

# The Flemish Republic

*A quarterly newsletter explaining why  
Flanders should become an independent state*

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## Kalashnikovs in Brussels

Following a shooting incident in Brussels last January, in which a Belgian police officer was seriously wounded by immigrant thugs using Kalashnikovs, the Belgian authorities have finally realized that what the Vlaams Belang has been saying for years is true: Belgium has lost control over Brussels, the capital of Belgium and the European Union.

Boroughs such as Sint-Joost, Schaarbeek, Molenbeek, Kuregem and Anderlecht, to the north and the west of the city centre, have become no go zones where the police are no longer welcome and do not dare to go. Policemen are being shot at with machine guns; local police headquarters have been burned down. Last January, a school in Kuregem announced that it was moving to a safer part of town.

### Quick

More than half of the Brussels population is of foreign origin. There are ethnic criminal gangs of North Africans, Black Africans and East Europeans. They control ever expanding areas of town. People who enter these neighbourhoods risk their lives, as a camera crew of the Dutch television experienced last February when they were assaulted by a group of young immigrants.

Meanwhile, the police have had enough. All the Flemish parties in Brussels, including the leftist Greens are asking for a restoration of law and order. Many doubt, however, whether the situation

will improve because the French-speaking parties are downplaying the seriousness of the problem. The mayors of most of the Brussels boroughs are politicians of the *Parti Socialiste* (PS), the corrupt Walloon Socialist Party. These mayors depend on the votes of the immigrants. The latter were given Belgian citizenship, via the so-called "Quick Citizenship Act," at the behest of the governing PS so that they could vote PS.

### Deliberate

The victims of the PS policies are the ordinary indigenous inhabitants of Brussels who have been deliberately driven out of Brussels because many of them are Dutch-speaking Flemings. In 2001, **Claude Eerdeken**s, the PS chairman of the Naturalisation Committee of the Belgian Parliament, declared that 98.8% of the naturalisation requests in Brussels were filed in French. "Our committee does more for the frenchification of Brussels than the Flemings can ever do to prevent it," he boasted.

It is very clear who is responsible for the present situation. It is also clear that there is only one way out of this mess. The Vlaams Belang aims for Flemish independence with Brussels as the capital of Flanders. This will end the irresponsible attempts to deprive Brussels of its Dutch identity by driving the local people out and using immigrant thugs to achieve that goal.



## The Voice of the People

Last February, the former Belgian Prime Minister Guy Verhofstadt publicly criticized the French government of Nicolas Sarkozy because the latter considers taking measures to preserve France's national identity. Polls indicate that the indigenous peoples of many European countries, not just France, are worried about the impact of immigration on their own national identity.

Verhofstadt is a Fleming but, unfortunately, he is a typical Belgian politician. As Belgium is an artificial construct without a national identity, these politicians have never cared for the preservation of the national identity of Flanders. On the contrary, Belgium has always seen Flemish national identity as a mortal enemy to the Belgian state.

In a similar way, today some see the European Union as a superstate in the making which has to erase the national identities of the member states. Verhofstadt, who is currently the group leader of the Liberals in the European Parliament, is one of them.

The Vlaams Belang was founded to defend the identity of Flanders against Belgium. It also defends Flanders against those who use the EU as an instrument to undermine our identity, as well as those who see immigration as a weapon to achieve the same end.

**Bruno Valkeniers**,  
MP, leader of the  
Vlaams Belang:  
"We defend the  
national identity of  
Flanders."



**Bruno Valkeniers**  
Vlaams Belang party leader

# Flanders Is Largest Net Contributor to EU



**Frank Vanhecke, MEP:** “We are not too small. Out of the 27 EU-member states, 11 have less inhabitants than Flanders. Hence it is only natural that Flanders becomes a full member state in its own right, so that we can play our role in the EU and have our say in the way our money is spend.”

**Philip Claeys, MEP:** “Belgian politicians have always been huge fans of the EU, which they see as a vehicle for their own political careers on an international level.”

Flanders got 54.8% and Wallonia 45.2%.

## Largest net contributor

Belgium is one of the 27 member states of the European Union (EU). Every Belgian pays an annual net sum of €226.7 to the EU. This makes Belgium the second biggest net contributor of the EU, after the Netherlands. The Dutch pay a per capita annual net sum of €273.4.

**Frank Vanhecke** and **Philip Claeys**, Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) for the Vlaams Belang, have calculated the net contribution of both Flanders (the Dutch-speaking North of Belgium) and Wallonia (the French-speaking South). In 2008, Flanders paid 65.3% of the Belgian EU contribution, Wallonia 34.7%. Of the funds which Belgium received from the EU, however,

The calculations of the VB MEPs show that Flanders pays an annual per capita sum of €286 to the EU, which makes the Flemings the EU’s largest net contributors, even before the Dutch.

