Flanders is the most prosperous region in the world
Flemings have no cause for complaint

Each year the United Nations has a human development index calculated for all countries. This is done on the basis of life span, health, level of knowledge (degree of education), and standard of living. In his policy statement, Premier Verhofstadt (VLD) pointed out that based on this index, Belgium occupies a creditable fourth place, behind Norway, Canada, and Sweden. The Flemish Administration for Planning and Statistics has now recalculated the data using Flemish indicators. What does this show? That together with Norway, Flanders is the most prosperous region in the world. It should immediately be added, however, that here Flanders is being compared with countries and that we do not know the results of other wealthy regions such as Bavaria and Baden-Württemberg in Germany or Emilia-Romagna in Italy. For Minister-President Dewael (VLD) this was still an opportunity to once again point out that Flemings have no cause for complaint (FF).

Luc Standaert • Het Belang van Limburg • 11 October

The UN’s Human Development Index is put together on the basis of three indicators of prosperity: life expectancy, level of education, and standard of living (wealth, expressed in gross domestic product per capita of the population). Across all three indicators, Belgium scores 0.939. Flanders on its own scores 0.942, exactly the same as top-of-the-list Norway. The higher score is the result of the higher life expectancy that a Fleming has compared to a Belgian, because education levels in Flanders and Belgium are the same and strangely enough the standard of living of Flemings is even slightly below that of Belgians. This last fact should not necessarily be taken as evidence of Flemish money disappearing to Wallonia (via the federal collection of taxes, social security contributions, etc.). After all, there is still Brussels, which as an urban region almost automatically has a higher GDP per capita of the population (many Flemings work in Brussels and their productivity is counted there). What’s more, the degree of prosperity does not vary much in the top 20. Italy still scores 0.913 in twentieth place.

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INTRODUCTION
The Bel-20 Index has fallen to its lowest level in six years, we learned on 9 October (De Financieel-Economische Tijd). That is mainly due to the free-fall of bank insurers’ shares (prices down by 60 to 80% since the beginning of 2002), which account for a fairly large part of the BEL20. As elsewhere, the insurance sector is also taking a beating in Belgium. Insurance companies invested heavily in shares and are therefore losing heavily. As a result, they are increasingly seeking sanctuary in premium increases and excluding policyholders who represent too great a risk (Knack, 9 October). Banks are also losing large sums of money on their portfolio shares and on top of this have to create more and more reserves for bad credits. To boost their own financial results a little they are being forced to make cuts in personnel costs. Therefore, lay-offs that were planned as a consequence of merger operations such as that of Dexia, Bacob, and Artesiabank are now being brought forward. At the same time, the banks are becoming increasingly strict with less solvent companies. This was discovered last week by the Turnhout printers Brepols. A consortium of eight banks decided to close the credit lines. Six hundred jobs are hanging in the balance. The company has applied for a judicial settlement. Nor was that the only bad news from the business world. When an international group restructures, people start quaking in the Belgian plants. Alcatel did so recently, this week it was the turn of the German chemicals giant Bayer and the Dutch electronics group Philips. Bayer announced that it wants to close its BSI plant in Antwerp, which it operates in a joint venture with Shell. The trade unions fear some 400 jobs will go. At Philips the components division (e.g., loudspeakers) is simply being shut down and cuts are being made in the optical storage systems division (CD and DVD). In the Flemish sites at Dendermonde and Leuven (components) and Hasselt (CD and DVD) this would put some 950 jobs under threat. And yet according to Knack, Belgians (8 out of 10) still have one certainty in these tough times: their own home. Property seems the safest investment and at present the market is operating at full speed. The magazine does, however, warn against a possible doom scenario even here. If large numbers of buyers can no longer afford their mortgage payments due to the continuing poor economic situation, property prices will unavoidably fall.

Frank Vandecaveye | editor in chief
A federal budget with red, green and blue accents

A CAUTIOUS BUDGET THAT STILL LEAVES ROOM FOR NEW INITIATIVES

Opinion

STEAAN HUYSENTRUYT • DE FINANCIËL-ECONOMISCHE TIJD • 8 OCTOBER

The Socialists have emerged from the budgetary conclave as undisputed winners. Next year, the funds for care insurance will nominally rise by 6.5%, significantly greater than the real growth of 2.5% specified in the coalition agreement. The lowest pensions have not been forgotten either, and the Silver Fund (270 million euros to cope with the ageing population) will be further strengthened according to agreement. But without doubt many will claim credit for the increase in social expenditure. The Greens will point out that the Red-Green social front has been a success, whereas the VLD will call the rise in social expenditure the best evidence that it has indeed become a broad people’s party. Whatever, none of the coalition partners will allow their budgetary booty to be touched. That means that if the economy plummets further, early elections will be the only way out.

