

*Third Annual International Symposium  
The European Union: Business, Economy and Culture  
August 11 to 18, 2012*



Avril 1888



Juillet 1888



Décembre 1888



Mai 1889

**Third Annual International Symposium**  
**The European Union: Business, Economy and Culture, August 11 to 18, 2012**

<b>Day One</b>	<b>BANGALORE – BRUSSELS – DUISBURG</b> Discussion based on the articles -- Meet and greet with German students
<b>Day Two</b>	<b>DUISBURG</b> <b>Company Visits:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HSBC Trinkhaus &amp; Burkhardt, Düsseldorf: Financial Services</li> <li>• Kiekert AG, Heiligenhaus: Automotive Supplier</li> </ul> Discussion based on the articles --The European
<b>Day Three</b>	<b>DUISBURG</b> <b>University visit:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University of Duisburg-Essen, Mercator School of Management (Duisburg Campus)</li> </ul> <b>Company visits:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cundus AG: Business Intelligence Corporate Performance Management.</li> <li>• Thyssen Krupp Steel AG: The Steel Europe Business Area is focused on the attractive and fast-growing market for premium flat carbon steel.</li> </ul> Landschaftspark Nord - Old industrial facility converted to a recreational area.
<b>Day Four</b>	<b>DUISBURG - PARIS</b> Duisburg Harbour / Duisport Group: World's largest inland port <b>Paris</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fly Boats</li> </ul>
<b>Day Five</b>	<b>PARIS</b> Louvre Museum: World's largest museum Notre Dame de Paris: Is a Gothic, Roman Catholic cathedral The Eiffel Tower Champs Elysees and Arc de Triomphe : Avenue des Champs-Élysées is one of the most famous streets and one of the most expensive strips of real estate in the world. The Arc de Triomphe is one of the most famous monuments in Paris.
<b>Day Six</b>	<b>AMSTERDAM – BRUSSELS</b> Amsterdam is the largest city and the capital of the Netherlands.
<b>Day Seven</b>	<b>BRUSSELS – JOHN F KENNEDY AIRPORT / BANGALORE AIRPORT</b>

## Emergency contact Information

Prashanth Bharadwaj	+1 724-422-6584 (available all week during the symposium)
Cyndy Strittmatter	+1 724-464-4611 (only on August 15 and 16, 2012)
Malte Kluck	+49 163-251-5760 (only on August 11 to 14, 2012)

## Hotels

### Germany from August 12<sup>th</sup> to August 14<sup>th</sup>

#### **Mercure Hotel Düsseldorf Airport**

Lintorfer Weg 75 40885 RATINGEN GERMANY  
Phone: +49 (0) 2102/ 18 70

### Amsterdam August 16th

**Holiday Inn Express Amsterdam –Schiphol** Jupiterstraat 162-200  
2132 HH Hoofddorp NETHERLANDS  
Phone: (+31) 23 8200090

### Paris August 15th

**Hotel Ibis Porte de Bercy** 2, Place de l'Europe  
94220 CHARENTON LE PONT FRANCE  
Phone: (+33)1 49 77 55 55

### Brussels August 17th

**Ibis Brussels Waterloo** Boulevard Henri Rotin 5A  
1410 – WATERLOO BELGIUM  
Phone: (+32)2 351 00 30



## GERMANY- FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

### General information

- Anthem: The third stanza of *Lied der Deutschen*
- Motto: Unity and justice and freedom
- National holiday: October 3rd (commemorating German reunification)

### Geography

- Area: 357,021 km<sup>2</sup> (slightly smaller than Rajasthan)
- Capital: Berlin
- Main cities of North Rhine-Westphalia state: Düsseldorf (capital), Cologne, Dortmund, Essen, Duisburg, and Bochum

### Political system

- Federal parliamentary constitutional republic
- President: Joachim Gauck (since 2012)
- Chancellor: Angela Merkel (since 2005)
- Bundesrat (Upper house) - Bundestag (Lower house)

### Economic sectors

- The service sector contributes approximately 71%
- Main companies: Mercedes Benz, BMW, SAP, Siemens, Volkswagen, Adidas, Audi, Allianz, Porsche, Bayer, Bosch, and Nivea

### Economy

- GDP: \$3.577 trillion (4th worldwide rank) (2011)
- GDP: per capita:\$43,742 in 2011
- Currency: Euro (since 2002)

### Population

- 81,305,856 inhabitants (2011)
- Fertility rate: 1.41 (2011)
- Density: 229/km<sup>2</sup>

Flag:



Country coat of arms:



Maps:



As Europe's largest economy and second most populous nation (after Russia), Germany is a key member of the continent's economic, political, and defense organizations.

A region named Germania, inhabited by several Germanic peoples, was documented before AD 100. During the Migration Period, the Germanic tribes expanded southward and established successor kingdoms throughout much of Europe. Beginning in the 10th century, German territories formed a central part of the Holy Roman Empire. During the 16th century, northern German regions became the centre of the Protestant Reformation while southern and western parts remained dominated by Roman Catholic denominations, with the two factions clashing in the Thirty Years' War, marking the beginning of the Catholic–Protestant divide that has characterized German society ever since. Occupied during the Napoleonic Wars, the rise of Pan-Germanism inside the German Confederation resulted in 1871 in the unification of most of the German states into the German Empire, which was Prussian dominated. European power struggles immersed Germany in two devastating World Wars in the first half of the 20th century. After the German Revolution of 1918–1919 and the subsequent military surrender in World War I, the Empire was replaced by the Weimar Republic in 1918, and partitioned in the Treaty of Versailles. Amidst the Great Depression, the Third Reich was proclaimed in 1933. The latter period was marked by Fascism and World War II. In 1945, Germany is occupied by the victorious Allied powers of the US, UK, France, and the Soviet Union. With the advent of the Cold War, two German states were formed in 1949: the western Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) and the eastern German Democratic Republic (GDR). The democratic FRG embedded itself in key Western economic and security organizations, the EC, which became the EU, and NATO, while the Communist GDR was on the front line of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact. The decline of the USSR and the end of the Cold War allowed for German unification in 1990. Since then, Germany has expended considerable funds to bring Eastern productivity and wages up to Western standards.

Germany was a founding member of the European Community in 1957, which became the EU in 1993. It is part of the Schengen Area and since 1999 a member of the eurozone. In January 1999, Germany and 10 other EU countries introduced a common European exchange currency, the euro. Germany is a Great Power and member of the United Nations, NATO, the G8, the G20, the OECD and the Council of Europe. In January 2011, Germany assumed a nonpermanent seat on the UN Security Council for the 2011-12 term.

The German economy is a leading exporter of machinery, vehicles, chemicals, and household equipment and benefits from a highly skilled labor force. Like its Western European neighbors, Germany faces significant demographic challenges to sustained long-term growth. Low fertility rates and declining net immigration are increasing pressure on the country's social welfare system and necessitate structural reforms.

