

**Belgium**  
**ISSP 2016 – Role of Government V**  
**Questionnaire**  
**(English)**



12123

N°

# International Social Survey Programme

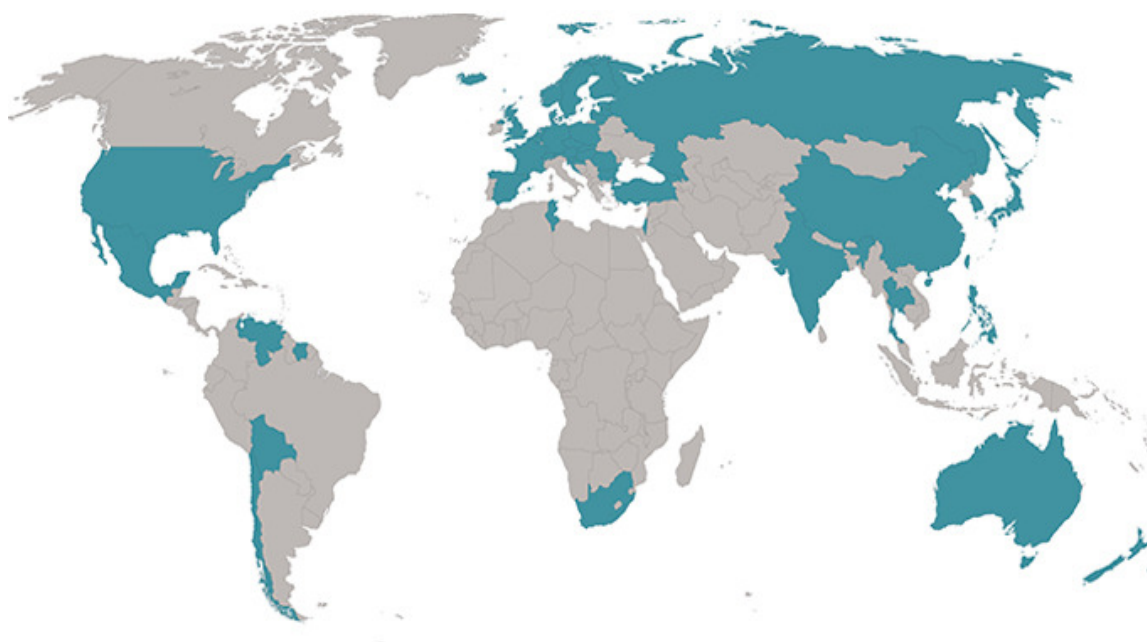


## Belgium

Statistiek Vlaanderen

Institut Wallon de l'Evaluation, de la Prospective et de la Statistique

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<http://www.issp.org>  
<http://www.statistiekvlaanderen.be>  
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STATISTIEK  
VLAANDEREN





12123

**Who should complete the questionnaire?**

The person who was send the letter/questionnaire. The name of this person is printed on the envelope.  
For the quality of the reserach it is important that you answer all questions.

**YOUR BACKGROUND****A1. Are you a man or a woman?***(tick **one** box only)*

Man ☐ (1)  
Woman ☐ (2)

**A2. What is your month and year of birth?**

MONTH YEAR  
  19

**A3. Do you currently have a spouse or partner and, if yes, do you share the same household?***(tick **one** box only)*

Yes, I have a partner **and** we share the same household ☐ (1)  
 Yes, I have a partner **but** we do not share the same household ☐ (2)  
 No, I do not have a spouse or partner ☐ (3)

**A4. What is your current legal marital status?***(tick **one** box only)*

Married ☐ (1)  
 In a civil partnership ☐ (2)  
 Separated ☐ (3)  
 Legally divorced ☐ (4)  
 Widowed ☐ (5)  
 I have never been married or been in a civil partnership ☐ (6)

**A5. In which country were you and your spouse or partner (if applicable) born, and in which country were your parents born?**

	YOU	YOUR PARTNER	YOUR FATHER	YOUR MOTHER
Belgium	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (1)
France	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (2)
Italy	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (3)
Morocco	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (4)
The Netherlands	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (5)
Turkey	<input type="radio"/> (6)	<input type="radio"/> (6)	<input type="radio"/> (6)	<input type="radio"/> (6)
Somewhere else (specify)	-----	-----	-----	-----

☐ no partner (99)



12123

**A6. Different population groups can be distinguished in our country. Choose one or two groups which you count yourself among.**

Belgians ☐ (1)

Flemings ☐ (2)

Walloons ☐ (3)

Brussels residents ☐ (4)

Other group(s) which you count yourself among (*specify*): ..... ☐ (5)

..... ☐ (6)

**A7. What is the highest level of education you have attained? And your partner?**

	YOU	YOUR PARTNER
None	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (1)
Primary education (mainstream or special)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (2)
First grade of secondary education	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (3)
Lower general secondary education	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (4)
Lower technical or art secondary education (A3)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (5)
Lower secondary vocational education	<input type="radio"/> (6)	<input type="radio"/> (6)
Special secondary education	<input type="radio"/> (7)	<input type="radio"/> (7)
Higher general secondary education	<input type="radio"/> (8)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
Higher technical or art secondary education (A2)	<input type="radio"/> (9)	<input type="radio"/> (9)
Higher vocational secondary education	<input type="radio"/> (10)	<input type="radio"/> (10)
7th year of vocational secondary education	<input type="radio"/> (11)	<input type="radio"/> (11)
7th year of general/technical/art secondary education (secondary-after-secondary)	<input type="radio"/> (12)	<input type="radio"/> (12)
Higher vocational education	<input type="radio"/> (13)	<input type="radio"/> (13)
Short type higher education / 1 cycle (A1, ...) or professional bachelor	<input type="radio"/> (14)	<input type="radio"/> (14)
Academic bachelor at a university college or university	<input type="radio"/> (15)	<input type="radio"/> (15)
Long type higher education / 2 cycles	<input type="radio"/> (16)	<input type="radio"/> (16)
University education (master, engineer, doctor, ...)	<input type="radio"/> (17)	<input type="radio"/> (17)
Other or in doubt, <i>specify</i> :	<input type="radio"/> .....	<input type="radio"/> .....
Not applicable: no partner		<input type="radio"/> (99)

