

Rabbiner Drs Edward van Voolen

is since 2003 responsible for the practical training and placement of rabbis. He also teaches homiletics. Since May 2022 he is rabbinic director. He was trained as a rabbi at Leo Baeck College, London and at Hebrew Union College, New York. He was ordained in London in 1978. Before that, he studied Art History and History at Amsterdam University (B.A., drs.).

From 1978 – 2013 he was curator at the Jewish Museum, Amsterdam, and served as a rabbi in the Liberal Jewish Community of Arnhem (1978 – 1999, 2002 – 2004). He also served as a rabbi in the Liberal communities of Cologne (1996–2001), Munich (1998 – 2001), Göttingen (2002 – 2009), Hamburg (2006–2011), Schleswig-Holstein (2016–2020), and since 2017 again in Göttingen.

Rabbi Van Voolen is member of Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) and the Allgemeine Rabbinerkonferenz (ARK), as well as executive board member of the European Union for Progressive Judaism (EUPJ), member of the Committee of Jews and Christians at the Central Council of German Catholics (ZdK) and board member of the German Friends of the Tel Aviv Museum of Art (Tamad).

Van Voolen published numerous books and articles about Jewish culture, religion, art, and architecture in English, German and Dutch, most recently „Synagogues of Western and Central Europe“ in Synagogues, Marvels of Judaism (Rizzoli, New York 2021), and books like 50 Jewish Artists you Should Know (Prestel, Munich New York 2011), The ‘Jewish’ Rembrandt, The Myth Unraveled (ed., with M. Alexander and J. Hillegers, Amsterdam 2008); Charlotte Salomon Leben? Oder Theater? (ed., Prestel, Munich New York 2007), and Jewish Identity in Contemporary Architecture (ed., with A. Sachs, Prestel, Munich New York 2004).

