

# Belgium



Capital	Bruxelles
Language(s)	French / Flemish
Currency	€uro
Surface	35 528 km <sup>2</sup>
Population	11 432 000 inhabitants
Population density	370.70 inhabitants/km <sup>2</sup>
GDP (2018)	395 719 Mrd €
Car fleet in 2019	7.042.677
Length of road network	149 018 km
Nber of vehicle for 1000 inhabitants	575
Time zone	GMT + 1
Persons killed on the road in 2018	604

## AUTOMOTIVE EXPERTISE IN BELGIUM

Belgium is the country which has the densest road network in the world with its 4.89km/km<sup>2</sup>. Its personal vehicles fleet is slightly above more than one car every two inhabitants. As a real crossroads in Europe, it registers a high number of road accidents. The public liability insurance policy is compulsory since 1956 but the activity of automotive expert had existed well before. The profession has been regulated by law since 2007. To be registered in the Institute of experts, the applicant must either hold a diploma / civil Engineer or Industrial Master OR a diploma equivalent to the first two years of studies at university / final secondary school diploma specialized in thermal engines and expertise, in automotive expertise, in mechanics or electro mechanics or a diploma delivered by any other recognized institution with a level comparable to those delivering the above-mentioned diploma or by a State Jury, some communities or some regions. The profession is explicitly defined by the law and lists the tasks which can only be achieved on behalf of a third party, by the automotive expert, namely:

- Appraise vehicles and check that they comply with laws, by-laws, and identification and description of those vehicles as well.
- Any research and technical analysis likely to determine the circumstances and causes of the claims in which one or many vehicles are involved and which help to determine the related liabilities.
- Determine the wear and tear, the damage, defect and faulty operations which affect vehicles.
- Determine the cause of events mentioned in the previous point.
- Assess the material injury consecutive to damage suffered by vehicles.
- Determine the works and the appropriate repair methods of the vehicle, assess their cost and ensure that they are correctly carried out.
- From a technical point of view, substantiate the immobilization of a vehicle and determine its duration.
- Draft a justifiable report on the entrusted mission.

One of the profession characteristics in Belgium is that all the protagonists use the same damage calculation tool and by-products designed by the firm which develops them.

Professional  
Association



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