

# The Garden of Liberalism

## A Theory of Liberal Neutrality and Toleration

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### Abstract

This dissertation is on liberal neutrality and toleration. The first part asks what kinds of comprehensive doctrines or worldviews should be tolerated by a liberal state. Specifically, it considers to what extent, if any, doctrines that (partially) reject citizens' freedom and equality in the public and/or private sphere merit toleration. The second part asks whether liberal states should be neutral towards tolerable doctrines. Besides considering whether their policies should be neutrally justified towards such doctrines, it considers whether states should (sometimes) equalise policy consequences amongst them. In doing so, this dissertation focuses on consolidated liberal democracies and the doctrines of citizens.



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### **Bio**

Bouke de Vries is a post-doctoral researcher at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Göttingen. His research interests include liberal toleration, neutrality, multiculturalism, and migration. In November 2016, he will defend his PhD in political science at the European University Institute, where he previously obtained an MRes. Before coming to Florence, Bouke read philosophy at the University of St Andrews (MPhil) and King's College London (MA). He also holds a degree in Arts and Culture from Maastricht University (BA).