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## **Urban systems in the Roman Near East: historical and functional dimensions of urbanism in Roman Syria, Mesopotamia, Palestine and Arabia**

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### **Citation**

Kloeg, P. (2024, February 1). *Urban systems in the Roman Near East: historical and functional dimensions of urbanism in Roman Syria, Mesopotamia, Palestine and Arabia*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3715818>

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## About the author

Paul Kloeg (Delfgauw, 1987) studied half a year of Aerospace Engineering at TU Delft before switching to History at Leiden University in 2009. In 2012 he obtained his BA in History *summa cum laude* with a thesis titled 'Puteoli and Ostia. Economic aspects of Roman port cities'. He continued in Leiden with a master in Ancient History, this time writing about the population and economy of second century Antioch, and obtained his degree in 2013.

That same year he started to work on his PhD in Leiden, within the framework of the ERC-funded project, 'An Empire of 2000 Cities', which allowed him to continue research in the fields of urbanism, economy and demography, and eventually resulted in the thesis you see before you.

While continuing to work on his thesis in his spare time, Paul stepped out of academia in 2018. He started as a GIS operator at Stedin, and went on to work as Head of Data Management at Vermeulen Groep from 2019 to 2022. Since 2023 he has been working as Head of Data Management at the Leiden University Libraries, managing the Open Access and Metadata Specialist clusters.