

Annual **Report** **2020**



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Mission and vision

Our **mission** is the advancement of good governance by Belgian authorities, in order to ensure prosperity for future generations.

This mission was formulated in 2006, when entrepreneurs and families inspired the launch of an independent think tank that works for the common good and with a long-term perspective.

The basic idea is to make scientific knowledge available for decision makers in the form of top-notch qualitative and independent research reports that translate the relevant facts and figures into actionable recommendations for better policies, for the benefit of society as a whole.

In order to be effective, the **focus** is on major societal issues that are relevant for citizens and Belgian authorities, and for value creation in the Belgian economy:

- Creation of prosperity: growth, entrepreneurship and enterprises;
- Good Governance: government, taxation and budgeting;
- Democratic inclusion: education, employment, social security, integration of migrants.

The **modus operandi** is to design pathways from expertise to impact. We work with a highly qualified team of recognised experts from across Belgium and abroad. Itinera publishes books and reports that appear on our website, in the media, at public debates, events and activities.

Itinera **fellows** participate in an intensive manner in the societal debates. Itinera is a think tank and a **do tank**. It makes the results of its studies known to the outside world, tests proposals and recommendations with all societal stakeholders, and is in continuous dialogue with all actors and societal forces that are active in policymaking, administration and civil society.

The **vision** of itinera rests on three **values**.

Itinera starts from the dominant role and responsibility of entrepreneurs and enterprises in the **value creation** in society. We need robust value creation for a sustainable welfare state, and this requires solid economic activity.

Itinera pleads for **an inclusive society** that cares for all people, and in which people are also willing to contribute to the public good in accordance with their talents and possibilities, with a perspective on the role of all the actors in society: authorities, enterprises and markets, civil society and individual persons. Itinera stresses each and everyone's role as a **good citizen** in society, implying duties and responsibilities.

Foreword



BART VERHAEGHE

We will remember 2020 as the year of the closure of schools, theatres, restaurants, shops and offices, lockdown measures, the need for justification to leave your home, and curfew orders at night. Corona hit us very hard, with more than 20,000 people dying in one year.

First of all, I hope that you and your family are doing well, in good health, and that your business, which probably was or still is affected by restrictive measures, will prove to be strong enough to survive and can continue to experience the success that you have known in the past. I wish you courage for the future, especially if you have been negatively affected by the pandemic.

The pandemic illustrates that Belgium had no pandemic preparation plan and that we were lost in institutional chaos once Covid19 hit us hard. We also saw the enormous resilience of nurses, doctors and hospital staff assisting an unexpected number of patients in intensive care units, as well as that of general practitioners and home nursing. Schools and universities reinvented themselves, and it is true that we experienced a phenomenal boost in digital transition. Without the urgency that we were confronted with, it would have taken many more years to arrive at a comparable digital acceptance level. The same goes for social distancing and working from home, and it is certain that some of these elements will influence our work-life balance in the future as well.

What we have learned is that we can change under pressure. That is the good news: admittedly, there is an enormous unnoticed willingness to change, but we were also reminded that we do need an external factor, a sense of urgency dictated by events.

Fortunately, the population was largely protected by the provisions of the welfare state that could ease out the drastic consequence of our economic standstill. Unfortunately, we were also unprepared regarding expenses since we started the year with a significant budget deficit of €9 billion.

The pandemic caused a serious setback to the goal we aimed for: to inspire policies that would secure our welfare for our children and grandchildren. But what we have learned is that we can change under pressure.

We are now aware that we spent more than €35 billion in addressing the pandemic. Including this, the sovereign debt is now more than €500 billion.

This is a serious setback to the goal that we aimed for in 2006, when we started the independent think tank Itinera: its basic ambition was to inspire policies that would secure our welfare for our children and grandchildren. Today, the setback is enormous, and we risk sending them an even bigger invoice than before.

We therefore strongly believe in the mission of Itinera, and again I would like to express our gratitude to the families, entrepreneurs and enterprises that have joined forces with us since 2006. Without your continuous support, Itinera would not be able to inspire better governance and underline the sense of urgency for the substantial transformations that we need.

More than ever, the pandemic confronts us with the reality that as a country we are losing steam in competitiveness and performance. Whether it is with regard to productivity, activity or education, we are lagging behind at a moment when we need all hands on deck.

As entrepreneurs, we want to continue and expand our support to Itinera, without a return for our actual business, but with a better long term-perspective for all children and grandchildren.

Bart Verhaeghe
CHAIRMAN OF THE ITINERA INSTITUTE



LEO NEELS

We are witnessing remarkable evolutions. With the United States turning to patriotism rather than globalisation, and China heading to take the lead in a truly selfish globalisation, the fate of Belgium relies on the European Union more than ever.

However, we also see a new European Union that launches expensive plans, such as the Green Deal, or the Recovery and Resilience Plan, financed with European debt. As Marc De Vos indicated on the occasion of the publication of his book *'Beter is niet genoeg'*, this evolution at European level is not necessarily good news for Belgium.

As a matter of fact, in the past we needed European pressure in order to be able to reform our economy and our institutional efficacy. With the EU as a big spender that finances national authorities in order to implement their own plans, it is foreseeable that we will have difficulty to keep pace without external pressure.

We are close to the adoption of the Belgian recovery plan, and we hope that it will be the breakthrough that we need. We are envisioning a post-Covid19-era in which we have to repair the enormous economic, social and psychological damage that we have suffered in 2020 and in the first half of 2021. We must head in the right direction of transformation and transition in order to reconstruct our potential to recreate value and prosperity for this generation, and to stop passing the bill for our expenses to the next generation.

Moreover, we have a stock of unsolved bigger concerns, such as our heavy and obsolete tax system, the 10%-surplus of non-active people in comparison with the best performing European countries, the underfinancing of our pension promises, or even the loss of excellence in our educational systems.

