

UNITED STATES EMBASSY BRUSSELS. BELGIUM

Security/Emergency Message for U.S. Citizens:

Events and Demonstrations in Brussels

July 1 to 3, 2014.

The U.S. Embassy Brussels informs all U.S. citizens that various events and protest will occur on May 17 and 18, in Brussels.

On July 1 and 3 the Ommegang festival will take place in Brussels. This will lead to traffic congestion in the city center between 19:00 and 22:00. It is recommended to avoid the city center by car. From 19:00 the Sablo will not be accessible to car traffic. Also, on the evening of July 1st there might be traffic problems at the Course due to the fathering of football fans.

On July 2 from 16:00 to 17:00 hours approximately 50 people will protest in support of Kurdish prisoners near the Embassy of France on the Boulevard du Regent. Belgian police will be present.

On July 3 approximately 150 people will protest in support of human rights in Syria near La Bourse. Belgian police will be present.

Demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Belgium enroll in the Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) at <https://step.state.gov/step>. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State Department's website at <http://travel.state.gov>, where you can find current Travel Warnings, (including the Travel Warning for Belgium if appropriate), Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution, Read the Country Specific Information for Belgium at http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_4965.html. For additional information, refer to "[Travelers Checklist](#)" on the Travel.State.Gov website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free from within the United States and Canada, or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

Follow us on Twitter at <https://mobile.twitter.com/travelgov> and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/travelgov>.

The U.S. Embassy in Brussels is located at Blvd du Regent 27, 1000 Brussels and is open Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (except U.S. federal and Belgian holidays). If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, the emergency number for the U.S. Embassy is: +32(0)2-811-4000.

