RESARCH BY HERMAN BECK

Norms and Values of Muslims in the Dutch Diaspora

The Netherlands is a multicultural and religiously pluralist society. Since 1964, Muslims have formed an important religious minority. The Islam practised by them, however, is not a uniform, monolithic unity. It is coloured by numerous factors, such as difference in country of origin, denomination, school of law, education, gender, etc.

Life in a secular country, characterised by freedom of religion and interaction with other religions and philosophies of life, seems to have increased the religious diversity among Muslims.

This project is aimed at the question of whether, in addition to this increased religious diversity among Muslims in the Netherlands, a shift is taking place in the ethical dimension. What meaning do Muslims attribute to Islam as regards norms and values? What is the effect of secularisation on this process? Do contacts with Christians and other believers and non-believers play a role in any changes?