—

*The time to act is now:
these governments and their
successors after 2024 must
reform the country.*

—

The time to act is now: these governments and their successors after 2024 must reform the country, they must reinvent state efficacy and they must implement the reforms that former generations of politicians and social partners postponed. The issues are known, the analyses have been made and are on the table. It would be unforgiveable if they would not be up to this challenge.

On behalf of the Fellows and Visiting Fellows of Itinera, I would once again like to thank the Board and our financial partners for your confidence in our work. We will give the best of ourselves in order to fulfil your expectations since we share the same ambition, that we are able to prepare the country to secure the prosperity of the next generations.

Leo Neels
CEO OF THE ITINERA INSTITUTE

Board



PRESIDENT: BART VERHAEGHE



GAETAN HANNECART



BERNARD DELVAUX



NICOLAS SAVERYS



WOUTER DE GEEST



LEO NEELS

Financial Partners

The operation of Itinera is made possible only by financial contributions from companies, entrepreneurs and families. These financial partners endorse the objectives and values of Itinera. They guarantee the complete intellectual independence of Itinera.

ACKERMANS & VAN HAAREN

AGEAS

AG INSURANCE

ALHEEMBOUW

AXA

BALTISSE

BASF

CARMEUSE

CAPITAL@WORK

CORDEEL

DENYS

DIEPENSTEYN

EXMAR

FIMACO

FINN

GEPHURAS

GROUP M.A.M.

INHU

JANSSEN PHARMACEUTICA

KOINON

LAKESPRINGS

LA LORRAINE

LATEXCO

MASELIS

MATEXI

ORBIUS

P. DRION

PSE BELGIUM

SAFFELBERG INVESTMENTS

STICHTING LIBEERT

SOUDAL

VAN BRED A RISK & BENEFITS

VPK GROUP

WATERLAND

XYLOS

ZEB

Itinera 2020 in figures

12

Number of books and reports



12.741

Number of subscribers



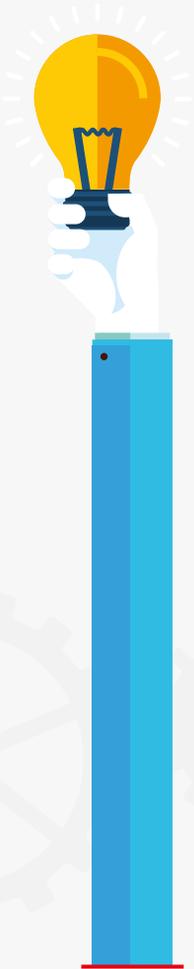
69.580

Number of visitors website



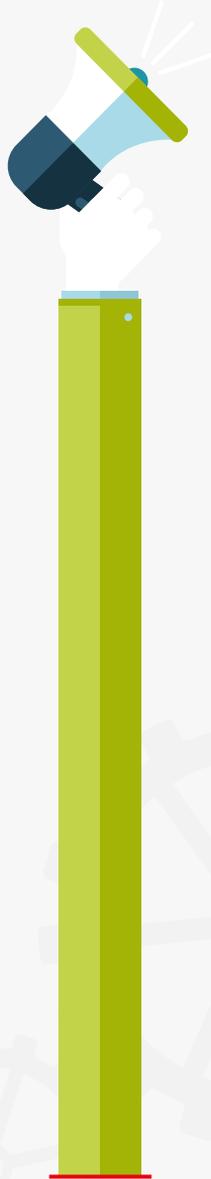
116

Number of opinions



30

Number of lectures



54

Sent newsletters



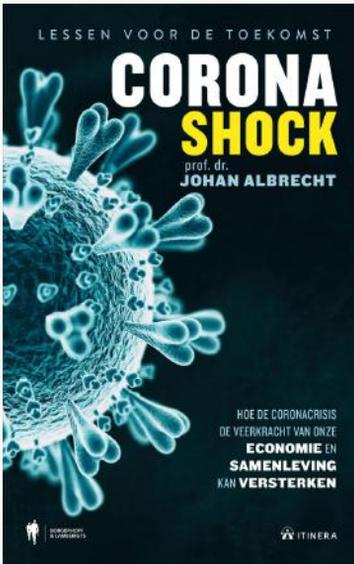


Beter is niet genoeg *Onze toekomst na het einde van de globalisering*

Author is Visiting Fellow Marc De Vos.

We have the opportunities, ideas and resources to fundamentally improve society, the economy and the planet. For years, Marc De Vos has been as incisive as he is critical in expressing what we have to do - and where we are missing the mark. His analyses are invariably penetrating, often staggeringly predictive. This compilation shows how we are adapting ourselves in fits and starts to the harsh world that arose after 1989.

Marc De Vos describes a Belgium that is lagging behind, a Europe that is forgetting itself and a world that is derailing. He looks ahead to the next fifty years. Whether it's politics, the ageing population, labour, social security, multicultural society, the European Union or globalisation: De Vos argues for values, ambition and responsibility.



Coronashock *Hoe de coronacrisis de veerkracht van onze economie en samenleving kan versterken*

Author is Senior Fellow Johan Albrecht.

Corona is/was primarily a health crisis, which goes without saying. But everyone knows that this crisis will also have an impact on our economy and public finances. And this at a time when society has been shaken up and we have a lot of lessons to learn in areas such as healthcare, education, risk management, market versus government, big tech and efficient government policy.

In this visionary book Johan Albrecht looks ahead at how the coronavirus can act as a game changer to bring essential change to our country. Under the motto 'never let a good crisis go to a waste', he advocates turning this shock into an opportunity. With 20 years of the 21st century already behind us, we must say goodbye to the recipes of the 20th century. Decisiveness, responsibility, efficiency, leadership and mobilising all our talents will be needed.



