WELCOME TO BRUSSELS. WELCOME TO VUB

ORIENTATION DAYS 2021
WELCOME TO BRUSSELS. WELCOME TO VUB
YOUR PRESENTERS TODAY

Steven
Ann-Sophie
Eugenia
Yann
Louise
Kim
AGENDA

- Overview VUB
- International Relations office
- Administration in Brussels
- Living in Brussels
- Life at VUB
- VUB departments
- VUB student organisations

Where to find this presentation afterwards? Student.vub.be/en
OVERVIEW VUB

established in 1834

split 1 October 1969

Autonomy act 28 May 1970

CELEBRATIONS 2019-2020

Brussels University

VUB

ULB

Rector: Professor Caroline Pauwels
OVERVIEW VUB

8 FACULTIES

- Social Sciences & Solvay Business School (ES)
- Law & Criminology (RC)
- Psychology & Educational Sciences (PE)
- Languages & Humanities (LW)
- Science & Bio-engineering Sciences (WE)
- Medicine & Pharmacy (GF)
- Engineering (IR)
- Physical Education & Physiotherapy (LK)
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE

WHO IS WHO & WHAT WE DO

- International project management
- International student support
- Going abroad: studies, internships, volunteering
- International initiatives by students
- Development cooperation
- International recruitment, marketing & comms

www.vub.be/en/international
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS OFFICE

CONTACT US

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https://www.vub.be/en/international#contact-&-who-is-who

Specific Questions:

- Book meeting with Officer
- Pleinlaan 5; 1050 Brussels
- International.relations@vub.be
- +32 (0)2 614 81 01
VIDEO: BRUSSELS

https://vimeo.com/324160644
ADMINISTRATION IN BRUSSELS

HOUSING

- VUB Campus rooms, U-residence or in private sector
  - For U-residence: contact VUB International Relations Office
  - For private sector: contact Brik
  - For rooms on campus? Contact Student Housing

- Short stay/semester/year

- **Rents:**
  - Student room on average €400
  - Studio on average €600

= Brussel en Ik (meaning, ‘me’)
ADMINISTRATION IN BRUSSELS

HOUSING

- **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?

- **Is quarantine allowed in your student room?**
  - Check with landlord
  - Grocery delivery services
  - VUBuddy system

Check our housing video! https://youtu.be/W4HyyC66xdU
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, for example, be used for opening bank account
• ID-card compulsory

ID card valid for duration of academic programme & for duration of funding for studies
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
  For non-EU citizens: Proof of Health Insurance upon extension of the National ID
- For non-EU citizens: 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

Check our registration video!
https://youtu.be/Qs-oiQWoO_w
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**

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

**Partenamut office VUB**

Pleinlaan 5 (International Relations Office)
Contact person: Mrs Areta Duka

**Tuesday:** 10:00-14:00  
**Friday:** 10:00-12:30 + 13:30-16:00  

**E-mail:** vub@bepartena.be

Check our healthcare video!  
https://youtu.be/N6WmEeDCBnI
PARTENA BUSINESS & EXPATS INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Website: www.partenamut.be
1.1. PARTENAMUT IN BELGIUM

Partenamut 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 ⇒ No Monthly fee

- Reimbursement: doctor, pharmacy, hospital

Registration for MORE 1 YEAR ⇒ € 11.25/Month

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

Registration at District town hall (‘commune’) ⇒ € 11.25/month

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

SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

NO Registration at District town hall ⇒ €97.18/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)
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
  ⇒ 02 44 44 700
Integration office BON in Brussels

BON | AGENTSCHAP INTEGRATIE EN INBURGERING
www.bon.be   info1@bon.be   TEL: 02 701 73 80

Integration office, BON in Brussels welcomes new comers in Belgium.

Free integration programs in around 20 languages
- Sign up online
- Find our Flemish/assimilation course
- We help you to get integrated into the community e.g. in Brussels.

We help you to find a language course

Recognition of your degree? Do you need us?
- Call us or send us an email.

You'll find this and more on our website, Facebook Page and YouTube Channel. You can also email or call us for more information. www.integratie-inburgering.be
In Case of Emergency
EU EMERGENCY NUMBER 112
POLICE 101
Campus Security:
Etterbeek 02 629 11 11
Jette 02 477 61 12
ICE – Contact
(In Case of Emergency)
Discover Brussels with a greeter (click link): volunteer guide

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
- arsen50.brussels/en

VISITBRUSSELS: https://visit.brussels/en
- @ BIP – Place Royale
- @ City Hall – Grand Place
- @ Station Europe – Place Luxembourg
MIVB/STIB = public transport system in Brussels covering metro, tram and bus.

Student yearly pass = €12 (until age 24)
- VUB certificate MIVB/STIB
- 5 MIVB/STIB 'Bootiks
- 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!
ESN organises guided tours to different cities – check out their site & Facebook page for more information

A **Youth Multi** (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.

