

Holidays

Celebrating Differences in 2018

This calendar is offered to you by the Erasmus University Diversity Office. We strive to create a distinctive educational and academic environment where everyone has equal opportunities, feels at home and is able to reach their full potential. An inclusive culture contributes to developing critically minded, responsible world citizens. Moreover, a diversity of perspectives stimulates innovative education and research.

We believe diversity and inclusion matter to everybody on our campus. This calendar is a daily reminder of the strength of diversity and the many different holidays that are celebrated by all students and employees at our university. Find out more about our policy and initiatives at www.eur.nl/diversity. There you will also find the full interviews with the students and employees in this calendar!

We wish you a great and successful 2018!

Erasmus University Rotterdam
Make it happen.





Dr. Chris Müller
Senior Lecturer Life Sciences,
Erasmus University College

“A special New Year’s Eve for me was in Berlin at the turn of the millennium. Even though it was -10 °C and terribly cold, it was like everyone kept each other warm by being together.”

Read the full interview at www.eur.nl/diversity

January 2018

New Year’s Day

New Year’s Day (1 January) is the first day of the year on the modern Gregorian calendar and the most celebrated public holiday. The New Year is often greeted with fireworks. Other celebrations worldwide are parades, family time or annual dips in water.



	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	1 New Year’s Day (International)	2	3	4	5	6 Armenian Christmas/ Epiphany (Driekoningen, Christian)	7 Christmas Day (Orthodox Christianity)
2	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
3	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day (USA)	16	17	18	19	20	21
4	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
5	29	30	31	1	2	3	4



Daniel Maciel Biato
Student at Rotterdam School of Management

"You wear a costume all year,
but during Carnival you dress
the way you are."

Read the full interview at www.eur.nl/diversity

February 2018

Brazilian Carnival

Brazilian Carnival is a festival that is held annually, marking the beginning of Lent (40 days before Easter). Large and small parades crowd the streets for the public to watch or participate in. Carnival is the most famous holiday in Brazil.



	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
5	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
6	5	6	7	8	9 Brazilian Carnival	10	11 Carnival (Dutch)
7	12 Maslenitsa (Russian)	13 Mardi Gras	14 St Valentine's Day/Ash Wednesday (Christian)	15	16 Chinese New Year	17	18
8	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9	26	27	28	1	2	3	4



Erin Chang

Student at Erasmus School of History,
Culture and Communication

**"You are supposed to lean
back and enjoy the meal while
considering the story and its
meaning. In that regard it's quite
a philosophical tradition."**

Read the full interview at www.eur.nl/diversity

March 2018

Pesach

Pesach or Passover (Jewish Easter) is an ancient feast that originated in the history of the people of Israel, commemorating the exodus of the Jewish people from Egypt.



	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
9	26	27	28	1	2 Lantern Festival (Chinese)/ Holi (Hindu)	3	4
10	5	6	7	8 International Women's Day	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Saint Patrick's Day (Irish)	18
12	19	20	21 Nowruz (Persian New Year)	22	23	24	25
13	26	27	28	29 White Thursday (Christian)	30 Pesach (Jewish)/ Good Friday (Christian)	31 Hanuman Jayanti (Hindu)	1



Welmer de Groot
Student at Erasmus Medical Center

“The wonderful thing about traditions is that they bring people together, make them proud of their community.”

Read the full interview at www.eur.nl/diversity

April 2018

King's Day

King's Day (*Koningsdag*) is a national holiday in the Netherlands, marking the birthday of the King. Throughout the entire country people take part in *Koningsdag* wearing orange or red, white and blue clothing, visiting flea markets (*vrijmarkt*), concerts and local gatherings.



	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
13	26	27	28	29	30	31	1 Easter (Christian)
14	2 Easter Monday (Christian)	3	4	5 Ching Ming Festival (Chinese)	6	7	8
15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
17	23	24	25 African Liberation Day	26	27 King's Day (Dutch)/ Freedom Day (South-Africa)	28	29
18	30	1	2	3	4	5	6



Dr. Tim de Mey

Assistant Professor in Theoretical Philosophy,
Erasmus School of Philosophy

“Three times a year I return to Finland and one of those times is always May 1st because I don’t want to miss Vappu.”

Read the full interview at www.eur.nl/diversity

May 2018

Vappu

Vappu is a student festival, celebrated annually on 1 May. It marks the beginning of spring. It is also celebrated as International Labour Day and is one of the biggest festivals of the year in Finland alongside Midsummer’s Day and Christmas.



	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
18	30	1 Vappu (Finland)/ Labour Day (International)	2	3	4 Dutch Remembrance Day (Dodenherdenking)	5 Dutch Liberation Day (Bevrijdingsdag)	6
19	7	8	9	10 Ascension Day (Christian)	11	12	13 Mother’s Day (International)
20	14	15 Beginning of Ramadan (Islam)	16	17	18	19 Beginning of Shavuot (Jewish)	20 Pentecost (Christian)
21	21 Pentecost (Christian)	22	23	24	25	26	27
22	28	29	30	31	1	2	3



Hafida Sallouf
Student at Erasmus School of Law

“Especially during Ramadan, it’s important to take the time to figure out how you can help people around you.”

Read the full interview at www.eur.nl/diversity

June 2018

Ramadan

Ramadan is observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting. It lasts about 30 days. From dawn until sunset, Muslims fast and focus on doing good and charitable deeds.