Investeer in een gezonde levensstijl *Op weg naar een activerend preventiebeleid*

Author is Senior Fellow Johan Albrecht.

Approximately 35% of our total healthcare budget goes to chronic conditions that are relatively easy to prevent. In our abundant society, it is easy to develop obesity or a life-threatening chronic condition. Just think of the rise of type 2 diabetes or the many cardiovascular diseases. The solution to this problem can be found in a healthier lifestyle. Not only does an appropriate lifestyle save us all a lot of money, but it can also cure many chronic conditions. Unfortunately, we note that few chronically ill people look for support. There is therefore an urgent need for an efficient, sustainable and activating prevention system.



Overheid+Markt *Het beste van beide werelden*

Author is Chief Economist Ivan Van de Cloot.

Do our politicians still know what the role of government is and where their responsibility lies? Can, should or may the government play a role in the transformation of the economy? What is better left to the dynamics of the market? And what principles of good governance should guide us?

Ivan Van de Cloot searches for the characteristics of a dynamic society, which does not primarily serve vested interests, but facilitates a continuous renewal of the economic fabric. The author makes a plea for a government that operates on the basis of trust in its own citizens and businesses, and that focuses on the valuable tasks that the market or private initiative do not realise.

Markets can fail, just as governments can. However, a country can distinguish itself through good governance, both within the government and the market. It is therefore in the interest of our general prosperity to make the best of both worlds.

Reports

Price inequality: Regional inflation differentials according to age and income

Authors are Senior Fellow Jean Hindriks & intern Antoine Germain.

In Belgium, inflation is the most important issue in debates on purchasing power. The impression today is that the lower incomes in particular suffer most from price rises.

This analysis examines inflation for different groups, taking into account the specific consumption profile of these different groups. Thus, we calculate a specific inflation rate for each Belgian region, which, as far as we know, has never been done before. This allows us to check whether inflation differs from one region to another. Another useful distinction is the age category or income group. Does inflation hit families with a modest income and elderly people harder than other categories of the population?

The role of civic participation in a democratic system

Author is CEO Leo Neels.

At the request of the Commission for Democratic Renewal and Citizenship, Managing Director Leo Neels made a presentation to the Senate. The hearing dealt with the need to modernise the democratic system with greater civic participation. Prof Leo Neels pointed out to the Senate that we do not have a problem with public participation, but we do have a problem on the output side: taking decisions and implementing measures once they are decided. Above all, citizens need a perspective in the sense that they do need to see that decisions are implemented and executed. Subsequently, good governance also includes an ex-post evaluation of the results. It is essential that conclusions are drawn from such an evaluation by adjusting policy. In this way, politics can gain a great deal of credibility. The lack of evaluation and good governance, the failure to formulate clear objectives and poor trust levels undermine confidence in politics.

Barometer Philanthropy: Belgium continues to attach great importance to supporting charities

Author is Chief Economist Ivan Van de Cloot.

More than 6 in 10 Belgians say they give to charity. This is an expression of the social importance they attach to philanthropy: 80% consider it important or even essential. The King Baudouin Foundation's Barometer and Index of Philanthropy, which is published every three years together with think tank Itinera, show that the willingness to give and philanthropic activity stabilise at a high level.

Corona plan for a robust future

Authors are General Director Leo Neels, Visiting Fellow Marc De Vos, Chief Economist Ivan Van de Cloot, Senior Fellow Johan Albrecht, Senior Fellow Jean Hindriks, Fellow Simon Ghiotto and Fellow Joël Van Cauter.



Belgium needs a feasible recovery plan to lead our country out of the corona crisis. In its corona plan Itinera advocates among other things:

- A shift from taxes on labour to other sources of income;
 - An evaluation of the Belgian public debt and debt reduction that takes into account the new (economic) reality;
 - Stimulating job creation thanks to SMEs as engines of employment;
 - A critical reflection on the place of strategic industries and globalisation in our country, with a responsible adjustment towards a so-called 90% globalisation;
 - A profound renewal of our education system that takes into account the digital lessons of the corona crisis;
-

Call for Political Renovation

Author is Visiting Fellow *Christophe Convent*.



Democracy is cracking. The old rules are in need of revision. We need to restore the capacity to govern with real solutions. Especially now. The public debate is meagre; there is more noise but also more polarisation. It is a breeding ground for stagnation and decline. We cannot afford this.

In 'Call for Political Renovation', Christophe Convent, Visiting Fellow at Itinera, presents seven carefully chosen recommendations to review the basic rules of our democracy.

The report provides important building blocks for the necessary renovation of the political rules of the game.

Pact 2020, the proof of the pudding

Author is Fellow *Simon Ghiotto*.



Flanders' response to the 2008 banking crisis was the so-called Pact 2020. Twenty objectives spanning the whole of government & society, to get Flanders back on track by 2020 and to prepare it for a promising future. An excellent ambition.

The design of the strategy, with more than 200 different goals, did not comply with good governance principles. There was no real implementation plan, and regular evaluation was foreseen but not done. Achievements were limited, and accountability was absent.

Pact 2020 underperformed in a significant manner, as well with regard to the process as with regard to the outcome. It would be beneficial if at least we would arrive at "lessons learned", especially when authorities would want to launch ambitious multi-year projects in the future.

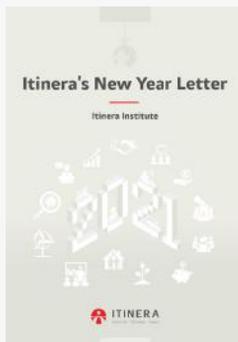
The financial barrier for climate and comfort innovations

Author are Senior fellow Johan Albrecht and Visiting Fellow Sam Hamels.

