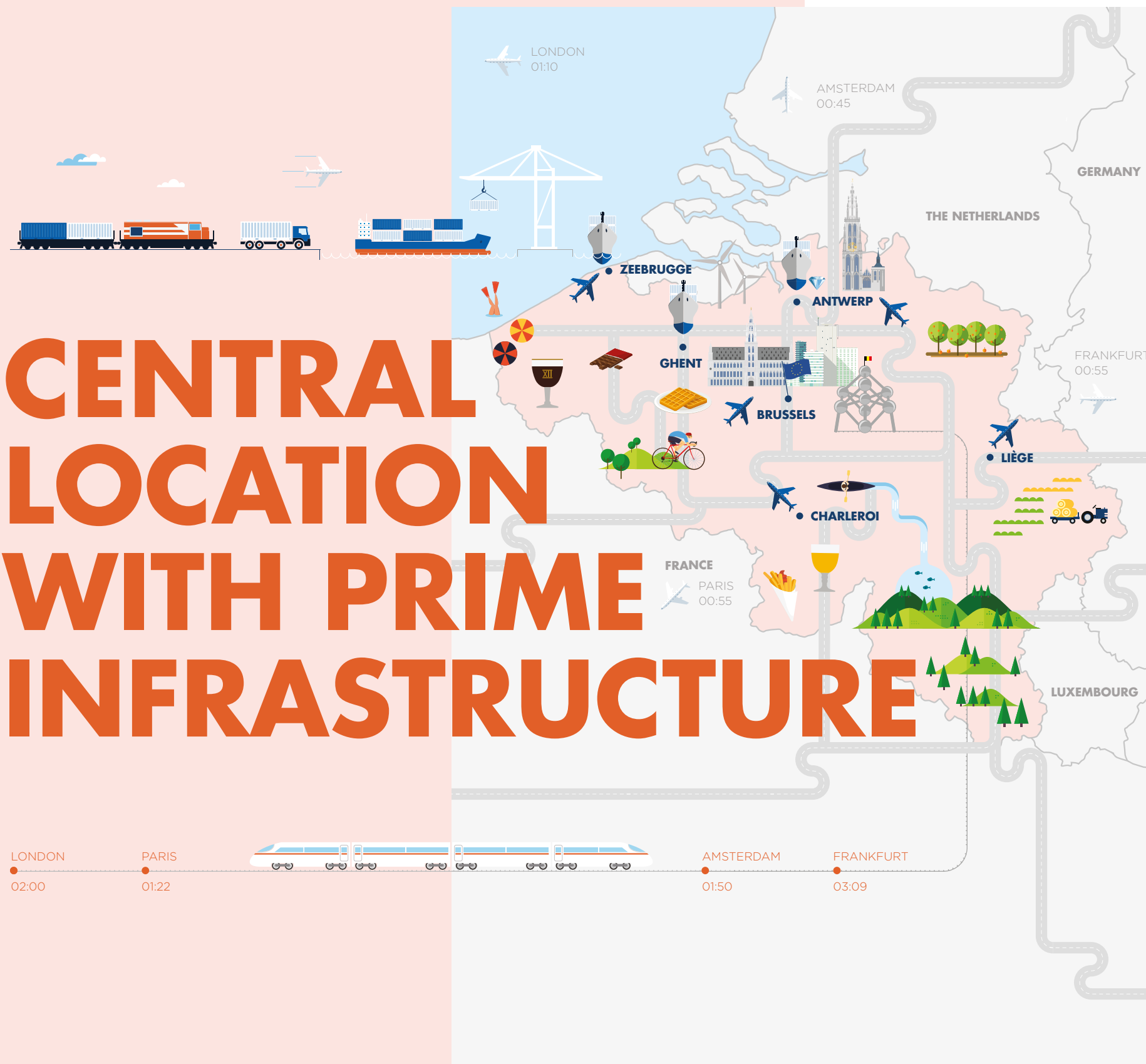




# INVEST IN BELGIUM

**BELGIUM**  uniquely  
PHENOMENAL

# CENTRAL LOCATION WITH PRIME INFRASTRUCTURE



## ALL ROADS LEAD TO BRUSSELS

Located at the heart of Europe, Brussels is one of the most accessible capitals on the European continent. Thanks to its dense and outstanding transportation infrastructure, Belgium offers fast connections to locations all over Europe by air, sea or land. Travelling to major commercial and industrial centers, including London, Paris, Amsterdam and Frankfurt, takes less than two hours.

The seaports of Antwerp, Zeebrugge, Ghent and Ostend are the perfect ocean-going gateways for the fast handling of goods to and from anywhere in the world. The inland ports of Liège and Brussels are well connected via a dense network of navigable waterways. Liège is the third largest inland port in Europe and has direct links to Antwerp and Rotterdam via its canals.

Brussels is included in Europe's high-speed train network and offers connections to 19 major cities, including Paris, London, Amsterdam, Lille and Cologne. The Eurostar railway service through the Channel Tunnel, for instance, enables smooth contacts between London and Brussels.

Home is never far away with frequent direct flights from Brussels to all European capitals and second-tier cities. Brussels Airport is located 12 km (8 miles) north-east of Brussels' city center and is easily accessible via a direct train connection.

Frequent flights are also offered by several operators at Antwerp Airport. Brussels South Charleroi Airport has daily connections to all over Europe and beyond and is easily accessible from anywhere in Belgium. Liège Airport focuses mainly on air freight. It is the 8th busiest cargo airport in Europe.

