



Association Royale

Conférence Olivaint de Belgique

Koninklijke Vereniging

Olivaint Genootschap van België

Royal Association

Olivaint Conference of Belgium

Königliche Vereinigung

Olivaint-Konferenz von Belgien

**Centre interuniversitaire de
formation politique**

**Interuniversitair centrum
voor politieke vorming**

Interuniversity centre for
political education

Interuniversitätzentrum für
politische Forschung



The students of the 2000-2001 promotion with the Minister of State Mark Eyskens and Mr Jean-Jacques Masquelin.

This brochure gives more information on the following topics:

- Activities of the Conference
- The preparation of the study trip
- The organization of the NPO
- The composition of the supporting and the financial Committees and the scientific Council
- The member list
- Members of the Board of Directors and of the Student Board

The main activities of the Conference

During the academic year, the students meet every other week on Saturday afternoon in Brussels. These meetings are focused on the following issues:

Effective Presentation Exercises:

Public Speaking Exercises allow students to become acquainted with effective speech techniques. These exercises are judged by an experienced corrector, which enables the students to improve significantly their speech level.

Journalism Exercises:

Students write press articles on specific society topics for the journal of the Conference called "Contact". These journalistic exercises are also evaluated and corrected by specialists.

The Conferences and Debates:

At each meeting we have the honor of welcoming a personality of the political, economical, social or cultural world. This gives all students the opportunity to discuss and debate on a specific topic with a prominent personality in a rather intimate atmosphere.

Speech Contest:

Besides the bimonthly meetings, the students take part in a Speech Contest. This takes place in the presence of former Olivaint members in a top location accessible to the public. An independent jury evaluates the presentation of the students and delivers various prizes to the winners. The event is opened to former and non-members.

The Study Session abroad:

Students prepare by themselves the End-of-Year Study Trip. This consists in an in-depth study of the economical, political, social, cultural and religious realities of the visited country.

The Study Trip

The Concept

The Olivaint Conference sets as first goal to get all students preparing a multidisciplinary study, then implement this pre-study by complementary investigation and information collected on the spot and finally synthesize each topic in an adequate manner. All students are supposed to develop a critical perspective towards public issues or the "res publica" and moreover learn to be a real team player. A study trip abroad is, of course, the best possible way to discover and get a global view of the visited country and fulfill the above objectives. The attending students will investigate following topics: the external relations, the structure and organization of the country, the economical, cultural, social and political situation of the country, ...

The preparation of the trip

The students prepare the program of the visits during the academical year with the support of the Board of Directors and the Belgian Embassy. In this respect the support offered by the Minister of Foreign Affairs is of the utmost importance.

Each participant prepares during the academical year a desk study based on the available information in Belgium.

The journey

The journey, lasting about three weeks, takes place in the summer months. Appointments with local politicians, factory visits and exchanges with the local population are planned. This allows each participant to confront on the spot in a critical way if the gathered information corresponds to reality.

The report

Back to Belgium, the participants complete their study. The various reports are then screened by experts and corrected during the following year. These reports are issued throughout the main libraries of Belgium, so that they are made available for every interested person.

Previously visited countries:

Israel (1958), Morocco (1959), Senegal (1961), West-Berlin (1962), Israel (1963), Mexico (1964), Tunisia (1965), Ivory Coast (1966), Venezuela (1967), Iran (1968), Quebec (1969), Gabon (1971), Chili (1972), Thailand (1973), Tanzania (1974), Malaysia (1976), Cameroon (1977), Peru (1978), Indonesia (1979), Zaire (1980), Paris (1981), Egypt (1983), Spain (1984), the ESPRIT project (European Strategic Program for Research and Development in Information Technologies) en Europe (1987), China and Hong-Kong (1988), Togo (1989), Bolivia (1990), Czechoslovakia (1991), Jordan (1992), Japan (1993), Byelorussia (1994), Morocco (1995), U.S. (1996), Poland (1997), EEC (1999), Cuba (2000), Slovenia (2001), Greece (2002), Ireland (2003), Hungary (2004), Turkey (2005), Chili (2006), Russia (2007), New York/Washington (2008), Rome/Vatican (2009)

The Olivaint Conference of Belgium

The organization

The Olivaint Conference of Belgium is placed under the direction of the Board of Directors, which supervises the activities and works of the students. A Supporting and a Financial Committee also support the Conference. The students elect themselves the President and the members of the Student Board. Those students play a key role in the organization of the main activities of the Conference.

Alumni

The Alumni of the Conference meet twice a year on the occasion of the 'Key Conferences'. Olivaint counts since her foundation more than 900 members.

Financing

Students don't pay any fee for participating in the activities of the Conference. The Conference usually grants students a scholarship for their study journey. The Conference is mainly financed by gifts of its former members and sponsors who appreciate the sound pertinence of this unique initiative in Belgium. The Board of Directors works on a voluntary basis.

Gifts

If you want to support young university students or if you think the work of the Conference deserves your support, then we thank you for any gift that you would address to the bank account nr. 310-1660808-60. Each gift above 30 € is fiscally deductible.

