

Mapping Minorities and their Media: The National Context – Belgium

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Introduction

For me, writing is necessary to counter the forgotten. It is a rebirth, access to the creation of a new world beyond that of clichés and stereotypes. Writing is to exist, even if one must accept to symbolically die in the land of immigration. Words are there to permit us to realise our dreams, those of our parents in the country of origin, and those of our children in the host country. Words allow us to build bridges between cultures and to avoid the fractures and divisions between them. Writing is a therapy for that which is forgotten and now shrouded in indifference. It is to heal the body and the spirit of the wounds of exile. Writing is the last breath of the exiled.

Abdellatif Lekhder

Le Retour de l'absent

Media created by and for people of ethnic and immigrant origin allies, informs and expresses particular and evolving needs and interests of those involved in the community to which it is sculpted, be the community one of a particular religion, region, ethnic group, or shared experience. Whatever the type of media used and for whatever purpose, the issues expressed both document and affirm the perspectives and dilemmas faced by groups and individuals who are often underrepresented and misrepresented by mainstream media. As diverse and dynamic ethnic minority and immigrant communities are, so the media they produce tends to be. Inter- and intra-community ideological conflicts as well as intergenerational differences are factors that determine the ebbs and flows of 'minority media'. While some factors might affect such media in similar ways wherever one may be, there are those that are peculiar to the places within which the media is being created: the relationship between the ethnic communities and the 'host society' (integration, assimilation, civic rights, etc.), the relationship between already existing ethnic communities in their 'host society' (inter-ethnic conflict, competition for resources or recognition, etc.), and the restrictions upon communities to be able to relate to their cultures or express themselves (censorship, public recognition and valorisation of cultures, educational levels, and access to materials and technology necessary, etc.). In considering the 'minority media' experience in Belgium, all of the factors above must be considered and appreciated for their particular roles in shaping the media that exists today and existed in the past.

'Minority media' in Belgium is intimately tied to the relationship that 'native' Belgians and their government have had with people of ethnic minority and immigrant origin. Despite a large fraction of its population being of foreign origin—many of which have lived in the country for three generations, Belgium's relationship to those to whom it has opened up its borders has fluctuated over history. With the post-war industrial boom in the coal-rich South, hundreds of thousands of immigrant workers came from Southern

Europe, Turkey and North Africa to find better lives, yet were only provided years later with basic social services geared towards the immigrants and their particular needs. Viewing its immigrants as mere temporary workers, Belgium realised only much later that it needed to become more engaged in integrating its population of immigrant origin into 'Belgian' society. Yet what was 'Belgian' society?

Caught up in its own 'home-grown' cultural and linguistic conflict between the Flemish and the Walloons, Belgium went through a long and complex period of federalisation. For decades, the country was reluctant to get involved in actively supporting and promoting the social, cultural, political, and religious efforts of the population of immigrant origin, leaving them to fend for themselves, organise and sponsor their own initiatives for maintaining a sense of identity and community away from their places of origin. Only as right-wing parties gained support after the industrial decline by blaming immigrant workers for the rising unemployment rate and calling for foreigners to 'go home', for example, between the late 1970s and mid-1980s was there governmental recognition that something needed to be done in order to counteract the frightening political current. Anti-racism campaigns and official commissions on immigration were set up, the Regions and Communities of Belgium began to develop organs to tackle long-ignored issues having to do with immigrants and ethnic minorities, and integration was chosen as the Belgian model for inserting people of ethnic and immigrant origin into society.

As the government began to respond to long-ignored issues, so the mass media makers in Belgium also began to realise their role in not only tolerating and allowing minority media to coexist with them, but to also include ethnic minority and immigrant issues in their broadcasts, pages, and emissions. Yet just because the government and the mass media started to grow more sensitive to minorities, this does not mean that minority media did not already exist in Belgium. In fact, ever since large waves of Italian immigrants came to Belgium in the 1940s, different types of media (especially press) have existed in order to respond to a variety of communities' needs and interests, usually created by cultural, political and religious associations linked to their countries of origin. Radio and television programs specifically targeting minorities and immigrants sprouted up in the decades to follow the initial waves of immigration, intending to correspond to the diverse communities that settled in the country from throughout Southern Europe, North Africa, and Turkey. After some time, needs and interests changed, with new generations relating to the 'host society' in different ways from their parents and technology bringing the societies of origin closer than ever. Political

agendas, definitions, and perceptions progressed towards new sensitivity and recognition of minorities. 'Minority media' in Belgium has constantly evolved, responding to the dynamic changes both within and outside of the country socially, politically, economically, and technologically. The purpose of this report is to offer perspective into Belgium's often-confusing social, economic, and political climate that has shaped the minority media experience in the country.

Belgium

Belgium has been an independent and sovereign state since 1830, with a parliamentary monarchy. However, multiple internal tensions have wreaked havoc upon the state's strength over time and have forced the state to evolve with popular internal movements. The most important of the internal tensions is by far what was once referred to simply as the 'language issue,' the linguistic and cultural division between the Dutch-speaking Flemish and the French-speaking Walloons. Historically, French was the dominant language of the Belgian state, and its instruction in schools and usage in government processes was common throughout Belgium until around the end of World War II. Over time, the Flemish-speaking minority¹ organised an opposition to the dominance of the 'Francophone oppressor', intending to establish equal status for Flemish and French in the country (Martiniello 1995a: 137). The 'language issue' sparked myriad questions and inspired development of strongly nationalist movements that eventually shattered the united Belgium and led to its federalisation. Today, there are three national groups that are represented by the federal government: the Dutch-speakers, the French-speakers, and the German-speakers (who are largely concentrated in Eastern Cantons along the German border, as this area was annexed from Germany after WWI).

Only since 1993 has Belgium been a federal state, composed of Regions and Communities. The federalisation process, which began in 1970, involved the 'top-down' recognition of communitarian and regional autonomies, taking over twenty years to be completed (Martiniello 2001: "Belgium"). The Belgian federal state is officially responsible for justice, monetary policy, foreign affairs, defence and security, social security, public health, as well as a variety of lesser responsibilities. All other responsibilities belong to the Regions and Communities. The Flemish Region (Flanders), Walloon Region (Wallonia), and the Brussels-Capital Region are Belgium's social and economic entities. Each Region is responsible for its own economic policy, employment

policy, public transportation, housing policy, environmental policy, agriculture, urban planning and external trade.

Decades before federalisation, the government had divided Belgium in 1963 into four linguistic entities with their own territorial boundaries: a French-speaking area, a Dutch-speaking area, a German-speaking area, and the district of Brussels, which was and remains the only officially bilingual (French and Dutch) area in Belgium. Each linguistic territory corresponds, more or less, to the geographic distribution of native speakers. From this linguistic division decades earlier, the lines for the linguistic and cultural Communities were drawn. The French-speaking and the German-speaking Communities respectively have their own recognised administrations, which govern over particular Community-delegated issues such as education, social aid, family policy, and media regulation. The Dutch-speaking Community merged with the Flemish Region into a single institution, while the French-speaking and the German-speaking Communities did not merge with any Region and maintained autonomy.

The rather confusing government structure of Regions and Communities reflects the national and linguistic tensions that continue to divide the country's population today. In 2001, the population was divided as such: approximately 5,950,000 people in Flanders, 3,350,000 people in Wallonia (where 70,000 hail from the German-speaking community that is within the domain of the Walloon Region), and 960,000 people in Brussels (of which 80-90% of the population is French-speaking) (Martiniello 2001).

Migration, Ethnicity and Integration in Belgium

Belgium has been greatly influenced, directly and indirectly, by its history of immigration. While the Flemish, Walloons, and German-speakers comprise the main national groups and have their own respective territories, 8.34% of the population in Belgium in 2001 was foreign, representing multiple ethnic communities and living throughout Belgium. In Flanders, foreigners comprise 4.72% of the population; in Wallonia, 9.5%; and in Brussels, a hefty 27.25% (INS 2001). Just as Brussels and Wallonia are home to many more foreigners than is Flanders, ethnic communities are also segregated geographically to an extent from one another. On the whole, more Italians and Spaniards tend to live in Wallonia, while more Moroccans and Turks tend to live in Flanders, and Brussels—situated in between the two—is home to a large concentration of Moroccans, Italians, and Greeks.

¹ The Flemish were a minority at the time, but today represent a majority of the population of Belgium.

Immigration and Integration Policy in Belgium

The unequal distribution of foreigners throughout the country has a great deal to do with Belgium's industrial past and its economic and political situation after the industrial decline of the 1970s. The history of industrial development in Flanders and Wallonia is rather different. French-speaking Wallonia was a bustling coal mining and steel-producing region, more industrial and, therefore, wealthier than Flanders until the industrial decline that started in the early 1970s. The post-WWII need for mining and factory workers prompted Belgium to recruit unskilled foreign workers. Unlike its colonial European counterparts at the time, Belgium chose not to import labour from its colonies in Central Africa but rather preferred to turn to Mediterranean and North African countries to recruit temporary labourers. Those recruited came in the greatest numbers from Italy, Spain, Greece, Morocco, and Turkey in order to assume industrial jobs that 'native' Belgians were loath to take. The official period of recruitment lasted for almost thirty years, beginning just after the end of World War II and ending in 1974, with the industrial decline that was to bring about massive lay-offs and mine and factory closings throughout Europe.

Flanders, because it was less reliant on industry, was able to bounce back more rapidly from the economic decline and quickly grew to be richer than Wallonia. This sparked a very troubled period in the country. Flanders' relative wealth and the exasperation with having to economically bail out the Walloons led to a longing by many Flemish to abandon Wallonia and separate from Belgium, as many felt that their Flemish cultural and linguistic identity had been suppressed during the time of Walloon political and economic dominance. The industrial crisis also marked the closing of highly symbolic enterprises in Wallonia (Bataille 1994: 119). With the closing of mines and factories and a stark rise in unemployment² came the de-valorisation of the social status of the worker, new uncertainty about the ideals of collective progress and wealth, and a profound blame upon and mistrust of those perceived to have played a role in the economic downturn (most notably politicians and immigrant workers).

The year of 1974, with its official stop on offering work visas for immigrants, did not signify an end to new immigration to Belgium. Families (mostly comprising wives and young children) of immigrant workers that were already living in Belgium before 1974 were able to enter the country in order to reunite. University students continued to arrive for their studies from around the world. Belgium also opened its doors in later decades ever so slightly to the influx of political refugees and asylum seekers coming

² Unemployment in Belgium rose from 4.5% in 1970 to 13.3% in 1985. (Bataille 1994:123)

from the collapse of the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc countries, the ethnic conflicts in the former Yugoslavia, and the political instability of other global regimes. Yet, with increasingly strict rules for legal immigration into the country, a growing amount of clandestine immigrants were entering Belgium illegally.

With the onslaught of economic problems starting in the 1970s, there was a general push by 'native' Belgians to make immigrants 'go home'. Yet, immigrant workers were hardly the cause of the industrial decline that was affecting not only Belgium but the rest of Europe as well. They themselves were terribly affected by the industrial crisis. Unions tried to stop the Belgian government from making contracts for immigrant workers, which would have led to the creation of a great population of clandestine foreign workers if they were no longer to receive work visas. By the early 1980s, the government's solution was to start to naturalise a large population of the immigrant workers who, now having started families, were not at all willing to uproot themselves to 'go home,' having had already perhaps spent decades in Belgium.

With the decision by the European Community (which included both Belgium and Italy at the time) in the late 1960s that allowed citizens of Community Member-states freedom of movement and ensured equality of treatment with national workers, definitions of 'immigrant' changed somewhat—with European workers being perceived less as 'immigrants' than their non-European counterparts (Cohen 1987: 113). The 'immigrant problem' suddenly had less to do with the Italians, Spaniards, Portuguese, and Greeks living within Belgium than it had to do with the Moroccans, Turks and other non-European immigrants.

In this turbulent social, economic and political atmosphere, the presence and the arrival of non-European immigrants provoked a disproportionate reaction by those dismayed by the idealistic promises of industrial progress. In the mean time, because established political parties seemed inefficient and involved in scandals during this time of instability, the popularity of 'new' parties grew in the 1980s—especially those of the extreme right wing (namely the nationalist and xenophobic Vlaams Blok in Flanders and the less well-organised Walloon Front national and AGIR ³). Not surprisingly, the extreme right manipulated the immigration issue for its own benefit, bringing it into the already frustrated public eye. In the 1991 elections, the Vlaams Blok received 25% of the vote in Antwerp—gathering votes from those among the richest and the poorest of the city, by playing off of fears that immigrants were 'invading' Flanders and ruining the quality of life. In the late 1980s, even municipal politicians within Brussels, who were not

members of extreme right wing parties but in fact socialists and liberals, increased their popularity by openly criticising and condemning immigrants and their lifestyles (i.e., the controversial issue in 1989 of young Muslim women wearing the headscarf, or *hijab*, in public schools).

While the naturalisation solution enabled certain immigrants to stay legally in Belgium and to gain nationality, it did very little to help them and their families integrate socially into an already very linguistically- and culturally-divided Belgium. In that all Regions within Belgium support the thesis of federalism, where disassociation and autonomy are key concepts, it leaves little space for the development of a 'Belgian' model of integration and makes it all the more confusing to the newly 'Belgified' population when it comes to trying to integrate at all. For many of those who make up the 8.34% of the population of Belgium that have not been naturalised and retain their foreign status, social integration is arguably even more difficult. Bataille noted that, "Insertion into the [Belgian] entity operated less by a direct relationship between citizens and the state than by mediation of intermediate instances like the family, school, churches, unions, organisations and associations, and the media. Thus, it was not citizenship assuring integration but rather the participation in instances and transversal structures that characterise civil society"(1994: 130).

By the mid-1960s, Wallonia attempted to respond to this conundrum and set up *centres d'accueil*, or welcome centres, that assisted immigrants with various social services with the intent to help not only integrate immigrants into Walloon life, but in fact assimilate them (Clerdent 1962, cited in Bataille 1994: 132). No such centres existed in Flanders until almost a decade later. Foreigners were provided with a vague and rather regional approach to integration; they were not joining 'Belgian society' as much as they were joining the societies of Flanders, Wallonia, or Brussels. Of the thirty-two welcome centres built in Belgium between 1968 and 1976, only five remained open by 1994 in Wallonia and in Brussels (Bataille 1994: 132).

The increasing popularity of the xenophobic right wing groups in both Flanders and Wallonia in the late 1980s did achieve something positive, however. It incited a State-level reaction, as it was finally realised that the State needed to play a clear and decisive role in effectively integrating the immigrant population throughout Belgium. The Royal Commission for Immigrant Policy (Commissariat royal à la politique des immigrants) was created in 1989. The Commission put forth a Belgian model of integration, which is

³ AGIR is tied to the French Front national. (Bataille 1994:150).

something of a combination of the French model of integration (citizenship=integration) and the British multiethnic one. They defined 'integration' as:

a form of 'insertion'. The main criteria are: 1. assimilation where it is required; 2. acceptance of the fundamental social principles of the host society (principles that refer to the ideas of 'modernity,' 'emancipation' and 'pluralism'); 3. unequivocal respect for cultural diversity in the sense of reciprocal enrichment in other fields. The host society must offer opportunities for this integration, by promoting the structural conditions for the participation of the migrants in the goals and activities of society' (Vranken and Martiniello 1992, in Martiniello 1995a: 140).

Here, integration for foreign populations implies social insertion. This definition owes its creation to a mixture of contemporary political thoughts about the issue, as contemporary Flemish politicians tend to be focused on issues of culture and identity, while Walloon politicians are persuaded by socialist rhetoric and more interested in assimilation (Martiniello 1995a: 140). While the Commission dissolved only four years after its establishment, the Centre for Equal Opportunities and the Fight Against Racism (Centre pour l'égalité des chances et la lutte contre le racisme) took its place and today remains a very active organ for research and policy suggestion that has no executive power but does have an influence over the integration measures adopted by Flanders, Wallonia, and Brussels.

Since the early 1990s, there has been a good deal of funding available from the State and the Communities themselves to finance a variety of programmes dealing with insertion, social prevention and the fight against exclusion. However, the Flemish and French-speaking Communities approach the issue differently, one taking a more involved approach with greater governmental involvement and the other taking a more 'hands off' approach. Let us examine both Communities' approaches to cultural organisations for immigrants and ethnic minorities in order to exemplify the differences.

The Flemish government realised that "immigrants must have more opportunity, and take the opportunity, to stand up for their rights themselves. This did not merely require equal opportunities. Emancipation and participation, the ability to develop their own identity and groups consciousness, the opportunity to make a contribution and be represented all had to be stimulated" (Dewaele 1997: 19). Such an approach meant that resulting policies had to include the government in all fields of interest and on all levels (i.e., Community-level down to local level) and they needed to coordinate themselves as well. In response to a call for immigrant associations to be recognised by the government and receive funding, the Flemish government came up with an arrangement that would recognise organisations if they were "inspired by the concept of integration" (Dewaele 1997: 85). This led to a distinction between 'old' and 'new' organisations: 'old'

organisations being those whose priorities were to “maintain the values, religion and traditions of the mother country,” and ‘new’ organisations being those that “no longer have ties with the country of origin, and are basically no different from Belgian associations” (Dewaele 1997: 84). This meant that there were restrictions put into place that were meant to discourage ‘old’ organisations and to encourage ‘new’ ones. Therefore, some associations, such as those that are purely religiously inspired, are excluded by the strict criteria for official recognition. However, many other types of associations are recognised and helped not only financially but also with organisational, administrative, and accommodation issues.

The French-speaking Community’s Minister of Culture and Social Affairs supports the socio-economic and cultural development of communities of foreign origin, which translates into partial funding for voluntary initiatives coming from within associations and organisations interested in helping these communities with learning and retaining their own languages of origin outside of the official language of the Community, enterprises that create linkages between their countries of origin and Belgium, heritage and cultural centres, productions (plays, literature, film, etc.) that are intercultural in nature, affirming foreign origins as well as constructing positive connections within the host society (Mangot 1997: 195). The French-speaking Community supports, in principle, initiatives coming not from the Community government itself but rather from the people. While it can be considered a rather non-interventionist approach, it can be also perceived positively in that it values the voluntary character of associations and organisations as well as their ability to manage groups and issues that they might better understand. It also sponsors a kind of pluralism in society that might not be otherwise had if the Community itself were to head such efforts (Mangot 1997: 197).

Various levels within the Belgian State have started to play a more active role in the social insertion of those of immigrant origin as well as sponsor greater cross-cultural awareness and understanding, although different factions approach the situation in their own ways. However, such efforts do not magically solve all of the problems that exist. There remains a gamut of important issues to be addressed. In order to understand the issues that confront ethnic minorities and immigrants in Belgium, it is useful to have a grasp on the unique characteristics of these groups. In the section below, their history and relationship to Belgium will become clearer.

The Demography of Multicultural Belgium

As of 1 January 2001, 9,401,729 Belgians and 861,685 non-Belgians were living in the country. Therefore, 8.34% of the total population (10,263,414 people) were foreigners. Foreigners include 564,134 people from European Union Member-states (or 65.5% of all foreigners in Belgium) and 297,551 people from non-European Union countries (or 34.5% of all foreigners). The percentage of foreigners from non-European Union countries fell almost 2.5% in two years, indicating that the movement of people from EU Member-states into Belgium is increasing. Of those from EU member countries, the largest groups comprise those of Italian origin (or 22.7% of all foreigners) and those from countries either bordering Belgium (France, Netherlands, and Germany: 27%) or other traditional European emigration countries (Spain, Greece, and Portugal: 10.3%). Of those from non-EU Member-states, Moroccans represented 12.4% of the foreign population in 2001, while Turks constituted 6.5% respectively. The remaining 21.1% of foreigners hail from throughout the rest of the world, with populations from the UK, USA, Congo, Algeria, Poland, and the former Yugoslavia representing over 5000 people each.

Table 1. *Population of Belgium: Belgians and non-Belgians, 2001.*

Country of Origin	Population in Belgium	Percentage of Population Belgium (%)	Percentage of Foreign Population (%)
Italy	195,586	1.906%	22.70%
France	109,322	1.065%	12.69%
Netherlands	88,813	0.865%	10.31%
Spain	45,356	0.442%	5.26%
Germany	34,579	0.337%	4.01%
UK	26,600	0.259%	3.09%
Portugal	25,634	0.250%	2.97%
Greece	17,954	0.175%	2.08%
Other EU member states	20,290	0.198%	2.35%
Total EU	564,134	5.497%	65.47%
Morocco	106,822	1.041%	12.40%
Turkey	56,172	0.547%	6.52%
USA	11,852	0.115%	1.38%
Congo	11,337	0.110%	1.32%
Former Yugoslavia	9763	0.095%	1.13%
Algeria	7685	0.075%	0.89%
Poland	6928	0.068%	0.80%
Other non-EU member states	86,992	0.848%	10.10%
Total non-EU	297,551	2.899%	34.53%
Total foreigners (All)	861,685	8.396%	100.00%

Source: Institut National de Statistiques, 2001.

While the figure for foreigners in Belgium is 8.34%, the word 'foreigner' does not include those of foreign origin that have been naturalised and gained Belgian nationality.

Therefore, the population of those of foreign origin in Belgium is in fact much higher. While first generation immigrants must apply after a number of years to become naturalised, their children (the second generation) if born in Belgium do not have an automatic right to Belgian nationality but rather the right to apply for nationality and receive it at the age of eighteen. Only those belonging to the third generation (the grandchildren of the original immigrants) and their future progeny have an automatic right to nationality from birth. However, Belgium is one of a few countries in Europe to allow those applying for Belgian citizenship to allow dual nationalities, in other words making it so that applicants do not have to renounce their origin citizenship for the Belgian one. Since 1984, thousands of foreign residents have been naturalised each year, which has effectively decreased the population of 'foreigners' in the country in terms of raw numbers (CBAI 1999b).

However, there are two factors that have increased immigration to Belgium in the last couple of decades, which largely concern EU Member-states' citizens. Firstly, the free movement of persons within the EU and select non-EU European countries, guaranteed by the Schengen Agreement and Convention, gives EU citizens the right to work and live in other EU countries. The large numbers of French, Dutch, and Germans living and working in Belgium today exemplify this freedom. Secondly, Belgium may perhaps be a peculiar case in Europe in that Brussels is the seat of many European Union institutions, NATO, and numerous high-level international organisations that provide work for several tens of thousands of international employees that tend to stay for a limited duration and then return to their countries of origin. Such is the situation for the many people from the UK and the USA that live in Belgium today. But it is also the situation for many other foreign nationals. For example, 8000 Spaniards have come to Belgium in the last ten years to work for the European Commission or to create satellite businesses geared towards the needs of the employees from the European Commission (Murphy 2002: 12). These mainly first-world populations are more socio-economically mobile than the immigrants coming to Belgium decades ago or those coming today from less advantaged milieus, less likely to stay in Belgium for the rest of their lives, and are, thus, not often compared to immigrants coming from, say, Morocco or the former Yugoslavia today.

To get a better sense of the immigrant communities in Belgium, provided below are short descriptions of the main groups, including their immigration history, growth, organisation, socio-economic levels, and geographic concentrations. Many of the immigrants living today in Belgium are from countries that touch Belgium itself, like

France and the Netherlands. Arguably, they are more quickly assimilated into the country because of their linguistic and cultural traditions that are more closely related to those of the 'dominant' society in the regions within Belgium within which they settle (i.e., those from France generally tend to settle in French-speaking areas and those from the Netherlands in Dutch-speaking areas). Other large groups of foreigners temporarily living in Belgium because of their connections to the international organisations that are located in the country experience much less pressure to socially integrate into Belgian life because of the transitory nature of their situation. Therefore, these groups will not be discussed in this section. In addition, there is a rough estimation that 10,000-15,000 Rom people currently live in Belgium (Minority Rights Group: 135). There are few reliable statistics and little literature that describes their condition in the country, although it is admitted that the vast majority (an estimated 8000) of the Rom population living in Belgium and concentrated in Antwerp comes from Kosovo and is "lost in the category of 'Yugoslavians'" in the Belgian census (Berghezan 2001: 33). Thus, given the dearth of information about them, they will also not be discussed here. Finally, the German-speaking minority population living in Belgium will not be discussed because they are already accorded a powerful set of rights by the State and are officially represented by the German-speaking Community. The vast majority of ethnic and immigrant groups are, however, not provided particular rights or powers with which to govern themselves, and they are the targets of Belgium's integration policies today. The Jewish, Italian, Spanish, Greek, Moroccan, and Turkish populations are discussed here chronologically by the date of their arrival in Belgium. Other smaller populations of immigrants, like those of the former Yugoslavia, Portuguese, Algerians, Polish, and Congolese, are not described here but nevertheless figure importantly in the current situation and are subject to the same types of treatment and discrimination as their counterparts.

Outside of the French, Dutch, and German immigrants that entered Belgium in recent centuries (and continue to do so today), the Jewish community is perhaps the oldest established community of immigrant origin since the creation of the country in 1830. The Belgian Jewish community, most of who came from Poland between the end of the 19th century and the 1940s, was estimated before World War II to have a population of around 70,000 people (Steinberg 1992: 245). During the war, in which Belgium was occupied by Germany, approximately 21,000 people were deported to Nazi camps, of which roughly 17,000 were killed in Auschwitz. After the war, many Jewish survivors left Belgium, going to America and Israel. Those who remained have been largely naturalised within the last century. The remaining community is the fourth largest

in all of Europe today, with approximately 40,000 people, and largely centred in the cities of Brussels, Antwerp, Gent, Liège, and Arlon (Belgian Tourist Office 2001). The community is, on the whole, very well educated and is well represented in commerce and banking.

Although there was a small population of Italians living in Flanders dating centuries back, the Italian community in Belgium only began to really establish itself by the 1940s. The Belgian Coal Federation (*Fédération charbonnière de Belgique*) began to recruit Italians as early as 1922 for their mines (Morelli 1992: 197). However, it was only after World War II, in 1946, that the waves of immigration from Italy began. At first, politically 'un-aggressive' North Italian men were chosen to come and, later, Southerners arrived. They were often not told about the nature of the work they were to do and were provided squalid living conditions. Yet, over time, they were able to establish households and their wives and children were able to join them. By 1970, 300,000 Italians were living in Belgium (Morelli 1992: 203). They are the largest population of immigrant origin in the country today. The children and grandchildren of the immigrants have achieved a higher socio-economic level than their parents but remain over-represented within the working class. Generations of those of Italian origin maintain largely symbolic ties to Italy (Morelli 1992: 203). Regional, political and religious associations remain important within this community. Those of Italian origin are spread throughout Belgium, but are most largely concentrated in the areas of Liège, Brussels, Charleroi, and the Limburg region (Kesteloot et al. 1997: 33). As Moroccans and Turks began to arrive, the social status of Italian immigrants (as well as that of other European immigrants) in Belgium improved in contrast to the newer groups of immigrants from outside of Europe.