**DIRECT FLIGHTS DEPARTING FROM BRUSSELS TO EU MEMBER STATES**

*Frequency (daily average 2018)*

9	Madrid
8	Lisbon
8	London
7	Rome
7	Vienna
6	Copenhagen
6	Stockholm
5	Amsterdam
5	Dublin
5	Warsaw
4	Berlin
3	Athens
3	Budapest
3	Paris
3	Prague
3	La Valetta
3	Zagreb
2	Bucharest
2	Helsinki
2	Ljubljana
2	Riga
2	Tallinn
1	Larnaca
1	Sofia

**DIRECT FLIGHTS DEPARTING FROM BRUSSELS TO IMPORTANT DESTINATIONS WORLDWIDE**

*Frequency (daily average 2018)*

7	Geneva
5	Tel Aviv
3	New York
2	Dubai
2	Washington
2	Montreal
2	Shanghai
2	Shenzhen
1	Beijing
1	Tokyo
1	Hong Kong
1	Toronto
1	Abu Dhabi
1	Doha

**DIRECT TRAIN CONNECTIONS DEPARTING FROM BRUSSELS (THALYS-EUROSTAR)**

*Frequency (daily average 2018)*

19	Paris
16	Amsterdam
9	London
5	Cologne



**INTERNATIONAL DECISION CENTER**

Belgium is home to a unique concentration of decision-makers who shape the lives of hundreds of millions of people worldwide. Brussels hosts the most important European institutions, NATO, professional federations, corporate headquarters and civil society organizations. 181 diplomatic missions, representative offices of some 200 regions and cities, 1,750 non-governmental organizations, 20,000 lobbyists and the world's largest press corps, with some 1,200 accredited journalists are all based in Brussels.



***Brussels is often dubbed the capital of standards for Europe, setting standards and establishing safeguards for the single, biggest market in the world.***



## DIGITAL BELGIUM

Belgium offers a fast, secure and reliable IT infrastructure providing the ideal backbone for the operations of any company. Broadband fiber optic internet and secure servers are widely available, providing secure cloud solutions and collaborative computing. In the European Commission's 2017 Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI), Belgium ranks third in terms of connectivity. With 99% of households covered, Belgium ranks second in the EU when it comes to broadband coverage. Overall, Belgium is one of the top six countries in the 2017 Digital Economy and Society Index, well above the EU average.

Moreover, the federal government's 'Digital Belgium' policy aims to stimulate the roll-out of ultrafast internet in Belgium. Mobile broadband technologies, such as 4G and LTE Advanced, are scheduled to be rolled out very soon across the entire Belgian territory and a high-performance 5G framework will be installed to ensure Belgium is at the forefront of Internet-of-Things developments.

According to 'Digitizing Europe' – a study by The Boston Consulting Group (US) and American internet giant Google – Belgium is set to get the most out of the European Digital Single Market plan, which aims for a unified digital market across Europe. The report labels Belgium as a digital frontrunner in Europe. Even among its high-tech peers, the country has the most potential for growth, thanks to its high degree of digitization and a small market. When the Digital Single Market plan becomes a reality, Belgium's digital GDP (eGDP) is projected to increase by more than 12%.

Belgium ranks 10th in the 2018-2022 Technological Readiness ranking of the Economist Intelligence Unit, which assesses how well prepared countries are for technological change, across three key categories: access to the internet, digital economy infrastructure and openness to innovation.

### INTEGRATION OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY (DESI 2017)

Belgian businesses use digital technologies to improve productivity and sales and are doing well in integrating digital technology, where Belgium ranks 5th. The Integration of Digital Technology dimension measures the digitization of businesses and their exploitation of the online sales channel. By adopting digital technology, businesses can enhance efficiency, reduce costs and better engage customers, collaborators and business partners. Furthermore, the internet as a sales outlet offers access to wider markets and potential for growth.



### CONNECTIVITY (DESI 2017)

Belgium is a strong performer in fixed connectivity. Fast broadband is available almost everywhere and 81% of all subscriptions are at least 30Mbps. The connectivity dimension measures the deployment of broadband infrastructure and its quality. Access to fast broadband-enabled services is a necessary condition for competitiveness.

↓ Google Data Center  
in Saint-Ghislain (Belgium)



**Belgium ranks 6<sup>th</sup> in the Digital Economy and Society Index 2017.**

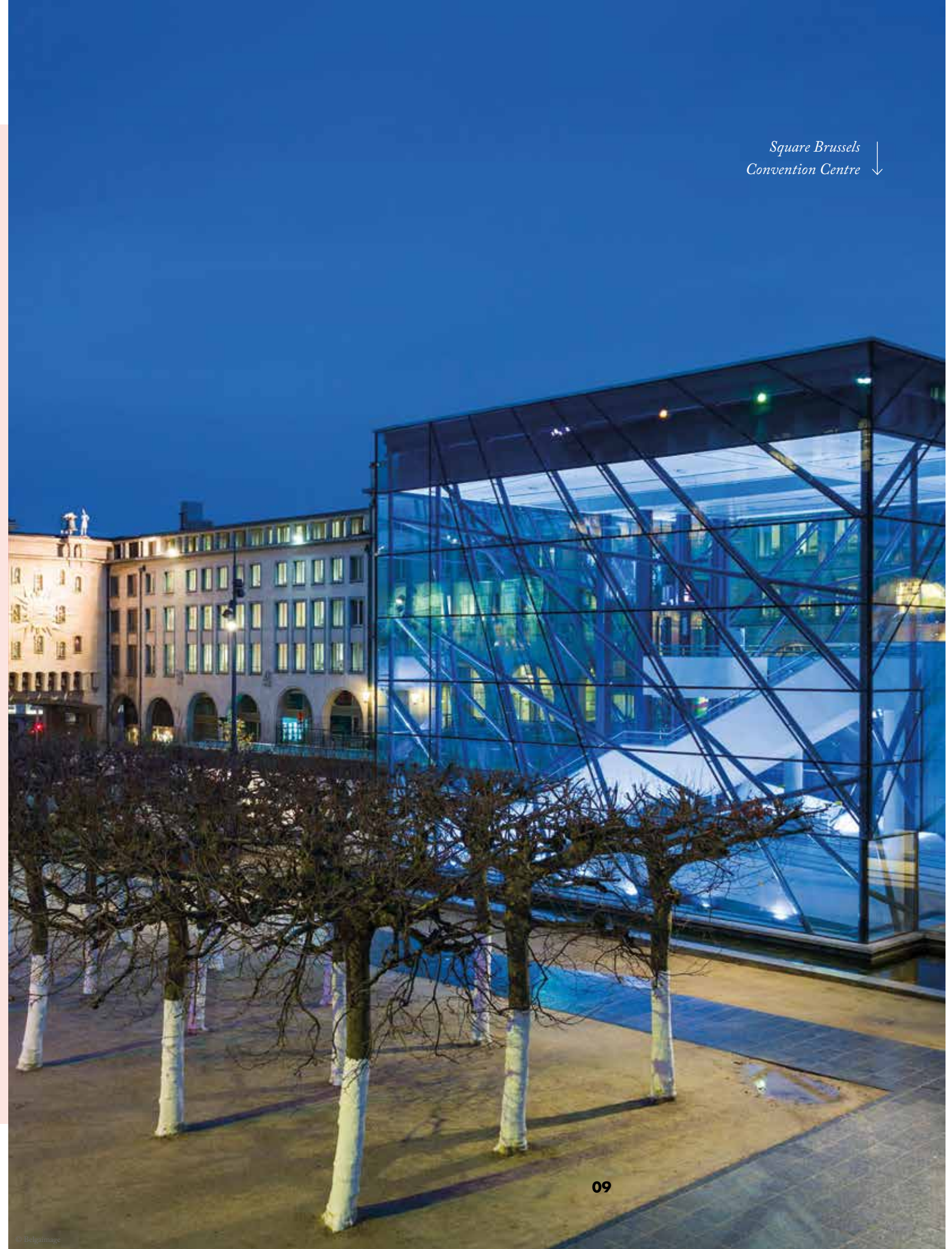
**Belgium ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in connectivity and 5<sup>th</sup> in integration of digital technology by businesses.**



