts in 2012 and has been awarded the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize in 2013.

9 FEBRUARY

2nd What's New lecture by Mohammadbagher Forough  
*The New Silk Road of China: The Middle East*

The lecture addressed the role of the Middle East in the context of the tectonic geo-economic and geo-economic shifts unfolding at the global level, i.e., the retreat of the West and the rise of the rest (such as China). The EU is busy giving tactical responses to tactical problems (e.g. terrorism, the refugee crisis, Brexit). The US is no longer the main driving force behind globalization. China, together with India, is rising. The Middle East is looking eastward.

China is becoming increasingly active in the Middle East and elsewhere and rolling out global geo-economic initiatives. One such initiative by China is the New Silk Road (NSR), otherwise known as Belt and Road (B&R). It has been described as the present day iteration of the ancient Silk Road or the 21st century Marshall Plan. It involves more than 60 countries and more than two thirds of human population, including the major nations in the Middle East. This lecture introduced the New Silk Road and focused on how this initiative affects and is affected by the Middle East.

**Mohammadbagher Forough** is an assistant professor of International Relations at LIAS. He is also a research associate at Clingendael Institute. His main two research areas are the New Silk Road of China (and its global/regional implications) and Middle Eastern geopolitics.

16 FEBRUARY

3rd What's New lecture by Saeedeh Shahnahpur  
*Representation of Female War Martyrs in Contemporary Persian Novels*

A significant proportion of Persian novels written about the Iran–Iraq War (1980–1988) focus on male-centric themes that highlight the roles played by men during the conflict and their heroic acts on the battlefield, while very little attention is paid to the martyrdom of Iranian women.

Esmā'il Fasih (1935–2009) stands at the forefront of Iranian war writers. His postwar novels are regarded as a turning point in Iranian prose war literature because they principally concern the sacrifice and martyrdom of Iranian women over the course of the Iran–Iraq War. In this lecture, Saeedeh Shahnahpur discussed whether martyrdom is a gendered theme, and the reasons why many writers, avoid writing about the martyrdom of women. Furthermore she examined the representation of female martyrs in Fasih's postwar novels by emphasizing their experiences and outlooks on the war. She also illustrated Fasih's view as a male author on female martyrs in Iran.

**Saeedeh Shahnahpur** is currently a lecturer in Persian Studies at LIAS. Her research interests primarily focus on the literature of 20th century Iran, and the political, social, and cultural transformations through which contemporary literary discourse developed. Saeedeh defended her dissertation entitled *Words and Laments: a Narratological Analysis of Esmā'il Fasih's War Novel, The Winter of 1983 (Zemestān-e 62)* in September 2016 at Leiden University. In this dissertation she analyzed Esmā'il Fasih's wartime novel, *The Winter of 1983*, by using western narratological theories to illustrate how this novel differs from other novels written during Iran–Iraq War, since it explores numerous themes and perspectives on the war not explored by the 'typical' war novels of this period. She has also published several articles on Esmā'il Fasih and his works.

23 FEBRUARY

4th What's New lecture by Stijn Sieckelink  
*Reradicaliseren als filosofie en strategie tegen extremisme*

In heel Nederland krijgen leerkrachten, vanuit de overheid, de training "Omgaan met (extreme) Idealen." Zo leren ze bijvoorbeeld omgaan met vervelende meningen in de klas. We zien dat leerkrachten dankzij die training iets minder bang, iets zekerder zijn over de rol – de toch wel eervolle rol – die ze kunnen spelen in de identiteitsontwikkeling van de leerlingen. Maar de jongeren zelf wordt nog te weinig geleerd hoe ze hun conflicten kunnen uitvechten zonder hun tegenstander te vernietigen. Verandering begint met het besef dat het sociale project tegen radicalisering niet te reduceren valt tot een veiligheidsbeleid. De enige manier om dit probleem op lange termijn op te lossen, is om in het sociale veld verbindingen te maken. Breng de leerkracht, de ouder, de imam en de wijkagent met elkaar in contact en laat ze hetzelfde doel nastreven: beletten dat een jongere de samenleving de rug toekeert. Wij noemen dat autoritatieve coalities. Het komt erop aan om de gezagsrelatie met jongeren heruit te vinden, en dat doe je niet in je eentje. Laat een jongere binnen zo'n coalitie zijn grieven uiten, maar stel tegelijk duidelijk waar die democratie haar grenzen trekt.

We moeten dus oppassen met alles in het teken te stellen van het voorkomen van radicalisering. Door die strategie te benadrukken, maak je het net heel interessant voor jongeren. Daarnaast zijn er maar heel weinig gevallen bekend uit de literatuur waaruit blijkt dat het kan. Na bijna tien jaar onderzoek ben ik steeds sceptischer over deradicalisering, ik spreek tegenwoordig over reradicaliseren. Daarmee bedoel ik: de energie erkennen die sommige jongeren blijkbaar in zich hebben om verandering na te streven, en daarmee aan de slag gaan, in plaats van zulk gedrag meteen te signaleren en te criminaliseren.

De instituties die van nature de kanalen vormden voor iemands engagement – politieke partijen, vakbonden, maar ook scholen – hebben het allemaal een beetje laten afweten in de voorbije jaren. Momenteel bieden we te weinig alternatieven voor jongeren die misnoegd en gefrustreerd zijn. We leren ze niet hoe ze hun conflicten kunnen uitvechten zonder hun tegenstander te vernietigen. Onze samenleving heeft dan ook meer dan ooit behoefte aan de kunst van het vreedzaam vechten. We moeten aan jongeren laten zien dat democratie in wezen gaat over verschillen, over het oneens zijn met elkaar, en over strijden voor je ideeën binnen de lijnen van de wet.

**Stijn Sieckelinck** (1980, Duffel) studeerde sociale en wijsgerige pedagogiek aan de Katholieke Universiteit Leuven. Hij is als onderzoeker en docent Maatschappelijke Opvoedingsvraagstukken verbonden aan de Universiteit Utrecht. Daarvoor was hij in Nederland werkzaam als onderzoeker bij FORUM (Instituut voor Multiculturele Vraagstukken) en als leermanager bij de Nederlandse School voor Openbaar Bestuur. Sieckelinck promoveerde in 2009 aan de Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam op het proefschrift *Het beste van de jeugd, een wijsgerig-pedagogisch perspectief op jongeren en hun ideal(ism)en* waarmee hij in 2010 de Martinus J. Langeveldprijs won. Een jaar later verscheen *Idealen op drift. Een pedagogische kijk op radicalisering* (2010), samen met Marion van San en Micha de Wiñter. Dit onderzoek leidde tot *Formers & Families. Transitional Journeys in and out of Extremisms in the UK, Denmark, and The Netherlands* (2015). Sieckelinck adviseert overheden in binnen- en buitenland. Hij is tevens bestuurslid van de Quality Board van het EU-Radicalisation Awareness Network (RAN).

2 MARCH

5th What's New lecture by Yuting Cao  
*Sino-Arab Cultural Exchanges under Cultural Policies of the Arab League*

Culture is the basis of Arab national cohesion, it also explicitly reflects the long-term formation of ideas, customs and living conditions of the Arab people. Meanwhile, culture is an important publicity tool for the Arab League to promote Arab national image, e.g. popularize Arabic teaching in non-Arab countries, spread Arab-Islamic culture and Islam. Therefore, it is possible to gain a better understanding of the cultural relationship between China and the Arab League as well as grasping the future cultural trends between them by studying Sino-Arab cultural exchanges under cultural policies of the Arab League in the 21st century. In this lecture, Yuting Cao discussed the topic from three perspectives: 1. The China-Arab States Cooperation Forum; 2. Cultural cooperative practices under “the Belt and Road” initiative, which means “the Silk Road Economic Belt” and “the 21st-Century Maritime Silk Road”; 3. Achievements and challenges of Sino-Arab Cultural exchanges.

**Yuting Cao** is a lecturer at the Arabic Department at the School of Asian and African Studies, Shanghai International Studies University with 4 years of experience in Arabic language teaching and research in the areas of Arabic linguistics and the Middle East's regional organizations. Currently she is a visiting scholar at LIAS.

9 MARCH

6th What's New lecture by Hasan Çolak  
*Commercialisation as Social Transformation: Ottoman Greeks in Amsterdam*

The rising tide of commercialisation among Ottoman non-Muslims in the eighteenth century has been a topic on which much ink has been spilt. Most of the scholars who wrote on the topic in question, however, seem to have an agreed position regarding their point of departure: they tend to see merchant communities as extensions of states or nations. The case of the Greek merchants who moved from the Ottoman Empire to Amsterdam is no exception. This lecture diverged from the mainstream currents within the secondary literature by taking the said merchants as a topic on its own merit. Therefore, special attention was paid to the ramifications of the social transformation that this group went through from mere pedlars to a notable community which came to establish close links with a number of states in a seemingly contradictory fashion. The lecture followed the traces of the transformation of this commercial group to the backdrop of the other major groups within the Greek Orthodox community in the Ottoman Empire, and discussed its legacy for the complex interface of state-merchant relations.

**Hasan Çolak** (PhD, University of Birmingham, 2013) has been a researcher at the Institute for History at Leiden University since 2013. Prior to joining Leiden, he taught at Birmingham and Bilkent Universities. His first monograph entitled *The Orthodox Church in the Early Modern Middle East* was published by the Turkish Historical Society in 2015. In collaboration with Zeynep Kocabıyıkoglu Çeçen and N. Işık Demirakın he edited *Ayşegül Keskin Çolak'a Armağan Tarih ve Edebiyat Yazıları* in 2016. In addition to the history of the Orthodox Church in the Ottoman Empire, he has published extensively on the formation and representation of Ottoman imperial ideology by Ottoman Muslim and Christian intellectuals, practices of inter-communal co-existence and conflict, and local, religious, and political identities among Greek- and Arabic-speaking Ottoman Christians.

His forthcoming book (co-edited with Dr Elif Bayraktar Tellan of Istanbul Medeniyet University, to be published by Isis Press in Istanbul) is a critical edition of early modern Ottoman appointment documents (berats) for Orthodox patriarchs as instruments of institutionalisation within Ottoman bureaucratic and Orthodox ecclesiastical contexts. Çolak's current research focuses on the history of the Greek merchants who moved from the Ottoman domains into Amsterdam. This research has been funded by the ERC Project “Fighting Monopolies, Defying Empires” led by Prof. Catia Antunes and has been granted a book contract by the MIP University Press at Kalamazoo.

23 MARCH

7th What's New lecture by Çiğdem Oğuz

*The "Morality Crisis" on the Ottoman Home Front during the First World War*

The Ottoman intellectuals had made constant reference to a "morality crisis" at the turn of the 20th century, which, as they argued, reached a peak during the First World War. In this presentation Çiğdem Oğuz attempted to contextualize the "morality crisis" within the social, political and intellectual atmosphere of the war on the Ottoman home front. How did morality relate to the war? How did the social and economic conditions during the war affect morality and how did the Ottoman wartime government respond to this? Moving on from these questions, her research aims to assess the impact of the war on the perceptions of morality as well as the responses of the civil and military authorities to the so-called "morality crisis" in the Ottoman society.

**Çiğdem Oğuz** is a PhD student at LIAS and at the Ataturk Institute for Modern Turkish History at Bogazici University. She received her BA degree in History from the Middle East Technical University, and her MA from the Ataturk Institute at Bogazici University. Her MA thesis was entitled "Negotiating the Terms of Mercy: Petitions and Pardon Cases in the Hamidian Era" and was published by Libra Publishing House in 2013. Her research interests are social and intellectual history of the Late Ottoman Empire, women, family and social change at the turn of the 20th century and religious and secular perspectives on morality.

30 MARCH

8th What's New lecture by Francesca Rosati

*Quranic Women's Schools in China's Little Mecca*

This lecture was based on the findings of Francesca Rosati's past six fieldworks, carried out in Linxia Huizu Autonomous Prefecture (South Gansu province), with particular attention paid to Linxia city, also known as "Little Mecca", over a ten-year time period (2006-2016). In the lecture, she analysed the ways local Muslim women bring together different visions of sharia orthopraxy – derived from their exclusive affiliation to competing religious denominations (jiaopai menhuan) – within the walls of the Quranic school. Rosati's enquiry attempts to demonstrate how this "coalescence" reflects local inter-denominational tensions but also perpetrates ties of co-responsibility versus a culturally alien Other – the secular state – as a strategy for the preservation of Linxia's Muslim community as a whole, faced with modernisation, rejuvenated ties with the Middle East, and the latest CCP's policies on Islam.

To pious, uneducated Muslim women, the Quranic school – flourished between the 1980s and the 1990s following Deng Xiaoping's reform policies on gender equality and minorities rights – provides an "ethical" public space for practicing Islam, and also enables women to enter the local job market as teachers, principals or interpreters, that is, as members of a self-sustained "moral economy" fostered through a supportive network of semi-professionals fellow Muslims. In her research, Rosati uses an interdisciplinary approach involving discussion of embodiment of gendered religious norms, ideological differences and cultural (in) compatibilities among Linxia's denominations, as well as the schools' response to the state's rhetoric and regulations about religious practice, in the hope to make up for a lack of detail in previous studies on the role of Muslim women in the identity-redrawing process of China's "Little Mecca".

**Francesca Rosati**, born in Rome, Italy, has been doing research on Women's Quranic schools in North-western China for ten years. She got her MA degree in Ethnology at the National Taiwan Cheng-chi University in 2009. In 2015 she was awarded the CEFC Doctoral Mobility Grant to carry out a nine months fieldwork research in the Linxia Huizu Autonomous Prefecture (South Gansu province).

6 APRIL

9th What's New lecture by Ziad Elmarsafy

*The Sufi and the Idol: Abdelwahab Meddeb's Autobiographies*

In this lecture, Ziad Elmarsafy focused on a curious pattern in the work of Tunisian writer Abdelwahab Meddeb (1946-2014). Across multiple genres and styles Meddeb consistently reverts to the autobiographical mode. At the same time he privileges the mystical register through references and allusions to the heritage of the Sufis and the visual register via the history of Western art. Through a close reading of Meddeb's translation of al-Suhrawardi's fable, "Qissat al-Ghurba al-Gharbiyya," the last version of which was published in Meddeb's *L'exil occidental*, Elmarsafy analysed the strategies and aims of Meddeb's insistence on this synthesis of the mystical, the visual and the visionary.

**Ziad Elmarsafy** is professor of Comparative Literature at King's College London. He is the author of *Sufism in the Contemporary Arabic Novel* (2012) and co-editor of *What Postcolonial Theory Doesn't Say* (2015).

13 APRIL

10th What's New lecture by Onur Ada  
*Turkey in Crisis: U-turn or Head-on?*

In this lecture, Onur Ada analysed how political leaders responded to a major crisis and reconfigured their policies in the face of a contrast between their short-term political motives and long-term ideological tendencies. In this regard, two major political currents were put in historical perspective and discussed in a comparative framework: Kemalism represented by the Republican People's Party (CHP) in the one-party era (1923-1945) and Islamism espoused by the Justice and Development Party (AKP) in power since 2002. Drawing on an extensive analysis of the primary sources, Onur Ada demonstrated the multiplicity and complexity of the ideological legacies inherited by the CHP and AKP.

Both parties were challenged by a major international crisis: the Great Depression of 1929 and the World Financial Crisis of 2008. Notwithstanding the discourse revolving around democracy, the evidence shows that the crises were followed by the rise of authoritarianism. Was it due to a U-turn from the road to democracy or did they long for an authoritarian regime all along? In his discussion, Onur Ada provided insights into this question with a critical eye toward the twists and turns of the policies and the accompanying reinterpretation of the ideological tenets at the time of crisis.

**Onur Ada** graduated from Istanbul University with a double major in History and Turkish Language and Literature. Then, he received a double master's degree in European and International Studies from the European Institute in Nice and Istanbul Bilgi University. Onur is currently a PhD researcher and instructor at Leiden University. His research focuses on the relationship between the socio-economic composition of the Kemalist ruling elite and the power struggle among the factions inside the ruling party and parliament in the Turkey of the 1920s and 1930s.

20 APRIL

11th What's New lecture by Christian Sahner  
*What Can Zoroastrian Sources Tell Us About Early Islamic History?*

Over the past forty years, the field of early Islamic history has been transformed by two broad trends: first, the use of non-Muslim sources to enhance, verify, and critique the information contained in mainstream Muslim texts; and second, a growing interest in the relationship between the early Muslims and the religious communities they encountered across the late antique Middle East. These changes have produced fresh insights into the history of Christians and Jews in particular, as well as the texts they composed.

The same cannot be said, however, of the Zoroastrians, members of the former state religion in Iran, whose early contacts with Muslims remain somewhat opaque. This is especially striking given the large body of literature they left behind, much of which was written or edited in the early Abbasid period. What can scholars of Islamic history learn from this relatively untapped corpus of Middle Persian sources? What do these texts reveal about early interactions between Muslims and Zoroastrians? How does this literature relate to the writings of other non-Muslims at the time, especially Christians?

**Christian Sahner** is a historian of the Middle East and a research fellow of St John's College, University of Cambridge. His work deals with the transition from Late Antiquity to the Islamic Middle Ages, relations between Muslims and Christians, and the history of Syria and Iran. He is the author of *Among the Ruins: Syria Past and Present* (Oxford/Hurst, 2014), a blend of history, memoir, and reportage from his time in the Levant before and after the Syrian Civil War. He is completing a second book entitled, *Christian Martyrs under Islam: Religious Violence and the Making of the Muslim World*. It is the first scholarly study of how violence contributed to the spread of Islam among the Christian communities of the early medieval Middle East, as well as how Christians adopted the mentality of a minority through memories of violence. The book is based on his doctoral thesis, which received the Malcolm H. Kerr Award for best dissertation in the humanities from the Middle East Studies Association.

His next project explores the rise of Islam in early medieval Iran and contacts among Muslims, Zoroastrians, and Christians. He writes frequently about the history and culture of the Middle East for *The Wall Street Journal*, among other publications. Born in New York City, he received a BA from Princeton University, an MPhil from the University of Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar, and a PhD also from Princeton, where he studied under historians Peter Brown and Michael Cook.

**Autumn 2017: 9 lectures**

21 SEPTEMBER

1st What's New lecture and discussion panel with Ahmad Al-Jallad, Marijn van Putten and Peter Webb  
*The Future of Arabic's Past*

Archaeological excavations, epigraphic surveys, and new attention to documentary evidence have revealed an Ancient Arabia and Old Arabic distinct in many ways from the images painted by traditional Muslim works. To launch the volume *Arabic in Context: celebrating 400 years of Arabic at Leiden University* (Ahmad Al-Jallad (ed.), Brill, 2017), a panel of Leiden scholars discussed some of the salient ways this shift in perspective has changed our approach and understanding of the history of Arabic and its speakers. In addition, Ahmad Al-Jallad presented a newly discovered Arabic inscription with huge historical implications.

**Ahmad Al-Jallad** specializes in the early history of Arabic and North Arabian. He has done research on Arabic from the pre-Islamic period based on documentary sources, the Graeco-Arabica (Arabic in Greek transcription from the pre-Islamic period), language classification, North Arabian epigraphy, and historical Semitic linguistics. Recently, he edited the volume *Arabic in Context: celebrating 400 years of Arabic at Leiden University*.

**Marijn van Putten** is a researcher at the Leiden University Centre for Linguistics. In 2016, he received a Veni grant from NWO for his project "Before the Grammarians: Arabic in the formative period of Islam." Van Putten studies Arabic language material in, for example, Greek and Hebrew scripts to find out how Arabic was spoken at the time.

**Peter Webb** specialises in the literature and culture of pre-modern Islam. In 2017, he received an NWO Veni grant for his project "EPIC PASTS: Pre-Islam Through Muslim Eyes." Webb studies 9th and 10th century Arabic texts in order to reevaluate the way Muslims at the time remembered and reconstructed the history of pre-Islam.

