

**GLOBAL**

**CHANGEMAKERS**

Leadership for  
people, planet  
and prosperity.



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## How to impact your future

In the minor program Global Changemakers, we don't just want to inform you about the world, but also to awaken in you the will to make a positive contribution to it. This requires you to get to know and appreciate yourself and to encounter the world.



## Block 1: Urgency - Theories of change

In the first 10 weeks, you build a solid foundation. You take three courses that together demonstrate why change is necessary:

- **Climate and Ecological Justice:** the state of our planet and the historical causes of the climate crisis.
- **Community Building and Human Rights:** what makes communities strong, and how human rights form the foundation for this.
- **Development Studies:** why the world has become so unequal and what new forms of global development are needed.

Parallel to this, you will work in classes of **Fieldwork** on the Inner Development Goals, where you, together with your fellow students, learn about your own values, resilience, identity, and motivation as a future changemaker. We aim high: by the end of the block you don't look away anymore, but see what's at stake.

## Block 2: Agency - (International) Practices of change

In the second part of the semester, the focus shifts from understanding to action.

- In **Fieldwork**, you'll work on your personal leadership in a changemaker's program.
- In the **Creating Value (an Economy of Meaning)** course, you'll learn about social entrepreneurship and work on a concrete societal challenge. Using Design Thinking (Double Diamond) and models for multiple value creation, you will design interventions that are socially, ecologically, and economically valuable.
- In the **Development Studies** (part 2) course we focus on good practices to solve some of the world's most pressing problems.

To deepen your learning, we regularly invite inspiring guests who demonstrate what impact looks like in practice.

## Credits

The minor is a 30 ECs full-time program that runs from September till the end of January.

In the first block (September- October) you can obtain 15 ECs in Theories of Change.

In the second block (November- January) you can obtain 15 ECs in (International) Practices of Change.

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## Learning from the best

Changemaker Melati Wijsen is uniquely qualified to share how to achieve positive change in practice. She is the founder of *Bye Bye Plastic Bags* and the *Youthtopia* global platform for youth to empower each other and accelerate change. Melati is also the author of the book *Change Starts Now* (2024) and one of our regular guest lecturers. Besides Melati, we also regularly receive other experts in the field of human rights, ecological justice or social entrepreneurship who give a guest lecture in our program.

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## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



## Sustainable Development Goals

In 2015 all United Nations Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, a blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. They recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>).

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 <b>Being</b> Cultivating Our Inner Life	 <b>Thinking</b> Understanding Our Complex World	 <b>Relating</b> Caring for Others and the World	 <b>Collaborating</b> Building Trust and Working Together	 <b>Acting</b> Leading and Enabling Change
Inner Compass	Critical Thinking	Appreciation	Relationship-Building Skills	Courage
Integrity & Authenticity	Perspective Skills	Connectedness	Inclusive Mindset & Intercultural Competence	Hope & Optimism
Openness & Learning Mindset	Systems Thinking	Humility	Co-creation Skills	Conscious Use of Resources
Self-Awareness	Long-term Orientation & Visioning	Empathy & Compassion	Communication Skills	Proactivity
Presence	Creativity	Forgiveness	Mobilization Skills	Resilience

## Inner Development Goals

In order to work effectively with complex challenges we urgently need to increase our collective abilities. This is why the Inner Development Goals (IDG) are initiated, committed to fostering inner development towards more sustainable futures. A collection of science-based skills and qualities that help us to live purposeful, sustainable, and productive lives: inner growth as a prerequisite for sustainable outer change. As individuals, organisations, and communities apply these skills, they contribute to a collective shift toward regenerative cultures and economies.

By cultivating these 25 skills across five dimensions, we nurture the human foundations needed to realise the Sustainable Development Goals and ensure flourishing futures for people and planet (<https://innerdevelopmentgoals.org/>).



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Lecturer **Felix van Vugt** studied Culture and Science studies in Maastricht and completed the teacher education program for social studies teacher in secondary education. After working as a social studies teacher for seven years he became a teacher educator himself. He specializes in Education for Sustainable Development (climate literacy), diversity in education (mostly LGBTQIA+ issues) and Formative Assessment. He is also involved in the climate movement (a.o. FossilVrijNL and Extinction Rebellion).



Lecturer **Jolijn van der Ploeg** is a lecturer and researcher at HU. She studied Sociology and International Relations and International Migration. She has experience working as a researcher for non-profit organizations to study the impact of their interventions. She spent time in Bangladesh to set up a study to measure the impact of a program around Menstrual Health that aims to increase years of schooling for girls. In her classes she combines her theoretical and practical knowledge to guide students in their learning about the complex dynamics of international development.



