

Young Feminist Weekend

18 – 20 October 2019
The Hague, The Netherlands

Friday afternoon October 18 – Sunday
afternoon October 20, 2019



How can we as feminists create positive change in the Netherlands?

New! Inspired by a powerful initiative of the European Women's Lobby

Young Feminist Weekend 2019 brings together young feminists in the Netherlands for a 3-day participatory process to explore how young feminists can create positive change in the Netherlands. To address the challenges we see in our country and the world today we need a strong and intersectional feminist movement where young women in all their diversity are recognised and their experiences and aspirations are valued. The NVR wants to support young feminist leadership and engagement in its work and the Young Feminist Weekend 2019 aims to facilitate a platform for convening young feminist voices and building relationships and solidarity amongst each other. We invite applications from young self-identified women aged between 18 and 31 who strongly believe in coming together and building connections with other young feminists, in order to create change together. If this sounds like you, we invite you to apply!

Is Young Feminist Weekend 2019 for you?

- Are you interested in sharing your feminist work and activism with others and learning from each other?
- Are you keen to find out what young feminists are doing against inequality, and how you can work together to create positive change in society?
- Are you keen to engage in highly participatory learning processes and willing to learn more about yourself and your work in this world?
- Do you want to be part of shaping future feminist strategies and campaigns in the Netherlands?

The criteria

- Are you a feminist (self-identified) woman between 18 and 31 years old (at the time of the Open Space 2019)?
- Do you have experience in activism related to feminism, gender equality, or women's rights?
- Do you currently live in the Netherlands?
- Do you want to bring about change, justice and equality in society together with other young feminists?

- Do you have a strong level of English and/or Dutch?

We are committed to organising an event that includes young women in the Netherlands in all of their diversity. As such, women of colour, from ethnic minority groups, with refugee backgrounds, with disabilities, from the LGBTQI community and from marginalised groups are especially encouraged to apply.

Practical

Dates: Friday 18 October 14.00 until Sunday 20 October 17.00;

Venue: Workshops and accommodation at Willibrordushuis (Oude Molstraat 35). Please note this is a monastery in the centre of The Hague;

Accommodation: This is free and will be organised and covered by NVR and its partners;

Travel: Participants are expected to pay for their own travel to and from The Hague

Participation fee

We want to make sure that no one is excluded from participating in the Open Space for financial reasons but as we don't have enough funding to cover the full participation costs for everyone (venue of the event, the accommodation, the catering, the speakers, the team and the material), we ask for a participation fee of. € 75,00 p.p. Contact us if this causes a problem for you.

How to apply

All interested candidates can apply using our online application form, will be available soon.

[Leave your name and mailadress here, and you get a message when the form is online >>](#)

In the application form, we want to hear about your commitment to feminist activism and women's rights, whether through general activism, volunteering or work experience, academia or any other activities. We are looking for passionate and dedicated young feminists with different experiences and backgrounds. Deadline for applications: 3 August 2019, by 23h00.

About us

National umbrella organisation Nederlandse Vrouwenraad (NVR) will host its first Young Feminist Weekend 2019 in The Hague. NVR works by and for women's organisations and has over 55 member organisations, together counting over 1 million women. A wide variety of organisations come together under the NVR umbrella: service-clubs, organisations based on professions, religious inspired human rights organisations, female groups within political parties, more traditional organisations and thematic organisations e.g. on peace & sustainability. Together with its members NVR campaigns for a gender equal Netherlands which promotes women's rights and equality between women and men. NVR envisions a society in which women's contribution to all aspects of life is recognised, rewarded and celebrated – in leadership, in care and in production; all women have self-confidence, freedom of choice, and freedom from violence and exploitation; and no woman or girl is left behind. Read more about our work at www.nederlandsevrouwenraad.nl.



NVR is member of the European Women's Lobby (EWL) www.womenlobby.org, the largest European umbrella network of women's associations in Europe, representing a total of more than 2,000 women's organisations in Europe. EWL has been organising AGORA, the a 5day summer camp for young feminists from Europe – over the past four years. Inspired by the AGORA, we are excited to organise this first Young Feminist Weekend in the Netherlands.

[Find out more about the AGORA 2018 and the experiences of participant Shucheesmita](#)

Another participant said: *"We came from different places, with different backgrounds, but met in the similar experiences that brought us to the identity of feminists. It has been a very unique experience to live the space that was so full of solidarity, power, emotions and safety."* (AGORA 2017 alumna).

"Honestly life changing. I came back not only inspired, but with a new found sense of personal confidence, conviction in my feminist beliefs and self-belief itself in what I had to say and what I had to bring the world. I felt an enormous sense of solidarity too from the friends I made." (AGORA 2017 alumna)

What is the Young Feminist Weekend 2019?

As a new generation of young feminists rises to the challenge of confronting the current social, economic, political and environmental turbulence, the NVR supports and nourish these leaders and activists, give them more visibility and strengthen the connections between them and with NVR itself. We see the Young Feminist Weekend 2019 event as vital to strengthening and expanding the Dutch feminist movement.

