

Dear {{voornaam}},

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



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## Editorial

Dear reader,

This newsletter informs you about the latest and upcoming **S4F actions** and national developments on **fossil advertising**, **nature-based solutions**, **greenwashing**, and **action for climate adaptation on Bonaire**.

Please note that June's national meeting will take place **in-person**, and **on 22 June** in Utrecht. Join us for the afternoon, and stay for the potluck dinner if you have time! Sign up via [e-mail](#), we hope to see you there!

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## News: S4F and SR join the Radboud works council

*By Marjan Smeulders*

The Radboud University Scientists for Future / Scientist Rebellion group took part in the works council (ondernemingsraad) elections and obtained two seats in the elections in May! Together with the 2 elected students from Green+ we will make sure the urgency of adequate action against the climate- and ecological emergency and the importance of preparing our students for their future on a planet in crisis, will stay on the agenda at the RU in these times of harsh budget cuts.

If you're curious to learn more about running for the works council at your university, feel free to [contact me](#).

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## Updates: Letter(s) to The Hague and Senate rejects bill on undermining organisations

*By Jacqueline Hoppenreijs*

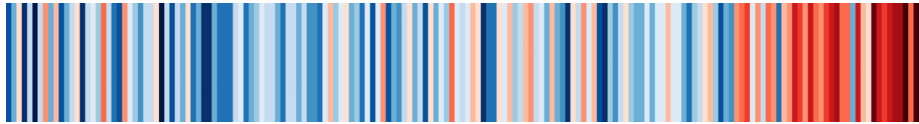
**S4F published a press release** about its letter to the Minister of Education, Culture and Science about his responsibilities with regard to academic freedom and scientific practice. S4F sent [this letter](#) (in Dutch) in April, arguing that he should:

1. work to maintain the quality of scientific research and education so that societal crises can be addressed, instead of cutting budgets;
2. take action against desinformation and policy that builds on scientific information;
3. explicitly support for open science and international exchange and collaboration; and
4. take the lead, nationally and internationally, in supporting threatened academics and protect academic freedom.

While the government is now a caretaker government, the urgency of these points remains. [The press release](#) urges the Minister to take action still, and repeats our wish to meet him and discuss these issues.

**The Senate has rejected the bill on undermining organisations** that would have given the Minister of Justice and Security (NL: Minister van Justitie en Veiligheid) the authority to ban organisations without court approval. This bill, coined in 2018, was initially meant for motorcycle gangs and the like, but worries about political misuse and the freedom of association have increased these past years. For example, environmental and societal organisations started to worry that the bill might be applied to them, too. Read more about the Senate vote [here](#) (in Dutch).

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## Update: More bans on fossil advertising!

*By Arjen*

Since the announcement of the city of The Hague to ban fossil advertisements in the public space, at least three more cities have decided on the same thing: Utrecht ([per 2026](#)), and Delft ([starting from 2027](#)) and Nijmegen ([later this year](#)).

The ban by The Hague was challenged by several travel agencies, but they lost the court case ([link](#)). So: let's see which cities and other municipalities will follow and let's support them to make the "right" decision!

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## News: Peat bog restoration for European safety - a new type of nature-based solution?

Karin and Philipp have realised that Europe's eastern border can be defended against Russian attacks by re-wetting its vast and mostly drained peat bogs along the border. That way, we'd create an impassable barrier for armies, limiting their options for invasions to a few roads, which in turn makes them easy targets for the defenders. As a huge side effect, the climate would benefit: Drained peat bogs emit 15-40 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per hectare per year, which stops almost immediately once they are rewetted.

Karin and Philipp were interviewed on Vroege Vogels ([link](#), from 02:42 and in Dutch) and wrote an opinion piece in Trouw ([link](#), in Dutch).

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## News: Lessons from Dutch universities' collaborations with the tobacco industry for ties to the fossil industry

*By Linda Knoester*

Research by Solid Sustainability Research ([website](#)) and Leiden University shows that, despite the common perception that collaborations with the tobacco industry are "not done", there is still a lack of policy and academic links with the tobacco industry persist.

