



★ Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2016 ★



This edition provided by Anggita Sari Dewi

NEWSLETTER IMWU

October - December 2015



IMWU NL is a self-founded organisation, established by and for the Indonesian Migrant Workers in the Netherlands. IMWU NL aims at promoting the labour rights for all workers particularly Indonesian, both documented and undocumented, in the Netherlands. We determine to eliminate human trafficking, jobs trade, abuses and various forms of human rights violation and discrimination against all workers particularly the Indonesian workers in the Netherlands.

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Quarterly Meeting (15 October 2015) in Amsterdam. Explanation from Dr. Yulia Sugandi, founder and advisor of IMWU NL



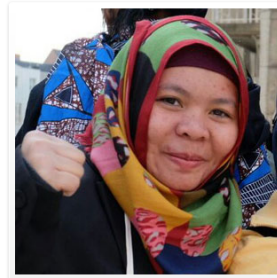
Yasmine Soraya

Indonesian Migrant Workers Union

Ms. Soraya has had a pivotal function in the development of her organisation. Shortly after the formation of the group, in 2011, the then Chairman of IMWU passed away and in the period that followed Ms. Soraya was the main person to manage the process of collective grief by the members and ensured that the organisation set up a flourishing structure in the four cities in the country with most Indonesian migrants.

Ms. Soraya is a bridge-builder within her migrant community. IMWU is a support and advocacy organisation for Indonesian migrant workers in the Netherlands. Most of the migrants are in domestic work, doing cleaning, gardening or babysitting. The large majority of them are undocumented. Ms. Soraya is successful in encouraging solidarity between documented and undocumented migrants, thereby ensuring a platform for all voices of the migrant community to be accounted for. An example is the film *Dispereert niet!* produced by IMWU in which many undocumented migrants feel safe and tell their personal stories without being anonymised.

Ms. Soraya opens up new possibilities. She advocated with the Indonesian embassy in the Netherlands for the possibility to have passports renewed and was successful. This embassy now can renew passports for Indonesian citizens. This is a major achievement, as before many Indonesian migrants became undocumented once their passports expired. The embassy is also willing to work further with Ms. Soraya and IMWU, for instance by lending Ms. Soraya assistance in the organisation of a tour through Indonesia in July and August 2015 in which she will speak with local authorities about their responsibility and actions in relation to migration from Indonesia, a topic that was a taboo for many years.



Congratulation to [Yasmine Soraya](#) and all members of [Imwu Netherlands](#) on women have wings courage awards 2015. Hopefully, we can be more solid and achieve a goal - more significant goals. Together we can. si se puede, together we can, samen zijn we sterk!

Read more <http://www.womenhavewings.org/>

Meeting with our accountant from B&L accountants, getting ready for year-end report.



Information from DENHAAG Group

[Den Haag Wereldhuis](#) can help you in legal assistance, child and health care consultancy. Opening hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10.00-15.00

Vrouwengroup meeting twice a month, starting from 9 January

[Dokters van de Wereld \(NL\)](#) Den Haag is present every Wednesday from 10.00-15.00. You can get health consultancy, hospital payment assistance.

[IOM Nederland](#) Den Haag is also present every Thursday from 10:00 to 15:00, for the repatriation assistance.

[Imwu Netherlands](#) Den Haag is also present with prior agreement, please send us an message

Address: Paardenberg 1a, 2572XH, Den Haag

Please Find PICUM Working group reports by [Hafizh Atfin](#) representing IMWU

NL:http://www.imwu-nl.com/document/information/PICUM_workinggroupreport.pdf

CAMPAIGN AND LOBBY



On 20 October 2015, IMWU Netherlands attended discussion with Central Java governor, Mr. Ganjar Purnomo. In Q&A session, Yasmine Soraya as a representative said that there are many workers from Central Java with all issues and problems in the Netherlands.



We hope there is a special opportunity to discuss the recommendations and solutions to problems of Indonesian migrant workers.

IMWU NL supports campaign against domestic workers exploitation in embassy houses.
Read more

<http://www.volkskrant.nl/binnenland/-diplomaten-in-nederland-behandelen-personeel-als-slaven~a4157644/>

http://www.fairwork.nu/actueel/nieuws_van_fairwork/stop-uitbuiting-door-diplomaten.html



Representative from [Imwu Netherlands](#), [Ajeng Amoe](#) became a panel to convey problems and hopes from migrant workers in seminar “Pengembangan Madura menyambut MEA dengan memanfaatkan Potential Kearifan Lokal” on October 15th 2015 at Universitas Trunojoyo. This seminar was also attended by representative from Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, Mr. Hanif Dhakiri.

In this event, he stated that although MEA is already started, other countries could not be easily enter Indonesia market. However, we must get ready by preparing and developing our potential, especially in digital and technology aspect. Skill and knowledge development are not fixated on the level of education as many people (around 70%) still have education below senior high school (SMA). Balai Pelatihan also can accept students from any level of education. Indonesian government is putting their effort to improve our education quality while also emphasizing on creativity potential in community.



Please find the report of [OHCHR](#)'s seminar on the human rights of migrant domestic workers in an irregular situation , here

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Migration/Pages/GlobalAction.aspx>

I dedicate this piece for a friend of mine who shared her story during our dinner several years ago. My encounter with her had opened my eyes on the contribution of migrant workers in this country. Physically, emotionally. I have so much respect of what they do. Thanks [Jan Kees Helms](#) for transforming my words into an amazing film:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLO2nNqez44&feature=youtu.be>



participated in the event “Indonesian Women's Forum” on Sunday, December 6, 2015 from 11:00 to 19:00 at the Event Plaza, Rijswijk.

