

Director Marjolein Nieboer talks to historian Hans Meijer

Hans Meijer specializes in colonial and postcolonial relations between the Netherlands and Indonesia. He has been frequenting the UL City Centre for years, mainly to consult works in the paper collection, for example the Proceedings of the House of Representatives. Although these are all available online nowadays, he prefers to read them on paper. 'There came a point when I requested so many documents that they invited me to just come sit in the stacks and save them having to constantly move stuff around!'

Before the renovation he was asked to think along about the new design of the building, in particular the facilities for researchers. Director Marjolein Nieboer invited Meijer for a chat over lunch.

'What I liked very much was how you suggested placing a bench in the self-service area.'

'Yes, a simple idea, but very useful: this enables people to take a quick look at the books they've requested and simply hand everything they don't need back in!'

It used to be difficult for academics to find a place to work in the UL. Meijer states that the UL should not just cater to students but to the entire University, which is why he advocated more workstations for researchers. 'Take the archive of the law of nations expert Röling, which used to be stored deep down in the Special Collections vault. Now we finally have a place to consult it!'

Marjolein Nieboer agrees: 'This room in particular is expressly intended as a quiet environment where academics can work with our collection. And not just there; the section above the I-shop, on the second floor, also has several rooms specifically intended for University staff!'

> "It is so comfortable, and everything is arranged so perfectly, that it becomes more and more unattractive for students to study at home!"

Meijer still finds it a bit inconvenient that, when he is in a reading room and he has a question, he has to go all the way downstairs. Nieboer reassures him: the small information desks on each floor will eventually be manned again so visitors can call for assistance.

'That would be nice', says Meijer. 'Library staff are often quite invisible at the moment.'

All in all, Hans Meijer is rather satisfied with the new UL – although it still gets just as packed as ever. 'That's the paradox: it is so comfortable, and everything is arranged so perfectly, that it becomes more and more unattractive for students to study at home!'



Website

In 2016, the website www.rug.nl/bibliotheek
- had 574,284 visitors
- with a total of 1,419,989 page views

Searches

In 2016:
- our catalogue was used for almost 4 million searches
- Web of Science was used for 357,892 searches
- Scopus was used for 8909 searches
- articles in e-journals were consulted 4,860,997 times

Core values

- **accessible**
- **reliable**
- **expert**
- **responsible**
- **approachable**

Social media

On 31 December 2016:
- @Bibliothecaris had **2050** followers
- over **2500 tweets** had been sent
- the **/ubgroningen** Facebook page had **1945 likes**
- and **1620 messages** had been posted

Library app

We actively distributed flyers with information about the Library app at the University Fair, the information market for new foreign students. This was successful: the statistics revealed a significant increase in the number of downloads (150 in one day!) and the use of the app after that date.

In 2016, the Library app had between 140 and 200 active users a day on average. Peaks were visible in the first week of January, with 350 to 500 visitors a day (probably to check the new opening hours), and on 3 November, when we had 621 unique visitors!

THE DIGITAL LIBRARY

Digital dissertations

Just like every year, in 2016 the Education and Research Support department made almost all PhD theses digitally available. Some theses were made immediately available in open access (112) and some were partly open access (397), whereas the remaining 25 dissertations were submitted entirely under embargo. All dissertations will be available in open access in due course.
Here are the total numbers for each faculty

SmartCat behind the scenes

The UL has been using the SmartCat catalogue for several years now. Behind the scenes, however, in 2016 (after 20 years) the UL converted to a new system: Worldshare Management Services (WMS). This improves the link between the user side (SmartCat) and the underlying system, which enables us, among other things, to make electronic publications more available to our clients. Various departments within the UL have spent a lot of time and energy on introducing and improving the new system. Read more about the transition to **WMS**.

E-books

Here are a few examples of e-book packages that were available to the UG in 2016:
- All e-books from **Cambridge University Press** in the field of the humanities, 25,000 titles
- **Oxford Scholarship Online**, all Oxford University Press monographs, c.14,000 titles
- All e-books from **Springer** (2014-2016), c.10,000 titles
- **EBSCO e-book Academic Collection**, c.140,000 titles
- **EBook Central Academic Complete**, c.140,000 titles



Start of various website projects: new UL website – Olympus – new CMB website – new DNPP website

We have started to design a new theme portal to help improve the **UL website** by making it more intuitive to use and with a clearer structure. In July, the **Central Medical Library** introduced a new online theme portal for its own target group. In addition, the **Olympus** project was initiated. This project aims to take an out-of-the-box look at possibilities for an innovative website, without any technical or other limitations. The **Documentation Centre for Dutch Political Parties (DNPP)** also started to build two new websites, focusing on the histories of the liberal political party VVD and its youth organization JOVD. Read more about the **various websiteprojects**.



