

4.00 credits

30.0 h

Q1



This biannual learning unit is not being organized in 2026-2027 !

Language :	French
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	In order to achieve these aims, the course will - give priority to a definition of the Belgian juridical regimes of the religious fact - examine the historical evolution of the cultural contexts and the religious backgrounds of Belgian law together with the various contemporary orientations of this law, its legislative content (particularly articles 9 and 14 of the European Convention of Human Rights) and its administrative practice and judiciary argumentation - study the juridical condition, in both private and public law, of the personal convictions and the religious institutions .
Learning outcomes	At the end of this learning unit, the student is able to : identify the juridical regimes of the religious traditions and practices with reference to the evolution of Belgian law and on the basis of an analysis of a public regulation of religion adapted to a multidisciplinary study of religions. 1
Evaluation methods	The assessment will be based on an oral presentation of a written paper of about fifteen pages on a special issue, chosen by the student, in regard to Belgian law or International Law or in comparison between his national law and Belgian law. The modalities are the same for the September session.
Teaching methods	Teaching ex cathedra for introduction - Reverse class for the advancement of students' personal research.
Content	After an introduction and an overview of Belgian law, the main features of the Belgian system of recognized religions and philosophical organizations will be presented and discussed, followed by the system of individual freedom of conscience and religion. In a second part, the main principles and instruments of public international law related to freedom of religion and conscience will be analyzed. In the last part, a special question will be treated at the students' choice.
Inline resources	See the course moodle website
Bibliography	CHRISTIANS, L.-L., De POOTER, P., Codex belge Droit & Religions , Bruylant, 2005 CHRISTIANS, L.-L., RIGAUX, M-F., « La liberté de culte », dans M. Verdussen et N. Bonbled (éds.), <i>Les droits constitutionnels en Belgique. Les enseignements jurisprudentiels de la Cour constitutionnelle, du Conseil d'état et de la Cour de cassation</i> , Bruxelles, 2012, pp. 865-897. CHRISTIANS, Louis-Léon ; OVERBEEKE, Adriaan. Religious Rules and Principles in Belgian Law . In: Bottoni, Rossella, Cristofori, Rinaldo, Ferrari, Silvio, <i>Religious Rules, State Law, and Normative Pluralism - A Comparative Overview</i> , Springer : Berlin 2016, pp. 91-117 CHRISTIANS, L.-L., WATTIER, S., AMEZ, F (eds), Les grands arrêts belges en matière de religions et de philosophies , Larcier, 2023 HILL Mark, Arif A. Jamal, Rossella Bottoni, Silvio Ferrari (dir.) , Routledge Handbook of Freedom of Religion or Belief , Routledge, 2022 MCCREA, R., Religion et ordre public de l'Union européenne , Collection droit de l'Union européenne, Bruxelles, Bruylant, 2013.
Other infos	A portfolio of readings will be available for the students.
Faculty or entity in charge	CISR

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Master [120] in Sciences of Religions	SREL2M	4		