

Summary

Believe in
The Hague

Election manifesto 2026-2030

ChristenUnie **SGP**

Believe in The Hague

ChristenUnie/SGP believes that people are created to live together, to the glory of God. This stands in sharp contrast to the individualism of our time. That is why we pursue a different kind of politics than other parties. We believe in an alternative: a society in which people reach out to one another.

The municipality must be in service of that society. This is its primary task: to ensure that people can flourish. For those who cannot manage on their own, the government must act as a shield for the vulnerable. This lies at the heart of Christian politics. ChristenUnie/SGP conducts politics based on the Bible, taking, among others, Micah 6:8 as a guiding principle:

“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

Together we bear the responsibility to do this: to build a future for our children and to spread hope in The Hague. ChristenUnie/SGP believes in God’s love for this world, for the Netherlands, and for The Hague. We believe in families, in initiatives that benefit the neighbourhood, the district, and the entire city. We believe in help for the vulnerable, a social and just city, a flourishing economy for people and nature, a safe, clean and accessible The Hague, and a reliable government.

This election manifesto is built on these pillars. We believe that the city can and must become more social, more just, and more compassionate. In doing so, we build a flourishing city. At the same time, we offer a disclaimer: this is not a blueprint for a perfect city. We do not possess all wisdom; everyone is needed to shape the city. We believe in the knowledge and commitment of residents of The Hague — Hagenaars, Hagenezen, Scheveningers and Loosduiners — to take these steps together.

We believe in The Hague, you too?

Key priorities

A City Where Everyone Feels at Home

- Building communities: affordable housing for families, students and seniors, priority for residents in their own neighbourhoods, and green, liveable streets with sufficient amenities.
- Ending homelessness by 2030.
- Room for the strength of society: community initiatives and churches make a difference in our city, and we therefore give them the space to do so.

Investing in People

- Out of debt: we invest in a sustainable approach to debt reduction and aim to reduce the percentage of households with debts to below 3% by 2030.
- Ending poverty: everyone should be able to participate in life in The Hague, regardless of the size of their wallet. We will simplify poverty programs.
- A city of makers: The Hague holds a wealth of talent in its practically trained workforce. We will create more internship opportunities with fair compensation and more practical jobs.

Doing Justice together

- An end to human trafficking and prostitution: we close prostitution streets and take firm action against sexual, criminal and labour exploitation.
- An addiction-free society: we propose a phase-out policy for coffeeshops and gambling halls and will launch a campaign against drug use.
- Getting the basics right: we will expand the Municipal Property Enforcement Team (Pandbrigade) and enforcement capacity to restore order at the basics — tackling overcrowding, keeping pavements clean and ensuring safety in public spaces.

Chapter 1: Building a House for Everyone

There is a major housing shortage in The Hague, and the number of residents in the city will continue to grow in the coming years. By 2030, an estimated 600,000 people will be living in The Hague. This makes it necessary to build enough new homes. At the same time, for ChristenUnie/SGP this numerical target is not the ultimate goal: ChristenUnie/SGP seeks to build communities.

This means creating space for people to meet one another, ensuring that sufficient facilities (such as schools, shops and general practitioners) are added when new housing is built, and avoiding the construction of nothing but small studio apartments. Affordability is given priority, and the community must be central. We do this, for example, by encouraging shared and community-oriented forms of housing that are suitable for a wide range of target groups, including people with disabilities: everyone can participate without limitation. In this way, ChristenUnie/SGP aims to build a home for everyone. The Hague must be a city where everyone can live comfortably.

The differences between neighbourhoods and districts are enormous: someone living in Moerwijk has a life expectancy that is on average ten years (!) shorter than in other parts of the city, such as Vogelwijk or Benoordenhout. The gap between neighbourhoods seems increasingly difficult to bridge. And yet, we believe that this gap can at least be narrowed. To achieve this, ChristenUnie/SGP makes clear choices: the strongest shoulders carry the most; we build more social housing in luxury neighbourhoods and more mixed housing (mid-priced and private-sector homes) in others.