Before the official recruitment of Greek mining workers began in 1955, there were only a few hundred Greeks living in Belgium. Economic and political problems (three occupations and a civil war between 1941 and 1949) led thousands to leave their country for one in which they would be subject to harsh living conditions and to a language very foreign to their own. By 1961, almost 10,000 were living in Belgium). Families reunited in the good economic period of the mid-1960s, and by 1971 there were 22,354 Greeks in Belgium (Alexiou 1992: 274). During the 'Capitanes' dictatorship in Greece between 1967 and 1974, many Greeks residing in Belgium joined political resistance movements and were retaliated against by the Greek government by denying visas, revoking nationality, amongst other actions. The dictatorship split Greeks living in Belgium politically between those who supported and those who opposed the regime. In

1985, the Fédération des Communautés Héliennes de Belgique was created. It focused on reuniting the Greek community and has been successful in making cross-cultural linkages with 'native' Belgians and other immigrants living in Belgium. The Greek Orthodox Church remains an important facet of the community, with sixteen parishes throughout Belgium that offer language and religious courses. Second generation Greeks remain largely in the working class, like their parents before them. Those of Greek origin live mainly in Liège, Verviers, the Limburg region, Charleroi, and Antwerp.

While the official recruitment of Spanish workers by the Belgian government only began in 1958, there had already been a small Spanish community of a few thousand people who left Spain during the Spanish civil war between 1935 and 1939, especially those from Catalonia. Starting in 1958, tens of thousands of Spanish workers joined Italians in the mines. They have a history of being a very politically motivated community throughout their time in Belgium, participating in socialist, communist, and anarchist groups and speaking out against Franco before the end of the dictatorship. After the dictatorship, they started to get involved with defending the interests and needs of immigrants in Belgium, as well as advocating for their children's education by starting Spanish language courses as well as the Federation of Spanish Parents' Associations in Belgium (Fédération des associations des parents espagnols en Belgique). However, the second generation is less politically and culturally active than their parents, despite the fact that many still identify with their Spanish origins. Those of Spanish origin are located mostly in Brussels, Liège, and Antwerp (Kesteloot et al. 1997: 34).

Moroccans are the largest non-European group of immigrant origin living in Belgium today, with more than 125,000 people of foreign status and several tens of thousand more of Belgian nationality. As early as 1927, 14% of foreign mine workers in Belgium were from North Africa (Attar 1992: 291). In 1956, however, the official recruitment of Moroccan men for Belgian mines began. The majority of Moroccans who came to Belgium to work in the mines came from the Rif Mountains of Northern Morocco and are ethnically Berber and Arab (or mixes of the two, as is most common). Many who came to Belgium spoke the Berber dialect as their first language, with knowledge of Moroccan Arabic (*darija*), classical Arabic (*fush'a*), French, and Spanish to varying extents depending on their backgrounds and educational levels. Like the Italians and Greeks before and the Turkish after them, they were largely illiterate upon arrival to Europe. By 1971, there were 80,988 Moroccans living in Belgium (Attar 1992: 297). In 1974, contracts with Morocco were halted. Only family reunification and the opportunity of university education legally brought new Moroccans to the country. Those of

Moroccan origin are largely concentrated in specific neighbourhoods in Brussels (Molenbeek, Scharbeek, etc.), with other important populations in Antwerp, Liège, Mechelen, and Charleroi (Kesteloot et al. 1997: 36).

Much of the Moroccan population consists of young people, unlike the current populations of Belgian 'natives' and other immigrant communities described above. This fact plays an important role in the demographics of the country, as the Moroccan fertility rate is higher than the Belgian average. Social mobility for those of Moroccan origin is rather limited, with the second generation staying largely in the working class like their parents. Yet the rising level of education of young people is bound to help social mobility in future years. Social integration has been arguably more difficult for Moroccans and Turks than other large immigrant groups in Belgium due to the fact that they are the biggest non-Christian populations in Belgium and are of non-European origin, as well. In 1974, Islam was recognised officially as a denomination in Belgium and courses on Islam could theoretically be taught in public schools alongside courses on Christianity and Judaism. Yet acceptance of Islam by 'native' Belgians has been a very slow and ever-evolving process.

In 1960, Turkish immigration began in Europe after Turkey's socio-economic crisis after World War II that led to the mechanisation of agriculture and the disintegration of the peasantry. Turks who came to Belgium were lured, as all of the other major groups of immigrant origin in Belgium, to work in the mines. The Turkish migration was quite heterogeneous in nature, attracting people from throughout the country, including many Kurds. They were less interested in Belgian politics and more tuned in to what was happening back home in Turkey (Attar 1992: 324). Organising, instead, took place more often around mosques. Today, Belgium has a population of around 71,000 Turks who are primarily located in Brussels, Antwerp, Gent, the Limburg region, Charleroi, and Liège (Kesteloot et al. 1997: 35). Those of the second generation have experienced little social mobility and find themselves generally in a similar situation to that of their parents, in the working class.

The period of immigration bringing the largest populations of immigrants to Belgium was after World War II, during the post-war industrial boom, making it so that two to three—even four—generations of people immigrant origin live in the country today. While it is useful to be aware of the historical conditions and particularities of some of the larger groups of immigrants and their children, it is important to remember that these are generalisations. Every generation's needs, interests, alliances, and perceptions of their communities of origin as well as their relationships to their host

communities are different. Furthermore, there is great diversity within generations that cannot be ignored, with such variation reflecting diverse factors such as socio-economic levels, education, manners of 'assimilation', and so on. The next section deals with the complicated reality faced by ethnic minorities and those of immigrant origin when it comes to negotiating identities and memberships to multiple communities.

The Complexities of Ethnic Relations and Identity

The definition of integration by the now defunct Royal Commission for Immigrant Policy given two sections above cites the duty of those belonging to the host society to include and promote immigrants' participation. Yet, in practice, societies within Belgium have been slow to respond to their duties. Despite an anti-racism law that in theory protects minorities and immigrants from discrimination and punishes those who do discriminate against them, catching discrimination in the act has proven difficult—as it has even penetrated politics and institutions of the country. Police stop young people of immigrant origin in the streets without reason, asking them for their identification cards and interrogating them needlessly. In response, many young people of immigrant origin have lost respect for or mistrust the police. Bar and café managements 'reserve the right' to decide who may enter their establishments, which in practice has been a largely tolerated manner in which to exclude those of Arab origin from such places. Intolerance and racism are only compounded by the near urban ghetto-isation of those of immigrant origin, economic disparities leading to increased social stratification, and the disenfranchisement of those of immigrant origin from the political arena.

One important facet of this integration debate has to do with civic rights: voting privileges and the apparent political disenfranchisement of ethnic minorities and immigrants. The majority of new arrivals in Belgium in recent years are from EU member states, especially from France and the Netherlands. Those who hail from EU member states but live in Belgium have the opportunity to vote in communal elections. Therefore, only 63% of the foreign population in Belgium has the right to vote in communal elections, despite the fact that those who do not have the right to vote are often those who have in fact lived the longest in Belgium. This has become a very controversial issue in recent years, as those who support giving voting rights to non-EU member foreigners believe that voting rights are essential for the democratic integration of foreign residents towards active citizenship and those who oppose giving them rights out of fear that doing so will discourage them from wanting to go through the process of naturalisation and wanting to integrate into 'Belgian' society. To some extent, there is a

regional division between the Flemish and Walloons in terms of thinking about this issue.

Jeanine Leduc, senator and head of the VLD party, explained in December 2001:

The political culture in Flanders and Wallonia is different. It can be felt in society. It's just like that, probably due to the fact that the Walloons have more... the have had a longer history with foreign workers... But for us, in Flanders, I really feel—and I have gone throughout Flanders, in the cities, in the municipalities—I feel that people don't want us to vote on this law [a law allowing foreign residents in Belgium the right to vote in municipal elections]. After 11 September, they especially don't want us to give non-European foreigners the right to vote (Jeanine Leduc, in RTBF 2001).

Yet such fears are ironic, given that the in-vogue ideologies of multiculturalism and cultural diversity of Belgian politics today, “on one hand, favour the formation of different cultural communities and, on the other hand, these socially-constructed cultural differences justify the political non-citizenship of populations of immigrant origin because they are interpreted as a non-conformity in relationship to Belgian citizenship” (Martiniello 1995b: 102). The relationship of power between ‘natives’ and ‘immigrants’ is fundamentally unequal and persists despite interest for it to become more balanced.

Another aspect of the complex relationship between ethnic relations and identity in Belgium is that possessing one identity and belonging to one community is not so simple and could, in fact, be impossible. Consider that ‘native’ Belgians themselves are rather confused as to where their allegiances lie: are they Flemish, Walloon, Brusselers, Belgian, or even European? For those of ethnic minority and immigrant origin, defining one's identity or relating to one's community becomes infinitely more complex. Different generations of immigrant origin tend to relate to their countries and communities of origin in a variety of ways that sometimes oppose one another or are more extreme than others. Different political and religious beliefs separate ethnic communities. Finally, different socio-economic and educational levels also play a role in dividing communities. Although general ‘ethnic and immigrant communities’ are referred to throughout this report in order to speak of individuals and groups of ethnic and immigrant origin living in Belgium, the delicate nuances of divisions within and between such ‘communities’ must be recognised and respected.

Hadja Lahbib, a television journalist with the French-speaking Community's public broadcaster, RTBF, brought to light the thorny and complex issue of relating to multiple identities and communities at once in an article that she wrote for *L'Observatoire*, by looking at the type-casting coming from both outside and within the North African community that she is supposed to represent according to others. Her article, at once astute and poignant, is included here to illustrate the complexities of ethnic relations and identity in Belgium today.

Since I am a journalist, and especially because I present the evening news on RTBF, I regularly find myself on the other side of the microphone, being interviewed. I have noticed that, whatever the focus of the interview, the same questions are always posed. 'What difficulties have confronted you as an immigrant?' 'What it is like being an immigrant woman?' 'Are you ever discriminated against in your profession?' 'Do you think that the fact that you are an immigrant has worked in your favour for getting your job?' Otherwise said, 'Did they hire you just because you're an immigrant?'

This last question hurts me the most. In fact, it revolts me, because it supposes that the simple act of belonging to such-and-such community, be it immigrant or minority, is enough to justify an injustice. It negates the individual and his/her peculiarities, because it negates who I am: neither Algerian, nor Belgian, not even an immigrant, but rather a being belonging to multiple groups in complex and unique ways. Such a question can only engender suspicion and discredit the individual by overshadowing the fundamental human right of equality.

I will not throw a stone at these journalists, not because of a sense of solidarity with them but rather because such questions are also posed to me on the street. They reflect a general uneasiness with the subject that is noticeable even during a Brussels' taxi ride. For example, when the taxi driver confides to you in his thick accent that he found it wonderful to discover that 'one of his own' was on television... [O]ne can reasonably say to oneself that this might have been the first time that this immigrant has felt represented in his host country. Without a doubt, he likely felt a little bit more at home after having spent twenty years in Belgium.

Far from feeling touched by the statement from the taxi driver, I asked him if he himself had a daughter; he had three. I then asked him if he would accept it if one of his daughters (and why not all three?) were to pursue a university education, live away from home, go to classes until very late in the evening, participate in student exchanges by going to Italy for six months, for example, and so on. The list of these life-enriching events could have gone on and on, but I stopped because—seeing a reflection of the expression on his face in the rear-view mirror—I saw in his face that I was no longer 'one of them'.

Excuse me for telling these anecdotes, but it seems to me that they illustrate quite well the current dilemma in Europe in which a crucial choice must be made: envision the future with originality by opening up the doors to children that might one day be able to breathe new life into the Old Continent, or let Europe retreat into itself by feeding off of the sterile fear of its ageing population and the 'deadly identities' (to use Amin Maalouf's expression) of its children (Lahbib 2001: 77).

Allying oneself to an identity or belonging to a community is not a simple task nor is it a static state, but rather a dynamic and complex process involving many identities and communities that are ever changing. Therefore, in speaking of integration of people of ethnic and immigrant origin, it becomes essential to consider the spectrum of belonging, the multiple strategies employed in order to belong to a wide variety of communities, and the never-ending process of identification. These elements are not exclusive to the situations experienced by those of ethnic minority or immigration origin.

Suggested Categories for Mapping

Migration occurs for a variety of overlapping reasons, never simply because of one specific factor pulling or pushing migrants. Furthermore, waves of migration overlap temporally and spatially. While certain factions of immigrant communities leave their country of origin for one reason, other factions may leave the country for other reasons and at other moments than their counterparts. Belgium is certainly no stranger to these phenomena.

The following are two manners (adopted by the researchers who have structured this research project) in which to picture the process and evolution of immigrations to Belgium, the first mapping representing the temporal distribution and the second representing the diasporic distribution of immigrants entering the country. It does not claim to be exhaustive, and it is understood that such categorisation is subjective to some extent. Most groups (those coming from States) listed below are identified by the Institut National de Statistiques (2001) as having a significant number of people currently living in Belgium legally and other groups (ethnic or transnational groups) listed are more or less internationally recognised as cohesive entities although they may not have a territory or homeland to which they are connected. These mappings provide a context from which it is easier to comprehend the historical relevance, reception, and relationships to the groups that have migrated to Belgium.

1. Temporal Mapping of Migration in Belgium

The important theme to note from this mapping is that until the last quarter of the 20th century, the vast majority of migration into Belgium came from a handful of sources and was largely due to labour migration or war. Then by 1970 or so, the migration into the country greatly diversified along with the reasons for it, often having to do with the fall of communism, the pursuit of refugee or asylum protection, and a second smaller yet more international labour migration.

Pre-WWII (19th century – 1939)

- Jewish
- French
- Dutch
- German
- Spanish (exile during civil war)

WWII Refugees (1939-1945)

- Jewish
- Polish

Post-WWII Labour Migration (1945 – 1974)

Algerian
Greek
Italian
Portuguese
Spanish
Tunisian
Turkish
Yugoslavian

Refugees/Asylum-Seekers (1970-Present)

Albanian
Armenian
Bosnian
Chilean
Congolese
Georgian
Indian
Kazakh
Kosovar
Kurdish
Nigerian
Pakistan
Romanian
Russian
Rwandan
Slovak
Turkish
Ukrainian

Post-Communist/Second Labour Migration (1989 – Present)

Angolan
Albanian
Bangladeshi
Bosnian
Bulgarian
Burundian
Cameroonian
Chinese
Congolese
Côte d'Ivoirian
Croatian
Cypriot
Czech
Dominican (Dominican Republic)
Egyptian
Estonian
Filipino
Georgian
Ghanaian
Hungarian
Indian

Japanese
Kazakh
Kosovar
Latvian
Lebanese
Lithuanian
Macedonian
Mauritian
Nigerian
Pakistani
Peruvian
Rom
Romanian
Russian
Rwandan
Senegalese
Serb
Slovak
Slovene
South African
Syrian
Thai
Ukrainian
Vietnamese

II. Diasporic Mapping (based on Cohen's suggested categories (1997))

Victim Diasporas

Angolan
Bosnian
Congolese
Iranian
Jewish
Kosovar
Kurdish
Lebanese
Palestinian
Polish
Rom
Rwandan
Vietnamese

Labour Diasporas

Algerian
Bangladeshi
Bulgarian
Chinese
Czech
Egyptian
Filipino
Greek
Indian

Indonesian
Italian
Jewish
Lebanese
Macedonian
Moroccan
Pakistani
Polish
Portuguese
Romanian
Russian
Serb
Slovak
Slovene
Spanish
Thai
Tunisian
Turkish
Vietnamese

Cultural Diasporas

Jewish
Rom

Educational – Intellectual Migration

American (US)
British
Canadian
Congolese
Dutch
French
German
Ghanaian
Luxemburgish
Moroccan
Rwandan
Cameroonian

Political Diasporas

Algerian
Chilean
Chinese
Congolese
Nigerian
Rwandan
Russian
Serb

Diasporic Minority Media in the Belgian Context

Belgian Media Policy

'Belgian' media policy is as divided as the country itself, along linguistic and cultural borders. Each Community (Flemish, French, and German) regulates media itself, coordinating to some extent with the other Communities, the policies of other member-states of the European Union and of international media organisations. While the decision-making is more localised, the division of media in the country may have greatly contributed to a progressive weakening of inter-regional reciprocal knowledge and understanding within Belgium.

[T]he federalisation of the public media, and especially television, has had an impact on collective identity and public opinion formation. In this field, a systematic analysis of the programmes of the various Flemish and Francophone channels would probably confirm the following impressionistic observations. Firstly, in each region, information about the other regions is quantitatively poor. Secondly, when that type of information does exist, it is very simplistic and tends to give a negative image of the other regions (Martiniello 1995: 134).

From the condition of public media in a partitioned Belgium, one can make an educated guess about what might be the condition of media made for and by ethnic minorities and immigrants in the country today.

When discussing 'Belgian' media policy, it is essential to remember that education, social aid, family policy, and media regulation are the largely exclusive responsibilities of the Dutch-speaking, French-speaking and German-speaking Communities. It is perhaps surprising to realise that the German-speaking Community of Belgium, with its population of approximately 70,000 people, has direct regulating and funding authority over media within its territory, when one considers the fact that there are approximately over 300,000 people of Italian origin and nearly 200,000 people of Moroccan origin living within Belgium today who, unlike their German-speaking counterparts (even though their populations are almost three to four times the size of the German-speaking Community), receive no special governing rights over the media consumed and produced within their own respective communities. Ethnic minority communities and groups of immigrant origin within Belgium are reliant upon the efforts of the three officially recognised Communities to sponsor and support their needs and interests when it comes to mainstream media.

Ethnic minority and immigrant groups are gravely underrepresented (and sometimes misrepresented) by the mainstream media outlets available with Belgium. This under-representation leads to two important phenomena. Firstly, it reinforces the misperceptions and lack of awareness by both 'native' Belgians and those of immigrant origin about one another. When minorities and immigrant do appear in mainstream media, the manner in which they are represented continuously changes according to

social, political, and economic atmospheres (Vandemeulebroucke 1997). “Public discourse is a very unreliable source of reference about immigration. Usually, it is ethnocentric, open to turmoil and to sudden changes. More often than not, it serves the function of symbolic expression of other problems or structures, or an outlet for party competition or media dynamics” (Thränhardt 1995, in Thränhardt 1996: 230). Secondly, as the media produced within Belgium may not fulfil their needs and respectively represent them, ethnic minority and immigrant groups may turn elsewhere to media that will do so (as evidenced by the popularity of satellite dishes that tune into a variety of international channels and the consumption of newspapers from countries of origin).

There are, however, a smattering of media available within Belgium that do try to specifically address the needs, views, and interests of ethnic minorities and immigrants as well as media that attempt to promote an appreciation by all living in Belgium of its *de facto* status as a dynamic and multicultural society. Unfortunately, however, much of this ‘home-grown’ media is less stable than the mainstream variety. It often runs into financial difficulties, as it tends to rely on sponsorships and memberships. Much of this type of media depends on volunteers and is not of the professional standard that most mainstream media reaches. In addition, in that local ethnic media tend to focus on particular communities and their issues, it easily becomes a political target with attitudes that such media blocks the process of integration into the dominant society by isolating groups (i.e., not encouraging them to use the languages of their host country) or by propagandising (as was the case in Brussels during the Gulf War, when Arabic radio stations were accused of provoking anti-Western sentiment). Yet local ethnic media has survived despite criticism, and it finds strength in increasing ties between different ethnic and immigrant groups, as exemplified by the number of community/campus radio stations that broadcast to a multicultural community, including programmes in several different languages and about a wide variety of issues.

It has been necessary for mainstream media to re-evaluate its relationship to ethnic minorities and immigrant groups, so as to in effect become more multicultural in scope. Some of those within the mainstream media in Belgium have, for their part, recognised the shortcomings of their coverage of ethnic minority and immigrant issues as well as the discrimination existing in their practices. In 1993, the General Association of Professional Journalists in Belgium (Association Générale des Journalistes Professionnels de Belgique/ Algemene Vereniging van Beroepsjournalisten in België, referred to in this text as the GAPJB) initiated a taskforce on ‘Media and Migrants,’ recognising that, “Information about migrants is not neutral enough... As [we] examined

[our] own practices of attaining information, the group rapidly realised that a correct approach involved having a good knowledge of those who could offer information, organisations and experts who are themselves of immigrant origin” (de Busschere, in Staes 1994: 3). Attaining accurate and well-balanced information is a duty, in that journalists “are above all ‘mediators,’ information handlers. It is they who assure, in a time of instability, the relay between civil society and political society, between the public and those who...represent us” (Onkelinx, in Staes 1994: 4). While this taskforce dissolved after a short amount of time, in 1994 they did publish recommendations on reporting concerning migrants as well as a useful inventory booklet of 361 organisations and experts within Belgium that work on ethnic and immigrant-related issues, complete with contact information and descriptions about each of them, so as to sponsor an informational network between journalists and specialists.

The 1994 reporting recommendations by the GAPJB taskforce included the following:

- Do not mention a person's ethnical background, colour of skin, religion or culture, etc. unless this information is relevant to understand the context of the story.
- Avoid generalisations and stereotyping when migrants are concerned. 'The migrant' or 'the Moroccans' do not exist. When possible, make a distinction in the article or report with what other migrants say or do.
- Avoid unfounded or thoughtless associations between minorities and social problems or criminality. Interview migrants as normal citizens, having their opinion on daily problems. It is important to describe minorities in a variety of roles in society rather than confirm fixed views of their roles.
- In order to prevent unnecessary exaggeration or sensationalising issues: be careful with the use of statistical information concerning migrants.
- Also be careful with terminology. Avoid using terminology to describe minorities, as this might give offence to minority communities and can create negative associations of 'otherness'. Avoid the 'we/them perspective' when making a report. Avoid turning resident and nationalised groups into exotic exhibits for the television audience. All resident and nationalised citizens need to be treated as such and not identified as outsiders on the basis of linguistic, ethnic, religious or cultural difference. Rather than to stress the differences, it is better to speak about the similarities between people.
- Be careful with racist and xenophobic statements, when interviewing representatives of racist organisations or reporting their statements. Always quote these persons exactly, so as to avoid the impression that this is a general view. The journalist should check all statements for accuracy and seek some opposing comments to balance or to deny it.
- Be careful with titles and photographs: an article is not finished when it is written, and try to follow-up the article until it is accompanied by titles and photos. Sometimes an article meant well is completely damaged by a sensational title or a stereotype-covering photograph.
- Have an equal opportunities personnel policy that ensures a diverse workforce to produce programmes that include a range of perspectives and cultures and that enables making programmes that challenge racism and xenophobia directly. Therefore, schools and media themselves should stimulate migrant youngsters to develop a professional career into the media business. Media professionals with a foreign origin, who can tell their personal story and

experiences to the youngsters, are best suited for this. Include the multicultural view of society into the education of young media professionals. Also give training on existing antiracism legislation, on the complicated immigration legislation, and on used terminology. (Staes 2001a)

In 2000, the editor of the publications resulting from the 'Media and Migrants' taskforce, Lieve Staes of the Centre for Equal Opportunities and the Fight Against Racism, examined how the mainstream media, especially printed press, had treated ethnic minorities and immigrants since the creation of the 'Media and Migrants' taskforce and the publicising of its findings six years earlier. She made a variety of observations, both positive and negative in nature. Compared to 1993, the connection between those of immigrant origin and criminality was made less. Most articles referring to people of immigrant origin were either positive (40%) or neutral (40%). Yet, nationality of origin was mentioned in 40% of the articles and was not always relevant. Sometimes individuals are still referred to as 'Moroccans' and 'Turks,' for example, whereas they have sometimes already received Belgian nationality long ago. Journalists continue to stereotype minorities referring to them as 'the Moroccans', 'the migrants', etc. Finally, Staes noticed that there continues to be a lot of confusion with technical terminology ('illegal', 'refugee', 'asylum seeker', etc.)(Staes 2001b).

As one can see, parallel to the government's developing awareness of the need for a better and more cohesive policy on the integration of ethnic minorities and immigrant groups within Belgium in the late 1980s and early 1990s described in earlier sections of this report, cultural institutions and mainstream media also seem to grow more sensitive to the treatment and interests of these populations. In the following few pages, television, radio, press, and the Internet are examined more profoundly in order to better explain their particular relationships to ethnic minorities and those of immigrant origin in the Belgian context.

What's In Diasporic Media for Minorities?

It is essential for minority and immigrant groups to feel empowered to become real actors in the societies of their host countries. Their participation in media plays a pivotal role in such empowerment in two fundamental ways: (1) how they are perceived, described and included in mainstream media and (2) how they organise and produce media bound for either their own communities or for a multicultural audience. "Those of immigrant origin have autonomous rhythms in the relationships that they establish with their host societies. These rhythms are tied to their history and their social mobility. A democratic society must be ready to share with established cultural communities in their territory. The question of media is, in this case, a major test" (Mangot 1997: 199).

Therefore, when considering minority-oriented media in Belgium, it is essential to consider each type of media separately for each type addresses different groups of people and their particularities in diverse ways. Cost, linguistic ability and literacy rates, level of integration into 'mainstream' society and relationships to communities of origin, as well as media policies and availability affect how, when, what, and why minority-oriented media is consumed.

Radio and television have an undeniably important impact in certain minority communities in which written media (like newspapers, magazines, and, to some extent, the Internet) are comparatively more costly and less accessible. While radios and televisions (ignoring for a moment cable subscriptions and colour television taxes) can theoretically be bought once in order to tune into the information and entertainment they offer, written media must be continually renewed and, therefore, continually bought.