**A8a. How many years of primary education did you attend (nursery school and repeat years not included)?**

(If you never went to school, enter 0)

years of primary education

**A8b. How many years of secondary education did you attend (repeat years not included)?**

(If you never attended secondary education, enter 0)

years of secondary education



12123

**A8c. How many years of short or long type higher education or university education did you attend (repeat years not included)?**

(If you never attended higher education, enter 0)

years of higher education

**A9. Which of the following options best describes your current situation?**

**And your partner's?**

	YOU	YOUR PARTNER
In paid work (employee, self-employed, working for the family business)	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (1)
Retired	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (2)
Housewife/house husband	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (3)
On sick leave	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (4)
On maternity/paternity leave	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (5)
On unpaid leave	<input type="radio"/> (6)	<input type="radio"/> (6)
Full-time career break / parental leave	<input type="radio"/> (7)	<input type="radio"/> (7)
Incapacitated to work	<input type="radio"/> (8)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
Unemployed with benefit	<input type="radio"/> (9)	<input type="radio"/> (9)
Looking for a first job	<input type="radio"/> (10)	<input type="radio"/> (10)
Full-time student	<input type="radio"/> (11)	<input type="radio"/> (11)
Apprentice	<input type="radio"/> (12)	<input type="radio"/> (12)
Other, <i>specify</i> :	<input type="radio"/> .....	<input type="radio"/> .....
Not applicable: no partner		<input type="radio"/> (99)

**A10. INCLUDING YOURSELF, your partner (if you have one), your children (if any) and others (if any), how many people currently live in your household?**

(Enter the number for each age group)

Adults aged 18 or older :

Children aged 6 to 17 :

Children aged up to and including 5 :

Total number of members in your household :

## ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

**B1. In general, would you say that people should obey the law without exception, or are there exceptional occasions on which people should follow their consciences even if it means breaking the law?**

(tick **one** box only)

Obey the law without exception ☐ (1)

**OR**

Follow conscience on occasions ☐ (2)

Can't choose ☐ (8)

**B2. There are many ways people or organisations can protest against a government action they strongly oppose. Please show which you think should be allowed and which should not be allowed by ticking a box on each line.**

(tick **one** box on each line)

Should it be allowed?	definitely	probably	probably not	definitely not	can't choose
a. Organising public meetings to protest against the government	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
b. Organising protest marches and demonstrations	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)

**B3. There are some people whose views are considered extreme by the majority. Consider people who want to overthrow the government by revolution. Do you think such people should be allowed to ...**

(tick **one** box on each line)

	definitely	probably	probably not	definitely not	can't choose
a. ... hold public meetings to express their views?	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
b. ... publish books expressing their views?	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)

**B4. All systems of justice make mistakes, but which do you think is worse ...**

(tick **one** box only)

... to convict an innocent person ☐ (1)

**OR**

... to let a guilty person go free ☐ (2)

can't choose ☐ (8)



12123

**B5. Here are some things the government might do for the economy. Please show which actions you are in favour of and which you are against.**

(tick **one** box on each line)

	strongly in favour of	in favour of	neither in favour of nor against	against	strongly against	can't choose
a. Cuts in government spending	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
b. Government financing of projects to create new jobs	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
c. Less government regulation of business	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
d. Support for industry to develop new products and technology	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
e. Support for declining industries to protect jobs	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
f. Reducing the working week to create more jobs	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)

**B6. Listed below are various areas of government spending. Please show whether you would like to see more or less government spending in each area.**

**Remember that if you say "much more", it might require a tax increase to pay for it.**

(tick **one** box on each line)

	spend much more	spend more	spend the same as now	spend less	spend much less	can't choose
a. The environment	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
b. Health	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
c. The police and law enforcement	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
d. Education	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
e. The military and defence	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
f. Old age pensions	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
g. Unemployment benefits	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
h. Culture and the arts	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)

**B7. On the whole, do you think it should or should not be the government's responsibility to ...**(tick **one** box on each line)

	definitely should be	probably should be	probably should not be	definitely should not be	can't choose
a. ... provide a job for everyone who wants one	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
b. ... keep prices under control	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
c. ... provide health care for the sick	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
d. ... provide a decent standard of living for the old	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
e. ... provide industry with the help it needs to grow	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
f. ... provide a decent standard of living for the unemployed	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
g. ... reduce income differences between the rich and the poor	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
h. ... give financial help to university students from low-income families	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
i. ... provide decent housing for those who can't afford it	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
j. ... impose strict laws to make industry do less damage to the environment	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
k. ... promote equality between men and women	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)

**B8. People have different opinions on who should provide services in Belgium. Who do you think should primarily provide:**(tick **one** box on each line)

	govern- ment	private companies/ for-profit organisations	non-profit organisations / charities/coope- ratives	religious organisa- tions	family, relatives or friends	can't choose
a. Health care for the sick?	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
b. Care for older people?	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
c. School education for children?	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)



12123

**B9. Here is a list of people and organisations that can influence government actions.**

Please read through the list and tick one box corresponding to the one you think have the most and the second most influence on the actions of the government in Belgium?

	most influence	second most influence
a. The media	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (1)
b. Trade unions	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (2)
c. Business, banks and industry	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (3)
d. Religious organisations/authorities	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (4)
e. The military/army	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (5)
f. Organised crime	<input type="radio"/> (6)	<input type="radio"/> (6)
g. People who vote for the party/the parties in government	<input type="radio"/> (7)	<input type="radio"/> (7)
h. Citizens in general	<input type="radio"/> (8)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
i. Civic and voluntary organisations	<input type="radio"/> (9)	<input type="radio"/> (9)
j. International organisations (e.g. United Nations, International Monetary Fund)	<input type="radio"/> (10)	<input type="radio"/> (10)
k. Can't choose	<input type="radio"/> (88)	<input type="radio"/> (88)

**B10. Here are two opinions about what affects policies in Belgium. Which of them comes closest to your view?**

(tick **one** box only)

