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**Discrimination and the foundation of justice: hate
speech, affirmative action, institutional opinions**
Dijkstra, E.

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Curriculum Vitae

Erwin Dijkstra was born in Rotterdam in 1989. He is an Assyriologist and philosopher of law. As a physically impaired person his professional life has been somewhat unconventional. Though he eventually always ended up in places where he could combine teaching, research, and knowledge production. Such was also the case at Leiden University, where he worked as a researcher and lecturer from September 2018 until August 2022.

During this tenure, from September 2019 onwards, he labored on a PhD-thesis as an external PhD-candidate at the Leiden Law School of Leiden University. His project concerned combatting discrimination through fundamental rights and would eventually result in this work. Meanwhile he published extensively in scholarly journals. On the topic of his thesis, of course, but also on the rights plight of physically and mentally impaired persons – both in the Netherlands and beyond. As a result, he has served as a member of the editorial board of the pre-eminent Dutch journal on disability rights, *Handicap & Recht*, from September 2020 onwards.

The excellence of his teaching skills and the thoroughness of his research have been widely acknowledged. In 2019 he won the JSVO Education Award for the best lecturer at the Leiden Law School. In that same year, he was also awarded the second place at the Leiden Thesis Awards, for his master thesis on the societal position of impaired persons in the Netherlands, and the second place at the Thesis Awards of the Netherlands Institute for the Ancient Near East (NINO), for his master thesis on the role of forests in the myths, legends, and folklore of the ancient Near East.

He holds degrees in a number of fields. He obtained a LL.B. in Dutch Law and a LL.M. in Civil Law from Erasmus University Rotterdam in 2011 and 2014 respectively; the LL.B. was awarded the distinction *cum laude*. He also obtained a B.A. and a M.A. in Assyriology, and a LL.M. in Jurisprudence and Legal Philosophy from Leiden University in 2014 and 2018 respectively; the latter two degrees were awarded the distinction *cum laude*.

Index

A

Ableism, 9, 78, 105
Adjudication process, 169-171, 179
Affirmative action, 48, 92, 97, 143, 166, 210-212, 218, 220, 223, 226-233, 236, 239-242, 244-245, 249-252, 254-255, 256-259, 261-262, 281, 284, 290, 323; Distributive measures, 227, 229, 231-232, 245, 247, 249-251, 254, 256-258, 261; Facilitating measures, 227-228, 262, 281, 284, 290
Affirmative action, four lines of reasoning, 228-231, 241-242, 252
Affirmative Action, four models. *See* Affirmative Action, four lines of reasoning
Affirmative Action, outreach measures. *See* Affirmative Action; Facilitating measures
Affirmative Action, preference measures. *See* Affirmative Action; Distributive measures
Affirmative action, two narratives, 228-229, 231, 240
Africa, 8
Algemene Wet Gelijke Behandeling. *See* Equal Treatment Act, Dutch
Algorithms, 10
Allgemeinverbindlichkeit, 146
Alt-right, the, 9
Amsterdam, 302, 305
Ancient Egypt, 7
Ancient Mesopotamia, 7
Ancient Rome, 7, 212

Anderson, Elizabeth, 227, 229-231, 257
Anti-discrimination angle, 91-92, 105, 119, 158
Antisemitism, 8, 9, 182
Arendt, Hannah, 36, 60, 149
Autonomy, 40, 101, 213, 217, 329
Autonomy liberalism, 329

B

Background assumptions, 273, 278
Balkans, the, 8
Barry, Brian, 276
Bayle, Pierre, 33
Beever, Allan, 211, 214, 217
Berlin, Isaiah, 270
Bois, François du, 212, 214, 216, 222
Burgerschapswet/ Aanscherping
Burgerschapsopdracht Onderwijs. *See* Citizenship Act, Dutch

