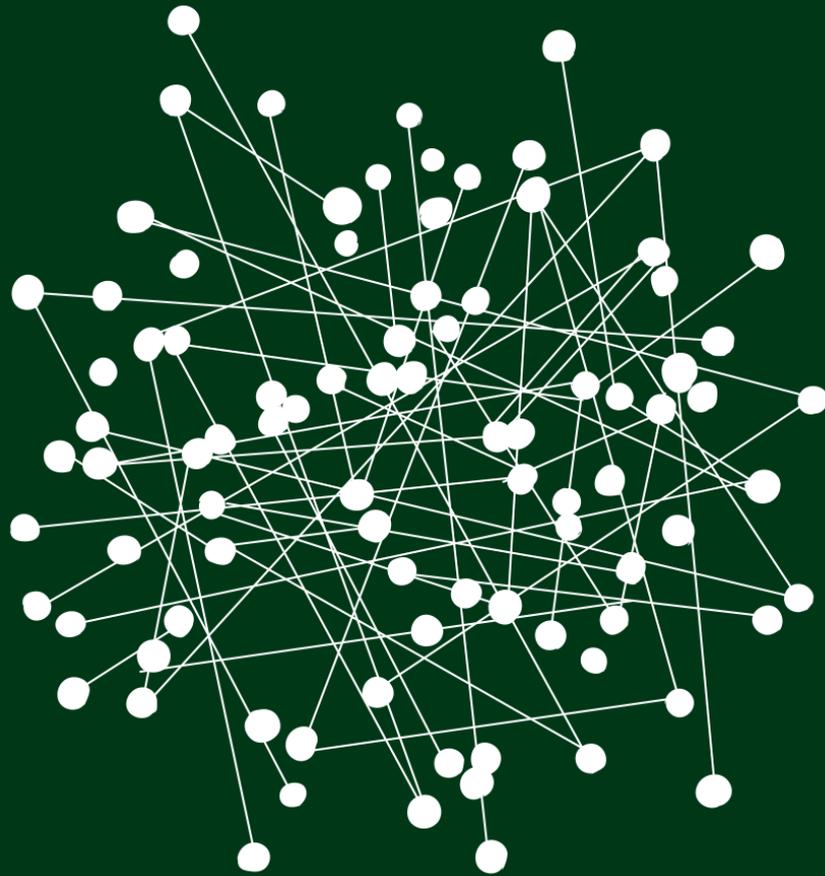


CIROS

# SUSTAINABILITY POLICY



CIROS  
IRO community

This century is a century for change. Change from top to bottom. Change in our economy, social context, and relation with the planet. Change is essential for today but most importantly for tomorrow and every day that comes next. Sustainable development of our societies is essential to ensure we can meet our present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. At CIROS we strive to be part of this change and to participate in this great movement towards a sustainable future. Specific goals regarding the improvement of sustainable development should be announced at the first GA of the academic year. It is important to emphasize that the whole board is responsible for the implementation of the goals and the change towards sustainable development.

This statement shall be used to hold the association accountable to its sustainability commitment. To start off, the following five goals will be set and shall be followed and achieved within the agreed timeframe of five years:

1. CIROS events shall be organised and run in the most sustainable manner possible.
2. CIROS will create a network of external partners and collaborations with fellow student organisations that are also committed to sustainable development.
3. CIROS shall strive to provide and promote goods that are as sustainable as possible within the limitations it may face.
4. CIROS commits to report its sustainability level progress in a transparent manner.
5. CIROS will work to raise awareness on the issue of sustainable development within the organisation and the student body as a whole.

