



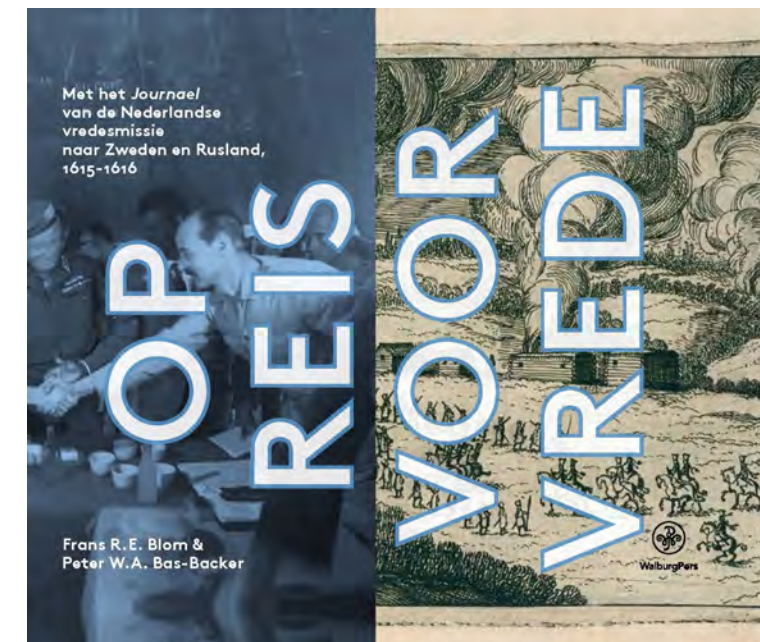
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

## ON THE ROAD FOR PEACE

*The Dutch Enterprise of Mediation in the War  
between Sweden and Russia 1615-1616, in the light  
of history and Modern Diplomacy*

Friday 10 October 2014

Theater van 't Woord  
Public Library of Amsterdam  
Oosterdokkade 134, Amsterdam



Conference Organisation:

Dr. Frans R.E. Blom - University of Amsterdam Centre for the Study of the Dutch Golden Age

Mr. P.W.A. Bas Backer - former Diplomat

Jaap van Straalen - Island Book Store Amsterdam

Inge Groenen - Ma University of Amsterdam

Anja Bas Backer



## Session I: Dutch Peace Mediation in the War between Sweden and Russia 1615-1616

Chair: Prof. Dr. Lia van Gemert, Director of the Amsterdam Centre for the Study of the Dutch Golden Age.

9.30: Reception and coffee

10:00: Presentation by authors **Peter W.A. Bas-Backer** and **Frans R.E. Blom** of the publication *Op Reis voor Vrede* to **H.E. Ambassador Håkan Emsgård of the Kingdom of Sweden in the Netherlands** and **H.E. Ambassador Dr. Philip de Heer, Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Sweden**.

**Opening** of the conference by the Ambassadors H.E. H. Emsgård and H.E. Ph. de Heer.

10:30: **Prof. Dr. J.C.A. Schokkenbroek**, *Blood, Swedes and Tears? Dutch maritime presence in the Baltic region during the 17<sup>th</sup> century*. The paradox of friendship and rivalry in the relationship between the Dutch Republic and Sweden. Schokkenbroek is professor of Maritime History at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

11.00: Coffee and tea break

11.30: **Prof. Dr. Kristian Gerner**, *From Novgorod to St. Petersburg by way of Sweden: the Dutch Baltic trajectory*. After four centuries of repeated backlashes, the Dutch-Swedish mission may be crowned with success if the successors of Vladimir Putin recognize that it was not the Devil that helped Peter build his city against the order of Nature, violating Russia. It was civilized Europe that greeted Russia welcome. Gerner is em. professor of History at Lund University.

12.00: **Prof. Dr. J.S.A.M. van Koningsbrugge**, *The Russian perspective on Baltic affairs*. What goals did the Russians diplomats set themselves in the peace negotiations? And how could it be that the Russian government accepted the Dutch envoys, while, only two years before, it had forbidden traveling Russian diplomats to have an audience in The Hague? This is a story of royal and republican pretences, illusions and *Realpolitik*. Van Koningsbrugge is professor of Russian History at Rijksuniversiteit Groningen.

12:30: Debate

13:00 – 14:10: **Lunch** in adjacent restaurant La Place (same floor).



Under the auspices of:

University of Amsterdam -  
Centre for the Study of the  
Dutch Golden Age

Netherlands Institute of  
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## Session II: Early modern Peace Mediation from a modern Perspective

Chair: Prof. Dr. K. Colijn, General Director of the Clingendael Institute.

14:10: **Mr. Juurd Eijssvoegel**, *Column*.

Eijssvoegel is Senior Editor for International Relations of NRC Handelsblad.

14:30: **Mr. Pieter Feith**, *Four centuries later: Some observations on intervention in our times*. We need to learn lessons from past experiences.

Feith is former International Civilian Representative for Kosovo, former EU Special Representative in Kosovo, and former leading EU positions in monitoring and conflict management missions in Serbia, Macedonia and Darfur (Sudan).

15:00: **Mr. Johan Molander**, *Sweden in the Baltic region, and how international mediation has evolved over time*. International conflict and mediation from Abraham de Wicquefort to Lakdar Brahimi, from Ivan the Terrible to Vladimir Putin. 'Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose.'

Molander is a Swedish former diplomat at the UN in Geneva and former Swedish Ambassador i.a. Moscow.

15:30: **Dr. Paul Meerts**, *On the evolution in international negotiations and mediation*. This intervention will postulate that the opportunities and obstacles of mediation did not essentially change over the centuries. This final speech will also briefly compare the peace efforts in the wars between Ukraine and Russia nowadays and between Sweden and Russia in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

Meerts is Senior Researcher at the Netherlands Instituut for International Relations *Clingendael* in The Hague.

16:00: Debate

16:30: Drinks



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English translations provided by Mr. A. Anikin, Mrs. M.H. Offerhaus-Bas Backer and Mr. D.F.Q. Bas Backer.

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