

Animal Politics World Conference

Taking political activism to the next level

10 & 11 December 2022

Steigenberger Wiltcher's Hotel 71 Avenue Louise, Ballroom C Brussels



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POLITICAL ACTIVISM to the next level



WELCOME



Welcome to the Animal Politics World Conference 2022 - Taking Political Activism to the Next Level

How to speed up positive change for our planet and -all- its inhabitants? This Animal Politics World Conference gathers experts, politicians and activists in EU-capital Brussels, to share their knowledge about (political) activism for climate, nature, animals, and a liveable planet, and to offer practical examples of grass-roots initiatives from all over the world.

Recent scientific reports confirm that nothing less than a viable future on this planet is at stake. Still, current political leaders worldwide are not taking the action that is needed. To solve the urgent challenges we face today, we need to change politics, and invest in solutions for tomorrow.

Alongside increasing citizen engagement and (legal) activism, politics plays an important part in creating necessary change. This conference explores how to accelerate positive change and how to join hands in safeguarding a liveable planet.

Wishing you an inspiring, activating and fruitful conference,

Elze Boshart Chair Animal Politics Foundation



Saturday December 10

SATURDAY PROGRAMME



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9.00 – 9.30	Welcome
9.30 – 10.00	Opening
10.00 – 10.15	Anja Hazekamp: Speeding Up Change with Ecocentric Politics
10.15 – 10.25	Q&A with MEP Anja Hazekamp
10.25 – 10.45	Eva Rovers: Practivism: Citizens as Drivers of Positive Change
10.45 – 10.55	Q&A with Eva Rovers
10.55 – 11.10	Coffee break
11.10 – 13.00	Training A: Sean Currie Effective Campaigning for Impact
	Training B: David Labi Powerful Storytelling for Good
13.00 – 14.30	Lunch
14.30 – 16.00	Panel: Combining the Powers of Politics, Law, and Activism
16.00 – 16.15	Wrap up
17.30 – 20.00	Dinner reception

SATURDAY PROGRAMME



Saturday

20.00 - 20.30 Welcome

20.30 - 21.30 Interactive panel discussion

- Christine Teunissen (Party for the Animals)
- Donald Pols (Friends of the Earth Netherlands, Milieudefensie)
- Ariane Giraneza (EU Climate & Environment Delegate Y7)

This evening programme will be public and live streamed online.

21.30 – 22.30 Wrap up and drinks



SUNDAY PROGRAMME



Sunday December 11

9.30 - 10.00 Welcome

10.00 - 10.10 Opening

10.10 – 11.10 Training C: Rick Holland Funding - Money for Good

11.15 – 12.45 Training D: Job van den Assem Mobilising and sustaining people power for existing and aspiring political parties

Training D: Mark Westcombe Mobilising and sustaining people power for civil society groups (D)

12.45 - 13.00 Wrap up

13.00 - 14.00 Lunch



SATURDAY MORNING SPEAKER



Anja Hazekamp

Anja is a member of the European Parliament.

She will give a lecture on: 'Speeding Up Change with Ecocentric Politics'.

Afterwards there is a Q&A.

Anja Hazekamp is a Member of European Parliament for the Dutch Party for the Animals. Recently, she has been named one of the top 5 most influential MEPs, when it comes to the EU Green Deal.

In the European Parliament, Hazekamp uses her position to get the topic of biodiversity, climate, environment, health and animal welfare high on the political agenda.

She has successfully worked to address the problems connected to the environmental and health impact of the livestock industry, pesticides, live animal transport and broiler chickens in factory farms.

In 2018 she was one of the initiators of the special committee on Pesticides and in 2019 she initiated the recently established Inquiry Committee on Animal Transport. In 2020 Anja was appointed as the ENVI-rapporteur for the EU Farm to Fork Strategy.

SATURDAY MORNING SPEAKER



Eva Rovers

Eva is a Dutch art historian, author and citizen participation expert.

She will give a lecture on: 'Practivism: Citizens as Drivers of Positive Change'

Afterwards there is a Q&A.

Eva Rovers is a Dutch art historian and author. She studied cultural history at Utrecht University and obtained her PhD at the University of Groningen. She wrote the acclaimed biographies of art collector Helene Kröller-Müller and author Boudewijn Büch.

Since 2017, she has been writing about ways ordinary people can drive social change. She sees a crucial role for Citizens' Assembly, which is a body formed of selected citizens to deliberate on important issues. That is why she co-founded the Bureau Burgerberaad (Bureau Citizens Assembly) in 2020.

This year, she published her latest book: Now it's up to us. A call for real democracy (in Dutch: Nu is het aan ons. Oproep tot echte democratie.). The book was on the bestseller list at number 3.



