



**GHENT
UNIVERSITY**

EMBRACING OPEN SCIENCE

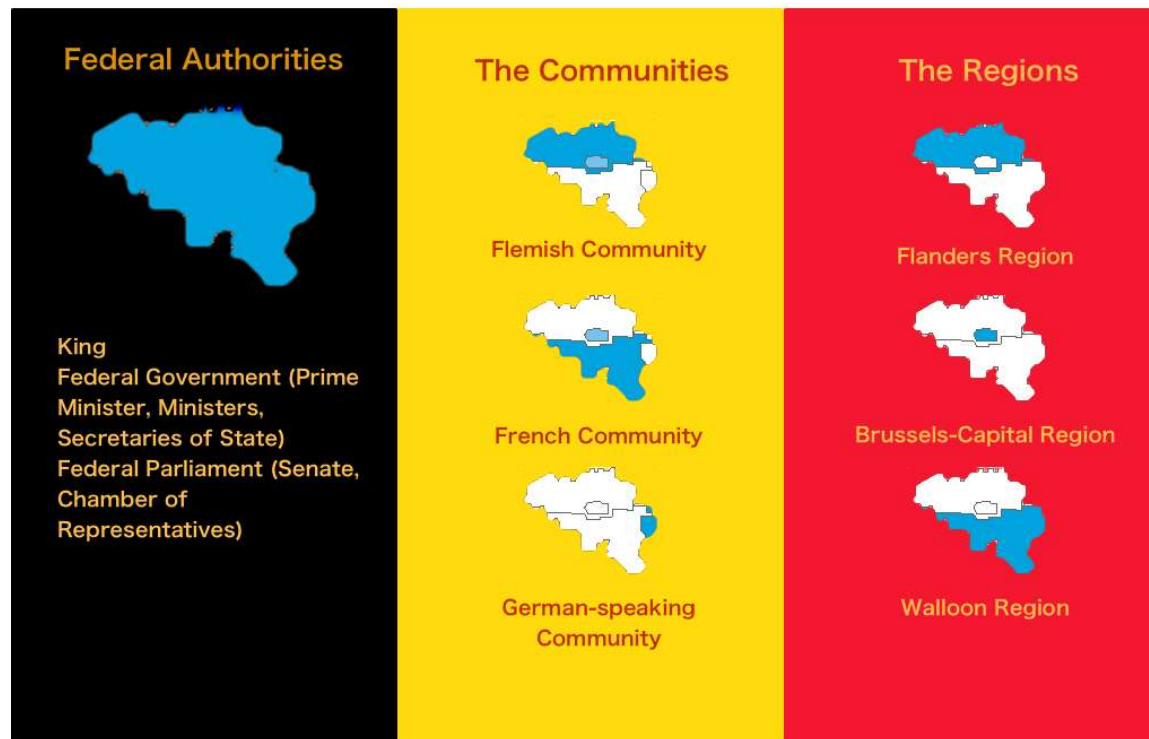
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS BELGIUM

Inge Van Nieuwerburgh – OpenAIRE workshop Portugal – Feb. 25, 2021

BELGIUM

STRUCTURE COUNTRY

Federal Structure of Belgium



SOME HISTORY

- Many Belgian research organisations subscribed to the [Berlin Declaration on Open Access](#) in 2007 (DRIVER)
- The [Brussels Declaration on Open Access](#), signed in 2012 by the Belgian, Flemish and French Community ministers of research (OpenAIRE)
- Establishment federal working group “Open Science and Open Innovation”
- EOSC concertation meeting Nov. 2019

OPEN ACCESS PROVISION IN BELGIAN LAW (2018)

In author contract law (so not an exception in copyright law)

- Allows **the author** to make his/her work available in Open Access, but does not require the author to do so.
- The publisher cannot oppose this right
- Only **scholarly articles** are subject to the law, other publications such as books, chapters, conference proceedings in books, are not.
- Only the **final peer reviewed manuscript** can be used. The publisher's version can only be used if the publisher agrees.
- The law applies to everyone with a **link to Belgium**. E.g. authors with the Belgian nationality, working at a Belgian institution or whose research has been funded by a Belgian funder.
- The author has the right to make the scholarly article available to the public free of charge in open access, after the **embargo period**.
- The law can be applied retroactively, which means the author can decide to open up old articles.

OPEN ACCESS BELGIUM

- Started in 2007 as the Belgian DRIVER network
- Informal Belgian network
- Specific information Flanders / Federation Wallon Brussels
- Openaccess.be is a collaborative effort of the Open Science teams of the Belgian universities
- Organises the Open Access week

<http://openaccess.be>



FLANDERS

FLEMISH OPEN SCIENCE BOARD FOSB

- Advice VRWI in 2016, white paper research data VLIR 2018
 - => Initiative FOSB approved by FL government dec. 2019, formed in Feb. 2020
- Open Science but first emphasis on RDM
- Goal: professionalise & intensify: data stewards, infrastructure, connect to EOSC
- Advisory function to the minister on roadmap and budget plan (€ 5 million) , strategic principles
- Roadmap up to 2024, with Kpi's on ORCID, OA, FAIR & Open Data, DMP

Inge Van Nieuwerburgh

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