Country Information Guide

The Netherlands

A guide to information sources on the Kingdom of the Netherlands, with hyperlinks to information within European Sources Online and on external websites

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Information sources in the ESO database

- The Netherlands: External / Internal / Regions

General information

- Netherlands: Government portal
  - Government homepage
  - Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken)
- Wikipedia: Netherlands
- UK: FCO: Country profile: The Netherlands
- US: CIA: The World Factbook: The Netherlands
- US: State Department: Background Note: The Netherlands
- BBC News: Country Profile: The Netherlands
- Find websites on The Netherlands through Google
- SearchEnginesoftheWorld: European Search Engines, Directories and Lists: Netherlands

Agricultural information

- The Netherlands: Ministry of Economic Affairs (Ministerie van Economie en ondernemen)
- FAO: Country Profiles [choose country]
- FAO: Country profile and Mapping information system: The Netherlands
- OECD: Agriculture and Fisheries: Netherlands
- European Commission: DG Agriculture: Agriculture and Rural Development
- European Commission: DG Agriculture and Rural Development: Rural Development Plans 2007-2013: The Netherlands
- Organic Europe: Organic farming in European countries: The Netherlands

Competition policy information

- The Netherlands: Netherlands Authority for Consumers & Markets (Mededingingsautoriteit)
- The Netherlands: Regulator of Post and Electronic communication in the Netherlands (OPTA)
- OECD: Competition: Netherlands

Culture and language information

- The Netherlands: Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschap)
- UNESCO: World Heritage Sites
- Council of Europe/ERICarts: Cultural Policies in Europe: Country information [choose country profile]
- Holland.com: Dutch Culture
- SIL international: Ethnologue: Languages of the world: Netherlands
- The Netherlands: Cultural Holland
Defence and security information

- The Netherlands: Ministry of Defence (Ministerie van Defensie)
- The Netherlands: Support Command (Commando Diensten Centra) [in Dutch]

Economic information

- ESO: The Netherlands: Economic situation
- The Netherlands: Ministry of Finances (Ministerie van Financiën)
- The Netherlands: Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation (Ministerie van Economische Zaken, Landbouw en Innovatie)
- The Netherlands: National Bank of the Netherlands (De Nederlandsche Bank)
- The Netherlands: Euronext Amsterdam (previously Amsterdam Stock Exchange)
- UNIDO: Country information: The Netherlands
- UNCTAD/WTO: International Trade Centre: Country information: Netherlands
- WTO: The Netherlands and the WTO
- World Bank: Data by country: The Netherlands
- European Commission: DG Economic and Financial Affairs: The Netherlands
  - Stability and Convergence Programmes [2011-2015]
- European Commission: DG Taxation and Customs Union: Taxation and customs duties in The Netherlands
- International Monetary Fund: The Netherlands and the IMF
- OECD: Documentation on The Netherlands [see 'Economics', 'Enterprise, Industry and Services', 'Finance', 'Growth' etc.]
- Deutsche Bank Research: Country information: The Netherlands

Education information

- The Netherlands: Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschap)
  - Education
- The Netherlands: Nuffic (Organisation for international co-operation in higher education) [in Dutch]
- The Netherlands: DUO – IB-Groep
- The Netherlands: Nederlands-Vlaamse Accreditatieorganisatie
- World Bank: EdStats: Summary Education Profile
- OECD: Education: Netherlands
- Council of Europe/UNESCO/European Commission: ENIC: Country profiles: Netherlands [offers links to national education authorities and information sites]
- Council of Europe: Cultural Cooperation: Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights: Country profile
- UNESCO Institute for Statistics: Education in the Netherlands
- European Commission: Youth Partnership: Youth Policy in the Netherlands
- Eurydice: Eurypedia - The European Encyclopedia on National Education Systems: The Netherlands
- Nation Master: Education in the Netherlands: Statistics
- Wikipedia: Education in the Netherlands
Employment information

- The Netherlands: Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment (Ministerie van Sociale Zaken en Werkgelegenheid)
- OECD: Employment: Netherlands
- European Commission: Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion: Statistics and analysis [choose country]
- European Commission: European employment Strategy [choose country]
- European Industrial Relations Observatory online
- Federation of European Employers: Industrial Relations across Europe

Energy information

- The Netherlands: Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation
- International Energy Agency: Country information
- European Commission: DG Energy & Transport:
  - Statistical Pocketbook [2010 edition]
  - Country Report 2014
- United States: Energy Information Administration:
  - Country information [Find statistics, forecasts, analyses and reports]

