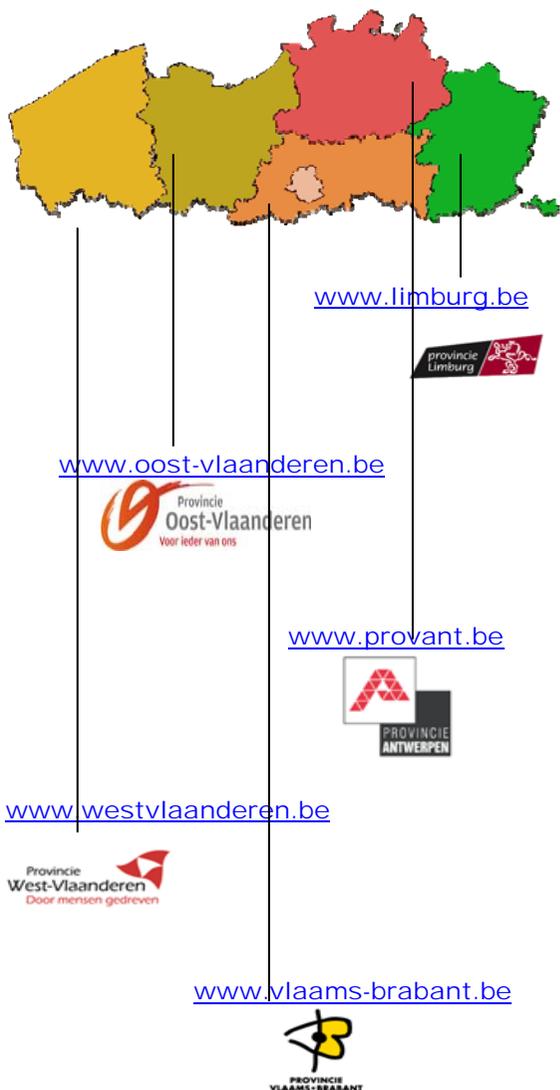


## Our members



## Our organisation

### Bureau

BRUGGEMAN Hilde	VVP-President, Member of Delegation (East Flanders)
VANDEPUT Marc	Member of Delegation (Limburg)
VAN GHELUWE Patrick	Member of Delegation (West Flanders)
VERCAMER Alexander	Member of Delegation (East Flanders)
WELLENS Marc	Member of Delegation (Antwerp)
CLAESSENS Jos	President of Provincial Council (Limburg)
JIROFLEE Karin	Member of Delegation (Flemish Brabant)

### Administration

Director	VAN LOOCK Raymond
Policy officers	DIELIS Pieter, GORLE Peter, MERCY Jeroen, VAN LAERE Saskia, DE COSTER Katia
Secretary:	D'HOE Kathy, GEENENS Nicole, VAN DAMME Shane

### Contact

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Website : [www.vlaamseprovincies.be](http://www.vlaamseprovincies.be)

### Links

- European Union [www.europa.eu](http://www.europa.eu)
- Flemish government [www.vlaanderen.be](http://www.vlaanderen.be)
- Association of Flemish municipalities and cities [www.vvsg.be](http://www.vvsg.be)
- Provinces in Wallonia and in the Netherlands [www.apw.be](http://www.apw.be) en [www.ipo.nl](http://www.ipo.nl)

vzw Vereniging van de

# VLAAMSE PROVINCIES

## IN A NUTSHELL

[www.vlaamseprovincies.be](http://www.vlaamseprovincies.be)

## What does the VVP stand for?

### The Association of Flemish provinces (VVP)

The VVP contributes to making the five Flemish provinces a reliable, transparent government level and to making it the elected (sub)regional government level of the future.

The provinces are the intermediate policy level between the Flemish and municipal level. The provinces aim to contribute to the well-being of citizens and to the sustainable development of the provincial area.

The provinces have extensive powers. They have devised initiatives in the fields of education, social and cultural infrastructures, preventive medicine and social policy. They also deal with the environment, with highways and waterways, the economy, transport, public works, housing, use of official languages, etc.

### The VVP is:

- the representation of the provincial government level in the political heart of Brussels;
- the platform for cooperation and consultation between the five Flemish provinces;
- the stimulator of renewal processes and methods for the benefit of provincial management.

## Where is the VVP represented?

As the representation of the provincial government level in the political heart of Brussels the VVP participates in many organizations such as “Onderhandelingscomité C” where representatives of employers and employees meet, “MINA-raad”, the advisory council for environmental matters, “VLABEST”, the advisory council for internal affairs, “GIS-raad”, the council for geographical information systems, ...

## What does the VVP do?

### Coordinating

The VVP elaborates common positions and organises joint actions by the provinces in relation to the Flemish, federal and European institutions.

### Making analyses and studies

The VVP makes analyses and studies and provides services for the benefit of the provinces. The VVP contributes to the publication of specialised books concerning topics of provincial interest.

### Communicating

The VVP publishes an electronic newsletter and quick information in newsflashes. The VVP informs the public on its website [www.vlaamseprovincies.be](http://www.vlaamseprovincies.be) about its points of view on all topics of provincial interest.

### Organising

The VVP organises congresses, conferences, study workshops or meetings to provide its members or third parties with as much information as possible.

### Networking

The VVP maintains a network with social, cultural and economic organisations which are active in the political heart of Brussels. The VVP has contacts with the Flemish association of cities and municipalities (VVSG), the Association of Walloon provinces (APW), the Association of provinces of the Netherlands (IPO), the European confederation of Local Intermediate Authorities (CEPLI) as well as with other European organisations.

## How does the VVP work?

### General Assembly

The General Assembly consists of all members of the five Provincial Councils. In each province nine members of the Provincial Council have been appointed to vote in the Assembly. The General Assembly meets at least once a year to discuss the annual budget and the annual report.

### Board

The VVP-Board is the decision making body. It consists of 20 members of the Provincial Council and meets monthly. Half of the Board must include members of a Delegation. Furthermore one Governor and one Provincial Registrar are member of the Board with advisory functions. The Vice-president (s) and President are elected for a three-year term.

### Bureau

The VVP-Bureau consists of at least five members and is appointed by the members of the Board making sure that each province is represented. The Bureau is elected for a three-year term and decides all administrative, staff and organisational matters.

### College of Delegations

The College of Provincial Delegations meets two or three times a year and comprises the 30 members of Delegations of the five provinces. It provides a unique forum for discussion about all policy areas. During these meetings a minister or his representative is generally invited.

### College of Presidents of Provincial Councils

The Presidents of the five Provincial Councils meet three to four times a year. They are Ludwig Neefs (Antwerp), Vic Laureys (Flemish Brabant), Jos Claessens (Limburg), Jean the Bethune (West Flanders) and Marc Lootens (East Flanders).

### College of Provincial Registrars

The College of Provincial Registrars meets once a month.

### Committees

The VVP can count on the engagement of many members of delegations and officials. Both are organised in committees according to the policy areas. The officials prepare the work for the political committees. This way of working strengthens the negotiation position of the VVP towards the Flemish government.