Finding a job in the Netherlands: Do's and don'ts

Even though you have been studying in the Netherlands for a while, finding a job might be difficult. You can find some do's and don'ts of applying for a job or internship in the Netherlands here.

Do's:

- **Networking:** Networking is very important in the current Dutch labour market. It is not strange to add people you met to your (LinkedIn) network and contact them later. Let people know that you are looking for a job or an internship. For tips about networking, take a look at the webpage about networking.
- Learn Dutch: Even if you will not need Dutch for your new job, it is still
 beneficial to learn Dutch. It shows interest into the country you will be working
 in, it will broaden your options and it is easier to get into contact with Dutch
 colleagues. A good option is subscribing for a language course, however, if you
 wish to start straight away you can also check out the following apps. Hoi
 Holland is a fun way to learn Dutch. Also Duolingo is used often to learn a
 foreign language. It might be possible that Dutch is not available combined
 with your language, but then you can learn English Dutch (and improve your
 English in the meantime).
- **Know what you want**: To find a job or internship, you need to explore what you want first. If you do not know what you want, then you probably will get what you do not want.

Don'ts:

- One-channel search: Do not focus on only one channel to find a job or internship. There are many ways to find a job or internship. LinkedIn, job search engines, online networking, job boards and so on. Take a look at our webpage with useful websites!
- Don't give up vacancies to quickly: Do not think that a vacancy is not meant for you, just because you do not meet all the requirements. Vacancies in the Netherlands are often stated on the ideal candidate, whereas this is quite impossible. Focus on your own strengths and how they are applicable for this vacancy and how, with a little training, you are a good candidate.
- You are worth it: Do not think you have less chance because you are an
 international student. Especially for recently graduated students it is difficult to
 find that first job. Don't give up after the first few rejections. Persistence pays
 off!