

Press Release

Climate journalists from across the Kingdom gather for journalism festival at the invitation of the Dutch Fund for In-Dept Journalism

Large delegation of Caribbean journalists attends second edition of the Dutch Journalism Festival

Deventer, September 19, 2026

At the invitation of the Fonds BJP (the Dutch Fund for In-Dept Journalism) a group of journalists from the Caribbean part of the Kingdom attended the Dutch Journalism Festival, which helped create ample space for Caribbean perspectives within the field. On September the 18th and 19th, the second edition of the festival took place in Deventer, bringing together more than 1,000 journalists, media professionals, and other interested parties.

During this second edition, the Fund organized two sessions: one on mental health and peer support in journalism, and one on climate journalism from Bonaire to Maastricht, to discuss how to report on the climate crisis, which is experienced differently in different places. Five climate journalists and media professionals discussed their shared challenges, perspectives, and working methods: Rajesh Chintaman (The Daily Herald, Sint Maarten), Radinka Ustasia (Bonaire), Oriana Wouters (Aruba), Maarten van Gestel (Trouw, European Netherlands), and Emma van Bergeijk (nu.nl, European Netherlands). The audience also contributed to this open and important conversation. The session was moderated by journalist and writer Milouska Meulens.

Wensly Francisco, expert on Caribbean journalism at the Fund: *“We felt it was important to bring together journalists from different parts of the Kingdom who cover climate issues so they could discuss the topic as colleagues. After all, climate change is an issue that affects us all, and one for which we, as a Kingdom, must take responsibility. Precisely because the effects of climate change manifest themselves very differently on Bonaire, for example, then in the European Netherlands, it is up to journalists throughout the Kingdom to report on it and add context to the matter.”*

For the past two years, the Fund has been making an extra effort to support journalism in the Caribbean part of the Kingdom. An important part of this, in addition to providing grants for in-depth journalistic projects, is facilitating and encouraging knowledge sharing and exchange. To that end, the Fund provided a platform through sessions and side events during the festival. This year, the newspaper Extra Curaçao also organized its own session on journalistic collaboration within the Kingdom.

Joëlle Terburg, Executive Director of the Dutch Fund for In-Dept Journalism: *“There aren’t many opportunities for journalists from Aruba, Curaçao, Sint Maarten, Bonaire, Saba, and*

Sint Eustatius to meet and discuss the opportunities and challenges of the profession, and even fewer to exchange ideas on these topics with their Dutch colleagues in Europe. We wanted to create that opportunity during this edition of the festival. In this way, we hope to help lay the groundwork for sustainable collaborations and relationships.”

After the session, there was a special edition of the Bonairian radio program Op de Klippen, hosted on location in Deventer by Martijn Hisschemöller. During the show, the speakers and other guests continued their conversation. You can listen to the episode [here](#) in a few days.

The Dutch Journalism Festival is organized by [Huis voor de journalistiek](#) (House for journalism) and featured a wide-ranging program of nearly 150 panel discussions, lectures, and workshops on a variety of topics: local journalism, dealing with AI, journalistic ethics, and collaboration.

You can [download the images](#) from our website

Would you like to stay informed about what the Dutch Fund for In-Dept Journalism is doing? Subscribe to the Dutch newsletter [here](#) and subscribe to the newsletter about the Fund's Caribbean activities (in English) [here](#).

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