28 SEPTEMBER

2nd What's New lecture by Carolien Roelants and Marina de Regt  
*Jemen in de Golfpolitiek*

De burgeroorlog die sinds 2015 in Jemen woedt is een van de meest mensonterende vergeten conflicten in het Midden-Oosten. Vanaf 1978 regeerde een toenemend autoritair en corrupt bewind onder leiding van president Ali Abdullah Saleh het door droogte en natuurgeweld geteisterde land. In 2011 werd die regering ten val gebracht en sindsdien is het wankele evenwicht in Jemen zoek. Sjiitische Houthi's strijden tegen de nieuwe, overwegend soennitische regering van Abd Rabbuh Mansur Al-Hadi. Een coalitie van 10 Arabische landen met instemming van de Verenigde Staten bestrijdt de Houthi's, die er desalniettemin in slagen om een groot deel van het land, waaronder de hoofdstad Sana'a, in hun greep te houden. Het conflict gaat gepaard met een humanitaire crisis van formaat: miljoenen Jemenieten hebben geen beschikking over drinkwater, voedsel en medicijnen.

LUCIS bracht dit vergeten conflict onder de aandacht met een What's New?!-lezing gewijd aan de toestand in Jemen. Deskundigen Carolien Roelants en Marina de Regt ontrafelden de gecompliceerde situatie, waarna het publiek de gelegenheid kreeg vragen te stellen en zich in de discussie te mengen.

29 SEPTEMBER

3rd What's New lecture by Nienke van der Heide  
*Bringing the Past to Life: Epic Narration in Central Asia*

Having survived 70 years of socialism, the oral tradition of reciting the Manas epic received a boost in the past 25 years. The desire to reconnect with the past, in which the Kyrgyz lived a nomadic life, fuels the revival of formalised storytelling. For individual Manas narrators, however, the call to devote their lives to epic narration stems not from a personal desire to relive the past, but from a vocation by the spirits of the ancestors that are commemorated in the epic tales. Bringing the past to life kindles hope for a future in which the Kyrgyz are free and connected to the animated environment once again. In the process, the Manas epic becomes a tool in the hands of various political actors who wish to harness the nostalgic appeal for their own purposes.

**Nienke van der Heide** is a cultural anthropologist. She worked as a lecturer at Leiden University until Sept 2017. Her research on the social significance of the Manas epic in Kyrgyzstan is based on two years of field work in the 1990s and multiple visits in the past three years. The findings of her first fieldwork period are published in the ethnography *Spirited Performance*, the recent developments are discussed in various blogs and articles.

12 OCTOBER

4th What's New lecture by Roshni Sengupta  
*The Invisible Muslim: Dissent, Media and the Crisis of Secularism in India*

With the 42nd Amendment to the Constitution of India enacted in 1976, the Preamble to the Constitution asserted that India is a secular nation. What secularism would mean to a deeply religious and overtly ritualistic society was however left undefined. Since the movement to attain freedom from British colonialism was in large measure an exercise that involved an invocation of secular concepts such as basic rights and self-rule and was bolstered by the involvement of men and women from a diverse range of religious and caste groups, the overarching yet loosely defined notion of secularism stood for 'equal treatment of all religions by the state'.

The notion of equal treatment therefore completely sidelined the problem that could arise out of a lack of definition of the relationship between religion and the state. Hence, conceptually and in practice, secularism has attained an esoteric epistemology particularly since the rising tide of the right wing in India led a counter narrative of 'pseudo-secularism' predicated on the appeasement of minority religious groups in India, primarily the Muslims.

Subsequently, the redefinition of secularism as well as the question of fealty and loyalty to the 'nation' has often left the Muslims outside the margins of the mainstream. This marginalization has led to the invisibility of the Muslim – and therefore, in a loose yet complex way, Islam – from the national narrative. The systematic crushing of dissent and the emergence of a conformist media in India remain the primary methods through which this marginalization is carried out. This lecture largely focused on the systematic marginalization and the consequent invisibility of the Muslim in India through instances taken not only from print and television media but from cinema narratives as well.

**Roshni Sengupta**, who received her PhD from the Centre for Political Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, is currently a University Lecturer at IAS. Prior to assuming this position, she was engaged in post-doctoral research at IAS as an Erasmus Mundus IBIES Post-Doctoral Fellow. Roshni has published widely in peer-reviewed journals such as *Continuum: a journal of media and culture*, *Economic and Political Weekly* and *The Book Review Journal* and has contributed articles to several edited volumes including *Television in India: Satellites, Politics and Cultural Change* edited by Nalin Mehta.

Roshni has also published a monograph titled *The Islamist Terrorist in Popular Hindi Cinema: Crisis of Perspective in New York and Kurbaan?* under the "Perspectives in Indian Development" series by the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi. She is currently co-editing a volume on media and literature in post-Partition India, Pakistan and Bangladesh tentatively titled *Beyond Partition: Mediascapes and Literature in Post-colonial India, Pakistan and Bangladesh* to be published by Routledge India. Her areas of academic interest include culture and politics, cinema theory and representation and media studies.

19 OCTOBER

5th What's New lecture by Ömer Koçyiğit  
*The World of an Ottoman Horseman Soldier: Kabudlu Mustafa Vasfi*

Kabudlu Mustafa Vasfi was a *deli* (irregular horseman soldier) in the Ottoman army and fought against rebellions in Eastern Anatolia and later in Rumelia in the reign of Sultan Mahmud II. He wrote a book in 1834 entitled *Tevârih*, in which he mentions his campaigns, travels and memories. At the beginning of the book, he writes that he composed a *tevârih* (chronicle) by providing accounts about the cities, wars and deaths he witnessed, although the book is a kind of travelogue and memoir. The book is of crucial importance not only because it is a unique manuscript, which is home to the Special Collections Department of the Leiden University Library, but also because it demonstrates the worldview of an Ottoman irregular soldier, a member of a group about whose daily life there is so little information.

**Ömer Koçyiğit** studied history at Bogazici University where he focused on the relationship between Africa and the Ottoman Empire. He graduated from Bogazici in May 2014, with a thesis titled "From Sufi Movement to Statehood: The Mahdi Uprising in the Ottoman Sudan, 1881-1885." He was accepted to the PhD programme of Leiden University (Humanities) in 2014. Koçyiğit's research focusses on the legitimacy of the Ottoman Caliph and opponent movements like the Sudanese Mahdists and Wahhabists in terms of Islamic concepts of leadership. He is interested in the discussions of scholars from different regions such as Istanbul, Hejaz and Sudan, and their publications and networks of the 19th century. From December 2015 until December 2016 he did research at the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill).

9 NOVEMBER

6th What's New lecture by Olly Akkerman  
*Social Codicology in Action: Observing an Indian Ismaili Library at Work*

The Alawi Bohras, a small but vibrant Muslim Shia community in India that is almost entirely closed to outsiders, hold a secret Arabic manuscript culture, which is enshrined and preserved in royal archives. Having had unique access to one of these archives, Olly Akkerman's presentation unravelled the as yet unstudied physical and social aspects of the Alawi Bohra philological tradition. Through the lens of what Akkerman calls Social Codicology, i.e. the conducting of philological fieldwork and participant observation in the community in Baroda, Gujarat, she discussed the social role of this archive as a repository of secret texts, and further examine the social lives of its manuscripts.

**Olly Akkerman** is a University Lecturer in Islamic Studies at the Freie Universität Berlin. Her forthcoming monograph, titled *The Alawi Bohras and the Making of a Neo-Fatimid Library: A Study in Social Codicology*, focusses on the material culture of Bohra archives, and the archival and codicological practices that surround it. She studied Arabic and Islamic Studies at Leiden and Utrecht University and subsequently obtained a PhD at the Berlin Graduate School for Muslim Cultures and Societies.

16 NOVEMBER

7th What's New lecture by Nadia Sonneveld  
*Living on the Other Side: A Legal-Anthropological Analysis of Migration and Family Law in Morocco*

Europe wants migration agreements with North African governments. Yet, what are migrants' legal rights in these countries, and how do receiving states and migrants deal with them in practice? Family law plays a crucial role in legal identity and in securing basic human rights. Using the lens of family law, Nadia Sonneveld's aim is to gain empirical and theoretical knowledge of migration and legal rights in Morocco and, by extension, North Africa. In particular, she looks at various groups of West/Central African and Middle Eastern (regularly or irregularly residing) migrants and refugees in Morocco.

In the lecture, she presented preliminary findings related to the following two questions. First, how does this receiving state regulate major life events (marriage, birth, divorce, death) of the migrants and refugees on its territory, and, second, how do migrants and refugees deal with the legal aspects of major life events in this receiving state? Ultimately, her aim is to obtain a legal-anthropological understanding of one of the least understood issues of our time: migrants and their legal rights as non-citizens on the other side of the Mediterranean.

23 NOVEMBER

8th What's New lecture by Charles Melville  
*Illustrating the History of Tamerlane*  
Co-organised with the Central Asia Initiative

The career of Timur (or Tamerlane, c. 1335-1405) was marked by brutal and protracted military campaigns that led to the subjection (if not the pacification) of vast swathes of territory from Central Anatolia and Northern Syria in the West to Central Asia and Northern India in the East, embracing the Caucasus and the Iranian Plateau in the process. These expeditions and the slaughter they perpetrated were visited almost without exception against fellow Muslim rulers and their hapless subjects. Nevertheless, Timur was glorified with elevated titles and regarded as a role model for rulership not only within the Timurid dynasty that he founded but also by neighbouring and later regimes, such as the Ottomans in Turkey, the Mughals in India (who traced their descent from Timur) and the Safavids in Persia (16th-17th c.).

The creation of Timur's kingly image was the work of his chroniclers and in particular the achievement of 'Ali Yazdi, whose literary masterpiece, the Zafar-nama ('Book of Victory') was commissioned by Timur's grandson, Ibrahim-Sultan, prince governor of Shiraz in southern Persia (r. 1415-1435). Yazdi's work became a byword for rhetorical elegance and was reproduced in many tens of manuscripts; some of these, including the first known copy, dated 1436, were illustrated. In his lecture, Charles Melville presented the corpus of illustrated manuscripts and the paintings they contain, and sought to identify the subjects most commonly depicted during the century that followed, in the context in which they were produced, with references also to other works documenting Timur's career.

Among these, especially, he sought to distinguish royal or court commissions, such as those produced for Timur's descendants, from provincial or commercial ones produced in the next century, and the effect this may have had on the choice of scenes to illustrate. It is also interesting to consider how stable the written text was over repeated copying, including the wording and placement of text headings, but the absence of a fixed iconographic cycle, and the large number of unique depictions of scenes. Among these, it is helpful to distinguish between 'generic' scenes of battle, single combats, hunting and the ruler's court, and specific scenes of particular events, for which a knowledge of the text is necessary.

**Charles Melville** was the Central Asia Visiting Professor in November 2017. Melville holds a BA Hons. in Oriental Studies (University of Cambridge), MA in Islamic History (London SOAS) and PhD. in Oriental Studies (University of Cambridge). He is Professor of Persian History at the University of Cambridge and Fellow of Pembroke College. He has published extensively on the history and culture of Iran in the Mongol to Safavid periods, and the illustration of Persian manuscripts and the Shahnama of Firdausi. Recent publications include

“Rashīd al-Dīn and the Shāhnāmeḥ,” *JRAS* 26/1-2 (2016), 201-14; “The end of the Ilkhanate and after. Observations on the collapse of the Mongol World Empire”, in Bruno de Nicola & Charles Melville (eds), *The Mongols’ Middle East: Continuity and Transformation in Ilkhanid Iran* (Leiden, 2016), 309-35, and “The illustration of the Turko-Mongol era in the Berlin Diez albums”, in Julia Gonnella, Friedrike Weis & Christoph Rauch (eds), *The Diez Albums. Contexts and Contents* (Leiden, 2016), 221-42.

17 NOVEMBER

9th What’s New lecture by Adriaan Bedner

*Principles, Practice & Pragmatism: Islamic Marriage Registration in Indonesia*

In Indonesia registration of Muslim marriages has been a controversial issue since the colonial era. Many Muslims consider state interference in marriage practices as an inadmissible intrusion upon religious life and resist the efforts of the state to bring such family matters under its control. In 1974 Indonesia enacted a Marriage Law (1/1974) which included the following compromise: marriages are to be concluded according to the rites of the religion of the spouses, and they must be registered – however, the law does not say what the consequences are if the first condition is fulfilled but not the second.

This ambivalence of the law has been the starting-point for a wide range of practices in which the State Muslim Registration Offices and the Islamic courts have developed a range of mechanisms to deal with the adverse consequences of unregistered marriages. These concern divorce, remarriage, underage marriage and social security. In his lecture, Adriaan Bedner explained that the pragmatic attempts of such officials and judges have not always met with approval of the more principled participants to the debate about marriage: orthodox Islamic leaders, women’s rights activists, and international law commissions and NGOs.

**Adriaan Bedner** is KITLV-professor of Law & Society in Indonesia at the Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law, Governance & Society. He has written on a wide variety of subjects in this field, including access to justice, dispute resolution and the judiciary. He has also done work of a more general theoretical and comparative nature, in particular on rule of law and access to justice. His publications include two (co-written) articles on the position of women in Indonesian (Islamic) family law, one concerning the issue of criminalising non-registered marriages, and the other about the development of women’s rights in Indonesia since 1998. He currently leads a research programme into Indonesian family law in collaboration with Léon Buskens, comprising of five PhD-students working on marriage registration (Muhamad Fauzi), divorce (Al-Farabi), child marriage (Mies Grijns, Hoko Horii) and the relation between Islamic and adat law in regulating marriage (Arfiansyah).

### A3.2 LUCIS visiting fellows 2017

#### LUCIS Spring Fellow lecture series 2017: Sarah Bowen Savant Series title: “Knowledge, Information Technology, and the Arabic Book (KITAB)”

In April and May 2017 LUCIS Spring Fellow Sarah Savant delivered five public lectures on the transmissions of text in the Middle East in the period of 750-1500 C.E. The lectures explored the literary culture of the medieval Arab world. How and why did authors copy past books? The main goal of the lectures was to document the extent of copying that went on in the Arabic tradition, and to consider the types of research questions that can now be addressed with text reuse methods, among them the nature of authorship in medieval times, the cultural meanings assigned to copying, the ways that canons came into existence and passed out, how history was filtered, and the networks through which texts passed.

Thousands of texts pertaining to all aspects of cultural history survive for the period from 750 to 1500; these are widely available in open-access digital formats on the internet. Hundreds or perhaps thousands more survive in manuscript collections across the Middle East. This storehouse of memory can now be studied in completely new ways using digital technology that measures text reuse (i.e., the repetition of textual units) and that can reveal the form of the Arabic textual tradition as well as its development, priorities, and blind spots. Arabic authors frequently made use of past works, cutting them into pieces and reconstituting them to address their own outlooks and concerns. Texts and fragments of texts thus flowed within profoundly intertextual circulatory systems that can be reconstructed and analysed.

The lectures were based on nearly two years of research and development work on KITAB, a research project that Sarah Savant leads which studies text reuse across the Arabic and Persian textual traditions.

**Sarah Bowen Savant** is a cultural historian, focusing on early Islamic history and history writing up to 1100, with a special focus on Iraq and Iran. She is the author of *The New Muslims of Post-Conquest Iran: Tradition, Memory, and Conversion* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013), which won the Saidi-Sirjani Book Award, given by the International Society for Iranian Studies on behalf of the Persian Heritage Foundation. Her other publications include *The Excellence of the Arabs: A Translation of Ibn Qutaybah’s Faḍl al-‘Arab wa l-tanbīh ‘alā ‘ulūmihā* (with Peter Webb; The Library of Arabic Literature; Abu Dhabi: New York University Press, 2016), as well as articles and edited volumes dealing with ethnic identity, cultural memory, genealogy, and history writing. Her current book project [KITAB](#) focuses on the history of books in the Middle East. With a team, she is developing digital methods to study the origins and development of the Arabic and Persian textual traditions.

10 APRIL

1st lecture *Book Copying and Text Reuse Detection*

In her first lecture, Sarah Savant addresses quantitative aspects of the Arabic textual tradition, including its size in relation to other textual traditions and the distribution of works across genres and periods and geography. She discussed what digital technology can generally tell us about the tradition as a whole, including current lines of research on Arabic and Persian texts using digital methods. She will introduce text reuse methods— how they work and what they can and cannot tell us about the Arabic tradition. She also introduced the different types of reuse that serve as the focus of KITAB.

20 APRIL

2nd lecture *Explaining Prolific Writers*

In her second lecture, Sarah Savant focused on prolific authors within the Arabic tradition. The Arabic tradition is populated by extremely prolific authors who wrote dozens or even hundreds of works filling many volumes. The historian and exegete al-Ṭabarī, for example, wrote a history totalling about a million words and a Qur'an commentary totalling about 1.6 million. These were only two of his many works. Whatever assumptions one makes about rates of work, it is hard to understand how a man could be so prolific – and he was much less productive than authors of later times.

With text reuse methods, we now can see that authors copied past works, often extensively, and also copied themselves. It is possible to now reconsider the picture of a solitary author producing works and to entertain other possibilities, including for example, something like workshops producing works under the guidance and name of an author. Sarah Savant considered a handful of cases and explored possible ways that works may have come into existence. She also considered what materials got reused in each case and possible reasons why. Al-Ṭabarī's *History* and commentary, for example, contain numerous precisely quoted passages of poetry. The data for the chapter is chiefly one-to-one text comparisons.

26 APRIL

3rd lecture *Identifying Libraries*

In her third lecture, Sarah Savant looked at ownership of texts. With text reuse methods and the metadata that we have gathered, we can identify the largest overlaps between any given work and all preceding works in the corpus. Where chunks of texts copied are extensive and dispersed, it is reasonable to propose that an author had access to an earlier work. She considered several cases of authors and the works that they copy, before focusing on the textual tradition of Nishapur and what the author al-Tha'ālibī copied. She argued that through text reuse methods we can also begin to consider anew questions of canonicity and cultural memory. What texts were copied repeatedly and faithfully – in what periods and geographies?

2 MAY

4th lecture *A Book is a Box*

In her fourth lecture, Sarah Savant proposed a way of looking at books, according to which a book is a box into which one puts things. The nature of its contents imposed obligations on its creators and users, with the book par excellence, for Muslims, being the Qur'an. But other books were different, and sat on a continuum, with the Qur'an and its many obligations at one end; where other books sat, was not absolutely fixed, but varied, and a book's relationships with other books can be studied computationally. A multi-text manuscript from Iran provides the material through which to explore this idea.

11 MAY

5th lecture *Networks*  
with Maxim Romanov

In her fifth lecture Sarah Savant, explored the uses of Digital Humanities within the study of the medieval literary Arab tradition. With text reuse methods, we can map networks in new and more precise ways based on the circulation of texts. We can consider how ideas travelled, and also their contexts of reception. This lecture started with a discussion of networks and text reuse as an emerging subfield in the Digital Humanities. Both Sarah Savant and Maxim Romanov provided examples of networks that can be mapped using KITAB's corpus.

The lecture finished with an examination of Arabic multi-text compilations, or *majmū'āt*, which are not 'books,' in the conventional sense, but instead represent the collecting efforts of specific times and locales, and in their scope, something of libraries in miniature (or perhaps "readers' digests"). A specific text was used, Fazil Ahmed Pasha 01589, now held by the Süleymaniye Library in Istanbul, which was written in several hands, and contains 107 fragments of texts in Arabic and Persian, with 67 of them copied into the margins. Sarah Savant explored the historiographical filters and networks that created this text and brought it to fourteenth century Istanbul. Consideration of *majmū'āt* allowed her to discuss networks from another angle and to summarize and extend points highlighted in previous lectures.

