

INTRODUCTION

In 2015, NIOD and KNAW agreed on a new and positive basis for cooperation that will be further elaborated and consolidated.

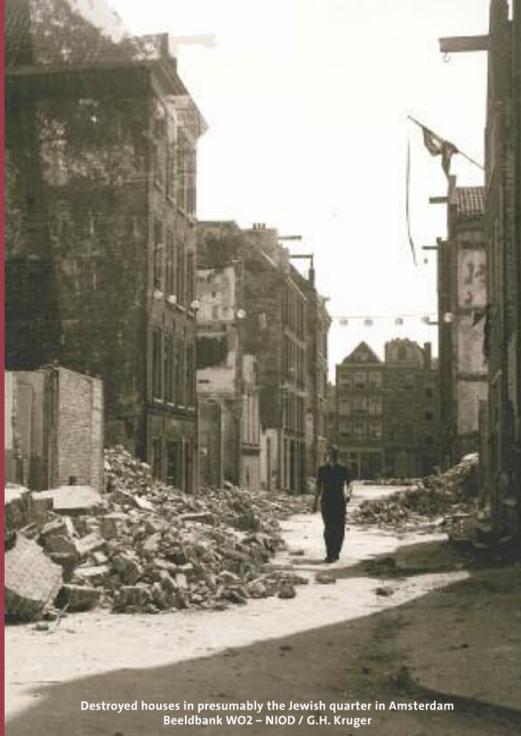
In March, Horizon 2020, the EU's Research and Innovation programme, officially announced that the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure project (EHRI) had been selected for four years' additional funding. NIOD coordinates EHRI, a partnership between more than 20 international institutions.

NIOD is eager to find out what new research angles EHRI's second phase will generate. Possibly new perspectives on research into the survival rates of Jews in different countries, now that a whole body of European archives can be accessed with smart and innovative research tools.

In 2015, NIOD contributed to a new strategy for war remembrance in the Netherlands. This Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports (VWS) initiative aims to keep the memory of WW2 alive and strengthen and consolidate the roles of different institutions in the fields of research, presentation, preservation and education.

Finally, NIOD celebrated its 70th anniversary since its founding on 8 May 1945 with a series of events, publications and thematic web content.

The highlights listed underline NIOD's strong position in both society and academia.



Destroyed houses in presumably the Jewish quarter in Amsterdam
Beeldbank WO2 – NIOD / G.H. Kruger

HIGHLIGHT LAUNCH KENNISCENTRUM OORLOGSBRONNEN – KNOWLEDGE CENTRE FOR WW2 SOURCES

In early January, Kenniscentrum Oorlogsbronnen, a partnership between Dutch WW2 archives and heritage organisations, was launched. The partnership focuses on joining forces between WW2 and Holocaust organisations, and on developing digital services and products. The Kenniscentrum project developed a new programme plan that will continue in 2016: Network War Collections.

HIGHLIGHT EHRI – SECOND PHASE

The EHRI portal (<https://portal.ehri-project.eu>), launched on 26 March 2015, gives access to information about dispersed Holocaust-related sources, and tools and methods that enable researchers and archivists to collaboratively work with the sources. At the launch, NIOD, the coordinator of the project, announced a four-year extension funded under the EU's Research and Innovation programme Horizon 2020. EHRI's mission is to support the Holocaust research community by building a digital infrastructure and facilitating human networks. EHRI will expand its activities especially in Eastern and Southern Europe and regions with limited institutionalisation of Holocaust research, and invite other Holocaust institutions to participate and connect their collections to the portal. In addition, new research tools will be launched. Finally, there will be a series of training activities including workshops, conferences, and online courses and tutorials. Said Robert-Jan Smits, Director-General of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Research and Innovation: "EHRI's impressive work has given invaluable support to Holocaust researchers. I am delighted that under Horizon 2020 the project will even expand its scope during the second phase. It will continue to be a 'best practice' model for other Humanities projects in its innovative approach not only as regards data integration, management and retrieval, but also as outreach to society."

TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

During the past five years Transitional Justice (TJ) has become one of NIOD's main focus areas. To mark the successful completion of its first TJ research programme, *Understanding the Age of Transitional Justice*, NIOD organised a two-day international conference, which included film screenings, lectures and debates, at the Peace Palace in The Hague on 9 and 10 December. William Shabas, Stephan Parmentier,



TJ Conference © HH

Carol Gluck, Richard Wilson and Vladimir Petrovic were among the prominent contributors. They spoke on the role of propaganda in international criminal tribunals, the trial record as an historical source and statutory limitation on the right to truth. They also looked into case studies such as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) in an indigenous North American context and transitional justice in Bangladesh. The monthly *Roads to Justice* film, lecture and debate series continued in 2015. The series addresses issues relating to the aftermaths and consequences of mass violence around the world.



