

June 12 2024 Online conference

# WELCOME

Prepare your arrival at the ULB!

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Head of the International Welcome Desk



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### The International Welcome Desk's missions

- Welcome international students and researchers;
- Manage blocked accounts;
- To create a welcome strategy and to improve the arrival and integration of all new international students/researchers on campus.

We would like to remind you that the ULB International Welcome Desk can help you with questions relating to visas and residence permits. However, we are not in a position to speed up the application process with the Immigration Office or the town halls.

Are you an Exchange student? The Service de la mobilité étudiante (SME) and your Faculty will take care of you.

### Who is who?



**Delphine Dieudonné**Head of the IWD and in
charge of welcoming
international researchers



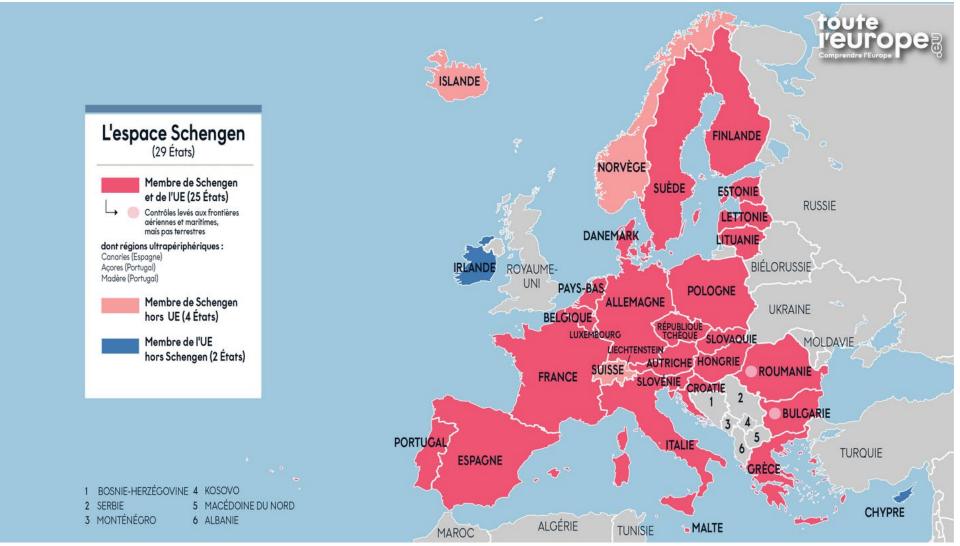
Alix Colomb
Blocked accounts
manager and support for
the IWD



Charlie Balanganayi Welcome strategy and support for the IWD



# European and non-European distinction





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## Visa (general)



- **Visa application** with your local Belgian embassy or consulate
- Required documents:
- Admission letter
- Passport
- Proof of sufficient financial resources
- Health insurance (*mutuelle*)
- **Deadline:** as soon as possible (one month in advance AT THE LATEST)



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# ULB

## Visa (details)

- Admission letter: letter delivered by the ULB on the online application platform
- Proof of sufficient financial resources
- Scholarship certificate
- A commitment by a guarantor to take charge of the student (called *Annexe 32*). The guarantor must fulfill <u>precise conditions</u>
- Solvency Certificate (blocked account certificate)
- Health insurance
- Private Schengen-type health insurance taken in your home country, valid for at least 3 months after your arrival in Belgium
- Certificate of a Belgian health insurance (mutuelle) that certifies you will be registered with them at your arrival

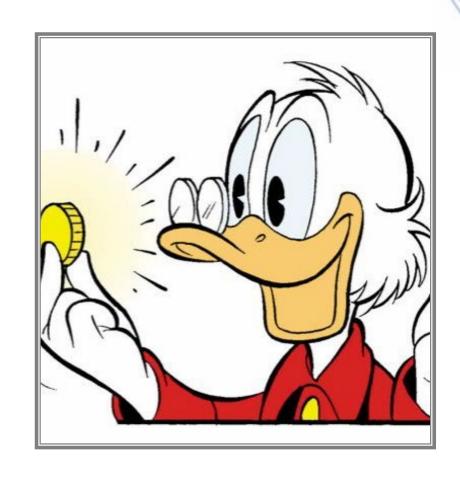


### **Blocked account**

- Online blocked account application <u>form</u>
- Required documents:
- Admission letter
- Passport
- En pratique:
- 803€ / month of stay
- 2089,55€ / month if family reunification
- 150€ administration fee
- **Deadline:** as soon as possible (one month in advance AT THE LATEST)

You can find more information <u>here</u>
Or contact us directly:

blocked.account@ulb.be





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### Finalize your ULB registration

- Tutorial: Last steps to validate the registration (in French)
- Your registration is finalized when:
- All supporting documents have been approved (registrations are not validated before July 01 2024)
- First payment of the tuition fee is made (minimum 50 euros) before October 31 2024 (via the MonULB portal and the rest of the minerval must reach us by January 31 2025 at the latest)
- MonULB becomes your student portal: all useful certificates online (proof of registration, certificate for public transport) on receipt of payment of €50
- Your student card
- For regular students, it will be available in September at Registration Office or delivered to your home if you have requested it
- For exchange students (Erasmus), it will be available in September (arrival 1st quadrimester) or February (arrival 2nd quadrimester) from the Faculty secretariats
- **Warning:** registration is provisional for students awaiting the equivalence of their high school diploma (to be regularized before December 1 2024). Obtaining equivalence is the responsibility of the <u>Equivalence Service</u> of the Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles (FWB). Your request for equivalence must be submitted before July 15.
- **Please note:** if you have not received a positive decision regarding your visa, you must unregister before November 30 so that you don't have to pay the full amount of the minerval and the year will be not taken into account when calculating your funding eligibility.