11, 21, 28 APRIL; 3 & 11 MAY  
KITAB masterclasses

In addition to the lectures, Sarah Savant offered five masterclasses in which she demonstrated how computational research methods can help answer questions about authorship and citation practices, as well as give shape to the networks through which texts have passed. The masterclasses gave students the opportunity for a hands-on experience with digital humanities methods for studying medieval texts. Participating students engaged with exciting new techniques to study medieval texts, as well as to practice their Arabic, which gave them the chance to gain new insights for their own research or academic development.

In the final masterclass Mees Gelein commented on his work building a Chinese text reuse module for the MARKUS platform. Finally, professor of Buddhist studies Jonathan Silk commented from the perspective of his project to link Buddhist texts in various languages. Maxim Romanov, a Leipzig-based scholar of Islamic culture commented on the role of digital humanities practices in his research.

**Sarah Bowen Savant** is a cultural historian, focusing on early Islamic history and history writing up to 1100, with a special focus on Iraq and Iran. She is the author of *The New Muslims of Post-Conquest Iran: Tradition, Memory, and Conversion* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2013), which won the Saidi-Sirjani Book Award, given by the International Society for Iranian Studies on behalf of the Persian Heritage Foundation. Her other publications include *The Excellence of the Arabs: A Translation of Ibn Qutaybah's Faḍl al-'Arab wa l-tanbīh 'alā 'ulūmihā* (with Peter Webb; The Library of Arabic Literature; Abu Dhabi: New York University Press, 2016), as well as articles and edited volumes dealing with ethnic identity, cultural memory, genealogy, and history writing. Her current book project [KITAB](#) focuses on the history of books in the Middle East. With a team, she is developing digital methods to study the origins and development of the Arabic and Persian textual traditions.

**LUCIS Autumn Fellow lecture series 2017: Mercedes Volait**  
**Series title: "Taking Things Seriously: Patterns of Art Consumption across the Modern Mediterranean"**

The study of collecting, and disposing of, art (broadly understood) on both sides of the Mediterranean throughout the 19th and 20th centuries reveals a wide range of phenomena, concerns and entanglements that invite to develop new frameworks to understand the appropriation of art across cultures beyond the ones suggested by postcolonial theory. Early displays of "Oriental art" in Paris were encouraged by national anxieties, rather than by colonial politics: the promotion of industrial arts and the melancholy of history. The Islamic antiques collected by travelers or residents in the Middle East in the 1870s were frequently related to the fashioning of elaborate aesthetic interiors, of "living museums", a craze of French origin that lasted many decades and inspired indigenous achievements as well.

Gendered politics of the self eventually weighted more than Empire-building in the process. The demand for historic artworks was tightly intertwined with supply, itself favored by aspirations to change, obsolescence or cash demand; a market for curios and old artifacts was already striving by mid-19th century in Cairo and Damascus, and the production of Islamic-style fittings and furniture soon followed. Antiquarianism and object-based research in the formative years of Islamic art history favored art acquisitions by scholars. The way in which Middle Eastern collectors recently made Orientalist art their own in order to "recapture the culture" is a further illustration of the ambivalence of categories such as self and other in art cross-consumption; as ever, circulations and "contact zones", such as the auction house, perform decisive roles.

What ultimately emerges from the web of people, situations and aspirations involved in the process of acquiring, displaying, and "deaccessioning", artefacts and artworks in connection with the Middle East is a richer and more paradoxical panorama than the one delineated by conventional cultural criticism and the paradigm of plunder. The study of specific situations and contextualized objects should contribute to deepen our understanding of the social life of art and material culture in the modern Mediterranean, and the dynamics of their trajectories.

**Mercedes Volait** is CNRS Research professor at INHA (Institut national d'histoire de l'art, Paris) and a specialist of Orientalism in architecture and antiquarianism in connection with Cairo during the long nineteenth century. Her education has been in architecture (Diploma, 1982), Middle Eastern studies (PhD, 1993) and Art history ("Habilitation", 2007). An associate researcher to the Research Department of the Victoria and Albert museum since 2015, she currently works on the project "19th century Islamic art collecting in Egypt and Syria".

Her recent books include *Fous du Caire [Crazy about Cairo: Eccentrics, architects and art lovers in Egypt (1867-1914)]* (2009), and *Maisons de France au Caire [French Diplomatic Architecture in Cairo. Reusing Mamluk and Ottoman Fragments in Modern Buildings]* (2012). She is the current editor of the digital journal ABE – Architecture beyond Europe.

6 OCTOBER

1st lecture (also Gravensteen lecture)

*Early Islamic Art Exhibits and Sales in Paris (1865-1869)*

Early Islamic art displays are commonly associated with a set of shows that took place between 1885 and 1910 in London, Paris, Stockholm, Algiers and Munich. However, these were not the first exposure of European audiences to artworks from the Middle East and North Africa. Every single World's Fair since 1851 presented artefacts from the region, whether the product of contemporary craftsmanship or historic objects. Exhibitions promoting the renewal of the decorative arts – an anxiety of the time – typically included retrospective sections, and within these, Islamic objects.

In this lecture Mercedes Volait focussed on three interrelated events that took place in Paris during the 1860s: the first show of the Union centrale des beaux-arts appliqués à l'industrie in 1865, the Egyptian exhibits at the Exposition universelle of 1867, and a large Islamic art sale auctioned on January 1869. Using correspondence, press clippings, catalogues, auction minutes and photography, Volait presented major players at the three events (including a high official from Egypt), the type of pieces in circulation, the rationales and processes behind their motion, and insights on their economic worth. In doing so, she raised broader questions on the commodification and translocation of objects from the Middle East in the age of industry and spectacle.

10 OCTOBER

2nd lecture *The Trade in Antiques in 19th c. Cairo and Damascus: Conflicted Supply and Keen Suppliers*

The Western discovery and appreciation of Islamic objects from the Middle East fostered a strong demand for curios and antiques among visitors and residents. Contrary to mainstream assumptions, looting or plunder was not the only way to get hold of seek-after goods. Standard trade functioned too. Two major market-places for antiques, from the mid-19th century onward, were Cairo and Damascus. Based on evidence from Western and Arabic sources, Mercedes Volait looked into the procurement and availability of curios and old artefacts in late Ottoman Cairo and Damascus, and the range of agencies involved.

Urban obsolescence, aspirations to change and cash necessities were among the factors that favored the commodification process. The production of Islamic-style fittings and furniture by local craftsmanship developed in parallel, as did the creation of fakes. Transactions attached to the direct sale of assets belonging to pious foundations have also been recorded and generated occasional conflict. Emblematic providers emerged. The web of people and situations involved in the trading of valuable commodities in the late Ottoman Middle East represents a more complex panorama than the one delineated so far.

24 OCTOBER

3rd lecture *Promoting Reuse: the Incorporation of Salvages and Replicas in Aesthetic Interiors, in Egypt and Elsewhere (1870-1880)*

The Islamic antiques collected by travelers or residents in the Middle East during the 1870s were frequently interrelated with the fashioning of period interiors. Affluent bachelor aesthetes or artists typically indulged in such “quasi living museums”. Objects served as furniture (or props); fragments of architectural salvage from demolished structures, whether tiles, marble slabs or carved woodwork, were used for floors, doors, wall surface or ceilings. The spolia were in some instances complemented by replicas of historic ornament cast in plaster, as well as by revival design. This decorative genre was nurtured by a specific high end collecting culture mourning irretrievable pasts, which was typical of post-revolutionary France.

With the refurbishing of the Gothic palace (later Museum) of Cluny in the 1830s, in order to house his medieval objects in an appropriate setting, art collector Alexandre du Sommerard had set an inspiring model. A “Cluny arabe” was the term used to qualify one such revival achievement in Cairo in 1876. Islamic period interiors classically acted as physical stages of social interactions and as places for performing distinction. They moreover expressed gendered definitions of the self, at a time of changing masculine lifestyles. Local equivalents to these “total works of art” can be traced. Overall, an art consumption that was intrinsically architectural in context and spirit took shape.

2 NOVEMBER

4th lecture (also part of the conference Collecting the Muslim World)  
*Collecting Historic Cairo through Drawing, Photography and Artifact:  
 Amateur Arthur-Ali Rhoné and the Production of Antiquarian Knowledge  
 on the “Well-protected” in the 1880s*

The development of object-based or object-oriented research in the formative years of the study of Islamic art and architecture represented another drive for art acquisition in the Middle East. Following the flourishing of antiquarianism during the long 19th c., artefacts and material culture were sought after by antiquarians, initially in Europe but increasingly in the non-Western world, for scholarly purpose. Historians long held negative views of antiquarian knowledge. It was seen as failing to provide, besides meticulous research, an edifying interpretation of the past.

Since the return to careful empirical scholarship, and the recent “material turn” in the humanities, representations have shifted again and antiquarian work is being reassessed. In this lecture, Mercedes Volait discussed along this perspective the work of early Islamicists that studied Middle Eastern material culture for historical purposes, and in particular the research and writing of French “antiquarian” Arthur-Ali Rhoné, who spent some thirty years mapping the architecture and urban fabric of historic Cairo using drawings and photographs, and object-based evidence to contradict existing assumptions.

7 NOVEMBER

5th lecture *Figurative Art in Cairene Streets and Interiors during the early 20th Century*

Present collectors in the Middle East are known for their massive buying of Orientalist paintings in order to “recapture the culture” and access historic visual imagery of the region, whatever the reckoned flaws of Orientalist representation. What Western academia has deemed paradoxical has nowadays become mainstream collecting practice in the Gulf, and elsewhere in the region. The reception of figurative art in Cairo during the early 1900s similarly reveals unexpected situations and phenomena. Despite Islamic aniconism, human figuration abounded in the city, both in the public and the private sphere. Using scattered and fragmentary evidence on major Egyptian art collections and public art, Mercedes Volait reflected upon the presence of human representations, in painting and sculpture, on architecture and in streets, private galleries and interiors, and will pay attention to the public discussions it may have instigated.

## Masterclasses

In addition to the lectures, Mercedes Volait offered five masterclasses in which she introduced students to the existence and possible uses of little-known primary material relevant to the issues discussed. Sales catalogues, auction minutes, museum records, press clippings, photographs of places, interiors and objects, as well as architectural drawings, represent some of the primary sources that were exposed and analysed. In addition, students read a selection of Arabic sources such as 19th-century chronicles, journalistic writing or travelogues. In doing so, the masterclasses aimed to demonstrate the added value gained by the combination, confrontation and cross-checking of different types of data, language-wise or media-wise, that are usually considered in isolation rather than in conjunction.

In the first masterclass, participants focussed on reconstructing displays and object-ownership through catalogs, accounts and photography. In the second masterclass, participants focused on auction catalogs and minutes of sales as sources for the social life of art collections. In the third masterclass, participants engaged with Aly Pacha Mubarak’s *Khitat* (1888-1893) on sales from mosques’ assets in Cairo or relevant pages on art acculturation from *Fatra min al-Zaman* [*What ‘Isa ibn Hisham Told Us or, A Period of Time*, 1898]. In the fourth masterclass, participants engaged with Harvard PhD student Deniz Türker’s article on “Hakky-Bey and his Journal.” In the fifth masterclass, participants focused on Egyptian perceptions of art and engaged with passages of Ahmad Zaki’s *Al-Dunya fi Baris* as well as Mercedes Volait’s “Middle Eastern Collections of Orientalist Painting at the Turn of the 21st Century: Paradoxical Reversal or Persistent Misunderstanding?”

### A3.3 Scholarly meetings

17 MARCH

Annual lecture by Matthew S. Erie  
*Sharia, Law, and China*

In cooperation with the Van Vollenhoven Institute

How do China's Muslim minorities abide by sharia in a (post)socialist party-state, and how has the party-state responded to the revival of Islam – and sharia – in today's China? Since Muslims first entered China during the Tang Dynasty, Muslims, foreign and Chinese, have played an important role in China's commercial, administrative, and political life. Whereas imperial law was broadly tolerant of normative pluralism, the modern Chinese state has taken a much more monopolistic view of law and governance.

At the same time, state views of non-state law do not determine practices on the ground; Chinese Muslims (Hui) have been subject to a millennium of acculturation into a Han Chinese-majority society. The Hui case thus demonstrates how rule meets piety as Hui are both citizens of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and members of the umma. Over the past thirty years, China has experienced a broad revival of Islam through greater cross-border mobility, the hajj, pilgrimage, educational exchange, commercial links, and intellectual labor such as translation. One effect of this revival, both an effect of Hui efforts and state policy, is increasing consciousness of sharia, its requirements and aspirations. Whereas PRC law does not recognize sharia, Hui have adapted sharia through informality and partial ethicization of its rules. Whereas the vast majority of these processes are conducive to the status of Hui as subject-citizens and pious Muslims, Hui must continually manage their relationship to the party-state, one that operates through an absence of transparency and clear lines. Thus, the return to sharia among Hui can present a perceived challenge to the party-state, itself embedded in global discourses of Islamophobia. This lecture explained the historical and contemporary relationship between Chinese law and sharia with reference to China's long engagement with Islam and its contemporary challenges, particularly as China "pivots" west.

**Matthew S. Erie** is an Associate Professor of Modern Chinese Studies in the Oriental Institute and a fellow at St. Cross College at the University of Oxford. He is an anthropologist and comparativist lawyer. His book *China and Islam: The Prophet, the Party, and Law* (Cambridge University Press, 2016), the first ethnographic account of the contemporary practice of Islamic law by Muslim minorities in China, is based on two-years' of fieldwork in northwest China. More broadly, Erie's research provides ethnographic insights on problems of illiberal law. His current projects examine global anti-corruption regimes. He is a member of the Law & Society Association and the New York Bar, as well as the China Editor for SHARIAsource, a project of Islamic Legal Studies Program of Harvard Law School. In 2016, he was named a Public Intellectual Fellow by the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations.

3-4 APRIL

Conference *Innovative Forms of Islamic Higher Education in Western Europe: between Scholarly and Societal Demands*

Convened by Welmoet Boender and organised by the Leiden Islam Academy  
Co-funded by a LUCIS Guarantee Grant

In the past decades, there has been a growth of Islamic higher education institutes in Western Europe, providing different spaces to reflect upon Islamic notions in a European cultural, social and political context. Public interest in Islamic modalities and modernizing Muslim communities has urged universities to invest in the study of Islam. An important renewal is the introduction of so-called Islamic Theology next to Islamic Studies. Another recurring theme is the training of imams, spiritual caretakers and Islamic educators at high schools.

Parallel to these developments, private Islamic institutions have been established that are currently in a process of renewal, adapting to the needs of second and third generation Muslims. While the latter are primarily interested in (daily) questions of a self-serving theological nature, in the former a political interest of the state is often visible. The conference focused on this seemingly 'next phase' of Western European higher Islam education in which academic (secular-informed) Islam Studies and (confessional-grounded) Islamic theology increasingly meet with each other and with the private Islamic institutions. In this process, we observe at least three moments of 'integration'. First, Islamic private institutions are in need for contextual knowledge (Islamic culture, politics, history, etc.), while universities seek knowledge of the latest development of Islamic theological thinking within these institutions. Secondly, Muslim scholars work at the nexus of Western and Islamic scholarly traditions, trying to bring these traditions together. Thirdly, programs respond to implicit or explicit demands to adapt to the – competing – needs of widely differing academic and non-academic audiences. The Leiden Islam Academy which was created in 2014 to cater the needs of new student cohorts outside university, is a case in point.

The conference aimed to provide a platform to stakeholders to take stock of these fast ongoing developments while trying to scan some directions, by exploring the following questions:

- What are current 'moments of meeting and merging' between public and private universities, secular and confessional approaches, and academic and non-academic audiences?
- What (didactic) challenges do the stakeholders face and how do they reflect upon their roles?
- Which new directions or (didactic) models are emerging in the study of Islamic higher education within the Western European setting?

The conference brought together Western-European scholars (researchers and practitioners) to share recent empirical insights and reflect upon the dynamics of this highly complex field. Please find the full programme [here](#).

5 APRIL

Faculty roundtable with Ziad Elmarsafy  
*Innovation and Tradition: The Odd Couple*

This roundtable focused on the symbiotic relationship between innovation and tradition. Innovation and tradition are often portrayed as two entities that are either contradicting or in conflict with each other. According to popular notion, traditions form a barrier for innovation, while the introduction of innovations is considered to destabilize or outright destroy traditions. But is this so? Innovations are often embedded within traditions, a dialogue that makes them acceptable for society.

Ahab Bdaiwi, Remco Breuker and Ineke Sluiter participated in this faculty roundtable, which was moderated by Petra Sijpesteijn. Each participant explored this relationship from his or her own field of expertise, followed by a debate with the audience.

LUCIS faculty roundtables are organised to stimulate interdisciplinary debates among academics who normally rarely meet one another. By doing so, we hope to gain new insights into subjects or problems that play a prominent role in various disciplines.

For a short biography of Ziad Elmarsafy, see appendix [A3.1](#) (9th What's New lecture on 6 April).

30-31 MARCH

Workshop *Slavery in the Black Sea Region, c. 900-1900: Forms of Unfreedom at the Intersection between Christianity and Islam*  
Convened by Felicia Roşu  
Co-funded by a LUCIS Guarantee Grant

On 30-31 March the Leiden Slavery Studies Association hosted a two-day workshop about slavery in the Black Sea region from c. 900 until 1900. Based on their specific areas of expertise, the speakers reflected on slavery in the Black Sea region as an encounter zone between East and West, Christianity and Islam. Contributions were clustered under six main themes: late Medieval and early modern trends; slavery among Christians; the Circassian question; raiders, slaves, and captives in Crimea; slaves in the city (Istanbul); and the Black Sea and global slavery. The workshop aimed to place the Black Sea in the wider debates on global slavery, while raising new conceptual questions that illuminated and modified current theories on medieval, early modern, and modern forms of unfreedom. Please find the full programme [here](#).

**GLASS-Islam scholar series of events with Eva Troelenberg**  
**Organised in cooperation with Global Asia Scholar Series (GLASS)**

13 JUNE

Public Lecture *Mshatta and the Invention of "Islamic Art" as a Modern Concept*

The ornamented façade of Mshatta was once part of a so-called early Islamic "desert palace" that was built around the mid-8th century AD in present-day Jordan. In the early twentieth century it came to Berlin as a gift of the Ottoman sultan. Today it has its place in the Museum für Islamische Kunst in Berlin and is not just one of the major monumental exhibits on the Museum Island – it is also a central keystone for the history of Islamic art which emerged as a scholarly discipline and as a museological field of interest just around the time of Mshatta's discovery.

In her talk, Eva Troelenberg traced the modern history of Mshatta. This will lead from the first descriptions by Western travelers around 1840 to its musealisation in Berlin to its destruction during WWII and subsequent reconstruction. This object-“biography” was filtered through the paradigms of what was a crucial century of museum history and intellectual discourse. It is a telling case study for art historical and/or museal concepts that collectively inform how non-European art and culture were perceived and appropriated within museums and academia.

14 JUNE

Masterclass *Alternative Archaeologies, Multiple Agencies, Hidden Narratives*

In response to the public lecture, the masterclass sought to destabilize the notion of “Western” versus “local” or “indigenous” agencies – or of emic versus etic perspectives. As the case study presented in the public lecture critically demonstrates, “Western” exploration obviously considers the Muslim “other” as its ultimate counterpart, thus confirming the notion of an inherently asymmetric worldview. In fact, even today the nature of our methods and sources often still privilege these binaries. A “Grand Narrative,” which used to put the academic voice on one particular side of the equation still resonates within our institutions and textbooks.

This masterclass took its cue from the recent turn to “alternative archaeologies” in order to scratch the surface of what is largely considered the “Grand Narrative:” Can there be an alternative reading, a reading against this narrative's own grain? One that reveals different agencies and voices and leads to an expansion of the academic field and its canons of objects, sources, and methods? Again, refraining from binary categories, the purpose of this experiment is not so much to find an antithesis or an opposite of antiquarianism or established cultural heritage practices – but rather to expand the awareness of a potential social and cultural multivocality.

