

## E-flash 2-2026

### FORWARD Belgium: focus points



#### Customs

##### *The hidden world behind our logistics chain*

On Tuesday **24 February 2026**, FORWARD Belgium welcomes its members for a keynote speech by **Geert Vandervelden**, Expert at the National Drugs Commission. He takes us behind the scenes of our logistics chain and shows how organised crime is evolving - from clever hiding techniques in goods flows to the growing focus on administrative and digital functions. Using concrete cases, he will explain why the fight against organised crime is a shared responsibility and what role each player in our sector can play.

This will be followed by the **general meeting** and a **networking reception**.

[More info & registration](#)



#### Sustainability

##### *FORWARD Goals for sustainable development*

More and more freight forwarders are taking targeted steps in the field of sustainability: in 2025, three new companies achieved the **FORWARD Goals label for Sustainable Development**, while eleven existing label holders received a **positive reassessment**. A complete overview of all certified companies can be found on the website page <https://forwardbelgium.be/forward-goals>

We would like to put these companies in the spotlight during the **general meeting on 24 February**. They will then officially receive their new certificate - recognition for their efforts to structurally embed sustainability in their operations.

Would your company like to compete for the **FORWARD Goals Award** this year? Be sure to submit your application or contact the secretariat for guidance or additional information. The **evaluation committee** will meet again on **12 March** to assess the applications submitted.

#### Legal

##### *Maritime Security Act – security verifications*

The FPS Mobility has **clarified** the **assessment criteria** for **security verifications** in the **maritime sector**. From now on, the Federal Police may only base a negative opinion on serious offences, such as drug trafficking, professional theft, serious violence, illegal possession of weapons, involvement in criminal networks or radicalisation. In the case of one-off offences outside these categories, a positive opinion with an individual warning, combined with repeated screenings, will be given as standard.



The updated circular 'Security checks in PC 226' can be requested from the FORWARD Belgium secretariat.



### Young FORWARD Belgium

*Young Antwerp Anchorage 2026: third edition brings young people together stronger than ever*

On **21 May 2026**, the **KAVA Congress Centre** will host the third edition of **Young Antwerp Anchorage (YAA)**, the future congress for young professionals from the broad supply chain, maritime, logistics and port sectors. After two successful editions, each with more than 170 participants, YAA continues to grow into an established event within our sector's youth offering.

This year, **no fewer than six youth associations** are joining forces: Young FORWARD, Jong Voka/Alfaport Voka, ASV The Next Generation, YoungShip Belgium, Young Procurement & Supply Chain Masters and Young Airfreight Network. This broad collaboration reflects how young professionals are increasingly looking beyond the boundaries of their own specialisation.

The programme will be announced shortly.



## Book your personal appointment

If you are unsure which issues are dealt with by FORWARD Belgium and/or would like to know more about what FORWARD Belgium can do for your company, you are always welcome to make a personal appointment.

We will be happy to visit you to explain everything in detail.

[Make your personal appointment here](#)

This newsletter was sent to you by:



**FORWARD Belgium**

Brouwersvliet 33/Bus 1

2000 Antwerp

Tel: 03/233.67.86

[info@forwardbelgium.be](mailto:info@forwardbelgium.be)

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

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