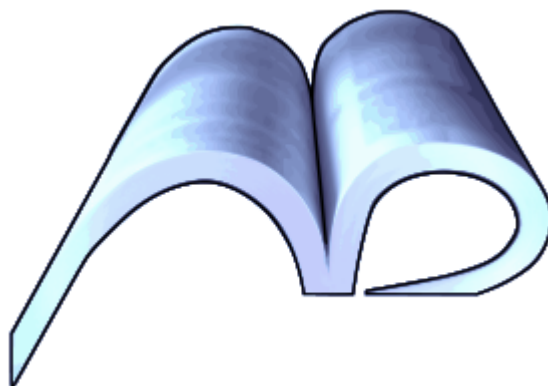


Definitive Electoral Programme 2007 - 2011

Party for Neighbourly Love, Freedom & Diversity



Sapere Aude: PNVD now!

This electoral programme can be perused at and downloaded from:

www.PNVD.nl

This electoral programme has undergone a number of [changes](#) since April 2004. An overview of these changes and the earlier versions of the programme has been included at the end of this document.

[If you are wondering why the PNVD wants to participate in elections, and what our objectives are, we invite you to read our [political document](#).]

Please note: this is not the most recent version of our programme.

Preface

Our deep discontent

Diversity is the spice of life. Everybody should have as much opportunity as possible to make decisions in favour of their own ideals. Unfortunately, many people today live and die as automatons, while there is no doubt they were born as unique persons. This happens because many people - including politicians - trim their sails according to the wind, and only few dare to think for themselves. People do not give each other the chance to think independently, while they uncritically accept existing views as the only true ones. After all, it is easier and more comfortable not to have to think independently and not to have alternative views. If, due to things getting really out of hand, a generally accepted view is seen to be wrong, a 'revolution' often takes place. Revolutions leave little room for diversified opinions, creating the danger that another opinion comes to dominate and to be accepted as the only truth, replacing the old one. This eliminates the possibility for diversity.

Our solutions

The PNVD advocates diversity, trying actively to bring it about. Individual differences deserve respect because they make life surprising. Diversity is given a chance when everybody gets as much freedom as possible to make their own decisions, so long as love, friendship and understanding

among people is not overlooked in doing so. Greater freedom does not have to take its toll on the social tissue of society when the distance between policy makers and civilians is reduced as much as possible. Decentralization makes contact between people more personal again. More power should therefore be devolved to municipalities instead of to Europe, as is happening now. Small companies should have better opportunities for survival so that in the end we are not just left with multinationals. By promoting freedom and neighbourly love, we can ensure that people with divergent opinions are taken into account more. This stimulates the *evolution* of diversified ideas and considered debate. Because people are confronted with several points of view, they are encouraged to think for themselves. Hence our motto 'Sapere Aude' (from Horace), meaning approximately: dare to think for yourself.

Critical thought

We hope to transform all Dutch citizens into critical freethinkers who value reason and the power of arguments. It is not enough for the government just to ask people to form their own opinions. People will have to receive a larger measure of freedom to enable them to make decisions in the first place. They should be able to decide for themselves whether they want to discriminate, smoke, inject drugs, integrate, apply for jobs, et cetera. To a certain extent, this also goes for children. That's why we want to give them the freedom, from the age of twelve, to have sex, to vote, to gamble, to choose who they want to live with, and so on. A government that takes away freedoms in order to protect people is not helping them, but rather is limiting their capacity for development.

One or more seats

The PNVD would be happy to gain just one seat. That would allow us to ask questions in Parliament about the issues that are dear to our hearts.

About us

We are honest, idealistic and not afraid to speak our minds. We set great store by, and fight for, freedom of speech for all. There should always be space for discussion. Taboos and dogma do not achieve anything positive: they only contribute to fear and intolerance.

Our policy spearheads

Most political parties are too populist. At times, politicians seem only to want to rally as many voters as possible - not as a means, but as an end. They allow the media to determine when they can safely air controversial points of view. As a result, politicians keep their cards close to their chest, letting the media determine policy. This has to change, which is why the PNVD voices its ideals for everyone to hear. These are our twenty policy spearheads:

1. Ministers will form the executive power; policy will be determined by Parliament.

(See chapter 1: [CENTRAL GOVERNMENT](#))

2. More autonomy will be conferred on municipalities.

(See chapter 2: [MUNICIPALITIES](#))

3. Policy will always be developed independently from the EU; any European collaboration will be hinged on this premise.

(See chapter 3: [EUROPE & GLOBAL POLITICS](#))

4. **There will be a European army.**
(See chapter 4: [ARMED FORCES](#))
 5. **Soft drugs and hard drugs will be legalized.**
(See chapter 5: [STIMULANTS](#))
 6. **Discrimination will be allowed except as practised by the government.**
(See chapter 6: [JUSTICE](#))
 7. **All town areas and small villages will be equipped with two locally resident police officers.**
(See chapter 7: [POLICE](#))
 8. **All detainees will be provided with some form of coaching or treatment.**
(See chapter 8: [PUNISHMENT](#))
 9. **Children will be allowed to have sexual contacts from age twelve up.**
(See chapter 9: [SEXUALITY & INTIMACY](#))
 10. **Primary schools may not be based on religious principles.**
(See chapter 10: [EDUCATION](#))
 11. **Teachers will enjoy a large measure of freedom to choose between educational methods and activities.**
(See chapter 11: [CONTENT OF CLASSES](#))
 12. **No integration policy will be pursued.**
(See chapter 12: [REFUGEES & ASYLUM SEEKERS](#))
 13. **Votes will be cast for public broadcasting networks.**
(See chapter 13: [MEDIA](#))
 14. **The Dutch Railways (NS) will become a state-owned enterprise once more, while travelling by train will be free.**
(See chapter 14: [TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION](#))
 15. **The government will provide free basic health care.**
(See chapter 15: [HEALTH CARE](#))
 16. **Corporation tax will be lowered for small and medium-sized businesses.**
(See chapter 16: [FINANCE & ENTREPRENEURSHIP](#))
 17. **Energy and water will not be liberalized.**
(See chapter 17: [ENVIRONMENT & FOOD](#))
 18. **Animals will enjoy more rights.**
(See chapter 18: [ANIMAL WELFARE](#))
 19. **Children will enjoy more rights.**
(See chapter 19: [CHILDREN'S RIGHTS](#))
 20. **Nobody will be obliged to apply for a job; there will be a modest basic allowance.**
(See chapter 20: [MISCELLANY](#))
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Table of contents

1. CENTRAL GOVERNMENT
 2. MUNICIPALITIES
 3. EUROPE & GLOBAL POLITICS
 4. ARMED FORCES
 5. STIMULANTS
 6. JUSTICE
 7. POLICE
 8. PUNISHMENT
 9. SEXUALITY & INTIMACY
 10. EDUCATION
 11. CONTENT OF CLASSES
 12. REFUGEES & ASYLUM SEEKERS
 13. MEDIA
 14. TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION
 15. HEALTH CARE
 16. FINANCE & ENTREPRENEURSHIP
 17. ENVIRONMENT & FOOD
 18. ANIMAL WELFARE
 19. CHILDREN'S RIGHTS
 20. MISCELLANY
-

Positions

1. CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

1.1 The electoral threshold will not be raised, nor will there be a two-party system.

Upon winning 1/150th part of the votes, a party will at least have the right to a seat. In this way, small parties will maintain a representation in Parliament.