Additionally, in communities in which the illiteracy rates for first generation immigrants are high, the television and radio are the two most significant sources of media available to them. Moreover, those of second and third generations from minority communities who are literate in languages written in Latin script but whose languages of origin are written in a different script (Greek, Chinese, or Berber languages, for example) or not written at all (Moroccan Arabic or Yiddish, for example) are even more disadvantaged when it comes to being able to read in their communities' language of origin because, even though they might be able to speak the language, they have oftentimes not received training for reading or writing it. This reduces the effectiveness of written media as well as its market in many minority communities.

Yet, because languages such as Italian, Polish, Spanish, Croatian, and Turkish spoken by large numbers of those of immigrant origin in Belgium are written in Latin script, they can be more easily learned by second and third generations who already know how to speak their languages of origin. Perhaps for this reason, there is a good deal of written media available within Belgium, both produced inside and outside of the country, in these languages. In contrast, written media geared toward communities with a population that is less literate in the language of origin tends to be either bilingual (in the language of the country of origin and the language(s) of the region in Belgium in which the readership lives) or monolingual (only in the language of the region in Belgium in which the readership lives). Therefore, an important strength of minority-oriented radio and television programmes or stations lies in the fact that they can be heard and watched instead of read.

Of course, however, minorities living in Belgium do not simply consume minority-oriented media but also the mainstream variety that typically ignores ethnic minority and immigrant issues and interests. As mainstream media starts to recognise this, there is an evolution its relationship to and awareness of the percentage of ethnic minorities that comprise their audiences, leading to a more 'multicultural' approach in programming in recent times. Despite this growing awareness, though, many minority groups are not finding their opinions, interests, and lifestyles mirrored enough in mainstream media and continue to turn towards other options that might better reflect them thanks to the new media technologies to which they have access.

Minority Media in Belgium- A Mapping

Mapping Diasporic Media – Suggested Categories

I. By Ethnic Group and/or Language and Kind of Medium

Press

Chinese

The Chinese Explorer

Type: Commercial periodical

Language: Chinese

Readership: Chinese community

Editor: Annie Huang

Email: the.Chinese.explorer@skynet.be

Address: Rue de la Vierge Noire 2-4, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-512-30-34

Fax: 0032-2-502-49-53

Description: Largely publicity-based newspaper with some articles brought into existence by the Sunwah Chinese grocery store (owners from Hong Kong)

Dutch

-Jewish Community

Belgisch Israëlitisch Weekblad

Type: Periodical

Language: Dutch

Readership: Jewish community

Distribution: Weekly

Editor: Louis Davids

Address: Pelikaanstraat 106, Antwerp

Telephone: 0032-3-233-40-05

-North African Community

Jeugdhuis Rzoezie

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch

Readership: Moroccan community

Distribution: Monthly

Website: <http://users.pandora.be/rzoezie/>

Email: rzoezie@pandora.be

Address: E. Tinellaan 4, 2800 Mechelen
 Telephone: 0032-15-33-94-55
 Fax: 0032-15-33-94-59
 Description: Information about the association, calendar of events, and poetry

Newsbrief

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch
 Readership: Moroccan women
 Editor: Vita Massafra
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Email: federatie.wereldvrouwen@skynet.be
 Address: p/a bremstraat 45, 3530 Houthalen
 Telephone: 0032-11-53-12-82
 Fax: 0032-11-52-26-01

-Pan-African Community

Bravo

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch
 Readership: African community
 Editor: Billy Kalonji
 Email: afrikaans.platform@antwerpen.be
 Address: Platform van de Afrikaanse Gemeenschappen, Lange Scholierstraat 94, 2060 Antwerp
 Telephone: 0032-3-272-02-04
 Fax: 0032-3-236-84-78
 Description: Information for members of the organisation, education and cultural articles

-Multicultural Community

Agenda

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch
 Readership: Multicultural community
 Editor: Nicole Schoefs
 Distribution: Every two months
 Email: intcomit@yucom.be
 Address: Internationaal Comite, Mgr. 6 Broeckxplein, 3500 Hasselt
 Telephone: 0032-11-29-09-12
 Fax: 0032-11-29-08-36
 Established: 1998-Present
 Description: Consists of articles on immigration issues (i.e., naturalisation), Belgian news, recipes, and an events calendar

Cultuur en Migratie

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch
 Readership: Migrants, asylum seekers
 Editor: A. Gailly
 Email: cwla-ken@freegates.be
 Address: Centrum voor Welzijnszorg, 35, Emiel Delvastraat, 1020 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-428-99-00
 Fax: 0032-2-426-09-81

Het Huis van Palmyra

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch
 Readership: Multicultural community
 Editor: Katrijn D'hamers
 Distribution: Quarterly

Website: <http://www.iccm.be>
 Email: info@iccm.be
 Address: Intercultureel Centrum voor Migranten (Centre interculturel pour les immigrés), Gallaitstraat 78, 1030 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-245-88-30
 Fax: 0032-2-245-58-32
 Established: 1995- Present
 Description: Articles on other organisations, immigration and integration issues, and an events calendar

Divers (formerly Bareel)

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch
 Readership: Multicultural community
 Editor: Dirk Leyman
 Distribution: 10 times per year
 Website: <http://www.vmc.be>
 Email: info@vmc.be
 Address: Vlaams Centrum Integratie Migranten (Vlaams Minderhedencentrum), Vooruitgangstraat 323, 1030 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-205-00-50
 Fax: 0032-2-205-00-60
 Established: 1979-Present
 Description: Articles on immigration and working in the social service sector, an events calendar

Panache Courant

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch
 Readership: Migrants, asylum seekers, refugees and others
 Editor: Patrick Wauters
 Address: Tint, 10, Pater Damiaanplein, 3000 Leuven
 Telephone: 0032-1-629-26-45

't Santeke

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch
 Readership: Multicultural community
 Editor: Miet Dreezen
 Address: Buurtgezondheidscentrum Zwartberg, 6, Socialestraat, 3600 Genk
 Telephone: 0032-89-38-21-35
 Fax: 0032-89-38-02-58

English

The Bulletin

Type: Commercial periodical
 Language: English
 Readership: English-speaking ex-pat community
 Editor: Monique Ackroyd
 Distribution: Weekly, 52,000 readers per week
 Website: <http://www.ackroyd.be/bulletin/index.html>
 Email: ackroyd@innet.be
 Address: 1038, chaussée de Waterloostraat, 1180 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-373-99-09
 Fax: 0032-2-373-99-09
 Established: 1962-Present
 Description: News magazine about Belgian and European issues, cultural agenda, interviews

*French**-Jewish Community*Kadima Magazine

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: French

Readership: Jewish community

Editor: Gérald Goldstein

Distribution: Monthly, with 1500 copies

Website: <http://www.uejb.org>Email: info@uejb.org

Address: 3, ave. Antoine Depage, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-649-0808

Fax: 0032-2-649-76-10

Description: Articles about and by the young Jewish Belgian community, with an events calendar

Regards

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: French

Readership: Jewish community

Distribution: Every two months

Website: <http://www.cclj.be>Email: info@cclj.be

Address: Centre communautaire laïc juif, 32, rue de l'hotel des Monnaies, Brussels 1060

Telephone: 0032-2-543-0280

*-North African Community*Droits de l'Homme au Maroc

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: French

Readership: Moroccan community

Editor: Abderrahmane Cherradi

Address: 15, rue du Meridien, 1030 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-217-97-82

Fax: 0032-2-223-24-85

Horizons Magazine (formerly Spots and Al-Adwaa)

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: French

Readership: Principally to the community of Moroccan origin

Distribution: Monthly, with 10,000 copies

Address: 27, Place communale, 1080 Brussels (Molenbeek)

Telephone: 0032-2-411-67-85

Fax: 0032-2-411-42-19

Established: Principally to the community of Moroccan origin

*-Pan-African Community*L'Africain

Type: not-for-profit periodical

Language: French

Readership: African students in Charleroi

Editor: Jacques Delooz

Distribution: Bimonthly

Email: caceac@swing.be

Address: Rue Léon Bernus 7, 6000 Charleroi

Telephone: 0032-7-131-31-86

Fax: 0032-7-131-31-84

Established: 1962-Present

Description: News about development projects, politics in Africa, the association, Catholicism, and puzzles

Le Soft International

Type: Commercial periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Central African community
 Website: <http://www.lesoftonline.net/home.htm>
 Email: kkm@skynet.be
 Address: BP 80 1410 Waterloo Belgium
 Description: Articles about politics and news in Africa

-Multicultural Community

Agenda Interculturel

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Intercultural and multinational Brussels population
 Editor: Massimo Bortolini
 Distribution: Monthly, 1500 copies
 Website: <http://www.cbai.be/>
 Email: cbai@skynet.be
 Address: c/o Centre bruxelloise d'action interculturelle, 24, Avenue de Stalingrad, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-513-96-02
 Fax: 0032-2-512-17-96
 Established: 1981-Present

Bruxelles Plus

Type: Public service periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Non-Belgians of Brussels
 Editor: Mohamed Boukantar
 Address: Conseil Consultatif des Bruxellois n'ayant pas la nationalité belge, 162, blvd. Maurice Lemmonier, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-511-34-37
 Fax: 0032-2-511-05-16

El-Kalima

Type: Not-for-profit
 Language: French
 Readership: Multicultural community
 Editor: Jean-Luc Blanpain
 Address: Christian centre for dialogue and relations with Islam, 69, rue du Midi, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-511-82-17
 Established: 1978-Present

L'Immigré

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Immigrants living in Brussels
 Distribution: Quarterly, with 7500 copies available in the 19 communes of Brussels
 Description: Information about Belgium as a host country

MRAX-Info

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Immigrants and asylum seekers, interested public
 Editor: Myriam Mottard
 Distribution: Quarterly, with 1500 copies
 Address: 37, rue de la Poste, 1210 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-217-54-95

Description: Anti-racism, anti-Semitism, and anti-xenophobia; interested in young people and literacy

Nouvelle Tribune (formerly Tribune Immigré)

Type: Not-for-profit

Language: French

Readership: Multicultural and immigrant communities

Editor: Abderrahmane Cherradi

Distribution: Quarterly

Email: nouvelle.tribune@yucom.be

Address: Av. Stalingrad, 89/1, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-502-28-38

Fax: 0032-2-502-34-84

Description: Articles on a diverse range of immigrant communities and their experiences in Belgium, interviews, articles on politics and immigrant issues

Osmoses

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: French

Readership: Multicultural community and those working in the social services

Distribution: Quarterly, with 4000 copies

Email: cacri@skynet.be

Address: 43, rue Dieudonné François, 7100 Trivières

Telephone: 0032-64-26-01-77

Fax: 0032-64-26-52-53

Established: 1996-Present

Description: bulletin for networking and information between those related to the integration of foreign populations in Wallonia

Plurielles

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: French

Readership: Women of third-world countries, North African women, and families

Editor: Christiane De Wan

Address: 17-19, rue des Sports, 1348 Louvain La Neuve

Telephone: 0032-10-47-47-69

Reflets Magazine

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: French

Readership: Multicultural community

Editor: Ali Daddy

Address: Miroir, ASBL, 183-185, rue Royale, 1210 Brussels

Resonances

Type: Not-for-profit

Language: French

Readership: Multicultural community

Editor: Guy Krettels

Distribution: Quarterly

Website: <http://www.multimania.com/resonances/hiver2000.rtf>

Email: resonances@swing.be

Address: Rue Sœurs de Hasque, 9, Liège 4000

Telephone: 0032-4-223-39-83

Fax: 0032-4-223-39-83

Description: Articles on multiculturalism and democracy

Italian

Alternative

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian workers and community of Charleroi
 Editor: Gianpaolo Murgia
 Distribution: Every two months, 600 copies
 Address: Associazione Cristiana Lavoratori Italiani-Charleroi, 68, route de Mons, 6031 Monceau-sur-Sambre
 Telephone: 0032-71-70-27-18
 Established: 1982-Present
 Description: Interested in the defence of immigrant rights

Costruiamo insieme

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian community
 Editor: Frederica Magni
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Address: 7, Spoorwegstraat, 3600 Genk

Il Bollettino

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian community
 Editor: Vittorio Griffo
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Address: Sg. de Biarritz 3, bte. 2, 1050 Brussels
 Established: 1987-Present
 Description: Cultural issues, and politics in Italy and in Belgium

Il Circolo

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian members of ACLI-Brabant
 Editor: Epifanio Guarneri
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Address: ACLI-Brabant, 22, rue de Pavie, 1040 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-735-94-86
 Fax: 0032-2-735-76-18
 Established: 1983-Present
 Description: Information for members of ACLI-Brabant

Italia News

Type: Consulate publication
 Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian community
 Email: redazione@swing.be
 Address: Consulate of Italy, Livornostraat 38, 1000 Brussels

La Piazza

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian community
 Editor: Bruno Ducoli
 Website: <http://www.casi-uo.be/piazza.htm>
 Email: casi-uo@skynet.be
 Address: Centre d'Action Sociale Italien Universite ouvriere, 40 Rue de l'Abondance, 1210 Saint Josse Ten Noode
 Telephone: 0032-2-223-22-70
 Fax: 0032-2-223-22-47

Notiziario

Type: Not-for-profit

Language: Italian

Readership: Italian workers and community

Address: Associazione Cristiana Lavoratori Italiani-National, 22, Paviastraat, 1040 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-735-94-86

Fax: 0032-2-735-76-18

Presenza e Azione

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Italian

Readership: Italian workers and community of Liege

Editor: Michel Galella

Address: Quai St-Leonard, 44, 4000 Liège

Qui Italia (formerly Il Sole d'Italia)

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Italian

Readership: Italian community and union members

Editor: Daniele Rossini

Distribution: Monthly, with 8150 copies

Email: acli.quitalia@skynet.be

Address: ave. Franklin, 136, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-7422729

Fax: 0032-2-7358520

Established: 1947-Present

Description: Interested in social, cultural, union, and political issues

Trent'

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Italian

Readership: Italian members of Circolo Trentino

Editor: Elio Somadossi

Distribution: Quarterly

Address: 220, rue d'Ormont, 6200 Bouffioulx

Established: 1981-Present

Description: Information about Circolo Trentino news and protests

*Polish*Echo

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Polish

Readership: Polish community

Editor: Maria Urbanska

Address: Rue de Roux 28, B 6140 Fontaine-Levegue

Telephone: 0032-2-71-52-19-10

Listy z daleka

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Polish

Readership: Polish community

Editor: Leokadia Komaiszko

Email: leokadia@yahoo.com

Nasza Wspolnota

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Polish

Readership: Polish Catholic community

Editor: Leon Brzezina

Address: Mission Catholique Polonaise en Belgique, 80, rue Jourdan, 1060 Brussels
Telephone: 0032-2-538-30-87

Nowiny Brukselskie

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
Language: Polish
Readership: Polish community
Editor: Jendrzej Pomorski
Telephone: 0032-2-64-15-05
Fax: 0032-2-646-33-93

Pol-Echo

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
Language: Polish
Readership: Polish community
Address: Bld. A. Reyers 122/124, B 1040 Brussels
Telephone: 0032-2-71-52-19-10

Syntezy

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
Language: Polish
Readership: Polish community
Address: St. Kozanecki 26, rue du Printemps, B 1380 Lasne-Ohain

Wolne Slowo

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
Language: Polish
Readership: Polish community
Address: K. Van Goethemstraat 88, B 9820 Merelbeke

Serbo-Croat

Koraci

Type: Not-for-profit
Language:
Readership: Bosnian and general Balkan community
Editor: Spomenka Brasic
Distribution: Monthly, with 1500 copies, free
Address: Koraci, Lange Riddersstraat 77, 2000 Antwerp
Established: 1996-Present

Spanish

El Prisma

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
Language: Spanish (Castilian)
Readership: Spanish-speaking community
Editor: Françoise Gonzalez-Rousseaux
Address: Centre de Rencontres et d'Echanges Artistiques avec le Monde hispanique, Fond des Chenes, 258-5100 Wepion
Telephone: 0032-8-146-00-12

El Sol de Belgica

Type: Commercial periodical
Language: Spanish (Castilian)
Readership: Spanish-speaking community
Editor: Maria Font de Matas
Distribution: Every two weeks
Email: elsoldebelgica@hotmail.com
Address: Bv. Clovis 12 A, 1000 Brussels
Telephone: 0032-2-732-19-80

Fax: 0032-2-732-23-92

Multilingual

-Greek Community

Agora Αγορά

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Languages: Greek/French

Readership: Greek community

Editor: Agora—Centre h ellenique et interculturel

Address: Rue Vivegnis 73, 4000 Li ge

Telephone: 0032-4-227-21-89

Established: 1996-Present

Description: Cultural events calendar, articles on immigration and information about the Centre

Euro-epirotiki ΕΥΡΩ - ΗΠΕΙΡΩΤΙΚΗ

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Languages: Greek

Readership: Greek community

Editor: Chris Angelis

Website: <http://www.zeus.be/euroepirotiki>

Email: euroepirotiki@zeus.be

Address: Rue L. Coenen, 12, 1060 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-4-784-805-72

Fax: 0032-2-687-30-74

Europaratiritis/Euroobserveur ΕΥΡΩΠΑΡΑΤΗΡΗΤΗΣ ΒΡΥΞΕΛΛΩΝ

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Languages: Greek/French

Readership: Greek community

Distribution: Monthly

Website: <http://www.zeus.be/europaratiritis>

Email: europaratiritis@zeus.be

Address: Place de Pancenoit, 13, 1380 Plancenoit - Lasne

Telephone: 0032-2-633-19-54

Fax: 0032-2-633-19-54

Les Nouvelles Louvieroises ΤΑ ΝΕΑ ΤΗΣ ΛΟΥΒΙΕΡ

Type: Not-for-profit

Languages: Greek/French

Readership: Greek community

Editor: Lentis D'Aloisio

Distribution: Quarterly, with 220 copies

Address: Rue de Baume 101, 7100 Haine-St-Paul

Nicandros ΝΙΚΑΝΔΡΟΣ

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Greek/French

Readership: Greek community

Editor: Alekos Palavouzopoulos

Distribution: Quarterly

Address: Quai de la Derivation 23/45, 4020 Li ge

Telephone: 0032-4-127-13-59

Description: Interested in the integration of the Greek community into Belgium

-Italian Community

Azione sociale

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Languages: Italian/Dutch

Readership: Italian community
 Editor: Piero Pinna
 Distribution: Quarterly, with 250 copies
 Address: ACLI-Genk, Rondpuntlaan 25, 3600 Genk
 Telephone: 0032-8-935-74-16
 Fax: 0032-8-930-31-97
 Established: 1996-Present
 Description: Information about the association, elections, rights in the EU

Cittadini Europei (formerly L'Incontro)

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Languages: Italian/French
 Readership: Italian community
 Editor: N. Buttini
 Distribution: Monthly, with a few thousand copies
 Address: 21, rue Brialmont, 1030 Brussels
 Established: 1975-Present
 Description: Political paper

La Citta Futura

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Languages: Italian/Dutch
 Readership: Italians allied with Partito democratico della sinistra
 Editor: S. Pasqualini
 Distribution: Monthly, with a few thousand copies
 Address: 21, rue Brialmont, 1030 Brussels
 Established: 1987-Present

L'Araldo

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Languages: Italian/Dutch
 Readership: Italian union members
 Editor: Renato Cipriani
 Distribution: Monthly, with 15,500 copies
 Address: 6, Broeckxplein, 3500 Hasselt
 Telephone: 0032-11-29-09-37
 Fax: 0032-11-29-09-28
 Established: 1988-Present

La Voce

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian/Dutch
 Readership: Italian members of AIF
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Address: AIF, Staelstraat 155, 3600 Genk
 Telephone: 0032-8-938-67-40
 Fax: 0032-8-938-67-41
 Established: 2000-Present
 Description: News about Europe and Belgium, associations, poetry, puzzles, and an events calendar

Leonardo da Vinci Bulletini

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian/French
 Readership: Italian workers and community
 Editor: Mario Pusceddu
 Distribution: Variable
 Address: Leonardo da Vinci, 86, rue Cockerill, 4100 Seraing (Liège)
 Telephone: 0032-4-134-40-92
 Established: 1970-Present
 Description: Information about the Italian community and the group's activities

Maelstrom

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French/Italian
 Readership: Italian community
 Editor: David Giannoni
 Distribution: Biannual
 Address: 288, blvd. du Souverain, 1160 Brussels
 Established: 1991-Present
 Description: Art and politics

Missione-Migrazione

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian/French
 Readership: Italian community
 Editor: Fabio Sac Volo
 Distribution: 8 times per year, with 14,000 copies
 Address: rue Mons 73, Marchienne-au-Pont
 Telephone: 0032-4-122-22-11
 Fax: 0032-4-122-22-11
 Description: Destined for different generations of Italians; dealing with socio-political, religious, and cultural issues

Sabir

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian/French
 Readership: Italian community
 Distribution: Once every two months
 Address: 104, rue Brogniez, 1070 Brussels
 Established: 1990-Present
 Description: Interested in language, politics, family, and education issues; non-violence stance

*-Kurdish Community*Berichten van en over Koerden

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Languages: Dutch/French
 Readership: Kurdish community and interested public
 Editor: Derwich Ferho
 Distribution: Monthly
 Website: <http://www.kurdishinstitute.be>
 Email: info@kurdishinstitute.be
 Address: Kurdish Institute, Bonneelsstraat 16, 1210 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-230-89-30
 Fax: 0032-2-231-00-97
 Established: 2000-Present
 Description: News from Turkey and from within Europe and Belgium about the Kurdish situation

Info-Blad

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Languages: Kurdish/Dutch/French/English/Turkish/Arabic
 Readership: Kurdish community and interested public
 Editor: Frans Adang and others
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Address: Koerdisch Bureau voor Ontmoeting en Informatie, Arduinkaai 11, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-219-80-60
 Fax: 0032-2-219-24-10
 Established: 1996-Present
 Description: Articles from other papers on Kurdish situation in the Middle East, international associations, and an events calendar

*-Latin American Community*Boletin

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/Spanish

Readership: Latin American community

Editor: David Cusatto

Distribution: Monthly

Email: boletin@online.be

Address: Maison de l'Amerique, rue Berckmans 14, 1060 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-538-19-12

Fax: 0032-2-534-35-41

Description: Consists of articles about education, culture, immigrant issues, humour, and recipes

Colibri

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/Spanish

Readership: Latin American community

Editor: Moises Araya

Distribution: Quarterly

Website: <http://www.federatie.cjb.net>

Email: slarreategui@pandora.be

Address: Latijns-Amerikaanse Federatie, Lange Beeldekenstraat 35, 2060 Antwerp

Telephone: 0032-3-231-43-52

Fax: 0032-3-232-32-28

Established: 1997-Present

Description: Consists of articles about education, culture, immigrant issues, humour, and recipes

Panoramica

Type: Not-for-profit

Language: French/Spanish/Portuguese

Readership: Latin American community

Editor: Anna Molina

Distribution: Once every two months

Website: <http://www.america-latina.be/panoramica/>

Email: panoramica@america-latina.be

Telephone: 0032-4-953-535-91

Description: Articles on news and politics of Latin America and Belgium, immigration issues

*-North African Community*Akhbar

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/French

Readership: Moroccan associations of Flanders and Brussels

Editor: Mohamed Sebbahi

Distribution: Quarterly

Email: fmdo@chello.be

Address: Federatie Marokkaanse Demokratische Organisaties, Bondgenotenstraat 52, 1190 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-344-69-92

Fax: 0032-2-346-17-71

Established: 1996-Present

Description: Consists of articles on immigrant-related issues, ways to help those back in Morocco, descriptions of other Moroccan organisations in Belgium, and a calendar of events

De Wegwijzer

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/Arabic

Readership: Moroccan Muslim community

Editor: Youssef Souissi

Email: voem.vzw@village.uunet.be

Address: Vereniging voor Ontwikkeling en Emancipatie van Moslims, Duinstraat 152, 2060 Antwerp
 Telephone: 0032-3-272-35-07
 Fax: 0032-3-272-35-07

-Pan-African Community

Ghanaba

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch/English
 Readership: Ghanaian community
 Editor: Kwaku Boamah Acheampong
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Email: ghanaba@online.be
 Address: Ghanaba, PO Box 2061, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-218-84-46
 Description: Interested in immigration issues (Africa to Belgium), Ghanaian and Belgian news, information from the Ghanaian embassy, sports in Ghana, development in Africa, with some advertisements

Mambo Leo

Type: Commercial periodical
 Language: French/English
 Readership: Pan-African community
 Editor: James Ololo
 Distribution: Monthly
 Email: mamboleo@brutele.be
 Address: E. Demolderlaan, 36, 1030 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-240-10-84
 Fax: 0032-2-216-57-45
 Established: 2001-Present
 Description: News about Belgium and Africa, cultural community events

SILOT

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch/French/English
 Readership: Pan-African community
 Editor: Suzanne Monkasa
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Email: rvdage.vl@skynet.be
 Address: Raad Van de Afrikaanse Gemeenschappen in Europa/Belgie, Koningstraat 171, 1210 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-219-63-25
 Fax: 0032-2-219-66-88
 Established: 1998-Present
 Description: Articles on development in Africa, culture and the arts, other associations, and an events calendar

-Turkish Community

Birlik

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch/Turkish
 Readership: Turkish community
 Editor: Yayim Kurulu
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Email: utvtdb@pandora.be
 Address: Unie van Turkse Verenigingen, Belegstraat 46, 2018 Antwerp
 Telephone: 0032-3-289-91-73
 Fax: 0032-3-289-77-10
 Established: 1998-Present

Description: Examines integration, discrimination, mass media issues, sports teams in Belgium, and lists conference information

Cagdas

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/Turkish

Readership: Turkish community

Editor: Fikret Aydemir

Website: <http://users.skynet.be/cdf>

Email: cdf@skynet.be

Address: Federatie van Turkse Vooruitstrevende Verenigingen, Dendermondsesteenweg 239, 9040 Gent

Telephone: 0032-9-228-90-55

Fax: 0032-9-228-90-55

Established: 1996-Present

Description: Consists of articles on culture, entertainment, news and immigration issues, and an events calendar

Equipe

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Languages: Dutch/Turkish

Readership: Turkish community

Editor: Huseyin Aydinli

Email: turkseunie@hotmail.com

Address: Unie der Turks Islamitische Kulturele Verenigingen van België, Stationsstraat 96, 3582 Beringen

Telephone: 0032-11-45-38-38

Fax: 0032-11-45-38-38

Rachmet

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/Turkish

Readership: Turkish community

Editor: Salih Bugol

Address: Turks Cultureel Centrum, Van Kerckovenstraat, 19, 2060 Antwerp

Telephone: 0032-3-233-19-50

Turk-Danis Migrente

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/Turkish

Readership: Turkish community

Editor: Muharrem Karaman

Address: Turk-Danis, 35, rue de la Senne, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-512-96-67

Fax: 0032-2-512-95-56

-Multicultural Community

Périodical de Foyer

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: French/Dutch

Readership: Multicultural community

Distribution: Quarterly

Address: Centre régional d'intégration foyer-Bruxelles, 25, rue des Ateliers, 1080 Brussels

Established: 1998-Present

Description: Interested in the politics of immigration and integration throughout Belgium, advertisements for events and conferences

L'Egalité

Type: Public service periodical

Languages: French/Dutch
 Readership: Multicultural community
 Editor: Jean Cornil
 Address: Centre pour l'egalite des chances et la lutte contre le racisme, 155, rue de la Loi, 1040 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-233-06-11
 Fax: 0032-2-233-07-04

Refugies d'hier/Refugies d'aujourd'hui

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French/Dutch/English
 Readership: Displaced persons and refugees
 Editor: Catherine Noel
 Distribution: Quarterly, with 12,000 copies in French, 5000 in Dutch, 500 in English
 Telephone: 0032-85-21-34-81
 Fax: 0032-85-23-01-47
 Description: About 40% of the content is about the Middle East and reasons for exile from there; 60% of the content is about host country conditions, rights and problems

Radio

Dutch

Radio Multipop

Type: Community/campus
 Broadcast Languages: Dutch
 Audience: Multicultural community
 Director: Nabil Ghamrane
 Frequency: 102.2 FM
 Address: 14, Graaf van Egmontstraat, 2000 Antwerp
 Fax: 0032-3-288-61-72
 Established: 1999-Present
 Description: Broadcasts music, news, and thematic programs made for and by ethnic minorities.

