



Dear {{voornaam}},

This is the Scientists4Future NL newsletter of August 2025. To subscribe, click [here](#). To unsubscribe, use the link at the bottom of this email.



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Editorial

Dear reader,

We hope that you've had a relaxing summer and are full of energy to start the new academic year. Among many other crises, climate was part of the headlines often this summer. Partially because of weather extremes and disasters around the globe, and partially because of some crucial firsts, such as the first climate change visa for people from Vanuatu in Australia ([article link](#)) and the International Court of Justice ruling about countries' responsibility to act on the climate crisis ([article link in English](#), [article link in Dutch](#)).

Developments like these show how crucial it is that we collectively move forward with climate action - continue reading to see some examples of how we plan to do that the coming months, and how you can get involved!

PS Our next national meeting takes place digitally, on 18 September. Is it in your calendar already? We hope to see you there!

National Climate Week 2025: get ready and involved!

By Arjen

This year the National Climate Week (Nationale Klimaatweek - [website link](#)) will be held from 10 to 16 november. While some "mainstream" politicians seem to have all but forgotten about the climate, its crisis and the consequences of climate change, we have not!

Let us participate in this event by organising and helping to organise activities in this week to bring the urgency to act to the foreground. What can you do?

- Contact your municipality and find out what they will be doing.
- Form local groups with like-minded people to make the work easier.
- Let us all know what you are going to do, so that we can get inspired.
- But most importantly: get the climate crisis back on the political agenda, locally and nationally.

Do you know if your municipality is participating? Well, here is a map that could help ([link](#)). If you need inspiration, how about these webpages about Rotterdam developing climate-related projects in cooperation with inhabitants ([link](#)) and Nijmegen stimulating the energy transition ([link](#)).

Exceptional number of reactions to proposed law change

In June, the Dutch demissionary cabinet agreed on a proposed bill that aims to criminalise support for terrorist organisations ([link](#), in Dutch). The proposed change to the law would make it illegal to glorify a terrorist act, to distribute materials that glorify a terrorist act, and to publicly support terrorist organizations. This may include social media posts, carrying flags or wearing clothing with symbols that refer to terrorist organisations.

While this may sound sensible on its face, there is a rub: the law does not provide a clear definition of what does and doesn't qualify as "terrorist". This omission creates the possibility of abuse and threatens the democratic rights of all of us to protest and free speech. The pro-Palestine/anti-genocide movement probably faces the biggest immediate threat from this bill, but it's not hard to see how this bill could also affect climate and environmental organizations like, for example, Extinction Rebellion.

Amnesty International, PAX voor vrede, The Rights Forum, Plant een Olijfboom, the Dutch Organization for Journalists (NVJ), Free Press Unlimited, SOMO and other organizations have expressed grave concerns about the bill (examples via [link](#) and [link](#), in Dutch), and some have called on Dutch citizens to react to the bill through the associated "internet consultation" ([link to consultation](#)). Internet consultations are a way for the government to collect feedback from citizens and organizations before a bill is discussed in Parliament. Scientists for Future Netherlands have also called for reactions through the S4F social media channels.

At the closing of the consultation on 16 August, a whopping **11.561** reactions were recorded. This is quite an exceptional number; most consultations only receive a handful of reactions and only a few have ever received in the thousands. The large majority of the reactions seem to be highly critical of the bill. Clearly, many Dutch people think that their democratic free speech rights are very important and need to be preserved (and so do we).

Hopefully, this dangerous bill will not make it past the Chambers of Parliament. Stay tuned!