Eva Troelenberg started the masterclass with a very short impulse lecture, followed by a discussion on recent literature concerning alternative archaeologies, focused on (but not exclusively limited to) the Middle East.

15 JUNE

Faculty Roundtable

*Global Flows, Local Agencies, Significant Pasts:  
Perspectives in Museum History and Contemporary Art*

In the roundtable, questions of cultural heritage and preservation with issues of contemporary art practice and representation in or emanating from the Middle East were highlighted. In Islamic art history and museum history, we are constantly and categorically dealing with objects that are taken from their place of origin. Many object-migrations that end in Western collections operate with the familiar “salvage paradigm”, which James Clifford (1989) has critically defined as the “desire to rescue something ‘authentic’ out of destructive historical changes”.

In museum history and archaeology this paradigm, frequently informed by an asymmetrical imperial gaze, has often served as an argument to bring objects, monuments, or artworks from their original context to an allegedly culturally further advanced and more sophisticated context. In fact, the Western museum with its seemingly timeless aura of preservation which makes the artwork untouchable appears like the ultimate, self-suggesting destination for any object of cultural value. From this perspective, the migrating object follows a teleological path which justifies its separation from its original setting. Ultimately stabilized – and integrated – in the museum, it appears to be “saved” for the common good for mankind on a larger scale. This results in institutional privilege within a heritage discourse, which is traditionally a strong asset of national identity building by means of association with the past.

This institutionalized mode of heritage building by means of representative stabilization has had its parallels within the Middle East from the Imperial age to the present – with examples ranging from the foundation of the Imperial museums in Istanbul to the Museum of Islamic Art in Doha. However, since the mid-20th century there is a strong current towards alternative local definitions of heritage and identity, linking processes of (re-)appropriation of a “significant past” (De Cesari 2010) with contemporary artistic practice. Artists like Khalil Rabah, Walid Raad, as well as the named and unnamed artists who appropriated the Israeli-Palestinian border wall, or institutions such as the Arab Image Foundation or the International Art Academy in Ramallah are among the most widely perceived agents of this site- or geospecific artistic practice. Often directly relating to common categories and tropes of museum and archive, they contest and play with notions of mobility, territory and (in-)stability, as well as of ownership and privileges of interpretation. These positions are to be understood against a local background – at the same time they are perceived as “global players” in an expanding art world.

The roundtable brought together art historians, archaeologists, artists/curators and colleagues from related fields to discuss how this constellation affects our notion of centres vs peripheries, of global vs local conceptions of art in both historical and contemporary dimensions.

Kitty Zijlmans, Charlotte Huygens and Diederik Meijer participated in this faculty roundtable with Eva Troelenberg, which was moderated by Cristiana Strava. Please find more information about the participants [here](#).

**Eva Troelenberg** studied art history, history and communications at Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich and Venice International University. In 2007, she became a Research Assistant / Doctoral Candidate at the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz. Between 2007 and 2009 she was a postgraduate Fellow of the Friedrich Ebert Foundation. She completed her dissertation on the Munich Exhibition of Masterpieces of Muhammadan Art in 2010, and worked as a postdoctoral fellow of the Kunsthistorisches Institut project “Connecting Art Histories in the Museum. The Mediterranean and Asia 400-1650” (in cooperation with the State Museums in Berlin / Museum of Islamic Art). Since September 2011 she is the head of the Max Planck Research Group “Objects in the Contact Zone: The cross-cultural Life of Things” at Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz. She also did teaching assignments at LMU Munich, University of Vienna and at the Cluster of Excellence “Asia and Europe in a Global Context”, University of Heidelberg, and was a visiting professor at University of Munich (2013, History of Islamic Arts) and Zürich University (2016/17, Modern and Contemporary Art History).

GLASS (Global Asia Scholar Series) is a joint initiative of two interdisciplinary research clusters at Leiden – Asian Modernities and Traditions (AMT) and Global Interactions (GI) – which invites leading or emerging international scholars whose work has been influential across disciplinary, regional, and national boundaries within Asia and beyond to speak at Leiden University. The GLASS-Islam series of events highlights Islamic studies and is organized in close cooperation with LUCIS.

21 JUNE

Book launch

*Legal Documents as Sources for the History of Muslim Societies*

Organised in cooperation with the Netherlands Interuniversity School for Islamic Studies (NISIS), Amsterdam Centre for Middle Eastern Studies (ACMES) and the Institute for Historical, Literary and Cultural Studies, Radboud University

The launch of the book *Legal Documents as Sources for the History of Muslim Societies*, edited by Maaïke van Berkel, Léon Buskens and Petra Sijpesteijn, is a tribute to the work of legal and social historian and Arabist Rudolph Peters (University of Amsterdam). The work was presented to him by the editors, contributors and colleagues.

Presenting case studies from different periods and areas of the Muslim world, the book examines the use of legal documents for the study of the history of Muslim societies. From examinations of the conceptual status of legal documents to comparative studies of the development of legal formulae and the socio-economic or political historical information documents contain, the aim is to approach legal documents as specialised texts belonging to a specific social domain, while simultaneously connecting them to other historical sources. It discusses the daily functioning of legal institutions, the reflections of regime changes on legal documentation, daily life, and the materiality of legal documents.

**Maaïke van Berkel** is professor of Medieval History at Radboud University. Her research focuses on the social and cultural history of Muslim societies, with a particular interest in literacy, court culture and urban organization.

**Léon Buskens** holds a chair for Law and Culture in Muslim societies at Leiden University and is director of the Netherlands Institute in Morocco. His research focuses on Islamic law and society, and the anthropology of Muslim societies, with a particular interest in Morocco and Indonesia.

**Petra Sijpesteijn** is professor of Arabic at Leiden University. Her research concentrates on recovering the experience of Muslims and non-Muslims living under Islamic rule, using the vast stores of radically under-used documents surviving from the early Islamic world.

15-25 AUGUST

LUCIS Summer school

*Philology and Manuscripts from the Muslim World*

Coordinated by Dorrit van Dalen

This summer school was organised for graduate (MA and PhD) students and researchers who have an interest in handwritten materials, in editing, and in the tradition of editing in the Muslim world. It offered theoretical lectures as well as hands-on practice with samples from the world famous collections of the Leiden University Library.

In the course of two weeks specialists from Leiden University and other experts provided theoretical instruction on issues of editing, paleography, conservation and other material aspects of oriental manuscripts. They spoke about philology, literacy and orality and the transmission of knowledge in the Islamic manuscript culture, presenting case-studies from various parts of the Muslim world. Participants used this information and practiced their skills producing a sample critical edition of a manuscript of their choice, under the supervision of experts.

Since the first contributions of scholars such as Scaliger, Golius and Warner, the Leiden University Library has one of the most important collections of oriental manuscripts in Europe. It includes thousands of Arabic, Persian and Ottoman manuscripts, not only from the historic heartlands of Islam but also from Asia, al-Andalus and Africa. Each participant had full access to this collection as well as to other library services.

Instructors: Ahab Bdaiwi, Gabrielle van den Berg, Jelle Bruning, Monica Colominas Aparicio, Dorrit van Dalen, Karsten Helmholz, Nico Kaptein, Hüseyin Sen, Tunç Şen, Karin Scheper, Surya Suryadi and Arnoud Vrolijk. Please find the full programme of the summer school [here](#).

4 OCTOBER

Lecture by Khairudin Aljunied

*Recasting Gendered Paradigms: an Indonesian Cleric and Muslim Women in the Malay World*

In this talk Khairudin Aljunied examined the ideas of a prominent Indonesian cleric, Haji Abdul Malik Karim Amrullah (Hamka), about the place of women in Islam and in Southeast Asian Muslim societies. He argued that Hamka was engaged in the project of “recasting gendered paradigms,” which involves reinterpreting, reconceptualizing and reconfiguring various dominant understandings about the roles, functions and responsibilities of women in Islam as reflected not only in the Qur’an and the adat (traditional customs), but also in modern discourses about women’s empowerment. He showed that Hamka’s commitment to advocating women’s rights and critiquing prevailing ideas about the place of women in religion and society was a product both of his personal experiences and of the profound social and intellectual shifts that characterized his day and age.

**Khairudin Aljunied** completed his doctorate at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London, in 2008. He has studied and conducted research in countries such as Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Australia, Netherlands and the United Kingdom. His book publications include *Colonialism Violence and Muslims in Southeast Asia: The Maria Hertogh Controversy and its Aftermath* (Routledge, 2009) and *Radicals: Resistance and Protest in Colonial Malaya* (Northern Illinois University Press, 2015) which Choice magazine describes as “an incredibly useful resource for scholars working on Southeast Asia, and Malaysia in particular.”

His most recent book, *Muslim Cosmopolitanism: Southeast Asian Islam in Comparative Perspective* (Edinburgh University Press, 2017), investigates the complex ways by which cosmopolitan ideals have been creatively employed and carefully adapted by Muslim individuals, societies and institutions in Southeast Asia to bring about the necessary contexts for mutual tolerance and shared respect between and within different groups, particularly between religious groups in society. Khairudin has completed another monograph on the reformist thought of an Indonesian scholar, Hamka (Haji Abdul Malik bin Abdul Karim Amrullah), which will be published by Cornell University Press in fall 2018.

18 OCTOBER

Lecture by Uriya Shavit

*Muslims in Europe: a Clash or a Meeting of Civilizations?*

Organised in cooperation with the Embassy of Israel and BASIS (student association BAIS)

The lecture examined political, cultural and theological aspects of Muslim migration in the West. Among the issues explored: is there really a “Muslim minority” in Europe? Why do European authorities fail in their battle against violent radicalization? How does a triumphal ideology on the Islamization of the continent facilitate integration? And what do Christmas trees and swimming pools have in common?

**Uriya Shavit** is an associate professor in Islamic studies and Head of the Department of Arabic and Islamic Studies and the Graduate Program in Religious Studies at Tel Aviv University. He specializes in the study of modern Islamic theology and law, Muslim radicalization, and the sociology of Muslim minorities in the West. He is the author of nine academic books and several dozen articles in these fields. He frequently comments on Middle Eastern affairs on Israeli national media and in the international media. Shavit’s most recent books are *Islamism and the West* (Routledge, 2014), *Shari’a and Muslim Minorities* (Oxford University Press, 2015) *Zionism in Arab Discourses* (Manchester University Press, 2016) and *Scientific and Political Freedom in Islam* (Routledge, 2017). His recent projects include a study on why Western anti-radicalization programs fail, on Islam in Iceland, and on Muslim football players in the West.

2-3 NOVEMBER

Conference *Collecting the Muslim World*

Convened by Léon Buskens and Mercedes Volait

In cooperation with NIMAR (Rabat), CNRS, InVisu and IISMM (Paris)

Collecting has been an important strategy for scholars to study the history, languages and cultures of the Muslim world since the Renaissance. Understanding these “foreign societies” started with accumulating sources to be used as documents for studies. The stress on collecting in Oriental studies was part of a more general current in the burgeoning humanities and social sciences, especially in history, philology, archaeology and anthropology. This approach to research reached its apogee in the second half of the nineteenth and the first half of the twentieth century, with scholars leaving on expeditions and bringing back massive collections to be stored and displayed in imperial museums of antiquities, arts, and ethnology. Nowadays scholars generally take a much more critical view at their predecessors’ acquisitive ethos, questioning the epistemological, political and ethical dimensions of these practices.

The conference focused on studying scholarly collecting as a research strategy embedded in a specific intellectual and political context, hence understood as a historical and social phenomenon. A certain number of studies on the histories of collecting exist, but they are often rather straightforward stories. During the conference, collecting was explicitly looked at as a process and as a social relationship, addressing the power dynamics and the agency of the parties concerned.

Who should and could collect what materials, from whom, for what purposes? What could people not collect? The conference moved beyond stereotypical accounts of “plunder” by systematically analyzing the social relations between the parties involved. This not only means looking at the classical orientalist issue of the power-knowledge nexus, but also scrutinizing the epistemological underpinnings. What did scholars consider to be proper knowledge, and hence what kind of “sources” and “documents” did they look for? How should these sources be acquired, stored, organized, displayed, published, and analyzed?

Please find the full programme [here](#).

10 NOVEMBER

Faculty roundtable

*Projecting the Future: Anthropologies of Infrastructure and Urban Space*

Convened by Cristiana Strava

Funded by a LUCIS Seed &amp; Breed Grant

What can infrastructure tell us about what kind of futures await us? How do mega-building projects reshape our idea of politics, space, economic and social values? The goal of this roundtable was to bring together experts and colleagues working on related approaches to urban and regional transformation in the global south, and discuss the theoretical and conceptual advantages and challenges of thinking with and about infrastructure development.

The speakers drew on their own research and expertise to highlight issues pertaining to the materiality of infrastructure development, genealogies of futurism, urban policy and new private-public funding and governmental assemblages in the global south.

List of speakers: Cristiana Strava, Natalia Buier, Andrew Harris, Rivke Jaffe, Edward Simpson The roundtable was chaired by Peter Pels. Please find more information about the speakers and chair [here](#).

13-15 DECEMBER

LUCIS 8th annual conference

*Islamic Visualities and In/Visibilities: Reimagining Public Citizenship?*

Convened by Bart Barendregt, David Kloos, Leonie Schmidt and Mark Westmoreland

This conference invited speakers from different disciplines to reflect on images as sites of religious inspiration, contestation, and imagination among Muslims in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The conference brought into conversation different aspects of the relationship between Islam and (ideas about) visuality.

What is the impact of images, visual communication, and the emergence of (new) visual cultures on the ways in which Islam is practiced, experienced, and interpreted? How do processes of religious change, such as the so-called Islamic revival, affect ways of seeing and ideas about what may and what may not be seen, and by whom?

These questions are increasingly urgent in an era of visual excess, in which the questioning and fragmentation of traditional religious authority goes hand in hand with the emergence of new Islamic visualities, and in which images of Islam are increasingly prolific in public spaces in both Muslim-majority and minority settings, drawing a variety of responses.

At the same time, this conference was an opportunity to discuss and evaluate much needed methodological and conceptual innovation in the study of Islam, which remains until this day dominated by an emphasis on oral and textual traditions and often passes over the everyday visual practices that are equally part of the religious lives of Muslims. How might the study of Islam benefit (more) from the turn to the visual in the humanities and the social sciences? What possibilities, practices, problems, questions, techniques, and agendas have arisen from this turn, and how can they help advance the study of Islam?

We approached these questions by focusing on practices of image-making. Islamic visualities, in our approach, comprise images and ways of seeing that are charged with religious meaning, as well as images and ways of seeing that bear on the image of the Islamic religion or culture as a whole. The concept of image-making – referring to the creativity and agency vested in the creation of images as well as the practices, relationships, and politics that inform the way in which “Islam” is seen – provides a fruitful starting point for the study of Islamic visualities and their impact on people and societies throughout the world. Our goal was not to replace a “textual” approach by one that is “visual” in orientation. Instead, speakers were encouraged to take into account the mutuality of visual and verbal/textual traditions and its analysis. The setup of this conference thus served to address a broad range of possibilities, creativities, contradictions, and tensions associated with Islamic visualities.

Please find the complete programme [here](#).

### A3.4 Activities relevant for debates in society or related to current events

22 AND 29 MARCH, 5 AND 12 APRIL

*Het zijn net mensen* revisited: reporting about Islam and the Middle East in 2017

In March and April, LUCIS, together with Science ON AIR, organised a series of four evening sessions in which Dutch journalists reflected on their ways of reporting about Islam and the Middle East, ten years after Joris Luyendijk's bestseller *Het zijn net mensen: beelden uit het Midden-Oosten* was published in the Netherlands (in English: *Hello Everybody!: One Journalist's Search for Truth in the Middle East*).

Participating journalists were:

- Marije van Beek (journalist at *Trouw*)
- Sinan Can (investigative journalist at BNN-VARA)
- Jan Eikelboom (reporter at *Nieuwsuur*, covering the Middle East)
- Andreas Kouwenhoven (journalist at *NRC Handelsblad*)
- Joost Lagendijk (former member of the European Parliament, political analyst, publicist and former columnist at *Zaman*)
- Silvan Schoonhoven (journalist at *De Telegraaf*)
- Nikki Sterkenburg (journalist at *Elsevier*)
- Ebru Umar (columnist for various media, including *Metro*).

Interviewer and moderator during these evenings was Karin van den Boogaert (Science ON AIR). For the full programme (in Dutch), click [here](#).

18 APRIL

Panel discussion

*Libya's Long and Troubled Transition. A Discussion of Transitional Justice: Achievements, Failures, and Possibilities*

Organised by the Van Vollenhoven Institute

The killing of Gaddafi in October 2011 marked the real end of his regime, and the start of a transitional period in which this regime's mass human rights atrocities would be addressed. It also signified that such atrocities might not end any time soon. Indeed, they kept piling up, and while transitional governments tried to address them, their efforts discriminated between those attributed to the Gaddafi regime and those assigned to his successors; the condemnation of the former was absolute and unequivocal while that of the latter was significantly qualified. Such efforts were, therefore, largely unsuccessful.

There were, however, attempts to re-think the way transitional justice is dealt with. For example, the Constitution Drafting Assembly proposed a draft basing transitional justice a.o., on the principle of non-discrimination between human

rights violations in terms of their alleged perpetrators. Also, the 2015 Political Agreement concluded under the auspices of the UN emphasized the adherence to international standards when addressing transitional justice concerns.

Transitional justice is key to addressing problems at the heart of Libya's chaotic situation. As such, dealing with it could be seen as an essential step towards building a stable country; only then, Libya could adequately take part in addressing issues such as those related to migrants streaming from its southern, desert, borders to its Mediterranean ports and, then, to Europe.

The panelists in this discussion were **Ahmed Ghanem**, rule of law advisor of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL); **Jan Michiel Otto**, professor of law and governance in developing countries and director of the VVI; and **Suliman Ibrahim**, director of Benghazi University Centre for Law and Society Studies and senior researcher at the VVI.

3 MAY

Panel discussion

*Negotiating an Arab-American Identity: Voices of Arab Immigrants in the Past & Present*

On 3 May LUCIS organised a panel on cultural exchange between the Western and Arab world. In light of the recent refugee crisis, this panel focuses on the topic of integration. How do migrants from the Arab world adapt themselves to their new environment?

The question of integration is commonly discussed in the current refugee crisis. What role will these new refugees play in Western society? Dutch popular opinion tends towards two extremes – the refugees are either idealized as highly educated super citizens, who will enrich society on economic, social and cultural levels, or they are demonized as outsider threats. This panel meeting shifted from theoretical generalizations to more concrete examples from past experience. To do so, it turned to the Arab-American literature that emerged from the Arab diaspora in the United States. Several generations of writers offered a reflection on how these new American citizens became a part of the wider American society. What do these reflections teach us about integration processes? These reflections were compared to the experiences of the current refugees coming to Europe and elsewhere. By making this comparison, the panel attempted to add new insights to the current discussion.

Participating experts were **Layla al-Maleh**, associate professor of English literature at Kuwait University and **Hassnae Bouazza** (columnist, author of *Arabieren kijken: de alledaagse revolutie*). The panel was moderated by Peter Webb. Please find more information about the panellists [here](#).

## Exchanges on the Middle East A series of 3 events

The Exchanges on the Middle East 2017 series of events were co-organised with and co-funded by the North Africa and Middle East department of the Dutch ministry of Foreign Affairs. The events on current affairs in the Middle East attracted a mixed and international audience of diplomats, policymakers, journalists, scholars, students, and the general public, and were aimed at informing both public and expert discussions about the Middle East. Each of these exchanges followed a format consisting of a public lecture and debate in The Hague, a student workshop, and an expert meeting.

