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**VOLUNTARY  
RETURN**

**Thinking of returning to your  
country? We can help you.**

**☎ 0800 32 745 (free number)  
[www.voluntaryreturn.be](http://www.voluntaryreturn.be)**



Discover the return stories on  
[www.vrijwilligeterugkeer.be/en-gb/stories](http://www.vrijwilligeterugkeer.be/en-gb/stories)

## 1 How can I return to my country of origin?

You can always decide to return to your country of origin; you organise and pay for the journey yourself. If it's not possible for you, we can see together if you can possibly get support via the voluntary return programme.

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## 2 What is an independent return?

If you stay in Belgium without the proper documents, you will be expected to return by your own means. We call this independent return. You can't manage that on your own? Contact us and we will see together if you can get support via the voluntary return programme.

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## 3 What is a voluntary return?

A return to your country of origin whereby you personally make the decision to return. If you need return support, you can contact us to see what is possible.

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## 4 Where can I go?

The simplest option is a return to your country of origin. You can also travel to another country, but only if you have valid documents to be admitted there and if the permission to return to this country is still valid.

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## 5 What is a return decision?

A «return decision» or «order to leave the territory» is a document mentioning the period within which you must leave Belgium.

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## 6 How do I apply for a voluntary return?

Contact one of the desks or organisations in Belgium, talk about it with your social worker or call the free number 0800 327 45. When you apply, we first check whether you are eligible for voluntary return support.

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## 7 Who is organising my voluntary return?

The voluntary return programme can help you return once. The return flight or bus trip is organised jointly with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM). The IOM, Caritas International or another partner organisation provides assistance after arrival in the country of origin.

## 8 Do I have to pay anything?

No. If you are eligible for voluntary return support, your plane or bus ticket and transport to the airport or train station will be paid for. You must collect your travel documents yourself at your embassy. You will be reimbursed for these costs before departure. If you are not eligible for a voluntary return, you will have to pay for your travel yourself.

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## 9 Where can I obtain the necessary travel documents?

If you no longer have identity documents to return to your country of origin, you should go to the embassy of your country of origin. The embassy can provide you with a passport or travel document. If you encounter problems, we can help.

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## 10 How much luggage can I take?

The luggage rules of the airline or bus company apply here: you must not exceed the number of pieces and the maximum weight. So be careful not to bring too much!

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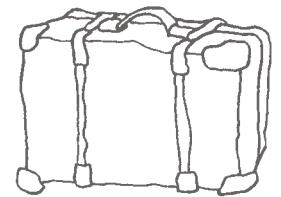
## 11 Is the return journey accompanied?

Yes. Upon departure in Belgium, a counsellor will give you the flight tickets and any departure allowance you may be due. Afterwards, he or she will accompany you up to the border control. You will be given a recognisable bag to take to the airport so that the counsellor can immediately find you. If you wish and if possible, a staff member from IOM, Caritas International or another local partner can wait for you on arrival in your country of origin.

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## 12 Life in my country is not easy. What support can I expect?

We work with local partners in your home country who can help with reintegration in your country. For example, they can help you set up your own business, pay your medical expenses or find a job. Not everyone gets this help; every situation is different.





**CONTACT US.**

[www.voluntaryreturn.be/contact-us](http://www.voluntaryreturn.be/contact-us)

