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Introduction

Back in 1952, the British cultural historian and historical philosopher Arnold Toynbee claimed war to be the primary self-torment of humanity. In doing so, he also expressed his great concern for the near future. After all, both world wars had shown that the modern industrial societies had developed capacities for mass destruction and eventually also self-destruction. For this reason, Toynbee wrote that these experiences had caused him and his contemporaries to harbour major fears for the near future – and “[t]he sting of this fear lies in the undeniable fact that it springs from a rational root.”¹

Wars are of all times, but since the beginning of the twentieth century, they have come to be characterized by their borderless nature. In the modern concept of “total war”, all people are mobilized in a collective struggle to the death.² Such a war will not thwart the continuation of everyday social and personal life, but this life will inevitably become influenced tremendously (and in the long run also often marked) by violence, repression, scarcity and humanitarian need brought about by the war.³ This does not just hold true for the historical experience of the world wars. The twentieth century has shown how precisely so-called low-intensity conflicts have led to long-lasting and large-scale violence.⁴ Conflicts such as decolonization wars, civil wars and ethnic struggles have disrupted societies drastically. In addition, they increasingly take on a global character, for example as a result of the deployment of UN military troops, for which reason we can no longer regard such conflicts as local phenomena with a limited range. As yet, the fear of a nuclear annihilation war has not proved justified, but the Cold War, with all its threats and related conflicts, has had a world-wide impact on people and their societies.

The NIOD (Netherlands Institute for War Documentation) was founded in 1945 in order to document and study the history of the Second World War from a national Dutch perspective. For a long time, this approach has rightfully dominated the historiography of the Netherlands in wartime. The story was told in terms like “neutrality in World War I”, “war, occupation and persecution (including the Holocaust) in World War II”, and “the participation in the Atlantic Alliance and the European Community afterwards”. Also outside these frameworks surrounding World War II, war and large-scale violence made themselves felt ever again. This was a result of the Dutch status as a colonial power and the loss of that status, and afterwards of participation in a series of international military operations aiming to retain or enforce peace, or to topple unwanted regimes, for that matter. It is important to realize that these experiences are integrated in developments on a global scale and that the Dutch experience cannot be regarded as normative nor be studied in isolation.

The present NIOD research aims at an interdisciplinary approach of large-scale violent conflicts in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The Second World War is part of a vast area of research themes. Departing from the expertise already gained, we have

widened our scope to include larger areas of Europe and Asia. This international orientation of the NIOD's research policy could propagate new and important scholarly and social insights – also for the Dutch public preserving the Institute to be able to relate to its recent past.

As staff members of the Research Department of the NIOD, we have decided – in consultation with the Academic Advisory Committee – to present our research for the oncoming period as a study of **long-term transitions**. The profile will be elaborated further on in this report.

In the period covered by this research policy plan (2012 to 2016), it is our ambition to see the NIOD take the lead, both nationally and internationally, in the research into the effects of wars and genocides, including the Holocaust, on man and society. We intend to reach this aim by playing a leading role in programmes and projects innovating the research in both a thematic and a methodological way. The NIOD also wishes to help develop the so-called e-humanities (see paragraph 4), which will involve close cooperation with external partners to initiate fundamental and innovative research. In order to reach these aims, we will require a well-balanced body of staff members and an adequate equilibrium between direct funding, research grants, and contract research.

1. General principles

As NIOD researchers, we are faced with the assignment to perform “cutting edge” scholarly research. The current Strategic Policy Plan of the management of the NIOD (2010-2015) states that fundamental scholarly research is essential for the NIOD's role as a centre of knowledge about war and massive violence in a globalizing society. Given the nature of the institute it is important to strive for a balance between research guided by our own scholarly interests on the one hand, and by questions from outside the institute on the other hand. The NIOD research is explicitly intended to have an impact on the public debate as well as on academic curricula.