In 2008, the six million Flemings paid the EU €1,802.2 million – or €1,144 for an average family of four. None of the 500 million EU citizens paid more than the Flemings, who pay over twice as much as the Germans, four times as much as the French and six times as much as the Britons.

Though the Flemings pay twice as much as the Walloons, even the Walloons pay an exorbitantly high net contribution to the EU.

## A vehicle for their own political careers

Belgian politicians have always been huge fans of the EU, which they see as a vehicle for their own political careers on an international level.

So-called “statesmen” such as **Paul-Henri Spaak**, **Leo Tindemans**, **Wilfried Martens**, **Jean-Luc Dehaene**, **Guy Verhofstadt** and **Herman Van Rompuy** all embarked on a European political career after having first been Prime Minister in Belgium.

This is a phenomenon entirely unknown in other countries. Neither **Margaret Thatcher**, **John Howard**, **Tony Blair**, not even **Edward Heath**, went into EU politics after having been PM in Britain. Nor did former political leaders from the Netherlands, France, Germany, or other countries.

In Belgium, however, politicians see the EU as a vehicle for a second political career. This explains why defending the interests of their own people is only seen as a matter of secondary importance and why they have bought their way into the EU by “generously” accepting new financial obligations on the part of Belgium to the EU.

## Net annual EU contributions per capita

1	<b>Flanders</b> .....	€286
2	<b>The Netherlands</b> .....	€273.4
-	<b>Belgium</b> .....	€226.7
3	<b>Sweden</b> .....	€193.7
4	<b>Denmark</b> .....	€143.8
5	<b>Wallonia</b> .....	€143.2
6	<b>Germany</b> .....	€136.1
7	<b>Italy</b> .....	€85.4
8	<b>Finland</b> .....	€77.3
9	<b>France</b> .....	€72
10	<b>Cyprus</b> .....	€71.2
11	<b>Austria</b> .....	€55.4
12	<b>Luxemburg</b> .....	€51.4
13	<b>Britain</b> .....	€48.6

## Minister Is Megalomaniac Clown

**Michel Daerden**, a Walloon Socialist, is the Belgian federal minister of Pensions. He and his son have an accountancy firm which works for the government. He is also an alcoholic. On youtube, several videos can be seen of a drunk Daerden, commenting on the elections, at the Beijing Olympics, etc.

Last January, a new video was added. The minister was drunk whilst delivering a speech about pension reform in the Belgian Senate.

Last December, Daerden could also be seen in the French weekly *Paris Match*, in a photo shoot with his daughter. She was dressed up as Cleopatra and he

as Caesar. After his Caesar photo shoot even the Walloon press called him a “megalomaniac” and a “clown.”

Daerden is a disgrace. The Vlaams Belang demands his dismissal from government. Only in a corrupt country such as Belgium can people such as he become, and remain, government ministers.

# Amnesty Is Illegal, Says Court. So What, Says Government

The Belgian Council of State, the highest administrative court in the country, has ruled that Belgium's collective amnesty for illegal aliens is illegal. The ruling follows a complaint by the Vlaams Belang. The government reacted to the ruling by saying that it is sticking to the illegal amnesty anyway. Who cares about the court? Certainly not the government.

Last July, immediately after parliamentary recess had begun, the government of Prime Minister **Herman Van Rompuy** decided there should be an amnesty to "regularize" illegal aliens who can demonstrate that they have "integrated sufficiently" into the country. The government took the



**Linda Vissers, MP: "When the previous general amnesty was approved in 1999, the government promised that henceforward people who entered illegally would be sent back. Hardly any illegal aliens have been sent back."**

decision unilaterally, without approval from the Parliament. This is against the law; the Belgian government cannot unilaterally grant a collective amnesty. Only Parliament has the power to do so.

## Not to worry

The Vlaams Belang, Belgium's main opposition party went to court. It requested the Council of State, Belgium's highest administrative court, to annul the amnesty – which it did on December 11.

The government's reaction to the annulment is astonishing. It announced that the court ruling would make no difference and that the illegal aliens need not worry. Mr. **Melchior Wathelet**, the Secretary of State for Immigration, said that, instead of collectively regularizing the 50,000 illegal aliens with one single signature, he will sign 50,000 individual regulations, granting each of them an individual amnesty.

## Welfare

Consequently, the 2009 amnesty will be Van Rompuy's farewell gift to the Belgians. He has been appointed President of Europe, with an income higher than **Barack Obama's**, while the Belgians are left to foot the bill for thousands of new welfare recipients. Last September, a civil servant of Belgium's Federal Agency for Aliens warned: "This amnesty is madness. Our agency expects that one in every three is going to apply for welfare benefits."