**HIGH-END CONFERENCE VENUES  
AND COMMODIOUS HOTEL ROOMS**

The city is home to more than 120 international government organizations, 181 embassies, over 5,000 diplomats and more than 1,000 lobby groups.

This international presence combined with Belgium's first-rate location and accessibility at the heart of Europe, makes it the leading European conference destination. According to the Union of International Associations' Conference Cities Ranking 2016, Brussels ranks first worldwide as conference city. Hotels in Belgium range from international branded hotels to several family-owned boutique hotels. Price levels are lower than in comparable European cities.



Square Brussels  
Convention Centre ↓



# WORLD-CLASS R&D INFRASTRUCTURE

Within the EU, Belgium is a strong performer in R&D and innovation, thanks to the high quality of its educational system and research facilities, the availability of skilled workers and attractive fiscal incentives for R&D ventures.

The World Economic Forum's Global Competitiveness Report of 2016-2017 ranks Belgium at the top for R&D, innovation and collaboration between industry, academia and government. As a result, many innovative companies have their operations in Belgium.

INVEST IN BELGIUM

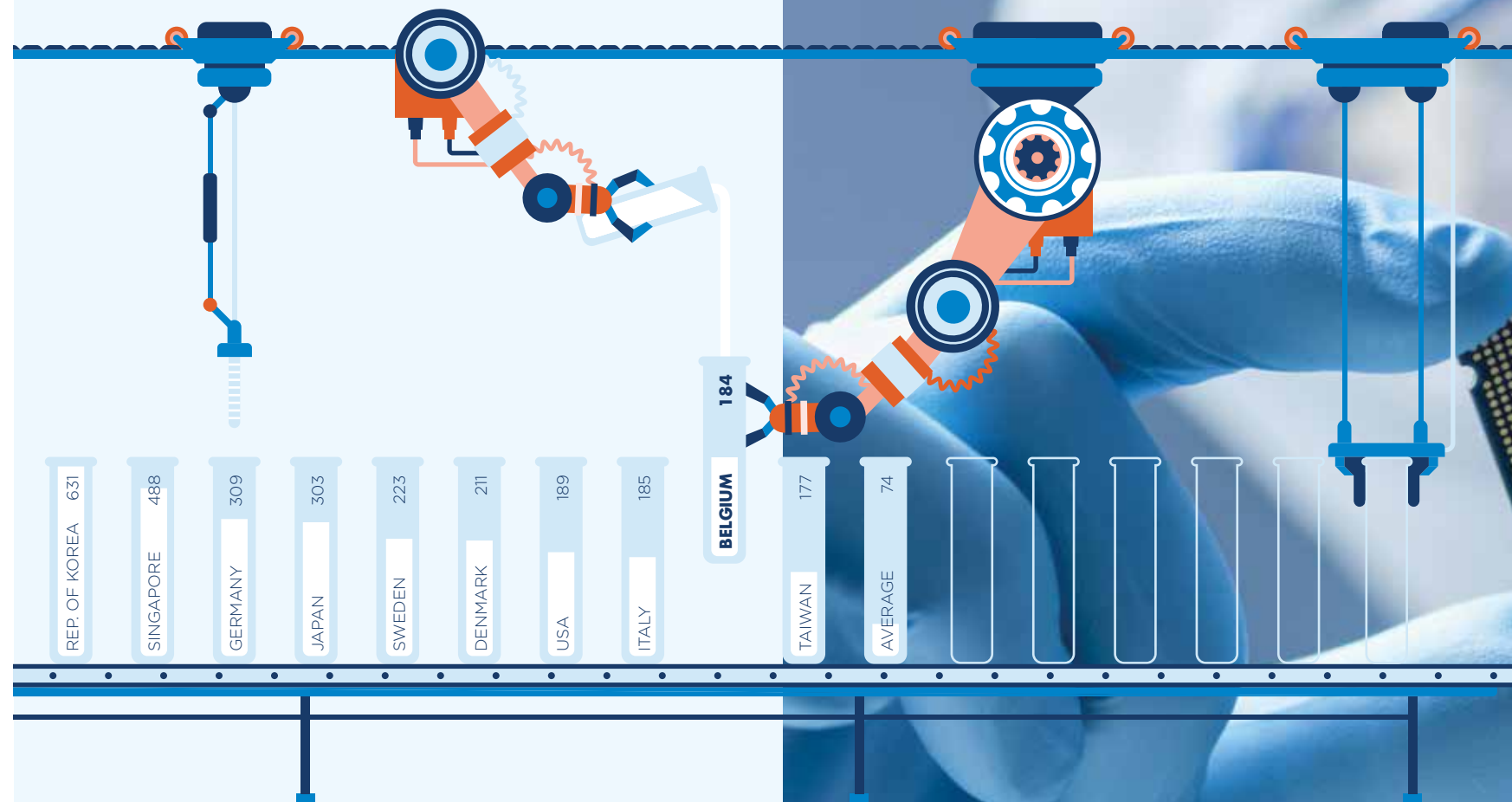
## ROBOTICS IN BELGIUM

As key enablers of the commerce of tomorrow, robots are changing the way we work. Precise and ideal for hazardous tasks, robots boost productivity, cut costs and enable optimized use of resources. As a result, the sector is expected to grow faster than the rest of the economy as robots become increasingly intertwined with our lives.

Belgium leads the way in the development, production and integration of robotics technologies in a wide range of sectors, including health, microelectronics, automotive, agriculture, medtech and more.

TOP 10 COUNTRIES WITH THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL ROBOTS PER 10,000 EMPLOYEES IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

*World Robotics Report 2017*



WORLD-CLASS R&D INFRASTRUCTURE