SATURDAY AFTERNOON TRAINER



Sean Currie

Sean is an expert on social movement organising.

He will give a training on:
'Effective Campaigning for
Impact'

Sean Currie is a Brussels-based social movement and party political organiser from Scotland.

He specialises in helping organisations to build holistic communication and campaign strategies that truly empower members, and therefore grow a group's power base. Having been active at the European level as well as locally and nationally in Belgium, The UK, France, and Germany, he is driven by the desire to spread knowledge between groups in different parts of Europe.

Having graduated from a Master's in European Affairs at Sciences Po Paris, he has worked as The Campaign Accelerator's Communications Lead and is today a junior trainer with the collective.



SATURDAY AFTERNOON TRAINER



David Labi

David is a writer, filmmaker, facilitator, artist and ethical storyteller

He will give a training on:
'Powerful Storytelling for
Good'

David Labi is a writer, filmmaker, facilitator, artist and ethical storyteller. He was Born in Londen and has lived in Tokyo, Buenos Aires, Berlin and Brussels. He became a director of a left-wing Jewish youth movement, responsible for thousands of kids and hundreds of youth leaders. He then toured the UK giving workshops at schools for all ages and backgrounds and spurring them to action.

After studying English at Cambridge University, he worked as a magazine editor in London, Buenos Aires and Tokyo, while working as a journalist, literary translator and brand copywriter. After working for global brands like Lipton and Dove, he decided to bring his skills and experience to fight for something good. That is why he has founded the ethical storytelling agency Good Point.





Melav Salih





Philipp Ryf

is head of politics and comanaging director at Sentience, Switzerland. Until recently, he was the co-campaign manager of the initiative to abolish factory farming - a popular initiative that proposed a total ban on all factory farms in Switzerland and that garnered almost 40 percent of public votes this September. He studied political science, economics and sustainable development.





Inês de Sousa Real

is a Portuguese politician, member of national parliament and leader of the political party People Animals Nature (PAN). With a degree in law and a master's degree in law, she has been a jurist at the Municipality of Sintra since 2006. She was Lisbon's Municipal Animal Ombudsman from November 2014 to March 2017, on a voluntary basis. She was awarded a commendation by the Lisbon Municipal Assembly for her dedication to this role.



Morgan Janowicz

is a student of Computer Science and International Business, a European Climate Pact Ambassador in Poland, and board member of the Green REV Institute. Her work is focused on advocacy by building partnerships and collaboration from all sides of the dialogue. REV carries out advocacy work at the national and European levels, to implement the EuropeanGr een Deal, Farm2Fork, CAP.

As a representative of REV, she moves the boundaries of the debate on human rights, climate protection and animal rights.



Eline Zeilmaker

is legal advisor at Friends of the Earth Netherlands. In 2021 this organisation won the ground-breaking climate case against Shell, where it was decided that Shell has to align its business plans to the Paris Agreement. She is dedicated to share the learnings of the victory of the climate case against Shell with activists and lawyers all over the world, to empower and build a strong legal movement together.



Dragan Jonić

is a Serbian publicist, translator, environmental activist and rebel for life. He started off his career in the media in the tough nineties, fighting the dictatorial regime then in power in his country. In the early 2000s he joined the environmental organisation "Defend the Rivers of the Balkan Mountain", that stopped the construction of environmentally harmful hydropower plants. He is now part of the ecological movement "Ecological Uprising", which is an activist faction of the leftgreen party "Zajedno" (Together).



Islem Zrelli



She is an upcoming influencer on Instagram (@zerowastetunisian) and YouTube, sharing her experiences as an activist and talking about climate change and reducing waste impacts for sustainable living, she aims to enhance awareness and education about climate action and environmental problems in the world and especially in Tunisia.



Kateryna Polianska

works as a Staff Scientist of the NGO Environment-People-Law in Ukraine. She is an expert on geoecological issues, landscape studies, conservation biology, the protection of wild animals and ecological education. Kateryna holds a PhD in Physical Geography, Geophysics and Geochemistry of Landscape. She also holds a Master's degree in international environmental cooperation. She also organizes expert reports for UNESCO's Secretariat of the Bern Convention.



SATURDAY EVENING SPEAKER



Ariane Giraneza

Ariane is a young environmentalist and Climate Policy Manager at the environmental NGO Bellona Europa.

Ariane Giraneza came to Europe at the age of 5 as a refugee after living in Rwanda, the DRC, Kenya and Tanzania. She has always been fascinated by international policy and the cooperation between different actors such as national governments, the EU and multilateral organisations pertaining to climate and sustainability matters.

In 2021 she was the EU Climate and Environment Delegate at the Y7, the official youth engagement group for the G7. She is also engaged in Friday Group, a Belgian policy think tank for young professionals supported by the King Baudoin Foundation.

