



# EUROSIM 2025

**37TH ANNUAL STUDENT SIMULATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**2 – 5 January 2025**

**University of Antwerp, Belgium**

Hosted by the Faculty of Social Sciences and  
the STRATEGO Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence  
at the University of Antwerp

More information at  
[www.uantwerpen.be/eurosims2025](http://www.uantwerpen.be/eurosims2025)



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The 37th EuroSim event is organised by



**University of Antwerp**

**STRATEGO** | Jean Monnet  
Centre of Excellence



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## Acknowledgements

EuroSim 2025 would not have been possible without the outstanding efforts of a range of TACEUSS friends: Ed Fogarty, who wrote the scenario, and Patrycja Rozbicka, who compiled the alter ego list. Steve Jurek, Johan Eliasson, Giannis Mavrogenis were each instrumental in developing this year's program.

Special thanks go to the University of Antwerp, in particular to the Vice-Rector and the University Council for Service to Society for their financial support. At the Faculty of Social Sciences, I would like to thank the Dean, Sven De Maeyer, and the Faculty Director, Koen Pepermans, for the in-kind support. Finally, and above all, thanks to Karen Boven and Nicky Vervoort and the team of the dean's office for their priceless help before and during the event. Thanks also to several University services: the AGORA team for catering and the infrastructure team for their flexibility in allocating, preparing and cleaning of the negotiation rooms and auditoria.

I would also like to thank the European Commission for funding the STRATEGO Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence which co-sponsors the event.

My gratitude goes to Sophie Op de Beeck, STRATEGO project manager, without her EuroSim and so many other projects and events would not exist. Furthermore, Karin De Luca and the team of student assistants made sure that EuroSim runs as smooth as possible. Their dedication and professionalism saved me from multiple crashes during the preparations.

Alexander Van de Sande, a EuroSim alumnus, will host you as European Student Director, together with Matthew Bloss, as the American Student Director.

Peter Bursens

# Welcome Letters

## Local Organising Team

We are thrilled to welcome you to an exciting gathering at the 37th Annual Student Simulation of the European Union. This year, the University of Antwerp and the STRATEGO Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence (co-funded by the EU) are proud to host this vibrant simulation event, taking place from 2 to 5 January 2025 in the city of Antwerp, Belgium.

'EUROSIM' is a student simulation of the legislative process of the European Union. It was founded in 1988 at Brockport SUNY, USA and has taken place on an annual basis since. Starting from 1992 this four-day simulation exercise is carried out in either a European or US location. Each edition of the simulation aims at educating students about currently relevant and pressing issues within EU policy-making. EUROSIM allows participants to gain a unique experience of what it means to be a decision-maker. The simulation is organised and run by the Trans-Atlantic Consortium for European Union Studies & Simulations (TACEUSS).

At the heart of the 2025 simulation event is the European Green Deal, a cornerstone of the EU's efforts to transform into a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy and the first climate-neutral continent. Within the European Green Deal, the simulation event will focus on the proposal for a regulation on microplastics (Proposal for a Regulation on preventing pellet losses to reduce microplastic pollution, 16 October 2023). Participants will engage in thought-provoking debates, negotiate complex policy decisions, and experience the intricacies of European governance in a dynamic, hands-on environment. Whether you're stepping into the shoes of an EU commissioner, parliamentarian, or diplomat, EUROSIM 2025 promises to be an unforgettable journey into the world of European politics.

Antwerp, a city renowned for its rich history, stunning architecture, and vibrant cultural scene, provides the perfect backdrop for this transformative experience. Known as the diamond capital of the world and home to iconic attractions like the Cathedral of Our Lady and the MAS Museum, Antwerp seamlessly blends its historic charm with modern energy. Wander its cobblestone streets, enjoy its thriving culinary scene, and immerse yourself in its dynamic cultural offerings during your stay.

**We wish you an enriching and pleasant experience at EuroSim 2025  
and in the vibrant city of Antwerp!**

## Peter Bursens | Professor of Political Science and Coordinator of the STRATEGO Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence

Dear students and colleagues, dear EuroSim friends,

It is a great pleasure and a true honour for me to welcome you for the fourth time to Antwerp for the 2025 edition of EuroSim. We have been preparing for the event for several months and are confident that you will have a great time in Antwerp.

Host for the 2025 edition is the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Antwerp and the STRATEGO Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence. We convene at the city campus of the university in the centre of the historical city of Antwerp. I hope you will have the time to visit the old premises of the university and to enjoy the historical and modern cultural highlights of the city. For one thing, the Thursday morning excursion will lead you to the Red Star Line Museum, dedicated to the migration of two million Europeans to the United States between 1872 and 1914. I would be surprised if none of the American participants' ancestors has crossed the ocean on board of a Red Star Line steamer!

