



## **POLICY PLAN 2022-2027**

**St. Zero Flags Project Foundation**

RSIN Number 862772060

CoC 83211381

[www.zeroflagsproject.nl](http://www.zeroflagsproject.nl)



# Vision and Mission

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## Vision

The vision of the Zero Flags Project Foundation is that no matter where you live in the world you should be able to be who you want to be and love who you want to love. There should be no (legal) punishment for homosexuality\* from the government.

## Mission

The objective of our Foundation is to reduce the number of countries where homosexuality\* is criminalized to zero.

## The Flags

The flags of the the Zero Flags Project represent the countries where homosexuality is punishable by law. They are at the centre of the message that the Zero Flags Project Foundation wants to convey. The flags are used to visualize the situation and support our aim to reduce this number to zero so that everyone can live in sexual and genderidentity freedom. In the past, the flags have already been carried in the PrideWalk in Amsterdam every year and in 2016 they were donated and used after the PrideWalk to make the well-known Amsterdam Rainbow Dress.

## Reason

Homosexuality\* is included in the criminal code in 71 countries (status in 2021). About a quarter of the world's population, nearly 2 billion people, live in a country where homosexuality is punishable by law. The prison penalty ranges from a few months to for life. In 11 countries there is a death penalty for homosexuality and in 2 countries this penalty had recently been carried out.

Some countries do not enforce these laws actively, but the laws are still implemented and this creates a hostile environment where people cannot safely experience their sexuality and gender identity.

*\*Homosexuality:*

*All countries where consensual Same-Sex Sexual Acts between Adults in Private is illegal. Since most legislation in these countries is not inclusive we will use the term "homosexuality" to which they will relate.*

# Goals

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Through the use of the flags the Zero Flags Project wants to achieve the following.

## **Awareness**

Most people have little knowledge about this subject. They are unaware that homosexuality is punishable by law in more than 1 out of 3 countries in the world. We need to spread the word to make sure that more people become aware of this situation.

## **Influence**

When more people become aware of this situation more people will get an opinion or revise their opinion. The topic will get on the agenda and become a subject for journalists and opinion makers. This will lead to politicians being asked questions. For example, whether major international sporting events should be held in a country where homosexuals are hanged by the State.

## **Change**

The ultimate goal is change. Through the people who did not know about this issue, the journalists, the opinion makers and the politicians to the people who can ultimately bring about the needed amendment of the legislation. The Zero Flags Project Foundation realizes that it takes years to change legislation. However, all change starts with creating awareness.



# What we do

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The Zero Flags Project seeks to advance its goals in three ways.

## **Communication**

It is important to tell the world that there are still many countries where homosexuality is prohibited by law. The Zero Flags Project communicates this wherever possible through the website, social media, interviews with the press and participation in radio and TV programs.

## **Projects**

Some examples of projects initiated by the Zero Flags Project Foundation are carrying the flags in various Pride Walks, setting up the flags in such a way that together they form a 'Monument of Visibility' and participating as speaker at conferences and demonstrations.

## **Collaboration**

The Zero Flags Project Foundation believes it is important to collaborate with organizations with similar objectives in order to reinforce, support and complement each other. Examples of such organizations are Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and the Equal Rights Committee.

# Projects

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## **Monument of Visibility (large flags)**

The Monument of Visibility is an art project where large flags of the countries on large flagpoles are shown combined with a black ribbon and an information sign explaining the punishment that is in the legislation. This Monument can be realized during a period of time in any city in Europe or elsewhere. The Zero Flags Project Foundation will help local activists with the flags and knowledge of the Zero Flags Project.

## **Moment of Visibility (small flags)**

The Moment of Visibility are projects where the smaller flags are part of a demonstration or Pride Walk. The flags and banners with information about the project are carried by local volunteers during the march. The main motto is "Marching for those who cannot join us". Amsterdam Pride Walk has been the initial core project.

## **Exhibition (small flags)**

The Exhibition is the presentation of the smaller flags as an art project. The black ribbon is attached to the flags and contains the name of the country it represents. The punishment is also communicated with each flag. These exhibition projects are suitable for outside and inside.

## **Speech / Presentation**

The Zero Flags Project Foundation can provide speeches and presentations.

# Financial

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Annually, income and expenses are accounted for in our annual financial report, which is also published on our website. The board of the Zero Flags Project Foundation is unpaid. Only travel expenses, meeting facilities and other expenses incurred by volunteers are reimbursed. The Foundation has no paid employees.

## **Fundraising**

To obtain the necessary funds for the organization and projects we generate income through the following channels.

## **Donations**

Companies or individuals who contribute financially to the objectives of the Foundation through a donation. This can be for the Foundation in general or for a specific project.

## **Crowdfunding**

For specific projects crowdfunding can be used. A crowdfunding platform may be used for this, which means that the actual income is lower than the sum of individual contributions due to the costs for the platform.

## **Support funds**

There are several funds that provide (partial) funding for projects.

## **Sponsors**

Sponsorship concerns the contribution of funds or the supply of (discounts on) products and services that are important for the projects or objectives of the Foundation. Sponsorships can be listed on the website.

## **Contribution**

For projects to be carried out by the Zero Flags Project Foundation a contribution to the costs of the project and/or the Foundation can be in place. This usually means that local projects are organized with the help of the Zero Flags Project Foundation but are funded by the local organisers.

# Board

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The Board consists of volunteers who do not receive any compensation for their work. The Board is currently composed of the following members:

Hans Verhoeven	Chairman
Janneke Tichelaar	Secretary
Maurice Jongmans	Treasurer
Anne Bakhuizen	General member
Petra Joorse	General member
Willem Laan	General member

The Board only takes decisions by absolute majority. In case of a tie, no decision is taken.