Policies in Belgium depend more on what is happening in the world economy, rather than who is in government ☐ (1)

**OR**

Policies in Belgium depend more on who is in government, rather than what is happening in the world economy ☐ (2)

Can't choose ☐ (8)

**Now some questions about civil liberties and public security.****B11. Do you think that the Belgian government should or should not have the right to do the following:**

(tick **one** box only)

	definitely should have right	probably should have right	probably should not have right	definitely should not have right	can't choose
a. ... keep people under video surveillance in public areas?	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
b. ... monitor e-mails and any other information exchanged on the Internet?	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)



12123

**B12. Here is a scale from 0 to 10 where 0 is “all government information should be publicly available, even if this meant a risk to public security” and 10 is “public security should be given priority, even if this meant limiting access to government information”. Where would you place yourself on such a scale?**

(tick **one** box only)

All government information should be publicly available, even if this meant a risk to public security

Public security should be given priority, even if this meant limiting access to government information

can't choose

- |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |                       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| (0)                   | (1)                   | (2)                   | (3)                   | (4)                   | (5)                   | (6)                   | (7)                   | (8)                   | (9)                   | (10)                  |                       | (88)                  |

**B13. Some people think that governments should have the right to take certain measures in the name of national security. Others disagree. Do you think that the Belgian government should or should not have the right to do the following:**

(tick **one** box on each line)

	definitely should have right	probably should have right	probably should not have right	definitely should not have right	can't choose
a. ... collect information about anyone living in Belgium without their knowledge	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
b. ... collect information about anyone living in other countries without their knowledge	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)

**B14. Suppose the government suspected that a terrorist act was about to happen. Do you think the authorities should have the right to...**

(tick **one** box on each line)

	definitely should have right	probably should have right	probably should not have right	definitely should not have right	can't choose
a. ... detain people for as long as they want without putting them on trial?	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
b. ... tap people's telephone conversations?	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
c. ... stop and search people in the street at random?	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)

**Now some more questions about politics.**

**B15. How interested would you say you personally are in politics?**

(tick **one** box only)

- Very interested ☐ (1)
- Fairly interested ☐ (2)
- Somewhat interested ☐ (3)
- Not very interested ☐ (4)
- Not at all interested ☐ (5)
- Can't choose ☐ (8)



12123

**B16. Please tick one box on each line to show how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.**

(tick **one** box only)

	strongly agree	agree	neither agree nor disagree	disagree	strongly disagree	can't choose
a. People like me don't have any say about what the government does.	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
b. I feel that I have a pretty good understanding of the important political issues facing our country.	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
c. People we elect as members of parliament try to keep the promises they have made during the election.	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
d. Most civil servants can be trusted to do what is best for the country.	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (5)	<input type="radio"/> (8)

**B17. Generally, how would you describe taxes in Belgium today?**

**We mean all taxes together, including wage deductions, income tax, taxes on goods and services and all the rest.**

a. First, for those with high incomes, taxes are ...

(tick **one** box only)

- much too high ☐ (1)  
 too high ☐ (2)  
 about right ☐ (3)  
 too low ☐ (4)  
 much too low ☐ (5)  
 Can't choose ☐ (8)

b. Next, for those with middle incomes, taxes are ...

(tick **one** box only)

- much too high ☐ (1)  
 too high ☐ (2)  
 about right ☐ (3)  
 too low ☐ (4)  
 much too low ☐ (5)  
 Can't choose ☐ (8)

c. Lastly, for those with low incomes, taxes are ...

(tick **one** box only)

- much too high ☐ (1)  
 too high ☐ (2)  
 about right ☐ (3)  
 too low ☐ (4)  
 much too low ☐ (5)  
 Can't choose ☐ (8)



12123

**B18. In general, how often do you think that the tax authorities in Belgium do the following...***(tick **one** box on each line)*

	almost always	often	sometimes	almost never	can't choose
a. ... make sure people pay their taxes	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
b. ... treat everyone in accordance with the law, regardless of their contacts or position in society?	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)

**B19. In general, how often do you think that major private companies in Belgium do the following...***(tick **one** box on each line)*

	almost always	often	sometimes	almost never	can't choose
a. ... comply with laws and regulations?	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)
b. ... try to avoid paying their taxes?	<input type="radio"/> (1)	<input type="radio"/> (2)	<input type="radio"/> (3)	<input type="radio"/> (4)	<input type="radio"/> (8)

**B20. In your opinion, about how many politicians in Belgium are involved in corruption?***(tick **one** box only)*

- Almost none ☐ (1)  
A few ☐ (2)  
Some ☐ (3)  
Quite a lot ☐ (4)  
Almost all ☐ (5)  
Can't choose ☐ (8)

**B21. And in your opinion, about how many public officials in Belgium are involved in corruption?***(tick **one** box only)*

- Almost none ☐ (1)  
A few ☐ (2)  
Some ☐ (3)  
Quite a lot ☐ (4)  
Almost all ☐ (5)  
Can't choose ☐ (8)

**B22. In the last five years, how often have you or a member of your immediate family come across a public official who hinted they wanted, or asked for, a bribe or favour in return for a service?***(tick **one** box only)*

- Never ☐ (1)  
Seldom ☐ (2)  
Occasionally ☐ (3)  
Quite often ☐ (4)  
Very often ☐ (5)  
Can't choose ☐ (8)



12123

## YOUR CURRENT OR LAST OCCUPATION

### C1. Which situation applies to you?

(tick **one** box only)

I am currently in paid work or I am working unpaid in a family business ☐ (1)

I am currently not in paid work, but I previously had paid work ☐ (2)

I have never had paid work ☐ (3)

➡ if you answered 'I have never had paid work', proceed to C10

### C2. If you are currently in paid work or previously had paid work, which labour situation corresponds/corresponded with your main job?