**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

Belgium’s universities are among the world’s most innovative. Belgium has seven academic institutions in the Reuters ranking of Europe’s most innovative universities. With a population of only 11 million people, it can boast more top 100 innovative universities per capita than any other country in Europe. The University of Leuven (KUL), according to Reuters, continues to top the European charts in terms of innovation and patents. For this, Belgium’s oldest university relies on its systematic valorization of scientific research, its numerous spin-offs and its framework for close collaboration with companies. Universiteit Gent (33), Université Libre de Bruxelles (42), Vrije Universiteit Brussel (47), Université Catholique de Louvain (54), Université de Liège (86) and Universiteit Antwerpen (96) all feature in the 2018 Reuters list of most innovative universities in Europe. Their ranking is based on the number of patent applications submitted, the percentage of approved patent submissions, and the commercial influence of the university’s research.



© Rob Stevens

**THE RANKINGS TELL THE TALE, AS BELGIUM IS:**

**1<sup>st</sup> In Europe for cooperation between science and SMEs**

**4<sup>th</sup> Highest-scoring nation globally in innovation**

**6<sup>th</sup> Worldwide for quality scientific research centers**

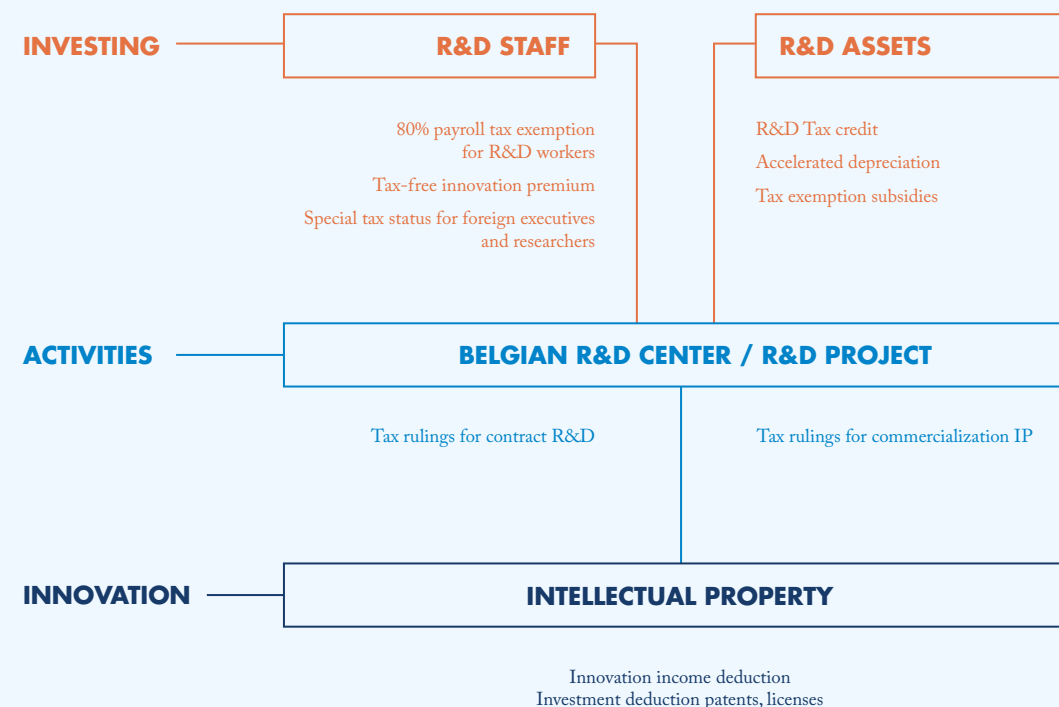
**9<sup>th</sup> Worldwide for collaboration between industries and universities**

*Sources: ZEW, Center for European Economic Research, Mannheim, Innovation Indicator 2014  
Innovations Indicator 2015  
Community Innovation Survey 2012  
Bloomberg Innovation Index 2017*

**FAVOURABLE TAX REGIME FOR R&D**

Belgium’s flourishing innovation industry is buttressed by a favorable tax regime. According to the OECD, the Belgian tax package for R&D ranked first worldwide in 2017. Belgium offers an innovation income deduction scheme applicable to net earnings from innovation. According to the scheme, up to 85% of a company’s net earnings from innovation is exempted from corporate taxation, resulting in an effective tax rate of 4.4%. This measure comes on top of the investment deductions and tax credits Belgium offers to companies and organizations investing in R&D, such as an R&D tax credit that allows overall R&D costs to be reduced by 4% to 6%, by way of a refundable tax credit.

