

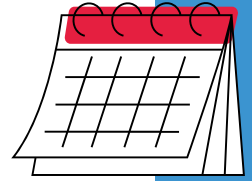
It's back to school time at TIB! We're taking advantage of the start of September to wish you a happy return to school or work and give you a **brief summary of the news you shouldn't have missed this summer.**

SAVE THE DATE: 8th December 2025 - Integrity Person of the Year election

As the start of a new academic year is synonymous with new projects, we are delighted to give you an exclusive preview of our project for the end of 2025.

On 8 December, on the eve of International Anti-Corruption Day, Transparency International Belgium is organising the first edition of the "Integrity Person of the year" awards. The ceremony will begin at 5.30 p.m. in the centre of Brussels and will reward one French-speaking Belgian personality and one Dutch-speaking Belgian personality who have distinguished themselves in promoting ethical and honest practices in Belgium.

 For more information, visit our [social media pages](#) and check out our next newsletter.



WHAT HAPPENED ON OUR WEBSITE THIS SUMMER?

For those who enjoyed their holidays and missed our content, don't panic, here is a recap of the summer :

- On 23 June, on International Whistleblowers Day, we examined the measures taken by Belgium to protect whistleblowers: [read the full article.](#)
- On 13 August, we highlighted the work carried out by Transparency International with the International Court of Justice and the German Court. [Find out more.](#)
- On 25 August, we called for a return to discussions at European level on the anti-corruption directive. This article follows an open letter published by several NGOs, including Transparency International. [Read the article.](#)



CONTENT THAT WE FOUND INTERESTING



On the [publications page](#) of our website, you can find content that we consider interesting for understanding issues related to corruption, ethics, transparency, integrity and accountability in Belgium.

- In July, we republished Eurobarometer 2025, a study conducted by the Council of the EU to highlight perceptions of corruption in different European countries, including Belgium. [Read the report.](#)
- The Rule of Law: On 8 July, the European Commission released its annual Rule of Law Report, offering a comprehensive assessment of the state of democracy and the rule of law across all EU Member States. [See the summary for Belgium.](#)

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WHAT'S NEW AT TIB?

The Transparency International Belgium team wishes you a happy 2026. Here is a brief summary of the last few months and some news to start the year in the spirit of transparency.

Change of direction: TIB is delighted to welcome Gudrun Vande Walle as its new Executive Director.



Marc Beyens, former executive director, has accepted to become Chair of TIB alongside Jan Cerfontaine, Deputy Chair.

Gudrun Vande Walle joined Transparency International Belgium as Executive Director at the beginning of January. After a career as a forensic auditor at the federal Ombudsman and as a professor in integrity management at Ghent University, she decided to put her skills to work in the NGO sector.

Learn more about our team [here](#).

A look back at the first edition of the Belgian Integrity Award:

On December 8, the first edition of the Belgian Integrity Award was held. The large turnout made it possible to honor the initiatives that promote integrity in Belgium. Organized by TIB, with the support of the national lottery and the King Baudouin Foundation, this award, presented by an independent jury, honored:

- Julien Moinil (special jury prize), Procureur du Roi de Bruxelles
- Wim de Naeyer (Dutch-speaking winner), Head of the forensic audit department at Audit Vlaanderen
- Olivier Goffard (French-speaking winner), Chief Audit Executive Euroclear



For more information about the award and photos of the ceremony, [click here](#).

New European anti-corruption directive (EU Directive 2023/0135) : what does it mean?

After months of disagreement, in early December 2025, the European Commission, Parliament, and Council of Member States concluded negotiations on new rules aimed at harmonizing criminal laws and strengthening anti-corruption measures. The first reading by the European Parliament is planned in March 2026. What does it include?

- Harmonization of criminal offenses and common minimum penalties.
- Liability of legal persons.
- Strengthening European judicial cooperation and increasing resources for judges.
- Guaranteeing the independence of anti-corruption authorities.
- Development and publication of a national anti-corruption strategy for each Member State

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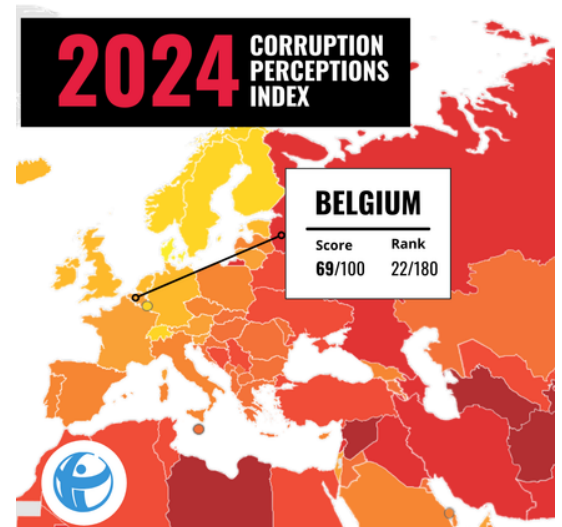
The Corruption Perception Index: Publication coming February 10

The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI), developed by Transparency International, has been the global standard for measuring perceived public sector corruption for over 30 years. It is widely used by public authorities, the media, researchers and civil society to provide a comparative assessment of anti-corruption policies worldwide.

- On **10 February**, Transparency International Belgium will release Belgium's CPI results alongside the rest of the international network.

In 2016, Belgium scored 77, falling to 73 in 2023 and 69 in 2024. This score places Belgium 22nd in the world, behind neighboring countries such as the Netherlands, Germany, and Luxembourg.

While these results raised growing concerns about corruption and the effectiveness of public integrity policies, the upcoming edition will reveal the position of Belgium.



GRECO Report

In december 2025 Greco has launched the second addendum on the Conformity report in the 4e evaluation cycle on corruption prevention for parliamentaries, judges and public prosecutors. The cycle started in 2014 and is closed now. This report contains an evaluation of the follow-up of the 15 recommandations. It concludes that Belgium has completed 7 recommendations in a satisfactory way. 8 recommendations were partially completed. It concerns: a regulation for accepting gifts; a regulation for the monitoring of lobbyists who try to have an impact on the parliamentary procedure, declarations of revenues...

New resources for the Belgian justice system?

Federal government has decided to create a financial section within the federal prosecutor's office to track down corruption and money laundering of all kinds in Belgium. This specialised section will be responsible for handling complex cases that go beyond the local level such as money laundering, organised tax fraud, corruption, organised social fraud. It will also coordinate complex financial investigations throughout Belgium and work closely with bodies such as the CTIF-CFI (Financial Intelligence Processing Unit).

This initiative would enable active measures to be taken to combat corruption. TIB is waiting to see how it will be implemented in practice within the Belgian judicial system.