

	<p style="text-align: center;"> ISS STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND - SSH STICHTING STUDENTEN HULP FONDS – 'I.S.S.' RABO Bank Account NL07 RABO 0316 9098 90 Stichting Studenten Hulp Fonds - ISS The Hague </p> <p style="text-align: center;">ANNUAL REPORT 2023</p>
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Dear Contributors,

The response the SSH Board continued to receive in 2023 from the ISS community and beyond in our request for contributions to help our students in need was heart-warming and wonderful to see the solidarity of our community to step in and help each other. We thank you for your support and continuous support in years to come.

In our fourth annual report to the community, we highlight the main activities of SSH in 2023.

1. SSH on ISS website

The annual report of 2023 will be posted on ISS website: <https://www.iss.nl/en/about-iss/support-our-students/foundation-student-support-fund>. The webpage is also shared with ISS PhD Alumni Association (IPAA) in requesting support from PhD alumni who wants to contribute towards SSH.

2. Financial report

A total of 107 incidental donations were received from ISS community members, plus we received monthly donations from seven ISS community members. The total amount donated was EUR 5.532,20. SSH supported over 2023 five students in need for a total of EUR 6.072,04. This year, we spent more on grants than was received in donations.

3. Fundraising

SSH sent out two flyers in June and December to the ISS community and retired members requesting their support to assist students in dire situations.

SSH would be requiring more funds to keep the momentum of supporting students yearly. We continue to depend on and look forward to your contributions. A regular monthly donation through the bank will render your contribution especially effective, though occasional donations are very welcome.

What was new this year was a highly appreciated initiative of the Welfare Office to ask students for voluntary individual donations to SSH when benefitting from opportunities such as (free) Dutch classes and/or other events and visits (Amsterdam Light Festival, VIVA, Revulot, Stroopwafelfabriek). This is a very welcome addition to the fund, as students were always underrepresented amongst the donor community.

4. Meetings

In 2023, the SSH Board met twice in February and October and continued consulting all requests, arising matters and decision-making processes by email.

5. Change in board members

With Freek Schiphorst stepping down due to illness and Wicky Meynen retiring from the Board after serving SSH for almost 20 years of service, the Board needed fresh members to continue the dedicated service to students. In November, the Board welcomed Martin Blok and Farhad Mukhtarov to join the team. SSH Board thanks Freek and Wicky for their tireless efforts in supporting the students and their wellbeing.

6. An Ode to Freek

Freek played an instrumental role in SSH dedicating many of his years (from ?? until 2022) in assisting students in need, bridging various needs of SSH by liaising with various parties at ISS ensuring SSH requests are met in continuing to support the students, frequent engagements with the Student Office, IB, and through his yearly and timely flyers to the ISS community requesting financial support from community. We still till date share these flyers with the community and carry on the work with ISS that he carefully established with the SSH members. SSH had to say farewell to Freek late 2022 when his illness made him quite tired, and he decided to step down in November 2022 and passed away in 2023. His absence is felt in SSH. He is fondly remembered in SSH and his dedication and work to SSH still continues by members of SSH. Thank you for your contribution and support to SSH Freek!

A heartfelt thanks to all of you from the members of SSH Board

Kees Biekart (Treasurer), Sharmini Bisessar (Secretary), Martin Blok, Shanti George, Loes Keyzers, Wicky Meynen, Farhad Mukhtarov, Freek Schiphorst (who was largely on sick leave) and Peter de Valk (Chair)