Lecturer **Alma Mustafić** is an educational expert, researcher and lecturer at HU. Her expertise field is research in education and she is also a graduation and study coach. In 1995 she survived the genocide in Srebrenica, but her father and many other family members did not. Nowadays she tries to increase knowledge and awareness about genocide to ensure that nothing like this will ever happen again. Alma developed a theatre play called "Dangerous Names", an interdisciplinary honor program on human rights and genocide and she will host the fieldtrip to Bosnia for our minor.



Lecturer **Jasper Steggink** has a Master degree in Cultural Anthropology (cum laude). He did research on the expatriate community in Nairobi, Kenya for his Master's thesis. Also he has worked for Namasté Foundation for five years, where he became experienced in project management, setting up and writing impact measurements, and general reporting. He is responsible for the marketing and communication of the NGO.

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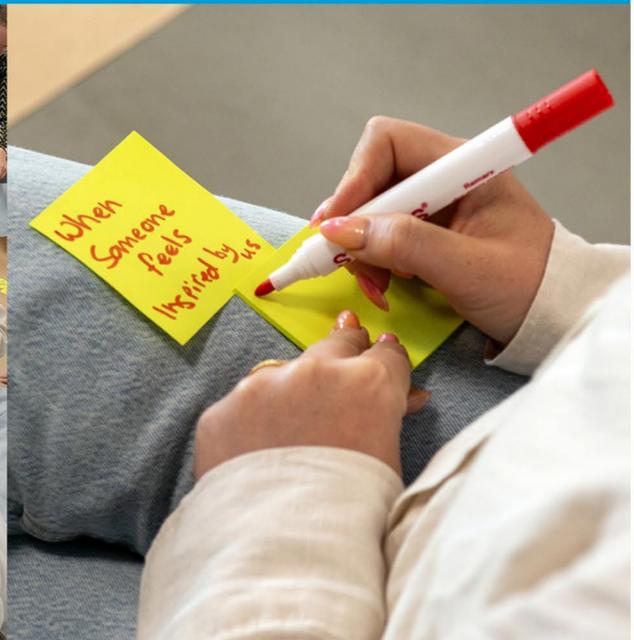
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## International classroom

The Global Changemakers minor is an international program, which gives you the exciting opportunity to participate in an international classroom. Learning together with fellow students from various (mostly) European countries adds a stimulating, intercultural dimension to the program. We welcome students of all studies to our minor. The program can be explicitly recommended to students of Social Work, Health Studies, International Business and Economics, Pedagogy and Education and Teaching.

## Entry requirements

- Bachelor students
- Good oral and written English language skills



## Changemaker experience

Every student in the program gains valuable experience as a changemaker, working on real-life societal challenges like poverty, inequality, racism, climate change or loss of biodiversity. This practical experience is part of the classes of Fieldwork throughout the semester.

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## Study trip to Bosnia

Every year we go on a week-long study trip to Bosnia\* to visit Sarajevo and Srebrenica. The purpose of the trip is to learn about the effects of war and genocide on communities, but also about resilience and rebuilding connections. During our visit we engage in conversations with students of the University of Sarajevo, visit war memorials and community initiatives. Our lecturer Alma Mustafic, an expert in genocide and human rights, will be your guide on this journey. The study trip is highly valued by most students, some of them qualifying it as “life-changing.”

*\* Please take into account that there are extra costs for travel and stay in Bosnia.*



## Option: International Practices of Change

If you want to gain more experience in the field, there is also the opportunity to do a full-time (30+ hours a week) practical project abroad for a non-profit organization of your own choosing in the second part of the semester (November – January). If you choose this option (called International Practices of Change\*\*), you do not follow the classes in block 2, but are working full-time for a non-profit organization. Credits: 15 EC.

Please contact the minor coordinator if this is an option you would like to pursue. Check out the minor's blog for stories and pictures from our students who went abroad: <http://minoridw.hu.nl>

*\*\*Due to contract obligations with our international partner universities, this option is only available for students doing their full bachelor's program in the Netherlands. Please take into account that there are extra costs for travel and stay if you choose this option.*

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## Assessments:

Both the modules **Theories of change** (block 1, 15 EC) and **(International) Practices of change** (block 2, 15 EC) will be concluded with an assessment:

- an **oral exam** structured as a criterion-referenced interview for Theories of change.
- a **final presentation** about everything you learned about changemakership and theories from the minor program and an **individual written reflection** on your changemaker project and skills for (International) Practices of change.