C

Cahn, Edmond, 102
Capabilities approach, 121-126, 131
Care tasks, 232, 244, 253, 258, 259
Cassin, René, 58-59, 64, 71-72, 81, 159
Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, 3, 210, 238, 241
Child care. *See* Care tasks
China, 8
Citizenship Act, Dutch, 279, 291, 294, 310, 312
Citizenship education, 291
Civil Code, Dutch, 213, 222, 237, 238
Claassen, Rutger, 125

Claim entitlements, Frick's two levels of, 59; First level of claim entitlements, 60, 64, 309; Second level of claim entitlements, 63, 72

Classical Greece, 7

Cliteur, Paul, 181

Code of Civil Procedure, Dutch, 213

Cognate groups, 155, 165, 174, 185-187, 235, 323

Cohen, Gerald, 215

Colonialism, 53-55

Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, 204

Common Constitutional Pattern, 31, 35, 38, 132, 138, 139, 140, 142, 143, 147, 160, 164, 170, 178, 196, 296, 300, 322, 324

Communitarianism, 329

Compassion, 25, 63, 317, 331-337

Compensatory model of affirmative action, 229, 231, 260

Constitution, Dutch, 90, 91, 221-222, 295

Contestation, politics of, 82

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 3, 78, 79, 210, 233, 240-241

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 3, 78-79, 156

Convention on the Rights of the Child, 3

Corrective justice, 218

Corrias, Luigi, 48

Council of Europe, 134, 204

Court of Justice of the European Union, 233, 238, 241, 255, 259

COVID-19, 203, 300

Criminal Code, Dutch, 163, 181-183, 193-194, 197, 201

Criminal justice system, 168, 170-171, 172, 174, 177, 179, 191, 193, 201, 206

Criminal law, xiii, 14, 24, 50, 158, 163-164, 166, 167-174, 175, 177-180, 183, 190-193, 196, 199, 200, 204-206, 211, 213, 224, 226, 273, 285, 294, 324

D

Déclaration Universelle des Droits de l'Homme, 55, 57

Deficit-approach, 244

Democracy, 6, 29-30, 43-46, 47, 50, 61, 74, 86, 114, 125, 169, 175, 184, 262, 291

Desert, 91, 92, 94, 105, 119, 122, 158, 231, 248

Dicey, Albert, 133

Difference, politics of, 79

Dignity, 3, 4, 31, 58, 59, 64, 71, 73, 85, 88, 98, 115, 116, 117, 120, 121, 131, 154, 155, 156, 169, 173, 183, 187, 190, 203, 239, 268, 275, 276, 282, 283, 284, 286, 291, 310

Direct discrimination, 166, 224, 226, 227, 228, 231, 232, 234, 235

Direct implementation of fundamental rights in private law, 221, 222

Discrimination, xi, xii-xiii, 2-6, 7-11, 12-19, 20-22, 23-25, 29-30, 32, 38-42, 44, 46, 48-49, 57, 59, 61, 63, 65-66, 68, 71-73, 74, 77-78, 82-83, 85-95, 96-101, 102-103, 105-106, 109-111, 113-114, 117-119, 120-123, 127-129, 131-132, 138, 139-140, 144, 145-150, 151-160, 163-166, 172, 174, 176, 179-180, 182-183, 185-189, 190-191, 194, 196, 198-199, 200-203, 206-207, 210-211, 217, 219-221, 224-226, 227-236,

238, 239-243, 245-249, 251-255, 256-258, 260-262, 263-264, 267, 269-272, 274, 276-279, 280-281, 283, 285-287, 289-290, 292, 293-294, 296, 297-307, 308-314, 317-326, 327-330, 333-337

Discrimination, the right to be protected against, 3, 6, 11, 12-14, 18, 22, 24, 25, 29, 42, 48, 59, 73, 78, 82, 92, 132, 145, 147, 159, 198, 203, 206, 211, 236, 262, 303-304, 309, 317, 320, 324-326, 328, 333, 337

Discrimination law, 3, 5, 16, 20-21, 24, 86, 90-93, 96, 98, 101, 152-154, 158, 160, 164-166, 174, 176, 185, 191, 206, 227, 230, 234, 285, 293, 298, 305, 307, 308, 310, 321, 323, 326

