Interinstitutional Ethics Body

National ethical and deontological standards regarding government members - Belgium

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Belgian regulatory framework on ethical and deontological standards applicable to government members

1. Federal level – Regulatory framework with general application relating to all of the federated entities (i.e. Federal and Regional level)

- 1.1. Special Law of 8 August 1980 concerning institutional reform (Article 23, Article 24a, §2-§3, Article 24b, Article 59 §4)
- 1.2. Law of 6 August 1931 determining the incompatibilities and disqualifications concerning ministers, former ministers and ministers of state, as well as members and former members of the Legislative Chambers
- 1.3. Special Law of 2 May 1995 on the obligation to submit a list of mandates, offices and professions, as well as a declaration of assets
- 1.4. Public Procurement Law of 17 June 2016 (Articles 169 to 170)
- 1.5. Criminal Code (Articles 240 to 245)
- 1.6. Law of 2 August 2002 concerning the supervision of the financial sector and financial services (Articles 25 and 53)
- 1.7. Law of 24 December 1993 concerning Public Procurement and some contracts for the undertaking of works, supplies, and services (Articles 6 and 10)
- 1.8. Law of 23 March 1989 concerning the election of the European Parliament (Article 42)
- 1.9. Special Law of 12 January 1989 relating to the Brussels institutions (Article 10a)
- 1.10. Law of 31 December 1983 reforming the institutions for the German-speaking Community (Article 50)

2. Federal level – Regulatory framework only applicable to the federal level

- 2.1. Circular on the Code of Ethics for members of the Government, containing the Code of Ethics for members of the Government (20th of June 2023)
- 2.2. Code of Ethics for public representatives (15th of July 2018)
- 2.3. Law of 6 January 2014 establishing a Federal Deontological Commission (and containing the Code of Ethics for public representatives)

3. Regional level

3.1. Flanders

- 3.1.1. Circular VR 2005/12 of 4 March 2005 regarding the Ministerial deontology
- 3.1.2. Circular VR 2007/40 of 21 December 2007 regarding the Deontological code for staff members of the Cabinets of the members of the Government of Flanders
- 3.1.3. Circular VR 2006/38 of 14 July 2006 regarding Foreign assignments by members of the Government of Flanders
- 3.1.4. Circular VR 2009/2 of 24 July 2009 regarding the incompatibility, prohibition of cumulation and other disqualifications
- 3.1.5. Circular VR 2018/5 of 20 July 2018 regarding the Code of Conduct for administrative expenditures
- 3.1.6. Deontological Code for the representatives of the Flemish people with regard to service to the population (17 March 1999)

3.2. The Wallonia-Brussels Federation (the French Community)

- 3.2.1. Circular of 7 November 2019 on the functioning of the Government of the French Community (the Wallonia-Brussels Federation)
- 3.2.2. Agreement of 13 March 2014 between the French Community, the French Community Commission and the Walloon Region on the creation of a Commission for Deontology and Ethics

3.3. The Walloon Region

- 3.3.1. Circular of 26 September 2019 on the functioning of the Walloon Government
- 3.3.2. Circular on the Common Code of Conduct for members of the ministerial cabinets of the Walloon Government
- 3.3.3. Agreement of 13 March 2014 between the French Community, the French Community Commission and the Walloon Region on the creation of a Commission for Deontology and Ethics

3.4. Brussels-Capital region

- 3.4.1. Ordinance of 14 December 2017 of the Brussels-Capital Region and the Common Community Commission establishing a Brussels Deontological Commission
- 3.4.2. Agreement of 13 March 2014 between the French Community, the French Community Commission and the Walloon Region on the creation of a Commission for Deontology and Ethics