EuroSim is a unique experience. Some 135 students representing dozens of nationalities and coming from a variety of disciplines will engage in four days of academic and cultural exchanges.

*"Tell me and I will forget, show me and I may remember, involve me and I will understand."*

Whether this quote comes from Confucius or Benjamin Franklin, it describes exactly what EUROSIM is all about. The combination of acquiring knowledge and practicing skills results in an optimal mix for true learning. None of you will ever get lost again in the labyrinth of EU decision-making.

The topic of EU environmental policies and broader related strategic issues make this year's edition even more special. The European Union is challenged to find an adequate response to climate and environmental challenges amidst horrible conflicts in Ukraine and the Middle East, attacks by radical populists on the very core of our democratic institutions, and challenges regarding migration, inflation and trade, and all this in the wake of European Parliament and US elections. By simulating the making of EU legislation and European Council conclusions, you will not only become experts in the matter, but you will also contribute to out-of-the-box solutions that are desperately sought for by EU and national policy-makers.

Whether you will be playing a Member State prime minister, president or minister, a Member of the European Parliament or of the European Commission, a lobbyist or a journalist, I'm sure that you will learn tremendously from the EuroSim experience. But above all, have fun, enjoy the event, the campus and the city. Make new friends, and return home exhausted but immensely satisfied.

## Alexander Van de Sande | European Student Director

Dear EuroSim Participants,

Whilst nearby Brussels is the capital of Belgium and the seat of NATO and most EU institutions, Antwerp can boast of having Europe's second biggest port and greatest self-esteem. It is thus the perfect—or even the best—setting to host EuroSim 2025. Do take the opportunity to explore it, as its rich history and a dynamic present are sure to leave a lasting impression.

As a former participant, I can confidently say that EuroSim is an unforgettable experience. Last year, I had the opportunity of participating as President of the European Council in Brockport, New York—a role that pushed me to find compromises, collaborate effectively, and encourage everyone to see my neutral point of view. The bonds I formed during the simulation have endured; I am still in touch with several of my EuroSim classmates, and I'm excited to see new friendships and connections begin here in Antwerp.

Over the coming days, you will navigate debates, build alliances, and face more than a few frustrations — much like actual EU decision-makers. Even in real-life, a humble big-tech lobbyist can directly influence a minister, such as when (allegedly) a Microsoft lobbyist live-tweeted confidential negotiations on the AI-Act chaired by the tech-friendly Spanish minister. What you get out of it is truly what you put into it, so do not hesitate to explore how far you can go in making your case.

Welcome to Antwerp, and welcome to EuroSim 2025. Let's make it memorable!

## Matthew Bloss | American Student Director

EuroSim Participants,

It is my honor to welcome you all to EuroSim 2025, an experience like no other that brings together students, both Yanks like myself, as well as those students from across the pond who wish to explore the intricacies and nuances of European Union policymaking. As your American student director, I am privileged to join you all on this journey to the lovely and storied city of Antwerp!

As a participant in EuroSim 23', and 24', EuroSim is more than just a simulation; it's an opportunity to express your academic acumen, challenge your perspectives, and even form new friendships with peers, who much like yourselves, share your passion for political affairs. Over the course of the conference, you will delve into the complex issues that beset EU policy makers. This experience is designed not only to test your understanding of the EU but also to show your ability to adapt and compromise with your fellow participants.

The political environment that we exist in is constantly changing. It is our hope that with our exceptional group of students, both American and European, that we can truly simulate the current issues that permeate the political realities of our time! From ecological turmoil and environmental regulations to the ever-present auspice of the war in Ukraine. I am truly excited to see how this student body works with each other to invent solutions to issues of the contemporary.

From having participated in past EuroSim's myself, I am confident that you all will have an excellent experience! Much like my European Director counterpart, Alexander, EuroSim has offered me opportunities both academically as well as socially. This is your moment to meet new people, forge friendships, and build connections that will last you a lifetime.

Last year, we at Brockport had the distinct honor of hosting this cherished event. I am confident that our esteemed hosts at the University of Antwerp, as well as you, the student body, will truly carry the torch, and make this a EuroSim that exceeds our expectations!

Thank you for being part of EuroSim 2025. Let's make this an unforgettable experience together!

## **Karin Isabel De Luca | Lead Student Assistant**

Dear EuroSim Participants,

I wanted to give you a warm welcome in the city, and wish you the best of luck for EuroSim 2025. I hope you will enjoy your stay in the City of Diamonds!

My name is Karin Isabel De Luca, and I am the lead student assistant for the event. I will be present during the 4 days of the activities and am more than happy to help facilitate your stay and ensure the event runs smoothly. If you have any questions or are in need of assistance, please do not hesitate to approach me. I will be easy to spot in my red UAntwerp t-shirt—feel free to say hello!