We as NIOD researchers are able to attain the above-mentioned goals by feeding the public debate with knowledge and insight. The NIOD is cut out for such knowledge dissemination, which is one of the traditional tasks of the institute. Widespread social distribution of expert knowledge remains the aim and the strength of the NIOD. In this field, the institute has acquired a reliable reputation among the general public – not in the last place because of its specific research into controversial issues from the past. Following its merger with the CHGS (Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies), the NIOD builds on the experience with activities aimed at the general public which it has gained through its involvement with this other institution. The utilization and development of a new digital infrastructure for knowledge dissemination is also on the agenda. NIOD researchers are active cooperative partners in the scholarly domain, both nationally and internationally. The institute has partners within the KNAW (Royal

Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences) and the academic world, and within these cooperative structures, it assists in the realization of national policy frameworks. The same thing happens in the international field (see the appendix – Network charts).⁵

The NIOD formulates its research policy on the basis of the developments in its own extensive field of study and positions itself strategically vis-à-vis local policies (NIOD Strategic Policy Plan, KNAW policies), national policies (universities, national research agendas) and international policies (Framework programmes of the EU, ESF). In general, such plans take a similar direction with regard to the social importance of scholarly research and the wish and necessity to incorporate into the research an important position for the varied utilization of knowledge. The NIOD has many years of extensive experience in this area, which will enable us to make an important contribution to the above-mentioned objective in cooperative bonds with external partners.

1.1 Supporting policy

In order to support the research policy, it is essential to develop specific policies in several different fields:

- *HRM policy*: The personnel policy of the NIOD pursues a well-balanced composition of the staff (temporary/permanent, junior/postgraduate/senior, male/female). This policy defines and promotes the prospects for career development of the researchers (see also the memos concerning this topic, entitled “Groen&Grijs” (“Green and Grey”) and “Uit het oog, in het hart” (“Out of sight, well in mind”)).
- *Academic curricula*: The NIOD participates in academic courses relating to its fields of activity, particularly in the master's and doctoral phases. We highly value the creation of PhD pathways within the framework of programmes executed by the NIOD. The MA pathway entitled *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* ensures a connection between talented young (aspiring) scholars and the NIOD. In its turn, the NIOD recruits new talents. Our staff members are structurally (through professorships) or otherwise more incidentally involved with educational and research programmes at universities.
- *Organization of the Research Department*: In our Research Department, we are trying to implement a more efficient and transparent organization and method of working, which should, among other things, lead to a more functional distribution of information and tasks/responsibilities.
- *Cooperation within the NIOD*: During the period covered in the research plan at hand, the Research Department will work closer together with the Collections & Services Department. In particular as a result of the digitalization of the collections and infrastructures for research and of the communication channels for research

results, the fields of expertise regarding research, collection management and services keep approaching each other in new ways. We regard this as a satisfying development and as an opportunity to reinforce the professional community the NIOD aspires to be.

1.2 Implementation of the policy plan

The research policy plan formulates the priorities for the coming years. In the policy plan, we make connections between developed expert knowledge and new promising research perspectives. The research policy plan constitutes the decision-making framework pertaining to new plans for programmes, projects and supporting policies.

In the drawing up of propositions, employees developing projects and programmes (senior researchers in particular) will take into account the objectives stated in the policy plan and will make clear in what way the envisaged plans will contribute to those objectives. It goes without saying that content is the key issue here, but the research propositions are also meant to explicitly indicate which role will be played by new information technology and how the distribution of results is envisaged (for colleagues, social organizations and the wider audience). This argumentative foundation is an important criterion for inclusion in the NIOD research repertoire.

This research policy plan gets attached to annual plans of activity realizing the implementation of the policy plan. The Research Director will check the progress of the activities on the basis of the above-mentioned plans of activity in consultation with the employees. These evaluation moments do not only embody a kind of picturing of the status quo, but also a possibility to adapt the implementation of the policy plan to new insights and opportunities. In this way, the research policy plan can be a truly flexible instrument.

2. Research profile

With our choice of the central theme **long-term transitions** under the influence of war and large-scale violence, we indicate the direction of the content of the research in the extensive field of activity of the NIOD for the next five years. Within the limits of the possible, it will also offer points of departure for an attuning to the collection policy.