GUY TEGENBOS • DE STANDAARD • 8 OCTOBER

‘Just because a villain reoffends three times doesn’t mean you shouldn’t lock him up the fourth time,’ said Flemish Liberal Parliamentary Party Leader in the Chamber Hugo Covelliens (VLD) last week about Frank Vandenbroucke (SP.A). The Social Affairs Minister had already managed three times to substantially increase the healthcare costs budget. Surely Vandenbroucke could not think it would work a fourth time! But he is doing it again! Yet another one billion euros! How does Vandenbroucke do it? When it came to power the Purple-Green coalition agreed that the budget for care insurance should increase by 2.5% per annum (excluding inflation). The truth is that the care-insurance budget has risen by an average of more than 6% each year in this period of government; producing a profit of some 25% or 3 billion euros after four years. How can that be explained? What does Vandenbroucke have that others do not? His greatest strength is his seriousness. His S-factor. He is a serious man who knows his files, who looks before he leaps, who always wins in technical political discussions because he always knows that bit more than the other person, and who is selective in what he asks. But such an S-factor is not enough to succeed in the tough world of politics. Vandenbroucke can rely on three other power factors, which can be represented by the letters A, B, and C. A stands for the Vandenbroucke-Verhofstadt Axis. They were the two strong figures who drafted the Purple-Green coalition agreement. At the time they entered into a silent pact. Verhofstadt could be the undisputed leader of the government and could also embody Vandenbroucke’s active welfare state, in exchange, Vandenbroucke could dominate social policy. B stands for benchmarking and Baumol. William Baumol is the economist who demonstrated in The unbalanced growth that expenditure on care in Western states is rising irrevocably more quickly than other expenditure. That is because care requirements are constantly on the increase, partly due to the ageing population and medical advances. B also stands for benchmarking, the increasing tendency to refer to the best or average scores in Europe (5 to 6% per annum). Countries that do not factor this into their budget end up either in Dutch situations - waiting lists and ultimately a rebellion by voters - or in earlier Belgian situations, with the budget constantly being exceeded. The third power base comes under the C of consensus and coalition. Recent polls taught all the political parties that voters have put healthcare right at the top of their list of concerns. Often it even comes before safety. Last year the VLD still dared to attack expenditure on healthcare, but not this year. Covelliens did not know this and came under heavy fire. Vandenbroucke is also crafty enough to enter into coalitions. He linked the increase in pensions for the self-employed, a must for the Liberal VLD, to the things he himself absolutely wanted.
BART STURTEWAGEN • DE STAANDAARD
9 OCTOBER

If you put the old graph alongside that which the government unveiled yesterday, you can see that next year’s government debt had only been allowed to amount to 97.7% of GDP. In reality, the figure is 102.3%. That seems a minor difference, but in absolute figures it equates to roughly 12.5 billion euros. It is not now a question of whether the government could have done better in the given economic circumstances. It is, however, a clear warning that voluntarism, apart from the benefits of its dynamic, also comes at a price.

We do not expect a government to promise so many sweets to so many target groups in the run-up to the elections. Nor do we expect it to appropriate temporary economic windfalls as if they were the fruits of its superior policy.

We do expect it, without tricks, to cope with the peaks and troughs of the economic roller coaster. That means that if it is unexpectedly lucky one year, it saves for later. If that happens, it can temporarily relax its discipline in times of decline. There is now a risk that it has not done the first half, but is still doing the second.

The vulnerability of this budget is therefore considerable. If it falls short, the correction will be all the more painful. But that will have been Sad-dam’s fault.
Verhofstadt answers opposition with favourable crime figures

