



ПОСОЛСТВО НА КРАЛСТВО БЕЛГИЯ
EMBASSY OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM

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BUSINESS NEWSLETTER
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Facebook.com/Embassy of Belgium in Sofia

Dear friends,

As we look back on another successful edition of the Belgian Days, I want to thank, once more, all those who contributed to their success. I also wish all of you a nice holiday season: merry Christmas and best wishes for 2014.

Anick Van Calster
Ambassador

Belgian Days in Bulgaria,

As you know, these events took place in Sofia between 10th and 17th of November. This year, the slogan was “fun, food, and fashion”.

For the fun we had silent movies accompanied by Bulgarian pianist Dimitar Gorchakov. It was a real pleasure to hear the children laughing with scenes from films that are more than 100 years old.



You were numerous to appreciate the pleasant atmosphere of the official opening reception. It was a nice opportunity for all of us to gather, discuss business (or not), and create new contacts enjoying good Belgian products, like beer, chocolate, waffles... We also assisted to the awarding of the Primus Inter Pares prize 2014 to Recoal, a mining company in Pernik for the manner it integrates members of the Roma community in its workforce.

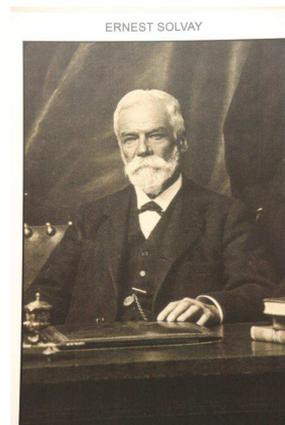
On Tuesday, a fashion event was organized in cooperation with Caroline Biss. Caroline Biss is a Belgian company creating classy women's fashion with shops in Belgium, the Netherlands and France. Caroline Biss created two subsidiaries: Valina in Assenovgrad (1997) and Legia in Rakovski (2000) where clothes, designed in Belgium, are produced. Today more than 500 employees are working in these Bulgarian factories and this collaboration is permanently growing. The fashion show was held at the occasion of 50 years Caroline Biss and wanted to show the high quality of the work done in Bulgaria.





The other “fun” event was a classical concert by the Belgian “Duo Dzeta” organized by the Embassy and Wallonie-Bruxelles International. An enthusiast audience enjoyed the high professional quality of the performers, Aude Miller and Geoffrey Baptiste, who delighted everyone with pieces of Richard Strauss, Josef Suk and the less-known Belgian composer Joseph Jongen.

On Thursday 14th, Solvay offered a reception for the 150th anniversary of the company. The vice-president of the group specially came to Sofia to celebrate this. Invitees had also the opportunity to admire a scale-model of the “Solar Impulse”, a plane powered by solar-energy. Solvay is the leading technology partner and main sponsor of this project.



Finally, on Friday 15th, we were about 150 to appreciate good Belgian products during the gala-diner closing these successful Belgian Days. Former King Simeon II was our special guest on our Belgian King’s day. The party finally ended late in the evening in a real festive atmosphere

New license for Belgian Philippe Wautelet (Mining Company Belogradchik)

The government approved the issuance of two licenses for prospecting and exploration of mineral resources. One of them will be given for a period of three years to [Mining Company Belogradchik JSC](#), which will explore the possibilities for the extraction of hard fossil fuels from the Benjamin area in the Dimovo municipality. Expected effects of the issuance of the permits are attracting investments, creating new jobs and employment of engineering and technical staff in both municipalities, as well as increasing the raw material potential of Bulgaria.

Source: [Econ.bg](#)

Top 100 – Eastern Europe

We provide you an interesting link where you can find the Top 100 companies in Eastern Europe in different categories.

<http://top100.seenews.com/>

Additional to these rankings, the website proposes also a lot of useful information with interviews, analysis's and features.

Alvenat – New production center

The Belgian company Alvenat, whose products are now distributed in Bulgaria, celebrated recently the opening of its new production center in Achene (Belgium). Mrs. Sabine Laruelle, the Walloon minister of agriculture and small companies, assisted to the opening. Alvenat is producing non-GMO rapeseed-oil that is now available in Bulgaria. More info on <https://www.facebook.com/alvenatbg?fref=ts>



Solvit – Problem solving network in EU

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