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*“An untaxed pint, please!” Enclaves and indirect beer and wine taxation in late medieval Maastricht*

The medieval city was a patchwork of different jurisdictions. These "islands" in the urban fabric, with privileges in terms of jurisdiction, territory and taxes, are prevalent in almost every city in the Late Medieval Low Countries. In the historiography, such "tax-free" zones are referred to as (potential) sources of conflict and disputes. However, a divided urban landscape does more than instigate conflicts. For the case of Maastricht, this paper will analyse how relations between the urban government and the city's enclaves were formed and constantly subject to (re-)negotiation. Doing so, my paper will uncover the implications of living in a divided juridical territory for the urban residents involved. My analysis will focus on the power relations and interactions between the urban government and the most important and strongest enclave on Maastricht territory: the chapter of Sint Servatius. By investigating discussions and conflicts about the indirect taxes on wine and beer, I will be able to put the mechanisms of dividing the city and, at the same time, balancing out inequality within the city walls, to the fore. As such, my research will provide insights on the opportunities such an extra-territoriality offered to the "normal" man in everyday city life.

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