(tick **one** box only)

Employee in paid employment ☐ (1)

Self-employed without employees ☐ (2)

Self-employed with employees ☐ (3)

Helper, working in family business (no employment contract) ☐ (4)

### C3. If you are/were self-employed, how many employees do/did you employ, yourself not included?

(enter the number below)

--	--	--	--

 employees

### C4. If you work/worked, do/did you manage others?

(tick **one** box only)

Yes ☐ (1)

No ☐ (2)

### C5. If you answered 'Yes' to question C4, how many people do/did you manage?

(enter the number below)

--	--	--	--

 people

### C6. Do/did you work for a for-profit organisation or a non-profit organisation?

The purpose of a for-profit organisation is to make profit, which is not the case for a non-profit organisation.

(tick **one** box only)

For-profit organisation ☐ (1)

Non-profit organisation ☐ (2)

Don't know ☐ (8)

### C7. Do/did you work in the public or private sector?

(tick **one** box only)

Public sector ☐ (1)

Private sector ☐ (2)

Don't know ☐ (8)



12123

**C8a. What is the name of your current main job (or of your last job if you currently do not work)?**  
(specify as detailed as possible)

-----

**C8b. What kind of work do you do in your main job (or did you do in your last job)?**  
(specify as detailed as possible the kind of work you do/did)

-----

-----

-----

**C9. How many hours do you generally work per week in your current job (including overtime)?**  
(enter the number below)

--	--	--

hours a week

IF YOU HAVE A SPOUSE OR PARTNER, PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.  
IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A SPOUSE OR PARTNER, PROCEED TO QUESTION C15.

### PARTNER'S CURRENT OR LAST OCCUPATION

**C10. Which situation applies to your spouse or partner?**  
(tick **one** box only)

He/she is currently in paid work or he/she works unpaid in family business ☐ (1)

He/she currently does not have paid work but previously had paid work ☐ (2)

He/she has never had paid work ☐ (3)

Not applicable: no partner ☐ (9)

➡ If you answered 'he/she has never had paid work' or 'not applicable: no partner',  
proceed to question C15

**C11. If your spouse or partner currently has paid work (or previously had paid work), which labour situation corresponds (corresponded) with his/her main job?**  
(tick **one** box only)

Employee in paid employment ☐ (1)

Self-employed without employees ☐ (2)

Self-employed with employees ☐ (3)

Helper, working in a family business (no employment contract) ☐ (4)

**C12. If your spouse or partner works/worked, does/did he/she manage others in his/her job?**  
(tick **one** box only)

Yes ☐ (1)

No ☐ (2)

Don't know ☐ (8)



12123

**C13a. What is the name of the current main job of your spouse/partner (or the last job if he/she no longer works)?**

*(Specify as detailed as possible)*

-----

**C13b. What kind of work does your spouse/partner do in his/her current main job (or last job)?**

*(Specify as detailed as possible the kind of work he/she does/did)*

-----

-----

**C14. How many hours does your spouse/partner generally work per week in his/her current job (including overtime)?**

*(enter number below)*

--	--	--

hours a week

**FOR ALL**

**C15. There are groups which are at the very top and groups which are at the very bottom of our society. Where would you put yourself on this scale?**

*(tick **one** box only)*

- Top ☐ (10)
- ☐ (9)
- ☐ (8)
- ☐ (7)
- ☐ (6)
- ☐ (5)
- ☐ (4)
- ☐ (3)
- ☐ (2)
- Bottom ☐ (1)

**C16. What is the average net monthly income of yourself and of your household?**

By **net monthly household** income we mean the total earnings of all household members together, after tax deduction; everything included, such as salaries, professional income, dinner vouchers, child benefit, retirement pay, replacement benefits (accident, illness, unemployment), income from capital or real estate, etc. .

*(tick **one** box only for yourself and **one** for all your household members together)*

**approximately per month**

no income

**your own  
income**

**household  
income**

☐ (0)

☐ (0)

less than €750

☐ (1)

☐ (1)

€ 750 up to € 1000

☐ (2)

☐ (2)

€ 1000 up to € 1250

☐ (3)

☐ (3)

€ 1250 up to € 1500

☐ (4)

☐ (4)

€ 1500 up to € 1750

☐ (5)

☐ (5)

€ 1750 up to € 2000

☐ (6)

☐ (6)

€ 2000 up to € 2250

☐ (7)

☐ (7)

€ 2250 up to € 2500

☐ (8)

☐ (8)

€ 2500 up to € 3000

☐ (9)

☐ (9)

€ 3000 up to € 3500

☐ (10)

☐ (10)

€ 3500 up to € 4000

☐ (11)

☐ (11)

€ 4000 up to € 5000

☐ (12)

☐ (12)

more than € 5000

☐ (13)

☐ (13)

**C17. Which belief system do you belong to?***(tick **one** box only)*Agnostic/atheist ☐ (1)Latitudinarian ☐ (2)Protestant ☐ (3)Christian but not catholic ☐ (4)Catholic ☐ (5)Islamic ☐ (6)Jewish ☐ (7)None ☐ (8)Other, *specify* : .....**C18. Not including weddings, funerals and baptisms, how often do you attend ecclesiastical or religious services?***(tick **one** box only)*Several times a week ☐ (1)Once a week ☐ (2)Two or three times a month ☐ (3)Once a month ☐ (4)Several times a year ☐ (5)Once a year ☐ (6)Less frequently than once a year ☐ (7)Never ☐ (8)**C19. Are you currently or have you ever been a member of a trade union?***(tick **one** box only)*Yes, I am currently a member of a trade union ☐ (1)I previously was a member of a trade union, but not currently ☐ (2)I have never been a member of a trade union ☐ (3)**C20. Which political party did you vote for in the last federal (national) elections of Sunday 25 May 2014?***(tick **one** box only)*MR ☐ (1)Groen ☐ (2)Vlaams Belang ☐ (3)ProDG ☐ (4)Vivant ☐ (5)FDF ☐ (6)Open Vld ☐ (7)Lijst Dedecker ☐ (8)Ecolo ☐ (9)PS ☐ (10)UF ☐ (11)sp.a ☐ (12)N-VA ☐ (13)cdH ☐ (14)CD&V ☐ (15)Parti Populaire ☐ (16)PVDA+ ☐ (17)PTB-GO ☐ (18)Another party, *specify*: .....Blank/invalid ☐ (20)I was not obliged to vote then ☐ (98)I did not vote ☐ (99)I did not have the right to vote ☐ (0)