11-12 MAY

*Heritage for Citizenship in Times of Conflict*

In the polarized societies of the MENA region, where economic, social, and political-religious juxtapositions have led to devastating conflicts, the destruction of cultural heritage is widely publicized. However, heritage also functions as a tool to promote social-political cohesions and transsectional identity. With national governments struggling to gain legitimacy, cultural heritage can be a terrain to stimulate citizenship (see for instance [The Timbuktu Renaissance Initiative](#) in Mali). At the same time it is exactly the lack of trust and solidarity with government structures that makes the development of cultural heritage initiatives and the involvement of national and international, public, and private partners, so precarious. Issues addressed by our speakers were:

- How does the fostering of cultural heritage and the implementation of restoration projects stimulate the national consciousness raising of the people?
- Can heritage benefit the countries in the Middle East and North Africa, in terms of (economic) reconstruction, social cohesion, and peace, and if so: how?
- Can heritage be used to foster citizenship? Are there best practices we could learn from?

Images of destruction of Muslim saint tombs, and ancient monuments accompany news items on violent conflicts and war in the Middle East. On 11 May, a panel of international experts with a background in policy, academia, and non-governmental organizations explored how heritage management can foster citizenship and social cohesion in post-conflict situations.

Speakers were **Amr al-Azm**, associate professor of Middle East history at Shawnee State University in Ohio and a first-hand witness of Syrian governmental heritage politics; **May al-Ibrashy**, an architect, art historian and conservator based at the American University in Cairo; and **Cynthia P. Schneider**, distinguished professor in the practice of diplomacy at Georgetown University and former US ambassador to the Netherlands. The lectures and debate were introduced and moderated by **Sada Mire**, a specialist in cultural heritage studies. More information about the speakers can be found [here](#). A video registration of this event can be found on [YouTube](#).

On 12 May a student workshop on heritage management, preservation practices, and citizenship in post-conflict situations was organised, in which students were trained from a critical theoretical and comparative perspective to engage with the work of Amr al-Azm, May al-Ibrashy and Cynthia P. Schneider. They were also encouraged to articulate questions for the participating experts.

14-15 SEPTEMBER

#### *Turkey and the Middle East*

While Turkey has long conceived of itself as a bridge between Asia and Europe, it also fostered ambitions to be a central player in regional and global affairs. In the decades following World War II Turkey focused primarily on its relations with Europe, while following a non-intervention policy with respect to the turmoils in the Middle East. In recent years, which were marked by conflicts and instability in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Turkey has sought to deepen its influence and power in the region. After 2007, President Erdoğan's Turkey, inspired by Ahmet Davutoğlu's "Strategic Depth" concept, gradually appeared to loosen its focus on Europe and attempted to increase its influence in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).

After the Arab uprisings, Turkey was considered as a role model for the MENA region by some, yet these expectations were shortlived. Since two years, Turkey seems to have abandoned the "Strategic Depth" policy, replacing it with a more pragmatic policy. Turkey's role in the MENA region is challenged by other regional powers such as Iran, Egypt, Qatar and Saudi Arabia as well as by the increasing international standing of the Kurds in Syria and Iraq. Discussion of this topic, therefore, remains of paramount importance for our understanding of current and future developments in the region.

This public lecture and debate explored the background of Turkey's national, regional and international political strategies regarding the MENA region. Speakers were invited to react to and comment on the following questions from their own experience and expertise:

- How can Turkey's policy changes be interpreted and positioned?
- How do the MENA countries respond to Turkey's changing political focus?
- To what extent are the Kurds challenging Turkey's position in the region?

Speakers were **Soner Çağaptay**, the Beyer Family fellow and director of the Turkish Research Program at The Washington Institute for Near East Policy; and **Amberin Zaman**, a Turkish journalist and researcher who has covered Turkey, the Kurds and regional conflicts for various international newspapers. The lectures and debate were introduced and moderated by **Erik-Jan Zürcher**, professor of Turkish Studies. More information about the speakers can be found [here](#).

On 15 September a student workshop on Turkey and the Middle East was organised, in which students were trained from a critical theoretical and comparative perspective to engage with the work of Soner Çağaptay and Amberin Zaman. They were also encouraged to articulate questions for the participating experts.

During this series of events, LUCIS interviewed Soner Çağaptay, Amberin Zaman, and Erik-Jan Zürcher on Turkey's foreign policy by LUCIS. These interviews can be viewed on the [Exchanges on the Middle East playlist](#) on our YouTube channel.

7-8 DECEMBER

#### *Libya: Prospects for Peace and Reconciliation*

Over six years after the 2011 February Uprising that ended Gaddafi's dictatorship, Libya has become a deeply troubled country. Subsequent governments failed to deliver on their objectives of building a unified, secure, capable, democratic and just state. Yet, neither the Libyan people nor the international community would like to see Libya fail as a state. For most Libyans this is obvious. The international community is concerned about the humanitarian situation as well as Libya being a source of instability and a safe haven for migrant smugglers and extremist groups.

National reconciliation appears to be the key precondition for state-building, but is hampered by a number of core problems:

- Libyan society is divided by several political, social and military fault lines;
- there is a lack of consensus among major political actors about several major governance issues;
- there is no united army or police force due to the existence of armed groups which for different reasons maintained their autonomy and refuse to hand over their arms and be incorporated in legitimate national army and police forces;
- external powers, by either supporting one party or another, exacerbate existing divisions.

Still, most actors recognize that the only future for Libya lies in national political agreement and reconciliation. Processes of national dialogue have seen some successes too. On 17 December 2015 the international community and many Libyans welcomed the new UN-brokered Libyan Political Agreement (LPA), which detailed a sensible course of action. Since then, its implementation has been challenged, amongst others by the elected House of Representatives (Tobruk) and General Haftar. On 7 December 2017 the LPA expired.

On the eve of the expiration of the LPA, this series of encounters addressed the regional, political, religious, and tribal fault lines which have kept Libya divided, identify strategic actors and groups which may decisively help to bring about reconciliation, and discuss major issues of governance which remain to be solved, including the control of the armed forces and the police.

Speakers were **Claudia Gazzini**, who holds a PhD in Middle Eastern History from Oxford University and is currently [UNSMIL](#) policy advisor to the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Ghassan Salamé; **Tarek Mitri**, who held several ministerial positions in Lebanon, was the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of UNSMIL in Libya, and is currently the director of the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Relations at the American University of Beirut; and **Youssef Sawani**, director of the Qadhafi Foundation before resigning in February 2011 to join the uprising and currently professor of Politics and International Relations at Tripoli University.

The lectures and debate were introduced and moderated by Karin Wester, Strategic Policy Advisor for the Middle East and North Africa of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands. **Jan Michiel Otto**, professor of law and governance in developing countries and director of the VVI; and **Suliman Ibrahim**, director of Benghazi University Centre for Law and Society Studies and senior researcher at the VVI. More information about the speakers can be found [here](#). A video registration of the evening can be found on [YouTube](#).

On 8 December a student workshop on Libya was organised, in which students were trained from a critical theoretical and comparative perspective to engage with the work of Claudia Gazzini Tarek Mitri, and Youssef Sawani. They were also encouraged to articulate questions for the participating experts. In addition, an expert meeting was organised in which experts on Libya from academia, NGOs, journalism and civil service engaged in a lively discussion with the speakers.

22 JUNE

Guided tour at Open Air Museum “100 Years After De Stijl”

Lecture by Hans Janssen: *The role of ornament in Mondriaan’s work*

Lecture by Eric Broug: *The parallels between Islamic geometric art and De Stijl*

In the summer, LUCIS organised two lectures connected to the “Mondriaan to Dutch Design year 2017”. Prior to the lectures, a free guided tour was provided at the Pieterskerkplein, where museum De Lakenhal held an [Open Air Museum](#) “100 Years After De Stijl” which showed how contemporary artists give meaning to abstract art.

Hans Janssen’s lecture dealt with the role of ornament in the work of Mondriaan. Eric Broug’s lecture analysed the parallels between Islamic geometric art and De Stijl. You can read more (in Dutch) about the lectures and speakers [here](#).

27 OCTOBER

Panel discussion

*Trump and the Iran Deal*

Convened by Maaïke Warnaar

On Friday 13 October, Trump announced that he had not recertified the 2015 Iran nuclear deal between Iran, US, UK, France, Germany, China and Russia. While the other partners to the deal quickly announced they continued to support it, the status of the agreement is unclear from an international legal point of view as well as a political perspective. Much will depend on the reaction in the countries involved: Iran, China, Russia and the EU and what interests – internal or geopolitical – will prevail. Another question is what motivated Trump’s speech.

On 27 October, LUCIS brought together specialists on the US, Iran and international proliferation treaties to debate the speech, its background and the possible consequences.

Speakers were **Maaïke Warnaar**, a researcher on Iran in the context of Middle East regional relations, **Mohammadbagher Forough**, who researches geopolitical shifts at the global level, **Sico van der Meer**, a research fellow at the Clingendael Institute whose work focusses on non-conventional weapons from a strategic policy perspective, and **Sara Polak**, assistant professor in American Studies at the Leiden University Centre for the Arts in Society. More information on the speakers can be found [here](#).

29 OCTOBER

Screening of *Insyriated*

Leiden International Film Festival

At this year’s Leiden International Film Festival, LUCIS adopted the film [Insyriated](#) to be included in the [programme](#). It was screened on the 29th of October with an introduction by Arnout van Ree, lecturer in International Studies at Leiden University. LUCIS also bought 40 tickets to circulate as free tickets.

### A3.5 Leiden-Aramco sponsorship programme

The Leiden-Aramco sponsorship programme is funded by Aramco, an industry partner with whom Leiden University has cooperated since 2013 when it celebrated 400 years of Arabic studies in Leiden. The organisation of this joint programme was integrated in the LUCIS office in 2014. It aims to share Leiden's expertise and knowledge about Arabic and Middle East studies with a wider audience in the Netherlands. Please find below an overview of the activities of the Leiden-Aramco sponsorship programme.

2 FEBRUARY

Leiden Lecture on Arabic Language and Culture by Thomas Bauer  
*A Forgotten Heyday of Arabic Culture: Literary Life in Mamluk Syria and Egypt (1250-1517 CE)*

This lecture was also the opening event of our What's New?! spring lecture series. For more details, see appendix [A3.1](#).

30 September

Middle Eastern Culture Market 2017

On Saturday 30 September, LUCIS organized the second edition of the Middle East Culture Market at the National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden. The aim of the market was to let young and old experience the diversity and splendor of Arab culture.

The central Temple Hall was transformed into a market, where vendors sold authentic Arabic products from all parts of the Arab world. A special children's corner was created, where children could listen to the miraculous stories and fairytales from the Middle East, and where several handicrafts were available for children to color and create. Musicians, poets and dancers performed on the Temple stage in the center of the room. In two separate rooms, visitors could enjoy workshops, lectures and language lessons. This year's keynote speaker was Kader Abdolah, a Persian-Dutch writer, poet and columnist.

The market attracted a large and very diverse audience, also due to media coverage and promotion. Around 800 people visited the market, its workshops, and lectures. Please find the complete programme of the Middle East Culture Market 2017 [here](#).

8 NOVEMBER

Arabic Music Night

On 8 November LUCIS organised the Arabic Music Night in the National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden. On this night in the beautiful Temple Hall of the museum, starting at 20.00 hours, Salon Jousour with Lebanese lead singer Rima Khcheich performed several songs, mostly from their new album *Washwishni*, which means "whisper to me". More information on Rima Khcheich and her latest album can be found [here](#).

Prior to the performance, a special programme was organised from 16.00-20.00 hours for invited guests only who could enjoy a private guided tour of the "Nineveh – Heart on an Ancient Empire" [exhibition](#), followed by a private lecture by Ahmad Al-Jallad entitled "Excavating Arabia: the Re-Discovery of Lost Languages and Civilisations" and a private dinner at the museum.

#### A4. LUCIS in the media 2017

Research conducted by scholars affiliated to LUCIS has attracted attention both inside and outside academia in 2017. Also, Leiden scholars have been consulted regularly to comment on current affairs related to Islam and Muslim societies. Please find below a selection of various media coverages related to research of LUCIS affiliated scholars.

##### Printed media

Date	Subject/title	Online source <sup>1</sup>	Type	Author/person involved	Medium
9 January	Iran verliest Rafsanjani	<a href="#">Link</a>	Article	Maaïke Warnaar	Holland Media Combinatie
12 January	Ook na 1400 jaar kan de islam heus verdwijnen	<a href="#">Link</a>	Article/Opinion	Gert Jan Geling	Trouw
21 January	De laatste theedrinkers	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article by Pieter Wieringa	Maurits Berger/ Afshin Ellian	Volkskrant
21 January	Wilders denkt niet dat hij boven de wet staat	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article by Arie Vermeij	Afshin Ellian	Algemeen Dagblad
24 January	Academia triomfeert: UvA jihadbruiden onderzoek was gebrekkig, onderzoekers kregen het op hun brood	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article by Jan Jaap de Ruijter	Afshin Ellian	The Post Online
30 January	They Teach Our Children, Advise Our Government and Support Jihad	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article by Abigail R. Esman	Afshin Ellian	The Algemeiner
1 February	Rutte doet als een Ayatollah: dicteren wat normaal is	<a href="#">Link</a>	Article/Opinion	Maurits Berger	NRC Handelsblad
3 February	De vrijheid om abnormaal te doen is een van onze pijlers	<a href="#">Link</a>	Article/Opinion	Maurits Berger	NRC Handelsblad

1. Some links are freely accessible; for others you need a subscriber's account. To read articles in the LexisNexis database, access through the Leiden University network is required.

Date	Subject/title	Online source	Type	Author/person involved	Medium
4 February	Ook terroristen vallen ten prooi aan stereotyperingen	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article by Caroline Kraaijvanger	Bart Schuurman	Scientias
5 February	5 Vragen over de Hofstadgroep	<a href="#">Link</a>	Interview by Els Anker	Bart Schuurman	Metro
10 February	Rechtbank moet zich schamen	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Afshin Ellian	Telegraaf
21 February	Hoogleraar Ellian: 'Ruzie met Wilders dom van RTL'	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Afshin Ellian	Mediacourant
23 February	Aanjagers van nieuw rechts; Geestverwanten	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article by Mischa Cohen	Maurits Berger	Vrij Nederland
28 February	Erdogan-fan krijgt taakstraf na bedreigen hoogleraar	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article	Afshin Ellian	Brabants Dagblad
28 February	Werkstraf voor Erdogan-fan	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article	Afshin Ellian	Telegraaf
4 March	Haatimams: stem Denk	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article by Alexander Bakker en Silvan Schoonhoven	Maurits Berger	Telegraaf
13 March	Erdogan werkt heel erg met vijandbeelden	<a href="#">Link</a>	Interview door Bob van Huet	Erik-Jan Zürcher	Algemeen Dagblad
13 March	Erop of eronder – dus hangt Erdogan tierend de sterke leider uit	<a href="#">Link</a>	Article/Opinion	Erik-Jan Zürcher	NRC Handelsblad
14 March	Rotterdam-rel komt Erdogan uiterst gelegen	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article by Wilfred Simons	Petra de Bruijn	Holland Media Combinatie
14 March	Altijd een complot	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Petra de Bruijn	Telegraaf
14 March	Heilig geloof in allerlei complotten	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Petra de Bruijn	Holland Media Combinatie

Date	Subject/title	Online source	Type	Author/person involved	Medium
14 March	Turkije-deskundige Zürcher: 'Economische sancties zouden Turkije meer pijn doen dan Nederland'	<a href="#">Link</a>	Interview by Stieven Ramdharie	Erik-Jan Zürcher	Volkskrant
1 April	Als blanke word je hier sneller vertrouwd	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article by Sjoerd Klumpenaar	Bart Barendregt	NRC Handelsblad
12 April	Ahmadinejad wil weer president worden	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Maaïke Warnaar	Trouw
13 April	Ahmadinejad wil weer president worden, maar de ayatollah ziet het niet zitten	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Maaïke Warnaar	Trouw
24 April	Sluitend bewijs voor rol Turkse regering in Armeense genocide	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article by Berend Sommer	Erik-Jan Zürcher	Elsevier
23 May	Aanslag bij concert van Ariana Grande heeft veel effect	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article by Chris Klomp	Daan Weggemans	Algemeen Dagblad
11 July	Heimweeijihadisten raken op drift	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article by Silvan Schoonhoven	Daan Weggemans	Telegraaf
11 July	Terugkeer jihadisten kost goud geld	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article by Silvan Schoonhoven	Daan Weggemans	Holland Media Combinatie
15 July	Erdogans macht is precair	<a href="#">Link</a>	Article/Opinion	Erik-Jan Zürcher	NRC Handelsblad
18 July	Onder de hoeven van Nederlandse Syriëgangers	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in column by Erdal Balci	Edwin Bakker	Volkskrant
26 October	Waar zal de volgende oorlog in Europa over gaan?; De grote vraag	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted by article	Maaïke Warnaar	Vrij Nederland
2 November	'Hij ging met niemand om'; Onderzoek De zaak-Buni Yani	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted by article	Bart Barendregt	De Groene Amsterdammer
6 November	Berber in Afrika en Nederland in opmars	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted by article	Maarten Kossmann	Leidsch Dagblad

Date	Subject/title	Online source	Type	Author/person involved	Medium
11 November	Snouck Hurgronje was een van de eerste Nederlanders die een inkijk gaf in de islam	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned by article	Jan Just Witkam	Trouw
13 November	'Berbers is een springlevende taal, ook in Nederland'	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned by article	Maarten Kossmann	Volkskrant
18 November	Maar professor, de islam kent geen slavernij!	<a href="#">Link</a>	Article	Petra Sijpesteijn	Trouw
4 December	Turkse theaterversie 'Het Diner' groot succes	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Petra de Bruijn	NRC Handelsblad
7 December	'Feitenvrij' is ook een linkse kwaal	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in opinion article	Gert Jan Geling	Nederlands Dagblad
20 December	Code Groen	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article	Bart Barendregt	Het Parool
20 December	Stichting oliesjeik betaalt hoogleraar LUCIS	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article	LUCIS	Leidsch Dagblad
<b>Online media</b>					
28 February	Werkstraf voor Erdogan-aanhanger na bedreiging hoogleraar	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article	Afshin Ellian	Omroep West
1 March	NL'se Erdogan-fan moet schoffelen na bedreiging.	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article by R. Reedijk	Afshin Ellian	PowNed
1 March	Werkstraf voor bedreiging Leidse Hoogleraar	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Afshin Ellian	Unity.nu
14 March	Dutch-Turkish Ties at Lowest Point in Four Centuries	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Erik-Jan Zürcher	Breitbart
14 March	Erdogan geeft stemadvies en beschuldigt Nederland van massamoord	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Erik-Jan Zürcher	Nos.nl
14 March	'Erdogan zoekt wel vaker de confrontatie, maar zet niet door'	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Erik-Jan Zürcher	Nos.nl