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## Community Development and Human Rights

Community development is a process where people come together to take action on what is important to them. Some people, groups, and communities are excluded or oppressed by the way society and structures are organized. Community development seeks to challenge this exclusion and contributes to equal access to justice. In practice, community development supports communities of place, interest and identity to use their own assets to improve quality of life. Community development is fundamentally based on the values of human rights, social justice, equality, and respect for diversity—values we will explore in this course. Community development is a powerful ideal. However, it is also a complex concept, which may lead to confusion about what actions are actually required. The overall question is: How can I cooperate with the local community and contribute to its development?



### Learning outcomes:

- You have basic knowledge and insights in the contested meaning of community and development and are able to explain the connection between community development and human rights from below.
- You can apply community development principles such as bottom-up development, valuing local wisdom, skills and knowledge, diversity, inclusiveness, participation and reflect on your own cultural assumptions and views

## Fieldwork

During the minor program you will work on a changemaker assignment benefiting a non-profit organization or a social enterprise. You will expand your knowledge and understanding about international development practice and changemakership and obtain skills for the application of executing a practical project in a methodological way.

The Inner Development Goals serve as a compass to reflect upon your personal development as a changemaker.

### Learning outcomes:

- You can collaborate effectively within a diverse, multidisciplinary group and with external stakeholders to co-create meaningful and sustainable solutions.
- You demonstrate changemaker development by reflecting critically on personal and collective learning processes using the Inner Development Goals (IDGs) framework.



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## Climate and Ecological Justice

Climate change is affecting countries all over the world, with the poorest and most vulnerable nations often being hit the hardest. In order to build a more sustainable future for all, solutions are required that need to be coordinated, from the local to the international level. In this engaging course you will explore different ways of working with the ecological challenges that we are facing, reflecting on how closely knit sustainable development and ecological justice are to (a.o.) social inclusion, mass migration and world views on indigenous people. You don't only address these issues on the meso- or macro-level, but also find out how your personal choices can have a positive impact.



### Learning outcomes:

- You are able to analyze the model of planetary boundaries and doughnut economics and you can describe its connection with the sustainable development goals and can connect it to policies.
- You are able to have a dialogue with others about the concept of sustainability and its history, climate change, ecological justice, psychological barriers for behavioral change, climate obstruction and green social work.
- You are able to offer sustainable solutions on a specific topic, e.g. ecological food, health or biodiversity, supported by valid arguments.
- You are able to develop and act on solutions with regard to climate and ecological justice.

## Creating Value (an Economy of Meaning)

In this course, you'll explore how social and ecological value can be created beyond profit-driven logic. Starting from issues you personally care about, you learn to design and test meaningful interventions in collaboration with others. Using theories of social entrepreneurship, sustainable business models and value creation, you'll develop a critical understanding of how value emerges in real-world contexts. The course combines designing, acting and reflecting, and supports you in positioning yourself as a starting changemaker who contributes realistically and responsibly to social and ecological challenges.



### Learning outcomes:

- You can translate a societal issue into a collective challenge connecting global themes such as the SDGs.
- You can design and test interventions for social and ecological value creation in complex, real-world contexts.
- You can articulate and evaluate social, ecological and economic value beyond profit-driven logic.

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## Development Studies

In this course you will try to understand what development is and how its meaning is changing over time. You try to find answers to questions such as: What are different theories on how development comes about and why do countries fail to develop? How do globalization and our economic and political system affect development? And how does our colonial history shape today's inequalities, representations and the language we use in the development field? In block 2 you will look more closely at development aid, the actors involved in this field and look at practical interventions relating to good governance, gender equality, education and cash transfers. At the end of this course, you will grasp the complexity of the topic of development studies and understand that there are no ready-made solutions.



### Learning outcomes:

- You can analyze different theories of how development can come about in theory and relate this to practical examples. This includes the dominant approaches to development as well as non-traditional approaches.
- You have a critical understanding of the complexities of global development and how the field is shaped by current economic, political and globalizing forces.
- You can have a dialogue with others about the roots of development and its relation to colonialism, representations of 'us' and 'them' and the language we use to talk about development.
- You are able to identify solutions to development problems, e.g. inclusive governance, gender equality, education and cash transfers - that you can substantiate with scientific evidence on its effectiveness.

## Quotes from our students:

"The minor gives you an interesting overview of different perspectives on international topics and encourages you to think outside the box."

"The program provided me with new insights and guided me into a future direction."

"Now I have realized that you can 'do good' and be in business at the same time."

"I think the minor is eye-opening for any student and is complementary to their own field of study, whatever that may be."

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## More information

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