12123

**C21. Finally, how would you best describe the type of community you live in?**

(tick **one** box only)

- A big city ☐ (1)  
The suburbs or outskirts of a big city ☐ (2)  
A medium-sized city or small town ☐ (3)  
A country village ☐ (4)  
A farm or home in the countryside ☐ (5)

**C22. Thank you very much for completing this questionnaire.**

**If you have any comments, please write them below.**

-----  
-----  
-----

**Please return the completed questionnaire in the enclosed envelope (a postage stamp is not necessary).**

**Legal provisions:**

The answers will be statistically processed for purposes of research under the International Social Survey Programme. The identification number on the questionnaire is only required to be able to verify who has returned a completed questionnaire. Naturally, your replies will be processed completely anonymously. The anonymised data will be used by researchers of the international ISSP network and the GESIS data archives. In accordance with the law on the protection of privacy you shall have the right to access and correct any data relating to you. If you wish to invoke this right and would like to receive information about your data, please contact Statistiek Vlaanderen or the Commission for the Protection of Privacy. You can, on legitimate grounds, also object to the processing of your personal data.

**Belgium**  
**ISSP 2016 – Role of Government V**  
**Questionnaire**  
**(English web version)**

Thank you for agreeing to participate. All of your answers are private and confidential.

## Page 1

### YOUR BACKGROUND

#### \* 1.A1. Are you a man or a woman?

- ☐ Man ☐ Woman

#### \* 2.A2.1 What is your month of birth?

- |                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> January   | <input type="radio"/> February |
| <input type="radio"/> March     | <input type="radio"/> April    |
| <input type="radio"/> May       | <input type="radio"/> June     |
| <input type="radio"/> July      | <input type="radio"/> August   |
| <input type="radio"/> September | <input type="radio"/> October  |
| <input type="radio"/> November  | <input type="radio"/> December |

#### \* 3.A2.2 What is your year of birth?

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> 1999 | <input type="radio"/> 1998 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1997 | <input type="radio"/> 1996 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1995 | <input type="radio"/> 1994 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1993 | <input type="radio"/> 1992 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1991 | <input type="radio"/> 1990 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1989 | <input type="radio"/> 1988 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1987 | <input type="radio"/> 1986 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1985 | <input type="radio"/> 1984 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1983 | <input type="radio"/> 1982 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1981 | <input type="radio"/> 1980 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1979 | <input type="radio"/> 1978 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1977 | <input type="radio"/> 1976 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1975 | <input type="radio"/> 1974 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1973 | <input type="radio"/> 1972 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1971 | <input type="radio"/> 1970 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1969 | <input type="radio"/> 1968 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1967 | <input type="radio"/> 1966 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1965 | <input type="radio"/> 1964 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1963 | <input type="radio"/> 1962 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1961 | <input type="radio"/> 1960 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1959 | <input type="radio"/> 1958 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1957 | <input type="radio"/> 1956 |
| <input type="radio"/> 1955 | <input type="radio"/> 1954 |

- ☐ 1953
- ☐ 1951
- ☐ 1949
- ☐ 1947
- ☐ 1945
- ☐ 1943
- ☐ 1941
- ☐ 1939
- ☐ 1937
- ☐ 1935
- ☐ 1933
- ☐ 1931
- ☐ 1929
- ☐ 1927
- ☐ 1925
- ☐ 1923
- ☐ 1921
- ☐ 1919
- ☐ 1917
- ☐ 1952
- ☐ 1950
- ☐ 1948
- ☐ 1946
- ☐ 1944
- ☐ 1942
- ☐ 1940
- ☐ 1938
- ☐ 1936
- ☐ 1934
- ☐ 1932
- ☐ 1930
- ☐ 1928
- ☐ 1926
- ☐ 1924
- ☐ 1922
- ☐ 1920
- ☐ 1918
- ☐ 1916

## Page 2

### \* 4.A3. Do you currently have a spouse or partner and, if yes, do you share the same household?

- ☐ Yes, I have a partner and we share the same household
- ☐ Yes, I have a partner but we do not share the same household
- ☐ No, I do not have a spouse or partner

### \* 5.A4. What is your current legal marital status?

- ☐ Married
- ☐ In a civil partnership
- ☐ Separated
- ☐ Legally divorced
- ☐ Widowed
- ☐ I have never been married or been in a civil partnership

## Page 3

### \* 6.A5a. In which country were you born?

- ☐ Belgium
- ☐ Italy
- ☐ The Netherlands
- ☐ Somewhere else, specify
- ☐ France
- ☐ Morocco
- ☐ Turkey

## Page 4

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4. A3. Do you currently have a spouse or partner and, if yes, do you share the same household?  
is gelijk aan No, I do not have a spouse or partner

**7. A5b. In which country was your spouse or partner born?**

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Belgium                 | <input type="radio"/> France  |
| <input type="radio"/> Italy                   | <input type="radio"/> Morocco |
| <input type="radio"/> The Netherlands         | <input type="radio"/> Turkey  |
| <input type="radio"/> Somewhere else, specify |                               |

**Page 5**

**8. A5c. In which country was your father born?**

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Belgium                 | <input type="radio"/> France  |
| <input type="radio"/> Italy                   | <input type="radio"/> Morocco |
| <input type="radio"/> The Netherlands         | <input type="radio"/> Turkey  |
| <input type="radio"/> Somewhere else, specify |                               |

**9. A5d. In which country was your mother born?**

- |   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Belgium                 | <input type="radio"/> France  |
| <input type="radio"/> Italy                   | <input type="radio"/> Morocco |
| <input type="radio"/> The Netherlands         | <input type="radio"/> Turkey  |
| <input type="radio"/> Somewhere else, specify |                               |

**Page 6**

**10. A6. Different population groups can be distinguished in our country. Choose one or two groups which you count yourself among.**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Belgians  | <input type="checkbox"/> Flemings           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Walloons  | <input type="checkbox"/> Brussels residents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other group(s) which you count yourself among (specify) |   |