We ensure that there remains space for families and that seniors can grow old in their own neighbourhoods. For ChristenUnie/SGP, a home for everyone also means that newcomers and refugees feel at home in The Hague. We provide sufficient small-scale reception facilities and work towards rapid integration. Above all, having a home begins with having a house: everyone must have a roof over their head. We are fully committed to the ambition of ending homelessness by 2030.

Special attention for: space for churches

The Hague is home to more than 250 faith-based organisations. Churches organise a wide range of activities in areas such as poverty alleviation, language education and social cohesion. They make a real difference. Unfortunately, around 35 churches are currently without premises and are actively searching for space in the city. In doing so, they encounter a wide range of problems and challenges in their dealings with the municipality. This must and can be done differently. ChristenUnie/SGP has a lot of ideas to change this (see page 15 in our manifesto). When the church flourishes, the whole city flourishes.



Chapter 2: Building a Social and Just City

ChristenUnie/SGP seeks to build a city in which the residents of The Hague and their children can participate fully, without being limited by poverty or debt. The Hague must be a vibrant city in which healthy and meaningful coexistence has room to flourish in all its facets. ChristenUnie/SGP therefore chooses a strong financial commitment to break the cycle of poverty and debt. We believe that people should not be unnecessarily left on the sidelines. Everyone is valuable and has talents - talents that can be used for our city. Participation according to one's abilities is the way out of isolation and poverty. In this way, we build a social and just city.

ChristenUnie/SGP believes in the strength of society: a society in which people care for one another. Government should facilitate this as effectively as possible. As a municipality, we must therefore combat loneliness, invest heavily in spaces for meeting and connection, and improve access to social support under the Wmo (Social Support Act). In this way, we build communities.

In order to participate, the size of one's wallet must not matter: every child should be able to play sports, visit the library, and receive the right youth care when needed. For strong communities, we set clear boundaries: ChristenUnie/SGP chooses an addiction-free society, in which we stop gambling and drug use.

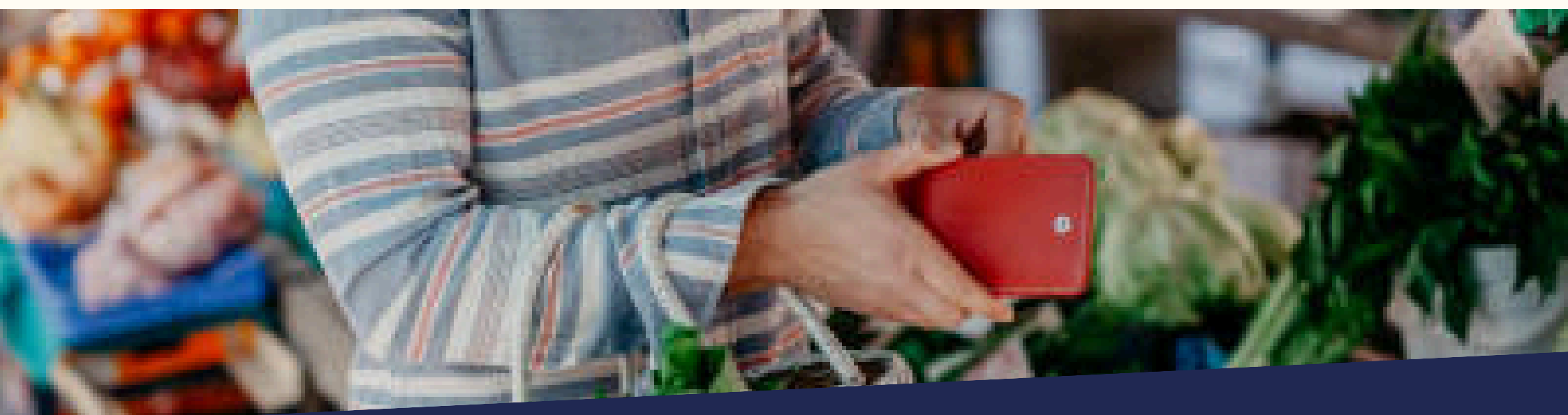


Chapter 3: Building a Thriving Economy in The Hague

ChristenUnie/SGP stands for an economy that exists for people, not the other way around. An economy that is not solely focused on growth and consumption, but on the quality of life. Work provides self-development, purpose, and connection. This can be paid employment, but also in caregiving or charity. An economy is only healthy if everyone has a fair chance and takes responsibility, if work and leisure are in balance, and if growth is green and respects limits. We focus on a circular economy, with reusable materials, and products that we recycle and repair. In this way, we do justice to creation, to one another, and to future generations.

