ORIENTATION WEEK 2019
WELCOME TO BRUSSELS. WELCOME TO VUB.
This morning, a presentation on administration, life in Brussels, life at the VUB.

This afternoon, at 2pm, Belgian politics for dummies in Auditorium QC

On Thursday, 2-4pm, a special session for Exchange students, followed by the Erasmus Welcome Party in the evening!
Welcome to Brussels. Welcome to VUB. Orientation Week 2019

AGENDA

- Overview: VUB
- International Relations office
- Administration in Brussels
- Living in Brussels
- Travelling in Belgium & Europe
- Life @ VUB
- VUB Departments
- VUB Student organisations

Presentation on Student Site ➔ student.vub.be/en/international-student-life#arrive
OVERVIEW VUB
Welcome to Brussels. Welcome to VUB. Orientation Week 2019

Rector: Professor Caroline Pauwels
8 FACULTIES

➢ Social Sciences and Solvay Business School (ES)
➢ Law and Criminology (RC)
➢ Psychology and Educational Sciences (PE)
➢ Arts and Philosophy (LW)
➢ Science and Bio-engineering Sciences (WE)
➢ Medicine and Pharmacy (GF)
➢ Engineering (IR)
➢ Physical Education and Physiotherapy (LK)

Welcome to Brussels. Welcome to VUB.

Orientation Week 2019
Welcome to Brussels. Welcome to VUB. Orientation Week 2019 in the VUB International Relations office?
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE

WHAT WE DO

• International project management
• International student support
• Study abroad opportunities (studies/internships/volunteerism)
• International initiatives by students
• Development Cooperation
• International recruitment, marketing & communication

vub.be/en/international

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE

Contact

General Questions:

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Specific Questions:

- Book meeting with **Officer**
- **Pleinlaan 5**
  1050 Brussels
- **International.relations@vub.be**
- **+32 (0)2 614 81 01**
ADMINISTRATION IN BRUSSELS
BRUSSELS: A DIVERSE CITY WITH ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES
Welcome to Brussels. Welcome to VUB. Orientation Week 2019

VUB Campus rooms, U-residence or in private sector
⇒ For U-residence or private sector: Contact VUB International Relations Office or Br(ik)
⇒ For rooms on campus? Contact Student Housing

• Short stay/semester/year

• Rents:
  • Student room on average €400
  • Studio on average €550

• Contract!
  • How to end the contract
  • Sublet?
  • All costs (water, gas, internet, electricity, etc.) included?
  • Deposit? On secured account or not?
  • Registration for residence permit possible?
  • Fire insurance
  • Third-party liability

Br(ik)
Alles voor stadstudenten
= Brussel & Ik (‘me’)

Student Site
REGISTRATION IN BRUSSELS

Short-type residence (max. 3 months)
EU: No registration required

Non-EU:
• Report to District Town Hall (‘Commune’) for ‘Declaration of Arrival’ (annex 3) within 8 days of arrival after finding temporary accommodation other than hotel, youth hostel (family & friends).

Long-type residence
EU + Non-EU:
• Report to District Town Hall (‘Commune’) for ‘inscription request’ (annex 15) after signing rental agreement
• Annex 15 can then be used for opening bank account e.g.
• ID-card compulsory

-> ID card valid for duration of academic programme & for duration of funding for studies
REGISTRATION IN BRUSSELS

Required documents

- Rental contract
- National ID/Passport with type D visa
- Registration certificate from VUB for 54 credits
- For EU citizens: Proof of Health Insurance
- Proof of solvability (scholarship, savings, loan, job)

Sometimes also: birth certificate, civil status certificate, or certificate of good conduct

Appointment @ Foreigners Department

Local Police Check

Belgian ID-card

Can take 2-6 months!

There can be different procedures depending on the Brussels District
In Case of Emergency

EU EMERGENCY NUMBER 112

POLICE 101

Campus Security:
Etterbeek 02 629 11 11
Jette 02 477 6112

ICE – Contact
(In Case of Emergency)
BRUSSELS REGION: ADMINISTRATION

HEALTHCARE IN BELGIUM

Every person living in Belgium is advised to register with a national health insurance provider.