Although I am not partaking in the simulations myself, I hope you will have a fun time acting as EU officials. As a fellow student who is also not from Belgium I wish you the best time in Antwerp, and for you to discover all of its hidden gems in your free time. Make sure to indulge in some Belgian fries, waffles, and chocolate!

I hope you will create unforgettable memories during your time here and leave with new friendships, knowledge, and a greater appreciation for the EU.

Sending you all my best wishes for an amazing EuroSim experience!



## EUROSIM Venue and Locations

EuroSim 2025 takes place at [University of Antwerp's 'Stadscampus' \(city campus\)](#). All sessions will take place in the **Meerminne (M) building**. The registration desk is located in the entry hall of the Meerminne building, which will also accommodate all lunch and coffee breaks.



*Meerminne building entry hall/foyer*



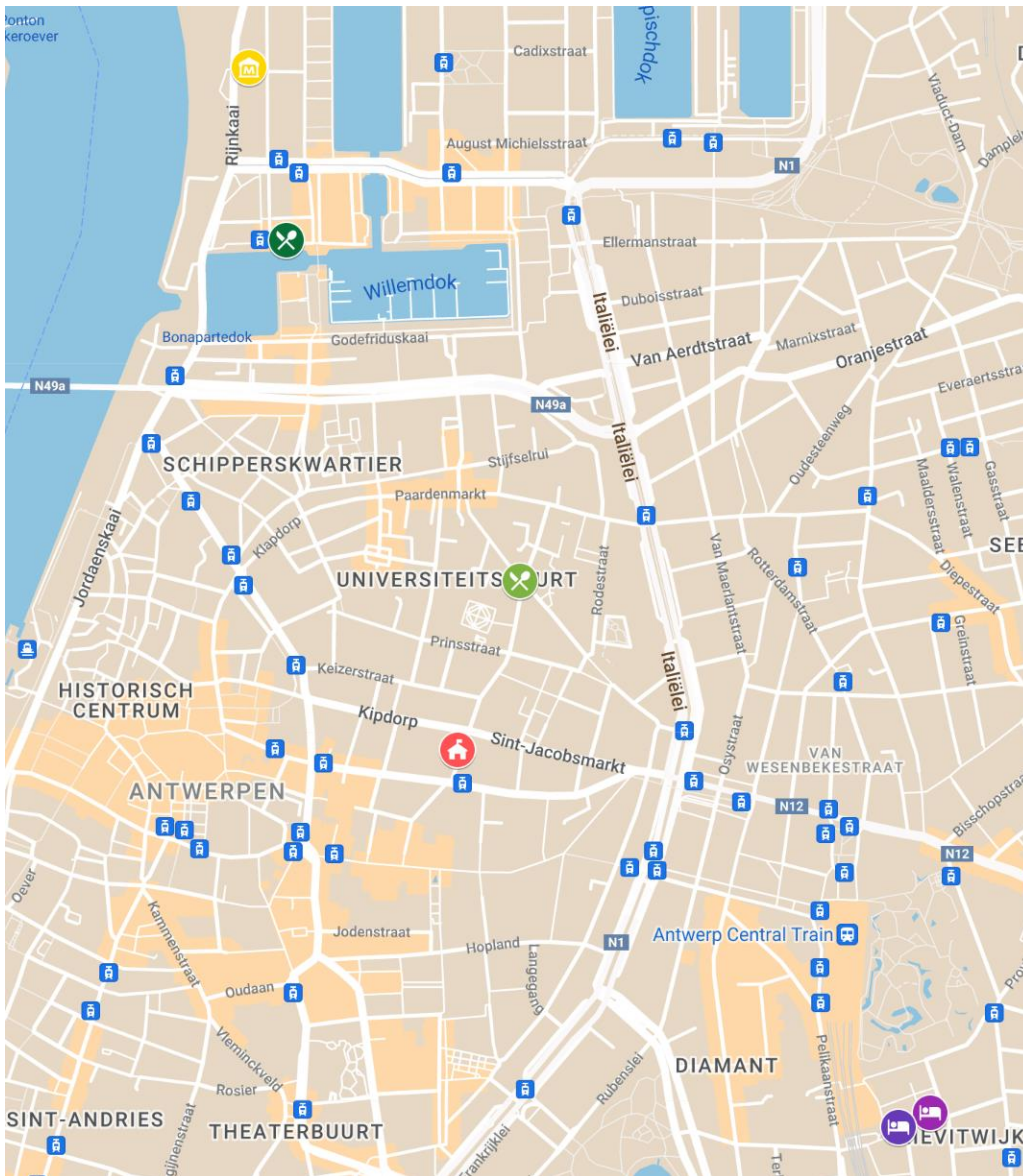
*Meerminne building entry hall/foyer*







EuroSim's **social events** will take place in the following locations:

- *Red Star Line Museum*  
Thursday 2 January 2025, 10:00  
Montevideostraat 3, 2000 Antwerp
- *Dinner at Agora Caffee*  
Thursday 2 January 2025, 19:15  
Grote Kauwenberg 2, 2000 Antwerp
- *Dinner and party at Burgerij XL*  
Saturday 4 January 2024, 19:00 – 00:30  
Sint-Laureiskaai 8, 2000 Antwerp (near MAS building)

Please see the **map** on the next page for an overview of the EuroSim venue locations.

## EUROSIM Venue Map



-  Main EUROSIM venue  
(Campus, M-building, Sint-Jacobstraat 2)
-  Hotel ibis budget Antwerpen  
Centraal Station (Lange Kievitstraat 145)
-  Lindner Hotel Antwerp (Lange Kievitstraat 125)
-  Agora Caffee (Grote Kauwenberg 2)
-  Burgerij XL (Sint-Laureiskaai 8)
-  Red Star Line Museum  
(Montevideostraat 3)

See the full venue map in Google Maps  
via the QR code below:



## EUROSIM Schedule-at-a-Glance

### Thursday, 2 January 2025

9:00 - 12:30	Guided Tour of the Red Star Line Museum (for participating faculty and students only) <i>Depart from hotels at 9:00; 45 minute walk to museum, accompanied by Antwerp students; tours start at 10:00</i>	Red Star Line Museum
14:00 - 16:00	Registration (open during whole event) <i>20 minute walk from hotels to campus; accompanied by Antwerp students, departing at 14:30 or 15:00 at the hotels.</i>	Entry hall M-building
16:00 - 17:00	Welcome and first plenary session	M001
17:00 - 19:00	Organisational meetings – non-standard format	Rooms M.101-107
19:15	Dinner	Agora Caffee

### Friday, 3 January 2025

7:00 - 8:00	Breakfast at hotels	
8:30	Walk to campus <i>20 minute walk from hotels to campus, accompanied by Antwerp students</i>	
9:00 - 10:30	Standard meetings	Rooms M.101-107
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break	Entry hall M-building
11:00 - 12:30	Resume standard meetings	Rooms M.101-107
12.30 - 13.30	Lunch	Entry hall M-building
13.30 - 14:30	Second plenary session	M.001
14:30 - 16:00	Resume standard meetings	Rooms M.101-107
16:00 - 16:30	Coffee break	Entry hall M-building
16:30 - 18:00	Resume standard meetings	Rooms M.101-107
18:00	Dinner on your own / free time	

## Saturday, 4 January 2025

7:00 - 8:00	Breakfast at hotels	
8:30	Walk to campus <i>20 minute walk from hotels to campus, accompanied by Antwerp students</i>	
9:00 - 10:30	Resume standard meetings	Rooms M.101-107
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break	Entry hall M-building
11:00 - 12:30	Organizational meetings—nonstandard format	Rooms M.101-107
12.30 - 13.30	Lunch	Entry hall M-building
13:30 - 14:30	Third plenary session	M.001
14:30 - 15:30	Resume standard meetings (joint EP ENVI I and ENVI II)	Rooms M.101-107
15:30 - 16:00	Coffee break	Entry hall M-building
16:00 - 17:00	Resume standard meetings (joint EP ENVI I and ENVI II)	Rooms M.101-107
17:00 - 19:00	Free time and walk to dinner venue <i>Depart from hotels at 18:00; 40 minute walk/tram from hotels to campus, accompanied by Antwerp students</i>	
19:00 - 00:30	Diner and party <i>Don't forget to bring your badge</i>	Burgerij XL

## Sunday, 5 January 2025

7:00 - 8:00	Breakfast at hotels	
8:30	Walk to campus <i>20 minute walk from hotels to campus, accompanied by Antwerp students</i>	
9:00 - 11:00	<i>Conciliation committee (trilogue)</i> <i>European Council</i>	M.101 M.102
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee break	Entry hall M-building
11:30 - 12:00	<i>Environmental Council</i> <i>Joint ENVI I and ENVI II</i> <i>European Council</i>	M.103 M.101 M.102
12:00 - 13:00	Final plenary session	M.001
13:00	Boxed lunch and departure	Entry hall M-building