**FF EDITOR**

Yves Leterme, Parliamentary Party Leader of the CD&V opposition in the Parliament, accused Premier Verhofstadt in the Parliamentary budget debate of having manipulated the budget, of making false promises, and of not taking sufficient account of the poor economic climate. According to Geert Bourgeois, Parliamentary Party Leader of the N-VA in the Chamber, the government is doing nothing more than handing out sweets to win votes at the elections in 2003. Both are convinced that the economic growth of 2.1% is far too rosy. But feelings only began to run really high when the opposition (CD&V, N-VA, Vlaams Blok) wondered aloud what had happened to the crime statistics for 2001, which they had been asking for in vain for weeks. To their great surprise, Verhofstadt came up with the goods shortly afterwards. According to figures from Internal Affairs, crime in Belgium fell by 8% in 2001. A total of 886,695 offences were recorded, whereas in 2000 there were 964,267. This proves that our policy is working (CD&V, N-VA, Vlaams Blok) wondered aloud what had happened to the crime statistics for 2001, which they had been asking for in vain for weeks. To their great surprise, Verhofstadt came up with the goods shortly afterwards. According to figures from Internal Affairs, crime in Belgium fell by 8% in 2001. A total of 886,695 offences were recorded, whereas in 2000 there were 964,267. This proves that our policy is working.

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**DEBATE ON THE BUDGET**

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**AVIATION**

Delsey Airlines lives through an exciting week

But on 10 October it emerged that Tony Gram had paid most of his outstanding Sabena Technics invoices at the last moment. Other suppliers had apparently also largely been paid. Fundamental solutions in the form of a substantial increase in capital or the contribution of new shareholders are not at issue, says Gram (FF).

JEROEN LISSENS • DE FINANCIEEL-ECONOMISCHE TIJD • 10 OCTOBER

According to Gram, there was never any question of a chronic problem in paying his suppliers. Gram ensures us that at no time did he consider closing the books. He denies actively looking for a buyer, ‘but, of course, partners and investors frequently come forward of their own accord’. There is no talk of an imminent sale of Delsey Airlines, says Gram. ‘We are a rich company. Few new companies have a capital of 3.5 million euros,’ states Gram. ‘We have never gone knocking on anyone’s door.’ Gram does, however, admit that the company will stand or fall by its own willingness to open or close the money tap. How much he has already invested in Delsey Airlines is not clear. The consequence of the new round of fighting for the pennies was that passengers on the midday flight to New York and Boston were faced with a delay.

In a press release Delsey Airlines also announced the agreement with Armenia had also been extended and expanded. The Yerevan-Brussels-Los Angeles route will therefore continue to operate.

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**CRIME FIGURES PROVIDED BY THE FEDERAL POLICE**

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<th>FIGURES NIS 2000</th>
<th>FIGURES VERHOFSTADT 2000</th>
<th>FIGURES VERHOFSTADT 2001</th>
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<tr>
<td>THEFT, BURGLARY, CARJACKINGS, HOLD-UPS</td>
<td>420,897</td>
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<td>VIOLENT ATTACKS ON PROPERTY (DESTRUCTION, ARSON, HOOLIGANISM…)</td>
<td>89,605</td>
<td>98,396</td>
<td>92,211</td>
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<tr>
<td>VIOLENCE AGAINST PEOPLE (MURDER, INJURIES, SEXUAL OFFENCES…)</td>
<td>60,748</td>
<td>68,937</td>
<td>65,795</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>544,248</td>
<td>594,267</td>
<td>588,475</td>
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* National Institute for Statistics

Source: INFOPRAKTIJKUG
The Nepalese King Gyanendra announced last week that he was fed up with incompetent politicians and sacked Premier Deuba and his government. The elections planned for November have been postponed indefinitely. The King has temporarily assumed total control. Since the lifting of the state of emergency on 28 August, the internal conflict between the government army and Maoist rebels has again flared up violently. These developments have put the future of the decision of the Belgian Government to grant an export licence for the sale of 5,500 machine-guns by the FN weapons factory in Herstal to the regime in Nepal at risk. For the Greens, the Socialists and the Liberals it is clear that there can be no more talk of democracy in the Himalayan state. For the Greens of Agalev, who have always opposed the sale of arms but in the end came off worst at the hands of Foreign Affairs Minister Louis Michel (MR), the statement by VLD Chairman De Gucht that Nepal can ‘no longer be viewed as a young democracy’ was like music to their ears. All parties, however, even the Greens, are prepared to wait for the report of a Belgian committee of observers who have travelled to Nepal to gauge the political climate. But regardless of whether the export licence is now suspended, FN will get its money, according to Knack (FF).