Spanish

Radio Onda Libre

Type: Community/campus
 Broadcast Languages: Spanish
 Audience: Spanish-speaking community
 Address: 13, rue de Nancy, Brussels 1000

Multilingual

-Jewish Community

Radio Judaïca

Type: Community/campus
 Broadcast Languages: French, Yiddish, Hebrew
 Audience: Jewish community, more than 50,000 listeners
 Frequency: 87.7 FM
 Website: <http://www.radiojudaica.be>
 Email: info@radiojudaica.be
 Address: 89, chaussée de Vleurgat, 1500 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-648-70-20
 Fax: 0032-2-647-75-29
 Established: 1980-Present
 Description: "Radio Judaïca is the window of Judaism that enlightens and attracts those interested in Jewish things." Includes music, news, and thematic programmes, with special practices for Shabbat (ending transmission at 3 PM)

*-North African Community*Radio Al Manar

Type: Commercial

Broadcast Languages: Arabic, French, Berber dialects

Audience: North African communities

Director: Ahmed Bouda

Frequency: 106.8 FM

Website: <http://www.proximedia.com/web/radioalmanar.html>Email: al.manar@proximedia.be

Address: 164, boulevard Maurice Lemonier, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-4-95-87-36-33

Fax: 0032-2-512-11-90

Established: 1980 (one of the stations that later became a part of Al Manar)-Present

Description: "The objective of radio Al Manar is to address a large audience: young people, those a little less young, and Belgian natives, with the intent of strengthening relations and dialogue between these three groups, to inspire cross-cultural and cross-generational understanding." It is the result of the fusion of three big Arab stations from Brussels onto one frequency. Music, news, and thematic programmes in several languages. Radio Médi-1 from Tangiers also sometimes broadcast on the frequency

*-Mediterranean Community*Radio Alma

Type: Commercial

Broadcast Languages: Greek, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese

Audience: Southern European communities

Frequency: 101.9 FM (Shares the frequency with Radio Si)

Website: <http://freezone.exmachina.net/RadioAlma/>Email: radioalma@swing.be

Address: B.P. 37, 1190 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-345-36-56

Fax: 0032-2-345-11-68

Radio Si

Type: Community/campus

Broadcast Languages: Italian, French, Spanish, Greek, Portuguese

Audience: Southern European communities

Director: Freddy Crespo

Frequency: 101.9 FM (Shares frequency with Radio Alma)

Website: <http://home.tiscalinet.be/radiosi/fr/indexfr.htm>Email: radiosi@skynet.be

Address: Rue Adolphe Willemijns 211, 1070 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-520-21-81

Fax: 0032-2-520-15-86

Description: "Mediterranean frequency of Brussels." Tries to "offer to listeners a dynamic vision of their country of origin and of their culture while valuing at the same time the multiple identities of Brussels," offering information about life and events happening throughout Brussels.

*-Multicultural Community*Radio Air Libre

Type: Community/campus

Broadcast Languages: French, Spanish, Lingala, Portuguese, Arabic

Audience: Multicultural Brussels

Director: Mike Tolley

Frequency: 87.7 FM

Website: <http://users.skynet.be/infomam/RADIOAIR.HTM>Email: mtolley@ulb.ac.be

Address: 2, rue Marconi, 1190 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-344-58-55

Description: Multicultural community station that participates in programme sharing with other stations throughout the world whose programming reaches different socio-economic classes of people. Music, news, and thematic programmes in several languages.

Radio Campus

Type: Community/campus

Broadcast Languages: French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, African languages

Audience: Students and ethnically diverse groups

Director: Erik Morren

Frequency: 107.2 FM

Website: <http://www.ulb.ac.be/assoc/radio-campus/>

Email: rcampus@resulb.ulb.ac.be

Address: Radio Campus, CP 166 / 2, ULB - Av. Franklin Roosevelt 50, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-640-87-17

Fax: 0032-2-650-34-63

Established: 1980-Present

Description: Multicultural station that is run by students from the Université Libre de Bruxelles.

Radio Centraal

Type: Community/campus

Broadcast Languages: Dutch, Greek, German, Spanish, Albanian

Audience: Multicultural community

Director: Jan Ploem

Frequency: 103.9 FM

Website: <http://www.radiocentraal.be>

Email: radio.centraal@online.com

Address: PB 554, 2000 Antwerp

Telephone: 0032-3-232-30-30

Fax: 0032-3-232-30-30

Radio Panik

Type: Community/campus

Broadcast Languages: French, Greek, Albanian, Assyrian, Turkish, Congolese languages, Dutch, English

Audience: Multicultural

Director: Laurence Brogniez

Frequency: 105.4 FM

Website: <http://www.radiopanik.org>

Email: radiopanik@village.uunet.be

Address: Caserne Prince Baudouin, Place Dailly, 4, 1030 Brussels

Telephone: 00-32-2-732-04-50

Fax: 0032-2-732-14-45

Established: 1986-Present

Description: Multi- and intercultural community station, that has for its goal "the real emancipation of individuals through respect for cultural differences and democratic procedures," giving those from different cultural communities in Brussels a chance to create radio programmes. Music, news, and thematic programmes in several languages.

Radio Urgent

Type: Community

Broadcast Languages: Dutch, Turkish

Audience: Students and ethnically diverse groups

Director: Frederik de Groote

Website: <http://www.urgent.rug.ac.be>

Address: c/o Universiteit van Gent, St-Pietersnieuwstraat, 9000 Gent

Telephone: 0032-9-264-79-09

Fax: 0032-9-264-79-99

Television⁴

Arabic

MBC

Type: Commercial channel from the UK accessible by cable from Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Modern Standard Arabic
 Website: <http://www.mbctvsat.com/home.asp>

RTM

Type: Public channel from Morocco accessible by cable in Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Modern Standard Arabic/French
 Address: 1, Rue El Brihi - BP 1042 - Rabat
 Telephone: 00212- 037 76 68 85
 Fax: 037 76 68 88

French

-Multicultural Community

RTBF 1 & 2

Type: Public Belgian Broadcaster for the French Community
 Broadcast Language(s): French
 Minority-oriented Programme: *Sindbad*
 Aired: Twice per month on RTBF 2, with reruns four more times on both RTBF 1 and 2 for each show, 30 minutes
 Audience for Programme: Multicultural community
 Director(s): Khiti-Amina Benhachem and Mehrdad Taghian
 Website: http://www3.rtb.be/rtbf_2000/
 Runs/Ran: 1991-Present
 Email: sindbad@rtbf.be
 Contact: Nadia Maliki
 Address: RTBF, Boulevard Auguste Reyers, 52, Brussels 1044
 Telephone: 0032-2-737-2219
 Fax: 0032-2-737-28-39
 Description: "*Sindbad* is a multicultural show whose goal is to promote a society in which respect for all is a reality." Devoted to issues of Belgium's multicultural society, having focussed on elected minorities in Brussels, as well as arts and culture from the Peruvian, Chinese, Afghani, and North African communities

Télé-Bruxelles

Type: Local, commercial station in Brussels
 Broadcast Language(s): French
 Minority-oriented Programme: *Coup de Pouce*
 Aired: Every other Saturday
 Audience for Programme: Multicultural, urban young people
 Email: courrier@coup2pouce.com / info@telebruxelles.be
 Address: Rue Gabrielle Petit, 32-34, 1080 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-421-02-42
 Fax: 0032-2-421-02-44
 Description: Variety show conceived, directed, presented, and produced by young urban people of different ethnic backgrounds.

Greek

ERT

Type: Public channel from Greece accessible by cable in Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Greek

⁴ Channels accessible by satellite dish are not included in this list for they are numerous and available to anyone with a dish. Many international channels are equally accessible via cable and via satellite dish, yet the availability of international channels through Belgian cable operators is rather limited, as evidenced above.

Email: <http://www.ert.gr/>
 Address: 432 Mesoghion Avenue, GR-153 42 Agia Paraskevi, Athens, Greece
 Telephone: 00251-30-1770-1911

Italian

Rai Uno

Type: Channel from Italy accessible by cable in Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Modern Standard Arabic
 Website: <http://www.raiuno.rai.it>

Polish

TV Polonaise

Type: Channel from Poland accessible by cable in Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Polish

Portuguese

RTP International

Type: Public channel from Portugal accessible by cable in Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Portuguese
 Email: opinioes@rtp.pt
 Address: Sede, Avenida 5 de Outubro, n°197, 1050-054 Lisboa, Portugal
 Telephone: 00351-217-947

Spanish

TVE

Type: Channel from Spain accessible by cable from Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Spanish (Castilian)
 Email: direccion.comunicacion@rtve.es
 Website: <http://www.rtve.es/tve/>

Turkish

Euroshow

Type: Commercial channel from Turkey accessible by cable from Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Turkish
 Email: euroshow@medyatext.com

TRT Aurasya

Type: Public channel from Turkey accessible by cable in Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Turkish
 Email: <http://www.trt.net.tr/>

Internet

Dutch

-Arab Community

Thakafa 11

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Languages: Dutch
 User group: Arab community
 Website: www.Thakafa11.be
 Email: vzwthakafa11@hotmail.com
 Address: Appelstraat 41, 2140 Borgerhout
 Telephone: 03 235 05 89
 Fax: 03 236 94 85
 Description: Site on Arab culture

*-Jewish Community*Goedkosjer

Type: Not-for-profit site

Languages: Dutch

User group: Jewish community

Editor: Henri Rosenberg

Website: <http://www.goedkosjer.org/index.htm>Email: goedkosjer@goedkosjer.org / President@goedkosjer.org

Address: Goedkosjer - Joodse Verbruikersvereniging v.z.w., Belgiëlei 195a, 2018 Antwerp

Telephone: 0032-477-23-08-32

Fax: 0032-3-218-46-63

Established: 1999

Description: "The defence of Jewish Consumers is of paramount importance: to get kosher products at the lowest cost." Information, links, and an electronic newsletter

*- Muslim Community*Vereniging voor de Ontwikkeling en Emancipatie van Moslims

Type: Not-for-profit site

Languages: Dutch

User group: Muslim community in Flanders

Editor: Ahmad Zahed

Website: <http://users.pandora.be/voem.vzw/>Email: voem.vzw@village.uunet.be

Address: Duinstraat 152, 2060 Antwerp

Telephone: 0032-3-272-35-07

Fax: 0032-3-272-35-07

Established: 1996

Description: Information about events, studies and news

*-Thai Community*Thaibel

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: Dutch

User group: Thai community

Website: <http://www.thaibel.be>Email: vzw@thaibel.be

Address: Voorzitter Louis Vermeulen, L. van Berkenbau 178, 2140 Borgerhout (Antwerp)

Telephone: 0032-3-322-32-19

Description: Information for the Thai community in Flanders and news about events and activities

*-Multicultural Community*Kif Kif

Type: Not-for-profit site

Languages: Dutch

User group: Multicultural community, immigrant community

Editor: Tarik Fraihi

Website: <http://users.belgacom.net/KifKif/>Email: kifkif@wol.be

Address: Kif Kif, Bondgenotenstraat 52, 1190 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-344-69-92

Fax: 0032-2-346-17-71

Description: A discussion forum and a lot of texts on the multicultural debate

*English*Antwerp Indian

Type: Not-for-profit site

Languages: English

User group: Indian community in Antwerp
 Editor: Hitesh Patel
 Website: <http://users.pandora.be/aia/>
 Email: aia@pandora.be
 Description: Polls, news, sports in India and Pakistan, music and film

French

-Iberian/Latin American Community

La Tentation/Centro Galego de Bruxelles

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: French
 User group: Iberian/Latin American community and interested public
 Website: <http://www.latentation.org/html/index.html>
 Email: info@latentation.org
 Address: 28, rue de Laken, 1000 Brussels
 Description: Cultural events and information site

-Iranian Community

Centre Culturel Omar Khayam

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: French
 User group: Multicultural community, Iranian community
 Website: <http://users.swing.be/CCOKhayam>
 Email: CCOKhayam@swing.be
 Address: 37, rue du Conseil, 1050 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-513-20-43
 Fax: 0032-2-513-33-54
 Description: Belgo-Iranian cultural organisation interested in creating a dialogue between different cultural communities

-Jewish Community

Centre communautaire juif laic

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: French
 User group: Jewish community
 Website: <http://www.cclj.be>
 Email: info@cclj.be
 Address: 52, rue de l'Hotel des Monnaies, Brussels 1060
 Telephone: 0032-2-543-02-80
 Description: Community events, news about community

Jewish Community of Antwerp

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: Dutch
 User group: Jewish community
 Editor: David M.Lieberman
 Website: <http://members.net4all.be/shomre-hadas/>
 Email: shomre-hadas@net4all.be
 Telephone: 0032 -3-232-01-87
 Description: Information page about Judaism in Antwerp

- Muslim Community

Assabyle.com

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: French
 User group: Muslim community
 Website: <http://assabyle.com/>

Description: Includes events, news in Belgium, Islamic services, and a forum

Islam-Belgique

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Muslim community, with 626 members

Website: <http://www.islam-Belgique.com>

Email: www.islam-Belgique.com

Description: "The site for Muslims in Belgium." Includes articles, agenda, political movements, announcements, forum

Nassira Network

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Muslim women and larger Muslim community

Editor: Abdel Malek

Website: <http://www.nassira.net/fr/nassira.html>

Email: info@nassira.net

Telephone: 0032-2-275-65-36

Description: Interested in "fighting against the lack of understanding and the rejection of one of the symbols the most visible of Islam: the veil that Muslim women wear," includes web-rings, forum, articles, participation

Solidaires du peuple palestin

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Palestinian community in Belgium and interested public

Editor: Giorgio Basile

Website: <http://www.solidarite-palestine.org/index.html>

Email: webmaster@solidarite-palestine.org

Established: 2000-Present

Description: Includes news, organisation info that is Belgium-specific, culture, books, agenda

-North African Community

Ibn Batouta

Type: Not-for-profit site

Languages: French

User group: Moroccan and North African immigrant community

Editor: Sarie Abdeslam

Website: <http://www.chez.com/dounia>

Email: dounia@chez.com

Address: 42, rue des Alliés, 1190 Brussels

Description: News and cultural history

-Pan-African Community

Afriqu'Events

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Congolese community

Editor: Kayomb Tshombe

Website: <http://users.skynet.be/sky35213/afr028.htm>

Congonline

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Congolese community

Editor: Emmanuel Makondambuta

Website: <http://www.congonline.com>

Email: Emmanuel.Makondambuta@congonline.com

Address: Afriq'Info ASBL, 87, chaussée de Louvain, 1210 Brussels

Description: News service about Belgium, Congo and other African countries; women's section; interactive forum option

Congovision

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Congolese community

Editor: Transnational editorial staff, with Dr. Jean-Macaire Munzele Munzimi (Belgium)

Website: <http://www.congovision.com/>

Email: munzele33@hotmail.com

Description: News, events, forum, cultural information, advertisements, links

-Multicultural Community

Démocratie Plus

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Multicultural community

Website: <http://users.swing.be/demoplus/demo+/accueil2.htm>

Email: demoplus@swing.be

Address: rue de l'Union, 10, 1210 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-218-19-17

Fax: 0032-2-218-19-17

Description: Organisation existing since the early 1980s in different formats, interested in developing citizenship amongst people living in Brussels of different socio-economic and cultural backgrounds, site is comprised of events, organisation information, and links

Zinneke Parade

Type: Not-for-profit site

Languages: French

User group: Multicultural community of Brussels

Website: <http://www.zinneke.org/>

Description: Parade of multicultural Brussels in spring

Italian

L'Altra Sicilia

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: Italian

User group: Those of Sicilian origin living in Belgium

Editor: Francesco Paolo Catania

Website: <http://www.laltrasicilia.com/>

Email: editore@laltrasicilia.com

Address: Fondazione L'Altra Sicilia, Boulevard de Dixmude 40/5 Brussels, 1000

Telephone: 0032-2-217-48-31

Description: News, business, concerning Italian diaspora in Belgium and connections to other countries

La Maiella

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: Italian

User group: Those originally from Abruzzo living in Charleroi

Editor: Pietro Perseo

Website: <http://users.skynet.be/maiella/italien.htm>

Email: la.maiella@skynet.be

Address: Rue de Montpellier 12, B-6030 Marchienne-au-Pont

Description: Links between Belgium and Italy (especially Charleroi and the Abruzzo region)

Portuguese

Associação de Portugueses Emigrados na Bélgica

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: Portuguese
 User group: Portuguese community
 Website: <http://www.apeb.be/>
 Email: apeb@ngm.be
 Address: Rue de Belgrade, 120, 1060 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-539-18-84
 Established: Organisation started in 1966
 Description: Informational page for the cultural organisation

Spanish

Aquí Europa

Type: Commercial site
 Language: Spanish
 User group: Spanish-speaking community
 Editor: Transnational editorial team, with Javier Fábregas in Belgium
 Website: <http://www.aquieuropa.com>
 Email: redaccion@aquieuropa.com
 Address: 7, rue André Fauchille, 1150 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-740-18-30
 Fax: 0032-2 -740-18-31
 Description: On-line news service about the European Union

Comité d'aide au Nicaragua

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: Spanish
 User group: Spanish-speaking community
 Editor: André Dénoulet
 Website: <http://www.anic.be.tf/>
 Email: info@anic.be.tf
 Address: Rue Théodore Decuyper 168, 1200 Woluwe-Saint-Lambert
 Description: Supporting Nicaraguans, organising cultural events

El Diario Internacional

Type: Commercial site
 Language: Spanish
 User group: Spanish-speaking community
 Editor: Luis Arce Borja
 Website: www.eldiariointernacional.com
 Email: eldiario@hotmail.com
 Address: BP 705, 1000 Brussels
 Description: There are both online and paper copies available, includes news on Europe and European Union matters

Latinos.be

Type: Site
 Language: Spanish (soon to also be in French)
 User group: Spanish-speaking community
 Editor: Coello S. Róbinson
 Website: <http://www.latinos.be>
 Email: robinson@latinos.be
 Description: "Search engine for website related to the Spanish and Latin American world within Belgium"

La pagina de la Comunidad de los Mexicanos en Belgica

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: Spanish
 User group: Mexican community
 Editor: Ana Ledesma
 Website: <http://users.chello.be/cr40073/>
 Email: ana.elizabeth@wanadoo.be
 Description: Includes news about music, culture, local events, radio show on Radio Campus, advertisements, forum, agenda

Multilingual

-Jewish Community

European Sephardic Institute

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: French/Spanish/English
 User group: Sephardic Jewish community
 Editor: Moïse Rahmani
 Website: <http://www.sefarad.org/>
 Email: moise.rahmani@sefarad.org
 Description: Includes announcements, news, links that are Belgium specific

-Latin American Community

Maison Amérique Latine

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: Spanish/French
 User group: Latin American Community
 Website: <http://www.america-latina.be/>
 Email: info@america-latina.be
 Address: Rue Berckmans, 14, 1060 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-538-19-12
 Description: Organising cultural events as well as being the domain upon which many organisations are built

-Turkish Community

Info-Türk

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Languages: French/Turkish/English
 User group: Turkish community and interested public
 Editor: Dogan Özgüden
 Website: <http://www.info-turk.be>
 Email: editor@info-turk.be
 Address: 53, rue de Pavie, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-215-35-76
 Fax: 0032-2-215-58-60
 Established: 1976-Present
 Description: Once a printed bulletin, now only available electronically, about aspects of the Turkish community in Belgium and in Europe

-Multicultural Community

Ghent Centre for Islam in Europe

Type: Not-for-profit, educational
 Languages: French/Dutch/English/Spanish/Turkish/Arabic/German
 User group: Multicultural community
 Editor: Herman de Ley
 Website: <http://www.flwi.rug.ac.be/cie/>
 Email: herman.deley@rug.ac.be
 Address: Ghent University, Dpt. of Philosophy and Moral Science, 2, Blandijnberg, 9000 Gent
 Telephone: 0032-9-264-40-25
 Fax: 0032-9-264-41-64

Description: "The Centre for Islam in Europe aims at giving European Islam an academic status while developing tools for combating all racism." Activities and conference announcements, academic papers, links

Institut Européen de Recherche sur la Coopération Méditerranéenne et Euro-Arabe

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: French/Arabic
 User group: Mediterranean community
 Editor: Charles Ferdinand Nothomb
 Website: <http://www.medeas.be>
 Email: medea@medea.be
 Address: Avenue de la Renaissance 10, B-1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-231-13-00
 Fax: 0032-2-231-06-46
 Description: Reviews of Turkish, Arabic and international press

Livraria Orfeu

Type: Hybrid profit/not-for-profit site
 Language: Portuguese/English/French/Dutch
 User group: Portuguese community
 Website: <http://www.geocities.com/livrariaorfeu/>
 Email: orfeu.livrariaportug@belgacom.net
 Address: Willem de Zwijgerstraat 43, Rue du Taciturne, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-735-00-77
 Description: Includes activities, advertisement for the bookstore called 'Livraria Orfeu', and an e-newsletter

OSHUN asbl on the NET/Asociación Arte y Cultura de América Latina y del Caribe

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: Spanish/English/French/Danish/German/Swedish/Portuguese
 User group: Multicultural community
 Editor: Emilio Rodriguez
 Website: <http://www.geocities.com/TimesSquare/8657/oshun.htm>
 Email: Emilio.Rodriguez@dg23.cec.be
 Address: 18, rue de la Tourelle, 1040 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-230-65-53
 Description: Includes cultural events calendar and information

Suffrage Universel

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: French/English
 User group: Multicultural community
 Editor: Pierre-Yves Lambert
 Website: <http://users.skynet.be/suffrage-universel/>
 Email: pyl.lambert@skynet.be
 Description: Informational site compiling articles and data about a wide variety of immigrant-related issues

II. By Technology, Language and Group

Analogue Radio

Dutch

Radio Multipop

Spanish

Radio Onda Libre

*Multilingual**-Jewish Community*

Radio Judaïca

-North African Community

Radio Al Manar

-Mediterranean Community

Radio Alma

Radio Si

-Multicultural Community

Radio Air Libre

Radio Campus

Radio Centraal

Radio Panik

Radio Urgent

*Analogue Television**Arabic*

MBC

RTM

*French**-Multicultural Community*

RTBF 1 & 2

Télé-Bruxelles

Greek

ERT

Italian

Rai Uno

Polish

TV Polonaise

Portuguese

RTP International

Spanish

TVE

Turkish

Euroshow

TRT Aurasya

*Press**Chinese*

The Chinese Explorer

*Dutch**-Jewish Community*

Belgisch Israëlitisch Weekblad

*-North African Community*Jeugdhuis Rzoemie
Newsbrief*-Pan-African Community*

Bravo

*-Multicultural Community*Agenda
Cultuur en Migratie
Het Huis van Palmyra
Divers
Panache Courant
't Santeke*English*

The Bulletin

*French**-Jewish Community*Kadima Magazine
Regards*-North African Community*Droits de l'Homme au Maroc
Horizons Magazine*-Pan-African Community*L'Africain
Le Soft International*-Multicultural Community*Agenda Interculturel
Bruxelles Plus
El-Kalima
L'Immigré
MRAX-Info
Nouvelle Tribune: Revue d'information et réflexion des communautés d'origine étrangères en BelgiqueOsmoses
Plurielles
Reflets Magazine
Resonances*Italian*Alternative
Costruiamo insieme

Il Bollettino
 Il Circolo
 Italia News
 La Piazza
 Notiziario
 Presenza e Azione
 Qui Italia
 Trent'

Polish

Echo
 Listy z daleka
 Nasza Wspolnota
 Nowiny Brukselskie
 Pol-Echo
 Syntezy
 Wolne Slowo

Serbo-Croat

Koraci

Spanish

El Prisma
 El Sol de Belgica

Multilingual

-Greek Community

Agora Αγorά
 Euro-epirotiki ΕΥΡΩ - ΗΠΕΙΡΩΤΙΚΗ
 Europaraititis/Euroobserveur ΕΥΡΩΠΑΡΑΤΗΡΗΤΗΣ ΒΡΥΞΕΛΛΩΝ
 Les Nouvelles Louvieroises ΤΑ ΝΕΑ ΤΗΣ ΛΟΥΒΙΕΡ
 Nicandros ΝΙΚΑΝΔΡΟΣ

-Italian Community

Azione sociale
 Cittadini Europei (formerly L'Incontro)
 La Citta Futura
 L'Araldo
 La Voce
 Leonardo da Vinci Bulletini
 Maelstrom
 Missione-Migrazione
 Sabir

-Kurdish Community

Berichten van en over Koerden
 Info-Blad

-Latin American Community

Boletin
 Colibri
 Panoramica

-North African Community

Akhbar

De Wegwijzer

-Pan-African Community

Ghanaba
Mambo Leo
SILOT

-Turkish Community

Birlik
Cagdaş
Equipe
Rachmet
Turk-Danis Migrente

-Multicultural Community

Périodical de Foyer
L'Egalité
Refugies d'hier/Refugies d'aujourd'hui

Internet

Dutch

-Arab Community

Thakafa 11

-Jewish Community

Goedkosjer

-Muslim Community

Vereniging voor de Ontwikkeling en Emancipatie van Moslims

-Thai Community

Thaibel

-Multicultural Community

Kif Kif

English

Antwerp Indian

French

-Arabo-Muslim Community

Assabyle.com
Islam-Belgique
Nassira Network
Solidaires du peuple palestin

-Iberian/Latin American Community

La Tentation/Centro Galego de Bruxelles

-Iranian Community

Centre Culturel Omar Khayam

-Jewish Community

Centre communautaire juif laïc
Jewish Community of Antwerp

-North African Community

Ibn Batouta

-Pan-African Community

Afriqu'Events
Congonline
Congovision

-Multicultural Community

Démocratie Plus
Zinneke Parade

Italian

L'Altra Sicilia
La Maiella

Portuguese

Associação de Portugueses Emigrados na Bélgica

Spanish

Aquí Europa
Comité d'aide au Nicaragua
El Diario Internacional
Latinos.be
La pagina de la Comunidad de los Mexicanos en Belgica

*Multilingual**-Jewish Community*

European Sephardic Institute

-Latin American Community

Maison Amérique Latine

-Turkish Community

Info-Türk

-Multicultural Community

Ghent Centre for Islam in Europe
Institut Européen de Recherche sur la Coopération Méditerranéenne et Euro-Arabe
Livraria Orfeu
OSHUN asbl on the NET/Asociación Arte y Cultura de América Latina y del Caribe
Suffrage Universel

III. In Relation to Space

Transnational

-Press

There is no minority-oriented printed press in Belgium that is transnational.

