**Erasmus University Rotterdam CSC PhD 2014**   
*Project Description*

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| *School/Department* | *Erasmus Happiness Economics Research Organization (EHERO), based in School of Economics, participants in Faculty of Social Sciences* |
| *Project Title* | **Conditions for Happiness: A Meta-analysis** |
| *Abstract* | Happiness is an important goal in modern nations, individual citizens seek ways to lead a more satisfying life and hold their governments responsible for the required societal conditions. The achievement of this goal requires solid knowledge on conditions for happiness.  Since the 1970s this demand has resulted worldwide in a growing stream of empirical research on life satisfaction, the findings of which are all gathered in the World Database of Happiness. Meta-analysis of the many research findings allows answers to several questions about ways to achieve greater happiness. One of these questions is which conditions for happiness are universal and which are variable across time and cultures. Another important question is to what extent conditions for happiness differ across kinds of people within contemporary nations. |
| *Requirements of  candidates* | Background: A MA, MSc or MPhil degree in Economics, Psychology or Sociology. Good knowledge of statistics, excellent results in first degree/graduate study, and explicit interest in and motivation for scientific research.  GMAT-test (Graduate Management Admission Test) or GRE-test (Graduate Record Examinations) is required for all entering students. The test results should not be older than five years and an indication of the required score is 85%.  Master degree: Yes  IELTS Grade: 7.5 *(minimal 6.0 per component)*  *or*  TOEFL: *100 (minimal 20 per component)* |
| *Supervisor  information* | **Promotor**  Prof. dr. Lidia Arends: promoter Psychologist / Methodologist, expert in meta-analysis  Homepage: <https://www.eur.nl/fsw/psychologie/onderzoek/profielen/profiel_mis/11452/>  **Daily Supervisors and Co-Promoters:**  Dr. Martijn J. Burger  Economist and Sociologist.  E-mail: [mburger@ese.eur.nl](mailto:mburger@ese.eur.nl)  Homepage: <http://www.mjburger.net>  Prof. dr. Ruut Veenhoven Sociologist: emeritus professor of social conditions for human happiness  E-mail: [veenhoven@ese.eur.nl](mailto:veenhoven@ese.eur.nl) Homepage: <http://www2.eur.nl/fsw/research/veenhoven> |
| *Contact* | **If you are interested, please contact our Main Representative in China, Ms. Yaxian Wu: [y.wu@abd.eur.nl](mailto:y.wu@abd.eur.nl)** |

**Selected publications of supervisors**

**Prof. Dr. Lidia Arends**

* De Jonge, T., Arends, L.R. & Veenhoven, R. (2013)  
  *Homogenizing responses to different survey questions on the same topic: proposal of a scale homogezination method using a reference distribution*Social Indicators Research*,* in press. DOI: 10.1007/s11205-013-0335-6.
* De Bruijn, K.M., Arends, L.R., Hansen, B.E., Leeflang, S., Ruiter, R. & v. Eijck, C.H. (2013)

*Systematic review and meta-analysis of the association between diabetes mellitus and incidence and mortality in breast and colorectal cancer*

British Journal of Surgery, 100(11), 1421-1429.

* Dowlatshahi, E.A., van der Voort, E.A., Arends, L.R. & Nijsten, T. (2013)

*Markers of systemic inflammation in psoriasis: a systematic review and meta-analysis.*

Britsh Journal of Dermatoloy, 169(2), 266-282.

* Lafranca, J.A., Hagen, S.M., Dols, L.F.C., Arends, L.R., Weimar, W., IJzermans, J.N.M. & Dor, F.J.M.F. (2012)  
  *Sysematic review and meta-analysis of the relation between body mass index and short-term donor outcome of laparoscopic donor nephrectomy*Kidney International, *177(8)*, 743-754.
* Kalmijn, W.M., Arends, L.R. & Veenhoven, R. (2011)  
  *Happiness scale interval study. Methodological considerations*  
  Social Indicators Research, 102(3), 497-515.
* Kleingeld, A., Mierlo, H. van & Arends, L.R. (2011)  
  *The effect of goal setting on group performance: A meta-analysis*  
  Journal of Applied Psychology, 96(6), 1289-1304.
* Vissers, M.M., Bussmann, J.B.J., Verhaar, J.A.N., Arends, L.R., Furlan, AD & Reijman, M. (2011)  
  [*Recovery of Physical Functioning After Total Hip Arthroplasty: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of the Literature*](http://hdl.handle.net/1765/23732)  
  Physical Therapy, 91(5), 615-629
* Arends L.R. (2006). Multivariate meta-analysis: modelling the heterogeneity. Mixing apples and oranges: dangerous or delicious? PhD Thesis, Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam, the Netherlands. ISBN 90-9020786-4.
* Van Houwelingen, H.C., Arends, L.R. & Stijnen, T. (2002). Advanced methods in meta-analysis: multivariate approach and meta-regression. *Statistics in Medicine*, *21*(4), 589-624.

**Dr. Martijn Burger**

* Burger, M.J., Wall, R.S. & Van der Knaap, G.A. (2013)

*Revealed competition for greenfield investments in Europe.*

Journal of Economic Geography, 13(4), 619-648.

* Van Oort, F.G., Burger, M.J., Knoben, J. & Raspe, O. (2012)

*Multilevel approaches and the firm-agglomeration ambiguity in economic growth*

Journal of Economic Surveys, 26(3), 468-491.

* Burger, M.J. & Karreman, B. (2010)

Worldwide differences in executive pay, culture, well-being and economic growth’

Environment and Planing A, 42(2), 255-256.

* Burger, M.J. & Buskens, V. (2009)

*Social context and network formation: an experimental study*

Social Networks, 31(1), 63-75.

* Burger, M.J., Van Oort, F.G. & Linders, G.J.M. (2009)

*On the specification of the gravity model of trade: zeros, excess zeros and zero-inflated estimation*

Spatial Economic Analysis, 4(2), 167-190.

**Prof. dr. Ruut Veenhoven**

* Veenhoven, R. (2013)  
  The four qualities of life: Ordering concepts and measures of the good life   
  in: DellaFave, A (ed) 'The Exploration of happiness: Present and future perspectives', Springer, Dordrecht, Netherlands, Happiness Studies Book Series 2013, Chapter 11 p. 195-226, DOI: 10.1007/978-94-007-5702-8\_11
* Veenhoven, R. & Berg, M (2013)  
  Has modernization gone too far? Happiness and modernity in 141 contemporary nations  
  International Journal of Happiness and Development, in press.
* Rojas, M. & Veenhoven, R. (2013)  
  Contentment and affect in the estimation of happiness  
  Social Indicators Research, 110: 415-431 , DOI 10.1007/s11205-011-9952-0
* Veenhoven, R. (2012)  
  Does happiness differ across cultures?  
  in: Selin, H & Davey, G. (Eds.) 'Happiness across cultures Views of happiness and quality of life in non-western cultures', Springer, Dordrecht, The Netherlands, ISBN 978-94-007-2699-4, pp 451-472, DOI 10.1007/978-94-007-2700\_30
* Veenhoven, R. (2012)

Evidence-based pursuit of happiness: What we should know, what we do know and what we can get to know.  
Erasmus Happiness Research Organization, White paper nr. 1, Erasmus University Rotterdam. Also published as Opentia paper, North-West University South Africa

* Veenhoven, R. (2013) *World Database of Happiness: Archive of research findings on subjective enjoyment of life*  
  Available at: <http://worlddatabaseofhappiness.eur.nl>