Reforms launched by the government of Chancellor Gerhard SCHROEDER (1998-2005), deemed necessary to address chronically high unemployment and low average growth, contributed to strong growth in 2006 and 2007 and falling unemployment. These advances, as well as a government subsidized, reduced working hour scheme, help explain the relatively modest increase in unemployment during the 2008-09

recession - the deepest since World War II - and its decrease to 6.0% in 2011. GDP contracted 5.1% in 2009 but grew by 3.6% in 2010, and 2.7% in 2011. The recovery was attributable primarily to rebounding manufacturing orders and exports - increasingly outside the Euro Zone. Germany's central bank projects that GDP will grow 0.6% in 2012, a reflection of the worsening euro-zone financial crisis and the financial burden it places on Germany as well as falling demand for German exports. Domestic demand is therefore becoming a more significant driver of Germany's economic expansion. Stimulus and stabilization efforts initiated in 2008 and 2009 and tax cuts introduced in Chancellor Angela MERKEL's second term increased Germany's budget deficit to 3.3% in 2010, but slower spending and higher tax revenues reduce the deficit to 1.7% in 2011, below the EU's 3% limit. A constitutional amendment approved in 2009 limits the federal government to structural deficits of no more than 0.35% of GDP per annum as of 2016.

Following the March 2011 Fukushima nuclear disaster, Chancellor Angela Merkel announced in May 2011 that eight of the country's 17 nuclear reactors would be shut down immediately and the remaining plants would close by 2022. Germany hopes to replace nuclear power with renewable energy. Before the shutdown of the eight reactors, Germany relied on nuclear power for 23% of its energy and 46% of its base-load electrical production.

Germany has developed a very high standard of living and a comprehensive system of social security. Germany has been the home of many influential philosophers, scientists and inventors, and is known for its cultural and political history.

Approximate Temperature Hi- 22C° - 72F Low-13C° - 55F	<b>12 August, 2012, Sunday</b>			
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Important Instructions (if any)</b>	<b>Dress Code</b>	
Morning	Arrive at Brussels airport		Sneakers and comfortable clothing recommended for all sight-seeing	
	Depart from Airport			
	Parlamentarium - The European Parliament's Visitors' Centre			
Afternoon	Hotel check in			
<b><i>Dinner at the Hotel</i></b>				
Evening	Discussion based on the articles -- The European Union or Meet and greet with German students			



## Brussels: Parliamentarium The European Parliament's Visitors' Centre



Brussels is at the heart of the European Union. Along with the European Council and the Commission, Brussels also hosts the Parliament. Dynamic, interactive multimedia displays guide our visitors through the journey of European integration and the impact this has on our everyday lives. The Centre caters to all 23 official languages of the European Union and admission is free. The facilities have been designed to make them fully accessible to those with special needs.

The EP represents the interests of the 500 million citizens who today comprise the European Union. With the Council of Ministers, MEPs legislate for the EU.

### Basic information on the European Union

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The EU is a unique economic and political partnership between 27 European countries that together cover much of the continent.

It was created in the aftermath of the Second World War. The first steps were to foster economic cooperation: the idea being that countries who trade with one another become economically interdependent and so more likely to avoid conflict.

Since then, the EU has developed into a huge single market with the euro as its common currency. What began as a purely economic union has evolved into an organisation spanning all policy areas, from development aid to environment.

It has delivered half a century of peace, stability, and prosperity, helped raise living standards, and launched a single European currency. Thanks to the abolition of border controls between EU countries, people can travel freely throughout most of the continent. And it's also become much easier to live and work abroad in Europe.



The EU is based on the rule of law. This means that everything that it does is founded on treaties, voluntarily and democratically agreed by all member countries. These binding agreements set out the EU's goals in its many areas of activity.

One of its main goals is to promote human rights both internally and around the world. Human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights: these are the core values of the EU. Since the 2009 signing of the Treaty of Lisbon, the EU's Charter of Fundamental Rights brings all these rights together in a single document. The EU's institutions are legally bound to uphold them, as are EU governments whenever they apply EU law.

The single market is the EU's main economic engine, enabling most goods, services, money and people to move freely. Another key objective is to develop this huge resource to ensure that Europeans can draw the maximum benefit.

As it continues to grow, the EU remains focused on making its governing institutions more transparent and democratic. More powers are being given to the directly elected European Parliament, while national parliaments are being given a greater role, working alongside the European institutions. In turn, European citizens have an ever-increasing number of channels for taking part in the political process.

## **EU symbols**

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The EU is recognisable by several symbols, the most well-known being the circle of yellow stars on a blue background. This site introduces other symbols such as the European anthem and motto.

### **The European flag**

The 12 stars in a circle symbolise the ideals of unity, solidarity and harmony among the peoples of Europe.

### **The European anthem**

The melody used to symbolise the EU comes from the Ninth Symphony composed in 1823 by Ludwig Van Beethoven.

### **Europe Day**

The ideas behind the European Union were first put forward on 9 May 1950 by French foreign minister Robert Schuman. This is why 9 May is celebrated as a key date for the EU.

### **The EU motto**

"United in diversity" is the motto of the European Union.

It signifies how Europeans have come together, in the form of the EU, to work for peace and prosperity, while at the same time being enriched by the continent's many different cultures, traditions and languages.

## ***DÜSSELDORF***



Düsseldorf is the capital city of the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia and centre of the Rhine-Ruhr metropolitan region.

Düsseldorf is an international business and financial centre and renowned for its fashion and trade fairs. Located centrally within the European Megalopolis, the city is headquarter to five Fortune Global 500 and several DAX companies. Messe Düsseldorf organizes nearly one fifth of all world's premier trade shows.

Culturally, Düsseldorf is known for its academy of fine arts (Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, e.g. Joseph Beuys, Emanuel Leutze, August Macke, Gerhard Richter, Sigmar Polke and Andreas Gursky), its pioneering influence on electronic music (Kraftwerk) and its large Japanese community. As a city by the river Rhine, Düsseldorf is a stronghold for Rhenish Carnival celebrations. Every year in July more than 4.5 million people visit the city's Largest Fair on the Rhine funfair.



As the seventh most populous city in Germany by population within city limits and an urban population of 1.5 million, Düsseldorf is one of the country's five global cities. The Mercer's 2011 Quality of Living survey of cities with the highest quality of life ranked Düsseldorf fifth worldwide and second in Germany.

Flag :



City coat of arms :



Map :



Approximate Temperature Hi- 22C° - 72F Low-13C° - 55F	<b>13 August, 2012, Monday</b>		
Time	Activities	Important Instructions (if any)	Dress Code
7:30	Breakfast		
9:15	Depart from the hotel		
	HSBC Trinkhaus & Burkhardt, Düsseldorf (Financial Services)		Uniforms (without the blazer)
<b><i>Working Lunch/snack provided by HSBC</i></b>			
Afternoon	Kiekert AG, Heiligenhaus (Automotive Supplier)		
<b><i>Dinner</i></b>			
Evening	Discussion based on the articles -- The European Union or Meet and greet with German students		



**Shareholders:** 80,4% HSBC Group  
18,7% Landesbank Baden-  
Württemberg

**Total assets (as at 31.03.2012):** € 22.2 billion

**Tier 1 capital ratio (as at 31.03.2012):** 11.5%

**Rating (Fitch):** AA, since December 2007

**Funds under management and administration (as at 31.03.2012):** EUR 137.7 billion

**Locations:**

Baden-Baden	Berlin
Düsseldorf	Frankfurt/Main
Hamburg	Cologne
Munich	Stuttgart
Luxembourg	

## HSBC - TRINKAUS

### HISTORY

**1785:** Christian Gottfried Jäger set up his trading house in Düsseldorf

**1852:** Christian Gottfried Trinkaus, a nephew of the founder, took over the house and gave it his name. He concentrated fully on the banking business.