Almost half of the current owners are unable to pay for climate innovations. A large proportion have already invested in roof insulation, for example, and see no point in carrying out renovation work again with a long payback period, even if they are financially capable of doing so. This report aims to explain the financial barriers to major renovation works from a perspective that takes account of analyses of owners' behaviour, preferences and strategy. How much are home owners able and willing to spend on renovation?

Itinera's New Year Letter

Authors are General Director Leo Neels, Visiting Fellow Marc De Vos, Chief Economist Ivan Van de Cloot, Senior Fellow Johan Albrecht, Senior Fellow Jean Hindriks, Fellow Simon Ghiotto and Fellow Joël Van Cauter.



In the New Year Letter the fellows look back with relief to ... the first year of the pandemic. 2020 was a year to be forgotten as soon as possible. At the end of 2020, we did hope that 2021 would become a *real* year of transition. It is certainly a year of transition for policy. Federal and regional government are preparing recovery plan towards 2030, in the framework of the UEoopean Resilience and Recovery Program. Hopefully, we will see *real* productive investments, and effective decisions on the reform of in labour regulation, taxation, energy and the effectiveness of our institutions.

In its New Year's letter, ITINERA summarised its recommendations for these areas, ready to help build the path that will bring prosperity to our children and grandchildren.

Itinera Talks Podcast



Itinera Talks is the biweekly podcast of Itinera. Host Simon Ghiotto and the fellows from Itinera analyze the most important social and political challenges facing us. The podcast can be found on Anchor, Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts, Breaker, Overcast, RadioPublic and more.

Podcasts broadcasted in 2020

- 09/01/2020** Arturo Bris about the Belgian performance on the IMD World Competitiveness Ranking
- 23/01/2020** Fons Leroy about the labour market
- 07/02/2020** Cind Du Bois about economic security
- 21/02/2020** Kristof De Witte about the state of education
- 11/03/2020** Live: Marc De Vos about his newest book 'Beter is niet genoeg'
- 17/03/2020** Ive Marx on labour and poverty
- 18/03/2020** Life after Corona will be different
- 24/03/2020** Ivan Van de Cloot on the coronavirus
- 27/03/2020** Ivan Van de Cloot on the coronavirus (2)
- 15/04/2020** The Corona Crisis and the Implications for Education and Democracy
- 29/04/2020** How we mentally deal with corona: Ivan Van de Cloot talks with psychiatrist Dirk Monsieur
- 03/06/2020** Leo Neels on the proxy government and the need for good governance
- 16/06/2020** Johan Albrecht on Corona shock: How the corona crisis can strengthen the resilience of our economy and society
- 23/06/2020** Ivan Van de Cloot: Corona exposes the weaknesses in society

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- 07/07/2020 Joël van Cauter on living together, and how to move from astonishment to consideration
- 11/07/2020 Itinera Live - Johan Albrecht and the Corona shock Masterclass
- 13/07/2020 Jean Hindriks on public finances and Saint-Nicolaus
- 16/07/2020 Itinera Live - On to a Belgian Accountability Day
- 20/07/2020 Itinera's post-corona recovery plan
- 30/08/2020 Kristof De Witte about education in times of corona
- 11/09/2020 Leo Neels on political indecision
- 12/10/2020 Johan Albrecht about prevention in health care
- 20/10/2020 Do we need new political rules? Christophe Convent on political innovation
- 12/11/2020 How much does a climate-friendly Flemish housing stock cost?
- 01/12/2020 Government+Market, the best of both worlds
- 07/12/2020 Are we ready for the nuclear power phase-out?



Press & Social media



6

Television coverage in French

13

Television coverage in Dutch

32

Newspaper and Magazine coverage in French



5

Radio coverage in Dutch

3

Newspaper and Magazine coverage in German

2

Radio coverage in French

158

Newspaper and Magazine coverage in Dutch





61

Online Press
Coverage
in French

5.538

Followers on
Twitter

698

Followers on
Facebook

2

Online Press
Coverage
in German
and English

266

Online Press
Coverage
in Dutch

97

Number of
Facebook-posts
in 2017



1.941

Number of
tweets

149

Number of
subscribers on
YouTube



Itinera Institute
Gepubliceerd door Liesbeth Defranco · 12 november 2020 · 🌐

Christian Leysen voelt zich 😊 goed.
11 november 2020 · 🌐

Leven om verzorgd te worden, of zorg dragen voor je leven ?
Weer een interessant rapport van Itinera Institute

Itinera Institute
Gepubliceerd door Canva · 26 augustus 2020 · 🌐

"Het partijmodel van de laatste decennia werkt niet meer. Mee aangestookt door de infernale dynamiek van social media werd het een spin-model dat is losgezongen van de werkelijkheid. Het leidt tot ondergang: alle beleidspartijen gaan drastisch achteruit en ze zuigen het land mee de dieperik in. Toch denken ze nog altijd te winnen bij meer van hetzelfde." Leo Neels in Federale abdicatie:
<https://www.itinerainstitute.org/.../federale-abdicatie/>



Itinera Institute vzw
1.064 volgers · 6 mins · 🌐

"Betaal fabrikanten met zeer flexibele productietechnologieën om in momenten van crisis de productie van maandverbanden en koffiefilters in te ruilen voor die van mondklappers en ander beschermingsmateriaal." Het is een oproep van Johan Albrecht, auteur van Coronashock, in Het Financieel Dagblad:
<https://bit.ly/2ZQMhAx>

Laat fabrikanten omschakelen naar mondklappers

Itinera Institute @ItineraTwit · Dec 14, 2020
"Overheid focust telkens op groep die regels niet volgt, maar blijft zelf in gebreke". @IvanVanDeCloot op #HNLN_BE

Economist Ivan Van de Cloot: "Overheid focust telkens op groep die rege... Dat we de maatregelen beter moeten volgen. Dat we een tandje moeten bijtellen. Dat we het zelf in de hand hebben. Dat er een kleine groep is ...
👉 hlnbe