PATRICK MARTENS • KNACK • 9 OCTOBER

There are a great many questions concerning the insurance policy which the Delcredere Service issued for the export risk incurred by FN in Nepal. On 5 August the Board of Directors, which included representatives of six Federal Ministries and the Flemish and Walloon Governments, approved this policy for a sum of 15.4 billion euros (on a contract value of 25 million euros). But this was not done with the required quorum. Only 7 of the 18 directors were present. What’s more, the representative of Finance Minister Didier Reynders (MR) voted against it, because he found the amount to be insured for Nepal ‘exceptionally high’. Even before the Board of Directors could deal with the matter on 23 September, the policy had already been granted to FN Herstal. Meanwhile the legal validity was contested in letters by the Dutch-speaking Co-Director of the Delcredere Service, Christian Vincke and by State Secretary for Development Co-operation, Eddy Boutmans (Agalev). But that does not in any way alter the insured risk. FN Herstal wins in any event, because it will receive 15.4 million euros, even if not a single minimi goes to Nepal. The cautious manoeuvres by the Purple-Greens also have to do with the discussions currently being held between the Government and representatives of the majority on changes to the law on arms trading promised by Verhofstadt. This concerns the integration of the European arms code into the law, the extension of article 4 to also extend the ban on arms sales to police forces and countries that use child soldiers and on parliamentary control of decisions relating to arms sales.

FF EDITOR

On 10 October the government reached an agreement on the adaptation of the Arms Act of 1991 to the European code of conduct. Once the adapted Act has been ratified, Belgium will no longer be able to grant export licences if another European country has refused a similar licence. The export of arms - but also of equipment for the police (water cannons, handcuffs) and hi-tech equipment used for non-military purposes - to countries that spend more on arms than on social policy is no longer possible. Sales will also no longer be made to countries that use child soldiers. If there is any doubt as to a country’s eligibility to receive arms sales, a monitoring team can be sent there to produce a report in situ. Finally, parliamentary control is also being strengthened.

GREENS CAN MAKE GOOD DAMAGE SUFFERED IN NEPAL CRISIS

WHETHER THE ARMS WILL BE DELIVERED OR NOT, ARMS MANUFACTURER FN WILL RECEIVE ITS MONEY

Bom Spotting becomes a tradition in Kleine Brogel

It has become an annual tradition: the bomb-spotting demonstration at the air base at Kleine Brogel in Limburg. Each year groups of demonstrators gather there and try to scramble over the fencing to ‘peacefully occupy’ the base. They want the nuclear weapons that are stored there to be removed. However, the peace activists - who include a number of Green politicians and even one Liberal senator (Patrick Vankrunkelsven, who recently switched from Spirit to the VLD) - are fed up that their actions hardly have any effect. They had therefore announced that they would ‘disarm’ the base themselves, for example by painting the cockpits of F16s black. However, the first thing the bomb-spiotters are aiming at is to provoke lawsuits, to be able to initiate proceedings themselves and argue against the stores of nuclear weapons. The force mobilised by Mayor Kelchtermans (CD&V) of Peer for this weekend was impressive: 2,000 soldiers, 400 police officers and helicopters. Kelchtermans had heard rumours that a number of campaigners had other than peaceful intentions. For many campaigners the whole thing was a bit of an anti-climax. This time, the tactics of the forces of order consisted of settling in behind the fencing. This meant it was possible to climb over the fencing, but as soon as the bomb-spiotters set foot on the base they were rounded up, searched and had to surrender their ID cards. A total of 1,120 administrative arrests were made, both inside and outside the base, where the ban on gatherings also applied. Those apprehended on the base will not be prosecuted, as it involves a political offence and must be brought before the Court of Assizes. That is a far too costly and time-consuming procedure, which means the Public Prosecutor’s Office is not considering prosecutions. Mobilising the impressive force of order has already cost the Public Prosecutor’s Office enough money, according to Public Prosecutor Marc Rubbens in De Standaard (7 October).
Some remarks on the 25th anniversary of the Vlaams Blok

THE DISASTROUS CONSEQUENCES OF A SHARE IN GOVERNMENT FOR THE LIJST PIM FORTUIN IN THE NETHERLANDS AND THE FPÖ IN AUSTRIA HAVE PUT IDEAS INTO POLITICIANS’ HEADS.

