THE LIEMERS LIST 4.0
HOPE XXL wants to ensure that all world citizens can achieve a life they can grade as ‘good’. Therefore HOPE XXL is developing a new vision on the future, shared by young people all over the world. Thousands of young people have worked together to draft this vision, called the Liemers List: a manifesto stating ideas on issues ranging from sustainability and peace to international cooperation and human rights. It is a “Universal Declaration of the Things we have to do” and is based on shared values and reason.

Thousands of young people have contributed their ideas, and youth leaders from all over the world have worked on the Liemers List. In 2015 the Liemers List will be finalized during the HOPE XXL Global Summit. Later in 2015 we will present the global Liemers List to the United Nations and ask them to take the lead in implementing the Liemers List.
2009: Start of HOPE XXL in the Liemers region in The Netherlands. Dutch youth leaders draft the first Liemers List. It is a vision of the younger generation on the future of our society.

2010: The first Liemers List (version 1.0) is finalized and publicly presented as young people’s vision on the future.

January 2011: We start our national program, visiting schools and festivals all over The Netherlands to discuss the Liemers List with young people. Thousands of young people provide their feedback to the Liemers List.

September 2011: The national Liemers List (version 2.0) is adopted on the basis of feedback from young people all over the country. This is done during the national HOPE XXL conference.

December 2012: The European HOPE XXL Conference takes place and young people from 25 European countries develop their vision of the future (Liemers List 3.0). Former United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan speaks at our flagship event in front of an audience of 800 young people.

2013: The HOPE XXL Peace Panorama takes place at the Peace Palace. Young people from all over the world together develop their vision of peace.

2014: The Triple-A Summit takes place with young people from Asia-Pacific, Africa and the Americas. Together they develop version 4.0 of the Liemers List, the one you are now reading.

January 2015: The HOPE XXL Global Summit takes place at the University for Peace in Costa Rica with young people from all over the world. The global Liemers List will be established here.

2015: We will present the global Liemers List to the United Nations!
We, the young people of HOPE XXL,

- Aspire a world in which each world citizen grades his or her life as ‘good’;
- Presume the universal wish to enjoy good health, live in peace and freedom, in harmony with the environment and with a good balance between prosperity and well-being;
- Request society, united in political, religious and social associations, to jointly realize this universal wish and remove existing inequalities;
- Consider the notion that one treats others as one would want to be treated him/herself a leading principle for human actions;
- Presume that people are open to reason and believe in the power of dialogue in order to reach an agreement;
- Want to build bridges between generations, religions, convictions, political movements, races and nations, and focus on what binds people instead of on what separates them;
- Request people or groups to think together with us in order to reach a world perspective;
- Aim to unite people worldwide by developing a joint vision on the future, offering a long term vision based on the values of dialogue, reason and empathy, and implementing this vision on the local, national and international level.

And therefore we:

- Develop the Liemers List as the younger generation’s vision on the future;
- Share the Liemers List with all world citizens;
- Invite all people to review the Liemers List and submit feedback;
- Will develop the global Liemers List in January 2015, based on previous versions and with input from all over the world;
- Will present the global Liemers List to the United Nations General Assembly in 2015;
- Will request the United Nations General Assembly, together with all world citizens, to implement the Liemers List.
1. We, the young people of HOPE XXL, aspire a world in which each world citizen grades his or her life as ‘good’. All articles in the Liemers List are designed to contribute to this goal.

2. We wish to thank our ancestors for the level of civilization achieved up to the present day, despite its flaws. We want to keep building on it and offer a new perspective to present and future generations.

3. We call for a global ‘People's Partnership’ to achieve the goal of each world citizen grading their life as good. World citizens, as well as governments, civil society organizations and all other groups in society are encouraged to work together to achieve this goal.

4. We recommend that all countries be paired to support each other in implementing the articles of the Liemers List. This is further elaborated upon in the chapter on international cooperation.

5. We encourage further research into the contributing factors to well-being and advise to apply these lessons in policy development, implementation and evaluation.

6. We fully endorse the existing United Nations human rights treaties, including the ‘International Declaration of Human Rights’, and other agreed texts such as the ‘Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples’. We attach great importance to further ratification and implementation of these treaties by all United Nations member states, and the strengthening of international monitoring systems.

7. Children and young people are vital for society, and we fully endorse the ‘Convention on the Rights of the Child’. Ongoing violations of the rights of the child, including poverty, child labor, early and forced marriage and lack of access to quality health care and education have to end.