INTERVIEW: DE NIEUWE COMPLEXER DAN DAG LAND EN TROES SCHEINEN OP ALLES BETER DAN NAL. T. HET KANNU KIEP OF TROES. DANNAARDEPES HESTROEN

PROFESSOR DR. IR. JOHAN ALBRECHT
"Het partijmodel van de laatste decennia werkt niet meer. Mee aangestookt door de infernale dynamiek van social media werd het een spin-model dat is losgezongen van de werkelijkheid. Het leidt tot ondergang: alle beleidspartijen gaan drastisch achteruit en ze zuigen het land mee de dieperik in. Toch denken ze nog altijd te winnen bij meer van hetzelfde." Leo Neels in Federale abdicatie:
<https://www.itinerainstitute.org/.../federale-abdicatie/>

ANDRE VAN DER BEEK
"Betaal fabrikanten met zeer flexibele productietechnologieën om in momenten van crisis de productie van maandverbanden en koffiefilters in te ruilen voor die van mondklappers en ander beschermingsmateriaal." Het is een oproep van Johan Albrecht, auteur van Coronashock, in Het Financieel Dagblad:
<https://bit.ly/2ZQMhAx>



Impact

Henk Dheedene @henkdh · 21 nov.

Zeven boeken schrijven tegen wantoestanden, maar ook in het bos gaan kamperen om zijn hond terug te vinden: de gedrevenheid van @IvanVandeCloot. @tijd



Ivan Van de Cloot: 'Ik zie mezelf als een antenne die zoekt naar ontsp...
Ivan Van de Cloot brengt deze week zijn zevende boek uit: 'Markt+overheid'. Bij een boterham met kippenwit legt de ...
tijd.be

1 18 76

René Tolenaars @tolenaars · 22 u

@IvanVandeCloot is één van die weinige academici die het vermogen heeft om op heldere, eenvoudige en verrijkende wijze (en voor iedereen toegankelijk), de meest uiteenlopende complexe maatschappelijke materies uit de doeken te doen. Werkelijk een verademing, wat mij betreft.

2 4 23



Kristof Willekens @KWillekens · 10 u

Inderdaad. Misschien kunnen al degenen die sinds het ontstaan ervan @ItineraTwt hebben weggezet als zeurpieten nu even hun verontschuldiging aanbieden en de studies en aanbevelingen echt lezen @IvanVandeCloot @devoismarc @LeoNeels

Dirk Van Damme @VanDammeEDU · 10 u

Lang gedacht dat ondanks politieke chaos en onlogische bevoegdheidsverdelingen de administratieve kwaliteit nog steeds vrij hoog was. Nu duidelijk dat dit niet zo is. Efficiënte, performante overheid essentieel in elk hervormingsproject. En, neen, geen kwestie van meer middelen.

1 5 6

Dear Jean

Excellent!

From colleagues who send their kids to French speaking schools, I heard that some French speaking schools opened thanks to our pressure in the media! So, mission accomplished!

Some holds for Flanders, where each action in the media created a visible action from the policy makers!

best wishes,

Kristof



«L'École du renouveau»: Jean Hindriks illustre déjà le manque de coordination en Belgique francophone. © RTSP

Manque de coordination en Belgique francophone

Au-delà de ces quelques belles initiatives en primaire ou en secondaire, la Belgique francophone manque d'une approche globale en matière de learning. Pour Jean Hindriks, professeur d'économie à l'UCLouvain et coauteur du livre *L'École du renouveau*, le monde politique doit rapidement lancer une étude de marché afin de proposer une plateforme facile et souple à toutes les écoles.

"Cette crise a révélé une forme de ségrégation digitale, une ségrégation numérique entre les écoles. On a vraiment des écoles qui sont très en avance, et d'autres écoles qui sont très en retard et c'est plus important encore que la fracture numérique. Il faut combler ce retard très vite si on veut donner les mêmes chances à tous les enfants", affirme Jean Hindriks.

Un sacré défi à relever, selon lui, avant la rentrée scolaire 2020. Un défi sans doute sur la table de la task force "équipement numérique" mise en place début juin par le gouvernement de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles.

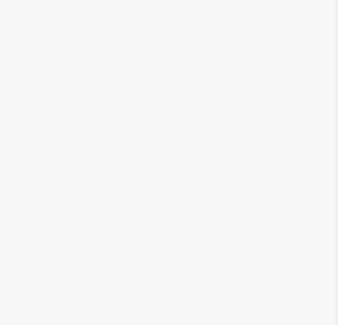
Plenaire vergadering

woensdag 28 oktober 2020, 14.02u

Voorzitter: [Liesbeth Moens](#)

Achtste VTBAG over de energiezuinige renovatie van de gezinswoning van Bobbeke-Bosbouw met minister Zulfat Dewes

83 (2020-2021)



Korte reclameboodschap: de 2 collega's die veel meer respect verdienen: [@IvanVandeCloot](#) (de beste econoom van België) en [@roedel](#) (de meest onderschate econoom). Ze hebben de moed gehad om niet gezagsgetrouw, constructief, gedocumenteerd, verantwoordelijk #corona op te volgen.

9:58 a.m. · 13 mrt. 2020 · Twitter Web App

28 Retweets 106 Vind ik leuk

Studentsucces

De studenttaal in het hoger onderwijs haart menigen zorgen. Op basis van recent onderzoek in Vlaanderen en Nederland reageert Kristof De Witte en Koen Declercq drie oplossingen aan. Wat gebeurt er bijvoorbeeld als je een 'milde toelatingsproef' invuist?

