



Newsletter October 2025

FORWARD Belgium

New members



We recently welcomed the following company as a **new member**:

Yamato Transport Europe BV
Business park Machelen-Cargo 739
1830 Machelen
Tel.: +32 (0)2 751 46 56
Email: b.vandoren@yamatoeurope.com
Website: <https://www.yamatoeurope.com/>

GOLD sponsors 2025



FORWARD Belgium Gold sponsors 2025

The following companies are **GOLD sponsors 2025** of FORWARD Belgium:

- ✓ [BDO Belgium](#)
- ✓ [Van Breda Marine](#)
- ✓ [Van Doosselaere & Partners](#)
- ✓ [SSC Consolidation](#)
- ✓ [KTL Benelux NV](#)
- ✓ [Customs Support](#)

FORWARD Belgium



Customs

Customs Sanctions Law: Launch of Interuniversity Chair

On **Monday 8 September**, the **Interuniversity Chair** at the University of Antwerp & University of Liège was inaugurated. FORWARD Belgium is proud to be at the forefront of this important initiative, together with the Antwerp port community.

The chair focuses on the **modernisation** of **Belgian customs sanctions law**, with an emphasis on transparency, legal certainty and a forward-looking approach. This is not only legally necessary, but also crucial for Belgium as a logistics hub.

Together, we are building a customs policy based on trust and cooperation.



Sustainability

Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism - Webinar 2 October 2025

The **Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)** is already a reality. Since **1 October 2023**, importers have been subject to a reporting obligation. But from **1 January 2026**, CBAM will become truly radical: that is when financial settlement will start and companies will pay for CO₂ emissions at the border.

For **freight forwarders, customs representatives and logistics service providers**, this means that their role is changing and that mistakes can be costly. Many companies are only now becoming aware of this – and time is running out to be properly prepared.

In order to provide its members with sufficient information, FORWARD Belgium, in collaboration with IACBAM, is organising an **exclusive webinar** on **Thursday 2 October 2025**.

[More info and registration](#)



Human Resources

Call for employers for workshop on inclusivity in the port region

The University of Antwerp invites employers from the Antwerp port region to interactive workshops in early October. These are part of an ongoing study on inclusivity in the labour market, focusing on barriers and opportunities for women, people with a migrant background and groups that are further removed from the labour market.

The researchers will share their findings and would like to discuss specific needs, policy levers and possible solutions with you.

Would you like more information or are you interested in participating? [Please let us know.](#)



Legal

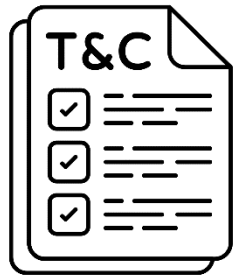
Panoptes: digital platform for security verifications

DG Shipping will soon launch the **Panoptes** platform as the tool for security verifications in the maritime sector. In future, this process will be carried out exclusively via Panoptes.

An online information session specifically aimed at shipping agents and freight forwarders will take place on **Friday 10 October from 10 a.m. to 12 noon**.

You can register using [the registration form, which you can download here](#). You will receive the participation link after registering.

Frequently asked questions will be addressed. Do you have any additional questions? Please submit them via the registration form.



New ABAS/KVBG conditions since 15 July 2025

Since 15 July, the **ABAS/KVBG conditions** have been thoroughly revised and greatly expanded. The new version remains remarkably one-sided in favour of the terminals. [You can download them here](#).

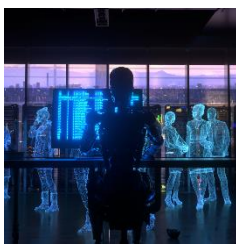
Important points to note:

- Be extremely cautious when signing contracts with terminals or subcontractors that apply these terms and conditions.
- A principled refusal or written reservation remains advisable.
- Proactively inform your customers about the risks and the application of these terms and conditions by subcontractors.
- Consider using a standard letter of protest in which you formally state that you do not accept these terms and conditions — either in your own name or on behalf of your customer.

For questions or support, [please contact the FORWARD Belgium secretariat](#).



