

**U.S. Embassy Brussels**  
**Security Message for U.S. Citizens: New Year's Eve**

**December 31, 2015**

The U.S. Embassy in Brussels reminds U.S. citizens that U.S. and European authorities continue to warn of possible terrorist attacks in Europe, citing repeated threats by terror groups. As we approach the end of 2015, the U.S. Embassy reminds U.S. citizens of our [Worldwide Travel Alert](#) that urges travelers to exercise particular caution during the holiday season.

Belgian authorities have cancelled New Year's Eve firework celebrations at Place du Brouckere and Boulevard Anspach. This decision follows the arrest of two individuals earlier this week on suspicion of planning attacks in or near the Grand Place during the holiday season, and ongoing investigations by Belgian law enforcement. While the threat level has not been raised, Belgium is still under a Level 3 rating (described as an attack is possible or probable). Belgian authorities believe that terrorists either could be in Belgium or are planning an attack here.

The Embassy has no information indicating a specific threat against Americans or American facilities but recommends that its personnel maintain a heightened sense of awareness and avoid large crowds or areas that might attract a substantial gathering of people. U.S. citizens are encouraged to monitor media and local information sources and factor updated information into personal travel plans and activities. Specific safety concerns should be addressed to Belgian law enforcement authorities who are responsible for the safety of all visitors to Belgium.

**For further information:**

- See the [State Department's travel website](#) for the [Worldwide Caution](#), [Travel Warnings](#), [Travel Alerts](#), and [Belgium Country Specific Information](#).
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive security messages and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.
- Post contact Information:  
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