**1919:** The last family members left the company. It was then taken over by institutional investors (including Deutsche Bank).

**1972:** C. G. Trinkaus merged with Bankhaus Burkhardt & Co. From then on the Bank operated under the name Trinkaus & Burkhardt.

**1974:** Citibank acquired the majority.

**1980:** the English Midland Bank group took over the majority of the shares of Trinkaus & Burkhardt.

**1985:** Trinkaus & Burkhardt was converted into a partnership limited by shares (KGaA) and brought to the stock exchange.

**1992:** HSBC Holdings plc acquired Midland Bank giving it a majority holding in Trinkaus & Burkhardt.

**1999:** the Bank was renamed HSBC Trinkaus & Burkhardt KGaA.

**2006:** HSBC Trinkaus & Burkhardt changed the legal form of the Bank from a KGaA to an AG (German stock corporation).

### GROUP STRUCTURE

The HSBC Trinkaus Group comprises a group of 17 active companies. The parent company is stock corporation HSBC Trinkaus & Burkhardt. The Bank is managed jointly by the five members of the Management Board. Supervision of executives managing Group subsidiaries is carried out by the relevant Supervisory Board, Board of Directors and Advisory Board, the members of which can be found in the current Annual Report. All companies are managed within the scope of an overall strategy without affecting the legal independence of the subsidiaries.

## ***KIEKERT AG, HEILIGENHAUS***



### **Locations**

- **Heiligenhaus, Germany:** Headquarters and founding location of the Kiekert Group. Global Research & Development center and manufacturing location for premium latching systems.
- **Prelouc, Czech Republic:** The largest manufacturing facility within the Kiekert Group and production hub for the European market.
- **Wixom, USA:** Kiekert's development and sales center for the NAFTA-Region.
- **Puebla, Mexico:** The powerful plant for our customers in North-, Middle- and South America.
- **Changshu, China:** The Chinese manufacturing base support the strategic orientation on the Asian market with an own development and production.

From Maybach to Maruti, Kiekert latches are in nearly all vehicles of the world. If it concerns latches for automobiles, Kiekert is the world leader. For over 100 years, Kiekert is a strategic partner of the automobile industry, on all continents. With the expansion in China, Kiekert has secured itself a prominent position in one of the largest expanding world markets, for the next coming decades. As an innovation leader and manufacturer of a wide range of automobile closing systems, Kiekert is an indispensable partner for the OEM (original equipment manufacturer), vehicle manufacturer.

Kiekert is considered as the leader in the development and manufacture of side door latches for the automobile industry. Through his own worldwide endeavour in specializing in this segment, Kiekert has achieved in being the benchmark in product and production process excellence. Kiekert is a modern technology leader with over 150 year old tradition. Trust, commitment and the drive for continuous improvement are the foundations of its history and drive of its future success. With its development strengths, consulting and production competencies, Kiekert supports the automobile industry with individualized solutions through offering defined, refined and higher-content options for the vehicle technology from tomorrow.

Kiekert strives for highest precision in its strategic decisions and daily operational activities. Continuous improvement makes it achieve higher performance over the long run. Its goal is to ensure the success of its customers through its products quality and functionality. Kiekert uses its development and innovation capability creatively and reliably for the automobile industry and advancement of automobile technology. Kiekert supports the entire automobile industry and success of our customers with custom-made solutions.

## ***DUISBURG***

Duisburg is a German city in the western part of the Ruhr Area in North Rhine-Westphalia. It is an independent metropolitan borough within Regierungsbezirk Düsseldorf. With the world's biggest inland harbor and its proximity to Düsseldorf International Airport, Duisburg has become an important venue for commerce and steel production.



Today's city is a result of numerous incorporations of surrounding towns and smaller cities. It is the fifteenth-largest city in Germany and the fifth-largest city in North Rhine-Westphalia with 495,668 residents as of 31 December 2007. The city is renowned for its steel industry. The last remaining coal mine closed down in the summer of 2009, but Duisburg has never been a coal-mining centre to the same extent as other places in the Ruhr region. All furnaces in the Ruhr are now located in Duisburg. 49% of all hot metal and 34.4% of all pig-iron in Germany is produced here (as of 2000). It also has a large brewery, the König Brauerei, located in Duisburg-Beeck, which makes the König Pilsener brand. The University of Duisburg-Essen, with 37,000 students, ranks among the 10 largest German universities

Flag :



City coat of arms :



Map :



Approximate Temperature Hi- 22C°- 72F Low-13C° - 55F		14 August, 2012 Tuesday	
Time	Activities	Important Instructions (if any)	Dress Code
7:30 am	Breakfast		Uniform (without the blazer)
8:30 am	Depart from hotel  University of Duisburg-Essen, Mercator School of Management (Duisburg Campus)	University of Duisburg-Essen, Mercator School of Management (Duisburg Campus) Welcome lecture about Germany and the Mercator School of Management, followed by a campus tour.	
	Cundus AG		
<b><i>Working lunch/snack provided by Cundus AG</i></b>			
Afternoon	Presentation at Thyssen Krupp Steel AG		
Evening	Landschaftspark Nord	Old industrial facility converted to a recreational area	
	Reach hotel		
<b><i>Dinner</i></b>			



## **CUNDUS**

The logo for Cundus, featuring the word "cundus" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The letters are colored in a gradient from dark blue on the left to light blue on the right. A horizontal line extends from the end of the word.

Founded in 2000

**Headquarter:** Duisburg

**Core competencies:** Business Intelligence  
Corporate Performance Management

**Expertise:** Solutions based on products of SAP AG, SAP BusinessObjects, Microsoft, and IBM Cognos

**Locations:**

- Germany (Duisburg, Frankfurt on the Main, Munich)
- United Kingdom (London)
- Switzerland (Zurich, Basel)
- USA (Herndon)
- Canada (Toronto)

### **MISSIONS AND VISIONS**

#### **Creating value from Knowledge**

In a competitive and constantly changing world, products, services, and companies evolve with an ever-increasing speed. In order that Cundus' service ensures true value for the customer.

Cundus wants to generate information from data from which the customer can derive and generate new knowledge to create values for his business on his part.

#### **Exceeding the customer's expectations**

The aim of Cundus AG is to enable managers to make faster yet well-grounded decisions. The prompt provision of consistent and analytically processed information supports managers in the analysis of the current and target situation and enables the future-oriented management of the company.

This enables potential market opportunities to be detected early on, competitive advantages to be developed, and the overall success of the company to be increased in a sustained manner. The combination of management support systems with internet technologies enables location-independent access to information, which opens up global markets and thus enables the tapping of additional potential market opportunities.

Cundus helps customers to develop IT strategies and to find creative solutions. When doing so, Cundus concentrates on a business-oriented approach.