Additionally, companies, research centers and other organizations benefit from an R&D payroll tax incentive, allowing them to recover up to 80% of the payroll tax on wages paid to researchers, academic staff and other highly skilled personnel. Belgium also grants access to an attractive taxation scheme for foreign executives and managers temporarily employed in Belgium. This allows for a deduction from the taxable income of qualified employees for certain allowances (tax-free allowances) and for an exclusion from Belgian taxation of income related to work performed outside Belgium (travel exclusion).



←  
University of Leuven (KUL)

Source:  
Federal Public Service Finance Belgium



**START-UP FRIENDLY**

Belgium has a blooming start-up scene. In fact, Belgian start-ups have the highest success rate in Europe, with two-thirds of new companies surviving for longer than the pivotal first five years. International venture capital is increasingly finding its way to Belgian start-ups.

→  
*China Belgium Technology Center  
in Louvain-la-Neuve*

 **collibra**

Collibra makes it easy for data citizens to find, understand and trust the organizational data they need to make business decisions every day. Unlike traditional data governance solutions, Collibra is a cross-organizational platform that breaks down the traditional data silos, freeing the data so all users have access. Collibra was founded mid 2008 as a spin-off from STARLab at the VUB University of Brussels. The company is backed by venture capital, including the Brussels Imagination, Innovation and Incubation Fund, Brustart (GIMB), and business angels.

 **CBTC**

Located in the heart of Europe, the China-Belgium Technology Center (CBTC) is the first comprehensive science park invested by China in Europe. The CBTC will serve as the platform for Chinese enterprises to enter Europe while helping European companies' market entry in China. Its objective is to facilitate the cooperation and innovation between Chinese and EU companies. A university and industry cooperation platform has been developed around CBTC, where 5 university zones and 300 public and private research centers are well established.


 **miracor**  
medical

Miracor Medical SA is a medical device company developing disruptive solutions to treat severe heart diseases and to improve the clinical outcome. Miracor develops the PiCSO (Pressure-controlled Intermittent Coronary Sinus Occlusion) Impulse System, a technology platform designed to improve clinical outcome of patients with impaired cardiac function.

 **showpad**

Showpad is the world's most powerful SaaS platform for sales and marketing success. Bridging the gap between sales and marketing, Showpad enables companies to generate more revenue more quickly by empowering sales and marketing to sell the way buyers want to buy. Showpad delivers a better buyer experience, intelligent sales content and a scalable analytics-powered platform that is smarter than traditional sales enablement.

 **B-HIVE**

B-Hive is a European collaborative innovation fintech platform that brings together major banks, insurers and market infrastructure players. Together, they work on common innovation challenges and build bridges to the start-up and scale-up community. The aim is to put Brussels on the map as the smart gateway to Europe and leverage on the opportunities offered by the digital transformation for the financial services industry.

 **Ablynx**

Ablynx is a pioneer in the discovery and development of nanobodies, medications based on antibodies that come from camels and llamas. The Ghent-based company is a spin-off of the Flanders Institute for Biotechnology (VIB). Leading organizations and scientists from around the world make Belgium a hotspot for the life sciences and health industries. Ablynx was recently acquired by Sanofi, one of the largest pharma manufacturers worldwide, which will result in an acceleration of the commercialization of the medicines.



**TEST MARKET FOR FOREIGN COMPANIES**

Belgium's location at the crossroads of three major European cultures - Germanic, Roman and Anglo-Saxon - and its multicultural population continue to offer the ideal conditions for testing products and services before introducing them on the wider European market. Many multinationals, like H&M and Coca-Cola, maintain testing facilities in Belgium for the European market. With 60% of Europe's purchasing power and 50% of Europe's population within a 500 km radius, tested products can easily find their way to European customers.

Additionally, specialized companies offer state-of-the-art testing facilities for all kinds of industries. Belgium boasts test facilities at strategic research centers, numerous pilot plants, demonstration infrastructures and R&D centers to help a variety of industries test and scale up their innovations.

**CHIQUITA CONNECTS WITH CONSUMERS**

Before launching its 'fruit in a bottle' smoothie concept continent-wide, Chiquita selected Belgium as its ideal test market. The American fruit company also chose Belgium to test a new marketing concept to create more direct and interactive relationships with consumers of fruits and smoothies. To carry out the research, Chiquita enlisted Insites Consulting, a market research firm headquartered in Ghent. The aim? To create a community where consumers can share ideas and feedback, generating numerous marketing and innovation insights for Chiquita.

**Belgium offers  
the ideal  
conditions  
for testing  
products and  
services.**

←  
*Coca-Cola Innovation Center  
in Anderlecht*



# SKILLED AND PRODUCTIVE HUMAN CAPITAL

Volvo Cars Ghent,  
Volvo XC40 production



© Belgainage

The Belgian workforce is one of the most productive in the EU, well ahead of neighboring countries. Key contributing factors are the quality of the educational system and proficiency in multiple languages. Other attractive assets are the flexibility of the labor force, as well as its versatility and eagerness to learn in changing working conditions. A culture of social dialogue underpins the stable business climate.

According to the IMD World Competitiveness Center, Belgium continues to be home to the world's 3rd-most talented workforce. In its yearly ranking, IMD assesses the competencies necessary for businesses and the economy to achieve long-term value creation. It measures the attraction, retention and development of a highly skilled labor force consisting of both domestic and international workers.

One of those indicators shows that no country in the world invests as much per pupil as a percentage of its GDP as Belgium. In terms of overall Investment & Development, Belgium ranks 2nd in the world, thanks to its huge education expenditure and the effectiveness of its health infrastructure (3rd). 35% of the labor force has at least one higher education degree, placing Belgium well above the OECD average.