Over het effect van maatregelen vóór en na de poort

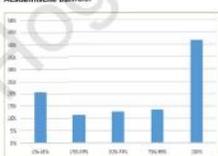
Toelatingsproeven, bindend studieadvies en mentoring

Kristof De Witte & Koen Declercq
KU Leuven

Te veel studenten beginnen aan hoger onderwijs zonder uiteindelijk een diploma te behalen. Van de starters aan bacheloropleidingen in OESO-landen behaalt gemiddeld slechts 67 procent een diploma na maximaal drie jaar studietoelating (OECD, 2019). Deze cijfers zijn gelijkaardig voor Nederland (76 procent) en Vlaanderen (67 procent). Een diploma hoger onderwijs is zochtans een belangrijke voorwaarde op de arbeidsmarkt. Aangezien hogescholen werknemers meer verdienen en een lagere kans op werkloosheid hebben (Marzetti et al.,

2019). Studieuitval gaat dan ook gepaard met hoge maatschappelijke kosten, zowel voor de student als voor de overheid (Smeets & De Witte, 2019). Nu bekend heeft het Vlaamse hoger onderwijs een systeem van open toegang, iedereen met een diploma secundair onderwijs kan beginnen aan bijna alle opleidingen zonder vijkomende toelatingsvoorwaarden. De selectie gebeurt tijdens de opleiding, vooral na het eerste jaar. Slecht één de tielf van de startende studenten slaagt in het eerste jaar, zelfs voor alle vakken en kan daarom niet starten aan het tweede

Academische succes



Professioneel succes

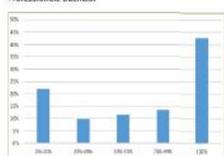


Figure 1. Studietoelating in het eerste jaar (academisch) en in het eerste jaar op de arbeidsmarkt (professioneel) als het percentage succesvolle studenten

Bron: Databank hoger onderwijs (2008-2019) en eigen berekeningen

From: "Johan Albrecht" <Johan.Albrecht@UGent.be>
To: "Leo Neels" <Leo.Neels@itinerainstitute.org>
"Liesbeth Defranco" <Liesbeth.defranco@itinerainstitute.org>
Date: 11/15/2020 12:56:02 PM
Subject: FYI; discussie in Vlaams Parlement over renovatiestudie

Beste Leo,

Mijn studie over de financiële barrière bij energetische renovaties is eind oktober grondig besproken in het Vlaams Parlement. Zie link hieronder.

Met vriendelijke groeten,
Johan

https://www.vlaamsparlement.be/plenaire_vorgadoringen/1434121/verslag/1440365

From: "Leo Neels"
To: "Jean Hindriks" <jean.hindriks@ucloouvain.be>
"Kristof Dewitte" <kristof.dewitte@kuleuven.be>
Date: 6/5/2020 4:12:09 PM
Subject: Re: double-page dans Sud press sur l'enseignement

IMPACT !

Top!

Op 5 jun. 2020, om 14:34 heeft Kristof De Witte <kristof.dewitte@kuleuven.be> het volgende geschreven:

Dear Jean

Excellent!

From colleagues who send their kids to French speaking schools, I heard that some French speaking schools opened thanks to our pressure in the media! So, mission accomplished!

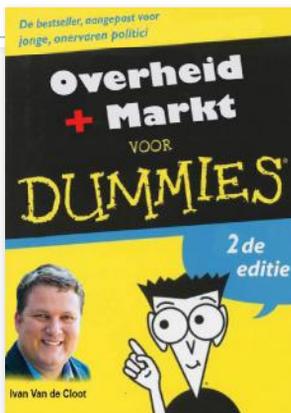
Some holds for Flanders, where each action in the media created a visible action from the policy makers!

best wishes,

Kristof

KU Leuven, Faculty of Economics and Business, Campus Leuven
Leuven Economic of Education Research - feb.kuleuven.be/EEER
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Maastricht University, UNU-MERIT
www.merit.unu.edu



Events

10/01/2020

Itinera New Year Kick Off 2020

Itinera rings in the New Year with the fellows and the visiting fellows. Guest speaker Jo Caudron casts a glance at the future in his presentation of the book 'De wereld is rond'.

19/02/2020

Pre-book launch 'Beter is niet genoeg'

Visiting Fellow Marc De Vos presents his book 'Beter is niet genoeg' in front of a select audience of entrepreneurs and academics.

19/02/2020

Book launch 'Beter is niet genoeg'

Visiting Fellow Marc De Vos presents his new book 'Beter is niet genoeg' to the general public. After his introduction, Kathleen Cools (VRT) moderated a debate with Paul Scheffer.

03/03/2020

Report on inflation

Senior Fellow Jean Hindriks presents the report "Inégalité de prix: inégalités régionales d'inflation selon l'âge et le revenu du ménage entre 2011-2018" together with Bruno Kestemont of FPS Economy.

08/04/2020

Live conversation Ivan Van de Cloot-Hendrik Bogaert

On Facebook Chief Economist Ivan Van de Cloot talks live with member of parliament Hendrik Bogaert (N-VA) about the corona measures.

13/04/2020

Live conversation Ivan Van de Cloot-Sammy Mahdi

On Facebook the Chief Economist Ivan Van de Cloot talks live with State Secretary for Asylum and Migration Sammy Mahdi (CD&V) about the corona measures and the role of the Parliament.

15/05/2020

Live conversation: how do we mentally deal with corona?

On Twitter, Chief Economist Ivan Van de Cloot and psychiatrist Dirk Monsieur discuss how we mentally deal with corona.



26/06/2020

Masterclass Corona shock

In an online masterclass, Senior Fellow Johan Albrecht presents the scientific analysis of the corona pandemic in Flanders: 'Coronashock, globalisering en economisch herstel'.

30/06/2020

The first Belgian Accountability Day

With a webinar, Itinera launches the first Belgian Accountability Day according to the Dutch model: with presentations by guest speakers Prof. M.J.W. van Twist and federal ombudsman Guido Herman, Senior Fellow Jean Hindriks and Chief Economist Ivan Van de Cloot.