Mobilisation of the Dutch army in 1939
Beeldbank WO2 – NIOD

LIMINAL MOMENTS

The research programme *Liminal Moments From Peace to War* took shape in 2015, in cooperation with Kwasei Gakuin University (KGU) Hyogo, Japan. The programme provides building blocks for major grant applications. A number of pilot projects have been identified as being of mutual interest to KGU and NIOD. They focus on the content of and changes in public and political debate in moments of (threat of) war and violence. It is in such liminal moments that people realise that the world as they knew it disappears and a new era arrives. This realisation unleashes emotions like fear and anger, but also hope and excitement. The aim is to gain new insights regarding questions like: How to define these liminal moments via, for instance, sentiment analysis? What kind of war is referred to in public and political debates? Can we detect differences, changes and transfer between the Netherlands and Japan, between Europe and Asia?

THE GROUND LEASE ISSUE IN AMSTERDAM

Municipality demanded ground lease fees from returned Jews was the alarming headline of an article in the Dutch newspaper *Het Parool* on 30 March 2013. The article reported how the Municipality of Amsterdam had imposed ground lease fees on Jewish war victims and fined them for not having paid these fees during the war.



Registration of repatriates at Amsterdam Central Station
Beeldbank WO2 – NIOD / Anefo / Sem Presser

How was it possible, the newspaper asked, that Jewish homeowners or surviving relatives, who had lost all their possessions during the war, were not only held liable, but even fined for arrears they were not responsible for? The Municipality of Amsterdam commissioned NIOD to look into the ground lease issue and put it in a broader historical and societal context. The results of the study were published in *Openstaande rekeningen. De gemeente Amsterdam en de gevolgen van roof en rechtsherstel, 1940-1950* (Unpaid debts. The Municipality of Amsterdam and the consequences of spoliation and restoration of rights, 1940-1950).



Resistance Collectie Meyboom

NEW RESEARCH INTO THE DYNAMICS OF RESISTANCE

Very ordinary or quite special? New views on people in the resistance during the German occupation of the Netherlands 1940-1945. Under this title, NIOD launched a new research programme which focuses on the experiences, expectations and actions of the (Dutch) resistance during the occupation and connects them to contemporary experiences and issues. The implicit starting point of the historiography of 'the resistance' is that the lives of people 'in the resistance' were, in all respects, the opposite of the lives of those who weren't. This can be seen in the use of terms like 'illegal', 'underground' and 'clandestine'. The term 'resistance' itself also points to such a divide, being set against 'adaptation' and 'collaboration', with 'resistance' having a positive meaning. As such, we are 'not allowed' to use the term with a negative meaning. The research programme *Heel gewoon of juist bijzonder? (Very ordinary or quite special?)*, led by Professor Ismee Tames, takes a closer look at these contradictions by putting itself in the shoes of contemporaries. The programme partners are, among others, The National Committee for 4 and 5 May, Stichting Oranjehotel, the Nationaal Archives of the Netherlands and Vfonds.

PUBLICATIONS

NIOD researchers were involved in various research projects, which produced a number of authoritative publications in 2015. Some of the highlights are:

- 1940. VERWARRING EN AANPASSING, by Wichert ten Have
- STRIJD OM GERECHTIGHEID. JOODSE VERZEKERINGSTEGOEDEEN EN DE TWEEDE WERELDOORLOG, by Regina Grüter.
- DE MUUR VAN MUSSERT, by René van Heijningen
- SEEKING PEACE IN THE WAKE OF WAR, by a.o. Peter Romijn
- DE ONONTKOOMBARE AFKOMST VAN ELI D'OLIVEIRA.
- EEN PORTUGEESE-JOODSE FAMILIEGESCHIEDENIS, by Jaap Cohen
- WHAT'S LEFT BEHIND. THE LIEUX DE MÉMOIRE OF EUROPE BEYOND EUROPE, by a.o. Remco Ensel and Martijn Eickhoff
- GEVANGENISSEN IN OORLOGSTIJD, 1940-1945, by Ralf Futselaar
- GERMAN HISTORIANS AND THE BOMBING OF GERMAN CITIES, by Bas von Benda-Beckmann
- KOLONIALE OORLOG 1945-1949. VAN INDIË TOT INDONESIA, by René Kok, Erik Somers and Louis Sweets