With a national health insurance you will benefit from reimbursements:

- ±70% general care
- 100% for critical diseases

PARTENAMUT OFFICE AT VUB

- National health insurance
- Multinational, Assistance and advice
- Communication in English
- Specialised in student matters

Partenamut office VUB
Pleinlaan 5 (International Office)
Contact person: Mrs Areta Duka
Mondays from 9:00-12:30 + 13:30-16:00
(Monday & Friday during September until mid-October)
E-mail: vub@bepartena.be
1.1. PARTENAMUT IN BELGIUM

Partena Mut health insurance is an independent & a-political public (state) insurance provider with the following responsibilities:

- Reimburse health care expenses (doctor, medicines, hospital)
- Keep your budget
- Represented in Belgium: University, Colleges, companies etc..

Partenamut gives full support to International students
1.2. EUROPEAN STUDENTS

Registration for LESS 1 YEAR => Monthly fee

- Reimbursement: doctor, pharmacy, hospital

Registration for MORE 1 YEAR => € 10.85/Month

- Reimbursement doctor, pharmacy, hospital
- Advantages for sport, opticians, etc.
1.3. NON-EUROPEAN STUDENT

Registration at District town hall (‘commune’) => € 10.85/month

- Reimbursement doctor, pharmacy, hospital
- Advantages sport, opticians, etc,
1.4. STUDENT STATUS

NO Registration at District town hall => €95.67/Quarter

- Reimbursement doctor, pharmacy, hospital
- Advantages sport, opticians, etc,
AT THE DOCTOR
AT THE PHARMACY
AT THE HOSPITAL
2.1. AT THE DOCTOR

- Pay full amount in cash
- Receive a medical attestation
- Fix your Identification sticker
- Send your claim to Partenamut
- Reimbursement within 7 days into bank account (even foreign bank account)
2.2. AT THE PHARMACY

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Note: students without a Belgian ID card should ask pharmacy for specific form (Annex 30) to be reimbursed. Not all medication will be reimbursed.
2.3. AT THE HOSPITAL

CALL AND MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

SHOW YOUR BELGIAN ID CARD OR STICKER AT RECEPTION
2.4. EMERGENCY

Go directly to the hospital via the emergency department

Worst medical cases are treated first

Family doctors also provide emergency services at night and during the weekend

_Do not make improper use of this service_

_Hospital has the right to refuse you_
3.1. BECOME A WEB MEMBER

www.partenamut.be

- To order documents: ID-stickers, address change, advantages
- To calculate your reimbursement
- To search for general information: rates, doctors, hospitals...
- Check your file

Students must have a national number to become a web member if they don’t need to come to the office in person.
3.2. FOLLOW UP

www.partenamut.be

You have questions:

=> vub@bepartena.be

katrien.vandenwaeyenbergh@bepartena.be

=> 02 44 44 700
LIVING IN BRUSSELS
LIFE IN BRUSSELS

• Discover Brussels with a greeter (click link): volunteer guide
• Visit BELvue Museum and ‘Experience Brussels’-exhibition
• **News/Newsletters:**
  • Agenda (agenda.brussels/en/newsletter)
  • Be expat be brussels -> email europe@visit.brussels
  • Bruzz.be
• **EYCA card**
• **Arsène 50:** half-price tickets for cultural activities
  arsene50.brussels/en
• **VISITBRUSSELS:** [https://visit.brussels/en](https://visit.brussels/en)
  @ BIP – place royale
  @City Hall – Grand Place
  @Station Europe – place Luxembourg
**LIFE IN BRUSSELS**

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

**MIVB/STIB** = public transport system in Brussels covering metro, tram and bus.

Student yearly pass = €50
- -> VUB certificate MIVB/STIB + 24 years old
- -> 5 MIVB/STIB ‘Bootiks + 14 ‘Kiosks’
- -> Monthly pass, 10-trip cards

Tickets at MIVB machines for single tickets or day passes.