## LABOR PRODUCTIVITY PER HOUR WORKED

*US Conference Board, 2017*

IRELAND	75.9
<b>BELGIUM</b>	<b>70.5</b>
UNITED STATES	69.5
NETHERLANDS	68
FRANCE	67.9
DENMARK	67.5
GERMANY	67.4

*US Dollars per hour worked*



**A MULTILINGUAL HOST COUNTRY**

Belgium is located at the crossroads of three major European cultures - Germanic, Roman and Anglo-Saxon. Visitors will easily find locals who speak their language fluently. French, Dutch and German are official languages in Belgium. English is fluently spoken by most Belgians for whom multilingualism is a given. According to EF's 2016 English Proficiency Index, students have reached a high level of proficiency in English, alongside their national languages.

**AMPLE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAMILY MEMBERS**

Belgium has a vibrant labor market with ample opportunities for international staff. Expats make up more than 10% of the workforce. Belgium, home to numerous international institutions, advocacy groups, lobbying companies, law firms and others, offers many attractive employment opportunities for family members of expats. Furthermore, according to the OECD, nowhere in the world is the pay gap between men and women closing faster than in Belgium. The median monthly wage of Belgian men is 3.3% higher than that of women. In the European Union, the median monthly gender wage gap is 19.1%.



# BUSINESS-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT

The federal government is focusing on structural economic reforms to further boost Belgium's economic growth potential, creating jobs and reducing the budget deficit and public debt. Among other measures, the nominal corporate income tax rate is being lowered from 34% to 25% by 2020 and only 20% for SMEs on their first EUR 100k profit. Following the tax shift, labor taxes have been reduced by EUR 8bln, boosting real income and the creation of private sector jobs.

## SMART COMPANY TAXATION

On 26 July 2017, the federal government reached an initial agreement on an important tax, economic and social reform package. As key components of this package, the corporate income tax rate is gradually reduced to 25% in 2020 and fiscal consolidation will be introduced. The notional interest deduction is maintained. The reform takes effect over a three-year period (2018, 2019 and 2020). The tax reform is built on three pillars: budget neutrality, simplification and fair taxation. The standard corporate income tax rate of 33% is lowered to 29% in 2018 and to 25% as from 2020. SMEs will see a decrease in the rate to 20% as of 2018 for the first bracket of EUR 100,000 profit. As a result, Belgium applies a more advantageous headline tax rate than most of its neighboring countries.

As of 2019 and for the first time in Belgium's income tax history, tax consolidation will be introduced

through the so-called "deduction of the group contribution". In practice, Belgian companies will be able to transfer taxable profits to other Belgian affiliated companies with the aim of offsetting these profits against current year tax losses. The group companies will compensate each other for the tax burden of the group contribution, as a result of which the tax consolidation will be financially neutral.

The notional interest deduction is maintained but as of 2018 it is calculated based on the incremental equity (over a period of five years) and no longer on the total amount of the company's qualifying equity. Simplified, the incremental equity equals one fifth of the positive difference between the equity at the end of the taxable period and the fifth preceding taxable period.

The 95% dividends received deduction is increased to 100% resulting in a full participation exemption. Capital gains on shares whose dividends entitle to the dividends received deduction are also exempted. Specific rules apply to capital gains after a restructuring.

Investors can apply with the Ruling Commission for an advance decision on the application of direct or indirect tax laws to a particular situation or transaction. Transparent fiscal rulings provide a robust basis for investment decisions. They are legally binding and provide an accurate forecast of the tax treatment in areas such as corporate income tax, customs, VAT, transfer pricing, business restructuring, etc.

- GRADUAL REDUCTION OF CORPORATE INCOME TAX RATE
- TAX CONSOLIDATION THROUGH DEDUCTION OF THE GROUP CONTRIBUTION
- NOTIONAL INTEREST DEDUCTION
- DIVIDENDS RECEIVED REDUCTION
- TRANSPARENT FISCAL RULINGS

## BENCHMARK HEADLINE TAX RATES

KMPG Tax and Legal Advisers, 2017



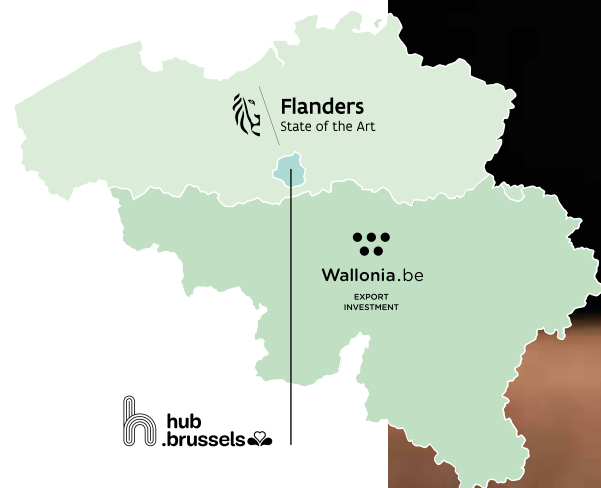
\* 29,58% now  
\* 25% as from January 1, 2020



## INVESTMENT INCENTIVES

In Belgium, the three Regions (Brussels Capital Region, Flanders and the Walloon Region) are in charge of attracting foreign investments. Their respective export and investment agencies (hub.brussels, Flanders Investment & Trade and Agence wallonne à l'Exportation et aux Investissements Etrangers) provide a series of incentives and grants for prospective and current investors.

Strategic transformation plans, R&D, eco-friendly initiatives, export projects, recruitment and training can all benefit from incentives and grants administered by the regional agencies. SMEs are eligible for additional support.



## LABOR COST REDUCTION

Changes to taxation laws have resulted in several labor cost reduction initiatives. In addition, reductions to social security contributions (SSC) rates, fringe benefits and tax shifts greatly reduce employers' tax burdens and simplify the overall tax code. All employers in the private sector and employees who are fully subject to Belgian social security can benefit from a structural reduction of SSC. In addition to this, employers can benefit from a lifelong exemption of SSC for a first employee hired (period 2016-2020) and temporary SSC reductions for the next five employees hired. There are also several target group reductions on SSC applicable to certain categories of employees: older employees, young and unskilled employees, unemployed former employees.