Jewish Council Archives / Beeldbank WO2 – NIOD

JEWISH COUNCIL ARCHIVES IN EUROPE

During WW2 the Germans set up Jewish Councils and Associations throughout Europe. They acted as representative bodies of local, regional and national Jewish communities. The German occupier sometimes closely involved them in the execution of the Nazi extermination policy. The Jewish Council Archives are one of the most important sources of information about Jewish community life during WW2. They contain valuable information about the day-to-day proceedings of the Holocaust. A consortium of seven European archive and research institutes, including NIOD, received a grant from the Claims Conference for the two-year digitisation project *Jewish Council Archives in Europe*. The project brings together important – and in some cases still unexploited – archival collections about Jewish Councils and Associations in Belgium, the Czech Republic, Finland, Hungary, Poland, Israel and the Netherlands. The project will closely cooperate with EHRI.



PUBLIC INTEREST IN WW2

A thorough TNS/NIPO survey into current and potential target groups, commissioned by Kenniscentrum Oorlogsbronnen, showed that the Dutch are still very interested in WW2. 70% of the Dutch said that knowledge about WW2 helps them understand today's world. Some of the qualitative results of the survey revealed that audio-visual products, such as documentaries, are most appreciated. Themes of public interest are the persecution of the Jews, the resistance, daily life under occupation ('remarkable stories of ordinary people') and military history. Young people generally associate WW2 with Adolf Hitler (82%) and Anne Frank (43%). History teachers tend to address broader themes, such as National Socialism, deportations, resistance and the Axis powers.

PARTHENOS

The international PARTHENOS project, funded under the EU's Research and Innovation programme Horizon 2020, was launched on 3 July 2015 in the Salone dei Dugento of the iconic Palazzo Vecchio in Florence. PARTHENOS aims to strengthen the cohesion of research in the broad sector of Linguistic Studies, Humanities, Cultural Heritage, History, Archaeology and related fields through a thematic cluster of European research infrastructures, integrating initiatives, e-infrastructures and other world-class infrastructures. PARTHENOS will build bridges between these different yet tightly interrelated fields. PARTHENOS will achieve this objective by defining and supporting common standards, organising joint activities, harmonising policy definitions and implementations, developing pooled services and finding shared solutions to joint problems. NIOD is responsible for the PR of this large European heritage project.



INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANCY: GACACA ARCHIVE PROJECT

The first phase of the Gacaca Archive Project in Rwanda started in January 2015. The project aims to preserve, digitise and increase the accessibility of the documents and audio-visual records in the Gacaca archive. As part of its consultancy programme, NIOD contributes to this first project phase by developing a basic training course on archiving. This course addresses, among other topics, archive management, document arrangement and archival descriptions. The course will help the Rwandan archive staff to stabilise the physical condition of the Gacaca documents and improve the document retrieval process. NIOD offers high-quality knowledge and information about WW2, the Holocaust, and genocide. Both organisations and individuals approach NIOD with questions about scholarly research and higher education. NIOD is also regularly consulted about archive and collection issues in general and about cataloguing, indexing and improving information retrieval and accessibility in particular.

NIOD

INSTITUTE FOR REVIEW & WAR, HOLOCAUST AND HIGHLIGHTS

GENOCIDE STUDIES

2015



ESCALATING INTO HOLOCAUST

The Sajmifite concentration camp was a death camp for Jewish women and children from German-occupied Serbia. Most of them, about 5,500, were from Belgrade. A number of Roma women and children were also interned here. In 1942, the inmates at Sajmifite were systematically murdered in a mobile gas chamber dispatched from Berlin.

For 70 years there was no detailed information about the victims. But recently, archivists from the Historical Archives of Belgrade found six boxes in a pile of unsorted archive material. The boxes contained unprocessed and unlisted documentation about more than 2,000 Belgrade Jews killed in Sajmifite. Motivated by this significant discovery, the Historical Archives of Belgrade set up a broad international consortium, including NIOD, to identify methodologies with regard to processing archive material in the most productive, sustainable and effective way. The project aims to create a database of the people who were killed in this concentration camp, a traveling exhibition, educational materials and an online presentation.