Date	Subject/title	Online source	Type	Author/person involved	Medium
14 April	Wat wil de Turkse president Erdogan met het referendum écht bereiken?	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Petra de Bruijn, Erik-Jan Zürcher	Nu.nl
10 July	IS zonder kalifaat: wat is Islamitische Staat nog zonder staat?	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Daan Weggemans	Nos.nl
12 July	Uitspraken van Gülen zeggen iets over mislukt liefdesverhaal met Erdogan	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Erik-Jan Zürcher	Nos.nl
13 July	Hundreds of Stone Tombs Discovered in Land of 'Dead Fire'	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article by Owen Jarus	Peter Akkermans	LiveScience
13 July	Boek over ontwikkeling van islamitische theologie aan West-Europese universiteiten	<a href="#">Link</a>	Announcement	Welmoet Boender	NieuwWij
17 July	Ölü Ateş Ülkesi'nin sırları	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article	Peter Akkermans	Gazette Duvar
18 July	Una nuova sensazionale scoperta in Giordania	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article	Peter Akkermans	Si Viaggia
21 July	上千个神秘古代铭文显示黑沙漠曾经有人类居住过	<a href="#">Link</a>	Article	Peter Akkermans	Weimeixi
24 July	When Arabophones Weren't Arabs: Ibn Outaybah and Identity Formation During the Early Period of Islam	<a href="#">Link</a>	Interview	Peter Webb	ArabLit
24 July	From ISIS-Lands to the Netherlands: Jihadists Try to Get the Press to Help Them Come Home	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in blog post by Nadette de Visser	Daan Weggemans	News of the Defense Intelligence Counter-terrorism
28 July	Cholera in Jemen: Hoe een geopolitiek conflict uitmond in een ramp	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Maaïke Warnaar	Nu.nl
14 November	Five Books to Take You Beyond One Thousand and One Nights	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in book review	Remke Kruk	Tor.com

Date	Subject/title	Online source	Type	Author/person involved	Medium
14 November	Para Tokoh Pengkaji Islam Internasional Hadiri Forum AICIS di Serpong	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mentioned in article	Nico Kaptein	Kabar24
21 November	Afshin Ellian reageert op uitspraak dat politieagente hoofddoek moet kunnen dragen: "Het College is overbodig en schadelijk!"	<a href="#">Link</a>	Article	Afshin Ellian	Dagelijkse Standaard
28 November	Door thema's als familie-eer en corruptie is Het Diner van Herman Koch ook in Turkije een succes	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Petra de Bruijn	Wetenschap.nu
20 December	De veranderende status van het Berber	<a href="#">Link</a>	Quoted in article	Maarten Kossmann	NEMO Kennislink
<b>Radio</b>					
6 June	Tienduizenden potentiële extremisten in Groot-Brittannië	<a href="#">Link</a>	Interview	Maurits Berger	NOS Met het Oog op Morgen
20 September	Deal met Iran op losse schroeven	<a href="#">Link</a>	Interview	Maaïke Warnaar	VPRO Bureau Buitenland
12 November	Erdogan zet alles op alles om mee te praten over Syrië	<a href="#">Link</a>	Interview	Erik-Jan Zürcher	NOS Met Het Oog Op Morgen
22 December	Waarom het rijke Saudi-Arabië bijstandsuitkeringen gaat uitkeren	<a href="#">Link 1</a> <a href="#">Link 2</a>	Interview	Maurits Berger	NOS Met Het Oog Op Morgen
<b>TV</b>					
12 April	Terugkijken – Reportage Annabel Nanninga over 'Erdogan-Turken' in Nederland	<a href="#">Link</a>	Television broadcast	Erik-Jan Zürcher	WNL Opiniemakers
23 August	Commotie rond ex-Hofstadlid als jeugdwerker Amsterdam	<a href="#">Link</a>	Television broadcast	Bart Schuurman	EenVandaag

### A5. Leiden Islam Blog articles in 2017

In December 2012 LUCIS launched the Leiden Islam Blog, a platform where scholars as well as advanced students and specialists outside academia can share their expertise and ideas about Islam and society with a wider audience. The Leiden Islam Blog stands out by reacting to current affairs related to Islam and Muslim societies while at the same time touching on the research being performed by scholars engaged in Islamic studies.

The blog contains contributions of about 600-800 words, usually in Dutch. Articles are edited by an editor before publishing. In 2017, the editorial team consisted of Annemarie van Sandwijk (editor-in-chief), Welmoet Boender (until 1 September 2017), Fatiha Azzarhouni (from 1 September 2017 until 1 January 2018), Nienke van Heek (since 1 January 2017) and Romy Koreman (since 1 September 2017).

Readers are invited to leave a comment on the published blogs in the comment section, which is monitored by the editorial staff editor to avoid content which is not in line with our principles concerning dialogue, debate and integrity. Please find below a list of articles published on the blog in 2017.

Date	Title	Online source	Author	Views*
19 January	Alle moslims gooien bommen	<a href="#">Link</a>	Petra Sijpesteijn	3.040
2 February	Islam en orgaantransplantatie: een veelbesproken vraagstuk	<a href="#">Link</a>	Roukayya Oueslati	2.352
6 February	De vrijheid om abnormaal te doen is een van onze pijlers	<a href="#">Link</a>	Maurits Berger	2.217
15 February	Hair and Poetry	<a href="#">Link</a>	Shahzad Bashir	2.084
23 February	“Reradicaliseren”: ronselen voor een betere wereld	<a href="#">Link</a>	Stijn Sieckelinck	1.614
28 February	Ontherinneren en ontkennd	<a href="#">Link</a>	Marlou Schrover	2.609
7 March	De “halalisering” van de schoolkantine	<a href="#">Link</a>	Nieuwscheckers	1.538
20 March	Towards a Book History of the Indian Ocean World	<a href="#">Link</a>	Mahmood Kooria	1.986

Date	Title	Online source	Author	Views*
3 April	With Our Own Hands: A Revolutionary Cookbook from the Pamir Mountains	<a href="#">Link</a>	Gabrielle van den Berg	4.397
18 April	Kirgizië en de diversiteit van islam	<a href="#">Link</a>	Nienke van der Heide	1.865
2 May	Niet iedere ‘moslim’ is ‘moslim’: onderzoek naar het verdwijnen van de islam in Nederland	<a href="#">Link</a>	Gert Jan Geling	3.217
17 May	Radical voices against Islam within the Church hierarchy in Greece	<a href="#">Link</a>	Konstantinos Papastathis	1.775
30 May	‘Meer oren en ogen in de wijk’ als wapen tegen jihadisme?	<a href="#">Link</a>	Peter Grol	1.356
14 June	Does the haircut make the thug? Why class matters in post-2011 Morocco	<a href="#">Link</a>	Cristiana Strava	1.812
4 September	Ibn Taymiyya: de islamitische Luther?	<a href="#">Link</a>	Marcel Poorthuis	1.350
20 September	Militant Islam between literature and pre-Islamic history	<a href="#">Link</a>	Peter Webb	1.605
5 October	Eeuwig Egypte	<a href="#">Link</a>	Petra Sijpesteijn	1.137
19 October	Atatürk en de hoofddoek	<a href="#">Link</a>	Erik-Jan Zürcher	1.852
31 October	In search of Ahmad Khatib	<a href="#">Link</a>	Nico Kaptein and Yasrul Huda	867
15 November	Hoe Marokkaanse jongeren het Nederlands verrijken	<a href="#">Link</a>	Maarten Kossmann	4.798
24 November	Een taboe nog groter dan slavernij	<a href="#">Link</a>	Petra Sijpesteijn	1.290
29 November	‘Pelgrim’ van Philip Dröge: Christiaan Snouck Hurgronje als spion, ladykiller en avonturier	<a href="#">Link</a>	Arnoud Vrolijk	1.081
5 December	Images of Authority	<a href="#">Link</a>	David Kloos and Leonie Schmidt	2.377
<b>Total</b>		<b>23</b>		

\* Reference date 31 July 2018.

## A6. LUCIS personnel in 2017

In 2017, the director of LUCIS was assisted by a project manager (0,8 fte), a position filled by Annemarie van Sandwijk, who is also in charge of all editorial output related to LUCIS. Petra de Bruijn holds the position of executive secretary (0,4 fte) at LUCIS. In addition, the LUCIS office includes:

Office manager:

- Nienke van Heek (from 1 January 2017 until 1 June 2018)

Several student-assistants:

- Daan Sanderse (from 1 September 2015 until 1 May 2017);
- Burak Fıçrı (from 15 August 2016 until 1 December 2017);
- Maïta Linzel (from 1 September 2016 until 1 January 2018);
- Rick Zuijderduijn (from 1 June 2017 until 1 July 2018);
- Romy Koreman ( as from 1 June 2017)

Please note that part of the personnel expenses of the student assistants are debited at the expense of the Leiden-Aramco programme budget, which falls under the LUCIS office.

## A7. Overview of LUCIS members and affiliated members

### LUCIS members: interfaculty spreading

Faculty	Members
Faculty of Humanities	75
Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences	10
Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs	7
Faculty of Archaeology	5
Faculty of Law	8
Leiden University Libraries	3
Dutch institutes abroad	2
African Studies Centre Leiden	3
Affiliated members	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>

### LUCIS members (Faculty of Humanities)

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Onur Ada	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "Turkey's Westernization"
Abdullah Alhatlani	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "Early Arabic Inscriptions in the Hijaz (Medina-Mecca-AL-Ula)"
Dr. Ahmad Al-Jallad	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies & Centre for Linguistics	Ancient Arabia; Ancient Northern Arabia; Arabic Language and Linguistics; Area Studies; History; Linguistics
A Arfiansyah	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "Ulama and the State in Modern Aceh"
Fatiha Azzarhouni	Centre for the Study of Religion	Islamic Theology

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Prof.dr. Monika Baar	Professor by special appointment of Central European Studies, Institute for History	Central and Eastern Europe; Cold War; Cultural History; Disability; Disability History; Global Health; Historiography; Human Rights; Human-Animal-Machine Nexus; Political Thought; Vulnerability
Dr. Ahab Bdaiwi	University Lecturer, Institute for Philosophy	Arabic Philosophy; Islamic Intellectual History; Islamic Studies; Medieval Studies; Metaphysics; Philosophical Theology; Shi'i Islam
Marietje Beemsterboer	PhD candidate, Centre for the Study of Religion	Title PhD project: "The Identity of Islamic Primary Schools in the Netherlands"
Dr. Gabrielle van den Berg	Senior University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Central Asia; Cultural History; Iran; Persian Literature; Tajikistan
Prof.dr. Maurits Berger	Professor of Islam in the Contemporary West, Centre for the Study of Religion	Arabic Studies; Islam in Europe; Islamic Studies; Religious Studies; Sharia
Prof.dr. Douglas Berger	Professor of Comparative Philosophy, Institute for Philosophy	China; Chinese; Continental Philosophy; Cross-Cultural Philosophy; India; Indian; Philosophy
Dr. Welmoet Boender	Researcher, Centre for the Study of Religion	Islamic Studies; Religious Studies
Dr. Ellen van de Bovenkamp	Lecturer & coordinator Leiden Islam Academy, Centre for the Study of Religion	Anthropology; Morocco
Dr. Nadia Bouras	University Lecturer, Institute for History	Migration; Morocco and the Netherlands
Dr. Petra de Bruijn	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Turkey; Turkish Literature and Performing Arts; Modern Turkish Islam
Prof.dr. Mirjam de Bruijn	Professor of Contemporary History and Anthropology of Africa, Institute for History	Africa; African History; Anthropology of Africa
Dr. Jelle Bruning	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Arabic Papyrology; Arabic Studies; Islamic History; Islamic Studies; Middle Eastern Studies; Papyrology
Dr. Marina Calculli	Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Critical Theory; International Relations; Irregular Armed Forces; Lebanon; Middle Eastern Studies, Political Violence; Syria

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Alon Dar	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Middle Eastern Studies; early Islam; Islamic conquests
Uğur Derin	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "The New Sevr Paranoia: The Discourse of the Turkish State about her Internal and External Enemies"
Dr. Nathal Dassing	University Lecturer, Centre for the Study of Religion	Anthropology of Islam; Islam in Europe; Islamic Studies; Ritual Studies; Study of Religion
Dr. Crystal Ennis	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	International Political Economy, International Relations, Middle Eastern Economy, Modern Middle Eastern Studies
Prof.dr. Judith Frishman	Professor of Judaism, Centre for the Study of Religion	Jews and Judaism in Modernity; Effects of Enlightenment and Modernity on Jewish Identity
Dr. Jan van Ginkel	Institute for Area Studies	Syriac; West Syrian Identity; Eastern Christianity; Christianity and Islam
Prof.dr. Jos Gommans	Professor of Colonial and Global History, Institute for History	Colonial History; Global History; History of Empires; South Asian History
Dr. Radhika Gupta	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Anthropology of Religion; Borderlands; Post-Colonial Politics; Religious Studies; Sociocultural Anthropology; Urban Anthropology
Dr. Christian Henderson	Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Political Economy and Development in the Middle East
Said Huseini	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Central Asia; Abassid Empire
Dr. Mattheus Immerzeel	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Early Christianity; Middle East
Nor Ismah	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "Flourishing Female Ulama: Practices, Authorities, and Institutions in Indonesia"
Peyman Jafari	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Historical Sociology; International Relations; Persian Studies; Social Classes
Shuqi Jia	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "The Long Arab Conquest of Central Asia: Urban Change in Merv, Paikent, Balkh and Samarkand (651-821)"

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Dr. Edmund Hayes	Researcher, Institute for Area Studies	Early Islamic History; Shi'i History
Idrees Kanth	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "National Consciousness and Public Discourse in Twentieth-Century Kashmir"
Dr. Nico Kaptein	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Islamic Studies; Southeast Asia; Religious Relations between the Middle East and Southeast Asia
Ömer Koçyigit	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "Millenarian Movements in 19th-Century Middle East"
Prof.dr. Pieter van Koningsveld	Professor emeritus of Islamic Studies, Centre for the Study of Religion	Religious Studies; Islamic Studies; Islam in the West; Muslim-Christian Relations; Slavery
Dr. Mahmood Kooriadathodi	Researcher, Institute for Area Studies	Indian Ocean Studies; Indian Ocean World; Islamic History; Legal History; South and South Asian Islam
Prof.dr. Maarten Kossmann	Professor of Berber Studies, Institute for Area Studies	Berber Languages; Descriptive Linguistics; Language Contact
Prof.dr. Remke Kruk	Professor emeritus of Arabic Language and Culture, Institute for Area Studies	Classical Arabic Literature, Islamic Philosophy and Science, Classical Arabic Literary Texts; Modern Arabic Religious Texts
Prof.dr. Heleen Murre-van den Berg	Professor of the History of Christianity, Centre for the Study of Religion	History of Christianity; Eastern Christianity
Eftychia Mylona	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project "Greeks in Egypt: Their Final Departure 1952-1970"
Dr. Judith Naeff	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Middle Eastern Studies; Cultural Studies
Dr. Tsolin Nalbantian	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	History; Lebanon; Middle East History; Middle Eastern Studies; Minorities and Diasporas in the Middle East; Syria; Turkey
Çiğdem Oğuz	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "Public Morality and the Ottoman Home Front during World War I"
Haneen Omari	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "In Search of the Truth: a Sufi Reading of Modern Palestinian Literature, 1950-2010"

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Dr. Nicole van Os	Coordinator of Studies, Institute for Area Studies	Turkish Studies
Roukayya Oueslati	Centre for the Study of Religion	Religious Studies; Islamic Studies; Islamic Bioethics; Fatwas
Dr. Elena Paskaleva	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Central Asia; Cultural History of Iran; Material Culture; Timurid Architecture; Uzbekistan
Hossein Pourbagheri	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "Cultural Reforms in Iran and its Social Impacts 1930-1940"
Marcela García Probert	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "The Use of Amulets and Talismans by Palestinian Muslim Women Based on the Tawfik Canaan Collection of Amulets"
Dr. Marijn van Putten	Researcher, Centre for Linguistics	Berber Languages
Dr. Felicia Rosu	University Lecturer, Institute for History	Early Modern Europe; East Central Europe; Elective Monarchy; Frontiers; Liberty; Mediterranean; Slavery
Arnout van Ree	Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	History of the MENA Region; Iranian History and Culture; Media and Politics; Gender Studies
Sasha Sabbah-Goldstein	PhD candidate, Centre for the Study of Religion	Title PhD Project: "The Jewish Community of Baghdad during the British Mandate and the Early Years of the Iraqi State"
Dr. Karène Sanchez	Researcher, Centre for Linguistics	Arab Christianity; European Missionaries in the Middle East; French Colonial History; French Language and Culture; History of Palestine; History of the Contemporary Middle East; Linguistic and Cultural Policies in the Levant; Minorities in the Middle East; Palestine; Second Language Acquisition
Dr. Eline Scheerlinck	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Greek and Coptic Papyrology; Early Islamic Egypt
Dr. Noa Schonmann	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Arab-Israeli Conflict; Conflict and Peace Studies; Foreign Policy Analysis; International Relations; Middle East; Political Legitimacy

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Prof.dr. Marlou Schrover	Professor of Migration History, Institute for History	Gender History; History of Class; History of Ethnicity; Migration History; Social History
Dr. Roshni Sengupta	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Interstices of Politics and Cinema; Cultural Politics; Representation in Indian and International Cinema; Politics and Media; Indian Politics; Religious and Cultural Nationalism; Communalism and Riot Politics; Politics of Developing Societies; Climate Politics and Ethics
Dr. Rizal Shidiq	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Economics of Modern Southeast Asia
Syahril Siddik	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	PhD project: "Islam, Politics and the Media in Indonesia"
Prof.dr. Petra Sijpesteijn	Professor of Arabic, Institute for Area Studies	Arabic Studies; Islamic History; Islamic Studies; Middle Eastern Studies; Papyrology
Dr. Amany Soliman	Researcher, Institute for History	Social and Political History of Modern Egypt; Nationalism and Nationalist Movements; History and Politics of Marginalized Groups; the Great War in the Middle East; Political, Social and Cultural History of the Mediterranean and the Middle East Region
Dr. Cristiana Strava	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Anthropology; Everyday Life; Morocco; Social Change; Urban Dynamics; Urban Ethnography; Urban Studies
Prof.dr. Harry Stroomer	Professor emeritus of Afro-Asiatic Languages, Centre for Linguistics	Afro-Asiatic Languages; Berber Languages; South Semitic Languages
Ade Suryani	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "Muslim Baduy: Da'wa, Conversion, and Identity"
Dr. Hans Theunissen	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Islamic Art; Middle East; Ottoman Architecture; Ottoman History; Turkey
Bekir Topaloglu	PhD candidate, Institute for Area Studies	Title PhD project: "Political Identity in the Greek-Speaking Muslim Community of Trabzon Province"
Dr. Sanderien Verstappen	Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute for Area Studies	Anthropology of Modern South Asia

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Dr. Maaïke Warnaar	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Foreign Policy; International Relations; Iranian Studies; Politics of the Middle East; Poststructuralism and Constructivism
Dr. Peter Webb	University Lecturer, Institute for Area Studies	Arab Identity; Arabic Historiography; Arabic Literature; Arabic Studies; Islamic History; Middle Eastern Studies
Dr. Corey Williams	University Lecturer, Centre for the Study of Religion	African Diaspora; Anthropology of Religion; Global Christianity; Immigration; Nigeria; Religion and Violence; Religion in Modern Africa
Prof.dr. Jan Just Witkam	Professor emeritus of Codicology, Institute for Area Studies	Islamic Book Culture; Islamic Bibliography; Codicology and Palaeography of the Islamic World; History of Orientalism
Prof.dr. Erik Jan Zürcher	Professor of Turkish Studies, Institute for Area Studies	Turkish History; Social History; Turkish Politics
<b>Total LUCIS members (faculty)</b>		<b>75</b>

**LUCIS members (Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences)**

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Dr. Bart Barendregt	Associate Professor, Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology	Antropology; Digital Society; Islam; Media; Popular Culture; Southeast Asia
Dr. Nienke van der Heide	Lecturer, Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology	Central Asia; Kyrgyzstan
Ahmad Nuril Huda	PhD candidate, Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology	Islamic Films and Cinematic Practices of Muslims in Contemporary Indonesia
Prof.dr. Judi Mesman	Dean Leiden University College, Professor of the Interdisciplinary Study of Societal Challenges, Education and Child Studies	Diversity; Parenting; Parental Sensitivity
Dr. Francesco Ragazzi	Assistant Professor, Institute of Political Science	Counterterrorism; Critical Theory; Diaspora Politics; Ethnic and Racial Diversity; Global Security; International Relations; Radicalisation; Terrorism
Dr. Jasmijn Rana	Assistant Professor, Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology	Muslim Women and Kickboxing
Dr. Annemarie Samuels	Assistant Professor, Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology	Antropology; Disasters; HIV/Aids; Indonesia; Morality; Narratives
Dr. Ratna Saptari Soetikno Slamet	Assistant Professor, Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology	Anthropology; Economy; Gender; Heritage; Migration; Social Movements; Southeast Asia