The far-right party, the Vlaams Blok, which bagged fifteen seats in the Federal Parliament at the last parliamentary elections in 1999, is celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary. That was celebrated with a spectacular show in the Ghent Capitool Hall and as always with the obligatory counter-demonstrations in the vicinity of the event. The ‘Own People First’ party continues to rely on arousing anti-Islamic feelings, xenophobia, and feeding latent feelings of insecurity. Immigration and crime are once again the central themes of their election campaign and will - as the other parties are also claiming - again become the actual stakes of the elections. Of this Gerolf Annemans (Gazet van Antwerpen, 5 October) and Frank Vanhecke (Het Volk, 6 October) are firmly convinced. In the election campaign the Blok therefore wants to direct its arrows firstly at the liberal VLD, because it has apparently failed to keep a number of promises relating to safety, justice, and immigration. In these twenty-five years, the Blok has also - at least to the outside world - become somewhat more moderate and civilised. Thus, the motto now reads ‘Aanpassen of opkrassen’ (‘Fit In or Leave’). In other words, foreigners who want to fit in can stay in Flanders. But for their own followers Philip Dewinter can still not keep himself from pulling out all the stops. At his party’s celebrations, Dewinter made jeweller Wouter Tiberghien out to be a hero because he shot dead an Eastern European assailant and in the same breath he also regretted that he did not shoot the man’s two companions. And invariably this same Dewinter conjures up the spectre of a Flanders where the churches are being replaced by minarets and mosques. The other Flemish parties still have a mutual agreement that political and administrative agreements will not be entered into on any level with the Blok. But many commentators feel this ‘cordon sanitaire’ is one of the main reasons why the Blok has become big without any effort, why it has become the biggest party in many working-class areas. Furthermore, for years this cordon paralysed any debate on ‘the multicultural society’. Anyone who dared criticise it was often tarred with the same brush as the Blok, claims De Standaard (FF).

BART BRINCKMAN • DE STANDAARD • 6 OCTOBER

The debate on the black marks of integration policy has hardly been brought up in Flanders. Barely one week ago Antwerp’s SP.A Chairman Robert Voorhamme admitted that for years his party had laughed off the signals from their supporters. He felt uncomfortable about ‘this abdication’. Too late. The Vlaams Blok has become the biggest workers’ party. It was the first to successfully convert the raw but no less real dissatisfaction with foreigners into political power. The decision at the end of the 1980s to embroil the separatist discourse with a virulent anti-foreigner attitude and a tough approach to crime was a stroke of genius. Scientific research showed that Blok voters did not allow themselves to be led by ethical conservatism or Flemish nationalism. The immigration problem will also be the making of the Vlaams Blok over the coming years. The party is reaping profit from the fear of the unknown provoked by advancing globalisation. Increasing mistrust of institutions (political and legal) and a tendency towards individualism - not to say egotism - nourish the breeding ground still further. In recent years mistrust among Flemings has increased sharply. Doubts over their own future add to that mistrust. It is therefore no surprise that the Blok is particularly successful with the elderly and working classes. In recent years the party tried to polish up its racist foreigner discourse. The party wants to come across as a decent right-wing people’s party: the party of common sense, that says what is on the tip of the man in the street’s tongue. The other parties have given up trying to win back the Blok voters. Everyone is targeting the centre because no one appreciates how to approach the right. Whether they should simply turn their noses up at the electorate. Meanwhile, the cordon is under pressure. The disastrous consequences of a share in government for the Lijst Pim Fortuin in the Netherlands and the FPÖ in Austria have put ideas into politicians’ heads. Because if the Blok makes further electoral gains, the whole of Flanders will be threatened with the same scenario as in Antwerp, with all the parties having to govern against the Blok. That is a perfect recipe for further growth. Antwerp has already shown that.
Van Grembergen reassures cultural sector

It is not the job of the government to instruct artists to achieve social objectives, he explained.

Last week the new Culture Minister Paul Van Grembergen (Spirit) unveiled his policy in a speech in the Ghent cultural temple ‘De Vooruit’. His predecessor and fellow party member Bert Anciaux had stirred up many bad feelings among playwrights, visual artists, musicians, and other cultural workers by repeatedly calling for greater cultural participation and dissemination. The cultural sector now wanted to know whether Van Grembergen would be following the same line. Whether, for example, they would have to reduce the quality of their work to reach a greater public. Van Grembergen reassured them. There would be no need to do any such thing, he said. It is not the job of the government to instruct artists to achieve social objectives, he explained. Culture is simply a basic right. (FF).

KARL VANDEN BROECK • DE MORGEN • 7 OCTOBER

‘Cultural participation is not the sole responsibility of the artist, but also of authorities and organisations that choose to disseminate art. Not everyone must go to the theatre, the opera, or the museum. But if culture is a basic right, the government must be inspired so that as many people as possible can experience art and culture. You shouldn’t have to, but you must be able to,’ said Van Grembergen in his speech in De Vooruit.