Young FORWARD Belgium



FORWARD Academy: Leadership of the future

What do ChatGPT and dysfunctional teams have in common with Hermes and Demeter? Executive coach Anja Moortgat connects ancient mythology with modern workplace dynamics in a surprising keynote speech on leadership. Expect humour, recognition and insights that will stay with you.

📅 Wednesday 22 October – 5.30 p.m.

📍 BluePoint Antwerp

🗣️ Includes networking reception

[More info and registration](#)

What's happening on LinkedIn?



FORWARD Belgium Legal QuickScan

Did you know that FORWARD Belgium offers its members a free legal QuickScan? 📄 [Read the post here](#)

Working together to build a modern customs sanctions law.

On Monday 8 September, the inauguration of the Interuniversity Chair of the University of Antwerp & University of Liège took place. 📄 [Read the post here](#)

Mobility Week 2025 – Moving forward together 📄 [Read the post here](#)

FORWARD Academies: learning, networking and, above all, informing in a creative way! 📄 [Read the post here](#)

The countdown can begin... just one week to go until the FORWARD Quiz 2025!

Who will take home the coveted challenge cup this year? 📄 [Read the post here](#)

Toastmasters



Toastmasters PoAB invites the members of FORWARD Belgium to the 'Open mic - Grab the mic' meeting on 6 October 2025.

Toastmasters Port of Antwerp-Bruges is a bilingual (English/Dutch) speakers' club for employees in the maritime and logistics sector. Members get the chance to practise their presentation skills in a safe space with constructive feedback. Through an online platform, you'll get assignments for speeches that you'll present to the group. We meet every two weeks on Monday evenings at the Port House in Antwerp.

Members of FORWARD Belgium are cordially invited to come and take a look for free on **Monday 6 October** (5 p.m. arrival, 5.30 p.m. start of meeting, 9 p.m. end) at the Port House.

[Click here](#) for questions or comments.

[Register](#)

Port study



Digitisation scores, greening lags behind
The Belgian port, transport and logistics sector is at a turning point. This is evident from the ninth ING Port Study. Digitalisation is clearly paying off: companies are seeing a return on their investments and are finding it easier to attract young talent. Automation is also helping to compensate for staff shortages.

Greening, on the other hand, remains a tough challenge. Although decarbonisation is becoming increasingly urgent due to regulations and social pressure, many companies experience the climate transition as a complex exercise.

Both transitions are necessary to remain competitive, but the road to achieving them is not smooth.

[Download the study here](#)

HALO #55



Newsletter about the Waasland Port #55

Read the digital version of HALO #55 [here](#).

Agenda

FORWARD Belgium events and meetings:

September 2025

DATE	TOPIC	TARGET AUDIENCE	MORE INFO
2 October	CBAM webinar	FORWARD Belgium members	vanessa@forwardbelgium.be
2 October	FORWARD Quiz Night	All logistics players	https://forwardbelgium.be/quiz2025
7 October	Information session on correct TSD write-offs	FORWARD Belgium members	info@forwardbelgium.be
9 October	FORWARD Belgium board meeting	Members of the governing body	info@forwardbelgium.be
10 October	Panoptes information session	FORWARD Belgium members	vanessa@forwardbelgium.be
16 October	Webinar MASP customs projects for non-customs specialists	FORWARD Belgium members	vanessa@forwardbelgium.be
22 October	FORWARD Academy 'Leadership of the future'	FORWARD Belgium members	https://forwardbelgium.be/FORWARD-Academy
23 October	FORWARD Belgium Customs Committee	All logistics players	info@forwardbelgium.be

FORWARD Belgium partner events:

- ✓ 6 October 2025, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Toastmasters Port of Antwerp-Bruges is a bilingual (English/Dutch) speakers' club for employees in the maritime and logistics sector. Members have the opportunity to practise their presentation skills in a familiar environment with constructive feedback. Members of FORWARD Belgium are cordially invited to come and take a look for free, but advance registration is required via the link.
- ✓ 14 October 2025, 9 a.m.-1 p.m., BDO Antwerp training centre: VAT and Global Representative Liability Workshop
Gain insight into the complexity of VAT regulations and the role of tax representation

[Full agenda](#)

This newsletter was sent to you by:



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