-Radio

Médi-1 (on Radio Al Manar's frequency)

*-Television*⁵

ERT & ERT 1
Euroshow
MBC
Rai Uno
RTM
RTP International
TRT Aurasya
TVE
TV Polonaise

*-Internet*⁶

Afriqu'Events
L'Altra Sicilia
Antwerp Indian
Aquí Europa
Assabyle.com
Associação de Portugueses Emigrados na Bélgica
Centre communautaire juif laïc
Centre Culturel Omar Khayam
Comité d'aide au Nicaragua
Congonline
Congovision
Démocratie Plus
El Diario Internacional
European Sephardic Institute
Ghent Centre for Islam in Europe
Goedkosjer
Ibn Batouta
Info-Türk
Institut Européen de Recherche sur la Coopération Méditerranéenne et Euro-Arabe
Islam-Belgique
Jewish Community of Antwerp
Kif Kif
Latinos.be
Livraria Orfeu
La Maiella
Maison Amérique Latine
Nassira Network
OSHUN asbl on the NET/Asociación Arte y Cultura de América Latina y del Caribe
La Pagina de la Comunidad de los Mexicanos en Belgica
Solidaires du peuple palestin
Suffrage Universel
La Tentation/Centro Galego de Bruxelas
Thaibel
Thakafa 11

⁵ Not listed here are channels accessible by satellite dish.

⁶ This list is not claiming to be exhaustive but rather representative. All information on-line is transnational in nature in that it can be received anywhere in the world (with the exceptions of the places touched by censorship) but its informational content can be more nationalised or localised, does that make it national or local?

Vereniging voor de Ontwikkeling en Emancipatie van Moslims
Zinneke Parade

National

Due to the multilingual nature of Belgium as well as to the divisions between the Linguistic Communities and Regions of the country, it is difficult to talk of the existence of national-level press, radio, and television media. Therefore, they are either mostly local ('regional') or transnational in nature.

-Press

There is no minority-oriented press of national nature in Belgium.

-Radio

There is no minority-oriented radio of national nature in Belgium.

-Television

There is no minority-oriented television of national nature in Belgium.

-Internet

Given that things on-line are transnational, how can we speak of them on a national level?

Local

-Press

L'Africain
Agenda
Agenda Interculturel
Agora Αγορά
Akhbar
Alternative
L'Araldo
Azione sociale
Belgisch Israëlitisch Weekblad
Berichten van en over Koerden
Birlik
Boletin
Il Bollettino
Bravo
Bruxelles Plus
The Bulletin
Cagdaş
The Chinese Explorer
La Citta Futura
Cittadini Europei
Il Circolo
Colibri
Costruiamo insieme
Cultuur en Migratie
De Wegwijzer
Divers
Droits de l'Homme au Maroc
Echo
L'Egalité
Equipe
Euro-epirotiki ΕΥΡΩ - ΗΠΕΙΡΩΤΙΚΗ
Europaraititis/Euroobserveur ΕΥΡΩΠΑΡΑΤΗΡΗΤΗΣ ΒΡΥΞΕΛΛΩΝ
EI-Kalima
Ghanaba
Het Huis van Palmyra
Horizons Magazine
L'Immigré

Info-Blad
 Italia News
 Jeugdhuis Rzoemie
 Kadima Magazine
 Koraci
 Leonardo da Vinci Bulletini
 Listy z daleka
 Maelstrom
 Mambo Leo
 Missione-Migrazione
 MRAX-Info
 Nasza Wspolnota
 Nicandros ΝΙΚΑΝΔΡΟΣ
 Newsbrief
 Notiziario
 Nowiny Brukselskie
 Les Nouvelles Louvieroises TA NEA THΣ ΛΟΥΒΙΕΡ
 Nouvelle Tribune
 Osmoses
 Panache Courant
 Panoramica
 Périodical de Foyer
 La Piazza
 Plurielles
 Pol-Echo
 Presenza e Azione
 El Prisma
 Qui Italia
 Rachmet
 Reflets Magazine
 Refugies d'hier/Refugies d'aujourd'hui
 Regards
 Resonances
 Sabir
 't Santeke
 SILOT
 Le Soft International
 El Sol de Belgica
 Syntezy
 Trent'
 Turk-Danis Migrente
 La Voce
 Wolne Slowo

-Radio

Radio Air Libre
 Radio Al Manar
 Radio Alma
 Radio Campus
 Radio Centraal
 Radio Judaica
 Radio Multipop
 Radio Onda Libre
 Radio Panik
 Radio Si
 Radio Urgent

-Television

ATV
 RTBF

TéléBruxelles
VRT

-Internet

Given that things on-line are transnational, how can we speak of them on a local level? Is it when the content is locally-oriented?

Press
Chinese

The Chinese Explorer

Type: Commercial periodical

Language: Chinese

Readership: Chinese community

Editor: Annie Huang

Email: the.Chinese.explorer@skynet.be

Address: Rue de la Vierge Noire 2-4, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-512-30-34

Fax: 0032-2-502-49-53

Description: Largely publicity-based newspaper with some articles brought into existence by the Sunwah Chinese grocery store (owners from Hong Kong)

Dutch

-Jewish Community

Belgisch Israëlitisch Weekblad

Type: Periodical

Language: Dutch

Readership: Jewish community

Distribution: Weekly

Editor: Louis Davids

Address: Pelikaanstraat 106, Antwerp

Telephone: 0032-3-233-40-05

-North African Community

Jeugdhuis Rzoezie

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch

Readership: Moroccan community

Distribution: Monthly

Website: <http://users.pandora.be/rzoezie/>

Email: rzoezie@pandora.be

Address: E. Tinellaan 4, 2800 Mechelen

Telephone: 0032-15-33-94-55

Fax: 0032-15-33-94-59

Description: Information about the association, calendar of events, and poetry

Nieuwsbrief

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch

Readership: Moroccan women

Editor: Vita Massafra

Distribution: Quarterly

Email: federatie.wereldvrouwen@skynet.be

Address: p/a bremstraat 45, 3530 Houthalen

Telephone: 0032-11-53-12-82

Fax: 0032-11-52-26-01

-Pan-African Community

Bravo

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch

Readership: African community

Editor: Billy Kalonji

Email: afrikaans.platform@antwerpen.be

Address: Platform van de Afrikaanse Gemeenschappen, Lange Scholierstraat 94, 2060 Antwerp

Telephone: 0032-3-272-02-04

Fax: 0032-3-236-84-78

Description: Information for members of the organisation, education and cultural articles

-Multicultural Community

Agenda

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch

Readership: Multicultural community

Editor: Nicole Schoefs
 Distribution: Every two months
 Email: intcomit@yucom.be
 Address: Internationaal Comite, Mgr. 6 Broeckxplein, 3500 Hasselt
 Telephone: 0032-11-29-09-12
 Fax: 0032-11-29-08-36
 Established: 1998-Present
 Description: Consists of articles on immigration issues (i.e., naturalisation), Belgian news, recipes, and an events calendar

Cultuur en Migratie

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch
 Readership: Migrants, asylum seekers
 Editor: A. Gailly
 Email: cwla-ken@freegates.be
 Address: Centrum voor Welzijnszorg, 35, Emiel Delvastraat, 1020 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-428-99-00
 Fax: 0032-2-426-09-81

Het Huis van Palmyra

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch
 Readership: Multicultural community
 Editor: Katrijn D'hamers
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Website: <http://www.iccm.be>
 Email: info@iccm.be
 Address: Intercultureel Centrum voor Migranten (Centre interculturel pour les immigrés), Gallaitstraat 78, 1030 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-245-88-30
 Fax: 0032-2-245-58-32
 Established: 1995- Present
 Description: Articles on other organisations, immigration and integration issues, and an events calendar

Divers (formerly Bareel)

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch
 Readership: Multicultural community
 Editor: Dirk Leyman
 Distribution: 10 times per year
 Website: <http://www.vmc.be>
 Email: info@vmc.be
 Address: Vlaams Centrum Integratie Migranten (Vlaams Minderhedencentrum), Vooruitgangstraat 323, 1030 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-205-00-50
 Fax: 0032-2-205-00-60
 Established: 1979-Present
 Description: Articles on immigration and working in the social service sector, an events calendar

Panache Courant

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch
 Readership: Migrants, asylum seekers, refugees and others
 Editor: Patrick Wauters
 Address: Tint, 10, Pater Damiaanplein, 3000 Leuven
 Telephone: 0032-1-629-26-45

't Santeke

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch

Readership: Multicultural community

Editor: Miet Dreezen

Address: Buurtgezondheidscentrum Zwartberg, 6, Socialestraat, 3600 Genk

Telephone: 0032-89-38-21-35

Fax: 0032-89-38-02-58

*English*The Bulletin

Type: Commercial periodical

Language: English

Readership: English-speaking ex-pat community

Editor: Monique Ackroyd

Distribution: Weekly, 52,000 readers per week

Website: <http://www.ackroyd.be/bulletin/index.html>

Email: ackroyd@innet.be

Address: 1038, chaussée de Waterloostraat, 1180 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-373-99-09

Fax: 0032-2-373-99-09

Established: 1962-Present

Description: News magazine about Belgian and European issues, cultural agenda, interviews

*French**-Jewish Community*Kadima Magazine

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: French

Readership: Jewish community

Editor: Gérald Goldstein

Distribution: Monthly, with 1500 copies

Website: <http://www.uejb.org>

Email: info@uejb.org

Address: 3, ave. Antoine Depage, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-649-0808

Fax: 0032-2-649-76-10

Description: Articles about and by the young Jewish Belgian community, with an events calendar

Regards

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: French

Readership: Jewish community

Distribution: Every two months

Website: <http://www.cclj.be>

Email: info@cclj.be

Address: Centre communautaire laïc juif, 32, rue de l'hotel des Monnaies, Brussels 1060

Telephone: 0032-2-543-0280

*-North African Community*Bulletin de la Jeunesse maghrebine

Type: Not-for-profit bulletin

Language: French

Readership: Young people of Moroccan origin

Editor: Si M'hammed Amidan

Address: 127/1, rue de Flandre, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-219-69-91

Droits de l'Homme au Maroc

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Moroccan community
 Editor: Abderrahmane Cherradi
 Address: 15, rue du Meridien, 1030 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-217-97-82
 Fax: 0032-2-223-24-85

Horizons Magazine (formerly Spots and Al-Adwaa)

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Principally to the community of Moroccan origin
 Distribution: Monthly, with 10,000 copies
 Address: 27, Place communale, 1080 Brussels (Molenbeek)
 Telephone: 0032-2-411-67-85
 Fax: 0032-2-411-42-19
 Established: Principally to the community of Moroccan origin

*-Pan-African Community*L'Africain

Type: not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: African students in Charleroi
 Editor: Jacques Delooz
 Distribution: Bimonthly
 Email: caceac@swing.be
 Address: Rue Léon Bernus 7, 6000 Charleroi
 Telephone: 0032-7-131-31-86
 Fax: 0032-7-131-31-84
 Established: 1962-Present
 Description: News about development projects, politics in Africa, the association, Catholicism, and puzzles

Le Soft International

Type: Commercial periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Central African community
 Website: <http://www.lesoftonline.net/home.htm>
 Email: kkm@skynet.be
 Address: BP 80 1410 Waterloo Belgium
 Description: Articles about politics and news in Africa

*-Multicultural Community*Agenda Interculturel

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Intercultural and multinational Brussels population
 Editor: Massimo Bortolini
 Distribution: Monthly, 1500 copies
 Website: <http://www.cbai.be/>
 Email: cbai@skynet.be
 Address: c/o Centre bruxelloise d'action interculturelle, 24, Avenue de Stalingrad, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-513-96-02
 Fax: 0032-2-512-17-96
 Established: 1981-Present

Bruxelles Plus

Type: Public service periodical

Language: French
 Readership: Non-Belgians of Brussels
 Editor: Mohamed Boukantar
 Address: Conseil Consultatif des Bruxellois n'ayant pas la nationalité belge, 162, blvd. Maurice Lemmonier, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-511-34-37
 Fax: 0032-2-511-05-16

El-Kalima

Type: Not-for-profit
 Language: French
 Readership: Multicultural community
 Editor: Jean-Luc Blanpain
 Address: Christian centre for dialogue and relations with Islam, 69, rue du Midi, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-511-82-17
 Established: 1978-Present

Horizons 2000

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Refugees and immigrants in Wallonia
 Distribution: 6000 copies per release
 Description: Interested in literacy, cultural events, antiracist campaigns

L'Immigré

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Immigrants living in Brussels
 Distribution: Quarterly, with 7500 copies available in the 19 communes of Brussels
 Description: Information about Belgium as a host country

MRAX-Info

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Immigrants and asylum seekers, interested public
 Editor: Myriam Mottard
 Distribution: Quarterly, with 1500 copies
 Address: 37, rue de la Poste, 1210 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-217-54-95
 Description: Anti-racism, anti-Semitism, and anti-xenophobia; interested in young people and literacy

Nouvelle Tribune (formerly Tribune Immigré)

Type: Not-for-profit
 Language: French
 Readership: Multicultural and immigrant communities
 Editor: Abderrahmane Cherradi
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Email: nouvelle.tribune@yucom.be
 Address: Av. Stalingrad, 89/1, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-502-28-38
 Fax: 0032-2-502-34-84
 Description: Articles on a diverse range of immigrant communities and their experiences in Belgium, interviews, articles on politics and immigrant issues

Objectif immigrés

Type: Public service periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Immigrant community
 Distribution: Every two months, with 600-700 copies
 Address: European Immigrant Commission

Osmoses

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Multicultural community and those working in the social services
 Distribution: Quarterly, with 4000 copies
 Email: cacri@skynet.be
 Address: 43, rue Dieudonné François, 7100 Trivières
 Telephone: 0032-64-26-01-77
 Fax: 0032-64-26-52-53
 Established: 1996-Present
 Description: bulletin for networking and information between those related to the integration of foreign populations in Wallonia

Plurielles

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Women of third-world countries, North African women, and families
 Editor: Christiane De Wan
 Address: 17-19, rue des Sports, 1348 Louvain La Neuve
 Telephone: 0032-10-47-47-69

Reflets Magazine

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French
 Readership: Multicultural community
 Editor: Ali Daddy
 Address: Miroir, ASBL, 183-185, rue Royale, 1210 Brussels

Resonances

Type: Not-for-profit
 Language: French
 Readership: Multicultural community
 Editor: Guy Krettels
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Website: <http://www.multimania.com/resonances/hiver2000.rtf>
 Email: resonances@swing.be
 Address: Rue Sœurs de Hasque, 9, Liège 4000
 Telephone: 0032-4-223-39-83
 Fax: 0032-4-223-39-83
 Description: Articles on multiculturalism and democracy

*Italian*Alternative

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian workers and community of Charleroi
 Editor: Gianpaolo Murgia
 Distribution: Every two months, 600 copies
 Address: Associazione Cristiana Lavoratori Italiani-Charleroi, 68, route de Mons, 6031 Monceau-sur-Sambre
 Telephone: 0032-71-70-27-18
 Established: 1982-Present
 Description: Interested in the defence of immigrant rights

Costruiamo insieme

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian community

Editor: Frederica Magni
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Address: 7, Spoorwegstraat, 3600 Genk

Il Bollettino

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian community
 Editor: Vittorio Griffo
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Address: Sg. de Biarritz 3, bte. 2, 1050 Brussels
 Established: 1987-Present
 Description: Cultural issues, and politics in Italy and in Belgium

Il Circolo

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian members of ACLI-Brabante
 Editor: Epifanio Guarneri
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Address: ACLI-Brabant, 22, rue de Pavie, 1040 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-735-94-86
 Fax: 0032-2-735-76-18
 Established: 1983-Present
 Description: Information for members of ACLI-Brabant

Italia News

Type: Consulate publication
 Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian community
 Email: redazione@swing.be
 Address: Consulate of Italy, Livornostraat 38, 1000 Brussels

La Piazza

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian community
 Editor: Bruno Ducoli
 Website: <http://www.casi-uo.be/piazza.htm>
 Email: casi-uo@skynet.be
 Address: Centre d'Action Sociale Italien Universite ouvriere, 40 Rue de l'Abondance, 1210 Saint Josse Ten Noode
 Telephone: 0032-2-223-22-70
 Fax: 0032-2-223-22-47

Notiziario

Type: Not-for-profit
 Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian workers and community
 Address: Associazione Cristiana Lavoratori Italiani-National, 22, Paviastraat, 1040 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-735-94-86
 Fax: 0032-2-735-76-18

Presenza e Azione

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian
 Readership: Italian workers and community of Liege
 Editor: Michel Galella
 Address: Quai St-Leonard, 44, 4000 Liège

Qui Italia (formerly Il Sole d'Italia)

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Italian

Readership: Italian community and union members

Editor: Daniele Rossini

Distribution: Monthly, with 8150 copies

Email: acli.quitalia@skynet.be

Address: ave. Franklin, 136, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-7422729

Fax: 0032-2-7358520

Established: 1947-Present

Description: Interested in social, cultural, union, and political issues

Trent'

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Italian

Readership: Italian members of Circolo Trentino

Editor: Elio Somadossi

Distribution: Quarterly

Address: 220, rue d'Ormont, 6200 Bouffioulx

Established: 1981-Present

Description: Information about Circolo Trentino news and protests

*Polish*Echo

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Polish

Readership: Polish community

Editor: Maria Urbanska

Address: Rue de Roux 28, B 6140 Fontaine-Levegue

Telephone: 0032-2-71-52-19-10

Listy z daleka

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Polish

Readership: Polish community

Editor: Leokadia Komaiszko

Email: leokadia@yahoo.com

Nasza Wspolnota

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Polish

Readership: Polish Catholic community

Editor: Leon Brzezina

Address: Mission Catholique Polonaise en Belgique, 80, rue Jourdan, 1060 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-538-30-87

Nowiny Brukselskie

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Polish

Readership: Polish community

Editor: Jendrzzej Pomorski

Telephone: 0032-2-64-15-05

Fax: 0032-2-646-33-93

Pol-Echo

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Polish

Readership: Polish community
 Address: Bld. A. Reyers 122/124, B 1040 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-71-52-19-10

Syntezy

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Polish
 Readership: Polish community
 Address: St. Kozanecki 26, rue du Printemps, B 1380 Lasne-Ohain

Wolne Slowo

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Polish
 Readership: Polish community
 Address: K. Van Goethemstraat 88, B 9820 Merelbeke

Serbo-Croat

Koraci

Type: Not-for-profit
 Language:
 Readership: Bosnian and general Balkan community
 Editor: Spomenka Brasic
 Distribution: Monthly, with 1500 copies, free
 Address: Koraci, Lange Ridderstraat 77, 2000 Antwerp
 Established: 1996-Present

Spanish

El Prisma

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Spanish (Castilian)
 Readership: Spanish-speaking community
 Editor: Françoise Gonzalez-Rousseaux
 Address: Centre de Rencontres et d'Echanges Artistiques avec le Monde hispanique, Fond des Chenes, 258-5100 Wepion
 Telephone: 0032-8-146-00-12

El Sol de Belgica

Type: Commercial periodical
 Language: Spanish (Castilian)
 Readership: Spanish-speaking community
 Editor: Maria Font de Matas
 Distribution: Every two weeks
 Email: elsoldebelgica@hotmail.com
 Address: Bv. Clovis 12 A, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-732-19-80
 Fax: 0032-2-732-23-92

Generación E

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Spanish (Castilian)
 Readership: Spanish-speaking community
 Editor: Julio Fierro
 Address: 525, av. Van Volxem, 1060 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-537-04-87
 Fax: 0032-2-537-04-87

*Multilingual**-Greek Community*Agora Αγορά

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Languages: Greek/French

Readership: Greek community

Editor: Agora—Centre hellénique et interculturel

Address: Rue Vivegnis 73, 4000 Liège

Telephone: 0032-4-227-21-89

Established: 1996-Present

Description: Cultural events calendar, articles on immigration and information about the Centre

Euro-epirotiki ΕΥΡΩ - ΗΠΕΙΡΩΤΙΚΗ

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Languages: Greek

Readership: Greek community

Editor: Chris Angelis

Website: <http://www.zeus.be/euroepirotiki>Email: euroepirotiki@zeus.be

Address: Rue L. Coenen, 12, 1060 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-4-784-805-72

Fax: 0032-2-687-30-74

Europaratiritis/Euroobserveur ΕΥΡΩΠΑΡΑΤΗΡΗΤΗΣ ΒΡΥΞΕΛΛΩΝ

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Languages: Greek/French

Readership: Greek community

Distribution: Monthly

Website: <http://www.zeus.be/europaratiritis>Email: europaratiritis@zeus.be

Address: Place de Pancenoit, 13, 1380 Plancenoit - Lasne

Telephone: 0032-2-633-19-54

Fax: 0032-2-633-19-54

Les Nouvelles Louvieroises ΤΑ ΝΕΑ ΤΗΣ ΛΟΥΒΙΕΡ

Type: Not-for-profit

Languages: Greek/French

Readership: Greek community

Editor: Lentis D'Aloisio

Distribution: Quarterly, with 220 copies

Address: Rue de Baume 101, 7100 Haine-St-Paul

Nicandros ΝΙΚΑΝΔΡΟΣ

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Greek/French

Readership: Greek community

Editor: Alekos Palavouzopoulos

Distribution: Quarterly

Address: Quai de la Derivation 23/45, 4020 Liège

Telephone: 0032-4-127-13-59

Description: Interested in the integration of the Greek community into Belgium

*-Italian Community*Azione sociale

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Languages: Italian/Dutch

Readership: Italian community

Editor: Piero Pinna

Distribution: Quarterly, with 250 copies

Address: ACLI-Genk, Rondpuntlaan 25, 3600 Genk
 Telephone: 0032-8-935-74-16
 Fax: 0032-8-930-31-97
 Established: 1996-Present
 Description: Information about the association, elections, rights in the EU

Cittadini Europei (formerly L'Incontro)

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Languages: Italian/French
 Readership: Italian community
 Editor: N. Buttini
 Distribution: Monthly, with a few thousand copies
 Address: 21, rue Brialmont, 1030 Brussels
 Established: 1975-Present
 Description: Political paper

La Citta Futura

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Languages: Italian/Dutch
 Readership: Italians allied with Partito democratico della sinistra
 Editor: S. Pasqualini
 Distribution: Monthly, with a few thousand copies
 Address: 21, rue Brialmont, 1030 Brussels
 Established: 1987-Present

L'Araldo

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Languages: Italian/Dutch
 Readership: Italian union members
 Editor: Renato Cipriani
 Distribution: Monthly, with 15,500 copies
 Address: 6, Broeckxplein, 3500 Hasselt
 Telephone: 0032-11-29-09-37
 Fax: 0032-11-29-09-28
 Established: 1988-Present

La Voce

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian/Dutch
 Readership: Italian members of AIF
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Address: AIF, Staelstraat 155, 3600 Genk
 Telephone: 0032-8-938-67-40
 Fax: 0032-8-938-67-41
 Established: 2000-Present
 Description: News about Europe and Belgium, associations, poetry, puzzles, and an events calendar

Leonardo da Vinci Bulletini

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian/French
 Readership: Italian workers and community
 Editor: Mario Pusceddu
 Distribution: Variable
 Address: Leonardo da Vinci, 86, rue Cockerill, 4100 Seraing (Liège)
 Telephone: 0032-4-134-40-92
 Established: 1970-Present
 Description: Information about the Italian community and the group's activities

Maelstrom

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: French/Italian
 Readership: Italian community
 Editor: David Giannoni
 Distribution: Biannual
 Address: 288, blvd. du Souverain, 1160 Brussels
 Established: 1991-Present
 Description: Art and politics

Missione-Migrazione

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian/French
 Readership: Italian community
 Editor: Fabio Sac Volo
 Distribution: 8 times per year, with 14,000 copies
 Address: rue Mons 73, Marchienne-au-Pont
 Telephone: 0032-4-122-22-11
 Fax: 0032-4-122-22-11
 Description: Destined for different generations of Italians; dealing with socio-political, religious, and cultural issues