EXHIBITION: COLONIAL WAR 1945-1949 – DESIRED AND UNDESIRED IMAGES

NIOD co-curated an exhibition at the Resistance Museum in Amsterdam about a forgotten aspect of the colonial war in the Dutch East Indies: the influence of the Dutch military intelligence services on Dutch media reporting about the conflict. The images released for publication in Dutch newspapers and weeklies presented millions of readers with a 'desire' and distorted picture of the situation. The official image of the war on Java and Sumatra aimed to manipulate public opinion. Without images of violence it seemed as if there was no war. Other images were deliberately not shown to the Dutch population as the censors did not like them. Some of those images turned up much later in the private photo albums of Dutch soldiers and show that the colonial war was far more violent than is generally acknowledged.



FACTS & FIGURES

WEB PAGE VISITS	
NIOD.KNAW.NL	227,579
OORLOGSBRONNEN.NL	66,338
LIBRARY	
LIBRARY VISITORS	1,588
LIBRARY VISITS	4,399
LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS (BOOKS)	1,911
FUNDING	€
KNAW (LUMP SUM)	2,919,900.00
KNAW STRATEGIC FUND	169,211.56
IN-KIND CONTRIBUTION	378,408.70
NWO	351,966.14
OTHER FUNDING	1,812,894.46
OTHER INCOME	211,349.72
TOTAL	5,843,730.58

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LIBRARY OPENING HOURS:
MO 1.00 PM - 5.30 PM
TU-FR: 9.00 PM - 5.30 PM



THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

2015 marked the centennial of the Armenian genocide in the late Ottoman Empire. The commemoration sparked political debate worldwide. NIOD was involved in a two-day conference on the legacy of the Armenian genocide, as well as a public event with a lecture by expert Dr Ronald Suny at the Humanity House in The Hague.

The conference at the The Hague Institute of Global Justice featured international experts in the fields of Law, History, Political Sciences, Sociology, Anthropology, Literature, Education and Media Studies. Mr Alexis Demirdjian, director of the Centennial Project Foundation, co-hosted the conference.



GULAG EXHIBITION

On the occasion of the Camp Vught exhibition *The Gulag. Reign of Terror and Arbitrariness in the Soviet Union* NIOD organised a symposium on the memorialisation of the Gulag. The Soviet Gulag was a massive forced labour camp system under Stalin. Some 18 million people passed through Gulag prisons and camps. During WW2, Jewish refugees from Europe were often arrested and imprisoned in the Gulag. The current revival of Soviet nostalgia in Russia tends to steer clear of the history of the Gulag. At best, the system is 'contextualised' as a necessary evil with Gulag victims once again censored. The recent closure of the PERM Gulag museum testifies to this. The symposium aimed to draw attention to these latest developments.

SREBRENICA, 20 YEARS AFTER THE GENOCIDE

As part of the *Roads to Justice* film, lecture and debate series on Transitional Justice, NIOD organised a lecture and debate about the generation that grew up after the 1995 genocide. The keynote speaker was Nevena Medic, a young Bosnian Serb journalist from the Srebrenica region who writes for Balkan Diskurs. This non-profit multimedia platform was set up in response to the lack of objective and independent local media in the Bosnian entity Republika Srpska.



Medic spoke about the difficulties she meets in her work and what it was like growing up in the Srebrenica region. HGS Alumni Koen Klussien and Marieke Zoodsma then reflected on processes of reconciliation and denial. As part of a course organised by the open journalism platform Verspers, ten starting documentary makers visited Srebrenica to make a short. Their films address the question of where Srebrenica stands 20 years after the genocide with a particular focus on the generation that grew up after 1995. The best shorts, selected by a professional jury, were premiered during the event. To mark the 20th anniversary, several other activities were organised. NIOD hosted an exhibition by Claudia Heineremann entitled *Enduring Srebrenica*. For HMD, the NIOD developed a special lesson series about the events in the Balkan in the early 90s.



ANNUAL NIOD LECTURE

The 12th Annual NIOD Lecture in Holocaust and Genocide Studies was delivered by Professor Elazar Barkan, Director of the Human Rights and Humanitarian Policy Concentration at Columbia University in New York. In his lecture, entitled *Combating History and the Challenges to Peacebuilding*, he argued that accountability for mass atrocities and the pursuit of peacebuilding, while often presented as complementary, increasingly present conflicting priorities. While peacebuilding is often perceived as a forward looking process, which avoids dwelling on the past, transitional justice advocates a focus on the recent past and demands accountability, including criminal culpability. Neither peacebuilding nor transitional justice, however, addresses the memory of historical violence, which stretches beyond criminal liability and is at the heart of many contemporary conflicts. The challenges presented by historical memories go beyond the demand for justice. The lecture took place in the Aula of the University of Amsterdam and was attended by around 200 people.



'1965' TODAY

The year 1965 marked a turning point in Indonesian history. A failed putsch on 1 October was followed swiftly by a violent backlash against the Left or the (alleged) communists. About half a million people were killed and possibly another one and a half million detained without trial. The violence paved the way for the New Order, General Suharto's military regime. Millions of survivors and their relatives lost their civil rights. The nation was changed forever. For half a century, serious discussions about this shocking violence have been a taboo in Indonesia. In recent years, however, the taboo is slowly being lifted. 50 years after the atrocities, NIOD, KITLV and UCLA organised the symposium *'1965' Today, Living with the Indonesian massacres*, which brought together scholars from Indonesia and around the world. The keynote speakers included Christian Gerlach, Farabi Fakhri and Geoffrey Robinson. There was also a film symposium about this topic, aimed at the general public.



GOED FOUT EXHIBITION

The *Goed Fout (Right Wrong)* exhibition curated by the University of Amsterdam's Special Collections showed graphic design from the National Socialist era and included a large part of NIOD's poster collection. Excellent artists made designs for both 'right' and 'wrong' causes. NIOD staff members René Kok en Erik Somers co-wrote the catalogue, which includes various works of propaganda and analyses the differences between 'right' and 'wrong'.

NIOD ONLINE: 70 YEARS WW2

In 2015 NIOD celebrated the 70th anniversary since its foundation on 8 May 1945, just days after the liberation by the Allied forces. NIOD organised a series of events on this occasion and the website paid special attention to 70 years since WW2 ended. Several historical events, from D-Day, marking the beginning of the end, to the capitulation of the Japanese in August 1945, were featured on www.niod.nl. These events were illustrated by contemporary newspaper articles in collaboration with www.delpher.nl, the database of Dutch newspapers, book and periodical developed by the National Library of the Netherlands.



HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE STUDIES

NIOD staff members taught courses at the Universities of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Leiden, Utrecht and Nijmegen. NIOD is responsible for the MA course in Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Amsterdam. In 2015 the MA course was followed by 25 students, including many non-Dutch speakers, resulting in an interesting mix of cultures and perspectives. The academic field of Holocaust and Genocide Studies has really come of age during the past decades. It has a multidisciplinary character with room for impulses from History, Social sciences and Law. The MA course focuses on processes of persecution, mass murder and genocide in the 20th century in general and on the Holocaust and the genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Armenia and Srebrenica in particular. Below is a selection of these written by MA students in 2015:

- *'Performing the past to forge the future': how the Truth and Reconciliation Commission taught South Africa's biggest public history lesson* (Kiki Marie-Louise Petersen)
- *Burundi and Rwanda: a comparative study of sexual violence in genocide* (Lara Alias)
- *'I really learned to pray by heart': religious manifestations in camp Westerbork (1939-1945)* (Tim van Noord)
- *Wartime detention in France: Drancy and Les Milles* (Tessa Bouwman)
- *'We killed them because they were Tutsi': the construction of the 'enemy' identity in pre-genocidal Rwanda and Nazi Germany* (Eleanor Hayden)
- *'Please don't walk through the mass grave': does this message reflect the memorialization of the Cambodian genocide?* (Max de Kruiff)
- *Torture in the hermit kingdom: a study of torture practices in North Korean detention facilities* (Erwin Nuijten)
- *The International Criminal Court's fight against impunity in Sudan* (Tara Schoemaker)
- *A tiny fraction of the truth: the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, the New York Times, and the London Times on Majdanek and the Operation Reinhard Death Camps, 1940-1944* (Andrew Shaffer)

FELLOWSHIP EVELINE BUCHHEIM

NIOD researcher Eveline Buchheim received a half-year JSPS post-doctoral fellowship and was based at Miyagi University in Sendai from July to December 2015. She worked on a cooperative project with Professor Mayumi Yamamoto, seeking to go beyond simple victimiser/victimised dichotomies for the Japanese occupation of Indonesia (1942-1945), recognising the more complex situations in individual cases, and to open up alternative interpretations of wartime social conditions on Java.



Working on personal relationships between Japanese and Dutch nationals, during her stay she exchanged materials and ideas with Japanese researchers, conducted interviews and tried to locate personal documents and archival material on experiences of the Japanese who were on Java during that time.