## THYSSEN KRUPP STEEL AG



- 180,000 employees
- Presents in around 80 countries
- Sales in fiscal year 2010/20: €49b
- Organized in seven operating business areas:
  - *Steel Europe Business Area*
  - *ThyssenKrupp Steel Americas*
  - *Materials Services Business Area*
  - *Elevator Technology Business Area*
  - *Plant Technology Business Area*
  - *Components Technology business unit*
  - *Marine Systems*
  - *Inoxum group (as a discontinued operation)*

**The Steel Europe Business Area** is focused on the attractive and fast-growing market for premium flat carbon steel. Its capabilities range from intelligent material solutions, product-specific processing and comprehensive service to finished steel parts and assemblies. Steel Europe serves a broad spectrum of steel-processing industries, including the automotive, construction, appliance, energy and packaging sectors.

**ThyssenKrupp Steel Americas** includes the new plants currently being ramped up in Brazil and the USA with which the ThyssenKrupp Group is investing in the growing premium segment of the flat steel markets in the NAFTA region. The companies in this Business Area are ThyssenKrupp CSA Siderúrgica do Atlântico in Brazil and ThyssenKrupp Steel USA, LLC in the USA.

With 500 branches in 40 countries, the **Materials Services Business Area** is focused on the global distribution of materials and the provision of complex technical services for the production and manufacturing sectors. Materials, commodities and services are the core business of the Business Area Materials Services. All customers receive their materials not only just in time, but in exactly the sizes and shapes they need, whether as one-off items or in quantities of up to several million per year.

The **Elevator Technology Business Area** brings together the Group's global activities in the area of passenger transportation systems. Its range includes passenger and freight elevators, escalators, moving walks, passenger boarding bridges as well as stair and platform lifts. In addition to systems for the volume market, the portfolio also includes custom solutions as well as service, maintenance and modernization packages precisely tailored to customer requirements. More than 46,000 employees at over 900 locations around the world provide a

tight service network close to customers.

The **Plant Technology Business Area** employs around 13,000 people worldwide and is focused on specialty and large-scale plant construction. Plant Technology is a global player in specialty and large-scale plant construction. Plant Technology's particular strength is its ability to offer complete process chains incorporating its wealth of experience in process-related areas.

The **Components Technology business unit** is the world's leading manufacturer of large slewing bearings which have proven themselves in general mechanical engineering, in conveying, mining and extraction systems, in harbor, ship and construction cranes, and in earthmoving machinery. Other typical applications are solar and wind energy plants, tunneling, machines, offshore engineering, and industrial robots. The Business Area's range includes also crawler and crawler components for mining, forestry and agricultural machines, excavators, bulldozers, and track-mounted tractors. Furthermore Components Technology develops and manufactures steering shafts, steering columns and steering gears which in millions of vehicles around the globe make sure that motorists arrive safely at their destination.

With its know-how, products and innovative strength, **Marine Systems** sets global standards in naval and civil shipbuilding and ranks among the leading system suppliers in the international shipbuilding industry. Today the activities of ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems focus on the development and building of submarines and surface naval vessels, civil shipbuilding, ship repair and conversion, and services.

The activities of the **Inoxum** group are divided into two segments: the Stainless Steel segment stands for the worldwide production, processing and distribution of stainless steel flat products. The High Performance Alloys segment brings together the production and distribution of high-performance materials such as nickel alloys, titanium and zirconium.

Approximate Temperature Hi- 25C° - 77F Low-15.4C° - 59.7F	15 August, 2012 Wednesday		
Time	Activities	Important Instructions (if any)	Dress Code
7:30 am	Breakfast		PES-IUP T- Shirt No flip-flops No shorts
8:00 am	Check out		
9:00 am	Duisburg Harbour / duisport Group		
<b><i>Packed lunch on the bus</i></b>			
Afternoon	Bus to Paris		Sneakers and comfortable clothing recommended for all sight-seeing
	Check in Paris Porte de Bercy		
	Presentation/Discussion		
<b><i>Dinner</i></b>			
9:00 pm	Fly Boats	Cruise on the river Scine	

## ***DUISPORT***



- World's largest inland port
- Main functions:
  - property management (lease services)
  - surveying, engineering, design and construction
  - environmental, licensing and approval functions
  - railroad infrastructure management
  - consulting services regarding public funding
  - public relations and marketing

Duisport is situated in an excellent geographic position and along with that offers an intelligent network of logistic services. Duisport clients benefit from the infra- and suprastructural advantages of the multi-purpose-port as well as from numerous value-added-services like multimodal transshipment terminals, warehouse and storage resources, shuttle-transports, elaborate packing and intelligent contract-services and market- and client orientated service concepts.

Overall 700 employees in a range of companies implement the business objectives offering answers and solutions to the clients' questions and queries. They work in organizational units as corporate development, human resource, purchasing, legal, finance and accounting, auditing and IT.

Duisburger Hafen AG is the owner of the public Port of Duisburg and the parent company of the Duisburger Hafen Group. The Federal Republic of Germany, the State of North-Rhine Westphalia and the City of Duisburg each hold one third of the shares.



## FRANCE – FRENCH REPUBLIC

### General information

- Anthem: The Marseillaise
- Motto: Liberty, Equality, Fraternity
- National holiday: July 14th (Bastille day)

### Geography

- Area: 260,711 mi<sup>2</sup>, (209,970 mi<sup>2</sup> Metropolitan France)
- Capital: Paris
- Main cities: Bordeaux, Lille, Lyon, Marseille, Nice, Nantes, Strasbourg, Toulon, Toulouse

### Political system

- 5th Republic since 1958 - Presidential election every 5 years
- President: François Hollande (since May 6th 2012)
- Legislature: Parliament
- Senate (Upper house) - National Assembly (Lower house)

### Economic sectors

- Services sector employs 70% of the French population
- Leading tourist destination in the world
- Global leader in the production of wines and spirits

### Economy

- GDP: 2,808 billion dollars (5th worldwide rank) (2011)
- GDP: per capita: \$44,401 (2011)
- Currency: Euro (since 2002)

### Population

- 65,350,000 inhabitants (2012)
- Fertility rate: 2.08 (2011) (one of the higher rates among the European countries)
- Density: 114 inhab/km<sup>2</sup>

Flag:



Country coat of arms:



Maps:



France today is one of the most modern countries in the world and is a leader among European nations. It plays an influential global role as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, NATO, the G-8, the G-20, the EU and other multilateral organizations. France rejoined NATO's integrated military command structure in 2009, reversing de Gaulle's 1966 decision to take French forces out of NATO.

Over the past 500 years, France has been a major power with strong cultural, economic, military and political influence in Europe and around the world. During the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries, France colonized great parts of North America and Southeast Asia. During the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, France built the second largest colonial empire of the time, including large portions of North, West and Central Africa, Southeast Asia, and many Caribbean and Pacific Islands.

Since 1958, it has constructed a hybrid presidential-parliamentary governing system resistant to the instabilities experienced in earlier more purely parliamentary administrations. France was transitioning from an economy that has featured extensive government ownership and intervention to one that relies more on market mechanisms but is in the midst of a euro-zone crisis. The government has partially or fully privatized many large companies, banks, and insurers, and has ceded stakes in such leading firms as Air France, France Telecom, Renault, and Thales. It maintains a strong presence in some sectors, particularly power, public transport, and defense industries.