8. Gender equality is a fundamental principle towards achieving sustainable development, peace and security and the fulfillment of human rights. Violence and discrimination in all forms against women and girls must end urgently. We wish to remove all obstacles for gender equality and ensure that women and girls have equal access to education, family planning, health care, financial services, participation in decision making, clean water and sanitation, receive equal pay for equal work, and have the right to own land and other assets.

9. Diversity is an inherent and valuable part of modern societies. All citizens have the same rights and opportunities before the law. Personal freedom goes as far as to where other people’s freedom is violated. The judiciary determines where the lines are drawn.

10. We want to increase the meaningful participation of young people in all stages of decision and policy-making, implementation and monitoring and evaluation. We call upon all stakeholders to support the creation, development and inclusion of youth organizations and youth-led initiatives, and to work with other generations to achieve successful youth-adult partnerships.
11. State structure has to be based on the ‘Trias Politica’, the separation of the legislative, the judiciary and the executive powers. Checks and balances prevent each of these powers from becoming supreme.

12. There should be separation of state and organized religion. Legislative, judiciary and executive powers in nation states, governed by the rule of law, are independent from religious organizations and vice versa.

13. Each individual has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This includes the right to manifest one’s beliefs as far as it does not infringe on the rights of others. The judiciary determines where the lines are drawn. Limitations can only be set under the rule of law and if they are necessary to protect public safety or health.

14. There should be freedom of information and access to information worldwide, taking into account privacy and security concerns. To support this, there should be net-neutrality.

15. We fully support freedom of speech and press freedom, and this can only be limited in accordance with the guidelines set by the ‘International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights’. The media should be truthful, correct their mistakes, check facts and citations, hear all sides and respond promptly to criticism.

16. We strongly oppose the death penalty and we suggest adjusting existing penal codes accordingly.

17. We regard the United Nations as the primary international organization. Every state is to be a member of the United Nations. The United Nations must be strengthened and reformed where necessary, particularly with regards to peace and security issues. Nation states remain the primary actors in international decision making.

18. We embrace the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and see them as supportive of the long-term vision reflected in the Liemers List. The SDGs provide priorities and targets for the next fifteen years. The Liemers List looks beyond this timeframe by establishing a perspective on society for the 21st century.
19. For current and future world citizens to achieve a life they can grade as good, we urgently need to find a balance with our environment and take good care of the natural world.

20. Within two decades all energy shall be renewable and must not be at the expense of the earth. We second the recommendations of the ‘Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change’, but want a faster implementation.

21. The United Nations shall initiate a working group focusing on, and making decisions on the development of clean energy. In this working group all stakeholders have a seat. They will present a complete plan of action before 2020. One percent of the gross world product is reserved for the implementation of the investment programme of this working group.

22. Raw materials should be used in such a manner that they can be reused with as little loss of quality as possible, and without polluting the natural environment.

23. We urge the international community to draft a quality norm for surface and ground water.

24. We urge the United Nations to draw up conditions for managing the areas through which rivers flow, whereby all interests within the area are considered.

25. Each human being should have access to clean (potable) water and sanitation. Commercial interests must not negatively affect access. We encourage all countries to use the World Health Organization guidelines for the quality of drinking water.

26. The alarming decrease of biodiversity is to be stopped. The treaty drawn up to this end, the ‘Convention on Biological Diversity’, shall be strictly adhered to.

27. All technological possibilities must be examined in order to increase sustainable and fair food production, while ensuring that all products are safe for human consumption.

28. We promote food security and we suggest that relevant factors such as food speculation, agricultural subsidies, production of biofuels, climate change and environmental factors are governed nationally and, where necessary, internationally, to ensure sustainable food production.

29. Global agreements are to be made to regulate the use of antibiotics and pesticides.

30. The consumption of meat and other animal products is to be cut back by reducing subsidies that keep prices artificially low. The fishing industry and all types of commercial animal husbandry will have to adhere to international norms for environmental concerns and animal welfare by 2020, and factory farming should be phased out within two decades.
31. Animals must not be used for the purpose of sports, if it is known, or can be reasonably suspected beforehand, that the animal will suffer from it. We also state that catching endangered species be stopped immediately and that killing animals, when the main objective is using hides, fur or for human entertainment, be prohibited. Animal testing should be avoided as much as possible.

32. Damage to eco-systems by people is to be combatted. Whenever possible eco-systems are to be restored. To be able to do so the United Nations gets a budget of 0.2 percent of the gross world product.

33. We call on all local officials, especially parliamentarians and mayors, to initiate local actions in the field of sustainability.