Sabir

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Italian/French
 Readership: Italian community
 Distribution: Once every two months
 Address: 104, rue Brogniez, 1070 Brussels
 Established: 1990-Present
 Description: Interested in language, politics, family, and education issues; non-violence stance

-Kurdish Community

Berichten van en over Koerden

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Languages: Dutch/French
 Readership: Kurdish community and interested public
 Editor: Derwich Ferho
 Distribution: Monthly
 Website: <http://www.kurdishinstitute.be>
 Email: info@kurdishinstitute.be
 Address: Kurdish Institute, Bonneelsstraat 16, 1210 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-230-89-30
 Fax: 0032-2-231-00-97
 Established: 2000-Present
 Description: News from Turkey and from within Europe and Belgium about the Kurdish situation

Info-Blad

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Languages: Kurdish/Dutch/French/English/Turkish/Arabic
 Readership: Kurdish community and interested public
 Editor: Frans Adang and others
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Address: Koerdisch Bureau voor Ontmoeting en Informatie, Arduinkaaï 11, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-219-80-60
 Fax: 0032-2-219-24-10
 Established: 1996-Present
 Description: Articles from other papers on Kurdish situation in the Middle East, international associations, and an events calendar

*-Latin American Community*Boletin

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/Spanish

Readership: Latin American community

Editor: David Cusatto

Distribution: Monthly

Email: boletin@online.be

Address: Maison de l'Amerique, rue Berckmans 14, 1060 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-538-19-12

Fax: 0032-2-534-35-41

Description: Consists of articles about education, culture, immigrant issues, humour, and recipes

Colibri

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/Spanish

Readership: Latin American community

Editor: Moises Araya

Distribution: Quarterly

Website: <http://www.federatie.cjb.net>

Email: slarreategui@pandora.be

Address: Latijns-Amerikaanse Federatie, Lange Beeldekensstraat 35, 2060 Antwerp

Telephone: 0032-3-231-43-52

Fax: 0032-3-232-32-28

Established: 1997-Present

Description: Consists of articles about education, culture, immigrant issues, humour, and recipes

Panoramica

Type: Not-for-profit

Language: French/Spanish/Portuguese

Readership: Latin American community

Editor: Anna Molina

Distribution: Once every two months

Website: <http://www.america-latina.be/panoramica/>

Email: panoramica@america-latina.be

Telephone: 0032-4-953-535-91

Description: Articles on news and politics of Latin America and Belgium, immigration issues

*-North African Community*Akhbar

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/French

Readership: Moroccan associations of Flanders and Brussels

Editor: Mohamed Sebbahi

Distribution: Quarterly

Email: fmdo@chello.be

Address: Federatie Marokkaanse Demokratische Organisaties, Bondgenotenstraat 52, 1190 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-344-69-92

Fax: 0032-2-346-17-71

Established: 1996-Present

Description: Consists of articles on immigrant-related issues, ways to help those back in Morocco, descriptions of other Moroccan organisations in Belgium, and a calendar of events

De Wegwijzer

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/Arabic

Readership: Moroccan Muslim community

Editor: Youssef Souissi

Email: voem.vzw@village.uunet.be

Address: Vereniging voor Ontwikkeling en Emancipatie van Moslims, Duinstraat 152, 2060 Antwerp
 Telephone: 0032-3-272-35-07
 Fax: 0032-3-272-35-07

-Pan-African Community

Ghanaba

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch/English
 Readership: Ghanaian community
 Editor: Kwaku Boamah Acheampong
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Email: ghanaba@online.be
 Address: Ghanaba, PO Box 2061, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-218-84-46
 Description: Interested in immigration issues (Africa to Belgium), Ghanaian and Belgian news, information from the Ghanaian embassy, sports in Ghana, development in Africa, with some advertisements

Mambo Leo

Type: Commercial periodical
 Language: French/English
 Readership: Pan-African community
 Editor: James Ololo
 Distribution: Monthly
 Email: mamboleo@brutele.be
 Address: E. Demolderlaan, 36, 1030 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-240-10-84
 Fax: 0032-2-216-57-45
 Established: 2001-Present
 Description: News about Belgium and Africa, cultural community events

SILOT

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch/French/English
 Readership: Pan-African community
 Editor: Suzanne Monkasa
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Email: rvdage.vl@skynet.be
 Address: Raad Van de Afrikaanse Gemeenschappen in Europa/Belgie, Koningstraat 171, 1210 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-219-63-25
 Fax: 0032-2-219-66-88
 Established: 1998-Present
 Description: Articles on development in Africa, culture and the arts, other associations, and an events calendar

-Turkish Community

Birlik

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: Dutch/Turkish
 Readership: Turkish community
 Editor: Yayim Kurulu
 Distribution: Quarterly
 Email: utvtdb@pandora.be
 Address: Unie van Turkse Verenigingen, Belegstraat 46, 2018 Antwerp
 Telephone: 0032-3-289-91-73
 Fax: 0032-3-289-77-10
 Established: 1998-Present

Description: Examines integration, discrimination, mass media issues, sports teams in Belgium, and lists conference information

Cagdas

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/Turkish

Readership: Turkish community

Editor: Fikret Aydemir

Website: <http://users.skynet.be/cdf>

Email: cdf@skynet.be

Address: Federatie van Turkse Vooruitstrevende Verenigingen, Dendermondsesteenweg 239, 9040 Gent

Telephone: 0032-9-228-90-55

Fax: 0032-9-228-90-55

Established: 1996-Present

Description: Consists of articles on culture, entertainment, news and immigration issues, and an events calendar

Equipe

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Languages: Dutch/Turkish

Readership: Turkish community

Editor: Huseyin Aydinli

Email: turkseunie@hotmail.com

Address: Unie der Turks Islamitische Kulturele Verenigingen van België, Stationsstraat 96, 3582 Beringen

Telephone: 0032-11-45-38-38

Fax: 0032-11-45-38-38

Rachmet

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/Turkish

Readership: Turkish community

Editor: Salih Bugol

Address: Turks Cultureel Centrum, Van Kerckovenstraat, 19, 2060 Antwerp

Telephone: 0032-3-233-19-50

Turk-Danis Migrente

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: Dutch/Turkish

Readership: Turkish community

Editor: Muharrem Karaman

Address: Turk-Danis, 35, rue de la Senne, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-512-96-67

Fax: 0032-2-512-95-56

-Multicultural Community

Périodical de Foyer

Type: Not-for-profit periodical

Language: French/Dutch

Readership: Multicultural community

Distribution: Quarterly

Address: Centre régional d'intégration foyer-Bruxelles, 25, rue des Ateliers, 1080 Brussels

Established: 1998-Present

Description: Interested in the politics of immigration and integration throughout Belgium, advertisements for events and conferences

L'Egalité

Type: Public service periodical

Languages: French/Dutch
 Readership: Multicultural community
 Editor: Jean Cornil
 Address: Centre pour l'egalite des chances et la lutte contre le racisme, 155, rue de la Loi, 1040 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-233-06-11
 Fax: 0032-2-233-07-04

Refugies d'hier/Refugies d'aujourd'hui

Type: Not-for-profit periodical
 Language: French/Dutch/English
 Readership: Displaced persons and refugees
 Editor: Catherine Noel
 Distribution: Quarterly, with 12,000 copies in French, 5000 in Dutch, 500 in English
 Telephone: 0032-85-21-34-81
 Fax: 0032-85-23-01-47
 Description: About 40% of the content is about the Middle East and reasons for exile from there; 60% of the content is about host country conditions, rights and problems

Radio

Dutch

Radio Multipop

Type: Community/campus
 Broadcast Languages: Dutch
 Audience: Multicultural community
 Director: Nabil Ghamrane
 Frequency: 102.2 FM
 Address: 14, Graaf van Egmontstraat, 2000 Antwerp
 Fax: 0032-3-288-61-72
 Established: 1999-Present
 Description: Broadcasts music, news, and thematic programs made for and by ethnic minorities.

Spanish

Radio Onda Libre

Type: Community/campus
 Broadcast Languages: Spanish
 Audience: Spanish-speaking community
 Address: 13, rue de Nancy, Brussels 1000

Multilingual

-Jewish Community

Radio Judaïca

Type: Community/campus
 Broadcast Languages: French, Yiddish, Hebrew
 Audience: Jewish community, more than 50,000 listeners
 Frequency: 87.7 FM
 Website: <http://www.radiojudaica.be>
 Email: info@radiojudaica.be
 Address: 89, chaussée de Vleurgat, 1500 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-648-70-20
 Fax: 0032-2-647-75-29
 Established: 1980-Present
 Description: "Radio Judaïca is the window of Judaism that enlightens and attracts those interested in Jewish things." Includes music, news, and thematic programmes, with special practices for Shabbat (ending transmission at 3 PM)

*-North African Community*Radio Al Manar

Type: Commercial

Broadcast Languages: Arabic, French, Berber dialects

Audience: North African communities

Director: Ahmed Bouda

Frequency: 106.8 FM

Website: <http://www.proximedia.com/web/radioalmanar.html>Email: al.manar@proximedia.be

Address: 164, boulevard Maurice Lemonier, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-4-95-87-36-33

Fax: 0032-2-512-11-90

Established: 1980 (one of the stations that later became a part of Al Manar)-Present

Description: "The objective of radio Al Manar is to address a large audience: young people, those a little less young, and Belgian natives, with the intent of strengthening relations and dialogue between these three groups, to inspire cross-cultural and cross-generational understanding." It is the result of the fusion of three big Arab stations from Brussels onto one frequency. Music, news, and thematic programmes in several languages. Radio Médi-1 from Tangiers also sometimes broadcast on the frequency

*-Mediterranean Community*Radio Alma

Type: Commercial

Broadcast Languages: Greek, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese

Audience: Southern European communities

Frequency: 101.9 FM (Shares the frequency with Radio Si)

Website: <http://freezone.exmachina.net/RadioAlma/>Email: radioalma@swing.be

Address: B.P. 37, 1190 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-345-36-56

Fax: 0032-2-345-11-68

Radio Si

Type: Community/campus

Broadcast Languages: Italian, French, Spanish, Greek, Portuguese

Audience: Southern European communities

Director: Freddy Crespo

Frequency: 101.9 FM (Shares frequency with Radio Alma)

Website: <http://home.tiscalinet.be/radiosi/fr/indexfr.htm>Email: radiosi@skynet.be

Address: Rue Adolphe Willemijns 211, 1070 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-520-21-81

Fax: 0032-2-520-15-86

Description: "Mediterranean frequency of Brussels." Tries to "offer to listeners a dynamic vision of their country of origin and of their culture while valuing at the same time the multiple identities of Brussels," offering information about life and events happening throughout Brussels.

*-Multicultural Community*Radio Air Libre

Type: Community/campus

Broadcast Languages: French, Spanish, Lingala, Portuguese, Arabic

Audience: Multicultural Brussels

Director: Mike Tolley

Frequency: 87.7 FM

Website: <http://users.skynet.be/infomam/RADIOAIR.HTM>Email: mtolley@ulb.ac.be

Address: 2, rue Marconi, 1190 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-344-58-55

Description: Multicultural community station that participates in programme sharing with other stations throughout the world whose programming reaches different socio-economic classes of people. Music, news, and thematic programmes in several languages.

Radio Campus

Type: Community/campus

Broadcast Languages: French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, African languages

Audience: Students and ethnically diverse groups

Director: Erik Morren

Frequency: 107.2 FM

Website: <http://www.ulb.ac.be/assoc/radio-campus/>

Email: rcampus@resulb.ulb.ac.be

Address: Radio Campus, CP 166 / 2, ULB - Av. Franklin Roosevelt 50, 1000 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-640-87-17

Fax: 0032-2-650-34-63

Established: 1980-Present

Description: Multicultural station that is run by students from the Université Libre de Bruxelles.

Radio Centraal

Type: Community/campus

Broadcast Languages: Dutch, Greek, German, Spanish, Albanian

Audience: Multicultural community

Director: Jan Ploem

Frequency: 103.9 FM

Website: <http://www.radiocentraal.be>

Email: radio.centraal@online.com

Address: PB 554, 2000 Antwerp

Telephone: 0032-3-232-30-30

Fax: 0032-3-232-30-30

Radio Panik

Type: Community/campus

Broadcast Languages: French, Greek, Albanian, Assyrian, Turkish, Congolese languages, Dutch, English

Audience: Multicultural

Director: Laurence Brogniez

Frequency: 105.4 FM

Website: <http://www.radiopanik.org>

Email: radiopanik@village.uunet.be

Address: Caserne Prince Baudouin, Place Dailly, 4, 1030 Brussels

Telephone: 00-32-2-732-04-50

Fax: 0032-2-732-14-45

Established: 1986-Present

Description: Multi- and intercultural community station, that has for its goal "the real emancipation of individuals through respect for cultural differences and democratic procedures," giving those from different cultural communities in Brussels a chance to create radio programmes. Music, news, and thematic programmes in several languages.

Radio Urgent

Type: Community

Broadcast Languages: Dutch, Turkish

Audience: Students and ethnically diverse groups

Director: Frederik de Groote

Website: <http://www.urgent.rug.ac.be>

Address: c/o Universiteit van Gent, St-Pietersnieuwstraat, 9000 Gent

Telephone: 0032-9-264-79-09

Fax: 0032-9-264-79-99

Television⁷

Arabic

MBC

Type: Commercial channel from the UK accessible by cable from Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Modern Standard Arabic
 Website: <http://www.mbctvsat.com/home.asp>

RTM

Type: Public channel from Morocco accessible by cable in Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Modern Standard Arabic/French
 Address: 1, Rue El Brihi - BP 1042 - Rabat
 Telephone: 00212- 037 76 68 85
 Fax: 037 76 68 88

French

-Multicultural Community

RTBF 1 & 2

Type: Public Belgian Broadcaster for the French Community
 Broadcast Language(s): French
 Minority-oriented Programme: *Sindbad*
 Aired: Twice per month on RTBF 2, with reruns four more times on both RTBF 1 and 2 for each show, 30 minutes
 Audience for Programme: Multicultural community
 Director(s): Khiti-Amina Benhachem and Mehrdad Taghian
 Website: http://www3.rtb.be/rtbf_2000/
 Runs/Ran: 1991-Present
 Email: sindbad@rtbf.be
 Contact: Nadia Maliki
 Address: RTBF, Boulevard Auguste Reyers, 52, Brussels 1044
 Telephone: 0032-2-737-2219
 Fax: 0032-2-737-28-39
 Description: "*Sindbad* is a multicultural show whose goal is to promote a society in which respect for all is a reality." Devoted to issues of Belgium's multicultural society, having focussed on elected minorities in Brussels, as well as arts and culture from the Peruvian, Chinese, Afghani, and North African communities

Télé-Bruxelles

Type: Local, commercial station in Brussels
 Broadcast Language(s): French
 Minority-oriented Programme: *Coup de Pouce*
 Aired: Every other Saturday
 Audience for Programme: Multicultural, urban young people
 Email: courrier@coup2pouce.com / info@telebruxelles.be
 Address: Rue Gabrielle Petit, 32-34, 1080 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-421-02-42
 Fax: 0032-2-421-02-44
 Description: Variety show conceived, directed, presented, and produced by young urban people of different ethnic backgrounds.

Greek

ERT

Type: Public channel from Greece accessible by cable in Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Greek

⁷ Channels accessible by satellite dish are not included in this list for they are numerous and available to anyone with a dish. Many international channels are equally accessible via cable and via satellite dish, yet the availability of international channels through Belgian cable operators is rather limited, as evidenced above.

Email: <http://www.ert.gr/>
 Address: 432 Mesoghion Avenue, GR-153 42 Agia Paraskevi, Athens, Greece
 Telephone: 00251-30-1770-1911

Italian

Rai Uno

Type: Channel from Italy accessible by cable in Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Modern Standard Arabic
 Website: <http://www.raiuno.rai.it>

Polish

TV Polonaise

Type: Channel from Poland accessible by cable in Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Polish

Portuguese

RTP International

Type: Public channel from Portugal accessible by cable in Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Portuguese
 Email: opinioes@rtp.pt
 Address: Sede, Avenida 5 de Outubro, n°197, 1050-054 Lisboa, Portugal
 Telephone: 00351-217-947

Spanish

TVE

Type: Channel from Spain accessible by cable from Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Spanish (Castilian)
 Email: direccion.comunicacion@rtve.es
 Website: <http://www.rtve.es/tve/>

Turkish

Euroshow

Type: Commercial channel from Turkey accessible by cable from Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Turkish
 Email: euroshow@medyatext.com

TRT Aurasya

Type: Public channel from Turkey accessible by cable in Belgium
 Broadcast Language(s): Turkish
 Email: <http://www.trt.net.tr/>

Internet

Dutch

-Arab Community

Thakafa 11

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Languages: Dutch
 User group: Arab community
 Website: www.Thakafa11.be
 Email: vzwthakafa11@hotmail.com
 Address: Appelstraat 41, 2140 Borgerhout
 Telephone: 03 235 05 89
 Fax: 03 236 94 85
 Description: Site on Arab culture

*-Jewish Community*Goedkosjer

Type: Not-for-profit site

Languages: Dutch

User group: Jewish community

Editor: Henri Rosenberg

Website: <http://www.goedkosjer.org/index.htm>Email: goedkosjer@goedkosjer.org / President@goedkosjer.org

Address: Goedkosjer - Joodse Verbruikersvereniging v.z.w., Belgiëlei 195a, 2018 Antwerp

Telephone: 0032-477-23-08-32

Fax: 0032-3-218-46-63

Established: 1999

Description: "The defence of Jewish Consumers is of paramount importance: to get kosher products at the lowest cost." Information, links, and an electronic newsletter

*- Muslim Community*Vereniging voor de Ontwikkeling en Emancipatie van Moslims

Type: Not-for-profit site

Languages: Dutch

User group: Muslim community in Flanders

Editor: Ahmad Zahed

Website: <http://users.pandora.be/voem.vzw/>Email: voem.vzw@village.uunet.be

Address: Duinstraat 152, 2060 Antwerp

Telephone: 0032-3-272-35-07

Fax: 0032-3-272-35-07

Established: 1996

Description: Information about events, studies and news

*-Thai Community*Thaibel

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: Dutch

User group: Thai community

Website: <http://www.thaibel.be>Email: vzw@thaibel.be

Address: Voorzitter Louis Vermeulen, L. van Berkenbau 178, 2140 Borgerhout (Antwerp)

Telephone: 0032-3-322-32-19

Description: Information for the Thai community in Flanders and news about events and activities

*-Multicultural Community*Kif Kif

Type: Not-for-profit site

Languages: Dutch

User group: Multicultural community, immigrant community

Editor: Tarik Fraihi

Website: <http://users.belgacom.net/KifKif/>Email: kifkif@wol.be

Address: Kif Kif, Bondgenotenstraat 52, 1190 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-344-69-92

Fax: 0032-2-346-17-71

Description: A discussion forum and a lot of texts on the multicultural debate

*English*Antwerp Indian

Type: Not-for-profit site

Languages: English

User group: Indian community in Antwerp
 Editor: Hitesh Patel
 Website: <http://users.pandora.be/aia/>
 Email: aia@pandora.be
 Description: Polls, news, sports in India and Pakistan, music and film

French

-Iberian/Latin American Community

La Tentation/Centro Galego de Bruxelles

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Iberian/Latin American community and interested public

Website: <http://www.latentation.org/html/index.html>

Email: info@latentation.org

Address: 28, rue de Laken, 1000 Brussels

Description: Cultural events and information site

-Iranian Community

Centre Culturel Omar Khayam

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Multicultural community, Iranian community

Website: <http://users.swing.be/CCOKhayam>

Email: CCOKhayam@swing.be

Address: 37, rue du Conseil, 1050 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-513-20-43

Fax: 0032-2-513-33-54

Description: Belgo-Iranian cultural organisation interested in creating a dialogue between different cultural communities

-Jewish Community

Centre communautaire juif laic

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Jewish community

Website: <http://www.cclj.be>

Email: info@cclj.be

Address: 52, rue de l'Hotel des Monnaies, Brussels 1060

Telephone: 0032-2-543-02-80

Description: Community events, news about community

Jewish Community of Antwerp

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: Dutch

User group: Jewish community

Editor: David M.Lieberman

Website: <http://members.net4all.be/shomre-hadas/>

Email: shomre-hadas@net4all.be

Telephone: 0032 -3-232-01-87

Description: Information page about Judaism in Antwerp

- Muslim Community

Assabyle.com

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Muslim community

Website: <http://assabyle.com/>

Description: Includes events, news in Belgium, Islamic services, and a forum

Islam-Belgique

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Muslim community, with 626 members

Website: <http://www.islam-Belgique.com>

Email: www.islam-Belgique.com

Description: "The site for Muslims in Belgium." Includes articles, agenda, political movements, announcements, forum

Nassira Network

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Muslim women and larger Muslim community

Editor: Abdel Malek

Website: <http://www.nassira.net/fr/nassira.html>

Email: info@nassira.net

Telephone: 0032-2-275-65-36

Description: Interested in "fighting against the lack of understanding and the rejection of one of the symbols the most visible of Islam: the veil that Muslim women wear," includes web-rings, forum, articles, participation

Solidaires du peuple palestin

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Palestinian community in Belgium and interested public

Editor: Giorgio Basile

Website: <http://www.solidarite-palestine.org/index.html>

Email: webmaster@solidarite-palestine.org

Established: 2000-Present

Description: Includes news, organisation info that is Belgium-specific, culture, books, agenda

-North African Community

Ibn Batouta

Type: Not-for-profit site

Languages: French

User group: Moroccan and North African immigrant community

Editor: Sarie Abdeslam

Website: <http://www.chez.com/dounia>

Email: dounia@chez.com

Address: 42, rue des Alliés, 1190 Brussels

Description: News and cultural history

-Pan-African Community

Afriqu'Events

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Congolese community

Editor: Kayomb Tshombe

Website: <http://users.skynet.be/sky35213/afr028.htm>

Congonline

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Congolese community

Editor: Emmanuel Makondambuta

Website: <http://www.congonline.com>

Email: Emmanuel.Makondambuta@congonline.com

Address: Afriq'Info ASBL, 87, chaussée de Louvain, 1210 Brussels

Description: News service about Belgium, Congo and other African countries; women's section; interactive forum option

Congovision

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Congolese community

Editor: Transnational editorial staff, with Dr. Jean-Macaire Munzele Munzimi (Belgium)

Website: <http://www.congovision.com/>

Email: munzele33@hotmail.com

Description: News, events, forum, cultural information, advertisements, links

-Multicultural Community

Démocratie Plus

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: French

User group: Multicultural community

Website: <http://users.swing.be/demoplus/demo+/accueil2.htm>

Email: demoplus@swing.be

Address: rue de l'Union, 10, 1210 Brussels

Telephone: 0032-2-218-19-17

Fax: 0032-2-218-19-17

Description: Organisation existing since the early 1980s in different formats, interested in developing citizenship amongst people living in Brussels of different socio-economic and cultural backgrounds, site is comprised of events, organisation information, and links

Zinneke Parade

Type: Not-for-profit site

Languages: French

User group: Multicultural community of Brussels

Website: <http://www.zinneke.org/>

Description: Parade of multicultural Brussels in spring

Italian

L'Altra Sicilia

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: Italian

User group: Those of Sicilian origin living in Belgium

Editor: Francesco Paolo Catania

Website: <http://www.laltrasicilia.com/>

Email: editore@laltrasicilia.com

Address: Fondazione L'Altra Sicilia, Boulevard de Dixmude 40/5 Brussels, 1000

Telephone: 0032-2-217-48-31

Description: News, business, concerning Italian diaspora in Belgium and connections to other countries

La Maiella

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: Italian

User group: Those originally from Abruzzo living in Charleroi

Editor: Pietro Perseo

Website: <http://users.skynet.be/maiella/italien.htm>

Email: la.maiella@skynet.be

Address: Rue de Montpellier 12, B-6030 Marchienne-au-Pont

Description: Links between Belgium and Italy (especially Charleroi and the Abruzzo region)

*Portuguese*Associação de Portugueses Emigrados na Bélgica

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: Portuguese
 User group: Portuguese community
 Website: <http://www.apeb.be/>
 Email: apeb@ngm.be
 Address: Rue de Belgrade, 120, 1060 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-539-18-84
 Established: Organisation started in 1966
 Description: Informational page for the cultural organisation

*Spanish*Aquí Europa

Type: Commercial site
 Language: Spanish
 User group: Spanish-speaking community
 Editor: Transnational editorial team, with Javier Fábregas in Belgium
 Website: <http://www.aquieuropa.com>
 Email: redaccion@aquieuropa.com
 Address: 7, rue André Fauchille, 1150 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-740-18-30
 Fax: 0032-2 -740-18-31
 Description: On-line news service about the European Union

Comité d'aide au Nicaragua

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: Spanish
 User group: Spanish-speaking community
 Editor: André Dénoulet
 Website: <http://www.anic.be.tf/>
 Email: info@anic.be.tf
 Address: Rue Théodore Decuyper 168, 1200 Woluwe-Saint-Lambert
 Description: Supporting Nicaraguans, organising cultural events

El Diario Internacional

Type: Commercial site
 Language: Spanish
 User group: Spanish-speaking community
 Editor: Luis Arce Borja
 Website: www.eldiariointernacional.com
 Email: eldiario@hotmail.com
 Address: BP 705, 1000 Brussels
 Description: There are both online and paper copies available, includes news on Europe and European Union matters

Latinos.be

Type: Site
 Language: Spanish (soon to also be in French)
 User group: Spanish-speaking community
 Editor: Coello S. Róbinson
 Website: <http://www.latinos.be>
 Email: robinson@latinos.be
 Description: "Search engine for website related to the Spanish and Latin American world within Belgium"

La pagina de la Comunidad de los Mexicanos en Belgica

Type: Not-for-profit site

Language: Spanish
 User group: Mexican community
 Editor: Ana Ledesma
 Website: <http://users.chello.be/cr40073/>
 Email: ana.elizabeth@wanadoo.be
 Description: Includes news about music, culture, local events, radio show on Radio Campus, advertisements, forum, agenda