Wars and large-scale violence radically change the characters of societies. When the violence comes to an end, be it as a result of a change of regime or in any other way, the need arises to overcome the consequences: politically, legally, materially and mentally. In this manner, acts of war and transitions keep influencing and defining each other mutually.⁶ Taking this in mind, the connecting research question concerning **long-term transitions** essentially also deals with the relations between

controversial past and identity. The experience of the NIOD mainly concerns the Netherlands and the Second World War, in Europe and in our former colonies, including the impact on the postwar era. Our scholarly challenge will be to no longer consider the (=our) national state as the obvious starting point for our research, since identities also play an important role on other levels than that of the state and the nation, like, for instance, in religious, ethnic, economic, (post-)colonial and regional/local contexts. The changing national state, including its institutions and the national life functioning within its boundaries, is a still-current object of (non-)comparative study. This also implies that the research of the NIOD does not intend to be an instrument of any kind of politics of national remembrance.⁷

For the next five years, the NIOD will concentrate on the purposeful expansion of its content-related expertise. The institute is an authority in the field of the effects of war, large-scale violence and genocidal processes on man and society. In the course of the next five years, we will characterize the research of the NIOD by centralizing the theme of **long-term transitions**.

The perspective of transitions raises fundamental questions about the influence of war on the structural, political, social and cultural changes that have taken place since the beginning of the twentieth century. The long-term aspect is important because it will enable us to study both the wars themselves and the post-war periods and the periods between the wars. It is important to study these processes of change on all levels of social reality, for example by centralizing people's personal lives in biographies and family histories, by researching communities with similar interests or shared identities, by paying attention to the perspectives of certain communities and migrants, and by analysing the development of national and international institutions. When the concept of "long-term" is interpreted in this manner, it implies that the effects of war will be investigated over the generations.

This programme connects the research into **long-term-transitions** with the question concerning the impact of war and large-scale violence. In the early twentieth century, war appeared to become gradually subjected to rules and practices by international law as a formal state of armed conflict between two or more nations. The study of World War II has shown that the restraining or protective effect of this right has remained limited and that its application has proved problematic. War in the modern sense of the word is obviously a state which, for several reasons, cannot be defined clearly. Contending parties can no longer be identified with states as a matter of course. Civil wars, ethnic and religious conflicts, decolonization conflicts, guerrilla wars and counter-guerrilla activities, political repression and rebellion have often been diffuse and excessively violent. Moreover, the conflicts in the twentieth century have frequently shown that different forms of war and violence can intermingle and take place simultaneously. The Holocaust, for instance, took place within the general framework of the Second World War. It was made possible within the context of this war, in which it was devised and executed. For all the reasons mentioned above, we thought it best to include in the policy plan not only war in a formal sense, but also large-scale violence, which comprises the Holocaust, and other instances of genocide.

International cooperation is the ideal instrument for developing new perspectives in the direction of, for instance, the political context of massive violence or the way people deal with the consequences of war. In addition, the relationship between the research into the origins of genocides and the dealing with offenderhood and victimhood requires a new orientation on research into international politics, the activities of non-governmental organizations like the International Committee of the Red Cross, the International Center for Transitional Justice, and international law, which develops slowly but surely, like the several international tribunals and the International Criminal Court (ICC).

3. The central theme: long-term transitions

The recent merger of the NIOD and the CHGS has increased the importance of the study of large-scale violent conflicts and genocides not related to World War II. By way of introduction to the new research policy plan for the period 2012-2016, the NIOD has designed a programme on *Transitional Justice*, which is meant to stimulate the content-related integration of the research of the merged institutions. This programme should also function as an important instrument to establish cooperative connections with new partners, both nationally and internationally. In order to realize the positioning of this project in the NIOD research plan, we have obtained support from the investment fund of the KNAW.