On the budget: the increase in the culture budget played too much into the hands of those who already had it: the Mattheus effect. The differences between the sectors ‘are not always the result of an explicit policy choice by this or that culture minister, but rather a result of history’. Thus, contemporary visual arts and architecture, cultural heritage, museums, popular culture, and the archives are undervalued. ‘There will be a correction,’ warned Van Grembergen. Van Grembergen also took seriously the criticism that a system that is based heavily on the opinion of experts leads to preferential treatment for innovative art forms. ‘The avant-garde reacts or interprets the repertoire. Contemporary artists live badly by the grace of traditional and sacred art. I did not choose in favour of modern dance against classical, I chose both,’ said the Minister, referring to a row over ballet subsidies. Van Grembergen also pointed out that the ‘border area between non-commercial or subsidised culture and commercial culture was becoming larger. Managing that border area would undoubtedly be a major challenge for future culture ministers. The arts sector must not be under any illusion. Perhaps the visual arts will get extra money, but any additional budgetary funds will go to heritage as a priority. Van Grembergen announced a genuine ‘master plan’ for heritage policy. Van Grembergen is and will remain - despite the Spirit alliance with the SP.A - a Flemish nationalist. His call to strengthen Flemish cultural identity by confronting other cultures fits in with the old ‘open tradition’ of the Volkswunie. He also mentioned the emanci-
**Diary**

**MUSIC, DANCE THEATRE**
- **8 to 19 October**: Flanders Internation filmfestival, Ghent; info: 070/225.225 www.filminfestival.be
- **16 October**: ZZ Top, Vorst Nationaal, Brussels; info: 0900/00991
- **17 October**: Special Elena Prokina, Flanders Opera, Ghent; info: 09/255.24.25 www.vlaamseopera.be
- **20 October**: South Africa in residence, exhibition with sculptures by Noria Mahoba, photo and video performance by Thobejane and theatre play Fazoo's children by Lesego Rampilonge, Zuiderpershuis, Antwerp, info: 03/248.1.00
- **Until 19 October**: format.2000, multimedia festival with Ballet Mécanique (Antheil), Les Noes (Stravinsky), Déserts (Varèse), Sismo (Haas), info: 09/267.24.24 www.audijazz.be

**EXPO**
- **Bruges 2002**: info: 070/27.3.02 www.brugge2002.be
  - Until 17 November: Closed world - Open books, exhibition, medieval manuscripts and contemporary art, we find the splendid site of an abbey, Bruges; info: 070/27.3.02 www.brugge2002.be
  - Until 31 October: Station 2 Station, exhibition: art in petrol stations along the roads leading to Bruges, info: www.station2station.be
  - Until 17 November: Dead lines: War, media and propaganda in the 20th century, exhibition: Flanders Fields Museum, Ypres
  - Until 1 December: Tyndale's Last Will (the Coverdale Bible), exhibition, Museum Plantin-Moretus, Antwerp; info: 03/251.14.50
  - Until 27 October: Aztecs and Maya, pre-columbian art, CC Sint-Niklaas; info: 09/250.77.77
  - Until 3 November: Figureheads, exhibition: drawings and films by Jan Fabre, De Vooruit, Ghent; info: 09/221.17.03
  - Until 1 February: Gaude succurere vitae, exhibition: drawings and films by Jan Fabre, SMAK, Ghent; info: 09/221.17.03 www.smak.be
  - Until 8 December: ‘Drawings from the Baudelaire Cycle, the first period’, exhibition: Jan Van Oost, Museum Dhoorn-Dhaenens, info: 09/282.51.33 www.museumdd.be
  - Until 17 November: The Misfits (film with Marilyn Monroe), 9 Magnum photographs, Caermersklooster, Ghent; info: www.filmmuseum.be

**Radio & TV**
- **21 October**: Roby Lakatos and Ensemble Placevoce with Yiddish and Hungarian gypsy songs, Kontrikkie Schwouburg, www.festivalvanvlaanderen.be
- **22 October**: James Taylor and his quartet; De Kreut, info: 09/254.90.30
- **24 October**: Dave Douglass New Quintet, Flagey, Brussels, info: 0900/00565 www.audijazz.be
- **23 October**: Hoovenphonik, Hof ter Lo, Antwerp; info: 03/543.90.30
- **25 October**: Maxim Vengerov, PSK, Brussels; info: 03/507.82.00
- **25 and 26 October**: Gonzales, Muziek-O-Droom, Hasselt and Monty, Antwerp; info: 0900/00600
- **28 October**: Moreno Veloso (Bra), Botanique, Brussels, info: www.audijazz.be

**FOCUS ON FLANDERS**

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