Recent years have witnessed a steady growth of studies of the transnational mobility of nonconforming groups and heterodox religious ideas. The two panels in the session focus on the Dutch Republic as a central nexus in the movement of persons and theological-political ideas across national and geographic boundaries, foregrounding the centrality of the exchange between English and Dutch dissenters in several fields, from literature to art, from theology to political discourse. These sessions will focus on the long lineage of the Reformation, tracing the intellectual continuity of spiritualist and rationalist ideas, and thus emphasizing the blurred boundaries between religion and secularism across the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. It will foreground the connections between dissenting forms of religious association, such as the meetings of the Collegiants, and the prominence of ideas about the spiritual equality of all believers, that made its influence felt both in new forms of social praxis and in the intellectual debate on equality, freedom of speech, and the position of women.

Paper proposals are welcome from any field on aspects related to the following two panels:

I: Radical Religion and the Early Enlightenment in England and the Dutch Republic: Transnational Mobilities, Networks and the Flow of Ideas

II: Radical Religion and the Early Enlightenment in England and the Dutch Republic: Debates and Controversies

Paper proposals should include a 150-word abstract and a 150-word CV, which should be submitted to Dr. Freya Sierhuis (freya.sierhuis@york.ac.uk) or Dr. Francesco Quatrini (fquatrini@unior.it) by August 2.