Discrimination law, criteria that determine who is protected, 153, 165-167, 185, 225, 247, 323

Discrimination law, relevant groups for. *See* Discrimination law, criteria that determine who is protected

Discrimination law, three dimensions, 151-152, 165

Discrimination law, three elements. *See* Discrimination law, three dimensions

Discrimination-blocking model of affirmative action, 229-230, 241-242, 260, 280

Diversity, 16, 196, 197, 210, 229-231, 240-244, 250, 252, 260

Diversity model of affirmative action, 229-230, 241, 252, 260

Dutch Bar Association, 142

Dutch *Rechtsstaat*. *See* *Rechtsstaat*

Duwo, 289

Dworkin, Ronald, 35, 37, 125, 212, 323, 328; Dworkinian, 58

Dyke, Vernon van, 67

Dynamic-cultural approach, a, 143, 151

Dystopia, 43

E

Eccentric distribution of benefits. *See* Discrimination law, criteria that determine who is protected

Economics, 35

Education, 231, 235, 259, 291, 311-312

Ellerby, Kara, 229, 244, 249, 254, 256

Emancipatieraad. *See* Emancipation Council

Emancipation Council, 188

Enlightenment, 4, 30, 32, 53

Enlightenment liberalism, 31

Equal Treatment Act, Dutch, 94, 188-189, 190, 221, 227, 234, 235, 236, 239, 295

Equality, 3, 4, 11, 13, 19, 31, 55, 57-61, 64, 71, 73, 88, 89-93, 98-99, 106, 109, 116, 125, 131, 140, 147-148, 150, 154, 169, 183, 190, 210, 236, 239, 240-241, 245, 248, 250, 268-269, 275-276, 280, 291; Formal equality, 89, 91, 96, 114, 117, 308; Substantive equality, 88, 94, 100, 114, 116, 155, 233

Equality dimension of Frick's first level of claim entitlements, 60

l'État de Droit, 136

l'État Légal, 136

Europe, 8, 53, 55, 182, 265, 288; Continental Europe, 88, 137; Eastern Europe, 45; Western Europe, 137

European Convention of Human Rights, 3

European Court of Human Rights, 13, 100, 171

European Union, 45

Euthanasia, 271

Discrimination and the Foundation of Justice

Exclusionary national identity. *See* 234-235, 240, 246, 251, 253, 256,
National identity 262, 266, 268, 275, 277, 281-283,
Explicit recognition, 284, 289, 299, 302 286, 292, 295-297, 299, 304, 306,
309-313, 317-322, 325-326, 328,
330-331, 332, 334-337

F

Fawcett, Edmund, 35, 39, 40, 281
Feinberg, Joel, 172
Female Board Index, 241
Feminism, 188, 293, 330
Financial security, 335
Fineman, Martha, 91, 97-99
First generation of rights, 65-66, 69-71,
221, 319
Forrester, Katrina, 115
Foundation of justice, the, 5-7, 11-12,
20-21, 24, 32, 72, 82, 111-112, 129,
144, 163, 202, 207, 261-262, 290,
318, 319, 337
France, 83, 135, 175
Francis, Leslie, 124
Freedom of contract, 219, 247
Freedom of expression, the right to,
45, 59, 141, 175, 178, 180, 188, 192,
198, 275, 288
Freedom of religion and world view,
the right to, 275, 294
French Revolution, 54-56
Frick, Marie-Luisa, 47, 59, 60, 64, 67,
72, 79, 141, 202, 309
Fukuyama, Francis, 265
Fuller, Lon, 140
Fundamental rights, xi, xii, 2, 3-6, 11-
17, 22, 23-24, 29, 37, 39, 42, 43, 45-
46, 47-49, 51-52, 56, 57-64, 65, 68-
71, 73-81, 82-83, 86-89, 97, 100,
103, 105, 110-111, 113-115, 118-
119, 121-129, 131-138, 139-142,
143-144, 145-148, 153, 155-160,
163-164, 168-169, 171, 175-178,
184, 189, 191, 197, 198, 200-203,
210-212, 214, 216, 218-224, 228,