# EUROSIM 2025 Full Schedule

## Thursday, 2 January 2025

<b>9:00 - 12:30</b>	<b>Guided Tour of the Red Star Line Museum</b> (for participating faculty and students only) <i>Depart from hotels at 9:00; 45 minute walk/tram to museum, accompanied by Antwerp students; tours start at 10:00</i>	Red Star Line Museum
<b>14:00 - 16:00</b>	<b>Registration</b> (open during whole event) <i>20 minute walk from hotels to campus; accompanied by Antwerp students, departing either at 14:30 or 15:00.</i>	Entry hall M-building
<b>16:00 - 17:00</b>	<b>Welcome and first plenary session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome by host and TACEUSS directors</li> <li>• Introduction to EuroSim 2025: logistical announcements and simulation programme by European and American student directors</li> </ul>	M001
<b>17:00 - 19:00</b>	<b>Organisational meetings – nonstandard format</b>	
	<i>Simulation Coordination Meeting</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair: European and American student directors</li> <li>• Attended by student directors, Council secretariat, Commission, President of the European Council, EP President</li> </ul>	M.102
	<i>Member State subgroup meetings: all European Council and Environmental Council members, in subgroups</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair: HOG of member state noted with asterisk (*)</li> <li>• Agenda: exchange views on overarching priorities for the Environment Council (plastic pellets regulation) and the European Council (see separate agenda); express positions and build coalitions; HOGs and ENV Council members split up to discuss own agenda separately</li> </ul>	
	1) Trio presidency and larger Member States *Poland, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy	M.101
	2) Mediterranean region *Spain, Greece, Portugal, Malta, Cyprus	M.101
	3) Benelux *Belgium, Netherlands, Luxemburg	M.101
	4) Northern states and Ireland *Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden	M.101
	5) Central Europe *Czechia, Slovakia, Austria	M.103
	6) Southeast group *Slovenia, Bulgaria, Romania, Croatia	M.103

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*EP Political Groups*

- Chairs: party coordinators for Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee (ENVI I and ENVI II)
- Agenda: MEPs develop and coordinate positions within political groups regarding the plastic pellets regulation; express positions and build coalitions.

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European People's Party (EPP)	M.107
Progressive Alliance of Socialist & Democrats (S&D)	M.107
The left (LEFT)	M.104
European Greens/European Free Alliance (GREEN/EFA)	M.107
European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)	M.105
Renew Europe (RE)	M.104
Patriots for Europe (PfE)	M.104
Europe of Sovereign Nations (ESN)	M.105

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*Special Roles* M.102

- NGOs, journalists discuss goals for participation in all dimensions of the simulation

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<b>19:15</b>	<b>Dinner</b> <i>5 minute walk to Agora Caffee, accompanied by Antwerp students</i>	Agora Caffee
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## Friday, 3 January 2025

<b>7:00 - 8:00</b>	<b>Breakfast at hotels</b>	
<b>8:30</b>	<b>Walk to campus</b> <i>20 minute walk from hotels to campus, accompanied by Antwerp students</i>	
<b>9:00 - 10:30</b>	<b>Standard meetings</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overall agenda: discussion of Commission proposals in Environment Council, EP ENVI I and ENVI II; discussion of agenda in European Council</li> <li>Note: In any meeting throughout the simulation (unless otherwise noted), meeting chairs can allow those in special roles to observe, speak or answer questions, as well as call for 5-10 minute breaks for informal talks as needed.</li> </ul>	
	<i>European Council</i>	M.103
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: António Costa, European Council President</li> <li>Agenda: discussion of agenda sent out by António Costa</li> </ul>	
	<i>Environment Council</i>	M.104
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: Paulina Hennig-Kloska, Minister of Climate and Environment, Poland</li> <li>Agenda: discussion of plastic pellets regulation proposal by the European Commission</li> </ul>	
	<i>EP ENVI I</i>	M.101
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: Lena Schilling (Greens/EFA); rapporteur Alexandr Vondra (ECR)</li> <li>Agenda: discussion of plastic pellets regulation proposal by the European Commission (articles 4, 9, 10, 14–19, annex 1 and 3)</li> </ul>	
	<i>EP ENVI II</i>	M.107
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair Antonio de Caro (S&amp;D), rapporteur Ondřej Knotek (P/E)</li> <li>Agenda: discussion of plastic pellets regulation proposal by the European Commission ENVI II (articles 1–3, 5–8, 11–13)</li> </ul>	
<b>10:30 - 11:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	Entry hall M-building
<b>11:00 - 12:30</b>	<b>Resume standard meetings</b>	Same rooms
<b>12.30 - 13.30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	Entry hall M-building