Companies can enjoy a fiscal advantage for employees working in shifts, at night, or in a continuous regime. The employer is exempted from paying part of the payroll tax that he or she has deducted from the employee's wages. This exemption amounts to 22.8% of the total taxable wages, including the bonuses for working in shifts or night work. For continuous work this exemption amounts to 25% of the total taxable wages, including the bonuses.

There are also numerous advantages for employing expatriates. For instance, no tax and no social security contributions are paid on expatriate allowances and reimbursement of expenses. These are deductible from corporate tax. In addition, foreign executives themselves are given a tax-free expatriate allowance as well as a reduction in cost of living expenses. These executives are also reimbursed for non-repetitive expenses on an unlimited basis, including installation costs, moving expenses and school fees. If they perform work outside of Belgium, these workdays are tax-free.

- **STRUCTURAL AND SPECIFIC REDUCTIONS OF SOCIAL SECURITY CONTRIBUTIONS**
- **FISCAL ADVANTAGE FOR EMPLOYEES WORKING IN SHIFTS, AT NIGHT OR IN A CONTINUOUS REGIME**
- **NUMEROUS BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYING EXPATRIATES**

## EASE OF SETTING UP A BUSINESS

In the 2018 World Bank Doing Business Index Belgium ranks 5th in the EU for ease of starting a business. In four days anyone can set up any type of company following a straightforward procedure, which includes registration with a notary public/execution of a notary deed, submission of a business plan and registration with the Crossroads Bank for Enterprises.

The principal form of business organization in Belgium is the private limited liability company (SRL/BV). Very large organizations can adopt the form of a limited liability company (SA/NV). Individuals and companies can also work together as a partnership (SNC/VOF). Foreign investors are free to operate through any form of business entity recognized under Belgian law (typically a BV or a branch). Branches are governed by the same rules as Belgian companies with regard to their management and operations in Belgium and are subject to the standard corporate income tax rate.

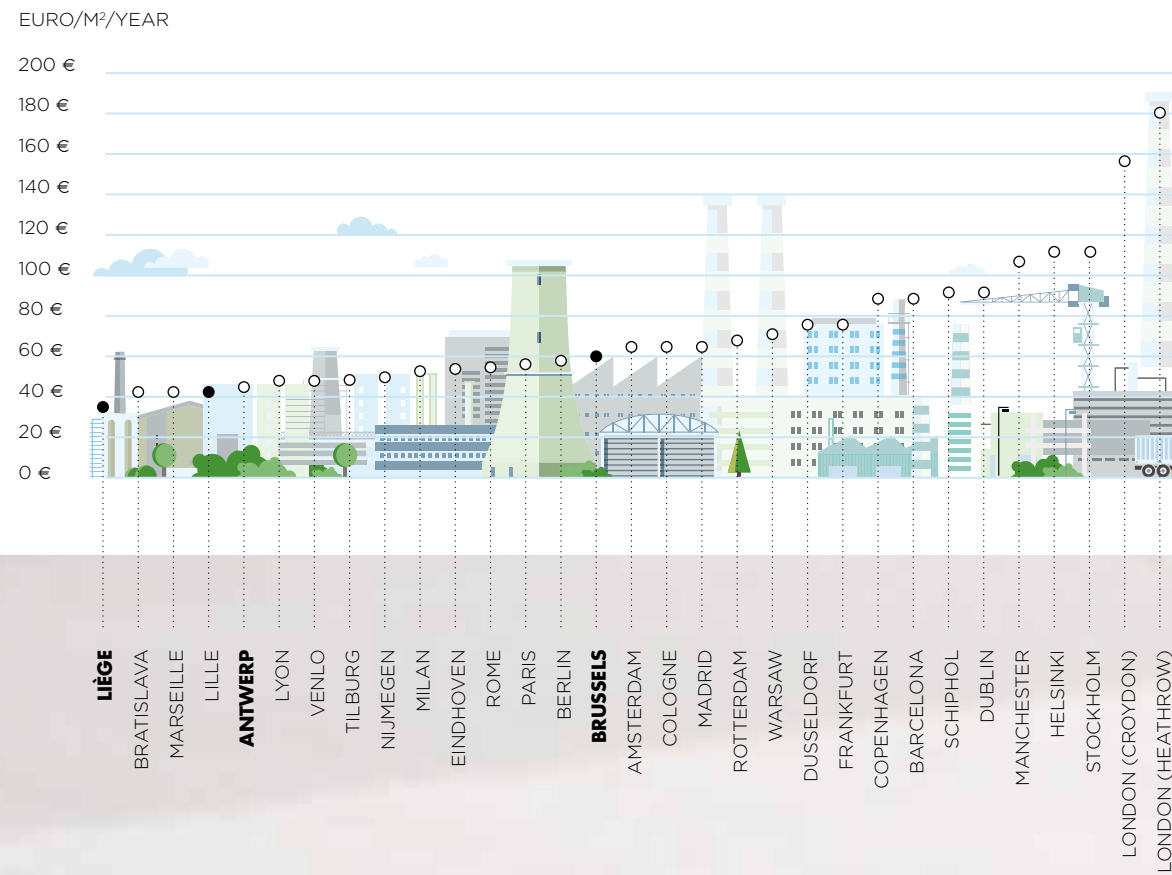
***In four days,  
anyone can set up any type  
of company following  
a straightforward procedure.***

## COMPETITIVE CORPORATE REAL-ESTATE MARKET

Belgian cities offer a wide selection of modern and affordable office spaces. Brussels has around 13.3 million m<sup>2</sup> of office space, of which 1.3 million m<sup>2</sup> is currently available on the market. Projects with building permits represent an impressive potential increase in office stock. Most developers are ready to start construction as soon as prospective tenants are willing to commit.