In recent decades, its reconciliation and cooperation with Germany have proved central to the economic integration of Europe, including the introduction of a common exchange currency, the euro, in January 1999. France has several overseas territories and islands. Metropolitan France extends from the Mediterranean Sea to the English Channel and the North Sea, and from the Rhine to the Atlantic Ocean. It is often referred to as The Hexagon because of the geometric shape of its territory. It is the largest country in Western Europe and the third-largest in Europe as a whole, and it possesses the second-largest exclusive economic zone in the world, covering 11,035,000 km<sup>2</sup> (4,260,000 sq mi), just behind that of the United States (11,351,000 km<sup>2</sup> / 4,383,000 sq mi). In the early 21<sup>st</sup> century, five French overseas entities – French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mayotte, and Reunion – became French regions and were made part of France proper.

France's leaders remain committed to a capitalism in which they maintain social equity by means of laws, tax policies, and social spending that reduce income disparity and the impact of free markets on public health and welfare. France's real GDP contracted 2.6% in 2009, but recovered somewhat in 2010 and 2011. The unemployment rate increased from 7.4% in 2008 to 9.3% in 2010 and 9.1% in 2011. Lower-than-expected growth and increased unemployment have cut government revenues and increased borrowing costs, contributing to a deterioration of France's public finances. The government budget deficit rose sharply from 3.4% of GDP in 2008 to 7.5% of GDP in 2009 before improving to 5.8% of GDP in 2011, while France's public debt rose from 68% of GDP to 86% over the same period. Under President SARKOZY, Paris implemented austerity measures that eliminated tax credits and froze most government spending in an effort to bring the budget deficit under the 3% euro-zone ceiling by 2013 and to highlight France's commitment to fiscal discipline at a time of intense financial market scrutiny of euro-zone debt levels. Socialist Francois HOLLANDE won the May 2012 presidential election, after advocating pro-growth economic policies,

as well as measures such as forcing banks to separate their traditional deposit taking and lending activities from more speculative businesses, increasing taxes on bank profits, introducing a new top bracket on income taxes for people earning over \$1.3 million a year, and hiring an additional 60,000 civil servants during his five-year term of office.

France has its main ideals expressed in the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen. The French Republic is defined as indivisible, secular, democratic and social by its constitution. France enjoys a high standard of living as well as a high public education level, and has also one of the world's longest life expectancies. France has been listed as the world's "best overall health care" provider by the World Health Organization. It is the most visited country in the world, receiving 82 million foreign tourists annually.

France has the world's fourth largest nominal military budget, the third largest military in NATO and EU's largest army. France also possesses the third largest nuclear weapons stockpile in the world – with around 300 active warheads as of 25 May 2010 – and the world's second largest diplomatic corps (second only to that of the United States). France is a founding member of the United Nations, one of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, and a member of the Francophonie, the G8, G20, NATO, OECD, WTO, and the Latin Union. It is also a founding and leading member state of the European Union and the largest EU state by area. In 2011, France was listed 20<sup>th</sup> on the Human Development Index and 24<sup>th</sup> on the Corruption Perceptions Index (2010).



## **PARIS**

Paris is the capital and largest city of France. It is situated on the river Seine, in northern France, at the heart of the Île-de-France region (or Paris Region). As of January 2009 the city of Paris, within its administrative limits (the 20 arrondissements) largely unchanged since 1860, has an estimated population of 2,234,105 and a metropolitan population of 12,161,542, and is one of the most populated metropolitan areas in Europe. Paris was the largest city in the Western world for about 1,000 years, prior to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and may have been the largest in the entire world between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Paris is today one of the world's leading business and cultural centers, and its influences in politics, education, entertainment, media, fashion, science, and the arts all contribute to its status as one of the world's major global cities. It hosts the headquarters of many international organizations such as UNESCO, the OECD, the International Chamber of Commerce or the European Space Agency. Paris is considered one of the greenest and most liveable cities in Europe. It is also one of the most expensive.

Paris and the Paris Region, with US\$759.9 billion in 2010, produce more than a quarter of the gross domestic product of France. According to 2008 estimates, the Paris agglomeration is Europe's biggest or second biggest city economy and the sixth largest in the world. The Paris region is the first in Europe in terms of research and development capability and expenditure and through its 17 universities and 55 grandes écoles has the highest concentration of higher education students in the European Union. With about 42 million tourists annually in the city and its suburbs, Paris is the most visited city in the world. The city and its region contain 3,800 historical monuments and four UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Flag :



City coat of arms :



Map :

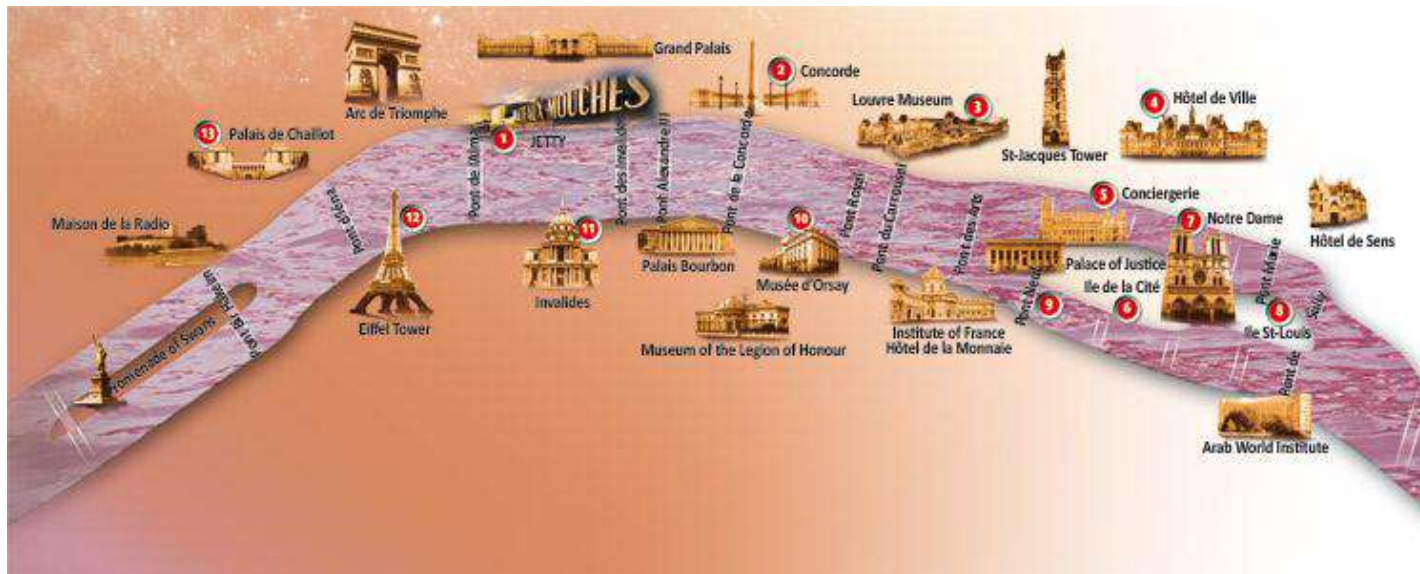


## FLY BOATS

At the end of the war, Jean Bruel, who loved Paris, wanted to allow the Parisians to be able to enjoy themselves again and lead a carefree existence. He knew that Paris appeared to be even more beautiful when it was seen from the River Seine. But up until then, it had been used as a thoroughfare to transport goods and people (by river boat). He designed and built really modern and avant-garde boats, including 9 cruise boats and 5 boat restaurants. They are encased in glass and bathed in light and represent the company's the current fleet.

