

TEMPLATE POLICY PAGE

Category:	Robbery
Country:	Belgium
Year:	/

Main policy page:	/
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Relevant legislation:	<p>Robbery can be defined, based on the Belgian Penal Code, as 'deceitfully removing an object that doesn't belong to the offender (art. 461 Penal Code) by means of (threat of) violence (art. 468 Penal Code). Title IX, Chapter I, Section II of the Belgian Penal Code makes the distinction if the robbery is accomplished with or without the use of weapons (art. 472 Belgian Penal Code), with or without physical or psychological infirmity (art. 473 Belgian Penal Code), manslaughter (art. 474 Belgian Penal Code).</p> <p>Robbery is characterized by direct contact between offender and victim. Within this scope citizen arrest and legal defense have to be mentioned. The Act of 20 July 1990 concerning temporary custody states that "every private individual has the right to arrest a person who committed a crime or major offence and who was caught in the act". The private person however has to report the facts immediately to a public authority's officer.</p> <p>Art. 416 and 417 of the Penal Code state that no crime or major offence is committed when the act was required through a necessity of legal defense</p> <p>.</p>
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Trends:	<p>National crime figures show that, concerning robbery, an increase of (extreme) violence and professionalism of the offenders can be noticed. The used violence however is not in proportion with the spoils (e.g. home invasion, tiger kidnapping, hold up).</p>
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Contacts:	<p>National organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Public Service Home Affairs • Federal Public Service Justice • District-attorneys • Belgian police • Cities and municipalities • Associations of independents • Neighbourhood information networks <p>Contact details</p> <p>Federal Public Service Home Affairs</p>
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Completed template to be sent to the EUCPN Secretariat at eucpn@ibz.eu.