3.1 Realization

The three-faceted approach entitled “Ervaring, Nasleep en Reflectie” (“From experience to reflection. The enduring meaning of the history of the Second World War”) chosen in the previous research programme (2007-2012) has succeeded in giving a general characterization of the several approaches of the research project. The facets implied a phasing in time: the phase of the events (“during the war”), the phase in which the consequences are overseen and dealt with (“the aftermath of the war”) and the phase representing the long-term effects on all generations (“the war past”). We intend to maintain this three-faceted approach because it has proved useful to accentuate the historical perspective. We do this on the understanding that the approach could hereafter come to serve as the basis for a more integrated approach. The threefold approach from the previous programme specifically concerned World War II. Now that our research has come to include other conflicts as well, it ought to be realized that wars and large-scale violence all have their own dynamics and could, for instance, consist of a sequence of acts of violence. The multi-layered conflicts on the Balkans, for example, have shown that aftermath and reflection are not necessarily the next orderly phase in a sequence following massive violence. Instead, there may just as well arise a next wave of violence causing the suspension or repression of the “dealing” phase. For this reason, one should avoid an

exaggerated demarcation of the time periods (caused by the threefold approach), which might take the historical continuity out of the research. It would not be right to start out detaching the actual experiencing of acts of war from its influence on future generations. In our view, the way people cope with problematic pasts can be studied most effectively in connection with “hardcore” history of war and violence. Conversely, it is equally important to determine that wars have not come to an end when peace is concluded and that at such very moments, processes changing individuals and societies are set in motion.

The choice of the **long-term transitions** theme is meant to underline that the NIOD research is primarily interested in the study of social processes under the influence of war and large-scale violence. Transitions can be defined as structural changes in state and (parts of) society under the influence of developments in politics, economy, social relations, and the extended cultural domain that interact and reinforce each other. They make sure that institutions undergo a change of character, for example by means of democratization; that economic development is (not) given a chance; that groups of people give a new interpretation to identities or, on the contrary, hold on to old identities and that cultural perceptions will change. War and large-scale violence in particular can pave the way for such structural changes. They highly affect people and their community relations, and in doing so, they raise major questions about responsibility, ideology and human relations. War and large-scale violence also create a new balance of power, for instance in the form of regime changes, which give a face to transitions. The impact of regime change can be both oppressive and liberating, both criminal and purifying. In the reconstruction phase, transitions never follow predictable patterns, since individual and collective actors are always forced to respond to unexpected circumstances and to each others' rational and irrational motives. Later on, there may be room for stabilization of the political and social relationships and for the formulation of an account of the past.⁸ New relationships that have issued from such transitions also require new forms of identification, which in their turn can become the drive of occasionally tenacious conflicts or even new violence.

In sum, transitions influenced by war and violence are complicated processes, which can affect many generations, for which reason they pre-eminently belong to the domain of historical research. This also holds true for the new programme entitled *Transitional Justice*. It is our express wish to investigate this topic as a historical phenomenon, in close connection with the study of regime change. Our particular interest lies in the way in which crimes committed by regimes and their staff are persecuted and punished for structural violation of the law of war and of human rights. The best-known historical examples are the International Tribunals of Nuremberg and Tokyo, in which one could deal with the crimes committed by Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan. At the same time, they laid the foundation for the further international codification of the punishment of large-scale violence and genocide, and for the historical account of the past. Since then, and mainly after the end of the Cold War, the international jurisdiction on such crimes has developed rapidly as a result of the foundation of international courts of law, such as the one

dealing with the consequences of the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia. In addition, a number of countries have seen the arising of alternative repertoires for conflict settlement worthy of attention, such as truth and reconciliation commissions. In the meantime, a new, internationally-oriented, interdisciplinary community of practitioners of jurisprudence and conflict studies and such like has come into being. This community was hoping to be able to develop a toolbox for shaping transitions. The NIOD research explicitly chooses a historical-analytical approach for the very reason that this will allow us to problematize the open-ended character of transitions from a non-finalistic perspective and to look for their interrelation with politics, society and culture, which might lead us to new, usable insights.

- *Periodization: twentieth century plus*

The period the NIOD considers as part of its field of activity will be the following: from the beginning of the twentieth century – when the modern forms of nationalism and mass society, as well as imperialism and globalization have fully developed and consequently also the more modern forms of war and massive violence – till the present. This is the time frame in which **long-term transitions** will be studied and which will continue the line from our previous research programme in a more articulated form.

