Bios of Participants

Sas Amoah has been Co-chair of The Open University’s Black and Minority Ethnic network for 10 years. He works closely with different departments within the university advising on how to support Black Asian and Minority Ethnic staff in addition to reviewing policy designed to increase the representation of underrepresented in senior roles.

Kolar Aparna has a background in performing arts and human geography. Her work as a performer largely emerged from grappling with the body-politics, and micro-politics of control in everyday practices of choreographic-relations in the performing arts across India and Europe, which led her to border studies and human geography. As a young border scholar her work has engaged with issues of spatial justice, everydayness in borderlands, right to the city, and postcolonial approaches to borders. Her recent work has primarily focused on processes of rethinking the University in relation to the right to education, and "right to write histories" part of (asylum)citizenship struggles in EUrope. Her work is collective and collaborative, while questioning the structural conditions allowing (or not) for certain forms of knowledge exchange. She is currently working (precariously) as Assistant Professor in the Human Geography department at Radboud University.

Lev Avitan is a spoken word artist and public thinker synthesizing art and academia together. His undying love for the people serves as a catalyst to engage with society and its deep-rooted systemic issues. He finished his Bachelor’s degree in Philosophy at Radboud University in 2019 and currently does a Master’s programme where he focuses on decolonial theory.

Justine Bakker is affiliated with the race-religion constellation project at Radboud University, Nijmegen. She received her PhD in Religion from Rice University (Houston, TX) in May 2020 and is revising her dissertation into a book manuscript, with the preliminary title Demonic Oceans: Parareligious Stories in the African Diaspora.

Stephanie Buah has always had a passion for diversity, inclusion & equity matters. Therefore, in addition to her studies at Radboud University, Stephanie helped found the Erasmus Student Network in Nijmegen in order to help international students integrate better. With her final thesis focusing on Diversity & Internationalisation in Dutch organisations, Stephanie was able to further notice the gap between both the International & Dutch communities. Stephanie’s goal has always been to contribute to a future where individuals are not limited by their differences, but instead are empowered to become the best versions of themselves.
**Sharmishta Chatterjee-Banerjee** is Policy Director, Internationalisation at Radboud University’s Nijmegen School of Management (NSM). Before joining Radboud University in October 2020, she was Head of Corporate Connections and Internationalisation at Newcastle University Business School, UK. With extensive experience in the global higher education sector and travel, retail and advertising industries, in her current role she is responsible for leading internationalisation policy and strategy and building NSM’s global visibility and footprint.

**Margreet van Es** works as an Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Utrecht University. She has conducted research on Islamophobia in Europe for many years, focusing especially on how Muslims fight against stereotypes and other expressions of anti-Muslim racism. Her current research focuses on trendy alcohol-free halal restaurants in Rotterdam through the lens of cosmopolitanism and belonging. Margreet van Es has published articles in international journals such as Ethnic and Racial Studies, Religion, Journal of Muslims in Europe, Religions, Nordic Journal of Religion and Society, and Identities: Global Studies in Culture and Power. Her monograph Stereotypes and Self-Representations of Women with a Muslim Background: The Stigma of Being Oppressed was published with Palgrave Macmillan in 2016.

**Cesar E. Merlín Escorza**, social anthropologist from the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana - Iztapalapa, Ciudad de México. Master in Anthropology and Development Studies and phd worker/researcher at the Human Geography Department of Radboud University Nijmegen. Currently researching about, and working with, organizations in México and Nederland supporting and assisting migrant people living without 'legal-status-documents' in these countries.

**Ruard Ganzevoort** is Chief Diversity Officer at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam and Dean of the Faculty of Religion and Theology. Since 2011 he is also a senator in the Dutch parliament.

**Glenn Hellberg** is a Curaçao-Dutch psychiatrist. He started the Expertise Centre for Transcultural Therapy in Amsterdam and is a specialist in the field of non-Western and transcultural psychiatry. In 2013 he was knighted in the Order of Orange Nassau and in 2019 he received the oeuvre prize of the Black Achievement Awards.

**Ina Holev** is a freelance journalist and author. She is a graduate student in media & cultural analysis at the University of Düsseldorf. Her focus is on issues of (Jewish) media representation, gender and post-colonial studies.
**Rosalba Icaza** is a decolonial feminist activist-scholar of Mexican origin and Associate Professor in Global Politics, Gender, and Diversity at the Institute of Social Studies, the Erasmus University of Rotterdam where she also co-convenes the reading/learning group “Nurturing (each) Other”. In 2016, acted Senior Researcher of the University of Amsterdam Diversity Commission. Her current research mobilizes storytelling to explore the plural meanings, practices, and infrastructures of solidarity that are articulated and enacted by marginalized communities in the City of the Hague under conditions of Covid19 and after Black Lives Matter Global Mobilizations.