The Compagnie des Bateaux Mouches® was created in 1949 and since then it has become a name which is known throughout the world! Jean Bruel was ingenious, creative and had sensed that the end of the Second World War would mark the beginning of a new concept of travelling, leisure activities and international meetings. It was by buying one of the last steam boats, a relic from the 1900 Universal Exhibition, and by launching a communication operation whose fictional hero was Jean-Sébastien Mouche, the supposed founder of the Bateaux-Mouches®, that Jean Bruel created the most famous cruise line on the River Seine: the Compagnie des Bateaux-Mouches.

Jean Bruel loved Paris and wanted to transform the City of Light into a perfect place and promote it through its most beautiful avenue: the River Seine. This concept has won over more than a million passengers since its creation. It is within this unique structure that his daughter, Charlotte Bruel Matovic, and Radé Matovic perpetuate this wonderful adventure.



Approximate Temperature Hi- 25C° - 77F Low-15.4C° - 59.7F	<b>16 August, 2012 Thursday</b>		
Time	Activities	Important Instructions (if any)	Dress Code
7:30 am	Breakfast		
8:00 am	Check out		
9:00 am	Louvre Museum – One of the world’s largest museum in the world	Big bags forbidden	
11:30 am	Notre Dame de Paris	No flash, maintain silence	Shoulders must be covered and shorts/dresses/skirts should cover knees
1:30 pm	<b><i>Lunch at the Eiffel Tower</i></b>		
3:30 pm	Visit the 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor		
5:00 pm	Champs Elysees and Arc de Triomphe		
6 :00 pm	Leave for Amsterdam		
	Check in		
<b><i>Dinner</i></b>			

## ***LOUVRE***

The Louvre Museum or simply the Louvre—is one of the world’s largest museums, the most visited art museum in the world and a historic monument. A central landmark of Paris, France, it is located on the Right Bank of the Seine in the 1<sup>st</sup> arrondissement (district). Nearly 35,000 objects from prehistory to the 19<sup>th</sup> century are exhibited over an area of 60,600 square meters (652,300 square feet).

The museum is housed in the Louvre Palace which began as a fortress built in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century under Philip II. Remnants of the fortress are visible in the basement of the museum. The building was extended many times to form the present Louvre Palace. In 1682, Louis XIV chose the Palace of Versailles for his household, leaving the Louvre primarily as a place to display the royal collection, including, from 1692, a collection of antique sculpture. In 1692, the building was occupied by the *Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres* and the *Académie Royale de Peinture et de Sculpture*, which in 1699 held the first of a series of salons. The Académie remained at the Louvre for 100 years. During the French Revolution, the National Assembly decreed that the Louvre should be used as a museum, to display the nation’s masterpieces.

The museum opened on 10 August 1793 with an exhibition of 537 paintings, the majority of the works being royal and confiscated church property. Because of structural problems with the building, the museum was closed in 1796 until 1801. The size of the collection increased under Napoleon and the museum was renamed the Musée Napoléon. After the defeat of Napoleon at Waterloo, many works seized by his armies were returned to their original owners. The collection was further increased during the reigns of Louis XVIII and Charles X, and during the Second French Empire the museum gained 20,000 pieces. Holdings have grown steadily through donations and gifts since the Third Republic.

As of 2008, the collection is divided among eight curatorial departments: Egyptian Antiquities; Near Eastern Antiquities; Greek, Etruscan, and Roman Antiquities; Islamic Art; Sculpture; Decorative Arts; Paintings; Prints and Drawings.



## ***NOTRE DAME DE PARIS***



Our Lady of Paris, also known as Notre Dame Cathedral or simply Notre Dame, is the cathedral of the Catholic Archdiocese of Paris: that is, it is the church that contains the cathedra (official chair) of the Archbishop of Paris, currently André Vingt-Trois. The cathedral treasury houses a reliquary with the purported Crown of Thorns.

Notre Dame de Paris is widely considered one of the finest examples of French Gothic architecture in France and in Europe, and the naturalism of its sculptures and stained glass are in contrast with earlier Romanesque architecture. The first period of construction from 1163 into the 1240s coincided with the musical experiments of the Notre Dame school.

The cathedral suffered desecration during the radical phase of the French Revolution in the 1790s, when much of its religious imagery was damaged or destroyed. An extensive restoration supervised by Eugène Viollet-le-Duc removed remaining decoration, returning the cathedral to an 'original' Gothic state.



## ***EIFFEL TOWER***

The Eiffel Tower, nickname the iron lady is a iron lattice tower located on the Champ de Mars in Paris, named after the engineer Gustave Eiffel, whose company designed and built the tower. Erected in 1889 as the entrance arch to the 1889 World's Fair, it has become both a global cultural icon of France and one of the most recognizable structures in the world. The tower is the tallest building in Paris and the most-visited paid monument in the world; 7.1 million people ascended it in 2011. The third level observatory's upper platform is at 279.11 m the highest accessible to public in the European Union and the highest in Europe as long as the one of Ostankino Tower, at 360 m, will remain closed as a result of the fire of August 2000. The tower received its 250 Millionth visitor in 2010.

The tower stands 320 meters (1,050 ft) tall, about the same height as an 81-story building. During its construction, the Eiffel Tower surpassed the Washington Monument to assume the title of the tallest man-made structure in the world, a title it held for 41 years, until the Chrysler Building in New York City was built in 1930. However, because of the addition, in 1957, of the antenna atop the Eiffel Tower, it is now taller than the Chrysler Building. Not including broadcast antennas, it is the second-tallest structure in France, after the Millau Viaduct.

The tower has three levels for visitors. Tickets can be purchased to ascend, by stairs or lift, to the first and second levels. The walk from ground level to the first level is over 300 steps, as is the walk from the first to the second level. The third and highest level is accessible only by lift – stairs exist but they are not usually open for public use. Both the first and second levels feature restaurants.

The tower has become the most prominent symbol of both Paris and France, often in the establishing shot of films set in the city.



## ***CHAMPS ÉLYSEES AND ARC DE TRIOMPHE***



The Avenue des Champs-Élysées is a street in Paris, France. With its cinemas, cafés, luxury specialty shops and clipped horse-chestnut trees, the Avenue des Champs-Élysées is one of the most famous streets and one of the most expensive strips of real estate in the world. Several French monuments are also on the street, including the Arc de Triomphe and the Place de la Concorde. The name is French for Elysian Fields, the place of the blessed dead in Greek mythology. The Avenue des Champs-Élysées is known as “The most beautiful avenue in the world”.



The Arc de Triomphe is one of the most famous monuments in Paris. It stands in the centre of the Place Charles de Gaulle (originally named Place de l'Étoile), at the western end of the Champs-Élysées. There is a smaller arch, the Arc de Triomphe du Carrousel, which stands west of the Louvre. The Triumphal Arch honors those who fought and died for France in the French Revolutionary and the Napoleonic Wars, with the names of all French victories and generals inscribed on its inner and outer surfaces. Beneath its vault lies the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier from World War I.