⚠️ **Trams in Belgium always get priority**

**Night busses are only on Thursdays and in weekends!**
TRAVELLING IN BELGIUM & EUROPE
**Welcome to Brussels. Welcome to VUB. Orientation Week 2019**

**TRAVELLING IN BELGIUM & EUROPE**

**TRAVELLING IN BELGIUM**

**Visit:** Ghent, Antwerp, Liège, Namur, Bruges, Mons...

**ESN** organises guided tours to different cities – check out their site and Facebook page for more information

A **Gopass** (for trains) is a 10-journey ticket for trains = €53
- You can use it as a single person or group
- Valid for 1 year.

Always check special weekend rates or rates for those under-26 years old.

**National Rail = NMBS**

TRAVELLING IN BELGIUM & EUROPE

ID card or Visa:
Valid multiple entry visa type D
!! Check UK and multiple entry
!! Check Schengen Visa = travel in EU
Travel options with cheaper prices and deals:

- Flixbus/Eurolines
- Izy trains to Paris
- Blablacar
- [www.kayak.com/explore](http://www.kayak.com/explore) (define price & dept and you get info on cheap flights)
LIFE @ VUB
Restaurant
Library
Bookshop
‘crazy copy’
Sports facilities
Computer rooms
Medical facilities:

- **Humanities, Sciences & Engineering Campus**: doctors
  - Mon-Fri: 08:00-18:00. Appointments online
  - Schoofslaan 8. Tel: 02 629 23 00
  - Includes: dentist, physiotherapy, mental health care & gynaecology

- **Health Campus Jette**: doctors
  - Tuesdays: 08:30-11:30. Appointments online
  - Agora Building. Tel: 02 477 42 10
Exchange student

Deadline 15 October (included)

What to do?

Changes to learning agreement
• Log in to SOP Mobility online
• Under “During mobility”: Click here to let us know whether changes to learning agreement are needed or not
• Approvals
• Questions: exchange.incoming@vub.ac.be

Course registration done by faculty

Session for exchange students on 19 September @ 2pm – D0.07

Full Degree student

Course registration deadline: 15 October.

What to do?

• Make sure you enrol on time. If you have received acceptance email, make appointment to enrol.
• Register your courses through Student Self-Service
• A guide can be found on: student.vub.be/en/course-registration
• Problems?
  -> From 16 September onward: Helpdesk on Campus Etterbeek in Building F: BRING YOUR OWN LAPTOP!
"Sportmix" card - 28 different sports (€24.50)

Swimming Pool

Competitions: e

BasicFit Gym
Academic Language Centre (ACTO)
English, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Spanish & Modern Greek

- Campus Etterbeek, Building B (room B2.14)
- vub.be/acto
- Courses start 7 October

Semper CVO
Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Arabic, etc.

- Campus Etterbeek, Building D, room D1.33
- www.cvosemper.be
- Courses start 16 September
Every weekday, language tables are organised in the restaurant at lunchtime:
- Dutch, French, English, German, Spanish, Italian

- you mix & mingle with other learners & native speakers
- ideal opportunity to perfect your language skills and meet new people!


“Language Tables”
Thanks for the Confucius Institute at VUB you can attend a variety of courses:

▶︎ Chinese Language Classes (from beginners to proficient)
▶︎ Kung FU and Tai Chi classes
▶︎ Open Courses (for free!) on Chinese History on Screen & on Confucius & Confucianism

More info:
▶︎ vub.be/en/confucius#education|courses
Sustainable development is a central goal of the university, with 4 green campuses. Throughout the university and across Belgium, recycling is vital. The following rubbish bags are used across Belgium, colour-coded:

- Blue bags = plastics and cans
- White bags = general refuse
- Green bags = garden waste
- Yellow bags = paper and cardboard
- Orange bags = food waste (composting)
Building D, entrance hall
Pleinlaan 2, 1050 Brussels
Mon-Fri: 09:00-18:00 (17:00 during holidays)
Tel: 02 2 629 2010
Email: info@vub.be

Student Website: How What Where?

- Student.vub.be/en
- Your email address
- Your student card
- Student Self-Service
- Canvas
- Office 365
- Wifi:VUBnext & Eduroam
- Academic Calendar & course timetable
- VUB Restaurant & weekly menus.

STUDENT.VUB.BE/EN
The Study Guidance Centre offers
• information,
• counselling and
• training to help you study more efficiently.

Contact us any time for personal advice, and check what's going on in our free workshops.