For ChristenUnie/SGP, building a thriving economy also means giving entrepreneurs the space to operate. A vital and entrepreneurial SME sector is essential for a flourishing city. Entrepreneurs should not be burdened unnecessarily with stacks of rules from city hall, but should instead have a government that provides a clear economic vision and gives them the room to contribute to it. The Hague is a city of makers: we literally have gold in our hands with our practically skilled residents who build our city. This deserves fair recognition, ample internship opportunities for vocational (MBO) students, and good example-setting from city hall.

ChristenUnie/SGP chooses to invest in people. By investing in people, we stimulate the flow into employment. Work is rewarding, but also beneficial for individuals and their social environment. We allocate funds to bring The Hague's unemployment rate below the national average.



Chapter 4: Building a Safe, Clean, and Accessible City

ChristenUnie/SGP is committed to building a safe The Hague. In times of polarization, rising (geo)political tensions, and an increase in violent incidents, we must actively work for peace in the city. Justice supports peace, and this requires a strong commitment - especially to keeping the city safe. For ChristenUnie/SGP, prevention is central: for example, investing more funds to prevent youth crime. A vital society is a safe society. In a city where you are safe and feel safe, life is more enjoyable.

To make the city pleasant to live in, our roads, bike paths and sidewalks must also be well-maintained: we believe in a clean city. A clean neighbourhood fosters pride in your living environment. This is part of “getting the basics right”: the municipality collects waste promptly, handles reports effectively, and enforces rules against littering.

The third key point in this chapter is accessibility in and around the city. ChristenUnie/SGP believes that everyone should be able to participate in traffic. Every resident of The Hague should be able to travel to work, the doctor, or family. This means we must build an accessible city with accessible services. Mobility brings people together. It also means that different forms of transport must be accessible for all budgets: affordability of public transport, shared mobility, and parking is an important condition according to ChristenUnie/SGP.

Special attention for: An End to Prostitution and Human Trafficking

The Hague has the largest red light district in the country (even more than Amsterdam). It is degrading, a source of human trafficking, and does not fit with the city of Peace and Justice. Unfortunately, labour exploitation also occurs regularly, for example at embassies. Every human being is valuable to ChristenUnie/SGP, which is why prostitution and human trafficking have no place in our city. At page 35 in our manifesto we present our ideas.

Chapter 5: Building a reliable local government in The Hague

The government plays a crucial role in our society. It should promote justice, stand up for the vulnerable in our city, and serve all residents. Yet ChristenUnie/SGP has deliberately chosen to place government as the last theme in this programme: society comes first. We believe in the strength of the community. All societal initiatives that are set up by citizens deserve space. Our city is diverse, made up of a multitude of minorities and faith communities. They must be able to come together freely. The government exists to protect them and to create a safe space in which this can happen. At the same time, the government should act with restraint and intervene only when necessary. In this way, the government becomes an ally of society.

In recent years, however, trust in the government has steadily declined, and the gap has grown between residents who are able to fully participate and those who are not. Yet the government should above all serve as a safety net for the most vulnerable. Restoring trust begins with a government that is reliable and approachable. In 2024, ChristenUnie/SGP submitted an initiative proposal containing thirteen improvement measures, aimed at creating a government that is close to its citizens and enables residents, entrepreneurs, and communities to flourish.

A service-oriented government works together with the city. Good participation processes are essential for this. Residents must be actively involved in projects in their neighbourhoods, and those with their own plans for their streets must have the right to challenge the government. We also demonstrate reliability by working together with key partners in the city on multi-year collaborations. This creates stability and clarity.