1.2 The constitution may only be changed with the consent of the people.

A constitutional change may only take effect if, aside from a two-thirds majority of Parliament, a referendum among people of voting age shows that two-thirds of voters favour the change.

1.3 Laws respecting the government must be in the constitution.

These laws are sufficiently important to merit inclusion in the constitution.

1.4 A party can take up a maximum of seventy seats in Parliament.

It is dangerous for one party to be able to gain an absolute majority of seats, since this can lead to an undesired semi-dictatorship.

1.5 The Upper House will be abolished.

At present, the Upper House is involved in inspecting laws passed by the Lower House; among other things, it inspects whether these are not inconsistent with existing laws. Party politics, however, are influential here. This task is better left to independent civil servants who report to the Lower House.

1.6 The prime minister will be elected.

People entitled to the vote will elect a prime minister for a four-year term. This will be done in two rounds. The three candidates with the most votes pass to the final round. The prime minister is the political representative of the Netherlands. The prime minister can dismiss ministers and can be dismissed by a two-thirds majority of Parliament.

1.7 The cabinet will be abolished.

Ministers will be executives; it is Parliament that determines policy. After the largest party has chosen a minister, a number of the party's seats are fictionally subtracted. This number will be determined by dividing 150 seats by the number of ministers. The next-biggest party then chooses a minister, etc. In case of an equal number of seats, the party that originally won the largest number of remaining votes chooses another minister.

1.8 Seats will be allocated to each party more democratically.

The candidate with the most votes on a list of candidates will be the first to be allocated a seat. Next, the candidate with the second-largest number of votes, and so on. The present system of preference votes will be abolished.

1.9 Children will be allowed to vote from the age of twelve on.

Enfranchising children at the age of twelve will encourage politicians to take children's interests at heart. Politics could do with an idealistic impulse from children. This franchise will be extended to all elections.

1.10 Laws concerning young children will be specially reviewed.

Since children under the age of twelve cannot vote, it would be good for a special organization to represent their interests. Such an organization should review all laws concerning young children and should send its evaluations to Parliament.

1.11 Each party will have the same amount of television broadcasting time and campaign money.

Each party participating in an election will be allocated the same amount of public broadcasting time through the broadcast for political parties. Each party will also receive the same amount of campaign money from the government. This will increase smaller parties' ability to air their points of view.

1.12 The sponsoring of political parties will be banned.

Conflicts of interest due to involvement in business ought to be avoided. Public policy must not be for sale.

1.13 Funding for research will be provided as per parliamentary seat obtained.

Parties will have the freedom to decide how to use these funds.

1.14 The chairman of Parliament will be a civil servant.

The M.P. who is currently presiding over Parliament would do better to participate in the debates. Having a civil servant preside reduces the risk of conscious or unconscious partiality.

1.15 The number of weeks Parliament goes into recess will be halved.

Nowadays, Parliament is in recess seventeen weeks a year. Since Parliament will once more be the heart of democracy, this number needs to be reduced. The PNVD suggests that Parliament convene three days a week - for instance, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays - so that Members of

Parliament have the opportunity to devote time to other issues besides their job. This will also allow them to get better acquainted with what is going on in society.

1.16 The number of bills each M.P. can introduce will be limited.

The number of bills each M.P. can introduce will be limited in order to prevent the need for voting about too many bills that do not stand a chance of being passed. If thirty or more M.P.s favour proposing a certain bill, this will always be permitted. There will be no cap for questions asked in Parliament.

1.17 The people can call a referendum by collecting 100,000 signatures.

If a referendum shows that the majority of voters favour a bill proposed by the people, Parliament will be obliged to vote on the bill. Parliament will also be free to organize a consultative referendum at any time desired. There will be no binding referendums, since not every person allowed to vote can be expected to have studied the issues. M.P.s, however, should be expected to do so.

1.18 Provincial States elections will be abolished.

The Royal Commissioners will also be abolished. Municipalities can reach agreements amongst themselves. When municipalities cannot solve a task by cooperating, this responsibility will be devolved to The Hague. The Betuwe railway line could be an example of such a devolved project.

1.19 Water Board elections will be abolished.

A government agency will take charge of water management.

1.20 All discussed bills will be made available on the Internet.

The integral text of everything discussed in Parliament will be made available on the Internet in English and in Dutch. This also goes for everything discussed in the municipal councils.

1.21 All government publications will be issued in English as well as in Dutch.

By always publishing bilingual editions, the political activities of our representatives can be followed closely in the Netherlands and abroad.

1.22 A badly performing civil servant will never get a golden handshake.

A badly performing construction worker never gets a golden handshake, either.

1.23 The head of state will only have ceremonial functions.

It is incorrect for the head of state to have direct political influence. Since many Dutch people still see the head of state as someone who can represent the people at a socio-cultural level, just like the prime minister is the political representative, the PNVD does not see an immediate reason for abolishing this function. In view of the head of state's representative function, she or he will have to meet with the prime minister at least twice a week.

1.24 The prime minister will read the 'Speech from the Throne'.

After all, it is the government that draws up the 'Speech from the Throne'. The head of state will be given the possibility to read her own speech of a socio-cultural nature.

1.25 The Netherlands Antilles and Aruba will be allowed to opt for independence.

If a referendum among the inhabitants of one of these islands shows that they wish to be independent, the PNVD will support this. Otherwise, these islands can become municipalities.

1.26 A solid inspection system will be developed for voting machines.

In order to prevent the manipulation of votes where voting is done electronically, a manual check of the vote count should always be possible. There should be a paper printout for each vote, which the

voter checks and deposits in a ballot box. Samples will be taken to compare the ballot box results with the results as calculated by the voting machines.

2. MUNICIPALITIES

2.1 Municipalities will become more autonomous.

The central government should only be responsible for those tasks that municipalities cannot take care of, such as motorway maintenance. Municipalities will be allowed to develop their own policies, provided that these do not contradict national policy. They will be allowed to choose, for instance, whether they will carry out 'preventive body searches' or whether they will outlaw certain types of begging. Municipalities will also have the freedom to develop policies with regard to culture and monuments.

2.2 The electoral threshold will not be raised; there will not be a two-party system.

See point [1.1](#) for an explanation.

2.3 A local party can have no more than 45 percent of all seats.

See point [1.4](#) for an explanation.

2.4 The municipal residents will elect a mayor.

The residents of each municipality will elect their mayor for a four-year period. Voting will take place in two rounds. The three candidates with the most votes proceed to the second round. Mayors represent their municipalities at the political level. They can relieve aldermen from their function and can themselves be dismissed if two thirds of the municipal council so desire.

2.5 The Municipal Executive consisting of mayor and aldermen will be abolished as a body.

Councillors will decide on policy. After the largest party has chosen an alderman, a number of the party's seats are fictionally subtracted. This number is determined by dividing the total number of seats by the number of aldermen. The next-biggest party then chooses an alderman, etc. In case of an equal number of seats, the party that originally won the largest number of remaining votes chooses another alderman.

2.6 The division of seats per party will be more democratic.

See point [1.8](#) for an explanation.

2.7 Each party will receive the same amount of campaign money.

See point [1.11](#) for an explanation.

2.8 Sponsorship of political parties will become illegal.

See point [1.12](#) for an explanation.

2.9 By-elections will become possible.

Since municipalities will become more autonomous, they will also get more responsibilities. Because of this, by-elections should become possible. They will take place if over fifty percent of councillors want them.