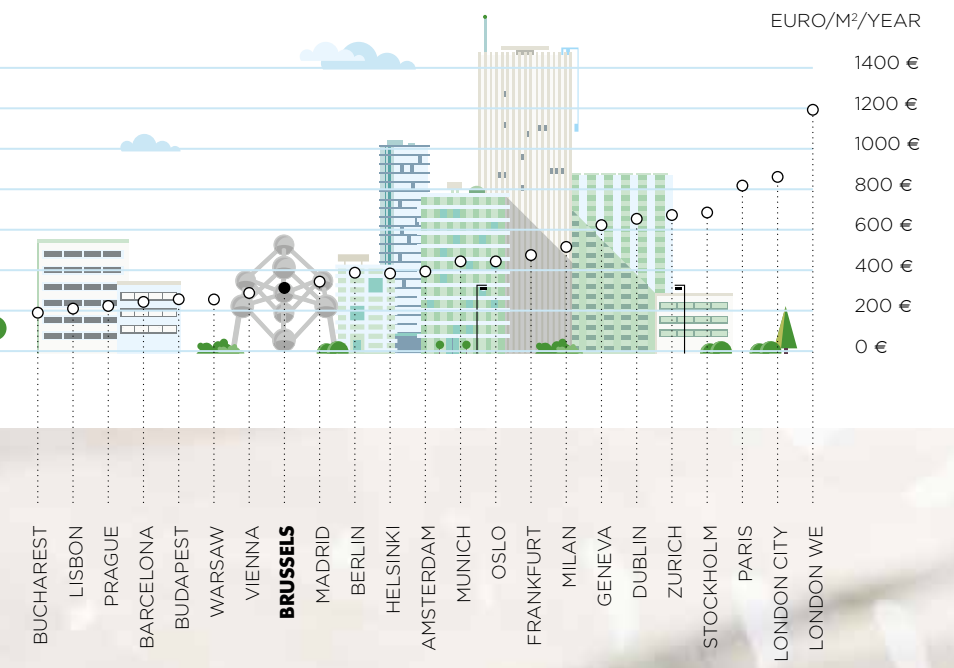
## PRIME INDUSTRIAL RENTS, LOGISTICS LOCATION

Cushman & Wakefield,  
Industrial Market Snapshot Q4 2017



## PRIME OFFICES RENTS

Knight Frank,  
European Quarterly Q4 2017



INVEST IN BELGIUM

BUSINESS-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT



# EXCELLENT QUALITY OF LIFE

# INVEST IN BELGIUM

© VisitFlanders, Michael Dehaese

## **A LEADING EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND LARGE CHOICE OF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS**

Many expats move to Belgium to take up positions at the many international organizations and corporations headquartered in Belgium. Bringing their families, they expect access to quality education. As these positions can be quite transient in nature, international schools remain the most obvious choice for expat parents who want their children to follow their home country's curriculum during their time abroad. Expats can choose from a broad range of outstanding international schools for their children.

Five out of thirteen European Schools are located in Belgium and a sixth European School for 2,500 pupils will open in Brussels in the near future. British and American curricula can be found alongside international and European ones at various schools. Several universities also offer English language master programs, in addition to French and Dutch ones. Belgium's educational system is one of the most outstanding in the world.

## **A TRUSTWORTHY HEALTHCARE SYSTEM**

Belgium has a reliable and easily accessible healthcare system. 24/7 access to medication thanks to pharmacy rotation and a high number of medical doctors who speak English, French and Dutch only add strength to the claim that healthcare in Belgium is among the best in Europe, and even in the world. Belgium ranks second worldwide when it comes to building healthcare infrastructure that fulfils the needs of the population (IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2016).

***Belgium  
ranks second  
worldwide  
for its primary  
education  
system and its  
management  
schools***

**INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS**

- European School Brussels I Uccle + Berkendael, 1180 Brussels
- European School Brussels II Woluwé, 1200 Brussels
- European School Brussels III Ixelles, 1050 Brussels
- European School Brussels IV Laeken, 1020 Brussels
- European School Mol, 2400 Mol
- International School of Brussels, 1170 Brussels
- ISF Waterloo International School, 1640 Rhode St Genèse
- St. John's International School, 1410 Waterloo
- The Brussels American School, 1933 Zaventem
- British Junior Academy of Brussels, 1040 Brussels
- British School of Brussels, 3080 Tervuren
- British International School of Brussels, 1030 Brussels
- St Paul's British Primary School, 3080 Vossem-Tervuren
- Athénée Ganenou, 1180 Brussels
- Athénée Maimonide, 1070 Brussels
- Internationale Deutsche Schule Brüssel, 1970 Wezembeek-Oppem
- Japanese School of Brussels, 1160 Oudergem
- Lycée Français Jean Monnet, 1180 Bruxelles
- Scandinavian School of Brussels, 1410 Waterloo
- Le Verseau International School, 1301 Bierges

*Gilles de Binche in Binche*



**AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING MARKET**

Belgium offers the best of both worlds: a dynamic and cosmopolitan environment with relatively low real estate costs compared to other European cities. Different offerings are available to cater to every taste, from *maisons maître* in the city centers, to modern apartment complexes with all amenities and lush villas in the green suburbs.

**AN OPTIMAL COST OF LIVING**

This *bon-vivant* lifestyle does not necessarily come at a high price. The cost of living is lower in Belgium than in most other European countries. In a survey on the cost of living, Brussels has a more affordable cost of living than 50% of the OECD cities in the affordability rankings.

**A RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE AND A DYNAMIC LIFESTYLE**

With its rich cultural life and historical heritage, Belgium is an attractive place to live. Historical cities like Bruges, Ghent, Liège, Mons, Namur, Antwerp and Brussels welcome a steady stream of tourists. Belgium is also home to a wide array of gastronomic restaurants, of which 144 boast one or more Michelin stars. With 1,500 different Belgian beer brands on offer, there is plenty to choose from. Premium Belgian chocolates can be found on every corner, from high-end shopping streets to metro stations.

The Ardennes, a green lung in the south of Belgium, offers unparalleled experiences for nature enthusiasts. The thermal city of Spa is also home to the Spa-Francorchamps racing track, one of the most daunting stages in the Formula 1 Grand Prix tour.

*Belgian Red Devils  
FIFA World Cup 2018*



.be

**PRODUCED BY THE LIAISON OFFICE  
FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENTS**

Editor

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