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Dr. Rebekah Tromble	Assistant Professor, Institute of Political Science	Central Asia; Digital Politics; Digital Society; Muslim Politics; Political Communication; Research Methods; Social Media; Social Movements
Dr. Mark Westmoreland	Associate Professor, Director of the Leiden School of Visual Ethnography, Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology	Visual Anthropology; Visual Ethnography
<b>Total LUCIS members (faculty)</b>		<b>10</b>

**LUCIS members (Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs)**

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Wietse van den Berge	Researcher, Institute of Security and Global Affairs	Counterterrorism; Safety; Terrorism
Dr. David Ehrhardt	University Lecturer, Leiden University College	International Development; Conflict Studies; Africa (West Africa and Nigeria in particular); Politics of Ethnicity, Religion and Class
Dr. Edmund Frettingham	Assistant Professor, Leiden University College	International Relations; Security Studies; Theories of Security; Religion in International Politics
Prof.dr. Sandra Groeneveld	Professor of Public Management, Institute of Public Administration	Diversity Management; Human Resource Management; Leadership; Methodology; Organisational Theory; Public Management; Representative Bureaucracy; Change Management
Liesbeth van der Heide	Lecturer and Researcher, Institute of Security and Global Affairs	Counterterrorism; Militant Social Movements; Non-State Actors; Radicalisation and Deradicalisation
Dr. Bart Schuurman	Assistant Professor, Institute of Security and Global Affairs	Counterterrorism; Political Legitimacy; Safety; Terrorism
Daan Weggemans	PhD candidate, Institute of Security and Global Affairs	Terrorism; Counterterrorism; Safety
<b>Total LUCIS members (faculty)</b>		<b>7</b>

**LUCIS members (Faculty of Archaeology)**

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Prof.dr. Peter Akkermans	Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology, Department of World Archaeology	Archaeology of the Near East; Jebel Qurma; Tell Sabib Abyad
Dr.ir. Mark Driessen	Lecturer and Researcher, Department of World Archaeology	Logistics and Trade; Netherlands and Jordan; Roman Army; Roman Provincial Archaeology
Dr. Sada Mire	Assistant Professor, Department of Archaeological Heritage and Society	Archaeology and Anthropology of Africa; Cultural Heritage; Development and Rights; Digital Heritage; Somali Archaeology
Prof.dr. Frans Theuws	Professor of Medieval Archaeology of Europe, Department of World Archaeology	Archaeology of Christianisation; Early Medieval Cemeteries; Early Towns; Rural Resettlements; Trade and Exchange
Prof.dr. Joanita Vroo	Professor of Archaeology of Medieval and Early Modern Eurasia, Department of World Archaeology	Byzantine Archaeology; Ceramics; Dining Habits and Cuisine; Islamic Archaeology; Ottoman Archaeology
<b>Total LUCIS members (faculty)</b>		<b>5</b>

**LUCIS members (Faculty of Law)**

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Prof.dr. Adriaan Bedner	Professor of Law and Society in Indonesia, Institute for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Law, Van Vollenhoven Institute	Access to Justice; Courts and Dispute Resolution; Indonesia; Indonesian Law and Society; Law, Governance and Development
Annelien Bouland	Phd candidate, Institute for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Law, Van Vollenhoven Institute	Access to Justice; Gender; Legal Anthropology; Senegal
Prof.dr. Afshin Ellian	Professor of Jurisprudence, Academic Director of the Institute for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Law	Criminal Law; Jurisprudence; Multicultural Society; Philosophy of Law; Political Islam; Separation of Church and State; Terrorism
Gert Jan Geling	Phd candidate, Institute for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Law	Freedom of Religion; Leaving Islam
Dr. Zeynep Kasli	Lecturer, Institute for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Law, Van Vollenhoven Institute	Minority and Migrants' Rights; Multi-Level Governance of Citizenship; Borders
Arshad Muradin	PhD candidate, Institute for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Law, Van Vollenhoven Institute	Islam in the Netherlands; Islamic Law
Dr. Ibrahim Suliman	Assistant Professor/Visiting Senior Researcher, Institute for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Law, Van Vollenhoven Institute	Access to Justice; Legislation Assessment; Real Property Law; Sharia Incorporation
Prof.dr. Jan Michiel Otto	Professor of Law and Governance in Developing Countries, Institute for the Interdisciplinary Study of the Law, Van Vollenhoven Institute	Environment; Land Tenure; Land, Governance and Development; Local Government; Sharia and National Law
<b>Total LUCIS members (faculty)</b>		<b>8</b>

**LUCIS members (Leiden University Libraries)**

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Tijmen Baarda	Subject Librarian for Middle Eastern Studies and the Islamic World	Arab Christianity; Contemporary History of the Middle East; Hebrew and Aramaic Language and Literature; Minorities in the Middle East; Religious Studies
Dr. Karin Scheper	Curator, Special Collections	Islamic Bookbinding
Dr. Arnoud Vrolijk	<i>Interpres Legati Warneriani</i> , Curator of Oriental Manuscripts and Rare Books, Special Collections	Leiden Oriental collections; Early History of Oriental Scholarship in the Netherlands
<b>Total LUCIS members (faculty)</b>		<b>3</b>

**LUCIS members (Dutch institutes abroad)**

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Prof.dr. Léon Buskens	Director of the Netherlands Institute in Morocco (NIMAR), Chair for Law and Culture in Muslim Societies	Islamic Studies; Middle Eastern Studies; Islamic Law and Society; Anthropology of Muslim Societies; Morocco; Indonesia
Dr. Rudolf de Jong	Director of the Netherlands-Flemish Institute in Cairo (NVIC)	Semitic Languages and Linguistics; Arabic Dialectology; Contemporary Egypt
<b>Total LUCIS members (faculty)</b>		<b>2</b>

**LUCIS members (African Studies Centre Leiden)**

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Prof.dr. Wim van Binsbergen	Retired Research Fellow	Theory and Method of Research on Cultural Globalisation; Virtuality, Information and Communication Technology; Ethnicity; Religion
Elvire Eijkman	Information Specialist	African Studies Resources; Collection Development; Documentation
Dr. Mayke Kaag	Senior University Lecturer	Africa in the World; African Migration; Cameroon; Chad; Informal Workers; Land Issues; Political Anthropology, Religion and Development; Senega; West-Africa
<b>Total LUCIS members (faculty)</b>		<b>3</b>

**LUCIS affiliated members**

Name	Affiliation	Expertise
Dr. Marietje Beemsterboer	Researcher and Guest Lecturer	Islam and Education in the Netherlands
Dr. Maurits van den Boogert	Islamic and Middle East Studies Acquisitions Editor at Brill Academic Publishers	Encyclopaedia of Islam; Manuscripts and Printing; Jews and Christians in the Islamic World; Ottoman and Turkish Studies; Primary Sources; Text Editions Online
Dr. Dorrit van Dalen	Anthropologist, Historian and Journalist	Islam in Africa
Prof.dr. Ahmad Al Hosain	Professor of Arabic Language and Literature at Damascus University	Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies; Classical & Modern Arabic Literature; Teaching Arabic as a Foreign Language; Methods of Literary Criticism; Literary History; Arabic Grammar; Philology; Arab Culture Studies
Dr. David Kloos	Researcher at the Netherlands Institute for Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV)	History and Anthropology of Islam; Colonial and Postcolonial History: Visual Anthropology; Gender; Violence
Dr. Heinrich Matthee	Senior Analyst and Strategy Advisor at IJSR	Strategic Trends, Political Risk Management, and Business Opportunities in the Middle East and North Africa
Dr. Luit Mols	Research Consultant and Guest Lecturer at SABIEL Research and Advice Bureau Islamic Art, The Hague	Islamic Art and Culture
Dr. Annemarike Stremmelaar	Historian	Turkey; Middle East; Muslims in the Netherlands
Prof.dr. Thijl Sunier	Professor of Cultural Anthropology, chair Islam in European societies at VU University Amsterdam	Anthropology of Religion (Islam; Politics and Islam; Leadership; Young People and Islam); Migration; Ethnicity; Nation Building and European History; Turkey

**Total LUCIS members (faculty)****9****A8. Financial report 2017**

In 2017, LUCIS received € 280.600 funding from the Executive Board. Total expenditures in 2017 came to € 297.774, consisting of € 181.524 staffing costs (support staff) and € 90.208 material costs. Material costs included expenses related to the following categories/activities:

- travel and accommodation
- official expenses / “representatiekosten” (catering, lunches, dinners)
- honoraria and grants
- venues
- office supplies
- general publicity
- publications (indexing, books, open access costs)

As a result of this budget surplus, the accumulated reserve of LUCIS increased with € 13.790 (see table below).

**Income in 2017**

Contribution Executive Board	€ 280.600
Indonesian Ministry of Religious Affairs	€ 26.000
Fees summer school	€ 4.963
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 311.564</b>

**Expenditures in 2017**

Staffing costs	€ 181.524
Material costs	€ 116.250
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>€ 297.774</b>

**Budget surplus****€ 13.790**

Please note that income and expenses related to the Leiden-Aramco sponsorship programme were booked on a separate SAP order number, which is not included in this financial overview. Income earned in 2017 as a result of successfully applying for a fifth donation at Aramco amounted to € 93.000.

### A9. Individual annual reports of LUCIS director and steering committee members 2017

This appendix provides individual annual reports of the director of LUCIS (Sijpesteijn) and of LUCIS steering committee members in 2017 (Barendregt, Van den Berg, Berger, Buskens, Kaptein, Otto). The quality of research of all LUCIS members is guaranteed by and stated in:

1. the research assessments of their respective institutes, either the Leiden Institute for Area Studies & the Leiden Centre for the Study of Religion (LUCSoR), the Institute for History (Humanities faculty), the Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology and the Institute of Political Sciences (both Social Sciences faculty), and the Van Vollenhoven Institute (Law faculty);
2. their annual individual Performance & Development reviews.

For this report it suffices to say that LUCIS members produce rich and varied research with a clear international outlook and relevance to ongoing debates. There is a considerable variety in terms of subject matter and approach, which reflects LUCIS' mission as an interdisciplinary community.

#### Prof. P.M. (Petra) Sijpesteijn (LIAS) – Academic director of LUCIS

##### Publications

- “Alle moslims gooien bommen,” in: *Waar verzet jij je tegen?*, eds. Mark Geels & Tim van Opijnen (Maven Publishing); also published on the Leiden Islam Blog ([here](#)), 19 January 2017.
- “[Kopten, christenen en moslims in Egypte](#),” *IsGeschiedenis*, 28 July 2017.
- “Eeuwig Egypte,” *RMO magazine*. Uitgave van de vriendenvereniging van het Rijksmuseum van Oudheden 18 (43): 23; also published on the Leiden Islam Blog ([here](#)), 5 October 2017.
- “[Maar professor, de islam kent geen slavernij!](#),” *Trouw*, 18 November 2017; a [shortened version](#) appeared on the Leiden Islam Blog on 24 November 2017.
- Co-edited with Maaïke van Berkel and Léon Buskens, *Legal Documents as Sources for the History of Muslim Societies. Studies in Honour of Rudolph Peters* (Leiden: Brill, 2017).
- “Introduction,” in *Legal Documents as Sources for the History of Muslim Societies. Studies in Honour of Rudolph Peters*, eds. Maaïke van Berkel, Léon Buskens and Petra Sijpesteijn (Leiden: Brill, 2017).

- “Delegation of Judicial Power in Abbasid Egypt,” in *Legal Documents as Sources for the History of Muslim Societies. Studies in Honour of Rudolph Peters*, eds. Maaïke van Berkel, Léon Buskens and Petra Sijpesteijn (Leiden: Brill, 2017).
- Review of *Fürsprachebriefe in der arabisch-islamischen Welt des 8.-14. Jahrhunderts: Eine sozial- und entalitätsgeschichtliche Untersuchung, Arabische Literatur und Rhetorik — Elfthundert bis Achtzehnhundert (ALEA)*, in *Bibliotheca Orientalis* LXXIV(1-2): 200-205.
- “The rise and fall of empires in the Islamic Mediterranean (600-1600 CE): political change, the economy and material culture,” in *The Routledge Handbook of Archaeology and Globalization*, ed. T. Hodos, Routledge Handbooks: Routledge.

##### Current research projects and grant applications

- ERC Consolidator Grant project entitled “[Embedding Conquest: Naturalising Muslim Rule in the Early Islamic Empire](#)” (2017-2022), awarded December 2015.
- Supervising participant in Marie Curie Individual Fellowships proposal of Grzegorz Ochala, entitled “Identity and Memory in Christian Nubia: Methods of (self-)Presentation and Preserving Memories in Written Sources,” submitted 14 September 2017.

##### Lectures

- 27 January 2017, “Reconstruire le milieu intellectuel de l’Égypte médiévale parmi les papyrus arabes,” lecture at colloquium “Autour de la Bibliotheca coranica de Fustat les traditions scripturaires en Égypte, de la conquête musulmane aux Fatimides (7e-10e siècle),” Collège de France, Paris.
- 6, 13, 20 & 27 February 2017, 4 lectures at the EHESS, Paris, “Conquête et négociation;” “L’arabisation et l’islamisation comme processus socio-culturels;” “Réparer l’injustice;” “Organisation et appartenance sociale.”
- 10 February 2017, “Travaux récents en papyrologie arabe,” presentation at Atelier d’historiographie critique, Studia Islamica, Paris.
- 6 March 2017, “Shagaret al-Dur,” lecture at the exhibition “Queens of the Nile” at the National museum of Antiquities, Leiden.
- 14 April 2017, “What did the Egyptians read? Reconstructing the intellectual milieu in early Islamic Egypt through the papyri,” lecture at Eastern Mediterranean Seminar on “Papyri and History,” University of Chicago.
- 31 May 2017, “Estate-holders vs bureaucrats: building loyalty to the state in early Islamic Egypt,” presentation at workshop “The Benefits of Office. Privilege and Loyalty in the Ancient Mediterranean World,” VU University Amsterdam.

- 21-25 August 2017, intensive course on Arabic Papyrology, Department of Near Eastern Studies, Princeton University.
- 26 October 2017, "Sacrificing virgins to the Nile in early Islamic Egypt," lecture at seminar "Restructuring Late Antiquity and the Early Middle Ages (AD c.300-c.800)," Durham University; podcast of this lecture is available [here](#).
- 10 November 2017, "Blessings for the prophet Muhammad and his family," lecture at [conference](#) "Late Antique Religion in Practice: Papyri and the Dynamics of Religious Identification," Leiden University.
- 16 November 2017, "Maagden offeren aan de Nijl in vroeg-islamitisch Egypte: Kolonisatie en acculturalisatie," lecture at the *Historische Kring*, Leiden.
- 7 December 2017, "Strategies against written fraud in Arabic papyri," presentation at workshop "Fiddling with documents," Leiden University.

#### PhD candidates

- Abdullah AlHatlani, *Archaeology of Arabia: the Transition to Islam*, co-promotor, together with Prof. Robert Carter (UCL Qatar).
- Jake Benson, *Naqsh bar Ab, "Design upon Water": Paper Marbling in the Islamic World*, together with Dr. Gabrielle van den Berg.
- Alon Dar, *From Court to Province – and Back: Politics and Society in Early Islamic Egypt and Khorasan*, PhD candidate in ERC project "Embedding Conquest: Naturalising Muslim Rule in the Early Islamic Empire" (2017-2022).
- Said Huseini, *Tukharistan at the Eve of the "Arab Conquest": Continuity, Transition and Change Before and After Arab Domination of the Region*, PhD candidate in ERC project "Embedding Conquest: Naturalising Muslim Rule in the Early Islamic Empire" (2017-2022).
- Shuqi Jia, *The Long Arab Conquest of Central Asia: Urban Change in Merv, Paikent, Balkh and Samarkand (651-821)*, co-promotor, together with Prof. Hugh Kennedy (SOAS).
- Judith Kindinger, *Dress under Stress? Dress and Identity among Egyptian Muslims and Christians from the Sixteenth to the Twentieth Century*, part of the NWO project "Fitting in/Standing Out: Comparing Majority and Minority Dress Codes among Egyptian Muslims and Christians," co-promotor, together with Prof. Bas ter Haar Romeny (VU University Amsterdam).
- Fokelien Kootstra, *Ancient North Arabian Inscriptions from the Oasis of Dadan in the Northern Hijaz*, co-promotor, together with Dr. Ahmad Al-Jallad.
- Eftychia Mylona, *Greeks in Egypt: Their Final Departure 1952-1970*, co-promotor, together with Dr. Tsolin Nalbantian.

- Haneen Omari, *In Search of the Truth: A Sufi Reading of Modern Palestinian Literature, 1950-2010*, co-promotor, together with Ziad Elmarsafy (King's College London).
- Alexandra Plesa, *Dress and Identity of Religious Groups in Late Antique and Early Islamic Egypt*, part of the NWO project "Fitting in/Standing Out: Comparing Majority and Minority Dress Codes among Egyptian Muslims and Christians," co-promotor, together with Prof. Bas ter Haar Romeny (VU University Amsterdam).
- Marcela García Probert, *The Use of Amulets and Talismans by Palestinian Muslim Women. Based on the Tawfik Canaan Collection of Amulets*, co-promotor, together with Prof. Salim Tamari (Birzeit University, Palestine).
- Eline Scheerlinck, *We Will Not Let Any Harm Be Done to You: Local Elites in their Relationships with their Communities and the State in Early Islamic Egypt*, PhD candidate in ERC project "Embedding Conquest: Naturalising Muslim Rule in the Early Islamic Empire" (2017-2022).

**Members of the steering committee:****Dr. B.A. (Bart) Barendregt – Institute of Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology****Publications**

- “[The Digital Sound of Southeast Asian Islam](#),” in *Piety, Celebrity, Sociality: A Forum on Islam and Social Media in Southeast Asia*, eds. Martin Slama and Carla Jones, American Ethnologist website, 8 November 2017.
- With Peter Keppy & Henk Schulte Nordholt, *Popular Music in Southeast Asia: Banal Beats, Muted Histories* (Amsterdam: Amsterdam University Press).
- “Deep Hanging Out in the Age of the Digital: Contemporary Ways of Doing Online and Offline Ethnography,” *Asiascape: Digital Asia* 4, no. 3: 307-319.
- Edited with A.N. Weintraub, *Vamping the Stage: Female Voices of Asian Modernities* (Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press).
- “Princess Siti and the Particularities of Post-Islamist Pop,” In *Vamping the Stage: Female Voices of Asian Modernities*, eds. Andrew Weintraub and Bart Barendregt (Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press), 211-233.
- With Andrew Weintraub, “Re-Vamping Asia: Women, Music, and Modernity in Comparative Perspective,” in *Vamping the Stage: Female Voices of Asian Modernities*, eds. Andrew Weintraub and Bart Barendregt (Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press), 1-39.

**Current research projects**

- “Critical Approaches to New Asian Media Ecologies,” CANAME, 2017-2019, AMT funded project, together with Prof. Hilde de Weerd and Dr. Florian Schneider.

**Lectures**

- 3 May 2017, “Making SE Asian Islam Digitally Sound & Selling (and how to do research on it),” lecture at SCORE, Stockholm.
- 12 April 2017, “Klanken van Herinnering, Indonesisch-Nederlandse Muzikale Ontmoetingen,” lecture at International Council on Monuments and Sites (Icomos).
- 28-30 July 2017, “Streaming Islamism, or How to Make Dakwah Digitally Sound,” lecture at Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Conference, SungKongHoe University, Seoul.
- 23-24 September 2017, keynote lecture and masterclasses at the ICON Laterals International Conference on Digital Literacy, Universitas Brawijaya, Malang.