2.10 Municipalities will not levy taxes.

Instead of supporting all sorts of different taxes such as the water board tax and the sales tax, the PNVD wants to retain only the income tax. In this way, citizens will know exactly how much tax

they are paying. The only exceptions to this will be levies on polluting products and corporation tax. See also point [16.25](#).

2.11 Residents of a municipality have to consent to municipal redivisions.

Because the combination of municipalities, to name a type of reform, can have far-reaching consequences for residents, over fifty percent of residents of each municipality involved must consent to such a reform.

2.12 All bills that are discussed will be made available on the Internet.

See point [1.20](#) for an explanation.

2.13 All council publications will be published in English as well as in Dutch.

See point [1.21](#) for an explanation.

2.14 A municipal referendum can never be binding.

It cannot be expected of all voters to study all issues. Councillors should be expected to do so, however.

2.15 A solid inspection system will be developed for voting machines.

See point [1.26](#) for an explanation.

3. EUROPE & WORLD POLITICS

3.1 Less power should be devolved to Brussels.

The Netherlands will determine its own policy. Cooperation with other countries is desirable. Should the Netherlands risk having to devolve too much power to Europe in order to stay inside the European Union, we will leave the Union. We think political policies in the Netherlands are already being tuned too much to what is feasible or to what seems desirable in a European context.

3.2 At EU elections, people will vote for international parties.

All EU citizens will be able to vote for any of the registered parties, no matter which country the party was registered in. The electoral programmes will be translated into all EU languages by a European translation agency and will be made available on the Internet.

3.3 The United Nations must become more democratic.

To give an example, five countries at present have the power of veto on the Security Council. This should not be the case. If nothing has changed in this respect by 2010, the Netherlands should leave the United Nations.

3.4 All UN countries will sign a treaty for democracy.

This treaty binds all UN countries to liberating a democratic country when it is attacked or occupied, or when a coup has taken place. To make this possible, conditions should be formulated to determine when a country is democratic. These conditions may be made stricter in the future.

3.5 There should be an international fund buying medicine patents.

This fund can be managed by the United Nations. The fund will buy patents on medicines against, for instance, AIDS and tropical diseases.

3.6 A worldwide ban on export and import duty will be pursued.

This will promote fair trade. Today, poor countries often suffer from unfair trade agreements

between Western countries. This makes the West one of the responsible parties for poverty in Third World countries. It is a questionable practice to buy off (part of) this debt through foreign aid.

3.7 The Netherlands will maintain the present level of foreign aid expenditure.

The money may only be used for structural solutions (see also point [3.6](#)) or for food aid. An example of a structural solution is the distribution of condoms. The debt of low-income countries will be pardoned.

3.8 The International Criminal Court will be equipped with an international team for tracking and arresting persons.

This makes the International Criminal Court less dependent on national governments when tracking and arresting persons suspected of having committed crimes against humanity.

4. ARMED FORCES

4.1 We should aspire to a European army.

Different member states could specialize in specific army divisions. Coastal nations, for instance, could prioritize the navy. The Netherlands is not supposed to abolish its army and air force. One person should be at the head of all Dutch armed forces. This person will answer to the Minister of Defence. The EU army will also have a single commander-in-chief.

4.2 The Netherlands should leave NATO.

This should not be done before the realization of points [3.4](#) and [4.1](#).

4.3 Conscription will be abolished.

Currently, each adult Dutch citizen can be conscripted into the national army. In theory, it is therefore possible that people who do not support a war will be obliged to fight it. It is better to enlarge the professional army with voluntary forces during emergencies. It is hoped that this will never be necessary.

4.4 The army will only be allowed to conscript people aged sixteen and over.

Also, nobody under the age of twenty will be sent out to conflict areas. In this way, young people will be protected from violence and will not have traumatic experiences.

4.5 There should be a worldwide ban on certain weapons.

The ban should include nuclear, chemical and bacteriological weapons, among other types. These types of weapons are only suitable for mass destruction. Mines should also be banned, since they cause many civilian casualties.

4.6 No weapons will be supplied to undemocratic regimes.

Selling weapons to undemocratic regimes indirectly supports the oppression of people in those countries.

5. STIMULANTS

5.1 Soft drugs and hard drugs will be legalized.

Soft drugs will be legally available for people aged twelve and over and hard drugs for people aged sixteen and over. It will be compulsory for suppliers to include approved instructions specifying the

dangers of using the drug. Identification will be required for the purchase of hard drugs, to prevent citizens of countries where the use of hard drugs is illegal for buying them here. The PNVD advises against the use of drugs. Educators have an important task here. Legal action against the use of drugs also takes up too many police and judicial resources, while it is known that drugs will never be hard to come by. Legalizing drugs will make them much cheaper, which will most likely reduce the number of drugs-related crimes.

5.2 Smoking, gambling and alcohol consumption will be legal from the age of twelve on.

It will be mandatory for suppliers of tobacco and alcoholic beverages to include approved instructions with these products pointing out their hazards. It is a good thing to give young people the responsibility to make their own decisions. If they are patronised too much, they will instead veer towards irresponsible behaviour.

5.3 Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and drugs will be free of excise duty.

The PNVD advises against excessive drinking and against any use of tobacco and drugs. The party does believe, however, that people should take responsibility for their own actions. It will be mandatory for the suppliers of these products to include approved instructions for use, pointing out the dangers. Excise duty and prohibitions also increase a product's attractiveness in the eyes of some people.

5.4 Advertising for drugs, alcohol and smoking will be allowed.

An informational text will have to be included in the advertising, however. This text and its format must comply with government regulations.

5.5 The penalty for driving under influence will be doubled.

People driving under influence cause many accidents, often with lethal results. The present penalties are not in proportion with the danger - also for third parties - of driving under influence.

5.6 Parents will continue to have the freedom to prohibit the use of stimulants by their children.

After all, they have the same freedom in other areas.

5.7 The government should not run casinos or organize lotteries.

While this does happen today, these are no activities for a government to be involved in. The Holland Casinos and the State Lottery should therefore be privatized.

6. JUSTICE

6.1 Jurisdiction will be based on the laws made by Parliament.

This is not always the case today. As an example: after the new legislation on euthanasia was passed, politicians found themselves unable to decide whether the euthanasia of former senator Brongersma was covered by this legislation. A judge had to determine whether mental suffering could also be classed as unbearable suffering. Another example: the private possession of child pornography was banned in 1998 following a judge's individual decision. It is the elected representatives who should determine policy.

6.2 The toleration of some illegal practices should not be a policy.

When someone breaks a law, there should always be a sanction. This makes it clear what is allowed and what is not.

6.3 Settlements in criminal cases instead of judicial proceedings will be prohibited.

This prevents the formation of class justice. Otherwise, rich people can buy off a lawsuit and thus evade possible punishment or public sentencing.

6.4. The period of limitation for murder will be abolished.

It is often unbearable for surviving relatives to realize a case can never be brought before the court again. Unsolved murder cases should also be reinvestigated after twenty years, because new information might surface. The Dutch government adopted legislation to this effect on 1 January 2005.

6.5 Laws will never be effective retroactively.

People should have the guarantee that living in accordance with present laws cannot lead to a conviction in the future.

6.6 Complaints about the judicial apparatus will be evaluated independently.

A national committee will review such complaints. It has been shown that in practice, those reviewing the complaints are often insufficiently independent.

6.7 Legal aid will become more accessible.

The legal advice centres, law clinics and other primary legal aid services should (once more) be free of charge, and there should be more free law clinics for children and young people.