In 2016, DNPP started digitizing the membership magazines of the Dutch political parties

The professors' database has been updated...

The website with information on **all Groningen professors since 1614** has been given a new look. Lots of portraits and photographs of professors as well as additional information have been added.

Digital journal archives

The Library has purchased two large digital journal archives from:
- **Walter de Gruyter**, including many long-running journals in the fields of the humanities, exact and medical sciences
- **Institute of Physics** (IOP), the complete set of all back issues

Scopus & Scival

In 2016 the UG purchased a licence for the large **Scopus** research database, which contains abstracts and indices of over 22,000 worldwide academic articles, as well as **Scival**, the associated research performance tool by Elsevier.

... and so has the Digital Collections website!

The **Digital Collections website** has also received an update. This online database of digitized UG heritage includes more than 65,000 images of items from the historical and research collections. The site offers wonderful visual material for both professional researchers and amateur enthusiasts. One example is the DNPP's collection of about 4000 political pamphlets. A lot of attention has been paid to the appearance and user-friendliness of the site, in order to improve accessibility.

Here is a **Unifocus video** about the Digital Collections website.



THE PHYSICAL LIBRARY



The UL Zernike was open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at weekends during exam periods this year.

Work in progress...

Many departments carried out preparatory work for various projects this year, for example:

- Turnstiles in UL City Centre
- Online reservation tool for UL studios
- Relocation of Behavioural and Social Sciences library collection
- Introduction of a new book security system
- Optimization of various work processes

Renovation

Great progress was made in the UL City Centre renovation project in 2016. The second, third and fourth floors were completed in the course of the year, and the transformation of the first floor into a comfortable working environment for staff started.
In the summer, almost a hundred staff members moved to the newly renovated study area on the third floor, where they would share one large space for more than nine months. Everyone worked via a Wi-Fi connection, using the virtual University Workstation (UWP).
In the summer of 2016, for the first time in its existence, the entire UL closed for more than five weeks. This enabled the builders to renovate the staircase. Enormous scaffolding was erected in order to install the new ceiling panels.
The service desk also had to move, because the former Loans Desk on the first floor was to be renewed. From October, the central information desk was temporarily located in the third floor hall. The reading room on this floor contained the shelves with requested and reserved books, and the associated loans facilities in the printing area.
New turnstiles were also installed once the work on the ground floor was completed. For the first time, students had to present their UG card during the busy exam period.





UL City Centre third and fourth floors reopened after renovation

After many internal relocations and periods of limited service provision, the Special Collections room reopened in its original location on the third floor in mid May.

The room now has 22 workstations where special materials can be consulted. In addition, the vulnerable and valuable works vault has been completely renewed. The entire collection, which was temporarily housed elsewhere, has now returned to a room equipped with mobile shelving and a new climate control system.

On 18 May the Special Collections room, as well as the entire third and fourth floors of the UL City Centre, which were also completed, were festively reopened. This marked the important 'halfway' point of the renovation project.

Did you know that...
The Special Collections room now also functions as a research room. All researchers and students who want to consult works from the vault or stacks can do so in this quiet environment.

Figures for 2016

Number of books (printed collection)	75 km
Shelf room in stacks lost due to renovation	3 km
Loans (self-service, UL, specialist libraries, WMS)	158.514
ILL to abroad	323
ILL from abroad	171
Reservations	2813
Extensions	303.787
Works lost	153
Bills sent	608
Bills to non-returners	106
Hospitality agreements	225





The UL was a hive of activity in the morning during the exam period. Look at how neatly and quietly the students entered.


©RUG, photo: Michel de Groot

Research Data Office

After approval by the Board of the University of its design, the Research Data Office (RDO) was officially opened on 4 January 2016.
The RDO helps UG researchers and institutes gather, store and present research data and provides advice on how to draw up Research Data Management Plans to accompany research proposals.
The RDO is a partnership between CIT and UL staff members. These two units have joint responsibility for providing services, facilities and support in the field of Research Data Management.

