



Francesca Vanthielen – Belgian television actress and host, radio presenter and economist

Francesca Vanthielen obtained a master in Applied Economic Science and a master in International Politics at the Catholic University of Leuven. At the Mountview Theatre School in London she post graduated in Acting. She hosted several popular show programmes on national television and became famous for her acting in two films and several television series. She also performed on stage in several theatre plays. Francesca likes to write as well. For the newspaper De Morgen she wrote articles about refugees in Belgium and on a regular basis they publish one of her op-ed's. For four years she was an active ambassador for UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees). At present she is very much involved in the topic of climate change. She is one of the founding members of the Klimaatzaak, a citizen's initiative that started a legal procedure against policy makers. In October 2012 she participated at an expedition to the North Pole with the Greenpeace ship Arctic Sunrise in order to raise international awareness for the disastrous consequences of Climate Change.