

Review of: "The soft power of neutrality Dutch humanitarianism in World War I, 1914-1918"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Ismee Tames's contribution provides an interesting insight into the diplomatic, political and social issues surrounding humanitarian action in neutral states during the First World War. The article suggests interesting parallels between private initiatives, particularly by religious groups, and initiatives led by the Dutch state. This article suggests the need to develop research on non-belligerents during the war and to compare their involvement in humanitarian work, particularly in the Belgian cause. It would be useful to develop the role of the Commission for Relief in Belgium, the largest humanitarian enterprise during the war, whose headquarters were in the Netherlands, and to understand in more detail the tensions that ran through society between pro-German and defenders of the Triple Entente.

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