Contact our Meeting Points: guidance@vub.be

- **Humanities, Sciences & Engineering Campus**
  Building F - +32 2 629 23 06

- **Health Campus**
  ILRC, Building A room A.053A - +32 2 477 44 81

- **Technology Campus**
  By appointment - +32 2 629 23 06
• Report inappropriate behaviour
• Prevent an escalation
• Stop other people’s unwanted behaviour
• Get the support you want.

➢ Confidentiality is guaranteed.

➢ **YOU** determine which behaviour is unacceptable.

➢ Report it! No procedures started without express permission by person who filed the report.

➢ Report it! => professional secrecy.
STUDENT ORGANISATIONS AND STUDENT REPRESENTATION
Student Council
Welcome to Brussels!
Orientation Week 2019
STUDENT COUNCIL
WHO ARE WE?

• 16 elected student representatives posted on different policy bodies at the VUB, promoting your interests.

• We issue written opinions on all matters affecting students to the top officials.

• Making decisions vis-à-vis policies of the various student services.

• Adopting the budget and allocation of social grants (for student groups and associations).

• Approve the annual report ‘Student Services’.

• Formulation of proposals on cooperative agreements (logo of EYCA on your student card).
STUDENT COUNCIL
RECENT WORK

- Opening hours in Cafeteria
- Collective Barbecues
- Collaboration with Gambia
- More study spaces for «Blocus»
WHERE TO CONTACT US?

- **Office?**
  - Building C, 2nd floor
- **VUB Kick Off**
  - Thursday 3rd of October
  - Student Council Stand (come and say hi!)
- **Contact us on Social media or Email**
  1. Facebook: Studentenraad VUB
  2. Mail: studentenraad.stuvoraad@vub.be
- **And follow us on Instagram!**
  @Studentenraadvub
International Student Platform (ISP)
Represent and support international students
Advice Student Council for discussions
Add agendapoints to the Student Council’s Agenda
Support International students via other channels
Organize events but not core task
IN PREVIOUS YEARS...

Monthly feedback to Student Council
Proposals to student council
Events & conferences
Support to Student Council for international project
Promotion & visibility
APPLICATIONS

Keep an eye out on the Facebook Page for the exact dates!!

If you have any questions don’t hesitate to contact us!
Welcome to Brussels. Welcome to VUB. Orientation Week 2019

LIKE US ON FB:

VUB ISP INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PLATFORM

Contact us on VUB Mail: isp@vub.ac.be


THANK YOU
Everyday Life at VUB
What am I here for?

• An overview of limited answers to very specific questions
- Not cultists
- Traditions and principles of the VUB
- Definitely not cultists
- Light day-drinking may occur occasionally
- I repeat, not linked to a cult in any way, shape or form
- Organise most of the on-campus events
- As uncultlike as they come
Welcome to Brussels. Welcome to VUB. Orientation Week 2019

Links that will last a lifetime
Spel zonder grenzen
Game without borders

2/10/2019
Who are we?
Buddy system: deadline 30 September

bit.ly/buddysystemvub
ESN CARD:

Name & Surname: Sofía Moreno Suárez
Nationality: Spanish
Date of Birth: 25 04 1992
Studies At: Vrije Universiteit Brussel
ESN Section: ESN VUB EHB Brussels
ESNcard No: 7777777WWWW

Valid for 12 months since: 05 09 15
Upcoming Events

- 18/09  Meet your Buddies
- 19/09  Brussels City Game
- 19/09  Welcome Party
- 22/09  Trip to Bruges
- 23/09  Discover VUB
- 25/09  International Dinner
- 28/09  Brussels Bike Tour
- 29/09  Trip to Ghent
www.facebook.com/esn.brussels
What else is on in the next weeks?

• Belgian Politics for Dummies, **today**, 2-4pm
• Exchange info session: **19 September**, 2-4pm
• Erasmus Welcome Party: **19 September**
• **ACADEMIC OPENING 20 September 15:00**
• Europe Day: **16 October**
• Go Abroad Fair: **17 October**
THANK YOU

Join the party, share the fun!

It's our birthday and everyone is invited. Let's celebrate together and spread the news worldwide.

vub.be/50

#VUB50