## 1. Event sustainability

All CIROS events will be organised with sustainability in mind. CIROS aims to reduce its waste to zero, to use reusable products as much as possible, and to recycle all the waste it might still produce. The following actions shall be taken in order to achieve greater event sustainability:

- An internal policy shall be drafted to educate internal working members on the ways events can be made more sustainable and the standards events should hold up to in order to fulfill the sustainability minimum levels set by the association.
- The board and committee heads shall undergo a sustainability training at the beginning of each academic year to provide them with the necessary tools to make CIROS sustainable.
- Event proposals will include a sustainability category to be filled in when applicable to explain the (non)sustainability of events and encourage a sustainability mindset when proposing events.
- Vegetarian, plant-based and local food options for events shall be strongly encouraged.

- No single use products shall be used at CIROS events in accordance with European regulations (e.g. plastic cups, plastic cutlery, etc.).
- Committees shall be responsible to separate waste and recycle at their events based on the availability of recycling stations, and shall ensure that no waste is left behind.
- Gifts for speakers shall be picked with a sustainable mindset focused on necessity, added value, and wrapping. *If gifts need to be wrapped, we aim to use recycled materials, such as newspapers. Do not gift items that have no added value and the recipient will throw away or never use (e.g. a random mug). Highly encouraged are: gift vouchers, items that can be consumed and recycled, or handmade items.*

## 2. Sustainable network

CIROS aims at collaborating with external partners who strive to be as sustainable as possible. We are aware of the fact that no external partner is going to be completely zero waste, however the focus of external partners should be on improving their production towards sustainable development. We emphasize the importance of having a shared mission towards sustainable development.

- When associating with new external partners, CIROS shall verify their sustainability standards before deciding to officialise the partnership.
- CIROS will try to organise events linked to the topic of sustainability with its partners for their benefits and those of the student body.
- When collaborating with fellow student associations, CIROS shall ensure that events are sustainable according to the actions points from part 1.

## 3. Merchandise

CIROS aims to sell products that are respectful of the planet and good for the people. As we currently live in an unsustainable highly materialistic society, CIROS will attempt to provide goods that are produced according to certain standards and that provide actual added value.

- The final product should be made in the Netherlands, or within Europe at worst, to reduce the carbon footprint of delivery as much as possible.
- CIROS commits to deliver products they sell by bike, or have them picked up at a set location, rather than through postal shipping unless absolutely necessary.
- CIROS should take into account that a product sold by CIROS is useful and has an added value and is not just a branded product.

- When picking merchandise producers CIROS shall check the transparency of their webshop and whether they are accredited with the following sustainability standards : at minimum Oeko-tex 100 but ideally GOTS certified. Additionally, with the following labor standards: at minimum Wrap but ideally Fair Wear Foundation.

#### 4. Sustainability report

CIROS commits to a yearly reporting on its progress regarding sustainability within the association. The report will reflect on all of the above action points and the five key goals mentioned. Additionally, every five years an in-depth inquiry shall be organised by the board to reflect on the progress made over the past five years based on the yearly reports. The purpose of this quinquennial inquiry will be to allow the board to update this Sustainability statement according to their new situation.

- The CIROS Sustainability Report shall be written by the internal and external officers at the end of the academic year, but the whole board will take responsibility for it.
- The report shall be presented at the last General Assemblies of the year to allow communal reflection.
- The quinquennial inquiries shall be used as checkmarks to reflect on the evolution of the past five years and for goal setting for the upcoming five years.
- Any change to the Sustainability statement shall be passed in a General Assembly with a majority vote.
- The CIROS Sustainability reports are intended to report progress on the association's sustainability and to provide transparency to members as a way to hold the CIROS board accountable to its sustainable commitments and goals.

#### 5. Raising awareness and conclusion

Through all these goals and action points, CIROS shall do its best to raise awareness on the need for sustainable development. Whether through events, partnerships, merchandise or reports, CIROS commits to spread ideas and values that can bring change to the student body and our society as a whole. Sustainability shall be at the heart of every board's work and in the minds of every internal members' actions.

Every person who takes on a role on the CIROS board will have the responsibility to address the goals put down in this Sustainability statement. Being a board member will now also be about actively working to achieve these long term sustainable development goals.