- 13 November 2017, “Edutainment, Literacy, and the Fate of Faith in a Digital Era,” lecture during LUCIS course on academic skills, 6 November-15 December 2017.
- 14 December 2017, “Preaching Among the Stars: Muslim Southeast Asian Halal Edutainment in an Era of Reality TV,” lecture at LUCIS Annual Conference “Islamic Visualities and In/Visibilities: Reimagining Public Citizenship?,” Leiden, 13-15 December 2017 (co-convenor).

**PhD candidates**

- Muhammad Zamzam Fauzanafi, *The Citizens (De)Facing The Dynasty: Digital Citizenship and Anti Corruption Campaigns Against Banten Political Dynasty*.
- Ahmad Nuril Huda, *Projecting Islam on Screen*.
- Nuraini Juliastuti, *Remixing Regimes: the Politics of Indonesian Participatory Pop*, co-supervisor with Patricia Spyer (Graduate Institute Geneva) and Henk Schulte Nordholt (KITLV).
- Zane Kripe, *Future Making Practices of Southeast Asian Geeks*.
- Mubarika Dyah Fitri Nugraheni, *Javanese Hip-hop in a Global Context: Constructing Creativity and Community through Digital Sensibilities*.
- Lusvita Nuzuliyanti, *K-pop Indonesian Muslim Female Fans and the Negotiation of Gender and Religious Identities*.
- Julia Se, *Representation of the Chinese-Indonesian in Popular Media Post-Suharto*, co-supervisor together with Prof. Ben Arps.

### Dr. G.R. (Gabrielle) van den Berg (LIAS)

#### Publications

- "[With Our Own Hands: A Revolutionary Cookbook from the Pamir Mountains](#)," Leiden Islam Blog, 3 April 2017.
- With A. Khatibi, *Shabrangnāme - dāstan-e shabrang pesar-e div-e sepid va rostam* شبرنگنامه – داستان و سپید دیو پسر شبرنگ (Shabrangnāme: the Story of Shabrang, Son of the White Div and Rostam), no. 192 (Tehran: Entesharat-e Doktor Mahmud Afshar ba hamkari-ye Sokhan).
- "Literatur der Völker des Pamir," *Handbuch der Iranistik* no. 2, ed. Paul Ludwig (Wiesbaden: Ludwig Reichert Verlag), 364-370.
- Edited with Charles Melville, *Shahnama Studies III – The Reception of the Shahnama* (Leiden: Brill).
- "Rustam's Grandson in Central Asia: The Sistani Cycle Epics and the Shahnama Tradition," in *Shahnama Studies III – The Reception of the Shahnama*, eds. Gabrielle van den Berg and Charles Melville (Leiden: Brill), 94-107.

#### Current research projects

- NWO VICI project entitled "[Turks, Texts and Territory: Imperial Ideology and Cultural Production in Central Eurasia](#)," awarded 2015.
- Asian Modernities and Traditions (AMT) Large Grant for [Central Asia Initiative](#).

#### Lectures

- 18 January 2017, presentation at Persian Language and Iranian Studies Symposium of the Societas Iranologica Europaea, invited by the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology, I.R. of Iran, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran.
- 3 March 2017, "Sistani Epics in the Shahnama Manuscript Tradition," presentation at seminar "Le Livre des Rois de Ferdowsi et les épopées sistaniennes: strates textuelles, strates iconographiques," Collège de France, Paris.
- 20 April 2017, "Shiite Magic," lecture at Itinerario conference "Global Nodes, Networks, Orders: Three Global History Workshops on Transformative Connectivity," organised by Jos Gommans, Carolien Stolte and Cátia Antunes, Leiden University.
- 28 April 2017, "From the Caspian to the Pamirs: tracing the travels of a Persian religious epic poem," lecture at S.I.E. Symposium New Research in Iranian Studies, organized by Christoph Werner, University of Marburg.

- 25-27 June 2017, "Representations of the Pre-Islamic Past in Early Persian Court Poetry," lecture at London Global Gateway Conference "The History and Culture of Iran and Central Asia in the First Millennium CE: From the Pre-Islamic to the Islamic Era," organised by the University of Notre Dame and Kyoto University.
- 5-7 July 2017, "Post-Shahnama Epics," presentation at panel organised by Jaakko Hämeen-Anttila on the Shahname and the Heroic Epic in Iran, BRISMES Annual Conference, Edinburgh.

#### PhD candidates

- Jake Benson, *Naqsh bar Ab, "Design upon Water": Paper Marbling in the Islamic World*, supervisor Prof. Petra Sijpesteijn, starting date 1 May 2016.
- Jaimee Comstock-Skipp (external PhD candidate), *The Forgotten Decades: the Shaybanid Take on Ferdowsi's Shahnama Epic and Artistic Exchanges in late 16th-Century Khorasan and Transoxiana*, supervisor Prof. Ivo Smits, starting date 1 October 2017.
- Mohammad Karim Eshragh, *Ahval-e Safar-e Bukhara – Izzatullah's Diplomatic Missions to Central Asia*, supervisor Prof. Jos Gommans.
- Wu Jinhua, *Education and Poetic Identity in Contemporary Chinese Poetry*, supervisor Prof. Maghiel van Crevel, starting date 1 September 2011.
- Tobias Jones ([PhD in VICI project](#)), *Loyalty, Punishment and Violence in the Turco-Mongol world*, starting date 1 August 2017.
- Deborah Kim, *A grammar of Sarikoli*, supervisor Prof. Alexander Lubotsky; other co-supervisor Prof. Maarten Kossmann, LUCL, PhD defence on 20 September 2017.
- Nicholas Kontovas ([PhD in VICI project](#)), *Semantic Reanalysis and Grammaticalization in Middle Turkic*, starting date 1 January 2018.
- Sara Mirahmadi ([PhD in VICI project](#)), *Global Ambitions. The Saljuqs & Ilkhanids in Konya and Tabriz*, starting date 1 January 2017.
- Liesbet Nyssen, *Khakas folk music-making in the first post-Soviet decade. How Khakas professional folk musicians reinterpreted their heritage performance traditions in a time of world-shaking transitions*, supervisor Prof. Léon Buskens, other co-supervisor Dr. Nienke van der Heide, starting date 1 September 2016.
- Maria Riep, *Frontiers, Conquest and Mobility along the Upper Syr Darya between the 7th and 10th Century*, supervisor Prof. Hilde de Weerd, ongoing, involved since September 2015.
- Katherine Williams, *Word Dueling in Persian Literature: Kalila and Dimna*, supervisor Prof. Albert de Jong, starting date 28 February 2012.
- Yang Lan Yi, *Poetry of the Nineties*, supervisor Prof. Maghiel van Crevel, starting date 1 September 2012.

### Prof. M.S. (Maurits) Berger (LUCSoR)

#### Publications

- "[Rutte doet als een Ayatollah: dicteren wat normaal is](#)," *NRC Handelsblad*, 3 February 2017.
- "[Islam, Europa en de joods-christelijke beschaving](#)," *Tijdschrift voor Religie, Recht en Beleid* 8, no. 2: 36-56.
- "[Kalifaat en de islamitische staat](#)," *Tijdschrift voor Religie, Recht en Beleid* 8, no. 1: 6-24.
- "[Plaats voor islam in Nederlands familierecht?](#)," *Ars Aequi*, December 2017.
- "[Sayyid Outb \(1906-1966\): De islam tegen de rest](#)," *De Groene Amsterdammer* 141, no. 1: 42-45.

#### PhD candidates

- Marietje Beemsterboer, *Identity of Islamic Primary Schools in the Netherlands*, NWO PhD scholarship for teachers, PhD defence on 12 June 2018.
- Ernesto Braam, *The Salafi Movement in South Thailand*, together with Dr Nico Kaptein.
- Sami Al-Daghistani, *The Making of Islamic Economics. An Epistemological Inquiry into Islam's Moral Economic Teachings, Legal Discourse, and Islamization Process*, PhD defence on 30 November 2017.
- Marc van Oudheusden, *Conspiracy Theories in the Middle East*.

Berger is director of the [Leiden Islam Academie](#) and editor-in-chief of *Tijdschrift voor Religie, Recht en Beleid*.

### Prof. L.P.H.M. (Léon) Buskens (LIAS/VVI/NIMAR)

#### Publications

- Co-edited with Maaïke van Berkel and Petra Sijpesteijn, *Legal Documents as Sources for the History of Muslim Societies. Studies in Honour of Rudolph Peters* (Leiden: Brill, 2017).
- "Introduction," in *Legal Documents as Sources for the History of Muslim Societies. Studies in Honour of Rudolph Peters*, eds. Maaïke van Berkel, Léon Buskens and Petra Sijpesteijn (Leiden: Brill, 2017).
- "From Trash to Treasure. Ethnographic Notes on Collecting Legal Documents in Morocco," in *Legal Documents as Sources for the History of Muslim Societies. Studies in Honour of Rudolph Peters*, eds. Maaïke van Berkel, Léon Buskens and Petra Sijpesteijn (Leiden: Brill, 2017).

#### Current research projects

- 2013-2017, with Thijl Sunier (VU University Amsterdam), NWO programme "Religion in Modern Society," *Making Islam Work in the Netherlands. Islamic Authority and Islamic Law in the Netherlands among Ordinary Muslims: Recent Trends and Developments*, awarded June 2013.

#### Organisation of academic events

- 24-25 February 2017, organisation of [workshop](#) "Customs, Culture, Shari'a and National Law," in the framework of HERA research project.
- 21 June 2017, book launch *Legal Documents as Sources for the History of Muslim Societies*, co-edited with Maaïke van Berkel and Petra Sijpesteijn, as a tribute to the work of legal and social historian and Arabist Rudolph Peters (University of Amsterdam).
- 2-3 November 2017, organisation of conference "Collecting the Muslim World," convened with Mercedes Volait, in cooperation with NIMAR (Rabat), CNRS, InVisu and IISMM (Paris).

#### Lectures

- 3 November 2017, "Collecting Mecca: Snouck Hurgronje, the Materiality of the Holy City in 1884-1885, and its Afterlife," lecture at conference "Collecting the Muslim World," 2-3 November 2017, Leiden University.
- 23 November 2017, research presentation about the conference "Collecting the Muslim World," together with Mercedes Volait in the framework of the seminar "Parcours anthropologiques dans le monde arabe," EHESS, Paris.
- 21 December 2017, "La lutte pour le passé marocain continue: Ernest Gellner et après..." lecture at EHESS, Paris, in the framework of the seminar "Parcours anthropologiques dans le monde arabe."

### PhD candidates

- Arfiansyah (external PhD candidate, funding from Indonesia Endowment Fund for Education LPDP scholarship), *Ulama and the State in Modern Aceh*, registered at the Faculty of Humanities/LIAS, Leiden University, together with Prof. Adriaan Bedner (VVI).
- Dina Bakhom (external PhD candidate, private funding), *Restoration of Islamic Monuments in Egypt*, registered at the Faculty of Humanities/LIAS, Leiden University, together with Prof. Mercedes Volait (CNRS Paris).
- Al Farabi (funding from LPDP scholarship, Indonesia), *Islam, State Law, and Culture: Extra-Judicial Marital Practice among Indonesian Muslims in Bengkulu (Bengkulu)*, Faculty of Humanities/LIAS, Leiden University, together with Prof. Adriaan Bedner.
- Latif Fauzi (KEMENAG, Indonesia), *Islam, Law, and Divorce. Public Reasoning and Practices of Talik Talak in Javanese Muslim Society*, Faculty of Humanities/LIAS, Leiden University, together with Prof. Adriaan Bedner
- Arshad Muradin (NWO project Making Islam Work in the Netherlands with additional funding from HERA project), *The Creation and Application of Islamic Law in the Context of Counseling and Mediation*, Faculty of Law/VVI, Leiden University, together with Prof. Thijs Sunier (VU University).
- Rehanna Nurmohamed (external PhD candidate, private funding), *Sharia and National Law in the United Arab Emirates. An Analysis of its Legal System and Historical and Social Background*, Faculty of Law/VVI, Leiden University.
- Liesbet Nyssen (external PhD candidate, private funding), *Khakas Folk Music-Making in the First Post-Soviet Decade*, Faculty of Humanities/LIAS, Leiden University, together with Dr Gabrielle van den Berg and Dr Nienke van der Heide.
- Syaifuddin Zuhri (Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies), *The Invention of Tradition and the Politics of Place: Muslims in Bali*, together with Prof. Vincent Houben (Humboldt Universität Berlin) and Prof. Manja Stephan-Emmrich.

### Dr. N.J.G. (Nico) Kaptein (LIAS)

#### Publications

- *Islam, Kolonialisme dan Zaman Modern di Hindia Belanda: Biografi Sayyid 'Uthman (1822-1914)*. Yogyakarta: Suara Muhammadiyah (Indonesian translation of Islam, Colonialism and the Modern Age in the Netherlands East Indies, 2014).
- "Two Unknown Letters to M.J. de Goeje from the Kartini Family," in: *Archipel* 93: 95-107.
- "The Atlas of Sayyid Uthman ibn Abd Allah ibn Yahya of Batavia (1822-1914)", in, *Hadramaut and its diaspora: Yemeni politics, identity and migration*, ed. Noel Brehony (London: I.B. Tauris), 87-100.
- With Yasrul Huda, "In search of Ahmad Khatib", Leiden Islam Blog, 31 October 2017.
- "Een Arabisch 'Ave Maria' uit Suriname", Caraïbisch Uitzicht, Blog Werkgroep Caraïbische Letteren, 3 June 2017.
- "al-Imam", *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, 3rd edition, pp. 141-2.
- Review of *The Qur'an in the Malay-Indonesian World: Context and interpretation*, eds. Majid Daneshgar, Peter G. Riddell and Andrew Rippin (London and New York: Routledge, 2016), in: *Bijdragen tot de Taal-, Land- en Volkenkunde* 173, no 2/3: 398-9.
- "Arabic as a Language of Islam Nusantara: the Need for an Arabic Literature of Indonesia," in *Heritage of Nusantara. International Journal of Religious Literature and Heritage* 6, no. 2: 237-251.

#### Lectures

- 18 July 2017, "Arabic as a language of Islam Nusantara: The need for an Arabic Literature of Indonesia," Second International Symposium on Religious Literature and Heritage, Bogor 18-21 July 2017.
- 25 July 2017, "Fatwa-fatwa Sayyid Uthman," Pascasarjana UIN Imam Bonjol, Padang.
- 25 November 2017, "Sayyid 'Uthman and the establishment of a modern school in Palembang," International Conference Islam, Kolonialisme, dan Zaman Modern di Hindia Belanda, Muhammadiyah University Yogyakarta, 25 November.

### PhD candidates

- Ernesto Braam, *The Salafi Movement in South Thailand*, co-promotor, together with Prof. Maurits Berger (Leiden University).
- Nor Ismah, *Flourishing Female Ulama: Practices, Authorities, and Institutions in Indonesia*, together with Prof. Léon Buskens (Leiden University).
- Iis Istiqomah (University of Groningen), *The Hadrami Arabs of Ambon: an Ethnographic Study of Diasporic Identity Construction in Everyday Life Practices*, co-promotor, together with Prof. Marjo Buitelaar (University of Groningen).
- Kusmana, *Contemporary Interpretation of Kodrat Perempuan: Local Discourse of Muslim Women's Leadership in Indonesia*, co-promotor, together with Prof. Dick Douwes (Erasmus University Rotterdam). PhD defence on 13 April 2017.
- Francesca Rosati, *Quranic Women's Schools in China's Little Mecca*, co-promotor, together with Prof. Isabelle Thireau (EHESS, Paris).
- Syahril Siddik, *Screening Dakwah in Indonesian Television*, co-promoter, with Prof. Ben Arps (Leiden University).
- Sujadi, *Persatuan Pemuda Muslim se-Eropa (PPME): Identity, Encouragement for Giving and Network, 1971-2009*, co-promotor, together with Prof. Kees van Dijk (Leiden University). PhD defence on 29 June 2017.
- Ade Jaya Suryani, *Muslim Baduy: Da'wa, Conversion, and Their Consequences*, co-promoter, together with Prof. Gerard Persoon (Leiden University).

### Prof. J.M. (Jan Michiel) Otto (VVI)

#### Publications

- "Unity in diversity. The topicality of Professor C. van Vollenhoven," Dies lecture, 8 February 2017, Leiden University.
- With Suliman Ibrahim, *Resolving real property disputes in post-Gaddafi Libya, in the context of transitional justice. Final report of a Libyan-Dutch collaborative research project* (Leiden: Van Vollenhoven Institute).

#### Current research projects

- "The Role of Law in Libya's National Reconciliation," funded by the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Tripoli, 2017-2020.

#### Lectures & organisation of academic events

- 8 February 2017, [Dies lecture](#) at Leiden University, "Unity in diversity. The topicality of Professor C. van Vollenhoven" ("Eenheid in verscheidenheid – de actualiteit van Mr. C. van Vollenhoven").
- 20-21 March 2017 (with Suliman Ibrahim), workshop in Tunis in the framework of the project "Solving the Real Property Conflicts in Post-Gaddafi Libya, in the Context of Transitional Justice."
- 10 May 2017 (with Suliman Ibrahim), conference in The Hague in the framework of the project "Solving the Real Property Conflicts in Post-Gaddafi Libya, in the Context of Transitional Justice."
- 7 September 2017, "Is Sharia compatible with the Rule of Law?," presentation at the Annual Conference of the Knowledge Platform on Security and the Rule of Law, The Hague.

#### PhD candidates

- Najibullah Amin, *Imprisonment and Rehabilitation. A Case Study of Afghanistan's Pol-e-Charkhi Prison*, promotor together with Prof. P.M. Schuyt.
- Annelien Bouland, *Women's Rights and Access to Justice in a Plural Society. Maisons de Justice in Senegal*, co-promotor: dr.ir. C.I.M. Jacobs.
- Joseph Boakye, *Environmental Law and Sustainable Forest Tenure Management*, co-promotor: Prof. J.G. van Erp.
- Bruno Braak, *Primary Justice in South Sudan*, co-promotor: dr.ir. C.I.M. Jacobs.
- Santy Kouwagam, *Litigation Strategies in Individual Land Disputes about Certified Land in Indonesia*, co-promotor: Prof. Adriaan Bedner.
- Willem van der Muur, *Securing Land Rights: Land Conflicts in Democratizing Indonesia*, co-promotor: Prof. Adriaan Bedner.

- Ahmed Tawfik, *Women in the Judiciary in Egypt*, co-promotor: Prof. Baudouin Dupret.
- Jacob Tobing, *Constitutional Democracy and the Rule of Law. The Essence of 1999-2002 Constitutional Reform in Indonesia*, co-promotor: Prof. Adriaan Bedner.
- Azar Safari, *The Economic Governance and its Impacts on Societal Justice in Iran*, co-promotor Dr. B. van Rompuy.



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Cover images  
(clockwise from top):

(1) Journalists' evening guest speaker Sinan Can (2) Detail from *Dans le souk aux cuivres*, before 1868, Nicola Forcella used to illustrate the conference poster 'Collecting the Muslim World' (3) Petra Sijpesteijn with guest speakers and (4) Arabic language workshop with Nazreen Sahebali at the Middle Eastern Culture Market (5) Arabic Music Night featuring Rima Khcheich in concert with Salon Jousour (6) Still of Cristiana Strava explaining her passion for maps as part of the 'Passion in Profession' video series.

Background cover photo:  
A snapshot of some of the 800 visitors to the Middle Eastern Culture Market at the Museum of Antiquities, Leiden.



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