

Diederik Sybolt Wiersma

Born the 25th of December 1967 in Utrecht, The Netherlands, received his masters degree Cum Laude and his PhD degree at the Univ. of Amsterdam in 1991 and 1995 respectively. He is assistant research director of the National Institute for the Physics of Matter (INFM-CNR) and currently runs a research group of about 8 people at the European Laboratory for Non-linear Spectroscopy in Florence, Italy. He has been responsible for 4 national projects on photonic crystals and random lasers and is deputy coordinator of the European network of excellence on nanophotonics Phoremost, comprising 34 European Laboratories.

His research interests lie in the fundamental optical properties of photonic materials, in particular materials with periodic, random, or quasi-crystalline structure. He has delivered about 60 invited lectures and colloquia and authored many papers on this topic, amongst which 31 in Nature (including 3 cover stories) and the Physical Review Letters (average number of citations of all papers: 24.5). He has been course director of 3 physics courses at center Ettore Majorana (Erice, Italy, 2005-2007), director of the OSA topical meeting on nano and meta materials META (Jacksonhole, USA, 2007), and director of the International School of Physics 'Enrico Fermi' (Varenna, Italy, 2009). He received the Ugo Campisano award by the National Institute for the Physics of Matter (INFM) for his work on random lasing by INFM in 2004. Currently he is a member of the editorial board of The Physical Review A.