**Katherine van den Bogert, Elke Linders and Nicole Sanches** The Toolbox is a collaborative project by social anthropologists Kathrine van den Bogert (Radboud University), Nicole Sanches and Elke Linders (both Utrecht University). Kathrine specializes in gender and intersectionality, Nicole in de-colonial theory, belonging and education and Elke in political and participatory art.

**Ross Kang** is a Mathematics professor and scholar with a keen interest in promoting a diversity and inclusion agenda at Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen. He was born and raised in Canada, and has lived in the Netherlands for nearly a decade, after spending a few years studying and working in the UK.

**Richard Kofi** is a Radboud alumni. He worked at the Africa Museum in Nijmegen. Kofi is an artist, curator and Head of Programming at Bijlmer Parktheater. According to Richard, “every day we travel routes. Sometimes we are free to choose directions; sometimes we are destined to follow certain paths. We carry on, navigated by our passions, instincts, destiny and the blues of our ancestors”. [https://www.kunstinzicht.nl/kunst/adres/12424/richard-kofi.html](https://www.kunstinzicht.nl/kunst/adres/12424/richard-kofi.html)

**Martijn de Koning** is associate professor at the Department of Islamstudies at Radboud Univeristy Nijmegen, the Netherlands. He has done research on Salafism, counter-radicalization policies, racialization and Islamophobia and religious identity formation and experiences among Muslim youth. Together with Nadia Fadil and Francesco Ragazzi he edited the volume “Radicalization in Belgium and the Netherlands – Critical Perspectives on Violence and Security” (IB Tauris 2019). He maintains his own blog (CLOSER) [http://religionresearch.org/closer](http://religionresearch.org/closer).

**Han van Krieken**, rector magnificus of the Radboud University since 2016. Han went to medical school in Leiden after entering through the lottery system that was in place then. He was trained to be pathologist and specialized in disease of the bone marrow and lymph nodes. As a researcher he tried to understand the origin of cancers and developed the new insights into diagnostic tools. As a teacher he developed programs for collaborative research based education. As a doctor he was very focussed on patients needs. Feeling that institutional change would help
to provide better care he took up several organisational roles based on which he was asked to apply for the rectorship. As rector he felt that there was a strong need for diversity in knowledge and people since he has a strong belief that a variety of persons with different backgrounds, trainings, beliefs and opinions form the strongest teams.

**Sophie Lauwers** is Marie Skłodowska-Curie PhD candidate at the University of Aberdeen. Her research project investigates the relationship between Christianity and political secularism, and the consequences of this relationship for the position of racial and religious minorities in Europe today. She is part of the Centre for Citizenship, Civil Society and Rule of Law (CISRUL) at the University of Aberdeen, and affiliated with the Race-Religion Constellation Project at Radboud University.

**Olivier Thomas Kramsch** is professor of geography and border studies in the Department of Human Geography, Radboud Universiteit. He has taught and written extensively on cross-border region-building within the European Union, as well as EU external border practices on Europe's postcolonial edges. He resides in Cleves, Niederrhein, with partner Sabine, son Oscar and housecat Schnurrie.

**Arnold Lubbers** is project leader of various programmes at the Dutch Research Council (NWO) that concern diversity and inclusion such as the ‘Impulse Programme for Inclusion in Academia’, the ‘Hestia – Impulse for Refugees in Science’ and the ‘Funding Organisations for Gender Equality (FORGEN)’. He is also programme/policy officer of the ‘NWO Talent Programme Vici SSH’, the ‘Caribbean Research: a Multidisciplinary Approach (SSH) and the ‘Research Programme Sport: Participation’.

**Nawal Mustafa** is a PhD candidate at the University of Amsterdam and her PhD research focuses on the historical regulation of interracialized intimacy in the UK in the period of 1950-1970. By focusing on the lives of black women in the UK. Nawal hopes to contribute to the existing academic literature on race, identity and belonging in UK.

**Parvati Raghuram** is affiliated with the Open University and member of the IMISCOE executive board. She is leading the Anti-Racism Working Group within IMISCOE that issued a statement on structural racism and racial justice in the context of Black Lives Matter in November 2020. In this statement, they expressed their solidarity with the BLM movement and used this moment to reflect on ways in which the network and affiliated universities and networks an strive racial justice and equality in research and in practices as a research community. They offer concrete steps for IMISCOE to engage in an anti-racist agenda.
Lema Salah is a historian and diversity & inclusivity expert. Her work focuses on gender politics, military history, human resources and organisational culture/leadership models. Currently she is a Ph.D.-candidate at Radboud University (Political Sciences).

Yasmin Sharif is a graduate in Political Theory at Radboud University. Her research departs from postcolonial and intersectional feminist thought and explores the ethics of the fashion industry. She is active for Muslim students through MSV Nijmegen and currently works for the youth project Jongerenambassadeurs where she puts theory into practice.