RDO activities in 2016:

- Organization of information meetings on data management in the context of research funding by ZonMW and on sensitive data and privacy.
- Support for the web tool developed by CIT at the request of FSE to set up a research data management plan.
- Organization of a study trip to the **University of Göttingen** within the framework of the **U4 partnership**, where knowledge and experience was exchanged about the management of data in the context of the 'Research Data Life Cycle'.
- Participation in the 2016 PhD Day at the UMCG.
- Management and deployment of **DataverseNL** for publishing research data. The RDO is a local service provider for researchers at the UG and UMCG. Open Access publication of data as well as access upon registration and availability of data for specific target groups is facilitated via **DataverseNL**.
- Contribution to a **discussie paper** about transparent research environments.
- Contribution to UL and CIT plans to help improve existing facilities and services in the field of data management within the framework of the long-term IT plan.
- National participation in the UKB Research Data Management working group, the National Research Data Management Coordination Point, U2 Connect and SURF.
- Start of the development of data management courses for PhD candidates working at the UMCG, by RDO team member Jitka Vavra.

More information about the Research Data Office can be found on the **website**.

Be read, Be cited, Be fair, Be transparent, Be open: Green Open Access

'Open access' is one of the UG's and the UMCG's strategic focus areas. The UG/UMCG wanted to introduce the 'Green Open Access policy' on 1 January 2017 and thus needed to highlight the advantages of this policy for researchers as much as possible in the run-up to this date. The UL started a Green Open Access campaign, also involving the faculty PURE coordinators and communications departments. The campaign, supported by the **rug.nl/gogreen**, website and other parties, emphasized the importance of Green Open Access (Be read, Be cited, Be fair, Be transparent, Be open). The UL and the Central Medical Library (CML) which enable researchers to submit their peer-reviewed articles to the UG research database PURE within minutes, making them freely accessible. They will place publications in the PURE research database and also take care of all other necessary actions and support for researchers.

In addition, both VSNU and the UG are in constant contact with publishers to negotiate discounts (up to 100%) on making articles available in open access, and also work on signing other agreements, for example with the biomedical platform PeerJ, where the UG/UMCG agreed to cover the publication costs of a number of researchers for life.



Academic research at the DNPP

The Documentation Centre for Dutch Political Parties (DNPP) provides many researchers with research material every year, and 2016 was no exception. In addition, DNPP staff members themselves also conducted research and made contributions to international journals.

For example, **prof. dr. Gerrit Voerman** (Director of the DNPP, professor of the Development and Functioning of the Dutch and European Party Systems) published two books in his series on political parties in the Netherlands: *Zeventig Jaar Partij van de Arbeid*, together with Frans Becker (ed.), and *10 over rood 50 jaar later*, with Chris Hietland (ed.). The first book received ample media attention, for example in the **DWDD**. The second book was followed by a symposium that was attended by many prominent figures from the PvdA, including Hans Kombrink, Jan Nagel (since switched to 50plus), Arie van der Zwan, Tom Pauka, Max van den Berg and Bram Peper.

dr. Simon Otjes (academic researcher at the DNPP) published several works, including four peer-reviewed academic articles about various aspects of Dutch and European party politics.



Pure

2016 saw the conclusion of the Etalage project, in which Pure was introduced as the system to make UG and UMCG **research output** optimally **visible and accessible** and better facilitate **analyses and reports** based on this research output. The system connects several departments within the UL and was one of the most important activities in 2016.

Doetsje Brouwer, functional manager of Pure:
'Validators from our Metadata department provide support to researchers in Pure in various ways. For example, they validate the metadata of publications within one week, remove duplicate research results, upload PDF files, check copyrights and if necessary impose embargoes. This saves the researchers a lot of work!'



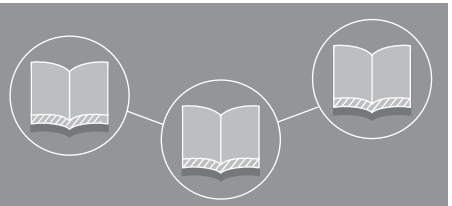
Connecting Research and Researchers!..... ORCID.