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<b>13.30 - 14:30</b>	<b>Second plenary session</b>	M.001
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Student directors: updates, reminders, etc.</li><li>• Reports from President of European Council, Council Presidency, Commission President and EP President</li><li>• Panel on transatlantic relations with Meta Novak (University of Ljubljana), Patrycja Rozbicka (Aston University), Johan Eliasson (University of East Stroudsburg) and Ed Fogarty (Colgate University)</li></ul>	
<b>14:30 - 16:00</b>	<b>Resume standard meetings</b>	Same rooms
<b>16:00 - 16:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	Entry hall M-building
<b>16:30 - 18:00</b>	<b>Resume standard meetings</b>	Same rooms
<b>18:00</b>	<b>Dinner on your own / free time</b>	

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## Saturday, 4 January 2025

<b>7:00 - 8:00</b>	<b>Breakfast at hotels</b>	
<b>8:30</b>	<b>Walk to campus</b> <i>20 minute walk from hotels to campus, accompanied by Antwerp students</i>	
<b>9:00 - 10:30</b>	<b>Resume standard meetings</b>	Same rooms
<b>10:30 - 11:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	Entry hall M-building
<b>11:00 - 12:30</b>	<b>Organisational meetings – nonstandard format</b>	
	<i>Simulation Coordination Meeting</i>	M.102
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: European and American student directors</li> <li>Attended by Council secretariat, Commission, President of the European Council, EP President, student directors</li> </ul>	
	<i>Member State subgroup meetings: European Council and Environmental Council members</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair: HOG of member state noted with asterisk (*)</li> <li>Agenda: coordinate positions on additional amendments to plastic pellets regulation and the European Council conclusions; express positions and build coalitions</li> </ul>	
	1) Trio presidency and larger Member States *Poland, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy	M.101
	2) Mediterranean region *Spain, Greece, Portugal, Malta, Cyprus	M.101
	3) Benelux *Belgium, Netherlands, Luxemburg	M.101
	4) Northern states and Ireland *Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Sweden	M.101
	5) Central Europe *Czechia, Slovakia, Austria	M.103
	6) Southeast group *Slovenia, Bulgaria, Romania, Croatia	M.103
	<i>EP Political Groups</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chairs: ENVI party coordinators</li> <li>Agenda: coordinate positions regarding additional amendments to the plastic pellets regulation; express positions and build coalitions.</li> </ul>	
	European People's Party (EPP)	M.107
	Progressive Alliance of Socialist & Democrats (S&D)	M.107
	The left (LEFT)	M.104

European Greens/European Free Alliance (GREEN/EFA)	M.107
European Conservatives and Reformists (ECR)	M.105
Renew Europe (RE)	M.104
Patriots for Europe (PfE)	M.104
Europe of Sovereign Nations (ESN)	M.105
<i>Special Roles</i>	M.102
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NGOs, journalists discuss goals for participation in all dimensions of the simulation</li> </ul>	

<b>12:30 - 13:30</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	Entry hall M-building
<b>13:30 - 14:30</b>	<b>Third plenary session</b>	M.001
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student directors: updates, reminders, etc.</li> <li>• Reports from President of European Council, Council Presidency, Commission President and EP President</li> </ul>	
<b>14:30 - 15:30</b>	<b>Resume standard meetings</b>	Same rooms
	<i>Except: Joint EP ENVI I and ENVI II</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair: Antonio de Caro (S&amp;D)</li> <li>• Agenda: discussion of all articles</li> </ul>	M.101
<b>15:30 - 16:00</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	Entry hall M-building
<b>16:00 - 17:00</b>	<b>Resume standard meetings</b> (Joint EP ENVI I and ENVI II)	Same rooms
<b>17:00 - 19:00</b>	<b>Free time and walk to dinner venue</b> <i>Depart from hotels at 18:00; 40 minute walk/tram from hotels to campus, accompanied by Antwerp students</i>	
<b>19:00 - 00:30</b>	<b>Diner and party</b> <i>Don't forget to bring your badge</i>	Burgerij XL

## Sunday, 5 January 2025

<b>7:00 - 8:00</b>	<b>Breakfast at hotels</b>	
<b>8:30</b>	<b>Walk to campus</b> <i>20 minute walk from hotels to campus, accompanied by Antwerp students</i>	
<b>9:00 - 11:00</b>	<i>Conciliation committee (trilogue)</i>	M.101
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair: European Commission</li> <li>• Participants: representatives from Environment Council, ENVI, and European Commission</li> <li>• Attendees: all other Environmental Council ministers and ENVI MEPs</li> </ul>	
	<i>European Council</i>	M.102
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair: António Costa</li> <li>• Agenda: final negotiations on the conclusions</li> </ul>	
<b>11:00 - 11:30</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>	Entry hall M-building
<b>11:30 - 12:00</b>	<i>Environmental Council</i>	M.103
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of compromise from conciliation committee; straw vote</li> </ul>	
	<i>Joint ENVI I and ENVI II</i>	M.101
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of compromise from conciliation committee; final vote</li> </ul>	
	<i>European Council</i>	M.102
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair: António Costa</li> <li>• Agenda: final negotiations and vote on conclusions</li> </ul>	
<b>12:00 - 13:00</b>	<b>Final plenary session</b> (all participants)	M.001
	Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European Council President on conclusions</li> <li>• Closing remarks on plastic pellets regulation: Commission President , EP President, Polish Council Presidency</li> <li>• Environment Council vote on regulation</li> </ul> US student director presides and introduces speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European student director: closing remarks and recognition of best students in each meeting in the standard format, as selected by their peers</li> <li>• Closing remarks by host and TACEUSS directors</li> </ul>	
<b>13:00</b>	<b>Boxed lunch and departure</b>	Entry hall M-building