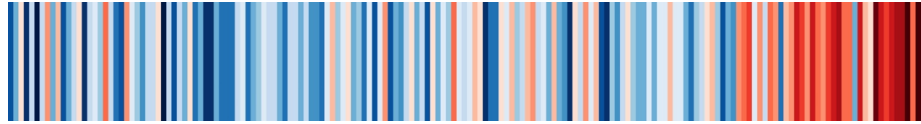
The study (preprint available [here](#)) demonstrates how the tobacco and fossil industry use similar strategies to further their interests, such as creating doubt about scientific consensus, promoting technological "solutions" that maintain their business model (such as e-cigarettes and blue hydrogen), and strategically targeting younger audiences, for example through sponsorship of study or student associations. It also makes concrete recommendations for policy and ethical considerations regarding future partnerships.

In addition to the preprint, Vrij Nederland has published [an article](#) (in Dutch) about the findings.

The authors hope that their findings can contribute to ongoing policy discussions within academic institutions. They are happy to contribute their thoughts and are available to discuss

the implications of the research.

Linda Knoester (Solid Sustainability Research, SSR), Aaron Pereira (SSR), Lynn Vanheule (SSR), Andrea Reyes Elizondo (Leiden University, LU), Andrew Littlejohn (LU) and Anne Urai (LU)



## News: Climate action for Bonaire

*By Arjen*

January last year, eight citizens of Bonaire together with Greenpeace Nederland summoned the Dutch government to formulate a plan for climate adaptation dedicated to their island. While Bonaire is a part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and therefore entitled to the same protection and support as the other parts of the Kingdom, our government has been very negligent about this. After more than one year it is time to again point it to its responsibilities.

Read about the appeal [online](#) (in Dutch) and, if you want to sign the supporting letter Scientists for Future is working on, let us know [via e-mail](#).

## Invitation: Science communication in times of polarisation (in Dutch)

Meeting on Politics and Science: Fight, flight, freeze (in Dutch)

Vechten, vluchten, bevriezen – of toch maar blijven praten? Wetenschapscommunicatie in tijden van polarisatie. Kom naar een bijeenkomst met presentaties, discussies en tijd voor netwerken.

Moderator: [Belinda Van der Gaag](#)

Sprekers:

[Alyt Damstra](#): Kennis en advies in tijden van wetenschapsweerstand

Pieter Pauw: 'Keep calm and carry on'

[Rudi Buis](#): 'Polarisatie in Den Haag: wie is er bang voor de boze wolf?'

[Josse de Voogd](#): 'Tussen bubbel en normaalverdeling'

Locatie: Boothzaal van de Universiteitsbibliotheek van de Universiteit Utrecht

Tijd: 15:30-17:30

Meer informatie: [website](#)



## Reading and listening tips

**Paper of the month:** "Will it ever be possible to sue anyone for damaging the climate?" This question is more relevant than ever, for example in the light of the [famous court case](#) of Peruvian farmer Saúl Luciano Lliuya against German energy giant RWE.

[This Perspective in Nature](#) debates the case for climate liability, presenting a framework in which emission data can be used to attribute economic losses through climate change.

Callahan, C.W., Mankin, J.S. Carbon majors and the scientific case for climate liability. *Nature* **640**, 893–901 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-025-08751-3>

**Reading tip:** Aviation destroys more than "just" our climate, in [NRC](#) (in Dutch)

**Podcast tip:** What is climate obstruction, and what is there to do against it, on [Momus media](#) (in Dutch)

## Upcoming events

## June

- 20 June: [climate marathon](#) and [climate classic](#)
- 21 June: blockade Afsluitdijk by XR and Scientist Rebellion ([website](#))
- 22 June: national meeting (in-person in Utrecht, start at 13:00)
- 25 June: A12 blockade [information](#)
- 26 June: Break with BlackRock action ([info via e-mail](#))

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## 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](mailto: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](mailto:contact@scientists4future.nl) toe aan uw adresboek.