What is in it for you? Through the Young Feminist Weekend 2019 we aim to:

- Reconnect and reinforce young women's activism;
- Bring together young feminists from different backgrounds and with different experiences, to learn from each other and create connections;
- Set up an open, creative space for young feminist change agents to develop their activism;
- Build solidarity and empower young feminist activists to make feminism more inclusive and amplify the voices of feminist networks in NL;
- Explore the concept of feminist leadership and power;
- Enable the NVR to understand better the interests, needs and activities of young feminists and young feminists in Netherlands and bring these more into the centre of NVR's future strategy and actions.

How can we as feminists create positive change in the Netherlands?

We will aim to find answers, insights, concrete ideas and action steps to this calling question. The programme uses participatory, interactive, creative, and emancipatory methodologies, guided by experienced facilitators. It is our intention to create an open and safe space where participants co-create their learning process, can share their experiences and knowledge, learn from each other and gain new insights and skills.



There will be NO formal presentations or academic lectures. Although every effort is made to ensure this is a safe and supportive space, and we welcome emotions, it is not intended as a therapeutic space.

The following questions will guide the discussions:

- Why are you a feminist?;
- How can we build bridges and create unity in our diversity as a feminist movement?;
- What does 'feminist action/activism' mean today and what shapes does it take on?;
- What steps can we take in the Netherlands to advance women's rights?;

We will make every effort to ensure that the programme is as inclusive and accessible as possible and will work with participants to understand and accommodate any special needs.

The venue

The weekend takes place at the Broeders van Sint Jan – Klooster Willibrordus, located in the centre of The Hague. We will make every effort to ensure that all activities are as inclusive and accessible as possible and will work with participants to understand and accommodate any special needs. Participants who may have special needs will be contacted by NVR staff beforehand to understand what support is needed during the whole programme.

The selection process

There are only 30 places. The selection will be made by NVR, based on the application forms and on the criteria above. The motivation and experience in feminist activism or campaigns for gender equality and women's rights will be deciding factors, as well participants' experience of diversity. Our aim is to bring together a group of young feminists from diverse backgrounds and with different levels of experiences in feminism and activism. We aim to inform all successful candidates by 20 August 2019.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to provide feedback on applications to unsuccessful candidates.

Participation fee

NVR will cover most of the costs of the programme for participants while in The Hague, including accommodation and meals. If you are selected, you will be expected to organise and cover the costs for your own travel to The Hague & pay a participation fee of € 75 p.p. If this causes problems to you, please contact us. We want to be sure that no one will be excluded from participation for financial reasons but we don't have enough funding to cover the full participation costs for everyone (venue of the event, the accommodation, the catering, the speakers, the team and the material). Your participation fee supports us to cover only a small part of the programme costs.

Application form

18 – 20 October 2019

The Hague, The Netherlands

You need to complete the application online using a google form. This will be available soon.

We include below the questions we ask you to respond to in the online application form – we provide you the list of questions in case you prefer preparing the answers in advance in a separate document, and then copying them over in the form when you are ready.

[Leave your name and mailadress here, and you get a message when the form is online >>](#)

Deadline for application is 3 August 2019 at 23h00.

1. Personal information:

- Full name
- Email address
- Age
- City/town of residence
- Nationality

2. Are you affiliated or supported by one of NVR's member organisations?

If you are applying through one of our members, they will need to confirm with us via email that they are supporting your application. Name of contact person at the NVR member organisation you are affiliated to?

3. Please tell us about your relevant experience and/or expertise related to your feminist activism and commitment to women's rights and gender equality in the Netherlands.

(maximum 1300 characters). Please highlight particularly the experience you have in feminist organising or activism, and describe the action(s) you have been involved in, including what inspired you to get involved and what role you played.

4. **Why do you want to participate in the Young Feminist Weekend 2019?** Please explain your motivation for applying and why this is relevant for you at this time. (maximum 1300 characters)

5. How would you make use of what you learn and the connections you make after the Young Feminist Weekend 2019?

Are there any campaigns or projects you are currently working on that you'd like to take further? (maximum 1300 characters)

6. What do you think the main priorities should be of the feminist movement in the Netherlands and what are your expectations of this movement?

(maximum 1300 characters)



7. Are there specific issues or skills that you would like to learn more about during the Young Feminist Weekend 2019?

(maximum 500 characters)

8. Do you have any experience of discrimination based on gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, life experience, religion or any other status?

(maximum 500 characters)

9. Would you be interested in leading a 1,5 hour workshop-session during the Young Feminist Weekend?

If yes, on what theme? It can be on any issue related to feminist activism, women's rights and gender equality. Note that if selected, we'll be in touch with you to expand on the proposed workshop (maximum 500 characters)

10. Language skills:

What is your mother tongue?

The programme and all written communication may be in English or Dutch – this is to be determined based on the participants – so a strong level of understanding and communication in either language is required.

What is your level of English?

- Native speaker/completely fluent
- Excellent
- Good
- Fair/moderate
- no knowledge

What is your level of Dutch?

- Native speaker/completely fluent
- Excellent
- Good
- Fair/moderate
- no knowledge

Do you prefer the meetings to be in English or Dutch?

- English
- Dutch
- Both would be fine

11. Are you able to arrive in Den Haag for a 14.00 start on 18 October and depart after 17:00 on 20 October 2019?

12. How did you learn about the Young Feminist Weekend 2019?

13. Any other issues you wish to raise or comments