Until now, [Imwu Netherlands](#) has been dealing with several cases of violence against women, especially domestic violence from unregistered marriages. These are happened because of a lack of information about the rights of women and children in family, especially interracial (mixed) marriages. Interracial marriage is not a solution for getting residence permit or work permit. Therefore, IMWU NL supported and

We already had experiences and became victims from remittances misused and fraud by irresponsible parties who take advantages from migrant workers' vulnerable situation. Therefore, IMWU Netherlands supports sending money legally through the government's partner, Bank Negara Indonesia (BNI) for safety and helped increasing foreign exchange.

BNI BNI smart remittance **SURI-CHANGE** MONEY TRANSFER

Mari dukung pengiriman uang secara legal melalui partner resmi BNI demi keamanan pengiriman uang Anda dan membantu devisa negara

Info: Actie koers setiap weekend mulai Jumat sore hingga Minggu
Info cp: Dessy Irawati, PhD FeRSA & Yamine Soraya, LL.M

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SOLIDARITY

IMWU NL had guests, [Andriko Otang](#) from [Trade Union Rights Centre - TURC](#) and [Debbie Prabawati](#) from [Universitas Gadjah Mada](#)



Congratulations to IMWU Hongkong for Hassan Wirajuda Award in category “Masyarakat Madani”. Hopefully, we can be more solid!

<http://nasional.kompas.com/read/2015/10/20/21073241/Kemlu.Berikan.Penghargaan.Hassan.Wirajuda.kepada.13.Pendekar.Perlindungan.WNI>

VISIBILITY& PUBLIC AWARENESS

Movie Screening “Dispereert Niet” in Semarang with Widya Mitra





Discussion about migrants in Mediterranean at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam on 2 november 2015



IMWU NL participated in ACIKITA INDONESIAN FAIR on Sunday, 8 November 2015 from 11.00-21.00 at Ons huis party centrum, beatrijsstraat 120, den haag.

IMWU NL as panel on 29 October 2015 at Joe's Garage, Amsterdam



Movie Screening “Dispereert Niet” [Imwu Netherlands](#) in Taiwan. Thank you!



Movie Screening and Discussion “Dispereert Niet” on Sunday 8 November 2015 from 11.00-14.00 at KBRI Singapore, organized by our friends in Singapore ([Ummal Ummairah](#), etc).



Movie screening “Dispereert Niet” in Wonosobo. Thank you and greetings from Netherlands!



To commemorate Human Rights Day (10 December) and International Migrants Day (18 December) IMWU NL participated in the event “Refugees and Migrant Workers ARE HERE!”

The event was organized by Casco, We Are Here, Doorbraak and IMWU Netherlands on Saturday, December 19, 2015 at 18:00 until finished in Lange Nieuwstraat 7, Utrecht.



There were Movie Screeneng “Dispereert Niet”, coocking book promotion from We Are Here, living library, and music performance in this event.

ORGANISING & MOBILISING

IMWU Gathering 2015

As Indonesian proverb said 'tak kenal maka tak sayang', that's represented our togetherness in IMWU NL Amsterdam, Rotterdam, and Den Haag. Thank you for the cooperation and participation!





EMPOWERMENT

Working Group of Women and Manpower, Universitas Trunojoyo



Immigration and Consular Discussion by the Indonesian Embassy

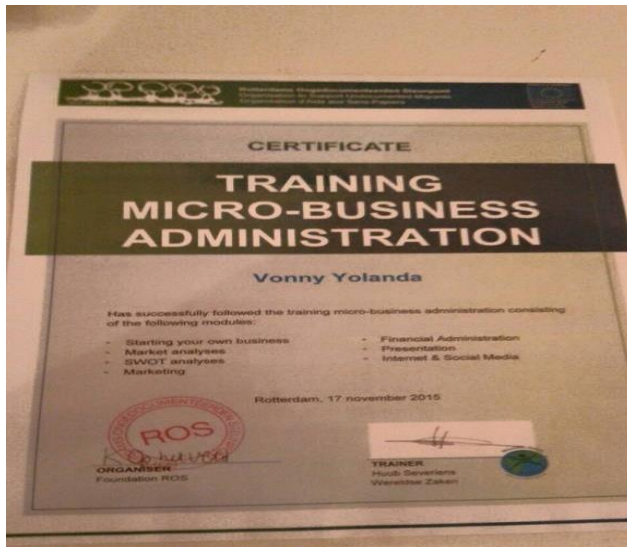
- Den Haag on 13 November 2015 from 17.00- finished at the Embassy
- Rotterdam on 15 November 2015 from 19:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Rechthuislaan 52
- Amsterdam on 22 November 2015 hours at Al-Ikhlâs Mosque, Amsterdam

Consular officers of Indonesian Embassy in the Netherlands have a lot of experience with the issue of Indonesian migrant workers and also have commitment to provide protection.



IMWU NL participated in Indonesian Migrant Workers Jamboree on 23-25 November 2015 in Jember. [Ajeng Amoe](#) came as IMWU's representative in this event.





Congratulations to our friends from IMWU Rotterdam who have passed the micro business administration training! We hope this training gave many benefits and can be shared to other members.

APPRECIATION 2015

Year-end Gathering (27 December 2015). End of 2015, we appreciated the hard work from IMWU's leaders while talking about the future, reflecting for better future. Happy New Year!