G

Galenkamp, Marlies, 67
Genetic modification, 9
Genocide, 8, 54, 176
Germany, 182
Gordley, James, 332
Government, Dutch, 187-188, 190,
194, 210, 235-236, 238, 241, 243,
250, 286, 294, 323
Group rights, 17, 48, 52, 56, 58-62, 64-
73, 76, 83, 95, 113, 176, 318, 322

H

Haitian Revolution, 55
Handicap. *See* Impairment
Hannum, Hurst, 74
Harm, 118, 154, 155-158, 170, 173,
176, 180, 183, 205-206, 217, 225,
231, 258, 273, 308, 312, 322
Harm principle, 157, 173
Hate speech, 6, 14, 16, 21, 24, 48, 92,
94, 117, 143, 146, 163-168, 170-172,
174-183, 184, 186-187, 189-190,
191-199, 200-206, 210, 234, 236,
239, 247, 249, 251, 253, 264, 285,
289, 294, 301, 303-305, 309, 318,
323-325, 336
Hate speech bans, 24, 48, 94, 163, 164,
167, 175, 181-184, 186-187, 189-
194, 196-197, 199, 200, 201, 203-
205, 236, 239, 247, 251, 253, 294,
301, 303-305, 309, 318, 323-324
Hayek, Friedrich von, 140
Herrenberg, Tom, 181

Index

Higher education, 279, 294, 307
HIV/AIDS, 283, 297, 302
Hoge Raad der Nederlanden. *See* Supreme Court of the Netherlands
Homophobia, 9, 104, 249
Human condition, the, xi, 30-31, 34, 40, 96, 104, 121, 126, 332
Human flourishing, 136-137
Human rights framework, 24, 51, 56-57, 62, 73, 76, 79, 83, 131, 319
Human rights overreach, 49, 52, 64, 73-76, 79, 81, 82, 101-102, 118, 119, 120, 159, 250, 309, 319, 326, 332
Humanism, 29-34, 35, 39-40, 51-52, 62-63, 82, 85, 95, 139, 144
Hungary, 45-46, 288

I

Identity politics, 285
Illiberalism, 45-46, 86, 276, 281-283, 296, 297, 299, 301, 304-305, 308, 310-313
Impairment, 8, 9, 10, 22, 54, 78, 110, 124, 156, 157, 189, 225, 227, 236, 248, 249, 250, 254; Mental, 78, 110, 124, 163, 189; Physical, 22, 78, 110, 163, 189
Impersonal state, the, 263, 265, 267-268, 274, 280, 296
Implicit recognition, 284-285
Inclusion, 45, 210, 228-229, 231, 242-244, 252, 302
Inclusive national identity. *See* National identity
Inclusive neutrality, 279
Indirect discrimination, 166, 224-226, 227-228, 231-232, 234-235
Indirect implementation of fundamental rights in private law, 221-222
Individualism, 2-6, 10-11, 12, 14, 17, 22, 24-25, 45, 48, 52, 55-56, 57, 59, 60-61, 64, 66, 69, 73, 78, 81-83, 119, 120, 123, 128-129, 131, 138, 153, 159-160, 164, 168, 177-178, 191, 197-198, 200-201, 215, 256, 262, 276-277, 299, 303-304, 309, 313, 317-319, 326, 328-330, 332, 334, 337
Injustice, xiii, 3, 5, 41, 93, 102, 105, 110-115, 116, 118, 121, 129, 145, 150, 155-156, 177, 212, 217, 225, 229, 236, 248, 251, 255, 257, 265, 283, 320, 321, 327, 329, 332, 334
Institutional opinions, 6, 14, 21, 23-24, 48, 92, 143, 253, 262, 263-264, 268, 272-274, 276-279, 280-284, 286, 288-292, 293-295, 296, 297-307, 308-309, 311-314, 318, 323, 326, 336
Integration model of affirmative action, 229-231, 241-242, 252
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, 3, 65, 69, 182-183, 186
International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, 3
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 3, 65-69, 77-78, 122, 153, 240
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 3, 66, 68, 70, 75, 122-123
Intersectionality, 80, 193-194, 247, 249, 300-301, 333
Intolerance, 7, 31, 252, 276, 281, 311-313