Pippa Sterk is an interdisciplinary writer and researcher from the Netherlands, currently based in London. She is passionate about mental health and wellbeing, and is currently doing her PhD research on LGBT+ volunteering communities in Higher Education. Her short stories, poetry, and life writing have appeared in Untitled Voices, streetcake magazine, and Creative Futures Lockdown among others. She also writes non-academically and has previously written opinion pieces and reviews for Salty, The F-Word, Strand Magazine, PinkNews and Knight Errant Press.

Josias Tembo is a PhD researcher at the department of Ethics and Political Philosophy. Tembo has a master degree in philosophy on African identity from the University of Pretoria. He is interested in Postcolonial and Decolonial Theory, Critical Philosophy of Race, African Philosophy and Political and Social Philosophy. His PhD research is on the connections between race and religion across the Atlantic. He is a member of The Race-Religion Constellation Project: https://racereligionresearch.org/.

Anya Topolski is an associate professor in ethics and political philosophy at the Radboud University. She started the Anti-Racism Awareness Week two years ago with her honours group. Her areas of expertise are: European racism, political philosophy, ethics, European identity and exclusion, gender, antisemitism and islamophobia, political theology, Jewish thought, Arendt, Levinas, ‘Judeo-Christianity’.

Jennifer Tosch is a cultural historian and the founder of Black Heritage Tours in Amsterdam (2013) and New York State (2017). The tours make the cities' 'hidden' stories visible as you explore their early Black presence and colonial history. She is the co-author of 3 guide books on Dutch colonial history: Amsterdam (2014), New York (2017) and The Netherlands (2019). Jennifer is the co-founder of Sites of Memory Foundation (2019) and a member of the Mapping Slavery Project Netherlands (2014). She was born in Brooklyn, New York to Surinamese parents.
Kiki Kolman (she/her) is often angry at the world, but luckily very much in love with the many beautiful people in it. After a bachelor Political Science and a masters Political Theory at the Radboud University, she went to the University of Cape Town to learn more about Decolonial Theory in the masters in African Studies. She works as a freelance journalist and programme maker, first for arthouse LUX, and currently at InSience - International Science Film Festival in Nijmegen.

Mbali Mbuyisa worked in service management and hospitality for a couple of years. She holds a Master’s degree in City Planning, and acquired great knowledge and expertise in the area of Land and Real Estate, Environment and Sustainability, Place Making, Circular Economy and the Built Environment. Mbuyisa is also very passionate about diversity and inclusion matters and holds the belief inclusion is central in bringing about new businesses, diverse solutions and innovation. Her skills and innovative ideas allowed Expectalent to develop end-to-end solutions to connecting and linking global talents to local opportunities and industries.

Farida Nabibaks is the initiator and artistic director of Music-& Dance theatre performance Schitterende Schaduw/ Radiant Shadow. In 1990 Farida graduated from the Scapino Dansacademie in Amsterdam. She preformed contemporary and dancetheatre productions, she played, as a premonition of her work today, the female leadingrole in FAYA, an original Dutch/Surinamese musical, that was set in the mid seventies of the 1900’s in a (just independent) Suriname. Farida also studied Philosophy at the Radboud University Nijmegen. Her Master thesis in Behavioural Sciences.

Laura Visser-Maessen is Assistant Professor of North American Studies at Radboud University, Nijmegen. She specializes in African American history, civil rights, protest culture, and race and antiracism movements in the U.S. and in a trans-Atlantic context. Her current research centers on the organizing strategies of Black activists in the U.S. and western Europe during the 20th and 21st centuries. She is co-founder of the “Mapping Transatlantic Routes of Identity” project, which researches the roles of the U.S. and Black America as reference cultures for anti-racism movements and public debates on diversity and democracy in Europe and the Netherlands.

Mirjam Wajsberg is currently undertaking her PhD research at Radboud University on migration, citizenship and urban social activism. She has a BA in History and MA in Migration Studies.

Daniel Waters works in the Centre for Analytical Modelling, conducting research in the areas of universal basic income (UBI) and democracy. He is using analytical modelling techniques to: 1)
Integrate a UBI into existing (optimal) taxation systems; and 2) Connect the media to the ‘imagined communities’ (Anderson, 1983) that shape democracies. His master’s thesis titled "China’s Growing Influence in Sub-Saharan Academia" is at the nexus of development economics and global politics. Daniel continues to work as a Research Fellow at the Institute for Nigeria-China Development Studies, University of Lagos, and his research is in the final stages of review ahead of publication.

**Daniel Wigboldus** has a background in Social Psychology and has been President of the Radboud University Executive Board since 1 May 2017. He is currently the holder of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion portfolio at Radboud University. Daniel is closely involved with the development of and innovations in education.

**Miriam Yosef** is currently undertaking her PhD research on human rights & intersectional justice and is a Research Fellow at ELES. As an educational facilitator, curator, and writer, Miriam focuses on power asymmetries and empowerment.