### Accommodation in Brussels

 To book your accommodation in Brussels before you arrive, the Université Libre de Bruxelles recommends its partner platform Studapart



- Many other platforms :
- https://www.brukot.be/
- <a href="https://housinganywhere.com/fr/">https://housinganywhere.com/fr/</a>
- https://www.immoweb.be/fr
- Facebook groups:
- <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/195527370457521?locale=fr\_FR">https://www.facebook.com/groups/195527370457521?locale=fr\_FR</a>
- https://www.facebook.com/share/NuiUXZjRAFG9jp6p/
- Your accommodation must allow for domiciliation: domiciliation is the obligation to register with your local municipality (commune) with the address of the accommodation you are renting in your own name. It is normally always possible to be domiciliated in Belgium with a rented accommodation, unless it is explicitly specified in your rental agreement that domiciliation is not possible. If you have any doubt, please ask the landlord before signing your rental agreement

Se loger
à l'ULB

Résidences ULB
Résidences partenaires ULB
Offres de propriétaires privés

More information on the <u>The Housing Office page</u>.



# Registration with your local municipality (commune)

- Make an appointment with your local town-hall: visit the website of your town-hall to check how you should make an appointment (by phone, by email or online)
- Required documents for your appointment:
- Passport
- ULB registration letter
- Proof of sufficient financial resources
- guarantor;
- scholarship;
- or a blocked account
- Health insurance certificate (*mutuelle*)



### Annexe 15

- The local police will visit you and check that you do reside at the address you provided (do not forget to put your name on the bell and the letter-box)
- Your residence permit: you will first receive the codes of your residence card by post, and then you go to your local town-hall to collect your card (instructions for this will be provided with the codes)





## Health insurance (mutuelle)

- Mandatory registration covers your health costs in Belgium
- Many companies : Partenamut, Mutualité Chrétienne, CAAMI... compare them here
- The cost and cover varie according to the insurance company you choose, but for each health expense, always a part remaining at your charge
- Questions about registration *Partenamut/Mutualité Chrétienne* : <u>welcome@ulb.be</u>

Numerous health and well-being services offered by the ULB at a very low cost: medical center with specialised doctors, psychologists, etc.

Healthcare and well-being - ULB





### Open a bank account

- Many banks: ING, BNP, Belfius... compare them <u>here</u>
- To open a Belgian bank account you must first have received the Annexe 15 (document issued by your municipalty/commune, other required documents: passport/identity card (for European citizens), ULB registration letter, rental contract
- To open a bank account earlier even before moving to Belgium, you can open an online bank account with a neobank: Revolut, Wise, Nickel, etc.
- **Deadline:** as soon as possible





### Public transport in Brussels

- Brussels' public transport company is called STIB
- Reductions on monthly and annual plans for students under 25
- To obtain a subscription :
- <u>BOOTIK</u> (ID, identity picture, ULB registration letter)
- Kiosks to load your card
- On board, contactless payment only
- To get from the airport to the center of Brussels, you need to take the train via the Société nationale des chemins de fers belges (SNCB), the main stations are: Bruxelles-Midi (South), Bruxelles-Central, Bruxelles-Nord

Compare STIB products <u>here</u>







Integration at the ULB

- La Semaine d'Accueil des Nouveaux Étudiants (SANE) on September 12 on the Solbosch campus :
- Welcome and information session for new international students from 2:30pm to 3:30 pm (Building K)
- Stand from 10am to 4pm
- ULB **events** (Fighting November Blues, Erasmus Mundus reception, Cocktail des ambassadeurs, etc.)
- Intensive French courses given by <u>ULB Langues</u> this summer (test on August 12 and 13)

#### **Summer intensive courses**

> Online on the UV page: TEST DE NIVEAU 2 12 & 13 August 2024 (from 9h00 to 23h55)

#### **60HRS COURSE**

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Semester 2024/2025

> Online on the UV page: TEST DE NIVEAU 

From 9 September (9h00) to 10 September (23h55) 2024







# The student association Erasmus Student Network (ESN)

- International student association present in more than 40 countries
- **Students helping students** whether you are an exchange student (Erasmus) or regularly enrolled at the ULB (bachelor or master).
- Different types of activities (cultural, sport, evening events, and travels)
- <u>Buddy System</u>: Would you like someone to help you (documents, accommodation, jobs)? Would you like to discover the local culture and practice the language? Would you like to meet local students? A platform available in English/French/Italian/Spanish to help you and share your experience in this new city!





**Buddy System** 



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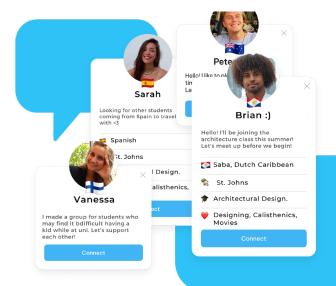
- I am new at this university
- I am already a student at this university
- I am an Exchange/Study Abroad student going to this university

When do you expect to start?

Select date

\* Please ensure all fields are selected before proceeding

#### Next



- **Application** on which students can make contact before arriving in Belgium, in Brussels, and at the ULB in order to create strong links before the start of the academic year and to exchange throughout the year
- Students are given the opportunity to create discussion groups based on hobbies, etc.
- **Download the application:** Goin' Connect Registration (goinconnect.com)







- Registration office : <u>inscriptions@ulb.be</u>
- Studies info desk: infor-etudes@ulb.be
- Your <u>Faculté/institut/école</u>
- The International Welcome Desk (Building JE52):
   welcome@ulb.be



Our web page

Book an appointment with us



Our **Instagram** account



### Join us:





