

European Governance Day

October 11, 2022

Faculty of Law, Economics and Governance & IOS EU Platform

Utrecht University

Fifth Annual Johan Willem Beyen Lecture on European Governance

"Europe: As good as it gets?" by Caroline de Gruyter, Brussel-based journalist, European Affairs correspondent and columnist for the leading Dutch newspaper NRC Handelsblad and a regular contributor to Foreign Policy, EUobserver and De Standaard.

In 2021, De Gruyter published the book 'Beter wordt het niet' which has now also been translated in German ('Das Habsburgerreich - Inspiration für Europa?'). In the book, she explores what lessons Europe can draw from the Habsburg Empire: Could Europe's weaknesses actually be its strength? And should we finally accept the EU as it is: a benign empire of sorts, in permanent change, unfinished per definition?

Public event: Registration mandatory (register here: <https://www.formdesk.com/universiteitutrecht-rebo/usg-lecture-egd>).

Location: Utrecht University School of Governance, Faculty of Law, Economics and Governance, Bijlhouwerstraat 6, 3511 ZT Utrecht.

Programme:

- 16.15 – 16.30 Reception with coffee and tea (USG Central reception Hall – ground floor entrance)
- 16.30-16.35 Word of welcome (USG lecture hall, 0.24, ground floor)
- 16.35 –17.15 Johan Willem Beyen Lecture by Caroline de Gruyter (USG lecture hall, 0.24, ground floor)
- 17.15-17.45 Discussion & Q&A - moderated by Prof. dr. Wieger Bakker, UU dean for life-long learning. (USG lecture hall, 0.24, ground floor)
- 17.45- 18.45 Drinks (USG restaurant – first floor)

Johan Willem (Wim) Beyen (1897–1976) was an alumnus from the Utrecht University School of Law. He was a banker, civil servant, politician and diplomat. From 1952 – 1956 he served as Minister of Foreign Affairs. Wim Beyen is regarded one of the founding fathers of the European Union. In the early fifties, when initiatives to intensify political cooperation and integration between Germany, France, Italy and the Benelux-countries seemed to fail, he developed a plan for a European Common Market in combination with a political community. His initiative formed an import foundation for the Treaties of Rome of 1957 and the development of a European Economic Community.

The lecture is organised with the support of Institutions for Open Societies and the LEG Master European



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