ORCID is an international designation of researchers. Major publishers and funds have been using ORCID since 2016.

What is ORCID?
An ORCID is a permanent, 16-digit designation that distinguishes researchers from each other and connects them to their own research publications and professional career. ORCID stands for Open Research and Contributor ID.

Why register and why ORCID?
› Prevent name confusions, increase visibility
› ORCID is growing into an international standard
› An ORCID saves time
› ORCID is open and transparant
› Your privacy is well protected with ORCID
› ORCID is not limited to one institution

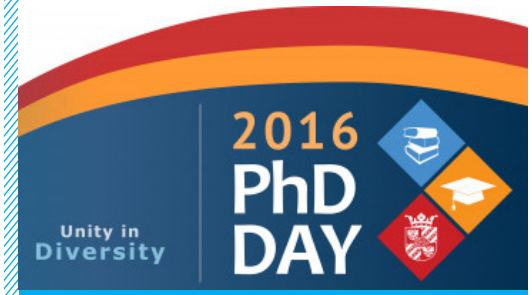
More information about ORCID can be found on the UL **website**. Also read the Pictogram article "**Auteursidentificatie voor onderzoekers met ORCID**" [Author identification for researchers with ORCID] by Gert Jan Bokdam of the UL Research and Innovation department.



Research Analytics

The UL has also expanded its expertise and service provision for researchers in the field of research analytics. In 2016, a Research Impact Specialist was hired to focus on qualitative and quantitative analyses of academic output and the impact of research on the benchmarking of the UG's academic productivity. This specialist helps academics increase the academic and societal impact of their research.

Bibliometrics are increasingly used to measure and evaluate research output both within institutions and at national and international levels. If bibliometric and altmetric data are applied responsibly and in context, they can be used to indicate the quantity and impact of research activities, both within the academic community (research impact) and in wider contexts (societal impact). We aim to support the research community in the use of new measuring and communication tools in order to help improve the visibility and impact of the work of individual researchers and the UG as a whole. In addition, our benchmark tools enable us to recognize prominent researchers within a discipline, identify current and potential collaboration partners and explore funding opportunities.



PhD Day 2016: 'Unity in Diversity'

The PhD Day is an annual careers event that helps PhD candidates prepare for the labour market and acquire essential skills. This day is organized in collaboration with the Deans of the nine faculties of the University of Groningen, the Graduate Schools, and the UG-wide associations for PhD candidates GRIN and GOPHER.

The PhD Day themed 'Unity in Diversity' was held at the UMCG on Friday 16 September 2016. Staff members from the UL, the CML and the UG Research Data Office attended the information market.

Guus van den Brekel (CMB) presented a workshop entitled ***"30+ tips to improve you research impact"***.
Christina Elsenga (UB, Research Data Office) held a lecture entitled ***"What every PhD should know about his/her Research Data"***.

The full programme of the 2016 PhD Day can be found on **PhD- Day.nl**. A UG news article on the 2016 PhD Day can be found on **the UG website**.

PARTNER IN EDUCATION



Together to the University Museum!

The University Museum always pays special attention to secondary school pupils, and 2016 was no exception. For example, the Research Days were held in **April**. During this **4-day event**, the Museum welcomed **700 fifth-year pre-university pupils** from the Northern Netherlands and enabled them to gain inspiration for their profile assignments. This is a great example of collaboration between the Pre-University Academy, the University Museum and the UL Special Collections department.

As part of the Science Weekend on **1 and 2 October**, the **Zpannend Zernike Zaterdag** event was held at several locations in the city centre, including the Academy building and the University Museum. A good crowd showed up! During the autumn break in **mid October**, several academics held pop-up presentations upstairs in the University Museum building. The 2016 edition attracted pupils from over 100 schools. The University Museum organized activities for school pupils and both Dutch and international students, as well as children's parties.

Information skills teaching in 2016

The UL Teaching and Research Support department annually organizes information skills teaching activities for students. There are both group instruction sessions and digital instructions.

- Number of group instruction sessions with guided tours: 534
- Number of group instruction sessions without guided tours: 29
- Total number of participants: 13,06

Online literature search courses

A course developed by the UL on how to search for literature, primarily for first-year students, has been offered since 2015. This LibGuide information skills course was evaluated and improved in 2016, after which the general course was supplemented by subject-specific LibGuide information skills courses for a great number of subject fields.

