Islamophobia and Securitisation
The Dutch Case

Liselotte Welten
Tahir Abbas
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“This is an essential volume for scholars interested in issues like identity, Islamophobia, radicalisation, violent extremism, and how academic research, and subsequent policy, directly affects the experiences of Muslim Communities.”

—Jonathan Githens-Mazer, Associate Professor, University of Exeter, England

“Exciting book that contributes to ongoing explorative research about the (side)effects of counter-radicalism and counter-extremism legislation and policies in the Netherlands. The focus on the experience and perspective of Muslims adds significantly to the depth of academic, socio-political debates about securitisation and islamophobia in Western-Europe.”

—Quirine Eijkman, Lecturer, Hogeschool Utrecht, Netherlands

“The term ‘radical’ has almost become an empty signifier since it is being interchangeably used with extremism, terrorism, fundamentalism and violence by political figures, media outlets and even many scholars. The nuance among these terms was much more clear in the past. However, this book stands out with its critical gaze. The authors of this work clearly depict the relational nature of the processes of radicalization that lead self-identified Muslims in the Netherlands to become more affiliated with essentialist forms of Islamic identity as a response to the structural, historical, societal and political forms of discrimination and exclusion as well as the practices of securitization of Islam and migration observable in the counter-radicalisation programs. I would like to welcome this book with a great appreciation.”

—Ayhan Kaya, Professor, Istanbul Bilgi University, Turkey

“Guided by compelling empirical data and a penetrating analysis, this book provides illuminating insights into the complexities of Islamophobia and the securitization of Dutch Muslims. Welten and Abbas provide a concise and yet rich study that deftly navigates from a bird’s eye view of the political landscape to the lived experience of diverse Muslim interlocutors whose voices are too often excluded.”

—Jasmin Zine, Professor, Wilfrid Laurier University, Canada
“This is an important study. It offers a unique perspective on how Muslims in the Netherlands perceive and engage with CVE and deradicalization policies. Such a rare bottom-up perspective is critical to understanding the effects of these policies and enabling an important public conversation on them.”

—Nadia Fadil, Associate Professor, KU Leuven, Belgium
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Abbreviations

AIVD  *Algemene Inlichtingen- en Veiligheidsdienst* [Dutch General Intelligence and Security Service]
CVE   Combating Violent Extremism
ECRI  European Commission against Racism and Intolerance
ESS   *Expertise-unit Sociale Stabiliteit* [Expert Unit of Social Stability]
FvD   *Forum Voor Democratie* [Forum for Democracy]
ICCT  International Centre for Counter-Terrorism
NCTV  *Nationale Coördinator Terrorismebestrijding en Veiligheid* [National Coordinator for Security and Counterterrorism]
NRC   *NRC Handelsblad* [NRC Newspaper]
NTA   *Nuance Door Training & Advies* [Nuance through Training and Advice]
PVV   *Partij Voor de Vrijheid* [Party for Freedom]
RMMN  *Marokkaanse Moskeeën Nederland* [Council for Moroccan Mosques in the Netherlands]
TRE   Transitional Religious Experience