J

Janssen, Esther, 203
Jaspers, Karl, 104, 109
Jehovah's Witnesses, 199
Job Arrangement and Quota Work
 Impaired Act, Dutch, 236
Jones, Peter, 67, 71
Justice, xiii, 1, 18-19, 25, 39, 58, 80, 85,
 95, 96, 99, 101, 105-112, 168, 170-
 172, 174, 177-179, 191-193, 199,
 200-201, 206-207, 211-212, 215-216,
 218-223, 231-232, 245-246, 249,
 257-258, 265, 295, 297, 302, 313,
 317, 325, 327
Justice, theories of, 58, 102, 109-112,
 115, 123, 320
Justificatory neutrality, 269-270, 272,
 278

K

Kant, Immanuel, 33, 215, 220;
 Kantian, 214
Kapur, Ratna, 47
Kennedy, Duncan, 214
Khaitan, Tarunabh, 152, 165, 174, 185
Khmer Rouge, 105
Kis, János, 269, 272, 278
Krygier, Martin, 94

L

Labor market, 121, 157, 228-229, 240,
 24-243, 246, 249, 250-251, 253-255,
 256-259, 262, 324, 326
Larmore, Charles, 269
Legal incapacity of women, 247
Legal moralism, 173
Legality, principle of, 139-140, 142,
 143, 147, 151, 167, 170, 174, 180,
 266, 268, 296, 322, 327

Legibility, principle of, 140, 170-171,
 180, 191-192
Leijten, Ingrid, 335
Leitkultur, 278
Levensbeschouwing, 291
Lex certa, principle of. *See* Legibility,
 principle of
LGBTI+, spectrum of, 8, 10, 15, 80,
 96, 167, 188, 193, 195-196, 249, 264,
 283, 285, 288, 294-295, 298-299,
 302, 305, 313
Liberal state, xi, xii, 2- 6, 11, 13, 22, 30-
 31, 34, 35, 37, 39, 42, 45, 46, 48, 49,
 63, 65, 74, 78, 82-83, 85-94, 98-99,
 101, 103, 105-107, 110-111, 114,
 116-117, 120-121, 124, 129, 131-
 135, 137-138, 139-140, 142, 144-
 147, 149, 151, 153, 158, 159, 163,
 164, 168, 169, 172-173, 175-176,
 180, 184, 190-191, 196, 201-203,
 205, 207, 209, 211, 215, 217, 219,
 224, 232, 244-245, 251, 260-261,
 263-264, 268-274, 277-278, 281-282,
 284, 287, 293, 298, 299-300, 304,
 309-310, 312, 317, 319-322, 324,
 326, 329, 331
Liberalism, 23-25, 29, 30-34, 35-37, 38-
 42, 43-44, 46, 47-50, 51-52, 56, 59,
 60, 62-63, 69, 73, 74, 81-83, 85-90,
 94-95, 96, 98-101, 102-105, 111-114,
 115-119, 120-129, 131-133, 135,
 137-138, 139, 142, 143-144, 145-
 146, 149-150, 151, 154-156, 158-
 159, 164, 168, 173-174, 175, 178,
 180, 196, 200, 202, 204, 206, 207,
 209, 211, 217, 225, 232, 251, 256,
 258, 262, 263-264, 267-271, 275-
 276, 277, 280, 283, 297, 308-310,
 313, 318, 320-322, 326, 327-331,
 332, 335; Constitutive political
 positions, 35-37, 38-40, 42, 43-46,

50, 51, 59, 151, 327, 330; Derivative political positions, 35, 37, 44, 49, 51, 60, 327, 330