Supporting and financial committees, Scientific Council

Members of the Supporting Committee¹

Mr. Jean-Luc Dehaene, Minister of State, former Minister and Prime Minister, Mr. Roger Dillemans, former Rector of the KUL, Mr. François-Xavier de Donnea, former Minister and Mayor of Brussels City and actual President of the Brussels Region, Mr. Willy De Clercq, Minister of State, former Minister and European Commissar, Mr. Jacques Grootaert, honorary Ambassador of Belgium, Mrs. Hanenburg, Professor at the KUL, Mr. Lechat, Professor at the UCL, Mr. Leo Tindemans, Minister of State, former Minister and Prime Minister, Mr. André Molitor[‡], Chief of the Cabinet of the King, Mr. Illya Prigogyne[‡], Nobel Prize Physician

Members of the Scientific Council²

Mr. Jacques H.J. Bourgeois
Mr. Georges-Albert Dal
Mr. François-Xavier de Donnea
Baron Francis Delperee
Mr. Bernard Dubois
Mr. Pierre Dulieu
Mr. Vincent Legrand
Col. Jean Marsia
Mr. Elefthérios Sapsalis
Mr. Guy Schrans
Mr. Arnaud Thyssen
Mr. Henry Tulkens
Mrs. Thérèse Tulkens
Mr. Cédric Van Assche
Mr. Robert Verdonk
Mr. Robert Wtterwulghe

Members of the Financial Committee³

Mr. Francis Bonnewijn
Mr. André-Xavier Cooreman
Mr. Philippe de Buck van Overstraeten
Mr. Pierre De Grootte
Mr. Jean-Louis Duplat
Mr. Luc Geuten
Mr. Philippe Lambrecht
Mr. Jos Linkens
Mr. Jean-Jacques Masquelin
Mrs Martine Van den Poel
Mr. Alain Vaes
Mr. Raynier van Outryve d'Ydewalle
Mr. Alexis Verougstraete

¹ Persons who have supported the Conference's activities in the past. Either as supporting comity members or as former members.

² All former members

³ All former members

Memberlist 2009-2010

Florence Andrianne, Jambes, Law,
UCL

Marc-Etienne Bajjot, Court Saint-
Etienne, Law, FUNDP

Katrien Bollen, Alken, Law, KUL

Aline Buyschaert, Korbeek-Lo,
Political sciences, UCL

Martin Carlier, Bruxelles, Law, FUSL

Thomas Carpentier, Antwerpen,
Civil Engineering, ERM

Raphaëlle Carton de Tournai,
Bruxelles, Solvay

Cédric Cassiers, Tervuren, Civil
engineering, UCL

Govert Coppens, Boutersem, PhD
Law, KUL

Marie Dalle, Antwerpen,
Anthropology, ULB

Géraldine David, Ittre, Business
engineering, Solvay

Thomas De Bauw, Meise, Law, KUL

Bruno Declercq, Wijtschate,
Engineering, KUL

Thibaud Delva, Kapellen, Law,
Universiteit Antwerpen

Michiel De Muynck, Temse, Law,
Ugent

Bart Denys, Law, KUL

Pierre d'Huart, Perwez, Law, UCL

Gaspard Fierens, Social and Military
Sciences, ERM

Jim Goudsmit, Duinbergen,
Industrial Sciences, Leuven
Engineering College

Frederick Govaert, Wemmel, Marine
Biology and Geology, UGent

Sanne Jansen, Brasschaat, Law,
KUL

François-Xavier Kicq, Mons, Law,
FUNDP

Pierre Locht, Goé, Law, FUNDP

Amélie Mertens de Wilmars,
Bruxelles, Law, UCL

Augustin Nolet, Saint-Denis, Law,
UCL

Lionel Paternoster, Aulnois, Civil
Engineering, Ulg

Jan-Karel Pinxten, Overpelt, Law,
FUNDP

Vincent Qin, Bruxelles, Medicine &
Business Engineering, UCL

Diego Riera Diaz, Wezembeek-
Oppem, Law, UCL

Jean-Baptiste Rosseeuw, Ohain,
Law, UCL

Gaetan Seny, Hannut, Law,
FUNDP

Emilie Sickinghe, Kraainem, Law,
UCL

Virginie Siraut, Bruxelles,
Communication public relations,
UCL

Caroline Van der Avoort, Jemepesur-Sambre, Management, ICHEC

Cosme van de Stegen de Schrieck,
Bruxelles, Economical Sciences,
UCL

Marieke Van Hoecke, Zwalm, Law,
Ugent

Bertrand van Maele, Court-Saint-
Etienne, Law, UCL

Pieter-Augustijn Van Malleghem,
Law and Economics, KUL

Eline Van Meirhaeghe, Antwerpen,
Economical Sciences, KUL

Hélène Vienne, Bruxelles,
Management Engineering, Solvay,
ULB

Board of directors

Philippe Cuylaerts
François De Cort
Pierre De Groote
Barbara Den Tandt
Yves De Wilde
Baudouin Dubuisson
Olivier Eulaerts
Damien Gerard
Fabienne Legrand
Jean Marsia
Jean-Jacques Masquelin, President
Louis Tulkens
Alain Vaes
Anne-Marie Verlinden

Studentboard

Pieter-Augustijn Van Malleghem, President
Gaëtan Seny
Pierre Locht
Jan-Karel Pinxten
Amélie Mertens de Wilmars