



Utrecht University

TO:
Leo Waaijers Open Science Award Committee

Sender
Prof. José van Dijck
Visiting address
Muntstraat 2A
3512 JP Utrecht
The Netherlands
Phone: 31 30 -253 62 77
Personal webpage:
<https://www.uu.nl/staff/JFTMvanDijck/Profile>

Utrecht, June 19, 2026

Dear members of the committee,

I am delighted to support the nomination of Professor Tine De Moor for the NWO-UKB Leo Waaijers Open Science Award.

As President of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) from 2015 to 2018, I had the privilege of witnessing first-hand the emergence of Citizen Science as a serious scientific methodology within the Dutch research landscape. Among the scholars who played a decisive role in this development, Professor Tine De Moor stands out as one of the most influential pioneers.

During her membership of The Young Academy (De Jonge Akademie) from 2014 to 2019, Tine de Moor was among the first researchers in the Netherlands to consistently advocate for the scientific value of citizen participation in research. At a time when Citizen Science was still often regarded as a niche activity or a form of public outreach, she argued that citizens could contribute meaningfully throughout the research process and that their involvement could strengthen both scientific quality and societal relevance.

One particularly important milestone was the KNAW symposium on Citizen Science held at the Trippenhuis in Amsterdam on 16 June 2016. At the initiative of Tine, but organized jointly by The Young Academy and the KNAW, this event brought together researchers, policymakers, research funders, societal organizations, and citizens from across the Netherlands. Tine De Moor played a key intellectual and organizational role in shaping this symposium and in bringing together diverse disciplinary and societal perspectives on citizen participation in science.



Looking back, it is clear that this event marked a turning point in the Dutch discussion on Citizen Science. It helped establish Citizen Science as a credible and innovative research methodology and created momentum for broader discussions on public participation, societal engagement, and Open Science. The symposium was one of the earliest national platforms where the scientific, methodological, and societal implications of Citizen Science were explored in depth.

Importantly, Tine's contribution extended far beyond this single event. In the years that followed, she continued to play a leading role in shaping the Dutch Citizen Science agenda. She served on the National Plan Open Science (NPOS) Citizen Science Working Group, which brought together experts from across the Dutch research landscape to develop a national vision and strategy for Citizen Science. The work of this group culminated in the landmark 2020 report *Kennis en krachten gebundeld – Citizen Science in Nederland* ("Knowledge and Forces Combined – Citizen Science in the Netherlands"). This report proved highly influential. It directly contributed to the allocation of national funding through NPOS for the establishment of the first national Citizen Science initiatives and laid the foundation for the creation of the Citizen Science Netherlands (CS-NL) network.

The long-term significance of these efforts became evident when Open Science NL, the successor organisation to NPOS, awarded €1.1 million in funding to maintain and further develop the CS-NL network over a four-year period. This national investment illustrates how the ideas, recommendations, and infrastructure developed during the formative years of Dutch Citizen Science have become embedded within the country's Open Science ecosystem.

Through her contributions to both the intellectual development and institutional embedding of Citizen Science, Tine De Moor helped transform Citizen Science from a promising concept into a recognised component of Dutch Open Science policy and practice. Her influence can be seen not only in academic discussions, but also in the durable national infrastructures and networks that continue to support citizen participation in research today, such as her work with [Collectievekracht.eu](https://collectievekracht.eu).

What has always distinguished Tine is her ability to combine intellectual leadership with practical implementation. She did not merely advocate for Citizen Science; she demonstrated how it could be conducted in rigorous, meaningful, and impactful ways. Through her research programmes, citizen science initiatives, and more recently through platforms such as [CollectieveKracht](https://collectievekracht.eu), she has shown how citizens can become genuine partners in the production of knowledge. Long before Citizen Science became a strategic priority for research funders, universities, and policymakers, Tine De Moor was already advocating for its scientific value and societal potential. Through her work in The Young Academy, her collaboration with the KNAW, her role in the NPOS Citizen Science Working Group, and her own pioneering research projects, she helped build the conceptual foundations, policy framework, and practical infrastructures that enabled Citizen Science to flourish in the Netherlands.



Utrecht University

Many researchers and institutions now regard Citizen Science as an essential component of contemporary Open Science. Tine De Moor was one of the individuals who made that transformation possible. Her contribution extends well beyond individual projects or publications; she has helped shape a national movement that has fundamentally changed how researchers and citizens collaborate in the creation of knowledge.

For these reasons, I believe that Professor Tine De Moor is an exceptionally deserving recipient of the Leo Waaijers Open Science Award. Her contributions have not only advanced Open Science in the Netherlands but have fundamentally reshaped the relationship between science and society.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. dr. José van Dijck

Distinguished University Professor of Media and Digital Society
Utrecht University

President of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW), 2015–2018