



Ans Hekkenberg works as a communications advisor for FOM. She also works as a freelance science writer, for media such as De Volkskrant and KIJK. On top of that, she is the ambassador of the Dutch Technology Pact – an effort by the government, industry and education to encourage young people to choose a career in the STEM fields. As the ambassador of Technology Pact, Ans specifically aims to inspire girls to pursue a career in science or tech. In her talk, she will take you along on her personal journey, from 'that girl that kinda likes space stuff', to STEM ambassador. She'll talk about the challenges she encountered on the way, how she experienced gender bias, and why these experiences matter. Finally, she will ask everyone the question: how can *you* contribute to make a change? Ans' message: we're willing and we're able, so let's get to work!