

## **Gerlinda Swillen**

Gerlinda Swillen holds a degree in Germanic Philology (ULB-VUB, 1964). She was a secondary school teacher and a Ph.D. history student at the VUB, and also worked at the centre of expertise RHEA (VUB). She was president of the Masereelfonds until 2014. From 2009 to 2013, she was spokeswoman of the international network of associations of war children, the BOW (Born of War International Network). She published various articles on feminism and socialism and collaborated to several radio and television programmes. At present, she is carrying out a research project on war children in Belgium, and published a book on the subject entitled *Koekoekskind. Door de oorlog verwekt [1940-1945]* (2009).