**ID card or Visa:**

**Valid multiple entry visa type D**

!! Check UK and multiple entry

!! Check Schengen Visa = travel in EU
COVID: TRAVELLING IN BELGIUM & EUROPE

Travelling in Belgium:
- Local measures against COVID-19 may vary between different regions in Belgium. Always check the current rules before travelling to different cities/regions:
  - For some events, bars, restaurants,… a Covid Safe ticket is mandatory.
- Face masks are obligatory on public transport in Belgium
- In case of doubt: wear a face mask
  - The police can fine you for not wearing a mask/following the corona measures

Travelling in Europe:
- Check https://reopen.europa.eu/en
- Follow the local measures against COVID-19 when abroad
- Follow the measures of the Belgian government when returning to Belgium
LIFE AT VUB

FACILITIES ON CAMPUS

- Restaurant
- Library
- Bookshop
- ‘Crazy Copy’
- Sports facilities
- Computer rooms
- Medical facilities:
  
  **Humanities, Sciences & Engineering Campus**: doctors
  - Mon-Fri: 08:00-17:00. Appointments online
  - Henri Schoofslaan 8. Tel: 02 897 19 50
  - Includes: dentist, physiotherapy & gynaecology

  **Health Campus Jette**: Group practice Patio
  - First appointment call 02/425 21 87
  - Bonaventurestraat 13, 1090 Jette
LIFE AT VUB
EDUCATION & STUDENT ADMIN CENTRE

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

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

Info session for exchange students:
Wednesday 22 September at 11 am
LIFE AT VUB
SPORTS AT VUB

- "Sportmix" card - 28 different sports (€ 25, 10)
  => Depending on pandemic: blended offer online/on campus sports

- Swimming Pool

- Competitions

- BasicFit Gym

- Find a Sports buddy via Nova Sports app
**LIFE AT VUB**

**LANGUAGE LEARNING**

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

- Campus Etterbeek, Building B (room B2.14)
- vub.be/acto
- Register before 1 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
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, drinking cartons and cans
- White bags = general refuse
- Green bags = garden waste
- Yellow bags = paper and cardboard
- Orange bags = food waste (composting)
Scan the QR-code in the classroom
  ► Contact tracing

► Immediately notify a covid-19 infection at coronavirus@vub.be

Start of the academic year in **Code Green**
  ➢ Education in classes
  ➢ Facemask mandatory

Changes to code orange or red will be communicated on student portal and social media.
VACCINES ON CAMPUS ETTERBEEK & JETTE
16 SEPTEMBER – 8 OCTOBER

• No appointment needed
• J&J Vaccine (so only one shot needed)
• Get a digital corona certificate
• Install the covid safe app and get your European corona certificate
• Use that as a Corona Safe Ticket to get access to VUB events indoors

➢ www.vub.be/en/coronavirus#get-your-vaccin-on-campus
VUB DEPARTMENTS
STUDENT INFORMATION - INFOPUNT

Building D, entrance hall
Pleinlaan 2, 1050 Brussels
Mon-Fri: 09:00-17:00
(18:00 during the first 3 weeks of academic year)
Tel: 02 2 629 2010
Email: info@vub.be

Student portal: 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 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.053C) - +32 2 477 44 81

- Technology Campus
  By appointment - +32 2 629 23 06
VUB DEPARTMENTS

REPORT IT!

• 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

report via email:
reportit@vub.be
VUB STUDENT ORGANISATIONS

- **Student representation**
  - Student Council
  - International Student Platform (ISP)

- **Student organisations:**
  - ESN
  - BSG
  - And many more...
STUDENT COUNCIL

WHO ARE WE?

- 20 motivated students
- Different views, opinions and interests
- Represent the student voice
- Policy and rules of the VUB
- Faculty representatives

STUDENT COUNCIL

HOW CAN YOU CONTACT US?

- Questions, ideas or remarks
- Join us or ISP
- Facebook: Studentenraad VUB
- Mail: studentenraad.stuvoraad@vub.be
- Instagram: studentenraadvub
- Student.vub.be
ISP – WHAT WE DO

Extension of the VUB Student Council, but work exclusively for international students at VUB, their rights, concerns and issues.

Practically that means, we

- attend student council meetings
- communicate information on our social media channels
- collaborate with other associations for events or causes
- host events relevant or helpful for international students at the VUB
ESN VUB EhB Brussels

WHO ARE WE?
Get your ESNcard

Become Part of The Erasmus Generation

bit.ly/ESNcardVUBEhB21-22
Join our Whatsapp group

SCAN ME
You will see a lot of these hats, called 'klak' in Flemish, on campus. Together with the white lab coats, they are the symbol of the traditional student life in Belgium. Students receive them after a ritual 'baptism' or hazing in one of the student associations. A 'klak' can teach you a lot about a person: you find the symbol of their faculty, student associations, etcetera. The star in the front symbolize the number of academic years they studied at VUB. For each year they passed all exams a gold star, if you fail you get a silver star.
COMING UP THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

For exchange students only: **an exchange info session** - Wednesday 22 Sept, 11:00-12:00

**Faculty welcome sessions** Wednesday 22 Sept or 23 Sept, followed by discover the campus with your buddy and a concert

**Belgium for Dummies** – Thursday 23 Sept, 13:00-15:00

**Discover Brussels day** – Friday 24 Sept

**Welcome to VUB Quiz** – Friday 24 Sept, 14:00-15:00

**Kick-off Jette** (28 Sept), and **Kick-off Etterbeek campus**, Thursday 7 October, all day

**Go Abroad Fair**, Thursday 14 October (incl info session), 11:00-16:00 - https://student.vub.be/en/go-abroad

**Go Abroad info session webinar**, Friday 15 October 12:00-13:00
COMMUNICATION WITH STUDENTS

This academic year will see the launch of a revamped student portal & app. It will be launched this week.

There is a student newsletter sent to your VUB email address every other week.

CANVAS is where you'll find all the communication from your programme/faculty.

weare.vub.be/student
VUB ON SOCIAL MEDIA IN ENGLISH

www.facebook.com/VUBrussel (Mostly in Dutch, sometimes in English)

www.facebook.com/VUBInternationalRelations (English only)

@vubrussel (both languages)
SOME WORDS FROM OUR VICE RECTOR INTERNATIONALISATION

https://youtu.be/L2w0AcMxNPA
THANK YOU