Ariane also has several years of work experience in different policy settings on energy and sustainability issues such as the Dutch Embassy in Belgium, the Federal Cabinet of the Belgian Minister of Energy and the Belgian Federal parliament. She now works as a Climate Policy Manager at the environmental NGO Bellona Europa.



SATURDAY EVENING SPEAKER



Christine Teunissen

Christine is a member of the Dutch Parliament and acting party leader for the Party for the Animals.

Christine Teunissen studied history in Leiden, Netherlands.

During her studies she conducted research into various social movements that compete against the established order. She was the leader of the Dutch Party for the Animals in the municipality of The Hague and one of the youngest senators in Dutch history. Teunissen is a young influential politician, bringing grassroots activism for the planet, animals and nature to the highest level of politics.

Currently, Teunissen is a Member of Dutch parliament and acting party leader for the Party for the Animals. In her work she is pushing for positive change on topics such as climate justice, biodiversity, and international trade agreements.

On her intiative the Dutch Ministry of Culture implemented the "plant-based by default" principle. Now more and more local and regional governments follow suit to fight the climate and biodiversity crisis.



SATURDAY EVENING SPEAKER



Donald Pols

Donald is Director of
Friends of the Earth
Netherlands, initiator of the
famous climate case against
Shell.

Donald Pols is the director of Friends of the Earth Netherlands (Milieudefensie). He has a lifelong commitment to a society in harmony with nature - for the sake of nature in itself -and- of human society that depends on it. As director of Milieudefensie, he works on climate justice. After the successful Climate case against Shell he is more than ever a climate optimist. The New York Times wrote: "Startling Defeats Push Oil Giants Towards a 'Tipping Point'."

He previously participated in delegations from WWF International and the Dutch government to UNFCCC negotiations. He worked as director of the natural resources programme of WWF International in Beijing; as director of WWF China's Climate Energy Program; as head of the WWF climate programme and as a senior adviser on the environment and nature in the Dutch parliament. He holds a bachelor's degree in law, an MA in Liberal Arts and MSc in Environmental Management.



SUNDAY TRAINER



Rick Holland

Rick is a funding specialist, focusing on developing strategies to build relationships with individual donors, businesses, and volunteers.

He will give a training on: 'Funding - Money for Good'.

Vegan for more than nine years, Rick Holland is the founder and director of Confident Philanthropy, a London-based international consultancy aiming to change the way we think about giving and connecting.

Rick has worked with GFI, Sinergia Animal, Vegan For The Animals and many other organisations in the USA, the UK and beyond, developing, implementing, and evaluating strategies to build relationships with key individual donors, businesses, and volunteers.

Rick has contributed to Third Sector, ArtsProfessional, the Morning Call and Medium among other publications, and has appeared on KOAT-TV, KOB, Anglia TV, and BBC Radio, and he's presented at international symposia discussing two of his great passions: fundraising and the Beatles.



SUNDAY TRAINER



Job van den Assem

Job is founder of the Lowlander project.

He will give a training on 'Mobilising and sustaining people power for existing and aspiring political parties'.

Job van den Assem has been involved with the climate justice movement since he was a teenager. He took part in many different campaigns; from trying to stop the building of the 5th runway of the national airport by planting a forest, to demonstrating in the halls of the Climate Negotiations, to writing a spoof newspaper about what is going wrong in the farming & food industry.

Through the movement and campaigning he learned about the importance of organising to create social change. For many years he worked with Friends of the Earth Netherlands as an organiser and later as the head of movement building.

Two years ago he started the Lowlander Project, together with his colleague Sandra Ball. The Lowlander Project is a School for community organising in the Netherlands. Its goal is to spread the teachings of organising to social, community and political progressive organisations.



SUNDAY TRAINER



Mark Westcombe

Mark is director of the Animal Think Tank.

He will give a training on 'Mobilising and sustaining people power for civil society groups'.

Mark Westcombe is a founder and director of Animal Think Tank. As Mission Lead (Task) he is responsible for building and resourcing Animal Think Tank's organisational capacity and steering the delivery of organisational strategy and mission.

He was a co-founder of Animal Rebellion and previously organised the UK's Animal Rights Gathering (2017 & 2018). He was a (co-)founder and director of the multi-award-winning Lancaster Cohousing and the UK Cohousing Network. He has organised several of Lancaster's QueerFeasts, as well as helping organise Lancaster Pride in 2007.

He has worked as a management consultant and group facilitator specialising in risk mitigation, strategic decision making and project impact. He is a trainer in Systems Thinking and Group Facilitation for his professional body. He has twice been awarded teaching prizes for his work on incorporating diversity into the university syllabus.