Bijkomende opties (vraag 10)

► Maximum toegestane selecties: 2

**Page 7**

**\* 11A7a. What is the highest level of education you have attained?**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> None   | <input type="radio"/> Primary education (mainstream or special)   |
| <input type="radio"/> First grade of secondary education               | <input type="radio"/> Lower general secondary education   |
| <input type="radio"/> Lower technical or art secondary education (A3)  | <input type="radio"/> Lower secondary vocational education  |
| <input type="radio"/> Special secondary education                      | <input type="radio"/> Higher general secondary education  |
| <input type="radio"/> Higher technical or art secondary education (A2) | <input type="radio"/> Higher vocational secondary education   |
| <input type="radio"/> 7th year of vocational secondary education       | <input type="radio"/> 7th year of general/technical/art secondary education (secondary-after-secondary) |

- ☐ Higher vocational education
- ☐ Academic bachelor at a university college or university
- ☐ University education (master, engineer, doctor, ...)
- ☐ Short type higher education / 1 cycle (A1, ...) or professional bachelor
- ☐ Long type higher education / 2 cycles
- ☐ Other or in doubt, specify

## Page 8

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4. A3. *Do you currently have a spouse or partner and, if yes, do you share the same household?*  
**is gelijk aan** No, I do not have a spouse or partner

### 12. A7b. What is the highest level of education your partner has attained?

- ☐ None
- ☐ First grade of secondary education
- ☐ Lower technical or art secondary education (A3)
- ☐ Special secondary education
- ☐ Higher technical or art secondary education (A2)
- ☐ 7th year of vocational secondary education
- ☐ Higher vocational education
- ☐ Academic bachelor at a university college or university
- ☐ University education (master, engineer, doctor, ...)
- ☐ Primary education (mainstream or special)
- ☐ Lower general secondary education
- ☐ Lower secondary vocational education
- ☐ Higher general secondary education
- ☐ Higher vocational secondary education
- ☐ 7th year of general/technical/art secondary education (secondary-after-secondary)
- ☐ Short type higher education / 1 cycle (A1, ...) or professional bachelor
- ☐ Long type higher education / 2 cycles
- ☐ Other or in doubt, specify

## Page 9

### 13. A8a. How many years of primary education did you attend (nursery school and repeat years not included)?

If you never went to school, enter 0.

### 14. A8b. How many years of secondary education did you attend (repeat years not included)?

If you never attended secondary education, enter 0.

### 15. A8c. How many years of short or long type higher education or university education did you attend (repeat years not included)?

If you never attended higher education, enter 0.

## Page 10

### \* 16A9a. Which of the following options best describes your current situation?

- ☐ In paid work (employee, self-employed, working for the family business)
- ☐ Housewife/house husband
- ☐ On maternity/paternity leave
- ☐ Full-time career break / parental leave
- ☐ Unemployed with benefit
- ☐ Full-time student
- ☐ Other, specify:
- ☐ Retired
- ☐ On sick leave
- ☐ On unpaid leave
- ☐ Incapacitated to work
- ☐ Looking for a first job
- ☐ Apprentice

## Page 11

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4. A3. *Do you currently have a spouse or partner and, if yes, do you share the same household?*  
**is gelijk aan** *No, I do not have a spouse or partner*

### 17. A9b. Which of the following options best describes the current situation of your partner?

- ☐ In paid work (employee, self-employed, working for the family business)
- ☐ Housewife/house husband
- ☐ On maternity/paternity leave
- ☐ Full-time career break / parental leave
- ☐ Unemployed with benefit
- ☐ Full-time student
- ☐ Other, specify:
- ☐ Retired
- ☐ On sick leave
- ☐ On unpaid leave
- ☐ Incapacitated to work
- ☐ Looking for a first job
- ☐ Apprentice

## Page 12

### \* 18A10. INCLUDING YOURSELF, your partner (if you have one), your children (if any) and others (if any), how many people currently live in your household? *Total number of members in your household:*

### \* 19Enter the number for each age group. *Adults aged 18 or older:*

### \* 20Children aged 6 to 17:

### \* 21Children aged up to and including 5:

## ROLE OF GOVERNMENT

**22. B1. In general, would you say that people should obey the law without exception, or are there exceptional occasions on which people should follow their consciences even if it means breaking the law?**

- ☐ Obey the law without exception
 ☐ Follow conscience on occasions
 ☐ Can't choose

**23. B2. There are many ways people or organisations can protest against a government action they strongly oppose. Please show which you think should be allowed and which should not be allowed by ticking a box on each line.**

	definitely	probably	probably	definitely	can't
			not	not	choose
a. Organising public meetings to protest against the government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Organising protest marches and demonstrations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**24. B3. There are some people whose views are considered extreme by the majority. Consider people who want to overthrow the government by revolution. Do you think such people should be allowed to ...**

	definitely	probably	probably	definitely	can't
			not	not	choose
a. ... hold public meetings to express their views?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. ... publish books expressing their views?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**25. B4. All systems of justice make mistakes, but which do you think is worse ...**

- ☐ ... to convict an innocent person?
 ☐ ... to let a guilty person go free?
 ☐ can't choose

**26. B5. Here are some things the government might do for the economy. Please show which actions you are in favour of and which you are against.**

	strongly in favour of	in favour of	neither in favour of nor against	against	strongly against	can't choose
a. Cuts in government spending	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Government financing of projects to create new jobs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Less government regulation of business	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

d. Support for industry to develop new products and technology	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Support for declining industries to protect jobs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Reducing the working week to create more jobs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Page 16

27. B6. Listed below are various areas of government spending. Please show whether you would like to see more or less government spending in each area.

