

# BELGIUM

Report 2008

## Committee Member

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## Deputy Committee Member

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## Hospital schools and hospital teachers

### Hospital Schools

There are **23** hospital schools in my country (**17 French part + 6 Dutch part of Belgium**)

Sometimes one school works in many hospitals.

How many schools function according to this system? (**6 French part + 2 Dutch part**)

**That means 50 hospitals are having a school (40 French part + 10 Dutch part)**

How many hospitals caring for children are there without a school? ..... (**French part**)

**One hospital pays a teacher to take care of the pupils (not enough pupils in paediatric unit of this hospital to be allowed to open a "official school"**

### Hospital teachers

There are +/- **160** hospital teachers in my country (**French part – no indication for Dutch part**) + **1 voluntary national organisation mainly of home tuition or in small hospital where there is not enough pupils).**

Organisation of the Hospital Education

Which authority pays your salaries? ~~Local~~, **government** or ~~both~~?

Who is your employer, state, council, municipality, hospital, other (explain)? **Except 1 teacher it's never the hospital the employer. It could be state, ministry, non profit making association. Nothing different than for other specialised schools and ordinary schools.**

**The Belgian educational organisation is quite complicated a short summary available at :**

**[http://www.eurydice.org/ressources/eurydice/eurybase/pdf/section/BF\\_EN\\_C1.pdf](http://www.eurydice.org/ressources/eurydice/eurybase/pdf/section/BF_EN_C1.pdf)**

Is the right to education when ill or handicapped laid down in a legal document? **Yes**

Do you know which one(s)? **the last law is from 03/03/2004**

→ in French : <http://www.cdadoc.cfwb.be/cdadocrep/pdf/2004/20040303s28737.pdf>

Is it possible for you to summarize? **No ! it consists in a synthesis of the different laws starting in 1970 about specialised schools. It's also updated to "new" needs and slowly promoting integration in ordinary schools.**

**Each child has the right to tuition from the age of 2;5 till 21 years old. We have still two separate systems: ordinary schools and specialised schools. We have also a legal text about integration.**

**In hospital, it's the responsibility of the doctor to say if that child is able to take benefit from the school during his/her illness (not necessary to stay in hospital for a certain time). NB: in the north of Belgium (Flanders), the rule could be a bit different.**

Are there new developments in your country concerning the educational care of sick children and adolescents? If yes, which is the current development?

**We just received a new circular (29/4/2008 !) 1° that reminds to all schools that it's their responsibility to check why one of their pupils is absent. Even during an absence, it's still the responsibility of the school to check if there is anything to do with the continuity.**

**This circular informs also about how to proceed (about school continuity) if a child is ill. [www.enseignement.be](http://www.enseignement.be) → circulaires → Nr 2282 - 29/4/2008**

**The circular is to be considered as "new development" in the way that the Minister reminds that the hospital teacher must be invited to the mainstream school for planning continuity, evaluation ... It's also said that the law allows adapted procedures for annual examination. It's also suggested to elect someone in each school who could be responsible and contact person for any "health question" (therefore also to coop with us!).**

### **Subscription of HOPE members**

- I centralise the subscription for HOPE **Yes**
- I send the total amount of the subscription to the treasurer and transmit the member's list to the treasurer and the secretary by 1 September. **I'm supposed to do it ! but as I have the opportunity to meet the treasurer several times and as my colleagues are always late to pay ...**
- The fee (12 Euro per person) is **regarded as too high Difficult to answer**
- The fee is **not regarded as too high It's always too high when you have to pay. Seems that "depends on what they receive" for their subscription.**
- Other remarks: **The fee to be member of the National association is 15 euros. We also have difficulties to collect subscription ...**

### **Looking for new HOPE members**

- It is **difficult** to find new HOPE members **YESSSSS**
- The amount of HOPE members has **decreased** during the last two years **YES**
- Membership varies with the contents of the European Days of Congresses **YES**
- In my country there is **interest** in the work of HOPE ?? **they have access via the website so less possibility to "control" their interest.**
- In my country there is **little of less interest** in the work of HOPE. **I think LESS**
- Some members are working in the network/ateliers of HOPE **by now only from my school but supposed to have more after our last annual study day we had last April.**

