



Utrecht International Center

Strengthening the Utrecht Region

2025 was a year of consolidation, growth and increased visibility for the Utrecht International Center. We strengthened our role as the region's official starting point for internationals by connecting people, employers, municipalities and international partners.

We focused on providing clear and accessible information for internationals and labour migrants, supporting employers and municipalities in attracting and retaining talent, and reinforcing the Utrecht Region's international position through regional, national and international collaboration.

As a key contributor to the region's strategic profile Utrecht, Heart of Health, we align our efforts with this vision to advance a healthy, inclusive and sustainable society. Guided by three interconnected pillars: a future-proof regional labour market, regional branding and social cohesion. We continue to build a welcoming, resilient and internationally connected Utrecht Region.

Explanation of quote labels

The colours indicate UIC's contribution areas and indicate which quote relates to each area.

- Future-Proof Regional Labour Market
- Regional Branding
- Social Cohesion



10,000 support interactions

Around 8,000 internationals visited the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND), Civil Affairs and information desk at the Utrecht International Center. In addition, we supported over 2,000 EU labour migrants with accessible information that contributes to fair, well-informed and sustainable participation in the regional labour market. Together, these services help internationals navigate administrative procedures and build a stable foundation for living and working in the Utrecht Region.



“International talent is an essential human asset for the business climate of the metropolitan region Utrecht as the ‘Heart of Health’. By partnering with the Utrecht International Center, Economic Board Utrecht ensures a welcoming and inclusive environment where global professionals can truly flourish.”

Michiel Dijkman – Director Economic Board Utrecht

Country of origin of visitors Top 10



2. India
3. China
4. United Kingdom
5. Turkey
6. Spain
7. Italy
8. Germany
9. Iran
10. Australia

“The Utrecht International Center (UIC) is a leading example of integrated services for internationals. In partnership with Utrecht University, it is evolving into a knowledge hub that combines practice and research into a valuable point of reference.”

Report 'Van versnippering naar verbinding' - Province of North Brabant

Frequently asked questions

In 2025, we received 2,388 questions about working and living in the Utrecht Region.

The most common settling-in topics were:

- 1. Employment**
including finding work and internships
- 2. Healthcare**
including health insurance and navigating the healthcare system
- 3. Education**
including Dutch language courses and primary education



“The Utrecht International Center is a key partner for ROM Utrecht Region in strengthening the region’s international positioning. By connecting international talent with innovative companies and public partners, UIC accelerates sustainable economic growth and innovation in the Utrecht Region.”

Tom Willebrandts - Manager Foreign Investments & International Trade ROM Utrecht Region

Partner network

We welcomed new businesses, foundations, and non-profit organizations to our partner network in 2025. It now consists of 100+ partners, ranging from corporate organizations to service providers, in a wide range of sectors. With the support of these business partners, we can provide the international community and staff of corporate partners with the high-quality information and services they need.



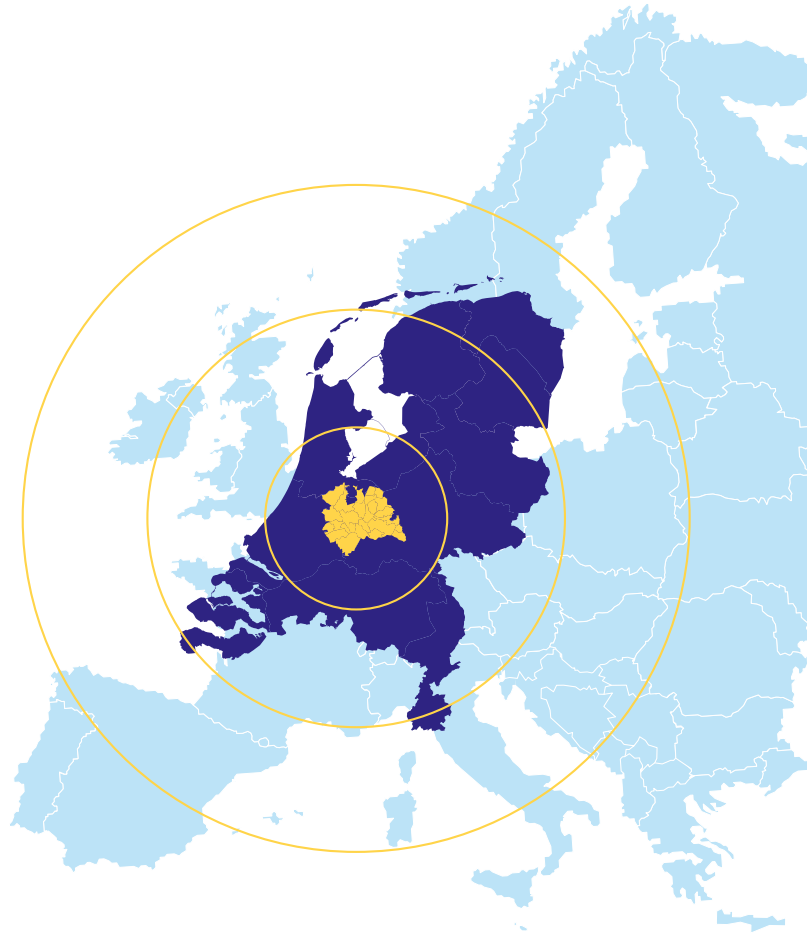
“I didn’t know how to open a bank account, where to take Dutch classes and most importantly where to meet other people. The Utrecht International Center supported me in addressing these challenges.”

