



Election Manifesto

Progressief Rechten 2025-2026





Dear law student,

During the week of May 12-16, it's that time again, the university elections are taking place! Progressief Rechten is the oldest faculty council association and is rooted in a firm tradition of student participation. As our name suggests, we are not afraid of progress and new developments. Progressief Rechten is committed to an accessible, innovative and flexible faculty. We want to make sure that you, as a law student, can study at a faculty where there is a wide range of efforts to sustainably improve the quality of education, where there is room for extracurricular activities, transparent communication and where student welfare is always paramount.

Before you is the election program of Progressief Rechten for the year 2025-2026. We have tried to explain and concretize our positions and intentions for the new academic year as best we can. It will soon be up to you as a student to determine who may take a seat on the Faculty Council. Progressief Rechten is fully committed to our faculty and has been a stable and reliable representative of the interests of the law student for many years. Progressief Rechten is easily accessible to you.

Want to share something with us or have questions? You can always contact us via our Instagram, Facebook page or email.

Progressief Rechten, Moving Forward!

*Guy Kortés,
List leader Progressief Rechten*

Educational Quality

Availability of college recordings

We believe it is important for students to be present during lectures; we want to continue to encourage this. However, online education also has many advantages. One of them is that it allows students to re-watch the lectures leading up to the exam. However, for many students there are also legitimate reasons why they are unable to attend a lecture. Consider the long distances they have to travel to attend lectures due to the housing shortage in Groningen, public transport strikes or medical conditions. Nor is "just live in Groningen" feasible for everyone, as there are also students who cannot live nearby due to personal and/or financial circumstances. Education must be and remain accessible. That is why we believe it is important to have a good hardship clause for students whose personal circumstances prevent them from being physically present. This is ultimately to ensure that everyone has an equal opportunity to graduate in their own way. In this regard, students taking multiple studies should also be accommodated with wider access to recordings of lectures.

Subjects focused on academic skills

It is critical that law students have well-developed academic skills, such as writing skills, whether they pursue a career in law or academia. The ability to formulate clearly and correctly in writing is essential for the future lawyer. However, we find that little attention is paid to this aspect in undergraduate courses. The subjects Legal Research Skills 1 & 2 and Student Court appear to prepare insufficiently for a legal career. For this reason, we advocate a greater focus on writing skills within existing courses, or the introduction of new (elective) courses aimed at improving academic skills.

On-site exam review for clear feedback

The current policy of teachers around exam inspection is very fragmented. For some exams you have to send an e-mail to get information about the exam. For other courses, inspection is possible for thirty minutes and for others it is three hours. Progressief Rechten thinks this is a bad thing. The threshold for asking questions in response to the exam questions and answers is also felt to be quite high when this can only be done by online form or e-mail. Thus, it is sometimes difficult to formulate a question as the student intends. In addition, this fragmented policy can also cause a lot of confusion. Therefore, we believe that subject teachers should also organize a physical question hour, where students can ask questions related to assessment.

There are times when a student fails a subject in the final year of the bachelor's degree, preventing him or her from starting the master's degree. However, during the covid period, a soft cut rule was instituted, allowing students who only had one or two bachelor's courses left to pass to already start their master's studies. We do not understand why this is not a standard policy on our faculty. Therefore, we advocate for a modified "soft cut" regulation so that students can continue their studies and not have to spend an extra year studying because of one or two courses.

Get rid of 'no screen policy'

Some courses prohibit the use of laptops during lectures. This is the so-called "no screen policy". We believe that there are many different ways of studying and a student should be free to choose which way is best for him. For example, every student studies in a different way, so even a laptop works better for some than others. It also helps to avoid wasting paper. Therefore, we also want the no screen policy to no longer be used!

International students

International students are an essential part of our faculty. PR believes that the voice of both international and Dutch students should have an equal platform and their opinions be taken into account. Because of the presence of people with various cultural and diverse backgrounds, they contribute to opening up the faculty and making it a warm and welcoming environment for everyone. International students within the faculty, however, are affected by budget cuts just as Dutch students are. The goal of the PR is to try and make possible changes, regarding, for example, the mandatory exchange international students have to go on and the way it is organised. Moreover, the PR fraction believes that the faculty moves forward when both Dutch and international students have the chance to express themselves and share their opinions and points.

Student Welfare

Adequate support for study delays

Progressief Rechten believes that faculty should take care of students who are delayed in their studies. There are many conceivable circumstances in which a person may be delayed. Consider situations such as being ill for a long time or the death of a family member. There are also students who are family caregivers or otherwise dealing with special circumstances. In these cases the faculty must be there for their students. We believe that proper guidance and customization is necessary in order to help students along the way, especially during more difficult times.

