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## Family law in Syria: a plurality of laws, norms, and legal practices

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## Curriculum Vitae

Esther van Eijk was born on 18 August 1976 in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. She commenced her legal studies in 1995 at the Law Faculty of Leiden University. In 2000 she obtained her 'basisdoctoraal' (diploma equivalent to a Masters) in International Law, with a specialisation in Human Rights, Refugee and Gender Issues. Her thesis was entitled 'Women fleeing from domestic violence – Protection against expulsion under the Women's Convention'. Upon completion of her law studies, she worked for a Palestinian NGO in East Jerusalem in the field of human rights and rights of women & children in 2001-2002. She was intrigued by the region and the delicate relationship between law and religion, and therefore sought to further her career in Middle Eastern family law. After having completed a BA in Arabic languages and cultures at the Faculty of Humanities, Leiden University, in 2006, she embarked on her PhD project 'Family Law in Syria' at the Leiden University Institute for Area Studies in 2007. Her research interests and expertise include Middle Eastern law, Islamic family law, legal anthropology, gender and human rights issues, both in the academia and beyond.