- *Geography: Europe and Asia*

The existing expertise of the NIOD is focused on Europe and Asia. The NIOD aims to keep an open eye to other regions in research yet to be developed. In doing so, the content-related angle will, however, always be the decisive factor. For instance, departing from a question about genocides, an African case may come up. As far as the research into other regions is concerned, the NIOD will only pursue functional cooperation and not construct its own infrastructure in that area.

3.2 Execution and connections

This research policy plan points out how the current and the yet-to-be-started NIOD research will contribute to the study of the chosen connecting theme of **long-term transitions**. In the classification listed below, the titles are directive, but they must on no account be regarded as closed domains. It goes without saying that there will be unexpected connections, for example between research into genocidal processes, transitional justice and several forms of reflection in historical consciousness. Below we will make a distinction between programmes consisting of several closely-connected sub-research projects and separate projects. A number of the current projects will be concluded during the report period.

Research line 1: The functioning of transition(s) in state and society

This line of research revolves around the research into transitions as such. It builds on longer-term cultural-historical and political-historical research into the development

of ideas, mentalities and institutions in the Netherlands during the first half of the twentieth century. The new Transitional Justice programme will develop into a prominent part of this line.

This research line consists of the following sub-themes, which have been centred around current programmes and projects:

* The history of idea and mentality in the first half of the twentieth century, in particular the period between both world wars: *Cultural History in the Interwar Period* (NIOD programme, with participation of several private funds).

* The processes around exclusion and reintegration of national socialists in the Netherlands *Long-Lasting Legacies of Collaboration* (a so-called NWO-klein programma, or small research programme funded by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), with participation of the University of Amsterdam).

* The study of the socio-political and cultural developments in the Dutch East Indies/Indonesia from the late-colonial period until the early independence period in:

(1) leading role NIOD in international programme *Regime Change and the Dynamics of Culture: Family, Networks and Representation. New Perspectives on Indonesian Chinese Life in Southeast Asia and Beyond, 1920s-1970s*

(2) NIOD participation in *Articulating Modernity. The Making of Popular Music in the 20th Century South East Asia and the Rise of New Audiences* (KITLV [Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies], Leiden – NWO programme)

(3) NIOD participation in Encompass (*Encountering a Common Past in Asia* – Leiden University).

New impulses in this line of research depart from the recently-started programme *Transitional Justice* (NIOD programme, with support of the KNAW, to be extended to NWO) and from the yet-to-be-formulated programme *Transitional Politics* (NIOD programme, partner University of Amsterdam, funds from NWO still to be acquired), which will be further conceived on the basis of a pilot study into the application of new research methods from the so-called e-humanities (with subsidy of the CLARIN programme [=Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure]).

Within the framework of this line of research, there will also be research into the development of mass movements and the development of political styles and repertoires: *Between Democracy and Fascism* (project involving matching between NIOD and Radboud University Nijmegen); the role and the impact of media and propaganda in the PhD project *Indonesia's Propaganda and the Independence War* (NIOD participation in ENCOMPASS, Leiden University); project yet to be broached about propaganda in the Twentieth Century (NIOD programme – NWO funding still to be acquired).

Research line 2: Continuities of war and violence

This line of research will address the question of how and to what extent violence leads to or forms part of transitions, determines the course and continues in the form of retaliation, by the use of physical violence, but also in the form of continued or new stereotypes, ill-will, hatred and exclusion. This research deals with the nature and the effect of repressive regimes and phenomena frequently connected with this, such as racism, discrimination and persecution; historical and contemporary anti-Semitism; ethnic cleansing, forced large-scale population transfer, deportation; prisoners and imprisonment and the arising of mass murder and genocidal processes. This research has been incorporated into the following programmes and projects:

* The NIOD continues the programme it has started in 2007 in cooperation with the Kwansai Gakuin University in Nishinomiya (Japan) under the title *Legacies of Violence*. This research involves scholarly exchange on the social aftereffects of war and violence in the mid-twentieth century in the Netherlands and Japan. This research will be followed by a connecting publication series of proceedings and other contributions.