6.8 The juvenile court will be maintained.

Young people up to age sixteen should not be treated the same way as adults.

6.9 The additional jobs of judges will be made public.

Some people in some cases view the profession of judge as completely incompatible with additional functions.

6.10 Organizations will only be prohibited if they incite to violence.

Individuals cannot be sentenced on the basis of the Criminal Organizations Act. Otherwise, it becomes too easy to prosecute people who have not broken any law.

6.11 There will be no financial rewards for hints leading to the solution of crimes.

People possessing information about a criminal offence have a civic duty to pass this information on to the police.

6.12 Citizens will not be obliged to carry an identification card.

Otherwise, it would not even be possible for them to walk in public naked. See also point [9.7](#).

6.13*

6.14 Victims and suspects will get more time to speak at court hearings.

The victims or survivors will also always be sent information about the court ruling, unless they explicitly indicate they do not want it.

6.15 The possible extradition of suspects will be decided on a case-by-case basis.

Persons running the risk of receiving capital punishment or a form of corporal punishment will never be extradited.

6.16 The possession of firearms at home will be prohibited.

Hunters and members of rifle associations will have to keep their arms on the premises of their association when not using them. This will reduce the risk of improper use of firearms.

6.17 Double incrimination will not be allowed, except in case of maltreatment of children.

Dutch citizens can never be prosecuted in the Netherlands for acts which are punishable here but not in the country where they took place. If the Netherlands believes the laws of certain countries to be wrong, they should raise the issue with the countries in question. Double incrimination will only remain legal in case of maltreatment of children (including circumcision). See also point [9.9](#).

6.18 Entrapment by law enforcement agencies will remain prohibited.

The Netherlands must not become a police state. By way of enticement and creating certain circumstances, almost anyone can be induced to commit criminal acts.

6.19 The age of majority will be set at sixteen.

This will mean, for instance, that people will be eligible for election to an office from the age of sixteen on. This is a good age to confer these rights, since it is at this age that compulsory education ends.

6.20 A judicial error will result in a reduced sentence.

It is wrong for judicial errors to lead almost automatically to a discharge from further prosecution. Reduced sentences in the case of judicial errors remain necessary to ensure a conscientious job by the Public Prosecutor.

6.21 Discrimination will be allowed except as practised by the government.

The government and all of her civil servants are not allowed to discriminate. Citizens do have this freedom. A bakery, for instance, may refuse to sell its products to anyone who has green hair. The same bakery may also refuse to sell to people of colour. To be sure, people are also free to shun such a bakery because of its discriminatory practices! Incitement to violating the law, such as committing violence, remains punishable. If discrimination is permitted, it will be clearer what people are thinking, which will expose simmering problems. Avoiding confrontations will sooner or later lead to their culmination. Today, many people are upset because they feel the government is protecting certain groups. The current legislation forces them to bottle up their frustration, with dire consequences. Positive discrimination will of course be permitted as well. A company may choose, for instance, only to hire homeless people.

6.22 Freedom of religion will not be explicitly legislated.

This freedom is already ensured by the freedom of speech and other laws.

7. POLICE

7.1 Complaints about the police will be evaluated independently.

See point [6.6](#) for an explanation.

7.2 It will be possible to report crime through the Internet.

A website will be made available to this end with accessible forms to be filled in. It will also remain possible to report crime at a police station. An advantage of electronic reports is that these can be filed and dealt with faster.

7.3 Each district and each small village will get two police officers.

These officers will be resident in the area in which they work and will work alternating shifts. They will be qualified to write out fines and to perform arrests. They can also provide advice to local citizens and refer them where necessary. It is important that these officers get acquainted with the

locals in order to know what is going on in their district or village. The local officer may put on the 'sheriff badge' at any time and act with the proper authority of their function.

7.4 Police officers should not provide education in schools.

They are better off spending their time upholding the law.

7.5 Arrested hooligans help pay the expenses for employing special duty police.

In this way, hooligans are confronted directly with the cost to society which their behaviour causes.

7.6 Special duty police will be equipped with numbers on the back of their uniforms.

This will make it easier to identify the behaviour of individual squad members. Identification may be needed in case a squad member has used excessive violence. In order to protect the identity of squad members, their numbers will change with each deployment.

7.7 DNA may never be taken as ultimate and unique proof.

Taking DNA samples can be a useful means of establishing a person's identity. However, jumping to conclusions on the basis of DNA material as evidence in criminal cases must be avoided.

7.8 All interrogations will be recorded.

This will give lawyers and the Public Prosecutor's office an impression of the circumstances in which suspects have made statements. The lawyer will be allowed to use the recordings in their defence. The Public Prosecutor may also make use of the recordings.

8. PUNISHMENT

8.1 A punishment must be aimed at avoiding recurrence.

The foremost goal of our penal system should be to prevent the repetition of offences. It should also have a preventive effect. Compensating victims is important but is often impossible. The offence, once committed, cannot be undone.

8.2 A punishment should be more severe in case of repetition of the same offence.

This protects society better from stubborn offenders, since they will be less likely to commit the same offence again.

8.3 Prison terms will not be reduced.

This does not mean that the PNVD believes punishments should be harsher. The aim is to have certainty, upon conviction, about what the exact prison term will be. Today, prisoners who display good behaviour are absolved almost automatically of a third of their sentence. In case of bad behaviour, a judge may have the power to prolong the sentence.

8.4*

8.5 Each prisoner will receive a form of coaching or treatment.

This will be granted irrespective of the prison term. The coaching or treatment will be personal and aimed at avoiding repetition of the crime. It is important to treat the prisoner in a respectful way. Persons convicted for felonies such as murder or aggravated assault, as well as prisoners with serious psychiatric issues, will be placed in a form of therapeutic custody, the prolongation of which will be reviewed annually by independent doctors. If desired, the patient may request a second opinion. A supervised return to society should remain a possibility.

8.6 Each prisoner will have his or her own cell.

Detaining several prisoners in a single cell can be highly dangerous to guards and the prisoners involved. There may be exceptions where both the guards and the prisoners involved prefer shared cells; this is to be judged on an individual basis.

8.7 Sex offenders should be detained in a separate section.

So long as this is not the case, the Netherlands - albeit indirectly - will have a form of corporal punishment.

8.8 Prisoners will have the right to vote.

This right should not be taken away from prisoners, since they continue to be part of the population.

8.9 A prisoner may keep a small pet (a cell pet).

This right will not be extended to prisoners who have mistreated an animal. Suitable pets include guinea pigs and hamsters.

8.10 Community service is a welcome form of punishment if it is seen to be effective.

The most important aim of community service should be the prevention of repeat offending. The effectiveness of community service should be evaluated regularly.

8.11 Criminals will not get reduced sentences as a part of deals.

Employing criminal citizens as infiltrators will also be prohibited, except in the case of counterterrorism. What is the value of a declaration by a criminal who will get a reduced sentence or other reward in exchange for it?

9. SEXUALITY & INTIMACY

[For an explanation of a number of points in this chapter, see the document [Choose responsible freedom.](#)]

9.1 Sexual education will be provided from nursery school on.

Sexuality is an important aspect of life. It is wrong to withhold knowledge about sexuality from children as long as possible, because this upholds the taboo on sexuality.

