



bersih  **NL**

Policy Plan 2016 – 2020

Stichting Bersih Network Netherlands

“Malaysian Voices in the Netherlands”

Introduction

Bersih Network Netherlands, Bersih NL for short, is a Dutch foundation that was officially founded on 4 February 2016.

It is Bersih NL's mission to advocate and work towards democratic governance in Malaysia through appropriate channels and campaign for fair elections and freedom of speech and expression for the people of Malaysia.

Bersih NL is founded by Malaysians and supporters who are concerned about growing mismanagement in Malaysia and the erosion of its democratic values, judiciary and electoral system.

Organizational goals

The statutory goals of Bersih NL are as follows:

- Promote awareness among Malaysians living in the Netherlands and countries nearby of current social, political and economic developments in Malaysia and its neighbouring countries
- Encourage discussion and critical thinking about the state of social, political and economic progress in Malaysia
- Seek ways and means to ensure a fair and clean overseas voting system for overseas Malaysians casting their votes in the General Election
- Link Malaysians in the Netherlands and nearby countries to the Global Bersih movement (<http://www.globalbersih.org>)

To achieve the above high-level goals, the following short- to medium-term targets will be pursued:

- Formalize Bersih NL as a non-profit (ANBI¹) foundation
- Become financially self-sustainable by actively looking for sponsors
- Set up a web shop for food and non-food items to generate revenue to finance activities
- Organize online polls to gather opinions from Bersih NL members
- Create promotional and informational material in the form of leaflets and booklets on topics concerning elections, voting from abroad, and how people can contribute towards improving the situation in Malaysia
- Help independent media (e.g. Radio Sarawak) to raise funds
- Connect with human rights organizations and seek their support to bring greater international attention to the human rights situation in Malaysia

¹ ANBI: Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling

The following are our long-term (5 years) goals:

- Reach out to all Malaysians living in the Netherlands and countries nearby to join Bersih NL – our target is 200 members
- Mobilize and sustain international pressure on the Malaysian government to improve the country’s human rights and democratic practices through international advocacy work in the Netherlands
- Help ensure that all members of Bersih NL (who hold a Malaysian passport) are registered as voters and that they cast their votes in the Malaysian General Elections either as regular or postal voters
- Become a platform in the Netherlands to support the civil movement in Malaysia.

The organization

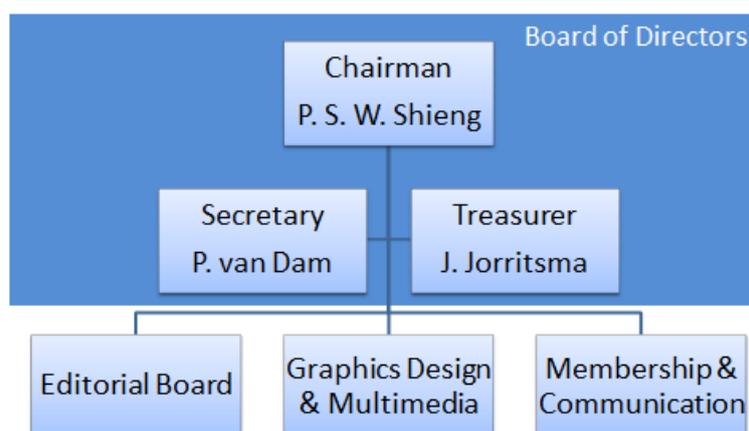
Bersih NL's board of directors is responsible for supervising Bersih NL’s strategy, adhering to the statutes of the foundation, and monitoring its financial health.

The board must formally approve the foundation’s:

- yearly financial report
- expenses above €500
- non-budgeted expenses
- statutory changes

The board does not receive any salary or fee for the activities carried out by and for the foundation. The board may claim expenses to cover the costs incurred by activities on behalf of and for Bersih NL.

A number of subcommittees comprising volunteers will be set up. The following diagram illustrates how Bersih NL will be organized. Volunteers involved in the organization and running of Bersih NL’s activities do not receive any salary, but can claim expenses to cover the costs of such activities. Claims for expenses require the prior approval of the board.



Financials

Bersih NL came into being when it was registered as a foundation. This was made possible by a small loan from its founders, and the amount will be deducted from the foundation's account once sufficient funds have been received.

Bersih NL has no partisan alignment and does not receive funding from any political party.

Funding:

Funding for Bersih NL will be obtained from the following:

- Donations
- Subsidies
- Sale of promotional material

Management and utilization of funds:

The financial accounts of Bersih NL will be published annually on <http://bersih.nl> in line with Dutch legal requirements.

When Bersih NL has reached its goals, the foundation will be terminated, unless decided otherwise. In line with legal requirements and as stated in the statutes, all assets and remaining balance will be handed over to an NGO compatible with Bersih NL's ideals and goals. The board will make the decision when such a time arrives.