PROF. DR. ISMEE TAMES

To commemorate the 70-year anniversary of the founding of the 1940-1945 Foundation, Arq Psychotrauma Expert Group, in the name of the Foundation has established a special chair in collaboration with Utrecht University. The chair, entitled *Stichting 1940-1945: geschiedenis en betekenis van verzet tegen onderdrukking en vervolging (Foundation 1940-1945: history and meaning of resistance against oppression and persecution)*, is part of the Department of History and Art History at Utrecht University. The chair will be held by NIOD's Director of Research Ismee Tames. The aim of the new chair is to keep alive the memory of resistance, persecution and violence against citizens during the war years 1940-1945. Tames' fields of interest are the consequences of war and occupation for societies, the experience of war, processes of inclusion and exclusion, behaviour and choices of people in times of war and emotions and behaviour at the intersection of peace and war. The chair will also focus on the way in which the Foundation 1940-1945 has realised its particular form of solidarity.



PROF. DR. NANCY ADLER

Director of Research Nanci Adler has been appointed Professor of Memory, History and Transitional Justice at the University of Amsterdam's (UvA) Faculty of Humanities. The chair was established in partnership with NIOD Institute for War, Holocaust and Genocide Studies and the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW). Nanci Adler will conduct research into the way memories of a period of dictatorship, repression and other human rights violations take shape, particularly in societies where open debate about the past is suppressed. Recent history shows that the fall of dictatorial and repressive regimes does not necessarily result in the assignment of blame and the punishment of perpetrators, an acknowledgment of the victims' sufferings or the restoration of their rights. Adler's research will be internationally and comparatively oriented and closely linked with the interdisciplinary and international research field of Transitional Justice. The chair will boost research into the history, theory and practice of Transitional Justice.



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

Holocaust Memorial Day in the Netherlands aims to teach young generations about the Holocaust and other genocides. NIOD is the national coordinator of all activities organised around the commemoration of the liberation of Auschwitz on 27 January 1945. In 2015, NIOD developed two high school lesson series with in-depth information about the Armenian genocide and the Srebrenica genocide. The lesson series on the Armenian genocide was also translated into English and presented at various international symposiums. Both lesson series are freely available on www.holocaust-memorial-day.nl.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY



EERSTEWERELDOORLOG.NU

Although the Netherlands remained neutral during WW1, the conflict had a strong impact on everyday life in the Netherlands and the shaping of contemporary society. eerstewereldoorlog.nu is a network of Huis Doorn, NIOD and the Netherlands Open Air Museum, marking the centenary commemorations of WW1. The goal of the platform is to present the Dutch experience, within an international context, to the public. eerstewereldoorlog.nu lists events and provides information about WW1. The platform gives professionals information about networking and funding opportunities. One of the tasks of eerstewereldoorlog.nu is to conduct a survey of the educational means and needs in the fields of WW1.

THE 5 MOST VISITED WEB PAGES ON WWW.NIOD.KNAW.NL IN 2015

- 23 April: *Help het verzet! Schrijf over en geef door* 1,186 visitors
- 27 May: *Jaap Cohen cum laude gepromoveerd op Eli d'Oliveira, een Portugees-Joodse familiegeschiedenis* 831 visitors
- 15 January: *Lancering samenwerkingverband Kenniscentrum Oorlogsbronnen* 545 visitors
- 11 May: *Nieuwe uitgave: Oorlog en Bezetting - Nederland in 1940-45. De geschiedenis in topstukken uit het NIOD-archief* 522 visitors
- 31 August: *NIOD ontvangt memoires overlevende experimentenblok Auschwitz* 419 visitors



ACQUISITIONS

NIOD's archivists regularly acquire new archives and documents with great historical value. Sometimes collections are donated to NIOD, which are both unique and intimate. In 2015, the NIOD disclosed a large amount of letters, poems and photographs about 'love' which were featured in an online series. The letters and poems show how people hold on to love and their loved ones in times of great endurance. Some of the most heartfelt messages were written in confinement, by people who would not return after the war.

ONTHEEMD IN EIGEN LAND - INTERNALLY DISPLACED

In 2015, the hundreds of thousands people fleeing war zones in Africa and the Middle East made headlines all over Europe. Pictures of families lining up at borders evoked images of Jewish refugees in the 1930s and of Belgian refugees in WW1.



In an attempt to put these recent events in a historical context, NIOD published the online series *Ontheemd in eigen land (Internally displaced)*, based on stories from its archives. The series reflects on how the Dutch coped with being separated from their families under harsh circumstances, not knowing whether they would be reconciled at all.