Liberalism as a political program, 30, 34-36, 38, 51, 60, 112, 151, 173

Liberalism of fear, a, 24, 30, 34, 52, 83, 86, 96, 99, 102-105, 111-112, 114, 115-120, 121-129, 131-132, 138, 143-146, 150, 151, 154-156, 158, 164, 173-174, 178, 196, 200, 202, 204, 206, 207, 211, 217, 225, 232, 251, 258, 267, 276-277, 280, 283, 297, 308, 313, 320-322, 326, 327-329, 331-332, 335

Liberalism, four concerns, 39, 40, 115, 297

Liberalism, four ideas. *See* Liberalism, four concerns

Libertarianism, 114, 215; Libertarians, 215

Liberty, 3, 4, 8, 10, 31, 55, 57-61, 64, 67, 71-72, 88-90, 93, 98, 99, 102, 109, 116, 131, 135, 154, 169, 181, 183, 190, 239, 268, 275-276, 291; Negative liberty, 89, 96, 114; Positive liberty, 88, 114, 116, 155

Liberty dimension of Frick's first level of claim entitlements, 60-61, 67

Lippert-Rasmussen, Kasper, 194

Locke, John, 32, 38

M

Mill, John Stuart, 37

Minister for education, Dutch, 294

Misogyny, 47

Modern human rights discourse, 1, 3-4, 10, 22, 23-24, 29-32, 34, 40, 42, 46, 47, 49, 51-52, 56, 57-58, 60-63, 65-68, 72-73, 74, 76, 78, 79, 81-82, 85-86, 88, 94-95, 97, 101-103, 106, 110, 113-114, 118, 120, 123, 125, 127,

129, 131-132, 138, 142, 144, 146, 151, 159-160, 163, 167, 173, 180, 200, 202, 206, 211, 227, 232, 256, 257, 262, 263, 266, 303, 309, 310, 311, 313, 317-318, 320, 322, 325, 326-329, 333

Modern human rights discourse, three dimensions of the obligations conferred by the, 66, 70, 114, 122, 222

Modern state, 112, 265-267, 276, 283, 286

Mohl, Robert von, 136-137, 167

Moral imagination, 336

More, Thomas, 38

Moreau, Sophia, 155

Mounk, Yascha, 45

Multiculturalism, 329

Munich, 288

Myanmar, 8, 10

N

Narratives on the inclusion of marginalized groups. *See* Affirmative action, two narratives

Nashville-declaration, 264, 292, 295, 300

National identity, 266-267, 276, 278, 292, 310-312

National story, 278, 336

Natural rights, 58

Nazi Germany, 8, 53, 54

Nederlandse Orde van Advocaten. *See* Dutch Bar Association

Neo-patrimonial state. *See* Patrimonial state

Netherlands Institute for Human Rights, 49, 142, 235

Netherlands, the, 3, 6, 8-9, 13, 32, 49, 90, 96, 132, 138, 142, 143-144, 151, 158, 180, 182, 187, 198, 204, 209,

221-222, 226, 231, 233-235, 240,
245, 250, 259, 263, 279, 280, 285,
290, 292, 295, 310, 318, 328
Neutrality of intent, 269
Nijkerk, 293
Non-rational manipulation, 273, 278,
281, 286, 290, 334, 336
Nussbaum, Martha, 110, 121-122, 124,
126, 336

O

Occam's broom, 328
Occam's razor, 328
Offense principle, 173
Old World. *See* Europe
Oldenhuis, Fokko, 294

P

Pacta sunt servanda, 212, 219
Parliament, Dutch, 158, 182, 201, 239,
243, 293-294
Paternalism, 101, 116, 173
Patrimonial state, 265-266, 299
Peacefully assemble, the right to, 67,
71-72
Perfectionist liberalism, 269
Personal grounds-condition. *See*
Discrimination law, criteria that
determine who is protected
Pillarization, 279
Police, Dutch, 292
Political liberalism, 31, 264, 269-270,
276
Polizeistaat, 167
Pollock, Frederick, 140
Posner, Richard, 23-24, 214
Prejudices, xii, 3, 4, 10, 53-54, 252,
280-281, 297, 335; Explicit, 280-
281; Implicit, 280-281
Prime-minister, Dutch, 292