Environmental information

- The Netherlands: Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment (Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Milieu)
- The Netherlands: National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieu)
- FAO: Specialised Country Profiles and Information Systems [choose a thematic database]
  - FAO: Forestry Department: Country [Follow 'select a country' on the left-hand bar]
  - FAO: Water and Food Security Country Profiles: The Netherlands
- European Environment Agency:
  - European Environment Information and Observation Network (EIONET): Country
  - State of the Environment Reporting Information System (SERIS): Country information

European policies and relations with the European Union

- Netherlands: Government: Issues: European Union
- Netherlands: National Bank of the Netherlands (De Nederlandsche Bank)
  - The euro
  - SEPA: Single Euro Payments Area
  - European co-operation
  - European System of Central Banks
  - News
  - Publications
  - Acts and regulations
  - Research
- European Commission: DG Economic and Financial Affairs: The Netherlands
  - Stability and Convergence Programmes
  - The Netherlands and the euro
- European Commission: DG Regional Policy: The Netherlands
- European Commission: Representation in The Netherlands [in Dutch]
  - European information networks: Netherlands [select from list]
- European Commission: Enterprise Europe Network: The Netherlands
- European Investment Bank: Finance contracts signed, 2011-: The Netherlands
- European Parliament: Information Office: The Netherlands
- Council of Europe: Member States: The Netherlands [select from list]

Geographic information and maps

- FAO: Country profiles and mapping information system: Country maps
- European Union: DG Press and Communication: Europe maps [click on country]
- University of Texas: Perry Castañeda Library Map Collection: Netherlands maps
- MapsOfWorld.com: Netherlands maps

Health information

- The Netherlands: Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (Ministerie van Volksgezondheid, Welzijn en Sport)
- World Health Organisation: Country Information
- European Commission: DG Employment and Social Affairs: Social Protection in the EU [find country-related information on social security systems]
- European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drugs Addiction (EMCDDA)
  - Legal Database on Drugs: Country profiles [select country]
  - Country overview [select country]
  - National Drug Strategies
  - National Reports
  - European Legal Database on drugs

Human rights information

- Council of Europe: ECRI: Country report
- Council of Europe: European Committee for the Prevention of Torture: State documents and visits
- Council of Europe: Venice Commission: The Netherlands
- United States: State Department:
  - Human Rights Report [2013]
  - Previous versions
  - Religious Freedom Report
  - Previous versions
- Human rights Watch: The Netherlands
- The International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights: The Netherlands Helsinki Committee

Intellectual property information

- The Netherlands: The Netherlands Patent Office (NL Octrooicentrum)
• World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO): Member States: The Netherlands
  ◦ Collection of Laws for Electronic Access (CLEA): The Netherlands [Find full
texts of national legislation]

Investment information

• The Netherlands: Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency
• The Netherlands: Foreign Trade Agency
• United Kingdom: Foreign and Commonwealth Office: Country profile [see also
'detailed country information']

Justice and home affairs information

• The Netherlands: Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations (Ministerie van
Binnenlandse Zaken en Koninkrijksrelaties)
• The Netherlands: Ministry of Security and Justice (Ministerie van Veiligheid en
Justitie)
• The Netherlands: de Rechtspraak: The judiciary system in the Netherlands
• The Netherlands: National Coordinator for Counter terrorism (Nationale
Coordinator Terrorismebestrijding)
• The Netherlands: National Prosecutors Office (Openbaar ministerie)
• The Netherlands: Research and Documentation Office, Ministry of Security and
Justice
• European Commission: DG Justice and Home Affairs: European Judicial Network in
civil and commercial matters: Country information
• European Court of Justice
• United States: Law Library of Congress: Law online: The Netherlands

Living and working information

• The Netherlands: overheid.nl [links to governmental and other authorities]
• The Netherlands: Taxation (Ministry of Finance)
• European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions: 
  Homepage
• European Commission: DG Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion: EURES: Living
  & Working: The Netherlands
• European Commission: DG Press and Communication: Your Europe [Find
factsheets with specific information on individual Member States]
• European Working Conditions Observatory (EWCO): 6th European Working
Condition Survey [2015]
• Foreign & Commonwealth Office: Travel and Living Abroad: The Netherlands
• United States: State Department: Post Reports: The Netherlands

Media information

• The Netherlands: Dutch Media Authority (Commissariaat voor de Media)
  ◦ National reports
  ◦ Report Regulation of the Dutch commercial television market
  ◦ Media monitor [in Dutch]
• EBU: Broadcasting organisations
• EJC: Media Landscape: The Netherlands
• ENPA: Country members: The Netherlands
• Agora Political resources on the Net: Media in the Netherlands
• Guardian Newspaper Ltd.: Guardian Unlimited: World News Guide: Netherlands
• Dutch press institutions in English:
  o Expatica.com
  o NRC Handelsblad [archive]
  o NIS News Bulletin
  o DutchNews.nl
  o Radio Netherlands World Wide

