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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Hessel Nieuwelink was born on May 26, 1980 in Alkmaar, the Netherlands. After high school in Schagen, he completed a bachelor's degree in civics teaching (Maatschappijleer) at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences. In the following years, he worked as a civics teacher at different schools in Amsterdam. Meanwhile, he studied both Political Science and Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the University of Amsterdam (UvA). He graduated cum laude in both master's degrees and wrote a thesis on the impact of the International Tribunal for Rwanda on the lives of ordinary Rwandans. Thereafter, he became a teacher educator in civics at the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (HvA). His PhD research focused on adolescents' views on and experiences with democracy. In cooperation with scholars from HvA and UvA, he is now engaged in research projects regarding the integration of citizenship education in the curriculum and concerning ways in which schools deal with controversial issues in the classroom.