Private law, xiii, 14, 24, 158, 206-207,
209-226, 227, 232, 234, 244-247,
250, 253-254, 257, 262, 285, 288-
289, 324, 336
Private law, defenses of viability, 214-
217
Private law, disputed viability, 211, 214
Private law, intrinsic value, 212, 214,
216, 218
Private sphere, 91, 93, 99, 105, 117,
121-122, 145, 149-150, 158, 216,
232, 261
Progress pride flag, 301-302
Public law, 214, 217, 219, 222, 225
Public order, 157, 170, 176, 181-183,
187, 190, 203
Public sphere, 94, 117, 119, 120, 149-
150, 212, 214, 216, 219-220, 223-
224

Q

Quota laws, 6, 14, 21, 24, 210-211, 224,
226-227, 229, 231, 233-236, 239,
241-243, 244-251, 253-255, 256-257,
259-261, 290-291, 297, 303, 304-
305, 307, 309, 318, 323-324

R

Raat, Caroline, 143
Racism, 7-9, 47, 105, 194, 228, 271,
292, 298, 302
Rainbow crossings, 295, 296
Rainbow flag, 264, 283, 288, 294, 299,
301-302, 313
Rawls, John, 31, 106-109, 212, 216,
269, 270-271; Rawlsian, 58, 109,
215-217; Rawlsians, 215, 216
Reasonable accommodation, 166, 226-
228, 234

Index

- Rechtsstaat*, 24, 38, 86-88, 89, 91, 93, 113, 129, 131-142, 143, 145-146, 148, 151-152, 159-160, 164, 167, 169, 171, 190, 191, 251, 264, 266, 296, 310, 312-313, 322, 328
- Recognition, 230, 253, 258-259, 263, 268-269, 278, 283-286, 289, 297-300, 302, 311
- Recognition, politics of, 264, 279, 283-286, 289, 294, 300, 306, 308, 313, 330
- Reference man, 230, 232-233, 243, 253-254, 258
- Reformed Political Party, Dutch, 13, 281, 301
- Regeling Publiekvoorzichting voor Derden.*
See Regulation on Third Party
Public Information, Dutch
- Regulation on Third Party Public Information, Dutch, 279
- Religious intolerance, 9
- Rietdijk, Wim, 189
- Rights catalogues, 3, 22, 51-52, 57, 60, 64-65, 68-69, 74-79, 81, 122-123, 129, 147, 319, 321
- Ripstein, Arthur, 215
- Risk societies, 172
- Rorty, Richard, 127, 336
- Rough justice, 231, 257
- Rule of Law, 87, 88, 89, 91, 93, 113, 132, 133, 134, 136, 138, 139
- S**
- Same-sex marriage, 284, 313
- Schlag, Pierre, 23
- Second generation of rights, 66, 69, 70-71, 73, 76-77, 80, 118, 222, 319, 332, 334-335
- Second-order discrimination, 16, 194, 196, 199, 202, 307, 325
- Self-determination, the right to, 66-68, 71, 82
- Selznick, Phillip, 94
- Sen, Amartya, 125
- Sentimental narratives, 336-337
- Sexism, 9, 78, 105, 228, 271, 292, 298
- Shklar, Judith, 99, 102-103, 106, 113, 115, 126-127, 155; Liberalism of fear, the, 102-103
- Shoah, 8, 10
- Shue, Henry, 70
- Silent claims, 48, 306
- Silvers, Anita, 124
- Slavery, 55
- Smits, Jan, 223
- Sociaal-Economische Raad.* See Social Economic Council
- Social contract, 107, 108, 110
- Social Economic Council, 241, 260
- Social housing foundations, Dutch, 288
- Social sphere, 150, 151, 155, 164, 180, 216-218, 221, 223, 225, 245, 322, 324
- Societal atmosphere of tolerance, a, 184, 187, 189, 190-191, 194-196, 203
- Societal institutions, 2, 5, 10, 17-18, 22, 37, 40, 44-46, 48, 53, 57, 62, 71, 78, 82, 85, 89-90, 92-94, 97, 103-104, 106, 110-114, 115-116, 118, 121-123, 128, 133-134, 137, 146, 149, 157, 195, 197-198, 216, 218, 220-221, 223, 227-231, 242, 252, 258, 263-264, 269-272, 275-276, 280, 282-283, 286-290, 292, 293-296, 297-299, 301-307, 309-310, 313, 317-318, 322, 324-326, 336-337
- Societal salient groups, 22, 66, 76, 110, 136, 141, 153, 170, 184, 186, 199, 225, 227-228, 230-233, 242, 248,