9.2 Young people will be allowed to have sexual contacts from the age of twelve on.

Since 2002, young people from the age of sixteen have been allowed to have sexual contacts. Before 2002, this was allowed from the age twelve under certain conditions. Young people do not allow themselves to be protected if they do not want to. They indicate that want to have the freedom to decide whom they have sexual relations with. In the long run, the PNVD wants to abolish the age of consent. The reason for this is that only abuse, such as forceful contacts, should be punished. For relationships of dependence, such as between teachers and pupils, and incestuous relationships, an age of consent of sixteen will initially be upheld.

9.3 Dangerous sex with minors will remain punishable.

Among other situations, this includes endangering minors if one has an HIV infection, or sadomasochistic sex causing damage. Adults have a free choice in this; young people continue to enjoy protection.

9.4 Pornography may be broadcast in the daytime.

Pornography as such is not harmful. Violent pornography may only be broadcast late at night, just like other films that have been rated as suitable for audiences of sixteen and over. See also point [9.5](#).

9.5 From the age of sixteen on, people can appear in pornographic productions.

In the long run, the PNVD wants to allow young people to appear in pornographic productions if they so desire from the age at which they can legally have sexual relations.

9.6 The age at which people can legally prostitute themselves will be sixteen.

Since many (male and female) prostitutes still end up in the business due to circumstances they did not want, and since activities between a client and a prostitute are not monitored, young people are not allowed to carry out this profession.

9.7 Everybody will have the freedom to appear naked in public.

There are no valid reasons for prohibiting this. For hygiene's sake, nudists will be required to use a towel when sitting in public places such as in parks or at stations.

9.8 The private possession of child pornography will be allowed.

This was the case in the Netherlands until 1998. Most politicians did not want to unleash a witch-hunt. A witch-hunt, however, is clearly what has ensued, and it is pointless. The prohibition of the possession of child pornography is censorship. It also creates all sorts of illegal, uncontrollable circuits. Making money through (barter) trade will remain punishable for the time being. See also point [9.5](#).

9.9 The circumcision of boys and girls under the age of sixteen will become punishable.

Medically required circumcisions by doctors or surgeons will be exempt from this prohibition. Some boys, for instance, have a foreskin that is too narrow.

9.10 Sexual contacts with animals will continue to be legal.

The sexual mistreatment of animals will continue to be punishable.

9.11 The institution of marriage will be removed from statutory law.

Getting married or not should not influence the legislation applying to people. Those who want to get married will have to do so without government recognition. Churches can continue to seal marriages; private institutions may do so too.

10. EDUCATION

10.1 Primary schools may not be based on religious principles.

It is important that children not be forced to adopt certain religious views. Parents may send their children to a religious institution such as a church or a mosque. Today, however, many Turkish children attend 'Muslim schools'. This creates the basis for apartheid. Other factors should become more important in deciding on a school, such as the distance to the child's home or the teaching material used.

10.2 After primary school, children decide which school to go to.

Parents and schools may advise children on their decision, but the decision remains the child's. This freedom to choose will not be dependent on the level of education.

10.3 It will not be legal to sponsor schools.

Sponsorship corrodes a school's independence.

10.4 State schools will have a legal obligation to accept students.

State schools will have the obligation to accept (beginning) students, unless they have no places left.

10.5 Upon completing secondary school, everyone will have the right to a maximum of six years of free study.

This study period will be financed by the state, after which students will have to cover all expenses themselves. There will be no set age for starting or resuming a study.

10.6 In principle, nobody will have to pay tuition fees or buy textbooks.

Textbooks will be supplied by schools free of cost, but remain school property. However, people who have already studied for six years after secondary education will have to pay their tuition fees and buy their textbooks.

10.7 The study grants and loans programme will be discontinued.

This will stop the unnecessary circulation of money. Students living away from home will continue to receive financing through the basic allowance. See also point [20.4](#).

10.8 The school inspection board inspects schools and reports on them.

The reports will be public and will be made available on the Internet. Among other things, the inspection board will report on the number of pupils, pass-rates, hygiene and safety in schools. Pupils' enjoyment of school will be measured by way of questionnaires.

10.9 Education will continue to be compulsory up to the age of sixteen.

It should not be possible to prevent children from receiving education. The types of education available will be likely to grow. See point [11.1](#).

10.10 Children up to the age of twelve will receive child benefit.

Parents make a free decision to have children. For this reason they should also take financial responsibility. The government will financially support parents with children up to the age of twelve. This will not include tuition fees, since schooling will be quite free.

10.11 There will be more research into one-to-one teaching.

Individual education is said to be the fastest and most effective form of learning. This claim should be examined, as well as the question of whether this alternative is financially feasible and which requirements tutors should meet.

11. CONTENT OF CLASSES

11.1 Schools will have greater freedom to decide on the subjects they teach and materials with which they teach them.

The only limitation to this freedom will be that classes in primary schools may not be religious in nature. (See point [10.1](#).) Also, a number of subjects will be compulsory. (See point [11.3](#).) This large measure of freedom may find expression, for instance, in teaching outdoors or through the medium of song. The national government sets the requirements for passing and examinations will be

identical nationwide. Each child will be financially supported by the government without having to meet certain requirements.

11.2 Schools will decide to which extent pupils and parents have a say in matters of schooling.

This will help increase diversity. Pupils and parents decide on the school they think suits them, thus ensuring a form of natural selection.

11.3 Some subjects will be made compulsory in primary and secondary schools.

Government involvement in primary and secondary schools will consist in making a number of subjects compulsory. Schools are free to decide how to teach them. Swimming lessons will be compulsory in primary schools, preferably from the junior forms on. Other subjects that are to be taught each school year will be: Physical Education, English, Interpersonal Relations, History and Sceptical Thinking. This last subject is meant to contribute to the development of independent thinking. The subject of Interpersonal Relations should promote respect for people with alternative views and lifestyles. Aspects of the history of sexuality will be included in the History examination. Anti-bullying classes can be incorporated into any subject when there is a need for them; the issue of bullying should be raised during Interpersonal Relations classes as well.

12. REFUGEES & ASYLUM SEEKERS

12.1 Refugees will be sheltered in their own areas as much as possible.

A treaty should be drawn up binding UN countries to this directive. The UN will largely cover the cost of the sheltering of refugees. It is better to keep people close to home than to try and make them integrate into alien cultures.

12.2 Within the EU, each asylum application will only be dealt with once.

A European coordination office will spread recognised asylum seekers over the EU countries. The number of asylum seekers assigned to a country will be relative to its population size. Possible refugees settled in EU countries will mainly be of European and Russian background.

12.3 Family members will not be separated upon reception.

It is inhumane to break family ties needlessly.

12.4 The Rights of the Child will also apply to underage asylum seekers.

This means, among other things, that they cannot be refused education and that they cannot just be evicted.

12.5 Sustained violence or peril to life will be the only justifications for accepting refugees.

Only people who personally suffer structural violence or whose life is at risk will be eligible for asylum status. Receiving any person with alternative ideas and lifestyles may prevent them from having to lead lives inspired by fear, but the progress of countries is indirectly hampered this way.

12.6 There will be no integration policy.

There will be no policies aimed at specific groups with the aim of having migrants integrate into society. The term *allochtoon* (person of foreign origin) should eventually go out of use and should not be promoted by the government. The PNVD sees everyone as an 'ordinary' citizen. Integration cannot be forced, and diversity in many cases is not a negative thing.