* The programme *The Dynamics of Contemporary Antisemitism in a Globalising Context* (NIOD programme, part of the NWO programme *Conflict and Security*) investigates the history and the dynamics of anti-Semitism in the Netherlands after World War II on the basis of questions on the interaction between old-established forms of anti-Semitism and anti-Jewish stereotypes from after the Holocaust. This approach will also include the continued effects of the long-term conflict in the Middle-East. This research will focus on the Dutch population on the one hand and on three migrant communities in the Netherlands (Turks, Moroccans and Poles) on the other.

* The EHRI consortium (*European Holocaust Research Infrastructure*, coordinated by NIOD, financed by the European Commission, as part of their FP7 programme) takes as its aim to enable the digital access of sources on the history of the Holocaust in Europe and Israel and to stimulate new forms of transnational cooperation. Both NIOD researchers and collection and information specialists from the institute will contribute their extensive expert knowledge to this project and will also play an important part in the preparation of a follow-up programme requiring the development of new research questions.

* The Dutch experience of the First World War is the subject of a specific project which, under the title *Witnesses to Violence*, compares the collective reception of the military violence of this war with the responses to it in the United Kingdom and Germany.

New impulses in this line of research will depart from programmes/projects to be developed with external partners on themes like *Gender, Martiality and National Culture* and on *The Netherlands as a Belligerent Nation in Europe and Asia*.

Research line 3: The connecting narrative

The connecting narrative as a form of dealing with the past also includes the so-called historiographical research. This concerns the level of current debate about historiography and interpretation and the no less important discussions about synthesis on a meta-level. From its function as a scholarly expertise centre with a social character, the NIOD wishes to contribute to the debate on the formulation of the “connecting story” in historiography about larger patterns in the historiography of problematic pasts. This can be achieved by entering into the debate about individual books or problems, but also by responding to questions from the public when asked to do so (like in earlier cases such as those concerning Iraq or the Dutch physicist Peter Debye, who was accused of having been actively involved in cleansing German science institutions of Jewish and other “non-Aryan elements”). On the basis of several decades of acquired expertise and continuing specialized knowledge, the NIOD wishes to accept specific responsibility for the so-called connecting narrative, which transcends case studies and provides comprehensive historical questions with an interpretation.

The theme of the effects of transitions will also be linked to the research into war heritage and popular culture. This research will deal with the question how individuals and their multiform communities supply the memory of the problematic past with shapes and interpretations. The study of war heritage and musealization of the past can shed light on the origins of conformism or controversy, for that matter, and on the question how controversial pasts can make themselves felt. These topics are treated in the following current projects:

- (1) postgraduate project *Sleeping Beauties, Hidden Forces*, NIOD participation in NWO programme *Sites, Bodies, Stories* (project management: VU University Amsterdam)
- (2) postgraduate project *Diversity, Distance and Involvement* (to be concluded in 2012)
- (3) in the PhD project *Oorlogsboerderijen* (about the postwar reconstruction of farms in the Netherlands – with the University of Amsterdam and the Meertens Institute as matching partners).

New impulses in this line of research will take shape in the yet-to-be-started e-journal *Fascism*, in which the essence of the above-mentioned research area will be put to discussion. The NIOD research will also be used for critical reflection on the significance of national and international policy frameworks (including that of the *Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance, and Research* (ITF) and the European research policy) for historiography. The relationship between professional historians and the (general) public is included in this level, both nationally and transnationally, for instance through the impact of digital representation of the past, via websites, open access of data and texts, and simulations in computer games.

