European Governance Day
November 15, 2021
Faculty of Law, Economics and Governance
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. Earlier this year, De Gruyter published the book ‘Beter wordt het niet’ in which 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.
Participants: Students and alumni master program European Governance including relatives, research internship partners, UU/IOS staff & students, invited national and international guests
Location: Utrecht University School of Governance, Faculty of Law, Economics and Governance, Bijlhouwerstraat 6, 3511 ZT Utrecht.

Program:
17.00 – 17.10 Reception (USG restaurant – first floor)
17.10 – 17.20 Welcome by Prof. dr. Femke van Esch, Professor of European Governance and Leadership and coordinator of the Master European Governance (USG lecture hall, 0.24, ground floor)
17.20 – 18.00 Johan Willem Beyen Lecture by Caroline de Gruyter (USG lecture hall, 0.24, ground floor)
18.00 – 18.30 Discussion & Q&A - moderated by Prof. dr. Wieger Bakker, UU dean for life-long learning. (USG lecture hall, 0.24, ground floor)

Drinks are cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions

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