14/07/2020

Itinera's corona plan for a robust future

Itinera presents the Itinera corona plan, in order to transform Belgium into a robust welfare state.

12/09/2020

Inner Circle

In an Inner Circle webinar Itinera discloses new research on education, economic recovery, citizenship and market vs state.

25/09/2020

Plea for Political Renovation

In the webinar 'Plea for Political Renovation', Visiting Fellow Christophe Convent presents seven carefully chosen recommendations for the revisions of the rules of our democracy. With guest speakers Leo Neels, Dave Sinardet and Philippe Suinen.

01/10/2020

Invest in a healthy lifestyle

Senior Fellow Johan Albrecht presents his book 'Investeer in een gezonde levensstijl, op weg naar een activerend preventiebeleid' in a webinar.

26/11/2020

Government + market, the best of both worlds

In a studio interview with Lisbeth Imbo, Ivan Van de Cloot presents the book 'Overheid + Markt, het beste van beide werelden'.



Team



LEO NEELS is general director and Boardmember of Itinera Institute since 2014. He holds a PhD in Law (KULeuven) and was a Professor in Media and Communications Law at Leuven and Antwerp Universities (1980-2018). He was a Member of the Bar (1975-2003), CEO of VTM (1989-1993), Chairman of the Board of Directors of NV Belga News Agency (1994-2014), CEO of pharma.be (2003-2013), and Chairman of the Advisory Board of Vlerick Healthcare Management Centre at Vlerick Business School (2013-2018).



MARC DE VOS holds a Licentiate and Doctorate in Law (UGent), a Master's in Social Law (ULB), and a Master of Laws (Harvard University). He is visiting fellow of Itinera and taught employment and labour law, European law, and the rule of law, at Ghent University, the University of Brussels, and at various international universities before he moved to Australia where he became dean at the Macquarie University's School of Law in Sydney. He writes, lectures and debates on issues of labour and employment law, European integration, labour market reform, pensions, healthcare, ageing and the welfare state, both nationally and internationally, and in academic, professional and policy circles, as well as in the media. His most recent publications are on happiness, capitalism, globalisation, basic income and inequality.



IVAN VAN DE CLOOT is chief economist at the Itinera Institute. He studied economics at the University of Antwerp and was research assistant for two years in the domain of public finances. As a consultant he helped preparing the liberalisation of the gas and electricity market in Belgium. Afterwards he worked as an economist for the research department of ING/BBL for 6 years. On top of cyclical analysis, he specialized in the analysis of structural characteristics of the Belgian economy.

Ivan wrote about pensions but also about the liberalisation of railway traffic, economic aspects of immigration, entrepreneurship and healthcare. As a commentator for financial and economic events, he often appears in the written and audio-visual media. He is Executive professor at the Universiteit Antwerpen Management School and has a column in De Tijd. Ivan Van de Cloot wrote 'The pension book' and co-authored 'The Grey gold', in which a strategic vision is developed for respectively our

pension system and elder care. In 2016 he published 'Tax shift, why our country needs a tax reform' and co-authored 'De Verlichting uit evenwicht'. His most recent book is 'Government + Market', a discourse on how the two can work together.



JOHAN ALBRECHT is a senior fellow at the Itinera Institute. He studied at the universities of Ghent and Oxford and has a PhD in environmental economics from Ghent University. He teaches courses on environmental economics and on the economics of innovation. He is the author of seven books and over forty publications in international journals. As scientific advisor, he worked for Belgian and international organisations in the fields of energy and technology policy.



JEAN HINDRIKS is a senior fellow at the Itinera Institute. He obtained his BA, MA and PhD in Economics at the University of Namur. A former lecturer in economics at the University of Exeter and at Queen Mary, University of London, he is currently professor in Economics at the Université Catholique de Louvain (UCL). He also served as co-director of Centre of Operations Research and Economics (CORE) and as director of Undergraduate Studies in Economics and Management at the UCL. A co-editor of several academic journals and a member of the International Monetary Fund's panel of fiscal experts, he has published widely and internationally on issues of public economics and political economy. He was a member of the pension reform commission 2020-2040 and is now member of the pension academic council.



SIMON GHIOTTO is fellow at the Itinera Institute. He holds a Master's in Economics with specialisation in Economic Policy from the Ghent University that included a year of study abroad in Istanbul, a Master's in Economics, specialising in Development and International Economics, from the University of Namur and the Université Catholique de Louvain-La-Neuve, as well as a teachers' degree. Simon works on various fields within social policy and the labour market. He wrote *De Staat van het Gezin/ L'État de la Famille* (2016) on Family Policy, which was nominated for Le Prix du Livre Politique 2016, co-authored 'Basisinkomen, tussen droom en werkelijkheid/Allocation Universelle, entre rêve et réalité', and several papers on various topics. He is also the host of the Itinera Talks Podcast.



JOËL VAN CAUTER is fellow at the Itinera Institute. He has a degree in philosophy (ULB) and economics (UCL). His professional career involves three sectors: the political field, as a consultant in a study center or communication; the associative, the Red Cross or in cooperation; the social economy in Belgium and Asia.



MARION VAN SAN is visiting fellow. She studied sociology and criminology at the Free University of Brussels. In 1998 she graduated from the University of Amsterdam with a dissertation on violent crime among Curaçao boys. Over the years she has investigated crime, violence, prostitution and other metropolitan issues. Since 2009 she has been conducting research into radicalization and deradicalization. She is currently attached to the RISBO (Erasmus University, Rotterdam) as a senior investigator.