12.7 Failing an *inburgeringsexamen* should have consequences.

This oral exam only deals with Dutch laws. The exam can be taken in one's own language. Everybody who passes will receive a law booklet containing the most important laws. This booklet should at least be bilingual (Dutch and English), and possibly include a third language - that of the examinee. Upon passing, a person officially receives Dutch nationality with all the rights this entails. Those who fail the exam will not yet be able to vote. Children below the age of twelve will automatically become Dutch.

12.8 Municipalities will have the obligation to offer certain free classes on a weekly basis.

These classes will be: English, Dutch, Interpersonal Relations, History and Sceptical Thinking. (See also point [11.3](#).) The classes will be provided at community centres. If too few people are interested, the region will be enlarged.

12.9 There will be a one-off general pardon.

This general pardon will apply to all illegal residents who have lived here for at least three years as well as for anyone who has been involved in an asylum procedure for three years or more. Following this pardon, asylum procedures should never last longer than one year.

12.10 Illegal residents will be deported under supervision.

Illegal residents will not be tolerated and will be deported under supervision. They will be returned to their country of origin. Should this be impossible, for instance when a certain country refuses any and all cooperation, an attempt will be made to have a neighbouring country host the person concerned. Should this also fail, they will be allowed to reside in the Netherlands permanently. The right to vote and Dutch citizenship may be obtained upon passing the *inburgeringsexamen*. See also point [12.7](#).

12.11 Everyone will have a single passport.

A definitively accepted refugee will become a Dutch citizen upon passing the *inburgeringsexamen*. Their old passport will no longer be valid. Foreigners who are not seeking asylum, for instance an American who wants to live here for a year, will retain their own nationality and will not have the right to vote here. Naturalization will remain possible if present conditions have been met and the *inburgeringsexamen* has been passed. The old passport will no longer be valid in such cases, either.

12.12 People will have the right to vote upon receiving Dutch nationality.

Dutch citizens can participate in all elections in the Netherlands.

12.13 People who had documentation upon departing but none upon arriving will be returned.

Asylum seekers who carry no documents when they arrive in the Netherlands while they did have them at the time of departure will be returned immediately to the country they departed from.

13. MEDIA

13.1 Public broadcasting stations may be based on religious principles.

Broadcasting organizations such as the NCRV, the KRO and the EO remain welcome in the public-service broadcasting system, just like the CDA, the ChristenUnie and the SGP can participate in political elections.

13.2 People will vote for the organizations of the public-service broadcasting system.

These elections will take place every four years. Any possible changes in the allotted broadcasting time will take effect six months after the vote. The minimum requirement to be allotted broadcasting time is one percent of all votes. There will no longer be requirements as to the content of programmes. The broadcasting organizations decide how to spend their money. Broadcasting organizations such as the NOS and the Humanistische Omroep will also have to participate in these elections in order to get broadcasting time.

13.3 Public broadcasting stations will not be allowed to engage in commercial activities.

The stations will receive their money from the government and through possible subscription fees or donations. Donations from and sponsorship by companies will not be permitted. Commercials may not be broadcast, nor may viewers be invited to call 0900 numbers.

13.4 A commission for journalism may impose fines and rectifications.

This commission will be an independent institution that all people with complaints regarding the commercial and public media may turn to. Freedom of the press should be a lead guiding principle for the commission. The commission may also impose fines or rectifications. This can happen, for instance, when a journalist or a media outlet intentionally (and repeatedly) manipulates the truth grossly. The powers of the present Raad voor de Journalistiek (Press Council) might be amplified to enable it to fulfil the functions of the intended commission.

13.5 Postbus 51 will be abolished.

Postbus 51 is mainly government propaganda; it is too patronising and could be counterproductive. Present education about the dangers of certain products should be a mandatory responsibility of the manufacturers of these products. See also point [5.1](#). All other types of information can be provided through public debates. See also point [13.6](#).

13.6 All parliamentary debates will be broadcast on channel three.

This channel will only be used for political debates and reports. The political parties will also get broadcasting slots on this channel.

14. TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION

14.1 The NS (Dutch Railways) will return to public ownership and train travel will become free.

This will stimulate people to travel by train, leading to a better protection of the environment. It will also improve the mobility of certain citizens. Each municipality will be free to decide whether other types of public transportation will be free.

14.2 It is recommended that the number of seats at NS stations be amplified.

It is not always possible to find seats at certain stations during rush hour. The PNVD also recommends sockets in new and old trains so that travellers can connect electronic equipment such as laptops. Crime in and around stations will be combated by punishing repeat offenders more harshly and rehabilitating them better. See also [chapter 8](#).

14.3 Excise will be charged on kerosene.

Since aircraft, just like cars, pollute the environment, excise will also be charged on kerosene. The excise on petrol will remain in place, since its combustion is polluting.

14.4 Maximum velocity zones of 30km/h will be created around schools and playgrounds.

This type of zones is of vital importance.

14.5 The construction of new motorways will not be a priority.

Constructing new motorways does not solve the problem of traffic jams. On the contrary: a closely populated country like the Netherlands should aim to reduce individual transportation as much as possible and create possibilities for group transportation, such as public transportation. See also point [14.1](#).

15. HEALTH CARE

15.1 The government will provide free basic care.

For basic care, therefore, people will no longer have to be insured. The birth-control pill and sterilization will be included in this basic care package. People can take out private insurance for certain forms of care, such as homeopathy.

15.2 Private care institutions will continue to be lawful.

These institutions will not be financed by the government and will be evaluated rigorously, like state institutions, for the quality they deliver. The results of these quality tests will be published on the Internet in Dutch and in English.

15.3 Euthanasia will also be permitted in cases of mental suffering.

Everyone who has made a conscious decision to seek death should be allowed to opt for euthanasia. There should be a process for euthanasia in cases of mental suffering just like there is one in cases of physical suffering.

15.4 The decision whether or not to be an organ donor will be registered with the issuing of a passport.

When people receive their passport or identity card, they should indicate whether they wish to be or to remain organ donors. Parents will decide for children younger than twelve. Young people between the ages of twelve and sixteen will decide for themselves. When they agree to organ donation, parents will still need to give their approval. When the child has not consented, organ donation is not permitted, regardless of the parents' opinion.

15.5 Care institutions should disclose information to the government.

Care institutions should disclose information, among other things, about the number of treatments offered, the number of treatments carried out and their cost. A government agency will make this information available on the Internet in Dutch and in English (a public information desk), and will verify the information if need be.

15.6 Schizophrenic and psychopathic persons will be treated earlier.

This treatment, including possible medication, can be ordered by doctors if it is demonstrably required. In some cases, this should happen earlier than it does nowadays. Schizophrenic and psychopathic persons should also receive lifelong assistance when required, for instance in the form of a 'buddy'.

15.7 Home care will be promoted.

Home care is relatively inexpensive and improves the social participation of elderly people; it is a more humane form of care.

15.8 Care institutions will have more nurses/doctors and fewer managers.

The number of nurses and doctors working at subsidised care institutions should be increased; the number of managers decreased. These numbers should be determined on the basis of the number of patients. Doctors should always be on the payroll; they may no longer offer their services from their own private companies.

16. FINANCE & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

16.1 There may not be a budget deficit.

Both the national government and the municipalities may not have a budget deficit. The present state debt should be repaid, including the interest owed. The government sets a bad example by borrowing money; this should not be necessary for a rich country like the Netherlands. The generations to come have to foot the bill, although they are not responsible for creating the debt.

16.2 The national government should only be concerned with essential tasks.

Tax money raised by the government should only be used to finance the government's essential tasks.

