

**Antoon De Baets**

**Short curriculum vitae**

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*Preliminary note:* the long and updated version (35 pages) of this summary can be consulted at:  
[concernedhistorians.org/va/cv.pdf](http://concernedhistorians.org/va/cv.pdf)

*Contact details*

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*General*

Antoon De Baets holds degrees in history (MA 1977, PhD 1988), history education (MA 1978) and Third World Studies (MA 1978) from Ghent University, Belgium. For the past 26 years, he has worked at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands, currently as professor of History, Ethics and Human Rights by special appointment of the Foundation EUROCLIO and as associate professor of contemporary history. He is fluent in English, French, Spanish, and Dutch; he reads German.

*Publications*

To date, Antoon De Baets has published 175 works (including six books), mainly focusing on the censorship of history, the ethics of historians and problems at the crossroads of history, ethics and human rights. Over the last five years (2011–2016), he has produced 46 titles in 8 languages: English (31), Dutch (9), German (1), Italian (1), Norwegian (1), Portuguese (1), Russian (1), and Spanish (1). This occurred in 16 countries: USA and/or UK (17), Netherlands and/or Belgium (9), Italy (5), France (2), Germany (2), Spain (2), Argentina (1), Australia (1), Brazil (1), China

(1), Greece (1), Norway (1), Poland (1), and Russia (1). Among these 46 titles is one small book (2015). He also edited one book (2013) and one special issue of a historical journal (2011).

#### *Other scientific activities*

Antoon De Baets has been a member of the supervisory board of the journals *Historiografías* (Zaragoza, Spain, since its foundation in 2010) and *Secrecy and Society* (San José, United States; whose foundation has been prepared for two years; the first issue will appear in the spring of 2016). He is a regular peer reviewer for several journals. In 2011–2015, he delivered key-note and other academic addresses at conferences in Barcelona, Berlin, Bochum, Buenos Aires, Glasgow, Hannover, Helsingør, Hong Kong, Huddersfield, Jinan (China), Natal (Brazil), Oslo, Paris, Rome, Sofia and several Dutch and Belgian cities. He (co-)organized multiple conference panels, for example as the director of the four-day seminar of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences about “Academic Freedom and Scientific Integrity” (June 2015) and as co-chairman of the panel “Use and Abuse of History” at the World Congress of Historians in Jinan, China (August 2015).

#### *Teaching and supervision*

Antoon De Baets teaches about contemporary history, the history of globalization, the ethics of historians, the history of human rights violations (including genocide), transitional justice, academic freedom, and, in the (research) master program, about the use and abuse of history. Between 2010 and 2015, he has conducted a research program (The Censorship of History, 1945–2010) funded by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research. He is currently involved in the supervision of 7 PhD students (5 as first supervisor; 2 as co-supervisor).

#### *Other*

Antoon De Baets is a member of the Honorary Boards of EUROCLIO (the European Association of History Educators) and ISHA (the International Students of History Association). He has founded the Network of Concerned Historians and coordinated it for the past 20 years. This Network (<http://www.concernedhistorians.org>), serving a list of 1,800 historians worldwide, functions as a bridge between human-rights organizations and historians, and currently includes twenty Annual Reports (all compiled by him), campaigns for persecuted historians, United

Nations resources for historians, and unique collections of ethical codes and history-related legal cases. He is currently the elected staff representative at the University Council of the University of Groningen with the longest record of service (since 2007).

*Research projects recently completed and near completion*

Antoon De Baets completed several research projects in 2015 on such issues as the relationship between historical writing and democracy; historians and archivists killed for political reasons; refugee and exile historians; post-conflict history textbooks moratoria; posthumous privacy and reputation; iconoclastic breaks with the past; and academic freedom. His current research commitments which near completion include: The United Nations Human Rights Committee's View of the Past; A Historian's View on the Right to Be Forgotten; The Power of Historical Parallels, and—as a major project—Laws Governing the Freedom of Expression of Historians. He is also completing a manuscript (898 pages), *History's Blank Spots: Censorship of Views on the Past around the World (1945–Present)*.