Remember that if you say "much more", it might require a tax increase to pay for it.

	spend much more	spend more	spend the same as now	spend less	spend much less	can't choose
a. The environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. The police and law enforcement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Education	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. The military and defence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Old age pensions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Unemployment benefits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. Culture and the arts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Page 17

28. B7. On the whole, do you think it should or should not be the government's responsibility to ...

	definitely should be	probably should be	probably should not be	definitely should not be	can't choose
a. ... provide a job for everyone who wants one	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. ... keep prices under control	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. ... provide health care for the sick	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. ... provide a decent standard of living for the old	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. ... provide industry with the help it needs to grow	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. ... provide a decent standard of living for the unemployed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. ... reduce income differences between the rich and the poor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
h. ... give financial help to university students from low-income families	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
i. ... provide decent housing for those who can't afford it	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
j. ... impose strict laws to make industry do less damage to the environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
k. ... promote equality between men and women	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Page 18

29. B8. People have different opinions on who should provide services in Belgium. Who do you think should primarily provide:

	govern- ment	private compa- nies/ for- profit organisa- tions	non- profit organisa- tions/ charities/ coopera- tives	religious organisa- tions	family, relatives or friends	can't choose
a. Health care for the sick?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Care for older people?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. School education for children?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Page 19

30. B9. Here is a list of people and organisations that can influence government actions. Please read through the list and tick one box corresponding to the one you think have the most and the second most influence on the actions of the government in Belgium.

	most influence	second most influence
a. The media	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Trade unions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Business, banks and industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Religious organisations/authorities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. The military/army	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Organised crime	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. People who vote for the party/the parties in government	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Citizens in general	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Civic and voluntary organisations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. International organisations (e.g. United Nations, International Monetary Fund)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Can't choose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Page 20

31. B10. Here are two opinions about what affects policies in Belgium. Which of them comes closest to your view?

- ☐ Policies in Belgium depend more on what is happening in the world economy, rather than who is in government
 ☐ Policies in Belgium depend more on who is in government, rather than what is happening in the world economy
- ☐ can't choose

32. Now some questions about civil liberties and public security.

B11. Do you think that the Belgian government should or should not have the right to do the following:

	definitely should	probably should	probably should	definitely should	can't choose
--	----------------------	--------------------	--------------------	----------------------	-----------------

	have right	have right	not have right	not have right	
a. ... keep people under video surveillance in public areas?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. ... monitor e-mails and any other information exchanged on the Internet?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Page 21

33. B12. Here is a scale from 0 to 10 where 0 is “all government information should be publicly available, even if this meant a risk to public security” and 10 is “public security should be given priority, even if this meant limiting access to government information”. Where would you place yourself on such a scale?

0 All government information should be publicly available, even if this meant a risk to public security	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Public security should be given priority, even if this meant limiting access to government information	can't choose
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Page 22

34. B13. Some people think that governments should have the right to take certain measures in the name of national security. Others disagree. Do you think that the Belgian government should or should not have the right to do the following:

	definitely should have right	probably should have right	probably should not have right	definitely should not have right	can't choose
a. ... collect information about anyone living in Belgium without their knowledge	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. ... collect information about anyone living in other countries without their knowledge	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

35. B14. Suppose the government suspected that a terrorist act was about to happen. Do you think the authorities should have the right to ...

	definitely should have right	probably should have right	probably should not have right	definitely should not have right	can't choose
a. ... detain people for as long as they want without putting them on trial?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. ... tap people's telephone conversations?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. ... stop and search people in the street at random?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Page 23

Now some more questions about politics.

**36. B15. How interested would you say you personally are in politics?**

- ☐ Very interested
- ☐ Somewhat interested
- ☐ Not at all interested
- ☐ Can't choose
- ☐ Fairly interested
- ☐ Not very interested

**Page 24**

**37. B16. Please tick one box on each line to show how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.**

	strongly agree	agree	neither agree nor disagree	disagree	strongly disagree	can't choose
a. People like me don't have any say about what the government does	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. I feel that I have a pretty good understanding of the important political issues facing our country	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. People we elect as members of parliament try to keep the promises they have made during the election	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Most civil servants can be trusted to do what is best for the country	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Page 25**

**B17. Generally, how would you describe taxes in Belgium today?**

We mean all taxes together, including wage deductions, income tax, taxes on goods and services and all the rest.

**38. a. First, for those with high incomes, taxes are ...**

- ☐ much too high
- ☐ about right
- ☐ much too low
- ☐ can't choose
- ☐ too high
- ☐ too low

**39. b. Next, for those with middle incomes, taxes are ...**

- ☐ much too high
- ☐ about right
- ☐ much too low
- ☐ can't choose
- ☐ too high
- ☐ too low

**40. c. Lastly, for those with low incomes, taxes are ...**

- ☐ much too high
- ☐ about right
- ☐ much too low
- ☐ too high
- ☐ too low

☐ can't choose

## Page 26

41. B18. In general, how often do you think that tax authorities in Belgium do the following ...

	almost always	often	sometimes	almost never	can't choose
a. ... make sure people pay their taxes?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. ... treat everyone in accordance with the law, regardless of their contacts or position in society?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

42. B19. In general, how often do you think that major private companies in Belgium do the following ...

	almost always	often	sometimes	almost never	can't choose
a. ... comply with laws and regulations?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. ... try to avoid paying their taxes?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Page 27

43. B20. In your opinion, about how many politicians in Belgium are involved in corruption?

- ☐ Almost none ☐ A few
- ☐ Some ☐ Quite a lot
- ☐ Almost all
- ☐ Can't choose

44. B21. And in your opinion, about how many public officials in Belgium are involved in corruption?

- ☐ Almost none ☐ A few
- ☐ Some ☐ Quite a lot
- ☐ Almost all
- ☐ Can't choose

## Page 28

45. B22. In the last five years, how often have you or a member of your immediate family come across a public official who hinted they wanted, or asked for, a bribe or favour in return for a service?