16.3*

16.4 The corporation tax will be lowered for small and medium-sized businesses.

In order to prevent that only multinationals will eventually remain, it would be better to reduce the corporation tax for small-scale businesses. This will stimulate local shops and small farms, and improve a sense of well-being among consumers. Small and medium-sized businesses already pay less corporation tax, but the PNVD wants to increase the difference: only 20% will be levied on the first 25,000 euros; 30% on further capital.

16.5 All civil servants in the same positions will earn the same salary.

This means that age and years of service will no longer influence one's salary.

16.6 Wealth tax will not be levied.

Interest and dividends are seen as income, so tax will be levied on these.

16.7 The property tax will be abolished.

This veiled form of wealth tax will be ended. See also point [16.6](#).

16.8 Taxes on donations and legacies will be reduced by at least 50 percent.

People have the right to donate money to whomever or whatever they want. The government frequently prevents its citizens from doing so by claiming a large part of the money. A legacy is a form of donation.

16.9 No subsidies will be given, or as few as possible.

Agricultural subsidies, for instance, will be ended. Subsidies make people more dependent and often work to the disadvantage of others. Sometimes subsidies cause beneficiaries to display 'politically correct' behaviour for fear of losing the subsidy. When the government determines which citizens and institutions are eligible for subsidies, this automatically influences people's freedom of choice. Top-class sport will no longer be subsidised. It may often lead to a greater number of medals at the Olympic Games, but not everyone is equally charmed by top-class sport, especially since it often leads to exaggerated nationalism. East Germany always used to win a large number of medals.

16.10 It will not be compulsory for the government and employers to contribute to day care for children.

Providing day care for children does not have to be a costly affair; there are many people who like to spend time with children and who could take charge of them in the daytime. Abolishing compulsory licences will also make it cheaper to provide day care for children. See point [16.22](#).

16.11 The Entry-level and Step-up Jobs or ID jobs (formerly known as Melkert jobs) will be abolished.

These jobs are partly subsidised. The PNVD does not believe this to be a favourable situation. See point [16.9](#).

16.12 From the age of twelve on, people may perform salaried work.

Up to age sixteen, the number of hours per week that people may work for pay will be the same as their age.

16.13 Taxes will be levied on the basis of taxation brackets.

The tax system will be simplified. The tax percentage owed will be higher as incomes are higher. People who earn more should pay a higher tax percentage, since their net income is higher.

16.14 Rent subsidy and home mortgage interest deduction will be abolished.

These will be replaced by the tax brackets. See point [16.13](#).

16.15 Tax-deductible expenses will be abolished in favour of the tax rate.

Making one's tax return can indeed be greatly simplified. Several tax-deductible expenses should be abolished, so that the general tax rate turns out lower.

16.16 Entrepreneurs will be free to establish the opening times of their business.

The Shop Hours Act will be abolished. This may not lead to excessive nuisance.

16.17 In principle, it will become possible to start a company anywhere.

The conditions are that it not lead to serious nuisance and that safety be guaranteed. People can also start a shop from the home, even if this is a terraced house in a working-class area.

16.18 The separate legislation for sex businesses and sex shops will be abolished.

Currently, there are unjustified moralistic regulations that make it more difficult, for instance, to open a sex shop.

16.19 The legislation setting minimum wages will be abolished.

This will allow companies to offer jobs at a lower salary than the minimum wages, encouraging companies and institutions to increase competition among each other. This will also be the case for unskilled labour, among other reasons because there will be a basic allowance (see point [20.4](#)). The government will be involved as little as possible in trade union affairs.

16.20 Licenses for companies will be joined as much as possible.

Safety, environmental and health aspects should be joined into a single license along with the terms of employment. A single national agency will issue these licenses. This agency may also revoke licenses if conditions are not, or no longer, met.

16.21 The government will institute a compensation fund for calamities.

Should a disaster occur, the fund may be used to compensate victims.

16.22 There will be no compulsory permits for certain professions.

The compulsory permits needed to carry out a number of professions, including day care providers and teachers, should be abolished. Companies and institutions are qualified to determine the requirements their employees must meet. Today, grandparents almost need a permit to look after their grandchildren.

16.23 The government will use the operating system Linux as much as possible.

Linux is open source, free and easy to update.

16.24 The government will not be involved in employment contracts.

Employers themselves decide whether and when they offer permanent employment contracts. They can also decide on the duration of permanent contracts.

16.25 The sales tax (value added tax) will be abolished.

Apart from pollution tax and corporation tax, the PNVD wants only income tax to be maintained. For an explanation, see for example points [2.10](#), [16.6](#), [16.7](#) and [16.13](#).

17. ENVIRONMENT & FOOD

17.1 It will not be possible to patent organisms.

The PNVD opposes making organisms patentable, since this leads to a concentration of power. It would induce companies to hoard patents in order to own genes as a means of controlling and exercising power over consumers and farmers. This would result in an undesired dependence and an increase in animal experiments with the single goal of economic gain.

17.2 Genetic manipulation and cloning will only be allowed under strict conditions.

It is not right to introduce legislation beforehand prohibiting these new possibilities. After all, we do not know their possible effects. It is important, however, that these activities be strictly monitored in order to prevent any possible harmful effects.

17.3 If food has been genetically manipulated, the packaging should say so.

This is best indicated with a special, preferably international symbol.

17.4 There should be a universal symbol for vegetarian products.

Products that are always vegetarian do not, of course, have to carry this symbol. Another symbol should be legally required for products to which the sweeteners glutamate or aspartame have been added. These symbols should be used alongside the symbols already in use for biological and ecological products.

17.5 Nuclear fission should be prohibited.

It should also be prohibited to import energy obtained by way of nuclear fission. There are alternatives for nuclear fission, and this way of generating energy can be highly dangerous.

17.6 Energy and water should not be privatized.

Certain goods should remain under government control in order to guarantee their safety and availability.

17.7 The government should make more extensive use of wind and solar energy.

These forms of energy are environmentally friendly and inexhaustible. Solar energy panels, for instance, should be installed along motorways, and more wind parks should be constructed.

17.8 More excise will be charged on energy.

When we utilize the environment, we should pay the cost. This will stimulate people to use energy in more durable ways.

17.9 Industries should pay an eco tax.

It should no longer be the case that the relative tax expenditure of companies drops as they use greater quantities of energy.

17.10 A pollution tax will be raised on airline tickets.

At present, no such tax is raised on airline tickets, although aeroplanes are rather big polluters of the environment.

17.11*

17.12 Chlorine transports will be prohibited.

Transporting chlorine in all directions is easily prevented by producing and using chlorine locally.

18. ANIMAL WELFARE

18.1 A Convention for the Protection of Animal Rights should come into force.

It should be examined which rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights ought also to apply to animals. Examples include the right of animals not to be subjected to torture and other forms of inflicted violence and suffering. Selective breeding programmes resulting in animals that suffer all sorts of physical discomforts (from birth) should be prohibited. Stabling cows the year round should also be prohibited.

18.2 Animal testing should be subject to strict conditions.

Animal testing may only take place when it benefits public health. Alternative research methods should always be attempted. It may be possible to eventually prohibit all animal testing.

18.3 Meat and fish consumption by people will be prohibited.

The PNVD opposed murder, whether it involves human beings or animals. Breeding minks and other animals for their fur will therefore be prohibited. Since a prohibition on meat and fish consumption will have a strong impact on people working in this industry, the government should provide financial compensation for them allowing them to transform their business so it no longer involves killing animals. This ban will have to be enforced gradually and preferably in a European context in order to prevent criminal trade.