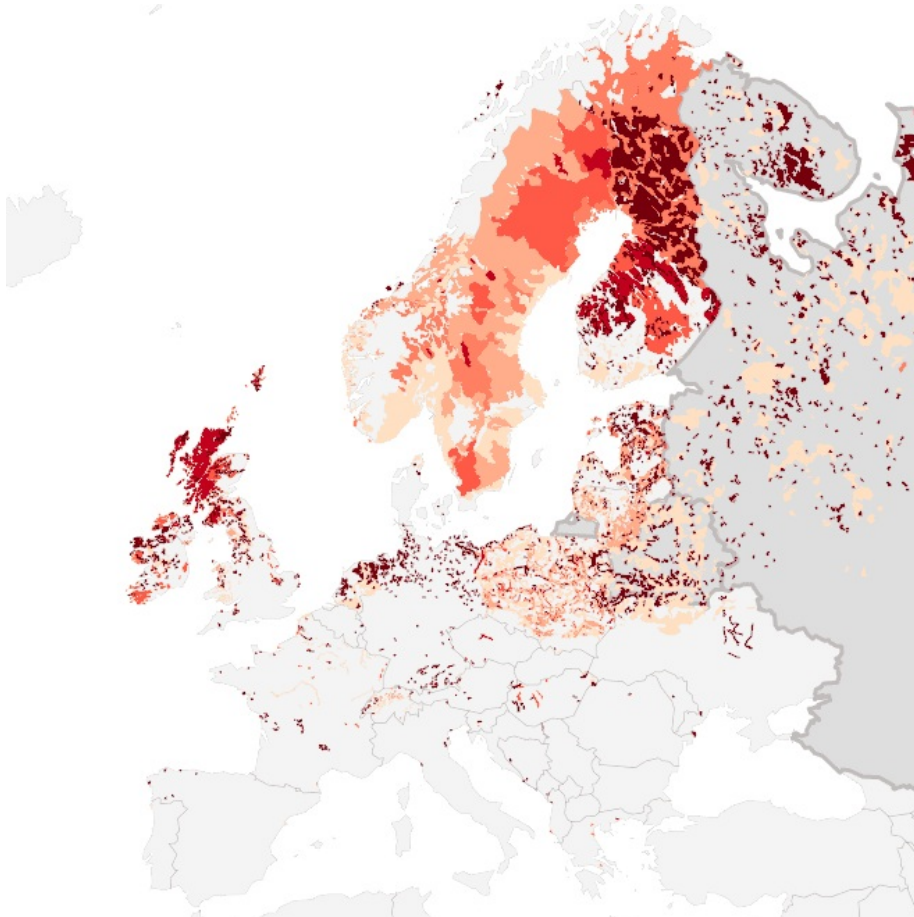


Bog conservation and military security

By Philipp

Can we frustrate a Russian invasion AND protect the environment?

Warfare is so damaging to human societies that it almost feels wrong to even mention the environmental devastation that it brings. However, there is a significant defence topic that we as environmental advocates feel urged to bring up. Europe's border with Russia can be reinforced by re-wetting all peat bogs.



Percentage peat cover (bogs, mires and fens) in Europe, by OpenStreetMap contributors. Derived from [Joint research Centre: European Soil Data Centre](#), via Hanne Cokelaere/POLITICO.

Drained peat bogs emit large amounts of CO₂, a process that can be stopped by rewetting them. And as four US soldiers experienced on friendly territory during an exercise in Lithuania: Wet bogs are all but impassable for heavy military gear. This topic is getting traction with high-level meetings and plenty of media attention. See for example this article ([link](#)) by Politico, and this in the Financial Times ([pay-walled link](#))

Reminder: SR Climate Wiki

By Dick (SR)

Just before the summer, Scientist Rebellion opened the SR Klimaatwiki (in Dutch) for people associated with XR, SR and S4F. We would very much welcome your comments and suggestions for improvement. The wiki will be updated regularly with your help. You may access the Klimaatwiki (written in Dutch) [here](#). Login name: Gast, password: Climate:Justice.

If you have suggestions for improvement, or want to add updated information, please read the instructions [here](#).

If you need facts, figures and arguments in relation to the climate crisis, for a presentation, lesson or action, you may find them at the SR Klimaatwiki. In this wiki you may find science based information about the major aspects of the climate crisis, written by SR, XR and S4F experts, peer reviewed and loaded with hundreds of source references. Use it freely to support our fight and, above all, to stress the sense of urgency. Because, as scientists, having the privilege of access to validated knowledge, we also have the duty of sharing this knowledge. You can freely share and quote the information and the pictures that the wiki offers, but please credit the original source given in the caption. We all know that data alone are not sufficient to convince or activate people, but when used in a smart way they can certainly help.

This compilation is never finished nor complete. Please share your comments, corrections and additions with the editorial group of the wiki, using the contact form. Only by using the wisdom of the SR/S4F-crowd, we can continuously improve the wiki.



Reading and listening tips

Podcast tip from Jacqueline: **Drilled** ([Spotify-link](#)) is a true crime podcast on climate change. The production team, Critical Frequency, offer multiple other series on climate change, justice and other societal issues. Check out their website [here](#)!

Upcoming events

September

- 9 September: Noodklok voor klimaat by Jonge Klimaatbeweging (website will be published later)
- 13 September: support demo A12 blockade ([link to website](#))
- 18 September, 20:00: national meeting (online, [e-mail us for the Zoom-link](#))
- 20 September, Amsterdam: join SR at De Straat Op ([link to website](#))

October

- 11 October, online/Berlin: Scientists Responsibility Summit by SR Germany ([link to website](#))
- 17 October, 20:00: national meeting (online, [e-mail us for the Zoom-link](#))
- 25 October: Nacht van de Nacht. Organise or participate in an activity via [this link to the website](#)
- 26 October: climate march ([link to website](#))
- 29 October: national elections

November

- 10-16 November, National Climate Week ([link to website](#))
- 17 November, 20:00: national meeting (online, [e-mail us for the Zoom-link](#))
- 19 November, Bussum: De Top van Onderop ([link to website](#))

The December meeting will take place in Utrecht, so that we can have in-person discussions. Stay tuned for the date!

Get involved!



Are you a subscriber to this newsletter who is not yet actively involved in S4F NL? Curious to find out more about what S4F does and how you can contribute? Chances are that there's an active S4F chapter where you are based!

Read about the places and ways in which S4F works for a better climate on [our website](#) and get in touch via contact@scientists4future.nl!

Follow us on [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [BlueSky](#) where we share national and international news regarding the role of scientists in times of the climate crisis.



Deze e-mail is verstuurd aan {{email}}.

Als u geen nieuwsbrief meer wilt ontvangen, kunt u zich [hier afmelden](#).

U kunt ook uw [gegevens](#) inzien en wijzigen.

Voor een goede ontvangst voegt u contact@scientists4future.nl toe aan uw adresboek.