4. Disciplines, methods, approaches

As NIOD researchers, we perform historical research into the recent past. This does not mean, however, that we limit ourselves to research into the humanities. After all, the research areas of the NIOD are interdisciplinary by nature. For this reason, questions and methods from the areas of cultural, social, behavioural, economic and legal studies are as much present as those from the field of history, which itself is, incidentally, rather multiform as well. For each programme or project, we select the most appropriate methodological approaches and principles in order to contribute to the innovation of the research area in question. An important place is reserved for the study of individual life stories. Biographical studies, life stories and family histories will enable us to reflect on the effects of war and massive violence. They focus on people who, as members of their particular communities, relate to **long-term transitions** through specific actions or experiences. The methods of biographical research are pre-eminently appropriate to make clear that history is made by people, that they are the ones who either do, let or undergo things. In the research, it is important to not just study abstract concepts and impersonal institutions, but also to bring forward the human factor. We have several biographies in preparation about famous Dutch persons, i.e. about the poet and critic Albert Verwey, the Crown Princess and later Queen Juliana, the politician Frans Goedhart and about the philosopher/cultural politician Tobie Goedewaagen. The second volume of the double biography about Jaap & Ischa Meijer as well as the history of the two Sephardic families Jessurun d'Oliveira and Rodrigues Pereira will put Jewish family research on the agenda.

E-humanities

The NIOD intends to exploit the possibilities of the so-called e-humanities, of research in a digital area, and of digital and web-based dissemination. Researchers are increasingly confronted with sources that have a digital origin (e-mail correspondence, information distributed via the Internet) and with digitalized source files. The NIOD does not only want to use the tools from the e-humanities that exist already, but also to develop its own tools and reflect on the way they are used. The oncoming research plan period will have to make clear if this methodological innovation could also lead to paradigm shifts.

It is very important to realize that the nature, size and availability of source material can cause fundamental changes in the way historians treat their sources. In the past, researchers were, for instance, supposed to come up with ingenious ideas about archive construction and inventory management to find the answers to their questions, whereas now that we are dealing with digital sources, the queries must be applied through a different strategy and on a different scale. This also means that research in the practical sense of the word will bring new methods and techniques, not only in the field of textual sources, but also where it concerns audiovisual materials, an area in which the NIOD has already built up quite some experience.

Within the NIOD, the innovative possibilities of the e-humanities do not only belong to the territory of the Research Department, but also to that of the Collections & Services Department and of the people in charge of the website. The different departments of the institute will support and reinforce each other in this area.

The NIOD will also seize the developments in the field of e-humanities to take new roads with external partners where it comes to the use and accessibility of digital and digitalized sources. In this respect, EHRI is an important project. Furthermore, the NIOD is associated with the recently-founded e-Humanities Group of the KNAW and with several national and international expertise centres. The CATCH (= Continuous Access To Cultural Heritage), CLARIN and *Computational Humanities* programmes submitted in 2010 and 2011 (some of which have already been granted) are promising pilots in this context.

The NIOD wishes to explore new routes for its practical research, but also for the dissemination of the research results. In 2011 the e-journal *Fascism* will take off and the possibilities for open-access and enriched publications will be further elaborated. A good example of this would be the English series of the NIOD. In addition, we will work on the availability of digitally-accessible data, to be stored in a well-organized and structured manner in a reliable repository, for the purpose of all research projects. Besides all other matters, this new way of filing research data will radically change the daily work of the researchers.

An important training for many of the stages and aspects of working in the digital domain is offered by the now-current programme *European Holocaust Research Infrastructure* (EHRI) (see next paragraph).

5. Cooperation

More goal-oriented national and international cooperative structures will be necessary to enlarge our expertise and to employ new transnational analytical frameworks. Keeping in mind our focus, we intend to become more selective in our choice of institutions and scholars to cooperate with.

5.1 Cooperation within the Netherlands

NIOD researchers work together with colleagues from most of the Dutch universities and with para-academic institutions from within or outside the KNAW. The basic principle here is that the cooperative connections we are looking for could reinforce the NIOD profile (see network chart). We have structural connections with the history programmes taught at the University of Amsterdam and Utrecht University. In Amsterdam the cooperative basis is formed by three professorships, by a master's programme entitled "Holocaust and Genocide Studies" (offered by the Department of

History, Archaeology and Area Studies) and by the participation of PhD students in the *Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research* and the *International Institute for Asian Studies*. Our connection with Utrecht consists of a professorship and close and interactive cooperative bonds between several researchers. In addition, plans are being developed for cooperation with the *Centre for Conflict Studies* (CCS) and the *Centre for the Humanities* (CfH). The NIOD is also one of the partners in the “Onderzoekschool Politieke Geschiedenis” (School of Research into Political History, founded in 2011), which has evolved out of the already-existing “Opleidingsnetwerk Politieke Geschiedenis” (Educational Network for Political History).