The Arc de Triomphe is the linchpin of the historic axis— a sequence of monuments and grand thoroughfares on a route which goes from the courtyard of the Louvre, to the Grande Arche de la Défense. The monument was designed by Jean Chalgrin in 1806, and its iconographic program pitted heroically nude French youths against bearded Germanic warriors in chain mail. It set the tone for public monuments, with triumphant patriotic messages.



The monument stands 50 meters (164 ft) in height, 45 m (148 ft) wide and 22 m (72 ft) deep. The large vault is 29.19 m (95.8 ft) high and 14.62 m (48.0 ft) wide. The small vault is 18.68 m (61.3 ft) high and 8.44 m (27.7 ft) wide. It was the largest triumphal arch in existence until the construction of the Arch of Triumph in Pyongyang, in 1982. Its design was inspired by the Roman Arch of Titus. The Arc de Triomphe is so colossal that three weeks after the Paris victory parade in 1919, (marking the end of hostilities in World War I) Charles Godefroy flew his Nieuport biplane through it, with the event captured on newsreel.

# THE NETHERLANDS

## General information

- Anthem: *Het Wilhelmus*
- Motto: *I will hold firm*
- National holiday: April 30th (Queensday, Queen Juliana's birthday), May 5th (Liberation Day, from Nazi Germany in 1945)

## Geography

- Area: 41,543 km<sup>2</sup>
- Capital: Amsterdam

## Political system

- Constitutional monarchy, Unitary parliamentary representative democracy
- Monarch: Beatrix der Nederlanden - Prime Minister: Mark Rutte (2010)
- Legislature: States-General
- Senate (Upper House) - House of Representatives (Lower House)

## Economic sectors

- Has one of the largest natural gas fields in the world
- Foodstuff form the largest industrial sector.
- Other major industries include chemicals, metallurgy, machinery, electrical goods, and tourism.

## Economy

- GDP: \$840.433 billion (16th worldwide rank) (2011)
- GDP: per capita: \$50,355 (2011)
- Currency: Euro (since 2002)

## Population

- 16,847,007 inhabitants (2012)
- Fertility rate: 1.8 (births per woman in 2010)
- Density: 404.3/km<sup>2</sup>

Flag:



Country coat of arms:



Maps:





The Netherlands is a constituent country of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, located mainly in North-West Europe and with some islands in the Caribbean. Mainland Netherlands borders the North Sea to the north and west, Belgium to the south, and Germany to the east, and shares maritime borders with Belgium, Germany and the United Kingdom. It is a parliamentary democracy organized as a unitary state. The country capital is Amsterdam and the seat of government is The Hague. The Netherlands in its entirety is often referred to as Holland, although North and South Holland are actually only two of its twelve provinces.

The Netherlands is a geographically low-lying country, with about 20% of its area and 21% of its population located below sea level, and 50% of its land lying less than one meter above sea level. This distinct feature contributes to the country's name: in Dutch (Nederland), English, and in many other European languages, its name literally means "(The) Low Countries" or "Low Country". Most of the areas below sea level are man-made, caused by centuries of extensive and poorly controlled peat extraction, lowering the surface by several meters. Even in flooded areas peat extraction continued through turf dredging. As from the late 16<sup>th</sup> century land reclamation started and large polder areas are now preserved through elaborate drainage systems with dikes, canals and pumping stations. Much of the Netherlands is formed by the estuary of three important European rivers, which together with their distributaries form the Rhine-Meuse-Scheldt delta. Most of the country is very flat, with the exception of foothills in the far southeast and several low-hill ranges in the central parts.

The Netherlands was one of the first countries to have an elected parliament. Among other affiliations, the country is a founding member of the EU, NATO, OECD and WTO. Netherlands has the ninth-highest per capita income in the world. With Belgium and Luxembourg it forms the Benelux economic union. The country is host to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and five international courts: the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, the International Criminal Court and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. The first four are situated in The Hague, as is the EU's criminal intelligence agency Europol and judicial co-operation agency Eurojust. This has led to the city being dubbed "the world's legal capital".

The Netherlands has a capitalist market-based economy, ranking 13<sup>th</sup> of 157 countries according to the Index of Economic Freedom. In May 2011, the Netherlands was ranked as the "happiest" country according to results published by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

<b>Approximate Temperature</b> Hi- 22C° - 72F Low-13C° - 55F	<b>17 August, 2012</b> <b>Friday</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Important Instructions (if any)</b>	<b>Dress Code</b>
7:30 am	Breakfast		
8:00 am	Check out		
9:00 am	Half day tour of Amsterdam		Shoulders must be covered and short/dress/skirt till knees
Afternoon	Transfer from Amsterdam to Brussels		
<b><i>Packed lunch on bus</i></b>			
Evening	Check in		
<b><i>Dinner</i></b>			

## ***AMSTERDAM***

Amsterdam is the largest city and the capital of the Netherlands. The city's status as the capital of the nation is governed by the constitution. Amsterdam has a population of 790,654 within city limits, an urban population of 1,209,419 and a metropolitan population of 2,289,762. The city is located in the province of North Holland in the west of the country. It comprises the northern part of the Randstad, one of the larger conurbations in Europe, with a population of approximately 7 million.

Amsterdam's name is derived from Amstelredamme, indicative of the city's origin: a dam in the river Amstel. Settled as a small fishing village in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century, Amsterdam became one of the most important ports in the world during the Dutch Golden Age, a result of its innovative developments in trade. During that time, the city was the leading center for finance and diamonds. In the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, the city expanded, and many new neighborhoods and suburbs were formed. The 17<sup>th</sup>-century canals of Amsterdam, located in the heart of Amsterdam, were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in July 2010.

As Netherlands' commercial capital and one of the top financial centers in Europe, Amsterdam is considered an alpha world city by the Globalization and World Cities study group. The city is also cultural capital of the Netherlands. Many large Dutch institutions have their headquarters there, and 7 of the world's top 500 companies, including Philips and ING, are based in the city. In 2010, Amsterdam was ranked 13<sup>th</sup> globally on quality of living by Mercer, and previously ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in innovation by 2<sup>th</sup> in know in the Innovation Cities Index 2009.

The Amsterdam Stock Exchange, the oldest stock exchange in the world, is located in the city center. Amsterdam's main attractions, including its historic canals, the Rijksmuseum, the Van Gogh Museum, Stedelijk Museum, Hermitage Amsterdam, Anne Frank House, Amsterdam Museum, its red-light district, and its many cannabis coffee shops draw more than 3.66 million international visitors annually. However, a new national regulation could greatly affect the city's famed tolerance for drugs, and cut down on the number of foreigners coming there to buy marijuana. Mayor Eberhard van der Laan is hoping to reach a compromise with the national government so the tourism industry will not be significantly affected.