34. Accountants should not only audit the financial annual reports of businesses but also check the aspects of Corporate Social Responsibility against guidelines that have to be drawn up by all stakeholders.
35. We call upon all governments to reduce social inequalities and to support their citizens to participate fully in society. Governments are responsible to ensure services and opportunities are available to all citizens, and that basic needs for water, food and shelter can be met by all, regardless of location.

36. Everyone has a right to a quality education, consisting of free and compulsory primary education, available and accessible secondary education, and tertiary education according to capacity. We strongly support non-formal and informal learning methods, including online and peer education, vocational training and lifelong learning as important aspects of the right to education. This human right has to be adhered to urgently and without discrimination of any kind.

37. Each citizen has a right to access health care complying with the valid norms of Evidence Based Medicine. Each citizen has a right to free medication, in as far as it is mentioned in the List of Essential Medicines of the World Health Organization. Prevention should be an important aspect of the Health Service.

38. We fully support the individual freedom of choice related to choosing a partner and whether or not to have children. Gender equality, access to quality family planning and health services and comprehensive sexuality education are important in this regard.

39. Each state should determine a guaranteed subsistence level and see to it that everybody, if necessary, can lay claim to it.

40. Meaningful contributions to society are an important factor for well-being. All people are encouraged to work to one’s ability, whether in the household, as a volunteer, as an entrepreneur, in paid employment or in any other form.

41. All people have a right to participate in society, and the ‘Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities’ is to be ratified and fully adhered to by all states. People with disabilities in paid employment should earn at least the minimum wage, regardless of productivity.

42. Sustainable economic development has to be stimulated through access to quality education, promoting entrepreneurship, grassroots innovation, job creation and a job market that provides opportunities based on merit.

43. We strongly value our cultural and natural heritage and support the conservation of both tangible and intangible heritage. Sufficient funds need to become available to preserve our heritage for future generations and educate citizens about it.
44. Income and wealth within states should be better distributed, and economic inequalities have to be reduced. We suggest limiting inequalities between groups and striving for an after-tax Gini coefficient of 0.25 in each country. To achieve this, our advice is to set a factor 30 for the difference between the minimum and maximum incomes for people in paid employment.

45. We regard taxation as a central means for states to provide services to their citizens and to achieve social and economic justice. Tax havens should be abolished, and therefore all governments must ensure progressive taxation, end tax competition, pursue tax avoiders and continue to close tax loopholes that lead to avoidance.

46. We propose to reduce wage tax and introduce or increase a progressive tax on capital and wealth. We advise people who possess more than USD 100 million to join The Giving Pledge.

47. We support the introduction of measures regulating speculation on financial markets. Measures such as the Tobin-tax, 0.1 per cent tax on trade in currency and stocks, as well as prohibition of short-selling and high-frequency-trading are suggested to aid in this regulation.

48. Central banks and financial agencies should adhere to the ‘Code of Good Practices on Transparency in Monetary and Financial Policies’ as developed by the International Monetary Fund.

49. We think that free movement of goods, services and capital between countries should be promoted as much as possible. Fair and sustainable trade should be the norm in order to reduce inequalities between countries, support local production of goods and achieve inclusive economic growth.

50. We encourage further regulation of informal sectors within the economy in order to protect the rights of employees and reduce inequalities between formal and informal sectors.

51. We advise an investigation to be initiated into the possibility of abolishing patents and stimulating research and development by other means.

52. Corruption should be combatted forcefully. All state parties are required to monitor and publish the progress of other states regards implementation of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption.
53. States are primarily responsible for guaranteeing human security and upholding human rights. The international community, including non-state actors, assists states in this. In case of conflict situations dialogue shall take a leading role.

54. States have the monopoly on exercising force. In cases when the political rights of all citizens are respected and adequate security is offered, we strive after a gradual abolishment of privately owned firearms.

55. National defence spending should not be higher than the national budget for education. The international community may impose sanctions on countries that do not meet this criteria.

56. Production, possession and proliferation of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, mines and cluster bombs be prohibited. Existing stocks are to be dismantled. All existing mine fields are to be rendered harmless by the relevant authorities.

57. We propose the abolishment of conscription in each country and the introduction of a form of recommended service to society or trainee period instead.

58. All states are accountable to international law. National laws are to be adjusted by legislators to match any international treaties and conventions signed and ratified by that state. United Nations treaties and conventions shall be adhered to by all signatory state parties.
59. We suggest a United Nations Security Council reform. The Council will consist of the current five permanent members, eight rotating national seats and seven regional seats. The veto right is abolished. Intervention may only take place when there is a two-third majority of the United Nations Security Council, including the support of the regional seat concerned.