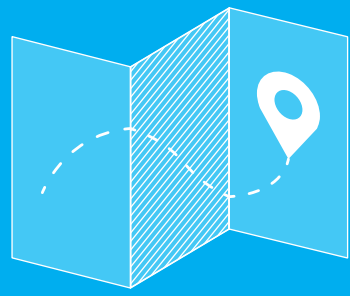


Kei Market/ International Fair

During the Kei Market and International Fair in late August, UL staff talked to a lot of students about the products and services offered by the UL.

"The University Library's LibGuide course on Minorities and Multilingualism has proved to be very useful to our students since it provides them with basic referential literature on our programme in an easily accessible way"

Prof. Dr. Goffe Jensma
(director of MA Multilingualism en BA Minorities & Multilingualism)



Special Collections works in lectures

As in other years, in 2016 the Special Collections department organized several lectures using material from the special collections. Examples include:

- Lecture by Prof. Raingard Esser, professor of Early Modern History
- Lecture on Middle Dutch by Alisa van de Haar and Gerda Huisman
- Lecture on historical maps by Dr Jeroen Benders, University Lecturer in Landscape History
- Lecture on Writing, Handwriting and Print by Prof. Sabrina Corbellini, Rosalind Franklin Fellow, professor of the History of Reading in Premodern Europe
- Lecture by Dr Andrew Irving, University Lecturer



Hand-drawn map of the drowned Dollard lands

A substantially enlarged copy of this beautiful 18th-century hand-drawn map of the drowned Dollard lands (the situation after the flood of 25 December 1277) has been hanging in the Special Collections room since May 2016. Special thanks to photographer Dirk Fennema for the enlargement.

Collaborations department Special Collections

Did you know that our Special Collections department has **various collaboration agreements**? For example, we participate in the UKB 'kaartbeheerdersoverleg' [map managers' platform] and the UKB Special Collections committee, and material from the vault was stored at the Groningen Archives during the renovation.

In 2016, the Special Collections Department provided approximately **50 objects on loan** to various partners. For example, 13 objects were loaned to the Northern Maritime Museum for its exhibition 'Land van Belofte: Prostitutie in het A-kwartier' [Land of promise: prostitution in the A-quarter], and 16 objects to the Johannes a Lasco Bibliothek Emden for its exhibition 'Renaissance Humanismus im Friesland des 15. und 16. Jahrhunderts' [Renaissance humanism in 15th and 16th-century Friesland].



University Museum exhibitions

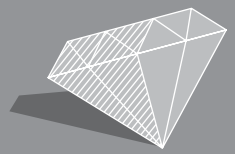
Although the University Museum was understaffed in 2016, it succeeded in organizing several interesting exhibitions, both within and outside its own walls:

At the University Museum

- **Copying the World. Plaster Art 1860-1960.** 22 January – 2 October 2016. This exhibition was organized in close collaboration with the Art History Department of the Faculty of Arts.
- **Speurtocht naar Graaf Adolf [Quest for Count Adolf]**. January – May 2016, in the Museum pavilion.
- **Drakenbloed & heilig vuur [Dragon's blood and holy fire.** 8 October 2016 – January 2017. Exhibition in the Museum pavilion on the role of plants in medicine.
- • **Bij de RUG zit je goed [Have a seat at the UG]**. Small summer exhibition in the Museum pavilion, presenting a selection of extraordinary seating furniture from the University Museum collection – objects that are rarely presented in a museum context, or at best as accessories.

Outside the University Museum

- Contribution to the **DWDD pop-up museum at the Allard Pierson Museum Amsterdam**. Guest curator Wim T. Schippers. The University Museum also contributed to the accompanying book. See also UL in the Media.
  Contribution to the exhibition **Another world** at the Museum Guislain in Ghent (Belgium)



University Museum crystallography collection expanded

A number of special instruments were added to the crystallography collection. Almost the entire physical history of the research line, which runs from the late 19th to the late 20th century, is now represented in the University Museum collections, forming a beautiful overview.