MICHELE CINCERA is visiting fellow. Professor of Industrial economics at the Solvay Brussels School of Economics and Management – Université Libre de Bruxelles. Since 2012, he is the Director of the International Centre of Innovation, Technology and Education Studies (iCite). In 2009-2010, he was visiting the EC-JRC-IPTS as a senior scientist. His research interests embrace the quantitative assessment at the micro-level of innovative and entrepreneurial activities, their determinants and socio-economic impacts as well as the analysis of National Innovation Systems and policies supporting science, research and innovation.



PAUL BECUE is visiting fellow at the Itinera Institute. He holds degrees in law, applied economic sciences and diplomatic sciences. He first worked in the banking sector for fourteen years, and then in the credit insurance industry from July 1998, where he held various management positions. During his career, he wrote articles for various newspapers and financial and scientific journals. His books on credit insurance are regarded as reference works, and have been translated into several languages.



KRISTOF DE WITTE is visiting fellow. He is an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration from the University of Leuven and professor through the Chair 'Effectiveness and Efficiency of Educational Innovations' at Maastricht University. Kristof De Witte is also an affiliate member of the CESifo Network (Ludwig-Maximilians-

University and Ifo Institute). At the KU Leuven he coordinates the Teacher Training Economics and has been director of the faculty's research 'Leuven Economics of Education Research' (LEER). His research interests include education economics, performance measurement and school dropout. He published his work in numerous international magazines.



SAM HAMELS is visiting fellow. He holds a master's degree in general economics from the University of Ghent, and a master's degree in EU studies from the same university. For his work about the future electricity market model, he received the prize for the best master thesis in the widening economic direction in 2014. As a student, he was also actively involved in the UN climate summits in Doha and Warsaw. He has been working as a PhD student in economics since 2015, and is conducting research into the future of the energy landscape. Specifically, he worked on an extensive study on the Belgian electricity landscape in 2030. He is currently also specializing in the energy consumption of individual buildings. Together with Johan Albrecht and Lennert Thomas, he is the author of 'Energy Trilemma'.



KJELL CLARISSE is visiting fellow. Kjell is a historian and holds a Master's in Management from the Vlerick Leuven Gent Management School. He founded Zerocopy, a student advertising platform that was acquired in 2014. Since then, Kjell gives strategic advice to start-ups. He also worked one and a half years in Uganda for a real estate developer. He recently added a T, focusing on FinTech to its cv. His focus at Itinera is technological innovation in government.



ETIENNE DE CALLATAY is visiting fellow at the Itinera Institute. He studied economics at the Facultés de Namur and the London School of Economics. He is currently chief economist at Bank Degroof and Chairman of Degroof Fund Management Company (DFMC). He also is guest lecturer at the Facultés de Namur and the UCL. He has published many articles on government financing, such as ageing, social security and federalism.



TINNEKE BEECKMAN is visiting fellow at the Itinera Institute. She studied Moral Sciences and Philosophy at the VUB and ULB. She attended additional courses on economics Crisis Busters: From Marx to Krugman at the University of Maastricht (Brussels branch); on globalization and democratization during Summer Schools at the London School of Economics. She has a doctorate in Moral Sciences, and worked for years as a postdoctoral researcher for the Fund for Scientific Research Flanders on political philosophy. In 2012 she published her book 'Door Spinoza's lens' (5th edition 2015), which was awarded the Liberales prize. She gives lectures on philosophy, is a columnist with De Standaard, writes for Belgian and Dutch media. In 2015 she published her book 'Macht en Onmacht. Een verkenning van de hedendaagse aanslag op de Verlichting' (De Bezige Bij, in October 2015, 4th edition) and co-authored 'De Verlichting uit evenwicht'.



KAREL VOLCKAERT is visiting fellow at the Itinera Institute. He graduated as a physicist at the University of Ghent. He then obtained a charter of Financial Risk Manager and Chartered Financial Analyst. He was a portfolio strategist and fund manager to Bank Corluy and Econopolis and valuation expert commissioned by private investors and major consultants. He is a partner at Riverrun investors. His interest is in the functioning of financial markets and climate change.



PIET CALCOEN is visiting fellow at the Itinera Institute. He is both a doctor (UGent) and a lawyer (UAntwerpen and Yale University). He also holds a master's degree in Philosophy (VUBrussel), and recently defended his PhD at the Erasmus University Rotterdam. Piet has been active as the medical director for DKV, a market leader in the field of private health insurance, since 2006. Prior to that, he worked for Christelijke Mutualiteiten.



DÉSIRÉE VANDENBERGHE is visiting fellow at the Itinera Institute. She is a doctor in Economics at Ghent University and obtained a bachelor and master in Economics at the University of Ghent, for which she studied for a semester in New York. She also received a postgraduate in welfare and health management at EHSAL Management School. Her research in health economics focuses on the challenges of chronic diseases and the potential of preventive health care in an economic context. The connection between environment, health and economy is also an important focus within her research.



MATTÉO GODIN is visiting fellow at the Itinera Institute. He is an economist with a strong quantitative background. He has experiences in different work environments such as international institution (Inter-American Development Bank), academic research (University of Namur) and business federation (Walloon Business Federation). He wrote the rapport 'Egalité des chances à l'école' with senior fellow Jean Hindriks. He is also principal consultant at Stratec.



CHRISTOPHE CONVENT is visiting fellow at the Itinera Institute and a corporate lawyer.



LIESBETH DEFRANCO is Office Manager at the Itinera Institute. She studied Law at the VUB in Brussels and Journalism at Erasmushogeschool in Brussels. She obtained a bachelor's degree in Law and a bachelor's degree in Journalism. She joined the Itinera-team in October 2016. Previously, Liesbeth worked as an editor for the newspaper Het Laatste Nieuws.

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Michiel Merchiers
Morgane Bodson
Claire Duchêne
Mathis Vandecasteele
Pablo Manuelli
Sara-Lise Busschaert
Robin Strybol

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