Political information (including Elections)

• ESO: The Netherlands: Political situation
• The Netherlands: Government portal
  o Government system
  o Links to Dutch government websites
• UN:HCR: Constitution of the Netherlands
• The Netherlands: The Senate (Eerste Kamer der Staten-Generaal)
• The Netherlands: The Dutch House of Representatives (Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal)
• The Netherlands: The Dutch Royal House (Het Koninklijk Huis)
• The Netherlands: National Elections Commission (Kiesraad)
• IFES: Election Guide: The Netherlands [search country]
• ESO: Netherlands: Political situation: Elections
• Wikipedia: Elections in The Netherlands
• Parties and Elections in Europe: The Netherlands
• United States: Law Library of Congress: Law online: The Netherlands
• Political resources on the web: The Netherlands

Public management information

• The Netherlands: overheid.nl [links to governmental and other authorities]
• OECD: Public Governance: Netherlands
• Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Tokyo, Japan: Investing in the Netherlands

R&D information

• The Netherlands: Ministry of Education, Culture and Science (Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschappen)
  o Science
• The Netherlands: Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek)
• The Netherlands: Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research (Nederlandse Organisatie voor Toegepast Natuurwetenschappelijk Onderzoek)
• European Commission: DG Enterprise: CORDIS
  o R&D Gateway: Map-based search
  o The Netherlands

Regional and local information

• The Netherlands: citypopulation.de: The provinces (Provincies) and Municipalities (Gemeenten)
• The Netherlands: Foreign Investment Agency: Provinces and major cities in the Netherlands
• Council of Europe: Congress of Local and Regional Authorities: National delegations: The Netherlands
• Eurostat:
  o Portrait of the Regions: The Netherlands [search region]
  o Country Profile [search for country]
• Regions of the Netherlands:
  o Drenthe [in Dutch]
    ▪ Drenthe tourism
  o Flevoland
    ▪ Flevoland, a European Province
  o Frysln (Friesland)
  o Gelderland [in Dutch]
  o Groningen [in Dutch]
  o Limburg [in Dutch]
    ▪ Europa [in Dutch]
  o Noord Brabant
    ▪ Noord-Brabant and the EU
  o Noord Holland [in Dutch]
    ▪ Europa [in Dutch]
  o Overijssel [in Dutch]
    ▪ Europoloket [in Dutch]
  o Utrecht
    ▪ Europa [in Dutch]
  o Zeeland [in Dutch]
  o Zuid Holland [in Dutch]
• Committee of the Regions:
  o Europe in my Region [choose region]

Social information

• The Netherlands: Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment (Ministerie van Sociale Zaken en Werkgelegenheid)
• World Bank: Gender Statistics [search by country or by topic]
• OECD: Documentation on the Netherlands
  o Social Issues
• European Commission, Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion:
  o Pension system [browse by country]
  o Healthcare system [browse by country]
  o Social Protection Systems in EU Member States and the European Economic Area: MISSOC-Info Bulletin
• United States: SSA: Social Security Programs Throughout the World: The Netherlands [2010]

Statistical information

• The Netherlands: National Bank of the Netherlands (De Nederlandsche Bank)
  o Statistics
• The Netherlands: National Statistical Institute (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek)
  o Themes
  o Figures
  o Publications
• Eurostat: Country profiles: Netherlands [select from list]
• World Bank: Key data and statistics: The Netherlands
• OECD: Statistics on The Netherlands
• UNESCO: Institute for Statistics: The Netherlands [Select Country]

Tourism information

• The Netherlands: Netherlands Board of Tourism/Foreign Trade Agency: holland.com
• Guardian Newspaper Ltd.: Guardian Unlimited Travel: The Netherlands
• Tripadvisor.co.uk: The Netherlands
• Iamsterdam.com: The city of Amsterdam

Transport information

• The Netherlands: Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment (Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Milieu)
• European Commission: DG Mobility and Transport: Road Safety Management Profile: The Netherlands
• European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions: The Netherlands

Weather information

• The Netherlands: Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute
• World Meteorological Organization: The Netherlands
• BBC Weather Centre: Climate Guide and five day weather forecast: The Netherlands

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Original compilation: 2001 (Thomas Pritzkow)
Revised: 2005 (Aleksandra Kulas), 2010 (Christopher Langen), 2011 (George Gurescu), 2012 (Lucas Goetz)
Latest revision: March 2015