	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
22	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
23	4	5	6 Memorial Day (South Korea)	7	8	9	10
24	11	12	13	14 End of Ramadan; Eid al-Fitr (Islam)	15	16	17 Father's Day (International)
25	18	19	20	21	22 Midsummer Eve (Scandinavia)	23	24
26	25	26	27	28	29	30	1



Prof. dr. Pearl Dykstra

Professor of Empirical Sociology, Erasmus School of Social and Behavioral Sciences

"I wish my Canadian friends 'Happy Canada Day'. It's a day for displaying Canadian pride: dress up in red-and-white; wear pins with the Canadian flag; stick on a maple leaf tattoo."

Read the full interview at www.eur.nl/diversity

July 2018

Canada Day

Canada Day celebrates the anniversary of the 1 July 1867 enactment of the Constitution Act, which united the three separate colonies into a single Dominion called Canada. With no standard mode of celebration, most communities host organised celebrations like parades, festivals or concerts.



	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
26	25	26	27	28	29	30	1 Canada Day/ Keti Koti (Abolishment of Slavery)
27	2	3	4 Independence Day (US)	5	6	7	8
28	9	10	11	12	13	14 Bastille Day (France)	15
29	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
31	30	31	1	2	3	4	5



Dewi Ramdaras
Student at Rotterdam School of Management

“On this day, we create a bond with someone saying ‘I am determined to protect you’.”

Read the full interview at www.eur.nl/diversity

August 2018

Raksha Bandhan

Raksha Bandhan is a Hindu festival that is celebrated annually, centered on the tying of a sacred thread around the wrist as a form of protection. Principally, this is done by sisters to brothers. Raksha Bandhan means the bond of protection, love or care.



	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
31	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
32	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
33	13	14	15	16	17 Independence Day (Indonesia)	18	19 Beginning of Hajj (Islam)
34	20	21 Beginning of Eid al-Adha (Islam)	22	23	24	25	26 Raksha Bandhan (Hindu)
35	27	28	29	30	31	1	2



Ou Lin

Financial Policy Analyst,
Corporate Planning & Control

“The idea behind the Moon Festival is to celebrate the harvests of that year and to show gratitude, but now family reunion has become a central theme.”

Read the full interview at www.eur.nl/diversity

September 2018

Moon Festival

The Moon Festival, or Mid-Autumn Festival, is a harvest festival celebrated by many people in Asia. It is held on the 15th day of the 8th month of the lunar calendar during full moon, when families come together to eat dinner and share Moon cakes.



	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
35	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
36	3 Labour Day (US & Canada)	4	5	6	7	8	9 Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)
37	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
38	17	18 Yom Kippur (Jewish)	19	20	21	22	23 Beginning of Sukkot (Jewish)
39	24 Moon Festival (Asia)	25	26	27	28	29	30



Donovan Liauw

Student at Rotterdam School of Management;
Erasmus Pride board member

"Coming Out Day to me is a day that raises awareness of people in the LGBTQ+ world and the need for them to feel able to be who they are."

Read the full interview at www.eur.nl/diversity

October 2018

Coming Out Day

Coming Out Day is an annual LGBTQ+ awareness day. It was founded in the United States in 1988 and is now observed globally to celebrate coming out and raise awareness about civil rights and oppressive views of society. Recently, "coming out" also expanded to gender identities.



	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
40	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
41	8	9	10 Navratri (Hindu)	11 Coming Out Day (International)	12	13	14
42	15	16	17 Chung Yeung Festival (Hong Kong)	18	19	20	21
43	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
44	29	30	31 Halloween (US)	1	2	3	4



Carina Bravo Plancarte
Recruitment Manager,
Rotterdam School of Management

“At the Institute for Housing and Development Studies I saw this beautiful *ofrenda* created by Mexican students and it put a smile on my face.”

Read the full interview at www.eur.nl/diversity

November 2018

Day of the Dead

Day of the Dead, or *Día de Muertos* in Spanish, is a Mexican holiday that focuses on gathering and praying for and remembering those who have died and support their spiritual journey. It is celebrated by creating altars (*ofrenda*) for the dead and offering food.



	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
44	29	30	31	1 All Saint's Day (Christian)	2 Día de Muertos (Mexico)/ All Soul's Day (Christian)	3	4
45	5	6	7 Diwali (Hindu)	8	9	10	11 St Martin's Day (Christian)
46	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
47	19 International Men's Day	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving (US)	24	25 Independence Day (Surinam)
48	26	27	28	29	30	1	2



Veronika Norvaisaite
International Project Coordinator,
USC Marketing & Communications

“On Christmas Eve, we start dinner the moment we see the first star in the sky.”

Read the full interview at www.eur.nl/diversity

December 2018

Christmas

Christmas is a Christian holiday commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ. Its traditions vary from country to country. In many nations people decorate a Christmas tree, there are Advent wreaths and Christmas stockings.



	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
48	26	27	28	29	30	1	2 Hannukkah (Jewish)
49	3	4	5 Sinterklaas (Dutch)	6	7	8	9
50	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
51	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
52	24	25 Christmas (Christian)	26 Boxing Day (Christian)/ Beginning of Kwanzaa (West-African)	27	28	29	30
1	31 New Year's Eve (International)	1	2	3	4	5	6

Be different, be open, be yourself. Make it happen.

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