

# democrats

UITGAVE VAN HET INTERNATIONAAL SECRETARIAAT D66

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## Robert Farla new International Secretary a.i. & Introduction new members International Secretariat

Robert Farla is the new International Secretary (a.i.). Robert substitutes Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy who was elected in the European Parliament.



Robert Works for the Foreign Ministry. Prior to his current position at the Department of European Integration, he worked in Moscow and Berlin. In his current job he is responsible for justice and home affairs and institutional affairs. Robert will utilise his diplomatic experience to the benefit of the International Secretariat; more specific, to work towards more intensive cooperation and knowledge-exchange with our sister parties in Europe.

Elections for the position of International Secretary will be hold at the C90 autumn congress.

### New D66 Party Coordinator with NIMD

As of 1 November Wouter Dol starts as D66 Party Coordinator at the Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy.

The past year Wouter worked as a Governance & Social Development Consultant in London. Prior to this position, he was active in Bangladesh,

## Lousewies van der Laan nominated for ELDR Bureau-member

During the ELDR congress in Barcelona (18-21 November) four new Bureau members will be elected. Wilfried Derksen, has completed his two terms in the Bureau and will resign at the congress. D66 has nominated Lousewies van der Laan as its candidate.

*MEP Sophie in 't Veld: "Lousewies has dedicated a large part of her professional life to the reunification of Europe and the fighting for human rights and equal opportunities. She is a committed European with strong liberal credentials."*

Lousewies will compete with candidates from e.g. Catalan, Bulgarian and German ELDR member parties. Click [here](#) for more information on her nomination

Brussels and Kosovo for respectively UNDP, the European Commission and OSCE. Wouter will work for the NIMD Africa programme. He will be responsible for democratisation projects in Ghana and Uganda and co-responsible for projects in Tanzania and two other African countries.

### International Policy document D66

On 14 October the Board of D66 has adopted a new international policy document. The structure of D66's international work is laid down in this document, as well as the priorities for our international work in 2010 and beyond. D66 foundation IDI will focus its efforts in 2010 on the Balkan countries, Turkey and Morocco.

As a consequence of the intensification of our projects in Turkey and Morocco, IDI is looking for enthusiastic D66 members with a special interest in one of the countries because of their personal background or working experience. Please contact Maartje Jansen via [idi\[at\]d66.nl](mailto:idi[at]d66.nl)

Next to IDI, the main priority of the International Secretariat is to strive for better cooperation within the ELDR. Furthermore we aspire better coordination of D66's international work in the Dutch parliament, the European parliament, the thematic clusters, International Secretariat and other party institutions.

### Climate campaign initiated by Center Party Sweden

At the end of September, Maud Olofsson, Minister for Enterprise and Energy and Minister for the Environment Andreas Carlgren launched the Climate Campaign "2 degrees" with a large number of organizations, including the Swedish United Nations Association, Save the Children, Federation of Swedish Farmers and Globe Forum.

The campaign aims to increase popular pressure for the final negotiations on a global climate agreement in Copenhagen in December. The signatures will be submitted to the representatives of the Governments of the United States and China.

More information about the campaign on the web site: <http://www.2grader.se/en/>

### Yes-campaign Ireland & Jonge Democraten International News



In the last weekend of September a *Jonge Democraten* delegation travelled to Dublin to support the Yes-campaign on the Lisbon Treaty. Together with Liberal Youth from Great Britain and Irish liberals the false statements of the no-campaign were corrected and flyers were distributed.

It is remarkable how many lies were told on the NO-side. Statements like the EU being a dictatorship or being pro low-wages (€1.84) and war were visible on every street corner. Many religious and conservative people were against

### International Agenda & Colofon Democrats

29/10 – 31/10 Liberal International Executive and Congress, Cairo  
12/11 – 14/11 IFLRY General Assembly, The Hague  
16/11 – 21/11 IFLRY Seminar, Amsterdam 'Human Trafficking'  
18/11 – 20/11 ELDR congress, Barcelona 'Economic liberalism after the Financial Crisis'  
29/11 – 1/12 "Politiek Café" with Alexander Pechtold D66 Branch United Kingdom, London  
4/12 visit Open VLD delegation, The Hague

#### Colofon Democrats

The International Newsletter "Democrats" is published by the foundation Internationaal Democratisch Initiatief (IDI) of the International

the Lisbon treaty, because they were being afraid for the introduction of euthanasia and abortion in Ireland. Luckily though, the election results were positive for Europe as 67.1% of the Irish voted yes to the Lisbon treaty.

### **IFLRY General Assembly and Seminar**

From 12 to 21 November the *Jonge Democraten* in cooperation with *JOVD* host the IFLRY General Assembly (The Hague) and a seminar on human trafficking (Amsterdam). IFLRY is the international liberal youth movement. This meeting will bring together some 200 young liberals from all over the World. It is expected that D66 member Bart Woord will be elected President of IFLRY.

For more information about the IFLRY meetings please contact Erik van der Meij, International Secretary of the *Jonge Democraten*, [erik.vandermeij@jongedemocraten.nl](mailto:erik.vandermeij@jongedemocraten.nl)

Secretariat of D66. IDI is funded by the Matra Political Parties programme of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This newsletter was composed by Maartje Jansen. With contributions from: Evi van Dungen, Center Party Sweden and Hanneke Gelderblom-Lankhout

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### **LI submits written statement to the 12th session of the Human Rights Council**

Thanks to the contribution of its members and partners (including D66 of the Netherlands, the Singapore Democratic Party and the Burmese National League for Democracy - Liberated Areas) Liberal International, in its capacity as an NGO in general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, has submitted a Written Statement to the 12th session of the Human Rights Council, which is to be held from 14 September to 2 October in Palais des Nations in Geneva.

The LI Statement addresses the grave situation of human rights violations and infringement of fundamental freedoms in DR Congo, Russia, Iraq, Afghanistan, Tunisia, Singapore and Burma. For the full text go to [http://www.liberal-international.org/editorial.asp?ia\\_id=1868](http://www.liberal-international.org/editorial.asp?ia_id=1868)

### **Former senator Hanneke Gelderblom-Lankhout was an OSCE election-observer at the 29 July elections in Moldova**

Moldova, situated in the southeast of Europe and bordered by Romania and Ukraine, is one of the poorest countries in Europe.

When elections were due, because President Voronin's 2 terms were over, the country was facing a lot of problems, the 3 most serious being:

- 1 - Eight years of communist style democracy, under heavy influence of the former Soviet republic
- 2 - a financial crisis
- 3 - the frozen Transnistria conflict

For the full text, please go to

<http://www.d66.nl/d66nl/item/moldavie>



