

## Press Release

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### **Research Report: Unfinished Past - Deprivation and Restoration of Rights of Jewish Residents in the Municipalities of Maastricht, Amby, and Heer**

*Maastricht, 27th September, 2023*

On Wednesday, September 27, the final report was presented at the synagogue in Maastricht, stemming from an investigation commissioned by the municipality of Maastricht. This investigation delved into the municipality's role in the expropriation of Jewish property during the Second World War and the post war restoration of their property rights. The research was conducted by an independent team consisting of Marjolein Vlieks, the head of the Database at the Nuhanovic Foundation, René van Rijsselt, a senior lecturer and researcher at the Department of Management and Organisational Science at Utrecht University, and Erik van Rijsselt, a retired police sergeant in Maastricht with specialisation in local historical archival research pertaining to the Maastricht municipal police and their interactions with the Jewish residents.

This report stands out due to its comprehensive scope, meticulous archival research, utilisation of the local police archive, and its emphasis on both the historical context, both nationally and locally, as well as the legal context. Furthermore, it breaks new ground by focusing on the moral dimension of the formal (legal) restoration of rights, achieved through interviews with survivors and their relatives. By incorporating numerous case studies, the report has been able to recount the events and their profound impact, shedding light on the persecution of the Jews and the confiscation processes involving Jewish properties, agricultural lands, and businesses. For instance, the report explores the ramifications for Jewish entrepreneurs when their businesses were seized and liquidated, compelling them to relocate.

The final report, titled "Unfinished Past - Deprivation and Restoration of Rights of Jewish Residents in the Municipalities of Maastricht, Amby, and Heer" is available for purchase in book form online and at Maastricht bookstores, including the Tribune and the Dominicanen. The proceeds from book sales will be used to support the Foundation Stumbling Stones Maastricht.

You can view the presentation by [clicking here](#).

Marjolein and her colleagues are currently engaged in a similar study commissioned by the municipalities of Valkenburg and Beek.