- ☐ Never ☐ Seldom
- ☐ Occassionally ☐ Quite often
- ☐ Very often
- ☐ Can't choose

## Page 29

### YOUR CURRENT OR LAST OCCUPATION

**\* 46C1. Which situation applies to you?**

- ☐ I am currently in paid work or I am working unpaid in a family business
- ☐ I am currently not in paid work, but I previously had paid work
- ☐ I have never had paid work


- Ga naar **pagina 36** als  
46. C1. Which situation applies to you?  
is gelijk aan I have never had paid work

**Page 30**

**47. C2. If you are currently in paid work or previously had paid work, which labour situation corresponds/corresponded with your main job?**

- ☐ Employee in paid employment
- ☐ Self-employed without employees
- ☐ Self-employed with employees
- ☐ Helper, working in family business (no employment contract)

**Page 31**

-  **Toon pagina** als  
47. C2. If you are currently in paid work or previously had paid work, which labour situation corresponds/corresponded with your main job?...  
is gelijk aan Self-employed with employees

**48. C3. If you are/were self-employed, how many employees do/did you employ, yourself not included?**

**Page 32**

**49. C4. If you work/worked, do/did you manage others?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

- Ga naar **pagina 33** als  
49. C4. If you work/worked, do/did you manage others?  
is gelijk aan Yes
- Anders ga naar **pagina 34**

**Page 33**

**50. C5. If you answered 'Yes' to question C4, how many people do/did you manage?**

**Page 34**

**51. C6. Do/did you work for a for-profit organisation or a non-profit organisation?**  
The purpose of a for-profit organisation is to make profit, which is not the case for a non-profit organisation.

- ☐ For-profit organisation
- ☐ Non-profit organisation
- ☐ Don't know

**52. C7. Do/did you work in the public or private sector?**

- ☐ Public sector
- ☐ Private sector
- ☐ Don't know

**Page 35**

**53. C8a. What is the name of your current main job (or of your last job if you currently do not work)? Specify as detailed as possible.**

**54. C8b. What kind of work do you do in your main job (or did you do in your last job)? Specify as detailed as possible the kind of work you do/did.**

**55. C9. How many hours do you generally work per week in your current job (including overtime)?**

**Page 36**

**\* 56C10. Which situation applies to your spouse or partner?**

- ☐ He/she is currently in paid work or he/she works unpaid in a family business
- ☐ He/she currently does not have paid work but previously had paid work
- ☐ He/she has never had paid work
- ☐ Not applicable: no partner

- Ga naar **pagina 39** als

56. C10. Which situation applies to your spouse or partner?  
is gelijk aan Not applicable: no partner

of

56. C10. Which situation applies to your spouse or partner?  
is gelijk aan He/she has never had paid work

**Page 37**

**57. C11. If your spouse or partner currently has paid work (or previously had paid work), which labour situation corresponds (corresponded) with his/her main job?**

- ☐ Employee in paid employment
- ☐ Self-employed without employees

☐ Self-employed with employees

☐ Helper, working in family business (no employment contract)

**58. C12. If your spouse or partner works/worked, does/did he/she manage others in his/her job?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Don't know

**Page 38**

**59. C13a. What is the name of the current main job of your spouse/partner (or the last job if he/she no longer works)?**

**Specify as detailed as possible.**

**60. C13b. What kind of work does your spouse/partner do in his/her current main job (or last job)?**  
**Specify as detailed as possible the kind of work he/she does/did.**

**61. C14. How many hours does your spouse/partner generally work per week in his/her current job (including overtime)?**

**Page 39**

**62. C15. There are groups which are at the very top and groups which are at the very bottom of our society. Where would you put yourself on this scale?**

☐ 10 Top

☐ 8

☐ 6

☐ 4

☐ 2

☐ 9

☐ 7

☐ 5

☐ 3

☐ 1 Bottom

**Page 40**

**63. C16. What is the average net monthly income of yourself and of your household?**

By **net monthly household income** we mean the total earnings of all household members together, after tax deduction; everything included, such as salaries, professional income, dinner vouchers, child benefit, retirement pay, replacement benefits (accident, illness, unemployment), income from capital or real estate, etc.

approximately per month:

	your own income	household income
no income	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
less than € 750	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

€ 750 up to € 1000	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€ 1000 up to € 1250	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€ 1250 up to € 1500	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€ 1500 up to € 1750	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€ 1750 up to € 2000	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€ 2000 up to € 2250	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€ 2250 up to € 2500	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€ 2500 up to € 3000	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€ 3000 up to € 3500	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€ 3500 up to € 4000	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
€ 4000 up to € 5000	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
more than € 5000	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Page 41

### 64. C17. Which belief system do you belong to?

- ☐ Agnostic/atheist
- ☐ Protestant
- ☐ Catholic
- ☐ Jewish
- ☐ Other, specify
- ☐ Latitudinarian
- ☐ Christian but not catholic
- ☐ Islamic
- ☐ None

### 65. C18. Not including weddings, funerals and baptisms, how often do you attend ecclesiastical or religious services?

- ☐ Several times a week
- ☐ Two or three times a month
- ☐ Several times a year
- ☐ Less frequently than once a year
- ☐ Once a week
- ☐ Once a month
- ☐ Once a year
- ☐ Never

## Page 42

### 66. C19. Are you currently or have you ever been a member of a trade union?

- ☐ Yes, I am currently a member of a trade union
- ☐ I previously was a member of a trade union, but not currently
- ☐ I have never been a member of a trade union

## Page 43

### 67. C20. Which political party did you vote for in the last federal (national) elections of Sunday 25 May 2014?

- ☐ MR
- ☐ Vlaams Belang
- ☐ Vivant
- ☐ Open Vld
- ☐ Ecolo
- ☐ Groen
- ☐ ProDG
- ☐ FDF
- ☐ Lijst Dedecker
- ☐ PS

- ☐ UF
- ☐ N-VA
- ☐ CD&V
- ☐ PVDA+
- ☐ Blank/invalid
- ☐ I did not vote
- ☐ Another party, specify

- ☐ sp.a
- ☐ cdH
- ☐ Parti Populaire
- ☐ PTB-GO
- ☐ I was not obliged to vote then
- ☐ I did not have the right to vote

## Page 44

### 68. C21. Finally, how would you best describe the type of community you live in?

- ☐ A big city
- ☐ A medium-sized city or small town
- ☐ A farm or home in the countryside
- ☐ The suburbs or outskirts of a big city
- ☐ A country village

## Page 45

### 69. Thank you very much for completing this questionnaire.

If you have any comments, please write them below.

[Legal provisions](#)

## Your responses have been registered!

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey, your input is valuable to us.