**Senator and VB Group Leader Jurgem Ceder: "More than half of the aliens who were regularized in 1999–2000 received benefits as a result. The head of the Antwerp welfare department says that many of them are still on welfare ten years later."**

Nevertheless, despite the court's objections and despite the opposition of the people, the illegal aliens will be regularized. In three years' time, the regularized aliens will be allowed to apply for Belgian citizenship. Meanwhile, figures indicate that half of the illegal aliens who have applied for regularization in the past months are Moroccans, while Moroccans already make up the largest group of immigrants in Belgium.

## One Country, Two Nations

Six million of the 10 million Belgians live in Dutch-speaking Flanders, 3 million live in French-speaking Wallonia, one million live in the bilingual capital Brussels.

Though Flanders has twice as many inhabitants as Wallonia, Flanders has "only" 169,185 unemployed, Wallonia 220,375 (figures for November 2009). The Flemings pay the bulk of the Walloon unemployment benefits.

Almost one third (29%) of the employed Walloons work for the government. The corresponding figure in Flanders is less than one fifth (16%).

In Flanders, 59% of all family incomes are generated by labour and 26% by welfare subsidies. In Wallonia, the corresponding figures are 55% and 31%.



In 2008, 3.46% of the Flemings, 6.87% of the Walloons and 8.10% of the inhabitants of Brussels "forgot" to declare their taxable income, while 3.24% of the Flemings, 6.10% of the Walloons and 33.3% of the inhabitants of Brussels "forgot" to do so on time.

The Belgian federal government assigns asylum seekers to municipalities, which have to take care of their welfare benefits. 88% of the asylum seekers are assigned to municipalities in Flanders, only 11% to Wallonia.

Half of the money generated by penalties for speeding in Belgium is spent on Wallonia. Wallonia, however, hardly has any speeding penalties because it has a total of only

7 (seven!) speed cameras, while Flanders has 1,322.



## Royal Art Dealers

Last February, Christie's in New York auctioned four paintings by the Flemish painter **Jan Breughel the Younger** (1601-1678). The works were sold by the Belgian royal family. The news led to indignation in Flanders. It is not clear who owned the works. Even if they were private property, the royal family did not have the legal right to ship the works abroad.

The royal family says the works come from its private collection, but others claim that the royal collection is state property which the royal family has on loan but is not entitled to sell. Moreover, when major Belgian works of art located in Belgium are put up for sale, Belgian museums and the state have the right to buy them before they are sold to foreigners who take them abroad. Also, works with a value over €150,000 may never be shipped abroad without an official permit. The royal family did not bother to ask for the permit and shipped the four pieces anyway.

### Demands

The four Breughels used to hang in the Argenteuil House, the residence of **Princess Lilian**, the second wife of the late **King Leopold III**, the father of the present **King Albert II**. Shortly after Lilian's death in 2002, Sotheby's in London auctioned part of the jewelry collection of the Princess for €700,000, while Sotheby's in Amsterdam auctioned part of the Argenteuil silverwork and art collection for €4 million.

There is an inventory of the works in the royal collection, but the inventory is not public. The Vlaams Belang demands transparency regarding the royal art collection and its ownership. It also demands that the Belgian royals respect the law. If the Breughels were exported without the obligatory permit, those who took the works out of the country without a permit should be penalised like any other citizen who breaks the law.

## A Strategy for Flemish Independence



On January 30, the Vlaams Belang organized a colloquium in the building of the Flemish Regional Parliament in Brussels to present its study about how to achieve the independence of Flanders, the Dutch-speaking northern half of Belgium, where 60% of the Belgian population lives.

**Gerolf Annemans**, the leader of the VB group in the Belgian Federal House of Representatives, explained that Flanders needs to become a fully sovereign state in its own right and that this aim cannot be achieved by piecemeal reform of the Belgian state. At the colloquium, which was also attended by non-VB members, such as **Frans Crols**, the former editor of Belgium's leading financial magazine *Trends*, and the independent philosopher and author **Johan Sanctorum**, various topics relating to the dissolution of Belgium were discussed.



### Blueprint

These topics ranged from what to do with Belgium's enormous budget deficit to the matter of state succession in international law. VB leader **Bruno Valkeniers** emphasized that the VB offers a valuable, well-researched alternative to the present Belgian conundrum. "Some people believe that Belgium will 'slowly evaporate,'" he said, "but we are not going to just sit and wait and accept the 'ruling by fooling' (to use the words of the Irish leader James Connolly) that we currently experience. We are ambitious, we want to win, we demand to be respected, we will take what is our right."

### Freedom and prosperity

This colloquium showed once more, and not only to the Flemings but also to the outside world, that an independent Flanders is possible and viable, and that it offers more freedom and prosperity for this and future Flemish generations than the corrupt Belgian state can ever offer.

## Interested?

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