The following Archives were inventorized and made accessible by the Special Collections department in 2016:

- Willem Post (1914-?)
- Harmen de Vos (1896-1980)
- Frederik Reinier Jacob Knetsc (1924-2006)

360-degree heritage

Late 2015 saw the start of the Erfgoed in 360 graden [360-degree heritage] project at the University Museum. Using a special installation, Kobus Boeke and Dirk Fennema took 360-degree photographs of objects in the Museum depot. Boeke: 'Although it can also be interesting from an academic point of view, this tool is mainly intended to show museum objects to a wider audience. I believe that the UG has every right to be proud of the treasures it has gathered here, and we should take every opportunity to make them accessible and present them to the public. After all, making the collection visible is one of the focus points of our current policy.' Boeke found new employment in Leiden in mid-2016, and the project has in the meantime been put on the back burner.



photography: Gerhard Lughard



Donations

- Sips family: beautiful example books for ornamental painters
- W.A. Jörg: purchased interesting early editions in the fields of geography, history and theology for the UB at auctions in Switzerland and Germany.
- Mr H.C. de Meijer: beautiful collection of works by Vestdijk.
- Mr Ruurd Stellinga: a great addition to a previous donation of Dutch literature and industrial volumes.
- Mr. Koops and prof. Gerritsen: collections of works in the fields of art history, English linguistics and English mediaeval literature.
- Loan agreement: Hubbeling collection a collection of works in the field of philosophy of religion and philosophical ethics.
- The Documentation Centre for Dutch Political Parties (DNPP) received several donations, including image and sound material on the PvdA and its predecessor SDAP and audio material of VVD politicians. In addition, Ms L. Simonis, former board member of the LPF, donated her party archive to the DNPP.

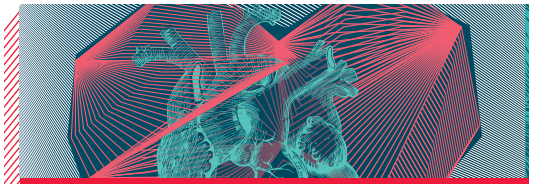
Friends of the Groningen Academic Heritage

In April 2016, the association ***Vrienden van het Universiteitsmuseum*** [Friends of the University Museum] merged with the ***Vrienden van de Bibliotheek van de Universiteit Groningen*** [Friends of the Library of the University of Groningen] to form the **Vrienden Academisch Erfgoed Groningen** [Friends of the Groningen Academic Heritage].

The association's mission is to 'stimulate interest in the academic heritage of the University of Groningen in the widest sense of the word'.

It aims to promote interest in Groningen academic heritage and increase its visibility. To this end, it organizes lectures and excursions, which are also open to non-members. In addition, the association provides (limited) financial support to planned exhibitions that focus on Groningen academic heritage and acts as an intermediary in the acquisition of funds from other sources.

Former Rector Magnificus Frans Zwarts is the Chair of the Association.



The University Museum participated in...

- 4 June: Night of Arts & Sciences
- 16-24 April: National Museum Week
- 15 August: KEI Market
- 28 August: Noorderzondag

UL IN THE MEDIA
(IN DUTCH)



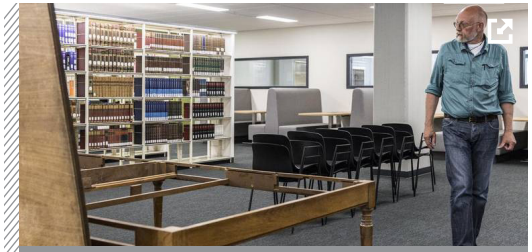
De Universiteitsbibliotheek Groningen ziet het licht
(DvhN)

Examentijd: studeren in de UB naast een smakkende scholier
(NOS)

Atlas vol geheimen over mooiste kaart van Groningen
(DvhN)

Dwarse jongeren boycotten Starbucks Groningen
(DvhN)

‘Copying the world’: gipskunst 1860-1960 in Universiteitsmuseum Groningen
(Groninger Gezinsbode)



UB heropent met 641 werkplekken op ‘de tweede’
(DvhN)

UB zit met 25 miljoen boeken in de maag
(Groningen Nieuws)



RUG lanceert vernieuwde beeldbank met duizenden afbeeldingen (Groninger Gezinsbode)



Pop up 2 vol verrassende combinaties
(NRC over DWDD pop-up museum met bijdrage UM)

Naderende kamerverkiezingen op 15 maart 2017
(interview bij tv programma EénVandaag met Gerrit Voerman over Emile Roemer)