60. In cases where the United Nations Security Council fails to act as required to maintain international peace and security, the General Assembly shall consider the matter immediately and may issue any binding resolutions it deems necessary in order to restore international peace and security.

61. In case of a United Nations intervention, sufficient funds shall be set aside for the immediate realization of civil damage repairs, reconstruction and reconciliation. All peacekeeping forces within the mission also contribute to these repairs.

62. We support the strengthening of United Nations peacekeeping forces. We call upon United Nations member states to earmark a fixed percentage of their defense forces and materials for United Nations peacekeeping missions. These are always available except for cases of national security or/and national emergencies. Peacekeeping forces have to be accountable to international rules of conduct. Interventions by United Nations Peacekeeping forces shall take place on the basis of the charter of the United Nations and the ‘Responsibility to Protect doctrine’, which needs to be further developed by the international community.

63. Marginalized and vulnerable groups in a country shall have the same rights as the rest of the population. Ethnic groups may be given far-reaching autonomy within the realm of the state.

64. The rights and wellbeing of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDP’s) have to be safeguarded. The root causes of refugee and IDP problems have to be addressed by the states concerned and by the international community.

65. Education is vital for peaceful societies and we call for an education system that teaches children the values of tolerance, empathy, dialogue and respect for diversity to foster global citizenship and mutual understanding. In addition, we call for the provision of citizenship education to encourage active participation of citizens in democratic governance.

66. We encourage activities and commemorations, especially for young people that contribute to dialogue and understanding in post-conflict situations.
67. International cooperation is an essential means to achieve the results we strive for as a community of world citizens. We encourage international dialogue, cooperation in regional and multilateral organizations and financing for development. Further synchronization of international cooperation is needed to improve effectiveness, and we call for further involvement of all stakeholders in decision making in international cooperation.

68. We link countries in pairs within the People’s Partnership in order to realize our goal of all world citizens grading their lives as good, or with at least an eight out of ten. Both countries support each other in realizing the articles in the Liemers List.

69. The People’s Partnership is designed to create friendship and foster understanding between two countries, and to involve all segments of society in the partnership. Exchange programmes in fields such as sports, education, business, culture and tourism are strongly encouraged.

70. The People’s Partnership is intended to become the primary form of bilateral cooperation. Within two decades current bilateral development programmes are to be finalized or brought into the framework of the People’s Partnership. The two partner countries focus all efforts in the field of bilateral cooperation onto each other.
71. We call upon partner countries to eventually donate four percent of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to a shared People’s Partnership Fund. This fund is used on projects that lead to the realization of the articles in the Liemers List and to citizens of both countries grading their lives as good. Together the stakeholders in partner countries determine, in a transparent manner and under the rule of law, how the money is spent.

72. We call upon partner countries to reserve one percent of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to level the income disparities between the various pairs of countries.

73. We call upon the United Nations to establish a framework that provides binding guidelines for partner countries related to project development, monitoring and evaluation, and financial accounting. An independent committee set up by the United Nations will be responsible for external controls on monitoring and evaluation and financial accounting. A fixed percentage of the People’s Partnership Fund is to be used for this purpose.

74. We call on all segments of society, including governments, non-government organizations, companies, associations and individuals, to establish linkages with similar actors in their partner country for exchange, cooperation and mutual support.

75. The People’s Partnership budgets will remain available to partner countries for a period of five years. If not spent or earmarked within these five years, funds can be spent by other pairs of countries.

76. We encourage partner countries to move towards free movement of people, goods, services and capital.

77. If a partnership is successful, a pair of countries can start a similar link with another pair or multiple pairs of countries.
78. We strongly value and want to stimulate active citizenship through dialogue, reason, and empathy, and we encourage all world citizens to employ these principles in their everyday life.

79. Communication between people is of the utmost importance. We suggest that all people are offered the opportunity to learn English in order to support international dialogue. This is additional to ongoing support for multilingualism, cultural and linguistic diversity.

80. We strive for an eventual worldwide free movement of persons. National state borders will only be observed when dealing with folklore, language, sports and domestic administration.

81. We call on everyone to support other people in their immediate surroundings in various ways, according to their own capabilities and the needs of these people.

82. We encourage all people to develop and express themselves uniquely, for example through art forms.

83. We appeal to all world citizens to submit suggestions for a world flag.

84. We appeal to all world citizens to submit suggestions for the composition of an international anthem.

85. The Olympic Games are a great example of international thoughts and collaboration. We would like to see the development of similar events in the cultural field across all continents.

86. Every five years a conference is to be held where the Liemers List will be evaluated and adjusted.