- It is **difficult** for members in my country to find money to attend seminars, the European Days or Congresses. **YESSS and there is no “tradition” to do it.**
- It is **not difficult** for members in my country to find money to attend seminars, the European Days or Congresses. **The problem is also the language.**
- How can people in my country be supported to find funding? **Via the service in charge of “continuous training for teachers”, their school (I think for very very low amount : 50 to 150 euros ?)**

Other remarks : **it’s also difficult to collect articles for our own Newsletter or Website**

### **Dissemination of information**

- I spread information by mail/letters and digitally **I’m not enough regular in that. I give at least 5 time/year feedback o the board of our association (and to my own colleagues!).**
- I spread information during meetings of the national organisation(s) **Yes**
- I or members of HOPE in my country have sent articles and/or information to the editor of the Newsletter of HOPE during the last two years **No**
- I **have difficulties** contacting HOPE members in my country **NO : so few members !**
- I include the flyer of HOPE, and the homepage of HOPE in the information package. **I should do it but now they can find all those information on the Hope website**
- The new Newsletter of HOPE, edited per country, **has interested the members I think so but I’ve got reaction saying that we are also losing the European dimension**
- Other remarks: **once again, a big problem is the language and they don’t understand for example that Hope needs first information in English to put it online.**

### **National Organisation 1 : only one for the French part**

Present chairperson	Christian LIEUTENANT
Name of organisation	A.P.H. (association des Pédagogues Hospitaliers)
Address	Rue de la Franco-Belge, 55
Zip code and city	7100 - La Louvière
Country	Belgium
Tel	**/32/64/26 46 53
Fax	**/32/64/26 46 53
E-mail	<a href="mailto:betb1962@hotmail.com">betb1962@hotmail.com</a>
website	<a href="http://www.aph.be">www.aph.be</a> → have a look !

### **National Organisation 2 : volunteer’s association**

Present chairpersons	Nicole VERHOUGSTRATE
Name of organisation	EHD (Ecole à l’Hôpital et à Domicile)
Address	Rue de la Cambre, 77
Zip code and city	1150 - Brussels
Country	Belgium
Tel	**/32 (0)2 770 71 17
Fax	**/32 (0)2 770 77 57
E-mail	<a href="mailto:info@ehd.be">info@ehd.be</a> - <a href="mailto:ehd@pandora.be">ehd@pandora.be</a>
website	<a href="http://www.ehd.be">www.ehd.be</a>

**National Organisation 3** : association for schools (no individual members). The association is called “J’apprends à l’hôpital” (I learn in hospital) but it’s only an association to share some money in order to buy materials (computers). The chairman of this association is Ludo GOVAERTS head teacher of the hospital school in the K.U.Leuven.

[ziekenhuisschool@uz.kuleuven.ac.be](mailto:ziekenhuisschool@uz.kuleuven.ac.be) - <http://www.kuleuven.ac.be/uzschool>

### **Contacts with the above mentioned national organisations**

- I am a member one or more of the above mentioned national organisation(s) **Yes**
- I have good contacts with these organisations **Yes**
- I am elected as a Committee Member by the national organisation **Yes by the board but/and no other candidate !**
- There is no formal HOPE organisation **No,**

### **Comenius or other projects in your country**

- I only know 1 Comenius joining hospital schools (Hosp’image) (France, Spain, Sweden, Belgium).
- By now 1 hospital school is involved in a project connected to HOPE Network (Pédagogie du projet) some more schools were very interested to join after the presentation of the project by the coordinator during our annual study day (April 14<sup>th</sup>).
- I also know that a Comenius project that finished last year is still active upon “voluntary basis” (Slovenia and Belgium about Olympic games !).
- Some contacts with the South American association for hospital pedagogues give us also the opportunity to some exchanges and active participation to their congress.

### **Candidate for the Board of HOPE**

I’ve informed my colleagues in Belgium (French part via the national association and Dutch part via the chairman of an association which is in contact with different Dutch hospital schools). I also tried to convince a doctorate in pedagogy who presented his thesis about hospital schools and who is member and close to Hope for many years, but not possible for him now (too much work !).

### **Other remarks or themes you like to discuss during the Committee Meeting in Tampere, June 2008**

- How to maintain and to promote Network within “hospital teachers” (how to work together?)
- How to make possible meetings for teachers where they can join (price!) and exchange (time)?
- How to maintain or transform the association?!
- Discuss the results of this “survey” and exchange ideas etc etc