

The End of the Wave? Dutch Elections and a Brake on Populist Progress

Wednesday, March 15, 2017, 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Panel Members

Timothy Broas was appointed by President Barack Obama in July 2013 to serve as US ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands. He was confirmed by the US Senate on March 13, 2014, and presented his credentials to King Willem-Alexander in The Hague on March 19, 2014. After two successful years as America's senior representative in The Hague, Amb. Broas stepped down from his post last year. Among other honors, he received the Distinguished Public Service Award, the highest civilian award from the US Navy. Before serving as an ambassador, he was a partner in the Washington, DC, office of Winston & Strawn, where he practiced as a litigation and white-collar criminal defense attorney. He was appointed in 2010 by President Obama to serve on the board of trustees of the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, a Washington-based foreign policy think tank. Gov. Martin O'Malley appointed him to serve on the board of trustees of St. Mary's College of Maryland. Govs. Tim Kaine and Mark Warner of Virginia appointed him to consecutive terms on the board of governors of Mount Vernon. Amb. Broas has served for many years on the board of trustees of Partners in Health. He also serves on the board of directors of Humanity in Action. He received his B.A. in economics and history from Boston College and a J.D. from the College of William & Mary.

Frank Heemskerk has been executive director at the World Bank Group representing the Constituency of Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Georgia, Israel, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, The Netherlands, Romania, and Ukraine since 2013. He is vice chair of the Audit Committee of the World Bank Group and a member of the Human Resources Committee. From 2011 to 2013, he was a member of the managing board of Royal HaskoningDHV. Mr. Heemskerk served as minister for foreign trade of the Netherlands from 2007 to 2010. From 2003 to 2006, he was a member of the House of Representatives of the Netherlands, during which he was the spokesperson for the Dutch Labor Party on financial supervision, economic affairs, and health care reforms. Before entering politics, he worked at ABN AMRO Bank. He is the author (with Dolf van den Brink) of a book on the impact of aging on the Dutch society. He is a 1994 graduate of the University of Amsterdam.

Yascha Mounk is a lecturer on government at Harvard University, a fellow at the Transatlantic Academy at the German Marshall Fund, and a senior fellow in the Political Reform Program at New America. A weekly columnist for Slate, a monthly columnist for CNN, and a regular contributor to Die Zeit, he is at work on his third book, which argues that liberal democracy is splitting into two new regime forms: illiberal democracy, or democracy without rights, and undemocratic liberalism, or rights without democracy.

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Kathleen R. McNamara is a professor of government and foreign service at Georgetown University and, during the 2016–17 year, is a distinguished scholar in residence at the School of International Service at American University. Her work focuses on the evolution of the European Union, the politics of the euro and the European Central Bank, and globalization and governance issues more generally. She is the author of “The Politics of Everyday Europe: Constructing Authority in the European Union” (Oxford University Press, 2015) and “The Currency of Ideas: Monetary Politics in the European Union” (Cornell University Press, 1998), and she coedited “Making History: European Integration and Institution Change at Fifty” (Oxford University Press, 2007). At Georgetown, Dr. McNamara served as director of the Mortara Center for International Studies from 2010 to 2016. She also has taught at Princeton University and Sciences Po (Paris) and has been a visiting scholar at the Russell Sage Foundation, a German Marshall Fund fellow, and a Fulbright fellow. She is a participant in a variety of governmental and nongovernmental organization policy groups; has written extensively for Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy, and The Washington Post’s Monkey Cage blog; and has been featured on NPR’s “All Things Considered.” She received her Ph.D. from Columbia University and her B.A. from McGill University.

Danielle Pletka is senior vice president for foreign and defense policy studies at AEI, where she oversees the institute’s work on foreign and defense issues. She writes regularly on national security matters with a special focus on Iran (weapons proliferation), the Middle East (Syria, Israel, ISIS, and the Arab Spring), and South Asia. Before joining AEI, Ms. Pletka was a longtime senior professional staff member for the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, where she specialized in the Near East and South Asia as the point person on the Middle East, Pakistan, India, and Afghanistan. Ms. Pletka is the coeditor of “Dissent and Reform in the Arab World: Empowering Democrats” (AEI Press, 2008), the coauthor of “Containing and Deterring a Nuclear Iran” (AEI Press, 2011), and the coauthor of “Iranian influence in the Levant, Egypt, Iraq, and Afghanistan” (AEI Press, 2012). Her latest study, “America vs. Iran: The competition for the future of the Middle East,” was published in 2014. Her television appearances include CBS News’ “Face the Nation,” CNN’s “Fareed Zakaria GPS,” and NBC News’ “Meet the Press.” She has been published in The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, The Hill, and Politico, among other outlets. She has an M.A. from the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University and a B.A. from Smith College.

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Stan Veuger is a resident scholar at AEI, where his research is in political economy and public finance. He is also the editor of AEI Economic Perspectives. In the fall of 2016, he was a visiting lecturer of economics at Harvard University. Dr. Veuger's research has been published in leading academic and professional journals, including the Journal of Monetary Economics, the Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, and The Quarterly Journal of Economics. He is the editor, with Michael Strain, of "Economic Freedom and Human Flourishing: Perspectives from Political Philosophy" (AEI Press, 2016). He also writes frequently for general audiences on economics, politics, and popular culture. His writing has appeared in the Los Angeles Times, The National Interest, The New York Times, USA Today, and US News & World Report, among others. Dr. Veuger serves as a board member of the Altius Society and as the chairman of the Washington, DC, chapter of the Netherland-America Foundation. He received a Ph.D. and an A.M. in economics from Harvard and an M.Sc. in economics from Universitat Pompeu Fabra. He completed his undergraduate education at Utrecht University and Erasmus University Rotterdam.