## EUROSIM Supporting Documents

All documents supporting the simulation exercise can be downloaded from the EuroSim 2025 website at: [www.uantwerpen.be/eurosime2025](http://www.uantwerpen.be/eurosime2025).

In addition to this brochure, the following documents are also available for download:

- EuroSim 2025 Schedule
- EuroSim 2025 Work programme
- EuroSim 2025 Plastic pellets (presentation)
- EuroSim 2025 European Council Invitation letter from the President
- EuroSim 2025 European Council Agenda
- EuroSim 2025 European Council Explanatory note
- EuroSim Rules of Procedure Council of the EU
- EuroSim Rules of Procedure European Council
- EuroSim Rules of Procedure European Parliament
- EuroSim 2025 Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on preventing plastic pellet losses to reduce microplastic pollution
- EuroSim 2025 Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on preventing plastic pellet losses to reduce microplastic pollution - ANNEX I
- EuroSim 2025 Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on preventing plastic pellet losses to reduce microplastic pollution - ANNEX III
- EuroSim 2025 Reading guide Commission proposal
- EuroSim 2025 Environment Council Agenda

## Social Events

### Guided Tour of the Red Star Line Museum

Two million passengers made the crossing from Antwerp to North America aboard the steamships of the Red Star Line. Their story, that of the shipping company that transported them and that of the city and the port from which they departed, are central to the Red Star Line Museum's main exhibition. The museum poses the question of what this history means today. Migration and human mobility are issues that have been relevant throughout history: millions of people all over the world have left (and are leaving) behind what is familiar in order to look elsewhere for a new future. In the Red Star Line Museum you follow the path of the emigrants. From their departure from their country of origin, through their long journey and their temporary stay in Antwerp, to the crossing and their arrival in their new homeland of America or Canada.

The emigrants that boarded in Antwerp mainly came from far off regions. They had already completed a long journey before arriving at the Red Star Line buildings. During a 1,5 hour guided tour of the museum (in English; in small groups), you will experience the trip – through their stories – as if you were one of them.

Only for participants who have **preregistered** for the excursion to the Red Star Line Museum.

*The museum is about 45 minutes walking/tram from the hotels. It is advised to **depart from the hotels at 9:00**. Antwerp students will await you at 9:00 outside of the hotels to accompany you to the museum.*

- **When?** Thursday 2 January 2025, guided tours starting at 10:00
- **Where?** Montevideostraat 3, 2000 Antwerp – 40 minute walk from the hotel
- **Website:** <https://redstarline.be/en/content/welcome>



*Red Star Line Museum*

## Dinner at Agora Caffee

The dinner at the end of the first day of the EuroSim (Thursday 2 January 2025) will be held in Agora Caffee. Agora Caffee is a popular hotspot at the University of Antwerp where students, lecturers and visitors can enjoy delicious hot snacks and refreshing drinks.

*We will walk together from the campus to Agora Caffee (5 minutes), accompanied by Antwerp students.*

- **When?** Thursday 2 January 2025, 19:15
- **Where?** Grote Kauwenberg 2, 2000 Antwerp



*Agora Caffee*

## Dinner and Party at Burgerij XL

EuroSim's dinner and party (Saturday 4 January 2025) will be held at Burgerij XL, located in the heart of Antwerp's Little Island area. Burgerij XL accommodates all kinds of events in its multifunctional event space. At Burgerij, we will enjoy a three-course seated dinner, followed by a party.