Flag :



City coat of arms :



Map :



## BELGIUM- KINGDOM OF BELGIUM

### General information

- Anthem: The Brabançonne
- Motto: Unity makes strength
- National holiday: 21 July 1831 (installation of Leopold I as king)

### Geography

- Area: 30,528 km<sup>2</sup>
- Capital: Brussels
- Main cities: Brugge, Antwerp, Ghent

### Political system

- Federal parliamentary constitutional monarchy
- King: Albert II - Prime Minister: Elio Di Rupo
- Legislature: Federal Parliament
- Senate (Upper house) - Chamber of Representatives (Lower house)

### Economic sectors

- Imports: raw materials, machinery, equipment, chemicals, raw diamonds, pharmaceuticals, foodstuffs, transportation equipment, and oil products.
- Exports: chemicals, finished diamonds, metals, metal products, and foodstuffs.
- Dual nature: a dynamic Flemish economy and a Walloon economy that lags behind

### Economy

- GDP: \$529 billion (2011 est.)
- GDP: per capita: \$46,878 (2011)
- Currency: Euro (since 2002)

### Population

- 11,007,020 inhabitants (estimate 2011)
- Fertility rate: 1.85 (2009)
- Density: 354.7km<sup>2</sup>

Flag:



Country coat of arms:



Maps:



Belgium, officially the Kingdom of Belgium, is a federal state in Western Europe. It is a founding member of the European Union and hosts the EU's headquarters, and those of several other major international organizations such as NATO. The country prospered in the past half century as a modern, technologically advanced European state and member of NATO and the EU. Tensions between the Dutch-speaking Flemings of the north and the French-speaking Walloons of the south have led in recent years to constitutional amendments granting these regions formal recognition and autonomy. Straddling the cultural boundary between Germanic and Latin Europe, Belgium is home to two main linguistic groups, the Dutch-speakers, mostly Flemish (about 60%), and the French-speakers, mostly Walloons (about 40%), plus a small group of German-speakers. Belgium's two largest regions are the Dutch-speaking region of Flanders in the north and the French-speaking southern region of Wallonia. The Brussels-Capital Region, officially bilingual, is a mostly French-speaking enclave within the Flemish Region. A German-speaking Community exists in eastern Wallonia. Belgium's linguistic diversity and related political conflicts are reflected in the political history and a complex system of government.

Historically, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg were known as the Low Countries, which used to cover a somewhat larger area than the current Benelux group of states. The region was called Belgica in Latin because of the Roman province Gallia Belgica which covered more or less the same area. From the end of the Middle Ages until the 17<sup>th</sup> century, it was a prosperous centre of commerce and culture. From the 16<sup>th</sup> century until the Belgian Revolution in 1830, when Belgium seceded from the Netherlands, many battles between European powers were fought in the area of Belgium, causing it to be dubbed the battleground of Europe, a reputation strengthened by both World Wars.

Upon its independence, Belgium participated in the Industrial Revolution and, during the course of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, possessed a number of colonies in Africa. The second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century was marked by the rise of contrasts between the Flemish and the Francophones fuelled by differences of language and the unequal economic development of Flanders and Wallonia. This ongoing antagonism has caused far-reaching reforms, changing the formerly unitary Belgian state into a federal state, and a long period of political instability. This modern, open, and private-enterprise-based economy has capitalized on its central geographic location, highly developed transport network, and diversified industrial and commercial base. Industry is concentrated mainly in the more heavily-populated region of Flanders in the north. With few natural resources, Belgium imports substantial quantities of raw materials and exports a large volume of manufactures, making its economy vulnerable to volatility in world markets. Roughly three-quarters of Belgium's trade is with other EU countries, and Belgium has benefited most from its proximity to Germany. In 2011 Belgian GDP grew by 2.0%, the unemployment rate decreased slightly to 7.7% from 8.3% the previous year, and the government reduced the budget deficit from a peak of 6% of GDP in 2009 to 4.2% in 2011. Despite the relative improvement in Belgium's budget deficit, public debt hovers near 100% of GDP, a factor that has contributed to investor perceptions that the country is increasingly vulnerable to spillover from the euro-zone crisis. Belgian banks were severely affected by the international financial crisis in 2008 with three major banks receiving capital injections from the government, and the nationalization of the Belgian arm of a Franco-Belgian bank. An ageing population and rising social expenditures are mid- to long-term challenges to public finances.

Approximate Temperature Hi- 22C° - 72F Low-13C° - 55F	<b>18 August, 2012</b> <b>Saturday</b>		
Time	Activities	Important Instructions (if any)	Dress Code
7:00 am	Breakfast		Sneakers and comfortable clothing recommended for travelling
8:00 am	Check out		
	Leave to Brussels Airport		
	Transfer to the air port to take flight back to Bangalore and to John F		
<b>Lunch</b>			

**BON VOYAGE!**

## ***ABOUT PES AND IUP***

### ***Peoples Education Society (PES)***

In 1972, PES was founded with just over 40 students in a rented gymnasium in Bangalore. Today, PES has more than 20,000 students spread across four different campuses in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. PES Group today runs programs ranging from Pre-University to Post Graduation. PES Institution of Technology (PESIT) has been South Asia's first ISO 9002 certified Educational Institution.

PES has focused on four main educational areas: Engineering, Medicine, Management and Life Sciences. We have been offering both foundation courses as well as specialization courses in Bachelors as well as Masters Degree.

### ***Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP)***

Indiana University of Pennsylvania, USA is largest of the state-owned universities in the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education. It was founded in 1875 with 225 students in one building. Since then, it has grown in size and stature to today's global center of learning with over 14,000 students from every corner of the world pursuing degrees in over 100 undergraduate majors with a variety of internship and study-abroad programs, more than 40 master's degree programs, and ten programs leading to the doctoral degree. IUP's range of opportunities and quality of instruction are characteristic of any big U.S. university; yet at IUP, close/one-to-one relationships develop within the teaching framework, and a strong sense of community prevails.

### ***The Eberly College of Business and Information Technology***

The Eberly College of Business and Information Technology at IUP enrolls approximately 2,200 students. The size of the student body allows the College to offer a lot of program options including Accounting, Business Education, Business Technology Support, Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management, Finance, General Management, Human Resource Management, International Business, Management Information System, Marketing and Supply Chain Management.

The Eberly College is accredited by AACSB International, the premier accrediting agency for collegiate business programs. **Only about 15% of all colleges and universities worldwide hold AACSB International accreditation.** This could be considered analogous to a corporation having its stock listed on the New York Stock Exchange. Eberly College of Business and Information Technology has been included in the Princeton Review's *Best Business Schools* guidebook for the seventh consecutive year.

## **PES-IUP Partnership**

The Department of Management Studies, PES, in collaboration with Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), offers Proficiency Courses in Management. Successful completion of all Proficiency Courses lead to an MBA degree offered by Indiana University of Pennsylvania, USA.

The program will provide an excellent opportunity for students and professionals to enhance their careers by helping them gain knowledge and skills in various aspects of business management. The program incorporates a unique modular design and a combination of lecture sessions and industry interactions. The program also offers a choice to visit IUP main campus in the U.S. and other partner universities worldwide.

### **Key Advantages of the PES – IUP MBA Program :**

- Degree awarded by Indiana University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.
- Extensive exchange program/study abroad available
- Specialization option in the U.S.
- VISA success rate close to 97%
- Excellent internship and placement opportunity
- Immense global exposure
- Value for money (Cost saver)—more than 50% savings
- Accomplished world-class faculty





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Chirag Sunil	Thacker	Rashi	Bajaj
Devika	Srinivas	Rayaan	
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