



**Einladung der Niederlandistik zu einem Gastvortrag von**

**Em. Prof. Dr. Rolf Bremmer**

(Universiteit Leiden)

**Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea:  
(Old) Frisian between (Middle) Dutch,  
(Middle) (Low) German and (Old) Danish**

Freitag, 15. Oktober 2021, 14.00-18.00 Uhr  
Hörsaal SOD-1-101, Schönberggasse 9, 8001 Zürich



Speakers of Frisian have always lived in the shadow of neighbours that belonged to culturally and politically much more powerful groups. Hence the Frisian language, as far back as we can trace it in its written form, is marked by linguistic pressure from Dutch, Low German, Danish and in recent times also from standard German. In my lecture, I will first present a historical survey of the Frisian language in its three linguistic contexts of Dutch, (Low) German and Danish. How did and does language contact affect the Frisian linguistic system (phonology, morphology, lexis and syntax)? What makes a minority language survive at all against all odds? What happens when speakers of one language switch permanently to another language? In addition to listening to a formal lecture, students will be invited to participate in small assignments to discover for themselves, with the help of the Frisian case, what ways there are to uncover linguistic influence from one language upon another.

Der Gastvortrag findet auf **Englisch** statt im Rahmen der Vorlesung *Go Dutch!* Dozierenden, Studierenden und weitere Interessierten sind herzlich zum Gastvortrag eingeladen. Eine Anmeldung bis am Vortag bei [cрис.dewulf@ds.uzh.ch](mailto:cрис.dewulf@ds.uzh.ch) ist erforderlich für Teilnehmenden, die nicht im entsprechenden Modul eingebucht sind.

Mit freundlicher Unterstützung der Nederlandse Taalunie.

Organisation: Dr. Chris De Wulf & Dr. Mirjam Marti Heinzle