5.2 International Cooperation

It is our intention to create programme-based international cooperative structures, using the existing networks and creating new ones whenever necessary. With respect to the national and international cooperative connections, we will decide on a hierarchy of partners, networks and functional contacts (see the appendix – Network charts). The NIOD manages the project *European Holocaust Research Infrastructure* (EHRI), which is part of the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Commission. EHRI has several objectives, including cooperation on a European level while listing sources and managing institutions, the design of a useful source accessibility system, the construction of an infrastructure, the listing of possibilities and demands to be met by the results, and the creation of new forms of dissemination (see Self Evaluation). The phase concerning the digitalization and the accessibility of the sources will be followed by the question concerning the innovative use of the collections for research purposes. One of the important goals of the European Commission in the field of the humanities is, roughly speaking, the stimulation and enabling of historical research and the accessibility of sources in relation to questions regarding citizenship, identity and the way people deal with problematic pasts. Our contacts with the Directorate-General for Research & Innovation of the European Commission surrounding EHRI will be the starting point for an attempt to realize a more research-focused follow-up of EHRI. If this attempt proves successful, the NIOD will invest in such a follow-up.

6. Policy frameworks

The NIOD finances the core group of senior researchers from direct funding. One of the tasks of the senior researchers is to (help) generate research grants and contract research. The other staff members will be financed from the latter forms of funding and hold temporary appointments or permanent appointments on a proviso basis. In the oncoming research plan period, steps will be taken to pay attention to human resource management in the field of research, taking into consideration the limited possibilities of upward mobility within the NIOD as well as those within the historical

domain. The General Affairs Department provides professional policy support, for instance in cooperation with the Coordinator of Externally-Funded Research (who works in the Research Department), in the preparation of research applications. In cases of structural financial stringency, it is important to bear in mind that a research group with a size like that of the NIOD requires ample resources to keep up this overhead. This also goes for matters like accommodation, IT expenses, and the possibilities for the reimbursement of expenses for conference visits, archive visits and translations. In case of external funding requests, we will, where possible, pursue the raising of funds to cover non-salary costs.

¹ A.J. Toynbee, *War and Civilization* (London: Oxford UP, 1950) 12.

² Originally the term had propagandistic overtones (as used by Goebbels in 1944). In later times, it acquired a different, more fear-charged connotation.

³ Robert Gildea, Olivier Wieviorka, and Anette Warring, *Surviving Hitler and Mussolini: Daily Life in Occupied Europe* (Oxford: Berg, 2006) 1-15.

⁴ Martin van Creveld, *The Transformation of War* (New York: Free P, 1991) 57-62.

⁵ Please note that these charts are in no way exhaustive. They require complementation and as such they are “work in progress”. By mapping out the networks and contacts of the NIOD as adequately as possible, we will be able to get a clear picture of key issues and possibly also of striking gaps. This approach will enable us to trace cooperative possibilities more effectively in future.

⁶ Discussion of these concepts in Christian Gerlach, *Extremely Violent Societies: Mass Violence in the Twentieth-Century World* (Cambridge: Cambridge UP, 2010) 1-8.

⁷ For discussion about “politics of memory”, see Madelon de Keizer & Marije Plomp, *Een open zenuw: Hoe wij ons de Tweede Wereldoorlog herinneren* [*An Open Nerve: How We Remember the Second World War*] (Amsterdam: Bert Bakker, 2010).

⁸ Ido de Haan, *Politieke reconstructie: Een nieuw begin in de politieke geschiedenis* [*Political Reconstruction: A New Beginning in Political History*] (Inaugural lecture, Utrecht University, 2004) 24-25.