18.4 Recreational fishing should be banned.

The freedom of fish wins out over the freedom of recreational fishermen. Fish cannot consent to biting a hook.

18.5 Recreational hunting will be banned.

Members of the royal family will also have to respect this ban. Necessary hunting may continue to take place. Civil servants should make sure that no hunting laws are breached.

18.6 Battery cages will be banned.

Chickens should once more have the space they have a right to. The space available for animals in stables should meet stricter requirements.

18.7 People who repeatedly mistreat animals will be barred from keeping pets.
This will protect animals better against violence.

18.8 Certain forms of equestrianism will be banned.
One such form is cross-country equestrianism, which poses too great a risk of injury to the horses.

18.9 Introducing animals in the wild should be limited.
Animal species have died out in the Netherlands over the centuries. Instead of introducing animals in the wild, nature itself should be given more space in the Netherlands. This will automatically cause certain animal species to return.

19. CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

This chapter is distinct from the preceding chapters in the sense that we only refer to points which directly or indirectly influence, or are related to, the welfare and rights of children. Elaborating children's rights in a separate chapter carries the risk of overlooking children in other chapters. The PVND believes that all decisions should take children's rights and welfare into consideration.

1.9 Children will be allowed to vote from the age of twelve on.

1.10 Laws concerning young children will be specially reviewed.

5.2 Smoking, gambling and alcohol consumption will be legal from the age of twelve on.

6.7 Legal aid will become more accessible.

6.8 The juvenile court will be maintained.

6.19 The age of majority will be set at sixteen.

9.1 Sexual education will be provided from nursery school on.

9.2 Young people will be allowed to have sexual contacts from the age of twelve on.

9.5 From the age of sixteen on, people can appear in pornographic productions.

9.9 The circumcision of boys and girls under the age of sixteen will become punishable.

10.1 Primary schools may not be based on religious principles.

10.2 After primary school, children decide which school to go to.

12.3 Family members will not be separated upon reception.

12.4 The Rights of the Child will also apply to underage asylum seekers.

14.4 Maximum velocity zones of 30km/h will be created around schools and playgrounds.

16.12 From the age of twelve on, people may perform salaried work.

20.12 From the age of twelve on, children will be allowed to decide whom they want to live with.

20. MISCELLANY

20.1 Citizens will be able to review information about them kept by the government.

It is a good thing for citizens to appreciate the level of detail of information about them kept by the government, and to be able to review this information for accuracy. In order to prevent abuse, the government may not be given free rein to keep any information about people. The AIVD will have greater freedom in this respect, and will be allowed to collect data needed to guarantee or re-establish national or international security. The AIVD will remain accountable to the ministers involved.

20.2 People under sixteen may only practice boxing with headgear.

This protects children and young people better from possible head injuries.

20.3 The government as well may employ people over 65.

The government is not allowed to discriminate, which includes a ban on ageism. This is hard in certain cases, such as the age at which people are allowed to vote.

20.4 Nobody will be obliged to apply for a job; there will be a modest basic income.

The minimum basic net allowance will be EUR 450 a month. This will also apply to people who categorically refuse to work and who never apply for a job. The basic allowance excludes child benefit, and basic health care and schooling will be paid for by the government. People who have worked at least six months before getting a basic allowance will receive a salary-related basic income during the first three months. If apart from receiving a basic income one is working, the salary earned will be supplemented up to a total of EUR 450. People earning more than EUR 650 will not be entitled to a basic income. People earning between EUR 450 and EUR 650 will receive a complementary allowance so the total amount is EUR 650.

20.5 Everybody will have five extra holidays a year.

This will align the Netherlands with the European average. The PNVD suggests the following extra holidays: Eid ul-Fitr, World Animal Day (4 October), Liberation Day (5 May), Love and Friendship Day (14 February) and Children's Day (23 April). This last date is also World Book Day, all the more reason for a day off.

20.6 The set book price will be abolished.

This will cause free market effects as is the case now with the sale of compact discs.

20.7. The downloading of music and videos by private individuals will become legal.

Musicians and the film industry can make money, for instance, by performing live and by selling films to cinemas. There will always be people who appreciate owning the original material, for instance to support their idols.

20.8 The legal confidentiality of post will also apply to e-mail and to telephone conversations.

In case of a serious suspicion of illegal activities punishable by at least four years, the police may breach this confidentiality.

20.9 No legal restrictions will be applied to encryption.

Encryption is the encoding of messages or files making them illegible to third parties. Citizens have the right thus to protect themselves from malicious intentions.

20.10 Advertisements will be obliged to display the telephone number and the rate at an equal size.

This will help consumers appreciate what they are being offered.

20.11 The phrase 'God be with us' should disappear from the 2-euro coin.

Church and state ought to be separated as much as possible. When the euro was introduced, this text was only put on the 2-euro coin and not on the 1-euro coin. Citizens were not informed of this clearly. The PNVD is frank: we want to remove the phrase from the 2-euro coin as well.

20.12 From the age of twelve on, children will be allowed to decide whom they want to live with.

An advantage of this is that certain parents will take their children into account more and earlier. Allowing children to make this decision at an early age encourages them to handle freedom responsibly and to make their own decisions. When parents separate and their children are younger than twelve, the biological mother will retain custody. In other cases, for instance when two men were raising the child, a judge decides who will be given custody. The parent who does not have custody will have the right to see the children every two weeks, as well as during ten consecutive (holi)days. In case the parent without custody is not offered this possibility, he or she may demand custody in court, thus reversing the parents' respective roles.

20.13 The government will release its copyright on books, among other copyrighted products.

At the moment, for instance, the Dutch government owns the copyright of the Dutch translation of "My Struggle" (Mein Kampf), which Adolf Hitler wrote in 1924. By doing this, the government attempts to prevent its reissuing. The PNVD sees this as an attack of the freedom of speech and as direct censorship.

20.14 Internet and telephone data will not be recorded.

Data concerning telephone and Internet traffic will not be recorded. Apart from objections related to privacy, it is not inconceivable that Big Brother-like practices will ensue.

20.15 The government will stimulate council housing.

The lack of inexpensive rented houses in certain cities is so serious that the government may have to oblige municipalities to create prefab homes, container homes or spaceboxes.

Afterword

We hope that you agree with our positions. If you do, you can support us by:

- voting for us at the next Lower House elections,
- spreading the news about our website, www.PNVD.nl, and our electoral programme,
- signing a declaration of support for our party (available at www.PNVD.nl),
- sending suggestions for our programme to info@PNVD.nl.

If you would like to be actively involved with the PNVD, we invite you to contact us.

Amendments

The following amendments have been made to this document since April 2004:

<u>24</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>2004:</u>	original	version
<u>9</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>2004:</u>	small	amendments
<u>6</u>	<u>September</u>	<u>2004:</u>	amendments	to 2.5; 9.5; 6.22
<u>8</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>2005:</u>	enlarged	the preface; 7.8

31 May 2006: definitive electoral programme 2007 - 2011: dropped 6.13, 8.4, 16.3, 17.11; changes made to 11, 16, 2.10, 8.5, 8.6, 9.8, 11.1, 14.5, 16.4, 16.15, 17.5, 17.10, 18.3, 20.10, the start of "Our solutions" in the preface; added 1.26, 10.11, 12.13, 15.7, 15.8, 16.25, 20.13, 20.14, 20.15, "One or more seats" in the preface