

UNIVERSITÉ
LIBRE DE
BRUXELLES

ULB

A **CIVIC**
UNIVERSITY
AT THE HEART
OF **EUROPE**



What's in a name ?

The « L » in ULB stands for *libre*

It refers to the free-thinking philosophy, deeply entrenched in ULB's teaching and research, that is adopted by free individuals who reject dogma and totalitarian ideas, and to **our moral commitment to always defend our freedom of thought.**



UNIVERSITÉ LIBRE DE BRUXELLES

A CIVIC university...

Ever since its creation in 1834, the Université libre de Bruxelles has prided itself on its **long-standing commitment to independent teaching and research**, whilst remaining firmly engaged in the defence of democracy, individual freedoms and human rights. Our core values pervade our daily activities and are highlighted by the breadth and depth of **ULB's international teaching and research collaborations.**

We seek to **strengthen the human, scientific and management resources of partner universities** in the Southern Hemisphere, by working directly with local academic partners, and without any direct contact with the political regimes of the countries involved. ULB's long tradition of development cooperation is also best illustrated by its main NGO, ULB Cooperation, which coordinates projects in Africa in several domains (health, land and resources, entrepreneurship and management, education and citizenship).



...With strong regional roots...

ULB actively promotes **the economic, social and cultural development of the Brussels-Capital Region and Wallonia**, and is a catalyst for technological innovation. Our university benefits from the support of several **regional programmes** involving external partners (private businesses, non-profit organisation, etc.), funds from **INNOVIRIS** (the Brussels Institute for Research and Innovation) and the 2014-2020 **European Regional Development Fund**.

While just 90 students were enrolled at ULB in 1834, the University is now proud to welcome in its midst over **30,000 students spread out over six campuses** in Brussels and Wallonia. The University is **one of the largest employers in Belgium**, with a network of research centres, hospitals and libraries, all with state-of-the-art equipment. Amongst them, ULB's **Biopark**, that combines a **unique ecosystem of scientific, clinical and business expertise** with world-class facilities to create a perfect, fully integrated, environment for research and development in the field of biotechnology.



+30,000
students

At the heart of Europe and the World

As a multicultural university with one-third of its students and researchers coming from abroad, international relations is a daily reality for the Université libre de Bruxelles, as it is for Brussels. ULB is one of the **most cosmopolitan Belgian universities, where multilingualism and multiculturalism intermingle in a vibrant environment where everyone feels at home.**

Its outward-looking stance to Europe and the world has resulted in the setting up of a **number of agreements, collaborations and strategic partnerships** with some of the world's top universities..

Under the impetus of the various European mobility programmes, ULB not only organises many student exchanges **but also has an increasing number of truly integrated courses with international partners**, going as far as to award joint Masters degrees and PhDs. Some of these programmes have been awarded the prestigious Erasmus Mundus and Marie Curie labels.

ULB



A research that is...

FREE

“Research is not set in stone; it is a dynamic process. We cannot get stuck in a pattern because it would make progression impossible.”

Cédric Blanpain (Faculty of Medicine)

INTERNATIONAL

“In addition to meeting a genuine societal need, international collaborations allow for a more diverse range of points of view (...) bringing even more credibility to researchers and to their research output.”

Alessandro Parente (Brussels School of Engineering)

SOCIETY-ORIENTED

“My research is most certainly society-oriented; I think it is what partly makes it meaningful. It requires commitment, open-mindedness and reliance on collective understanding.”

Emmanuelle Bribosia (Faculty of Law and Criminology) It requires commitment, open-mindedness and reliance on collective understanding.

INTERDISCIPLINARY

“To understand today’s complex world, scientific disciplines must always push their limits.”

Andrea Rea (Faculty of Philosophy and Social Sciences)

Creating new knowledge, challenging existing ones

The University aims to be a key hub for **ambitious research performed with the highest standards of integrity**. While our academic staff and researchers are provided with the freedom to work independently on curiosity-driven or challenge-led projects, at ULB we will always encourage and support **collaborations** – whether at discipline, national or global level.

With its long-held tradition of excellence, more than 220 research units, 8 interdisciplinary institutes, over 2,000 PhD candidates and more than 3,600 researchers and members of academic staff in all fields, ULB is a force to reckon with in **building a foothold for tomorrow’s society**.

At ULB, **ground-breaking research is tightly embedded in our teaching**, as we train our students in critical thinking and research from the first year of their undergraduate degree to their potential PhD.

Actively involved in the European Research Area, the ULB has been awarded the **European Commission’s HR Excellence in Research** label (EURAXESS) and has obtained **European funding** (COFUND) to host international post-doctoral researchers. ULB has also obtained a substantial number of **European Research Council** (ERC) grants to fund research in medicine, mathematics, political science, economics, physics, etc.

ULB



4 Nobel Prizes in Science

François Englert, Nobel Prize in Physics (2013)

Ilya Prigogine, Nobel Prize in Chemistry (1977)

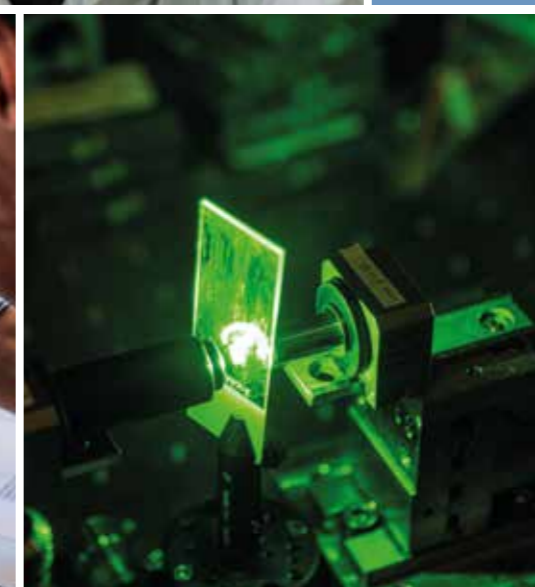
Albert Claude, Nobel Prize in Medicine (1974)

Jules Bordet, Nobel Prize in Medicine (1919)

2 Nobel Peace Prizes

Denis Mukwege, Nobel Peace prize (2018)

Henri Lafontaine, Nobel Peace Prize (1913)



Training tomorrow's citizens

At ULB, we train talents in **all disciplines** (sciences and technology, life sciences and healthcare, humanities and social sciences), and **at all levels** (from Bachelor level to PhD). We believe that education is a never-ending process and that everyone should have access to training and learning opportunities throughout their life. This is why ULB also offers a rich catalogue of over 100 lifelong learning programmes.

Although we are a French-speaking university, our teaching portfolio is enriched by a growing number of **courses and programmes that are partly or fully taught in English.**

ULB is deeply committed to helping its students become responsible citizens. We focus on learning rather than on teaching and we are proud to prepare our students for a world that is forever changing. We strive to **give our students the best possible learning experience, as well as a solid foundation in critical thinking,** enhanced by our research and latest technological developments.

At ULB, our students' success and wellbeing are our priority.



A university that is strongly committed...

... to **women's rights**

... to **critical thinking**

... to **a social policy**

... to **development cooperation**

... **against fascism**

... to **equality**

... to **ethical and cultural debates**

... to **fairness and success**

... to **sustainable development**

... to **solidarity with refugees.**



www.ulb.be/en/international

