

INTRODUCTION TO BELGIAN LABOUR LAW

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PREFACE

This book gives an overall picture of the principles of Belgian labour law, i.e. employment law as well as industrial relations law. It is intended for all those who want to get acquainted with Belgian labour law: foreign law firms, entrepreneurs who want to invest in Belgium, etc. That is the reason why this book focuses on topics that are relevant in practice.

Foreign readers who are interested in specific aspects we refer to the footnotes and to the concise bibliography at the end of this book; they may also contact us by email: patrick.humblet@ugent.be.

Belgian case law and doctrine are mainly published in Dutch and French. The odds are that the reader is not fluent in the first of these languages. Therefore we chose to limit the bibliographical material to the sources written in French.

Finally, the authors wish to express their gratitude to Elizabeth MacDonald, Sofie Moentjens and (especially) Erika Peeters for the translation.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

(including Dutch, French and English where applicable)

ABVV	Algemeen Belgisch Vakverbond	FGTB	Fédération Générale du Travail de Belgique	Belgian General Federation of Labour (social democratic)
ACLVB	Algemene Centrale der liberale vakbonden	CGSLB	Centrale Générale des Syndicats Libéraux de Belgique	Federation of Liberal Trade Unions
ACOD	Algemene Centrale der Openbare Diensten	CGSP	Centrale Générale des Services Publics	General Public Sector Union (social democratic)
ACV	Algemeen Christelijk Vakverbond	CSC	Confédération des Syndicats Chrétiens	Confederation of Christian Trade Unions
		ADIC	Association chrétienne des dirigeants et cadres	
ARAB	Algemeen reglement voor de arbeidsbescherming	RGPT	Règlement général pour la protection du travail	General rules on employment safety
Arbeidsrechtbank		Tribunal du travail		Labour Court
BGESR	Brusselse Gewestelijke en Sociale Raad	CBRS	Conseil Bruxellois Régional et Social	Brussels Regional and Social Council
BS	Belgisch Staatsblad	MB	Moniteur belge	Belgian Official Journal
		Bull.	Bulletin des arrêts de la Cour de Cassation	
Cass.	Hof van Cassatie		Cour de cassation	Court of Cassation
				CEEP European Centre of Employers and Enterprises providing Public Services
		CESRW	Conseil Economique et Social de la Région Wallonne	Walloon Economic and Social Council

List of Abbreviations

CPBW	Comité voor Preventie en Bescherming op het werk	CPPT	Comité pour la prévention et la protection au travail	Health and Safety Committee
CRB	Centrale Raad voor het Bedrijfsleven	CCE	Conseil Central de l'Economie	National Economic Council
ESH	Europees Sociaal Handvest	CSE	Charte sociale européenne	ESC European Social Charter
Hoge Raad voor Preventie en Bescherming op het Werk		Conseil supérieur pour la prévention et la protection au travail		High Council for Workplace Safety
				ICFTU International Confederation of Free Trade Unions
		JT	Journal des tribunaux	
		JTT	Journal des tribunaux du travail	
NAR	Nationale Arbeidsraad	CNT	Conseil National du Travail	National Labour Council
NCK	Nationale Confederatie van het Kaderpersoneel	CNC	Confédération Nationale des Cadres	National Confederation of Managers
OR	Ondernemingsraad	CE	Conseil d'Entreprise	Works Council
		Ors.	Orientations	
		Pas.	Pasicrisie belge	
Parl.St.	Parlementaire stukken	Doc. Parl.	Documents parlementaires	Parliamentary Proceedings
Pb.	Publicatieblad	JO	Journal Officiel	OJ Official Journal
PBO	Publiekrechtelijke bedrijfsorganisatie		Organisation de l'économie en droit public	Public law industrial regulatory body
R.A.C.E.	Arresten van de Raad van State	Recueil des arrêts du Conseil d'Etat		Decisions of the Council of State
		RCJB	Revue critique de jurisprudence belge	
		Rev.Dr.Ulg.	Revue de la Faculté de droit de Liège	
		Rev.Trav.	Revue du travail	
		RGAR	Revue générale des assurances et des responsabilités	

RSVZ	Rijksinstituut voor de Sociale Verzekeringen der Zelfstandigen	INASTI	Institut national d'assurances sociales pour travailleurs indépendants	National Institute for the Social Security of the Self-Employed
RSZ	Rijksdienst voor Sociale Zekerheid	ONSS	Office National de Sécurité Sociale	National Office for Social Security
SERV	Sociaal Economische Raad voor Vlaanderen			Flanders' Social and Economic Council
Soc. Kron.	Sociaalrechtelijke Kronieken	Chron. D.S.	Chroniques de droit social	
TSR	Tijdschrift voor Sociaal Recht		Revue de Droit Social	
		UCM	Union des classes moyennes	
				UEAPME European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises
				UNICE Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederations of Europe
UNIZO	Unie van Zelfstandige Ondernemers			
		UWE	Union Wallonne des Entreprises	Walloon Business Federation
VA	Vakbondsafvaardiging	DS	Délégation Syndicale	Union delegation
VBO	Verbond van Belgische Ondernemingen	FEB	Fédération des entreprises de Belgique	Belgian Federation of Enterprises
VESOC	Vlaams Economisch en Sociaal Overlegcomité			Flanders' Economic and Social Consultative Committee
VOKA	Vlaams netwerk van ondernemingen			
VSOA	Vrij Syndicaat Openbaar Ambt	SLFP	Syndicat Libre de la Fonction Publique	Public Sector Workers' Union