Visibility of confidential advisors

In recent years, confidential advisors have become increasingly important. It is now the case that every study association is required to designate a confidential advisor. This is a great development. Progressief Rechten advocates for support for student association confidential advisors. Unfortunately, the confidential advisors are not always easy to find. What is their job and who can students go to with questions or things they are worried about? We want to make this clearer for them so that you, as a student, can find the right person.

leniency for strikes

This year there have been more public transportation strikes than ever. As a result, students are unable to attend classes on location. We believe the university should act differently in situations like this. Lectures should occasionally be released online when there is a strike, and students should not be immediately excluded from bonus programs due to lack of attendance at working groups.

Hardship clause mandatory working groups

Currently, certain subjects have mandatory work groups. In subjects such as legal research skills, this is a requirement for getting a grade and in other subjects, it must be done in order to claim the bonus scheme. Ensuring that students attend and get good study results is certainly a priority. Nevertheless, there are possible situations where the student may not be able to attend for a change. Therefore, it is very important that when shaping an obligation to attend working groups, there should be a good and fair hardship clause. In the event of illness or other unpleasant circumstances, we believe that an exception to the obligation should apply. In addition, teachers should have the opportunity to make their own decision in this regard, rather than it having to be done through a roundabout way.

Exam times

Progressief Rechten wants faculty to change exam times. Most of the out-of-town buses no longer run to 8 pm. Students who live outside the city rely for the most part on public transportation to get home and thus on these particular buses. Students who do live in Groningen also experience pressure when taking an exam in the evening. Not everyone will have enough concentration until 9 p.m. to perform well in an exam. For the student's well-being, it would therefore be best to schedule exams on weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Communication and transparency

PowerPoint available prior to lecture

Almost every student has experienced it: you are reading the slides or typing something up during the lecture, but the lecturer is already clicking away. In itself, this is not a disaster. On the other hand, it can contribute enormously to the ability to concentrate on what the lecturer is saying when you already have the slides at your disposal. This is why we think it is important that before each lecture, the PowerPoint slides are already made available. Students can thus then structure their notes better and generally prepare better for the lecture.

Communication regarding exams

Progressief Rechten believes that the faculty should always communicate to its students in a transparent and timely manner. Both when it comes to general information and examinations. Unfortunately, there is increasingly a lack of clarity regarding what exactly is expected of the student on the examination, for different subjects. For example, is it an open book exam? Are case law collections allowed? Each form of examination has its own form of study, so it is important that students know where they stand. Progressief Rechten therefore believes that this can be prevented by communicating this to students in a timely and, above all, clear manner. For example, an informative dashboard could help with this.

Mandatory communication of standard answers

Too often we still see that in the inspection and discussion of exams that standard answers are not published for certain courses. Because time is often limited due to the large number of students at the inspection and there are many demands on the question about an answer, it is not clear to students what is expected of them when they do not have an answer (completely) correct. Progressief Rechten therefore advocates that it should be required faculty wide to publish (in writing) standard answers when examinations are viewed.

Readerprices in check

Many courses in law school require the purchase of the prescribed reader. However, the prices of these readers vary and are sometimes very high. As Progressief Rechten, we advocate for standard fair prices for the readers.

Equal opportunities

Extra curricular activities

Progressief Rechten considers it very important that students are given the opportunity and space to develop and deepen themselves outside their studies. Students can do this, for instance, by doing a committee, board year, exchange abroad or an employee participation council. As far as Progressief Rechten is concerned, the visibility for these forms of personal development could be much better and should be increased. This can be done by actively communicating about these possibilities already from the first year of study. In this way, students learn from the start of their studies how they can further develop themselves and become more involved with the faculty.

Clear information about financial compensation

Both the existence of scholarships and other forms of compensation are not always clear and visible to students. Too often, students still hear indirectly about the existence of these opportunities. Progressief Rechten argues for greater visibility of the possibilities of financial compensation, for example by publishing this on the Law knowledgebase and actively communicating about it.



Publication of student assistantships

Progressief Rechten advocates that vacancies relating to student assistantships be published faculty-wide in a uniform manner via Brightspace. Many students have the interest and ability to do a student assistantship, but still miss out. In fact, it often happens that when a student assistantship position is available, there is no public announcement. Progressief Rechten believes in equal opportunities, and therefore wants to encourage the faculty to draw more attention to positions within the faculty where possible that students can apply for.