Multilingual

-Jewish Community

European Sephardic Institute

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: French/Spanish/English
 User group: Sephardic Jewish community
 Editor: Moïse Rahmani
 Website: <http://www.sefarad.org/>
 Email: moise.rahmani@sefarad.org
 Description: Includes announcements, news, links that are Belgium specific

-Latin American Community

Maison Amérique Latine

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: Spanish/French
 User group: Latin American Community
 Website: <http://www.america-latina.be/>
 Email: info@america-latina.be
 Address: Rue Berckmans, 14, 1060 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-538-19-12
 Description: Organising cultural events as well as being the domain upon which many organisations are built

-Turkish Community

Info-Türk

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Languages: French/Turkish/English
 User group: Turkish community and interested public
 Editor: Dogan Özgüden
 Website: <http://www.info-turk.be>
 Email: editor@info-turk.be
 Address: 53, rue de Pavie, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-215-35-76
 Fax: 0032-2-215-58-60
 Established: 1976-Present
 Description: Once a printed bulletin, now only available electronically, about aspects of the Turkish community in Belgium and in Europe

-Multicultural Community

Ghent Centre for Islam in Europe

Type: Not-for-profit, educational
 Languages: French/Dutch/English/Spanish/Turkish/Arabic/German
 User group: Multicultural community
 Editor: Herman de Ley
 Website: <http://www.flwi.rug.ac.be/cie/>
 Email: herman.deley@rug.ac.be
 Address: Ghent University, Dpt. of Philosophy and Moral Science, 2, Blandijnberg, 9000 Gent
 Telephone: 0032-9-264-40-25
 Fax: 0032-9-264-41-64

Description: "The Centre for Islam in Europe aims at giving European Islam an academic status while developing tools for combating all racism." Activities and conference announcements, academic papers, links

Institut Européen de Recherche sur la Coopération Méditerranéenne et Euro-Arabe

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: French/Arabic
 User group: Mediterranean community
 Editor: Charles Ferdinand Nothomb
 Website: <http://www.medeas.be>
 Email: medea@medea.be
 Address: Avenue de la Renaissance 10, B-1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-231-13-00
 Fax: 0032-2-231-06-46
 Description: Reviews of Turkish, Arabic and international press

Livraria Orfeu

Type: Hybrid profit/not-for-profit site
 Language: Portuguese/English/French/Dutch
 User group: Portuguese community
 Website: <http://www.geocities.com/livrariaorfeu/>
 Email: orfeu.livrariaportug@belgacom.net
 Address: Willem de Zwijgerstraat 43, Rue du Taciturne, 1000 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-735-00-77
 Description: Includes activities, advertisement for the bookstore called 'Livraria Orfeu', and an e-newsletter

OSHUN asbl on the NET/Asociación Arte y Cultura de América Latina y del Caribe

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: Spanish/English/French/Danish/German/Swedish/Portuguese
 User group: Multicultural community
 Editor: Emilio Rodriguez
 Website: <http://www.geocities.com/TimesSquare/8657/oshun.htm>
 Email: Emilio.Rodriguez@dg23.cec.be
 Address: 18, rue de la Tourelle, 1040 Brussels
 Telephone: 0032-2-230-65-53
 Description: Includes cultural events calendar and information

Suffrage Universel

Type: Not-for-profit site
 Language: French/English
 User group: Multicultural community
 Editor: Pierre-Yves Lambert
 Website: <http://users.skynet.be/suffrage-universel/>
 Email: pyl.lambert@skynet.be
 Description: Informational site compiling articles and data about a wide variety of immigrant-related issues

II. By Technology, Language and Group

Analogue Radio

Dutch

Radio Multipop

Spanish

Radio Onda Libre

*Multilingual**-Jewish Community*

Radio Judaïca

-North African Community

Radio Al Manar

-Mediterranean Community

Radio Alma

Radio Si

-Multicultural Community

Radio Air Libre

Radio Campus

Radio Centraal

Radio Panik

Radio Urgent

*Analogue Television**Arabic*

MBC

RTM

*French**-Multicultural Community*

RTBF 1 & 2

Télé-Bruxelles

Greek

ERT

Italian

Rai Uno

Polish

TV Polonaise

Portuguese

RTP International

Spanish

TVE

Turkish

Euroshow

TRT Aurasya

*Press**Chinese*

The Chinese Explorer

*Dutch**-Jewish Community*

Belgisch Israëlitisch Weekblad

*-North African Community*Jeugdhuis Rzoemie
Newsbrief*-Pan-African Community*

Bravo

*-Multicultural Community*Agenda
Cultuur en Migratie
Het Huis van Palmyra
Divers
Panache Courant
't Santeke*English*

The Bulletin

*French**-Jewish Community*Kadima Magazine
Regards*-North African Community*Bulletin de la Jeunesse maghrébine
Droits de l'Homme au Maroc
Horizons Magazine*-Pan-African Community*L'Africain
Le Soft International*-Multicultural Community*Agenda Interculturel
Bruxelles Plus
El-Kalima
Horizons 2000
L'Immigré
MRAX-Info
Nouvelle Tribune: Revue d'information et réflexion des communautés d'origine étrangères en Belgique
Objectif immigrés
Osmoses
Plurielles
Reflets Magazine
Resonances

Italian

Alternative
 Costruiamo insieme
 Il Bollettino
 Il Circolo
 Italia News
 La Piazza
 Notiziario
 Presenza e Azione
 Qui Italia
 Trent'

Polish

Echo
 Listy z daleka
 Nasza Wspolnota
 Nowiny Brukselskie
 Pol-Echo
 Syntezy
 Wolne Slowo

Serbo-Croat

Koraci

Spanish

El Prisma
 El Sol de Belgica
 Generación E

*Multilingual**-Greek Community*

Agora Αγρό
 Euro-epirotiki ΕΥΡΩ - ΗΠΕΙΡΩΤΙΚΗ
 Europaratiritis/Euroobserveur ΕΥΡΩΠΑΡΑΤΗΡΗΤΗΣ ΒΡΥΞΕΛΛΩΝ
 Les Nouvelles Louvieroises ΤΑ ΝΕΑ ΤΗΣ ΛΟΥΒΙΕΡ
 Nicandros ΝΙΚΑΝΔΡΟΣ

-Italian Community

Azione sociale
 Cittadini Europei (formerly L'Incontro)
 La Citta Futura
 L'Araldo
 La Voce
 Leonardo da Vinci Bulletini
 Maelstrom
 Missione-Migrazione
 Sabir

-Kurdish Community

Berichten van en over Koerden
 Info-Blad

-Latin American Community

Boletin
 Colibri

Panoramica

-North African Community

Akhbar
De Wegwijzer

-Pan-African Community

Ghanaba
Mambo Leo
SILOT

-Turkish Community

Birlik
Cagdaş
Equipe
Rachmet
Turk-Danis Migrente

-Multicultural Community

Périodical de Foyer
L'Egalité
Refugies d'hier/Refugies d'aujourd'hui

Internet

Dutch

-Arab Community

Thakafa 11

-Jewish Community

Goedkosjer

-Muslim Community

Vereniging voor de Ontwikkeling en Emancipatie van Moslims

-Thai Community

Thaibel

-Multicultural Community

Kif Kif

English

Antwerp Indian

French

-Arabo-Muslim Community

Assabyle.com
Islam-Belgique
Nassira Network
Solidaires du peuple palestin

-Iberian/Latin American Community

La Tentation/Centro Galego de Bruxelas

-Iranian Community

Centre Culturel Omar Khayam

-Jewish Community

Centre communautaire juif laïc
Jewish Community of Antwerp

-North African Community

Ibn Batouta

-Pan-African Community

Afriqu'Events
Congonline
Congovision

-Multicultural Community

Démocratie Plus
Zinneke Parade

Italian

L'Altra Sicilia
La Maiella

Portuguese

Associação de Portugueses Emigrados na Bélgica

Spanish

Aquí Europa
Comité d'aide au Nicaragua
El Diario Internacional
Latinos.be
La pagina de la Comunidad de los Mexicanos en Belgica

*Multilingual**-Jewish Community*

European Sephardic Institute

-Latin American Community

Maison Amérique Latine

-Turkish Community

Info-Türk

-Multicultural Community

Ghent Centre for Islam in Europe
Institut Européen de Recherche sur la Coopération Méditerranéenne et Euro-Arabe
Livraria Orfeu
OSHUN asbl on the NET/Asociación Arte y Cultura de América Latina y del Caribe

Suffrage Universel

III. In Relation to Space

Transnational

-Press

There is no minority-oriented printed press in Belgium that is transnational.

-Radio

Médi-1 (on Radio Al Manar's frequency)

*-Television*⁸

ERT & ERT 1
Euroshow
MBC
Rai Uno
RTM
RTP International
TRT Aurasya
TVE
TV Polonaise

*-Internet*⁹

Afriqu'Events
L'Altra Sicilia
Antwerp Indian
Aquí Europa
Assabyle.com
Associação de Portugueses Emigrados na Bélgica
Centre communautaire juif laïc
Centre Culturel Omar Khayam
Comité d'aide au Nicaragua
Congonline
Congovision
Démocratie Plus
El Diario Internacional
European Sephardic Institute
Ghent Centre for Islam in Europe
Goedkosjer
Ibn Batouta
Info-Türk
Institut Européen de Recherche sur la Coopération Méditerranéenne et Euro-Arabe
Islam-Belgique
Jewish Community of Antwerp
Kif Kif
Latinos.be
Livraria Orfeu
La Maiella
Maison Amérique Latine
Nassira Network
OSHUN asbl on the NET/Asociación Arte y Cultura de América Latina y del Caribe
La Pagina de la Comunidad de los Mexicanos en Belgica
Solidaires du peuple palestin

⁸ Not listed here are channels accessible by satellite dish.

⁹ This list is not claiming to be exhaustive but rather representative. All information on-line is transnational in nature in that it can be received anywhere in the world (with the exceptions of the places touched by censorship) but its informational content can be more nationalised or localised, does that make it national or local?

Suffrage Universel
 La Tentation/Centro Galego de Bruxelles
 Thaibel
 Thakafa 11
 Vereniging voor de Ontwikkeling en Emancipatie van Moslims
 Zinneke Parade

National

Due to the multilingual nature of Belgium as well as to the divisions between the Linguistic Communities and Regions of the country, it is difficult to talk of the existence of national-level press, radio, and television media. Therefore, they are either mostly local ('regional') or transnational in nature.

-Press

There is no minority-oriented press of national nature in Belgium.

-Radio

There is no minority-oriented radio of national nature in Belgium.

-Television

There is no minority-oriented television of national nature in Belgium.

-Internet

Given that things on-line are transnational, how can we speak of them on a national level?

Local

-Press

L'Africain
 Agenda
 Agenda Interculturel
 Agora Αγορά
 Akhbar
 Alternative
 L'Araldo
 Azione sociale
 Belgisch Israëlitisch Weekblad
 Berichten van en over Koerden
 Birlik
 Boletin
 Il Bollettino
 Bravo
 Bruxelles Plus
 The Bulletin
 Bulletin de la Jeunesse maghrebine
 Çağdaş
 The Chinese Explorer
 La Citta Futura
 Cittadini Europei
 Il Circolo
 Colibri
 Costruiamo insieme
 Cultuur en Migratie
 De Wegwijzer
 Divers
 Droits de l'Homme au Maroc
 Echo
 L'Egalité
 Equipe
 Euro-epirotiki ΕΥΡΩ - ΗΠΕΙΡΩΤΙΚΗ
 Europaratiritis/Euroobserveur ΕΥΡΩΠΑΡΑΤΗΡΗΤΗΣ ΒΡΥΞΕΛΛΩΝ

El-Kalima
 Generación E
 Ghanaba
 Het Huis van Palmyra
 Horizons 2000
 Horizons Magazine
 L'Immigré
 Info-Blad
 Italia News
 Jeugdhuis Rzoemie
 Kadima Magazine
 Koraci
 Leonardo da Vinci Bulletini
 Listy z daleka
 Maelstrom
 Mambo Leo
 Missione-Migrazione
 MRAX-Info
 Nasza Wspolnota
 Nicandros ΝΙΚΑΝΔΡΟΣ
 Newsbrief
 Notiziario
 Nowiny Brukselskie
 Les Nouvelles Louvieroises ΤΑ ΝΕΑ ΤΗΣ ΛΟΥΒΙΕΡ
 Nouvelle Tribune
 Objectf immigrés
 Osmoses
 Panache Courant
 Panoramica
 Périodical de Foyer
 La Piazza
 Plurielles
 Pol-Echo
 Presenza e Azione
 El Prisma
 Qui Italia
 Rachmet
 Reflets Magazine
 Refugies d'hier/Refugies d'aujourd'hui
 Regards
 Resonances
 Sabir
 't Santeke
 SILOT
 Le Soft International
 El Sol de Belgica
 Syntezy
 Trent'
 Turk-Danis Migrente
 La Voce
 Wolne Slowo

-Radio

Radio Air Libre
 Radio Al Manar
 Radio Alma
 Radio Campus
 Radio Centraal
 Radio Judaica
 Radio Multipop

Radio Onda Libre
 Radio Panik
 Radio Si
 Radio Urgent

-Television

ATV
 RTBF
 TéléBruxelles
 VRT

-Internet

Given that things on-line are transnational, how can we speak of them on a local level? Is it when the content is locally-oriented?

Some Preliminary Observations from the Mapping

The three mappings above were divided as follows: ethnic group and/or language, and type of media; technology, language and group; and relation to space. In order to draw conclusions and formulate questions about them, it is useful to examine each type of media and its particular relationship to those of ethnic minority and immigrant origin.

Television

In 1994, the European Broadcasting Union drafted a declaration on the role of public service broadcasters in a multiracial, multicultural and multi-faith Europe:

We, public service broadcasters, noting that freedom of expression, including the freedom of the media, is one of the fundamental condition of a genuine democratic society, are fully aware of the important role that we have to play in a multiracial, multicultural and multi-faith Europe.

The existing EBU Statutes stipulate that each member organisation must provide a service of national character and importance in its own country. It must serve the entire national population, offering programming for all sections of the population, including minorities.

Therefore, it is essential that we make every effort to reflect the cultural, racial, and linguistically diverse character of our societies accurately in our programmes and the workforce.

We, as broadcasters, should ensure that our services defend the equal rights and dignity of all human beings, reject trivialisation of violence and act against xenophobia, racism and destructive nationalism.

In concert with the 1993 Vienna Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Council of Europe, we are concerned at the rise of racism and fascism in Europe and believe it is our duty to combat these issues (European Broadcasting Union 1994).

Two of Belgium's three public broadcasters, the Dutch-speaking Community's VRT and the French-speaking Community's RTBF, belong to the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) and adopted the above declaration. For some years, VRT and RTBF participated in a novel EBU media-exchange programme in which they would freely exchange

documentary programmes specifically on multicultural issues with other international members of the EBU (i.e., Germany, the UK, France, Hungary, and Denmark, amongst others) in order to increase international awareness and professional collaboration on the issues of immigration and multiculturalism (Voets 2002). This pioneering exchange programme has inspired the creation of similar exchanges elsewhere and amongst different international media groups.

There have been only a couple of television shows broadcasted on the two VRT (Vlaamse Radio en Televisieomroep, previously known as BRTN) channels over the years that were specifically geared towards communities of immigrant origin: *Babel* (1985-1992) and *Couleur locale* (1992-1995). At first, *Babel* addressed seven communities of immigrants in Flanders (Moroccan, Turkish, Greek, Italian, Spanish, Yugoslavian, and Portuguese) in a monthly show that was quickly judged too costly to continue. It modified its format and chose to target Turkish and Moroccan audiences, with segments in Turkish and in Arabic with Dutch subtitles. Yet, by 1992, the programme was taken off the air due to a “diminished interest” by the immigrant community (Frachon and Vargaftig 1993: 131). It seems that the decline was due in part to the introduction of the Turkish state television station, TRT, into local Belgian cable offerings, which took away the audience for the show on VRT. However, *Couleur locale* popped onto the scene shortly after the demise of *Babel* in 1992.

Between 1992 and 1995, VRT produced an ‘ethnic minority programme’ entitled *Couleur locale* on its Channel 2 (*Canvas*). Unlike *Babel*, which targeted a specific ethnic audience, *Couleur locale* wanted to “serve as a meeting place between *old* and *new* Belgians” (Frachon and Vargaftig 1993: 131). The programme met with success and much praise, bringing journalists of multicultural background onto the small screen for the first time in Belgium. For a Belgian public television programme, it gathered a significant audience of around 100,000 viewers and there is evidence that it was also brought into the classroom to be used as a teaching tool. The creator of the show, Flip Voets, believes that there was enough material for the show to continue for at least one more year (Voets 2002: Interview). However, VRT intended to start integrating ethnic issues into its mainstream programming and to incorporate the journalists trained for *Couleur locale* in other network projects. Voets believes that it is important for minority journalists to integrate into non-minority-oriented shows because, as he explains, “*Couleur locale* was still just thirty minutes of minorities on the screen per week, while they were absent during the rest of the week.”

Yet few new journalists of immigrant origin have joined VRT, outside of those trained for *Couleur locale* since the close of the show that are now anchoring sports and tourism programmes for the network. One of the reasons for the lack of journalists of immigrant origin in the public media might be that, until quite recently, to work in a public institution it was necessary to have Belgian nationality (Voets 1996). By 2001, VRT started an initiative to create a more 'multicultural' television station by employing more immigrants and those of immigrant origin, and to create a more positive image of migrants on television (Staes 2001b). Since there is no official state-sponsored policy for equal opportunity employment in Belgium, VRT has, to its credit, been very active in working towards the establishment of equal opportunities for women (since 1988) and for ethnic minorities (since 1992).

The Flemish community's public broadcaster, VRT (formerly BRTN), states in its 1997 'Decree for the transformation of the BRTN into a public sector public limited company' that,

As public broadcaster, the objective of the VRT is to reach as many viewers and listeners as possible with a diversity of programmes which arouse and satisfy the interest of the viewers and listeners. (...) The programmes must contribute to the further development of the identity and diversity of Flemish culture and to a democratic and tolerant society. Via its programmes, the VRT must contribute to independent, objective and pluralistic public opinion forming in Flanders (VRT 2002).

Although ethnic minorities are still hardly common at VRT, they are taking some interesting approaches to getting minorities more involved in making media that corresponds more closely to their lives.

The Francophone Community's public broadcaster, RTBF (Radio-Télévision belge de la Communauté francophone), follows the same tenets of 'diversity, democracy and tolerance' as its Flemish counterpart, VRT. It, too, has offered a handful of programmes to specific audiences of immigrant origin. As early as 1964, a radio programme entitled, *La Wallonie accueille des étrangers*, broadcast to the Italian community and, later on, to the Greek, Spanish, Polish, Yugoslavian, Portuguese, and North Africans who had come to work in Wallonia's mines. By 1965, it arrived in a televised format and was called, *Inter-Wallonie*. The programme addressed social, political, and economic issues relevant to immigrant workers until it was "profoundly changed" in 1987 due to budget restrictions (Frachon and Vargaftig 1993: 128). Other programmes existed for different lengths of time and targeted specific audiences, like *Ciao amici* and *Para Vosotros* targeting the Italian community, *Zdravo* for the Yugoslavian community, *Noticias* and *Entre dois cais* for the Portuguese community,

Hasret for the Turkish community, *Nychtologa* for the Greek community, *Spotkania* for the Polish community, and *Inter-regards* and *Ileikoum* ('For you' in Arabic) for the North African community. All of these programmes suffered a decline in interest due to two phenomena: the first being the emerging availability of international channels on cable and, later on, via satellite dish, and the second being that these shows addressed the first generation of immigrants not the second generation, who were born in Belgium, spoke French, and harboured less a nostalgic desire to return to their parents' country of origin. The only minority media survivor today on RTBF is a programme that spun off of *Ileikoum*, entitled *Sindbad*.

Referring to the legendary Arab sailor, *Sindbad* was launched in 1991 from *Ileikoum* after the network realised what a positive impact *Ileikoum* had within the North African community after the 1991 Forest riots in Brussels and responded to the community's interest by creating a new show. Following the riots, *Ileikoum* had produced a programme segment that involved the principal actors involved in the riots: young people, their parents, police, and representatives of the local governments. This programme responded directly to the post-riot psychological and political shocks experienced throughout Belgium (Frachon and Vergaftig 1993: 129). There was a demand for programming such as this from within the community of immigrant origin, so Khiti-Amina Benhachem and Merhdad Taghian were encouraged by the network to create *Sindbad*, a multicultural show in French that promotes intercultural understanding and awareness. The promotional material for *Sindbad* explains that,

It was time for the Belgian society to become aware that it is no longer a society composed of Belgians on one hand and immigrants on the other. Rather, it is quite simply a plural society. *Sindbad* addresses all audiences that are looking for a meeting place, a place of exchange, of dialogue, of respect and of tolerance; a space where lesser-known cultures can express themselves; a space where associations can also find an echo in response to their efforts towards a harmonious cohabitation; a place where the experiences of associations can be reflected and shared by the community; a place that invites discovery not only with the eyes but also with the heart (Maliki 2001: 8).

In the last ten years, *Sindbad* has covered topics as diverse as the Moroccans that fought in World War II for Belgium, Peruvian festivals in Belgium, intercultural musical and artistic fusions, and Brussels' politicians of immigrant origin.

Sindbad is currently broadcast by RTBF twice per month (except during summer) on La Deux (the second RTBF channel) and rebroadcast on La Une (the first RTBF channel) and La Deux. It is similarly shown on TV5 Québec-Canada and on RTBF's satellite channel (RTBF SAT). It is also recast on TV5 Europe. In 1995, *Sindbad* won the Prize for Media's Encouragement of a Harmonious Society ('Prix d'encouragement des

médias pour une société harmonieuse') in 1995, awarded by the King Baudouin Foundation.

In addition to public broadcast television, the local Brussels commercial station, TéléBruxelles, broadcasts *Coup de Pouce*, which is a multicultural programme targeting urban teenagers that is hosted and sculpted by young people of different ethnic groups. It is a project between the station and different Belgian, youth-oriented, socio-cultural organisations, like Dynamo, the Maison de Quartier communale 'Karreveld,' and the Formation Insertion Jeunes (F.I.J.). Young people create, present and direct the programme themselves. Also, the Antwerp-based cultural centre, Zuiderpershuis, has partnered up with ATV (Antwerp's local television station) for a unique media initiative, 'OFF-TV,' in which young people, half of whom are of immigrant origin, are trained to create short documentaries that will ultimately be aired on ATV (Voets 2002).

Outside of these few shows currently or once available on public and commercial stations, however, there is very little that is or has been specifically oriented to particular ethnic minorities in Belgium. Therefore, many turn to channels from their countries of origin or channels that operate in their maternal languages. The two main ways to access these international channels are via cable connections or via satellite dish receivers.

Belgian cable operators offer a limited variety of international channels in several languages to their clients. The following is a list of international cable channels (Dutch, French, and German language channels will not be included, as they are the official national languages of Belgium) available through cable: ERT (Greek); RTM (Arabic, from Morocco); TRT (Turkish); TV 'Polonaise' (Polish); RTP International (Portuguese); Rai Uno (Italian); TVE (Spanish); BBC 1, BBC 2, MTV, CNN, and CNBC (English). Furthermore, some cable operators offer 'bouquets' of channels that permit cable subscribers to receive additional channels for a low extra monthly fee. One such 'bouquet' is the 'TVD Arabesque,' offered by the cable operator, Radio Public, which includes channels such as RTM (Morocco) and MBC (UK), and/or the possibility of having the 'TVD Turquoise,' which includes the Turkish state channel, TRT, and the Turkish private channel, Euro Show (Lambert 1997a).

Given the small variety of international channels available through Belgian cable operators and the prices that they command per month, cable operators have a dwindling ability to attract customers of foreign origin in Belgium now because of the existence of the satellite dish, where it suffices to simply buy and install a satellite dish once in order to receive stations from throughout the world oftentimes for free. Perhaps

because of the availability to receive a spectrum of stations that are not available through cable operators, many immigrant and ethnic groups have turned to the satellite dish as a way to tune directly into channels from their countries of origin.

In certain municipalities (communes) within the country, special taxes are levied on all of those possessing satellite dishes. For example, in 1996, the City of Namur in Wallonia imposed an annual tax of 5000 BEF (or 123.95 euros) on “all external antennas, satellite or otherwise” (Lambert 1997b). Pierre-Yves Lambert, a Belgian independent researcher interested in ethnic minority and media issues, believes that these taxes discriminate unfairly against ethnic minorities because, he reasons, minorities are more likely to have satellite dishes in order to gain access to channels from home or channels broadcasting in their own primary languages. These taxes have oftentimes been put into place under urbanism directives that oftentimes forbid the installation of satellite dishes on the façades of buildings or even the installation of individual dishes themselves.

In 1995, Henri Simons, head of urbanism, proposed to the City of Brussels that “cable in Brussels should open itself up to television channels from elsewhere, both European and non-European. [...] Cable is still not open enough for these other types of channels and, today, the satellite dish permits certain groups of city dwellers to have access to their own cultures’ programmes. Thus, we cannot forbid satellite dishes” (Lambert 1997b). Yet the issue is not simply whether or not taxes should be levied on satellite dishes. It digs deeper into questions about how media is controlled and by whom as well as about the myriad forms in which discrimination against those of immigrant origin exist.

Radio

In Belgium, there are three forms of radio available: public, community, and commercial stations. Belgium’s Dutch-speaking, French-speaking, and German-speaking Communities are in charge of their own respective public broadcasters (VRT, RTBF, and BRF), allotting them frequencies and providing the necessary licenses and a certain amount of funding. There are numerous community/campus¹⁰ and commercial stations throughout the country. While all Belgian stations may at some point broadcast ‘multicultural programmes,’ only a handful of stations—typically community/campus

¹⁰ Because Belgium’s governmental structure is divided between Regions and Communities, I have chosen to reduce the possible confusion between ‘Community radio’ (or public radio) and ‘community radio’ (or not-for-profit radio), referring in this text to ‘community/campus radio’ to signify the latter of the two terms.

stations—are true ‘multicultural broadcasters.’ A ‘multicultural broadcaster’ can be defined as

a broadcaster that broadcasts programmes in the common language (*lingua franca*) of the country but in which listeners of all different cultural backgrounds can recognise themselves in one way or another... Apart from these different definitions of what is a multicultural *broadcaster*, there are also a number of different definitions of multicultural *programmes*. These include concepts such as ‘cross-cultural’, ‘cosmopolitan’, and multilingual programming. One also encounters concepts such as ‘urban culture’ and ‘world music’ (Hulshoff 1999).