253, 272, 278, 279, 282, 287, 293,
301, 304, 307, 310, 325, 329, 333
Specialized human rights covenants,
76-80, 153; Specialized human
rights obligations, 77
Specific Equal Treatment Acts
(regarding men and women, age,
and impairment), Dutch, 234
State neutrality, xiii, 24, 158, 264, 265,
267-269, 271-276, 278-279, 280,
283, 287, 304, 306, 309-310, 324
Statecraft, 149, 265
STEM (Science, Technology,
Engineering and Math), 291
Stigma, 176, 197, 247, 251-252, 290,
304-307, 325
Sufficientarianism, 335
Sufficiently disadvantaged. *See*
Discrimination law, criteria that
determine who is protected
Suffragettes, 1
Supreme Court of the Netherlands, 13
Syria, 8

T

Tadros, Victor, 169
The Hague, 302, 305
Thin and narrow political principles,
270, 277, 311
Third generation of rights, 64, 68, 71-
73, 76, 86, 329
Thucydides, xi-xii
Tilly, Charles, 265
Tolerance, 18, 32-33, 35-36, 81, 184,
187, 189-190, 191, 193-196, 199,
203, 285
Toleration. *See* Tolerance
Totalitarianism, 36, 43, 217
Tragedies, 1, 3-4, 7, 10, 104, 153, 201,
277, 325; Modern tragedies, 10-11,
18, 24, 104, 113, 328

Transphobia, 80-81, 105, 249

U

UEFA, 288
UN-Committee on Economic, Social
and Cultural Rights, 68, 70
UN-Committee on Human Rights, 68,
233
UN-Committee on the Elimination of
Discrimination against Women, 49,
233
United Kingdom, 135, 175
United Nations Declaration on the
Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 66
United States of America, 1, 7, 135,
199, 240, 283, 293
Universal Declaration of Human
Rights, 3, 58, 63, 318
Universalism, 2-6, 11, 12, 14, 17, 22,
24-25, 29, 44-46, 48, 51-52, 55-56,
57-64, 66, 69, 71-73, 78-79, 81-83,
97, 100, 118-120, 123-124, 127-129,
131, 138, 144, 153, 159, 160, 164,
168, 177-178, 185, 189, 191, 197-
198, 200-201, 203, 256, 262, 276-
277, 288, 299, 303-304, 309, 313,
317-319, 326, 328, 329, 330, 332,
334, 337
Universities, 292, 294; University
administrators, 292
Utopia, 38, 41

V

Views of a good life, 269-278, 281-282,
291, 308, 310, 312-313, 335
Voermans, Wim, 212, 222
Voltaire, 33
Vos, Bart de, 220-221, 246
Vries, Bouke de, 276

Vulnerability theory, 95-96, 98, 99,
100-101, 102-105, 112, 116-117,
119, 126, 320

W

Weinrib, Ernest, 214
Welfare, 125-126
Wet Banenafpraak en Quotum
Arbeidsbeperkten. *See* Job
Arrangement and Quota Work
Impaired Act, Dutch
Will formation, 218-219
Williams, Bernard, 127
Wolff, Jonathan, 91
World War II, 1, 9, 34, 51, 56, 57, 65,
137, 143, 319

X

Xenophobia, 9, 104, 228

Y

Young, Iris, 287

Z

Zero-sum game, 76, 255