Julia Drylewicz - International resident from France living in Utrecht

New and deepened partnerships

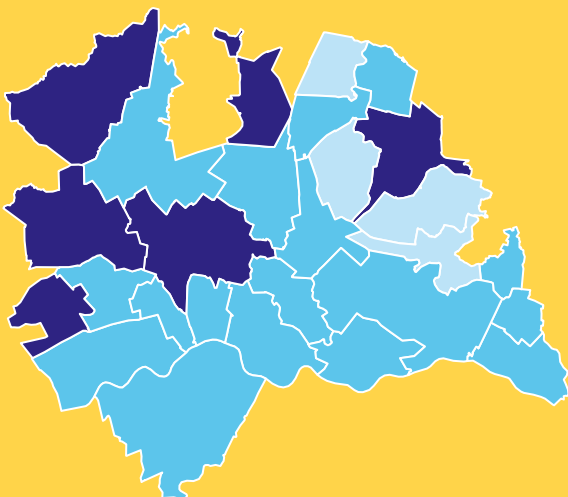
The Utrecht International Center strengthened its regional, national and international positioning through new and deepened partnerships, including a new strategic partnership with Economic Board Utrecht and a study visit from Statens servicecenter (Sweden), focused on exchanging knowledge on integrated public services for internationals.

The launch of the International Talent Network and UIC’s active role in the MAGNET project, which officially kicked off in Emilia Romagna, further contributed to a stronger regional ecosystem. At the same time, the WIN information point intensified cooperation with employers, municipalities and regional institutions, supporting fair, well-informed and sustainable labour participation for EU labour migrants in the Utrecht Region.



“For the first time in two years, I felt treated as a human being rather than as a problem, thanks to the people from the WIN information point at the Utrecht International Center.”

Polish unemployed/homeless labour migrant



Collaborations with municipalities

The Utrecht International Center collaborates with a growing number of municipalities in the Utrecht Region through full and economic partnerships, and efforts are underway to bring the remaining municipalities on board in the coming year.

- Partnered up with the Utrecht International Center
- Pending partnership
- Yet to contact



“The co-founding of the International Talent Network underlines the strategic ambition of the Utrecht International Center: to build a strong, connected ecosystem together with European partners that attracts, supports and retains international talent, essential to the region’s economic strength and innovative capacity.”

International Talent Network

International Talent Network



Building on the 2024 Cities for Talent Meeting, the Utrecht International Center partnered with welcome centers in Brno, Barcelona, Munich and Emilia-Romagna to establish the International Talent Network, a platform for sharing expertise on attracting, supporting and retaining international talent. In 2025, the network organised six online sessions with more than 20 expat centres, providing insights and best practices that strengthened UIC’s services and the Utrecht Region’s international positioning.

The network officially launched at the end of 2025 with its own branding and website developed by UIC. Participation has expanded UIC’s international reach, partnerships and the professionalisation of its services for international residents and employers. In the coming year, the network aims to deepen and expand collaboration, supporting each partner’s efforts and contributing to a more inclusive and resilient Europe.

Supporting EU labour migrants through WIN



The WIN information point is an important focal point of our work in 2025. We continued offering multilingual guidance on rights, accommodation, registration and healthcare, supported by outreach activities in neighbourhoods, workplaces and community locations. We helped a total of 2,000 labour migrants at our WIN information point.

By integrating the WIN information point into our existing services, UIC ensures coordinated, low-threshold support that is increasingly referenced by other regions.

Work in **NL**



Connecting with our community and network

In 2025, we reached many internationals, businesses and government organisations.

The name change in 2024 proved highly successful, with branded searches for “Utrecht International Center” increasing by

2,164%

and significantly improving our visibility.

Most website visitors came from:

1. The Netherlands
2. India
3. United States
4. United Kingdom
5. Germany



“The Utrecht International Center - with an impressive integration of services, partners, and volunteers - represents a valuable and inspiring reference for the MAGNET project and other territories seeking to strengthen talent attraction, integration and retention.”

Gianandrea Esposito - Expert in territorial marketing and communication Project MAGNET

10,000 people

follow the Utrecht International Center on social media and via the newsletter

“A brilliant example of work that gives result”

Emma Flod, The National Government Service Centre (Sweden)

“It is valuable to have a place like the WIN information point at the Utrecht International Center, where I can learn about both my obligations and my rights in my own language.”

Polish labour migrant

1,000

people visited the events of the Utrecht International Center and our ambassador club

adding up to a total of **15** events





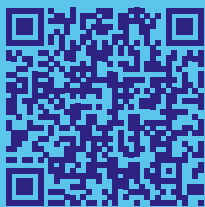
“The Utrecht International Center supports our international team members as they settle into the region, offering guidance on local procedures and opportunities to connect. Their work helps build community, feel at home, and thrive personally.”

Applied Medical – International medical technology company



“The WIN information point at the Utrecht International Center is a highly important partner for us. Thanks to the clear and accessible information provided by the WIN information point, we can effectively contribute to the prevention of homelessness. We greatly value the pleasant and professional collaboration.”

Kasia Dojka, Coordinator Stichting Barka Utrecht



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Want to stay up to date on the Utrecht International Center's developments? Subscribe to our business newsletter and follow us on LinkedIn to stay informed. Please visit our website or send an email to info@utrechtinternationalcenter.com for more information about our services and partnerships.



Founding partners of the Utrecht International Center

The official starting point for internationals in the Utrecht Region