Belgium’s public broadcasters provide multicultural programmes, generally in the vein of ‘world music’ shows. VRT, the Flemish Community’s public broadcaster, controls five public Dutch-language radio stations, each one designed to respond to specific target audiences. They offer music, local and international news, and sports coverage. Radio Vlaams International (RVI), VRT’s international service, broadcasts in Dutch, French, German, and English. In the past, they had programmes in Arabic and in Spanish but no longer. Other VRT stations are geared towards the mainstream audience and do not have specific programmes for minorities but rather try to include them and issues concerning them in the regular programmes, in order to avoid ‘ghettoisation’ (Coppey 2002). RTBF, the French Community’s public broadcaster, also controls five public stations, correspondingly in the French language. ‘Globo City’, is a world music programme on Studio Brussel. On VRT’s Radio 1, there are a few multicultural programmes that are largely musical in content: ‘Cucamonga’, ‘Club Tropical’, and ‘Het einde van de wereld’.

Belgium’s different Communities also regulate commercial and community/campus radio. These stations are allotted frequencies and must have a license in order to be able to air programming. Community/campus radio operates on a not-for-profit basis, and has access to frequencies and to licenses without heavy fees, unlike commercial radio that is a for-profit venture and, thus, pays more for access to the airways. There are hundreds of local, largely commercial radio stations throughout Belgium, with 330 stations estimated to exist in Flanders alone in 1999 (Hulshoff 1999). In contrast with almost all public and commercial radio stations that limit their multicultural broadcasts to a handful of ‘world music’ shows, community/campus stations in Belgium offer a wider variety of broadcasts aimed at specific ethnic and linguistic communities and those interested in ‘cross-cultural’ exchange, sometimes broadcasting programmes in the languages of the target audiences.

Over twenty community/campus stations exist throughout Belgium, with a majority being based in Brussels. With the exception of a few commercial stations, the

community/campus radio stations are the sole purveyors of radio programmes (outside of world music programmes) in languages outside of Dutch, French, German, and English.¹¹ Programmes are available through these stations in Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, Greek, Albanian, Turkish, Assyrian, Arabic dialects, Berber languages, Hebrew, and Lingala (language from the Democratic Republic of the Congo). No community/campus station broadcasts solely in any one of these languages listed but, rather, commentary is conducted in one of the official state languages in addition to the use of these minority languages or multiple languages share the station's airtime. Furthermore, there are only a few stations that operate bilingually (i.e., French and Arabic). Most stations with minority language and music programmes intersperse several languages in their programme schedules, so that in any given week, for example, it is possible to hear on Radio Air Libre different programmes in French, Spanish, Lingala, Portuguese, and Arabic.

There are, however, a couple of commercial radio stations that are geared towards minority groups in the country. These stations have a specific linguistic and cultural target audience. They broadcast music and news that are particularly pertinent to their target audience, such as is the case with Radio Al Manar with its largely North African audience that broadcasts in French, different Arabic dialects, as well as in the Berber language that is spoken in Northern Morocco. Currently, Hassan Akhanouss presents the first ever Berber-language radio show in Belgium, 'Amaouel', on Radio Al Manar. Berber history, traditions and languages are not recognised and even suppressed by authorities in Morocco. Yet in Belgium, far from home, the Berber culture has also been silenced to some extent by the reticence of the Moroccan community, out of fear that promoting Berber culture would break apart the solidarity of the Moroccan community by focussing on the diversity within the community itself (Essenfiani 2001: 75). 'Amaouel' is a definitive example of how media revives and legitimises minority identities that exist *within* an immigrant community (minority groups within minority groups) by establishing a point of exchange and communication that is accessible by a large audience, allowing for Berber-speakers to share and celebrate their culture while at the same time increasing awareness of the Berber languages and traditions by the larger North African community.

¹¹ While English is not an official language of the state, it is a common language widely used throughout the European Union and is recognised as a relatively 'neutral' language in this country that is rife with linguistic tension.

Press

When considering press in Belgium, it is important to consider that the market for it is rather small due to the fact that the country itself is home to only ten million people and due to the linguistic divisions within the country that correspondingly further reduce the size of the market. For example, the most popular French-language newspaper, “Le Soir,” sold around 121,000 copies per day in 2000 (bought by less than 3% of French-speaking Belgians per day)(Eurobru.com 2001). In comparison, ethnic minority and immigrant-oriented press tends to be monthly or bimonthly, with only a few hundred to a few thousand copies printed per edition reaching only a fraction of the population in the country.

There are multiple reasons for this. Firstly, just as the national market is divided into linguistic audiences, the same holds for ethnic minority and immigrant-oriented press, as magazines, newspapers, bulletins, and newsletters tend to be written in the first languages of these communities, in the language of the region of Belgium in which they live, or in a mixture of the two. Secondly, the audience for this type of press is small and particular, oftentimes reflecting those who are members of organisations or who work in specific fields. Thirdly, this type of publication is plagued by financial and organisational problems that do not as easily affect large, commercial publishers. And, finally, this type of publication is oftentimes not able to compete for a slice of the ethnic minority and immigrant market when compared to the hundreds of professional and commercial newspapers, magazines, and so on that are available from the countries or regions of origin (i.e., the wide availability of Turkish daily newspapers that are printed in Germany as European editions, like “Hurriyet,” “Cumhuriyet Hafta,” “Milliyet,” and “Ozgur Politika,” in newsstands throughout Belgium) and from countries that have more advanced and organised (i.e., the large number of periodicals produced by the North African and Sub-Saharan African communities in France, like *Salama*, *Jeune Afrique/L’Intelligent*, and *Amina*, also available in many newsstands).

Excluding the vast amount of press produced outside of Belgium, there are three basic types of press created by and/or destined for ethnic minorities and immigrant communities available within Belgium:

1. Press created by public service organisations that are fully or partially sponsored by State or Community initiatives;
2. Press created by commercially oriented organisations or individuals;
3. Press created by not-for-profit organisations of a cultural, religious or political nature.

Each type of press is created by different types of organisations with particular goals; geared towards specific audiences of various sizes, opinions, interests and backgrounds; and characterised by various levels of stability and authority.

Several of the periodicals available that are assessed in this report (i.e., *Agenda Interculturel*, *Het Huis van Palmyra*, *L'Egalité*, *Refugiés d'hier/Refugiés d'aujourd'hui*, etc.) are the result of efforts made by public service organisations responsible for intercultural awareness and promotion within Belgium that are either sponsored by the State or one of the three Communities within the country. The Centre bruxellois d'action interculturelle, the Centre pour l'égalité des chances et la lutte contre le racisme, the Intercultureel Centrum voor Migranten, and the Vlaams Centrum Integratie Migranten are examples of such organisations with publications. Between one to a few thousand copies are printed and distributed (via subscriptions or, to a lesser extent, special book and press shops) for each edition. Once created, such publications are typically stable and tend to last over time. They are published in one or more of the official languages within Belgium.

Generally, the readership for these publications consists of those working in the vast field of social services that come into frequent contact with immigration or ethnic minority issues, which is a relatively multicultural group of people. While the audience for this type of publication might appear quite specialised, therefore rendering it somewhat exclusive, it is important to remember that many of those who do work with immigration and ethnic minority issues—as well as those who produce these publications—are of immigrant origin themselves. Such a publication includes practical information about conferences, cultural events, laws and regulations, as well as descriptive vignettes about associations, research findings, success stories and dilemmas experienced by the specialised community that comprise the readership. This type of publication is a functional tool of informational exchange that reinforces networks between groups and individuals that are entrusted with the great responsibility to inform those of Belgian and non-Belgian origin of a variety of issues, as well as to promote intercultural awareness and exchange.

The second type of press intended to reach those of immigrant origin is commercial press, or press created by a group or an individual for private profit. There are only a handful of periodicals created within Belgium that are purely commercial ventures. Examples of them include 'Mambo Leo,' 'El Sol de Belgica,' and 'The Chinese Explorer.' This type of publication tends to offer the most generalised and more popular information of the three types of press discussed. Those responsible for the publication

are overwhelmingly representative of the group that they are interested in targeting (i.e., 'Mambo Leo's editorial staff is largely of African origin), and the publication is produced in the language(s) most familiar to its audience. News and entertainment articles are accessible to a wider readership, and the advertisements and announcements address a wide variety of interests and needs. Articles can be about either issues within the country or region of origin or about issues within the ethnic or immigrant community located in Belgium itself. They tend to be written in a more professional and journalistic manner, avoiding academic language or extreme opinions. In addition, this type of press is produced more often (distributed weekly or monthly) than the other types (which are predominantly bimonthly or quarterly). This type of publication is less stable than the first type but more so than the third, in that it tends to exist as long as there is a readership that continues to buy it. It is diffused mainly through subscriptions or bought at the newsstand. Interestingly, it is easier to find at newsstands and in libraries than the other two types of press. A possible reason for the rarity of commercial press created within Belgium targeting ethnic and immigrant communities is that the vast majority of press purchased by these targeted groups is dominated by main-stream media groups within the country or region of origin, or it comes from the main-stream press produced within Belgium itself that has begun to recognise the profitability of including a bit more 'multicultural' content in its pages.

The vast majority of ethnic minority and immigrant-oriented press, however, is created by not-for-profit groups and associations (indicated in their names by 'ASBL' in French and 'VZW' in Dutch) in Belgium. Cultural, religious or political associations abound within Belgium, yet few have publications of their own. The Associazione Cristiana Lavoratori Italiani-Charleroi, the Unie van Turkse Verenigingen, and the Vereniging voor Ontwikkeling en Emancipatie van Moslims are some examples of associations that do produce press. Unfortunately, the nature of the publications that are created by these groups when they do manage to exist is relatively instable: some may be produced for several decades while others may last only a few months. This is connected to the voluntary, generally non-professional facet of not-for-profit associations. Those collaborating on a periodical typically volunteer to do so and are unpaid for their time and effort; interest and/or time available to contribute to its creation may wane over time. In addition, participation in not-for-profit associations is similarly instable. Individuals or factions may leave because of ideological clashes, lack of time, or declining interest—leading to the dissolution of the group itself (i.e., in the case of the evolving status of a certain political situation for or against which an organisation was

created). Also, there is a possibility that the interests of the organisation and of its corresponding publication may no longer respond to those for whom they intend to serve and represent (i.e., the divisions between different generations within a particular ethnic community).

Moreover, if the group is reliant upon an outside source of funding for the creation of its publication and funding is for some reason discontinued, then the publication is also generally discontinued. This can often be the case for media created by those of immigrant origin who perhaps have less access to funding possibilities either because their interests relate to a very specific audience or because they are not familiar with or are discriminated against by the hierarchies of authority that support and sponsor the creation of media. Therefore, while there have been an abundance of publications of this type, their existence is often fleeting. To combat this phenomenon, a handful of associations receive funding indirectly from the State/Community via public service organisations so that they may become more stable. For example, the Intercultureel Centrum voor Migranten, with money received from the Flemish government, provides partial funding to associations such as the Federatie Marokkanse Democratische Organisaties to make its publication, *Akhbar*, and the Latijn-Americaanse Federatie to make its publication, *Colibri*. In order to receive funding from the Intercultureel Centrum voor Migranten, these associations are required to publish a periodical at least once a year (although most do so quarterly) and some of the content of the periodical must be in Dutch.

Nonetheless, in contrast with those who create the first type of press discussed in this section, they have much greater freedom in terms of language choice, content, and viewpoint expressed because they relate to specific audiences within ethnic and immigrant communities (i.e., Italian union members, Greeks living in Charleroi, Moroccans interested in financing development projects in their country of origin, Central African students, etc.). They can be written in the language of their country or region of origin (as many Italian publications continue to do today), or they can be in both the language of origin and the language of the region in which the readership lives in Belgium (as many Turkish community publications in Flanders choose to use both Turkish and Dutch).

However, this type of publication is geared towards specific (often rather small) audiences, and this necessarily keeps them from being diffused to a wider population. Therefore, such publications are typically available by subscription only or sent directly to the members that pay dues to the associations that create the publications. They are

also often consultable in cultural centres, consulate reading-rooms, and, to a much lesser degree, in public and university libraries. Yet public libraries tend to have a very small to non-existent collection of such press because the press is little known by library-goers and, therefore, there is no demand for them to provide it. Furthermore, oftentimes the awareness of specific communities about the press that does exist that is written with them in mind is negligible because of an inefficient network of information exchange.

Internet

The 'digital divide' between developed and developing countries described by Arunchalam (1999) and Zgodzinski (1996) is also a reality within the European Union. A study by Pro Active International in 1999 found that there were significant differences between Northern and Southern Europe in terms of Internet usage: those in the North (including Belgium) tended to use faster speed modems, had a higher percentage of their populations on-line (with more women represented), and were more comfortable with e-commerce than their Southern counterparts (NUA 1999). It is, therefore, feasible to assume that there are such divisions between Internet users in Belgium because of the economic disparities between those living within the country. At the end of June 2001, there were 2.7 million regular Internet users in Belgium, of which 38% are women (NUA 2001c). The period of 1999-2000 was one marked by a massive increase in access to the Internet. Yet by 2000, the growth slowed down. It has been attributed to high costs of connecting as well as a lack of local information and services. Such factors also deter Belgians who do have access from going online regularly. Yet, the availability of free Internet subscriptions has increased the diversity of the Internet-using public, letting more women, young people, senior citizens, and—interestingly—Belgian French speakers gain access (NUA 2000a).

Unable to find any statistics about the usage of the Internet by those of immigrant origin in Belgium, it was necessary to find other information relating to groups of immigrant origin elsewhere. Those of Turkish origin living in Germany, for example, are "flocking to the Internet" (NUA 2000c). Of the 2.1 million Turks living there, 7.9% of the population (or 165,000 people) uses the Internet. While this figure could be surprising, given the high cost of connection and acquiring access to the necessary technology, it is essential to understand the unique draw of the Internet for its users. The nature of this new medium is "vast, unmapped, culturally and legally ambiguous, verbally terse, hard to get around in, and up for grabs... In this silent world, all conversation is typed. To enter it, one forsakes both body and place and becomes a thing of words alone... It is of

course a perfect breeding ground for both outlaws and new ideas” (Barlow, in Reid 1991).

For those of immigrant origin who can access and navigate it, it is a media that corresponds to their own transnational positions in the world. It is possible to create or reinforce connections with individuals and groups throughout the world, to announce interests, joys and frustrations, and to explore aspects of life never before accessible or typically taboo. Identities and memberships to different communities become more flexible and variable. The transitive and collaborative nature of the Internet provides transnational and minority communities with a viable media in which they can express themselves and relate to one another.

The Internet is a peculiar type of media that defies traditional spatial and temporal orientation. Websites, virtual communities, and audiences can appear and disappear at any time. Cyberspace is accessible at any moment and the same information can be accessed from almost anywhere (excluding countries that have censored certain parts of cyberspace from their citizens, like Iran for example). This new media is constantly in flux and its borders are undefined, with hyperlinks and social connections creating accessible frontiers that may have been previously unknown. Familiar sites and users, book-marked or address booked, seem virtually right next door, while unknown information must be hunted for on search engines and seems comparably distant. However, what is distant can be immediately moved next door, challenging one’s spatial orientation. The Internet hovers just beyond the borders of nations, societies, traditional media, and perceptions of time and space, encouraging exploration, facilitating the growth of communication networks, and reducing the control of these above institutions and paradigms over those who use it.

In a space where written communication is the dominant mode of expression and basis for interactivity, people who fail to communicate with one another through shared languages and symbols also fail to participate in the virtual world. The choice of words (in dialogues, nicknames, addresses, messages, and so on) clues others into who we are or who we want to be perceived to be in today's verbally dominated cyberspace. Words, as programmed lines, or interactive discourse, are transformed from communication structures to the basic architectures that define the spaces in which we interact when on-line. Already, in physical reality,

our buildings, neighbourhoods, and cities are cultural artefacts shaped by human intention and intervention, symbolically declaring to society the place held by each of its members... Logically, those who have the power to define their society's symbolic universe have the power to create a world in which they and

their priorities, beliefs, and operating procedures are not only dominant, but accepted and endorsed without question by the vast majority (Kanes-Weisman 1994:9-10).

Although infinitely more malleable than physical space, virtual space is no different. Internet users themselves are creators as well as participants. Therefore, the Internet is an exciting prospect for those who feel that they have little power in shaping their real-life surroundings or for those interested in increasing the networks and audiences that already exist in real life. For example, because one does not have to pay postage costs or wait days or weeks for messages to be delivered, the posting of information via websites and email/lists is more efficient and has the possibility of reaching a broader audience.

For those living in Belgium who do access the Internet, email is the most popular activity, with 83% of users on-line accessing it regularly (NUA 2000b). The most visited web properties in Belgium and Luxembourg in March 2001 were MSN, Belgacom, Yahoo, Microsoft and Lycos with Tiscali, KPN, Alta Vista, Wanadoo and AOL Time Warner rounding out the top 10, indicating that the most popular sites were commercial sites and search engines (NUA 2001c). However, entertainment, news, tourism, government, and computer-oriented sites are also very popular. A study about ethnic minority and immigrant Internet practices in Belgium has yet to be done. Therefore, their interests and habits in relationship to this new medium are little known.

Yet by simply searching on the Internet for sites and lists developed and consulted by ethnic minorities and people of immigrant origin living in Belgium, there are several observations that can be made. The current ease in website creation and maintenance has allowed for a proliferation of amateur- to professional-quality websites about a wide variety of issues and causes with which different ethnic minority communities are involved. These websites might be attached to off-line organizations and associations, or are purely web-based. Concern about the Western public's misperceptions of the Muslim veil propelled the creation of the Nassira Network (<http://www.nassira.net/fr/nassira.html>), for example, which comes out of Brussels and is only available on-line, intending to create a 'virtual' network between interested individuals via forums, netrings, and article contribution. Another example is the Comité d'aide au Nicaragua (Nicaragua Help Committee, <http://www.anic.be.tf>) also from Brussels that is located, in this case, both on- and off-line, and whose website is largely informational in content about off-line activities.

In some cases, websites and list-serves might have reduced the need of groups or individuals to publish paper copies of their newsletters, magazines, or

announcements in order to reach their audiences or members. Such is the case with Info-Türk (<http://www.info-turk.be>), an organisation from Brussels that published information and newsletters in French, English, and Turkish in the past, having recently chosen to take its newsletter on-line and only produce paper copies of its special publications. For many ethnic minority and immigrant-oriented organisations, their financial situation dictates whether or not they can create or continue their publications. In that printing paper copies is expensive in time, effort, and financially, going on-line makes a great deal of sense because a volunteer can change information from time to time on a site and the changes are available immediately to their readers. It also opens the organisation or the website's specific cause up to a new audience (and possibly new members).

Furthermore, the creation of search engines and links pages that are specifically oriented to particular communities or causes increases the interconnectedness between Internet surfers representing myriad backgrounds themselves and groups sponsoring awareness of their identity or causes on-line. Such is the case with Latinos.be (<http://www.latinos.be>) that refers to itself as the "search engine for websites related to the Spanish and Latin American world within Belgium." The transnational nature of the Internet is one of its greatest elements of attraction and function, obviously being even more attractive perhaps to groups that are themselves transnational in nature like ethnic minority and immigrant groups. There are countless websites, for example, whose contributors comprise individuals living in different countries. For example, Congovision (<http://www.congovision.com>), is a transnational news site with one of the editors and contributors living in Belgium.

The choice of language is important to the transnational nature of the Internet, in that language plays a fundamental role in communication in this media. Numerous multilingual sites are available with the intention to reach the largest possible readership, reinforcing the transnational nature of the Internet. For a multilingual country like Belgium, the possibility of having multilingual sites created by groups or individuals living in Belgium is not really surprising. Yet, the unexpected aspect of the multilingual sites coming from Belgium is that they are not often in the three official languages of the country itself but rather in languages of the targeted audience. The site of the European Sephardic Institute (<http://www.sefarad.org/>), for example, is available in French, Spanish, and English. Another example is the site for the Asociación Arte y Cultura de América Latina y del Caribe (<http://www.geocities.com/TimesSquare/8657/oshun.htm>) from Brussels, which is available in Spanish, English, French, Danish, German,

Swedish, and Portuguese. In both cases, these websites have left out Dutch, the language spoken by the Belgian majority at this time. These organisations are not necessarily gearing their websites' information to the Belgian public but rather to a more international audience.

Conclusions: What's To Learn from the Belgian Experience?

Unlike the UK with its many digital radio and television stations, there are no examples of these digitalised media to be found in Belgium created by and for ethnic minorities and immigrants. Minority groups in Belgium are, however, adapting their media to other types of new technologies—as well as multiplying into different forms of mediatised expression (for example, not simply publishing a newsletter but also airing a radio show and maintaining a website as well). Thus, in addition to growing more transnational (by expanding the audience and the contributors), their presence is increasingly 'trans-mediatised' as well. An example of this adaptation is the on-line presence of ethnic minority and immigrant groups living within Belgium. As noted in the mapping of media above, it became obvious that many within these groups have realised the great possibilities and advantages of creating and maintaining an on-line presence, with a range of rather primitive to very complex websites that either exist on their own or complement pre-existing media.

Interestingly, those producing radio shows and stations as well as television shows and stations generally create an on-line presence more rapidly than do those creating magazines and newsletters. This could be related to organisations' varying financial capacities to sustain multiple media formats. It could also be due to generational divisions (i.e., skills, interests, educational levels, and access) of those who tend to create minority media and media consumption patterns (i.e., who tends to consume what types of media more often). Skills for the production of non-print media, such as website creation and radio access (especially community and campus radio), tend to be mastered and accessed more by younger people representing the second and third generations of immigrant origin. The younger generations, surrounded by multiple types of media as they have grown up, are perhaps more adept at making connections between various types of media in order to achieve their and their organisations' goals.

As noted earlier and as evidenced in the media mapping above, there is a lack of national-level media related to the unique political situation of Belgium with its division between linguistic communities. The division forces those of immigrant origin to participate in a specific dominant Belgian linguistic community in addition to their own linguistic communities. This reduces the market for the media that ethnic minorities and

people of immigrant origin create because of linguistic but also political restrictions, as some groups that create media are funded in part by public funding groups that have influence over the nature of their organisations and, thus, the content of their media. These factors may contribute to making the media more localised in content. One of the dangers involved in minority media in Belgium is that it is often precarious and temporary in nature, fading out after a few editions or shows due to financial issues or lack of local interest. However, this can also be perceived perhaps as a strength, as well, in that such media is rather flexible and can be created in order to respond to a variety of needs or local issues that may be able to be solved or changed, thus rendering the continuation of some media useless and inspiring the creation of other media in response to new issues or challenges.

Do Minority Media Matter?

In his 1991 study of press created by and/or for those of immigrant origin living in Europe, Vercellino asked about those involved with minority press to offer some of the problems, difficulties, contributions, and suggestions that have arisen for them in the course of publication. Fourteen groups responded from Belgium, with—perhaps not so surprisingly—their interests, problems, and hopes strongly echoing each other. The responses from these groups remain today very current and acute observations about the state not only of ethnic minority and immigrant-oriented press but can also be easily applied to the other varieties of media that have been examined in this report. Furthermore, a study like that of Vercellino reflects not only the challenges faced by media but, more importantly, also those who create it—as those who create ethnic minority and immigrant-oriented media are some of the most active and influential members of their communities. It is often these active and knowledgeable members who are most aware of their communities' internal and external relations. Their encounters with media-related challenges and their inspirational solutions, therefore, are not solely media-related but rather also community- and society-related.

Vercellino's findings clearly reflect those made in this report. To summarise the responses, those involved in the production of minority media were most concerned with the following:

1. Increasing the size of their targeted reading public by better engaging different slices of readership (different generations, etc.), as well as developing keener advertising strategies;

2. Getting their respective minority groups more involved in community issues, both socially and politically;
3. Expanding their audiences to include 'native' Belgians and those of other immigrant groups, in order to increase awareness of their situations and experiences as well as to reinforce a kind of multicultural solidarity between all societal actors;
4. Creating networks between minority media and mass media groups to encourage a freer flow of information and more opportunities for collaboration, also encouraging better communication *between* those involved in minority media;
5. Being recognised, appreciated, and financially assisted by public authorities and organisations;
6. Establishing a permanent full-time editor position, in order to make a professional-quality publication;
7. Sponsoring literacy classes and educational programmes for those in their community, so as to encourage their active contributions and full participation to their communities and host societies (Vercellino 1991: 68-71).

It is important to consider that most media produced by groups of ethnic minority and immigrant origin is created in order to reinforce or expand interpersonal and informational networks within and in relation to their communities as well as to dynamically express relationships to the great variety of identities that exist. Media is a tool used to achieve such goals, a mouthpiece of identities and communities. It is representative—or at least intends to be—of the populations that it targets. Therefore, to reply to the question of whether or not minority media matter in Belgium, a resounding 'yes' is the response of this researcher, as long as such media accurately and adequately reflects those it targets, challenges them, inspires new connections and types of relationships, and changes with them.

Unfortunately, the minority media scene in Belgium remains very small despite the large population of people of ethnic minority and immigrant origin whose creative, social and political expressions could contribute immensely to the positive development of the multicultural society that is Belgium today. In order to increase the access of these groups to media, there are several steps that need to be taken. Some of the suggestions and observations by minority media makers in Vercellino's study are important enough to be emphasised again. The Communities need to recognise the importance of media as a tool of expression and interconnection for minorities and people of immigrant origin,

and sponsor more media initiatives by minorities without unnecessary restrictions. There needs to be an effort by the Communities in direct collaboration with minority communities in order to sponsor literacy and language classes for all generations of people of immigrant origin. More innovative programmes, like the OFF-TV effort in Antwerp, should be created in order to encourage and instruct minorities of all ages to develop the creative, organisational, and technical skills necessary for the creation and maintenance of media. Similar programmes that inform minorities of their social and political rights and opportunities would also be constructive. Finally, further research into the relationships of minorities to media in Belgium would provide a clearer framework from which informed suggestions and policies can arise.

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