*The dinner venue is about 40 minutes walking/tram from the hotels. Antwerp students will meet you outside the hotels at **18:00** to accompany you to Burgerij XL.*

***Don't forget to bring your badge to identify yourself!***

- **When?** Saturday 4 January 2025, 19:00 – 00:30
- **Where?** Sint-Laureiskaai 8, 2000 Antwerp (near MAS building)



*Burgerij XL*

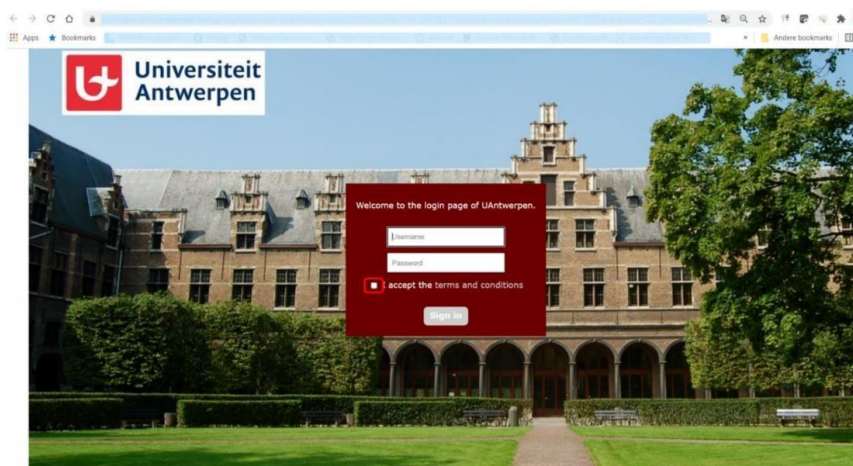
## Wifi Access

On your EuroSim 2025 name badge, you will find a personal username and password to connect to the internet.

**In order to obtain wireless access, you must perform the following steps:**

- 1) Connect to the wireless network (SSID) « **UA-guest** »
- 2) When opening a http webpage in a browser, you will be redirected to an authentication page (see printscreen below) where you will have to enter the **personal username and password** you received on your name badge. Note: the password and username are both case sensitive.
- 3) Click on I accept the terms and conditions and click on Sign in.
- 4) You are now connected to the wireless network of the University of Antwerp. Note: this connection is not encrypted.

**!! MAKE SURE TO KEEP TRACK OF YOUR PERSONAL USERNAME AND PASSWORD !!**



Alternatively, you can also use the **Eduroam** network of your home university. In case of problems, [check out our website](#).

## Photography Disclaimer



Photos will be taken at this event.

They may be used in reports about the event and in the communications of the University of Antwerp (website, social media).

Please speak to the photographer if you would prefer not to be photographed. Thank you for your understanding.

## Contact Information

Members of the **local organising team** will be present at the venue throughout the event. They are also supported by an **Antwerp student team**, clearly recognisable by their red t-shirts with University of Antwerp logo. Do not hesitate to ask them for assistance when you need it!

Contact UAntwerp Local Organising Team:

- Peter Bursens (hosting professor): [Peter.Bursens@uantwerpen.be](mailto:Peter.Bursens@uantwerpen.be)
- Sophie Op de Beeck (lead organiser): [Sophie.OpdeBeeck@uantwerpen.be](mailto:Sophie.OpdeBeeck@uantwerpen.be)
- Karin De Luca (lead student assistant): [Karin.DeLuca@student.uantwerpen.be](mailto:Karin.DeLuca@student.uantwerpen.be)
- Secretariat (Karen Boven and Nicky Vervoort): [secretariaat.fsw@uantwerpen.be](mailto:secretariaat.fsw@uantwerpen.be)

More event information on the following website: [www.uantwerpen.be/eurosims2025](http://www.uantwerpen.be/eurosims2025)

In case of unforeseen circumstances during the EuroSim event, we kindly request you to first reach out to your own university's faculty member(s) accompanying your group.

If additional assistance is needed, please use the contact details below **for urgent matters only**:

- Peter Bursens (hosting professor): 0032 496 30 63 57 (call, text, or WhatsApp)
- Sophie Op de Beeck (lead organiser): 0032 472 42 84 04 (call, text, or WhatsApp)
- Karin De Luca (lead student assistant): 0039 351 889 12 68 (reachable on WhatsApp without any out-of-plan international charges affecting fellow EU students)
- Secretariat: 0032 3 265 88 09 (from 8:00 to 17:00 on weekdays)

Please use this contact information responsibly and only in situations requiring immediate attention. Thank you for your cooperation!

## Emergency Services

Call **112** for emergency assistance from an **ambulance** or the **firefighters**.

Call **101** for emergency assistance from the **police**.

Both emergency numbers are for free and available day and night.

Call **1733** for the **doctor** on duty.



## About Your Host

### University of Antwerp

The University of Antwerp is a **young, dynamic, publicly funded and fully accredited Belgian university**. It was founded in 2003 after the merger of three universities: UFSIA (*Universitaire Faculteiten Sint-Ignatius Antwerpen*), RUCA (*Rijksuniversitair Centrum Antwerpen*) and UIA (*Universitaire Instelling Antwerpen*). It integrates the assets of its historic roots with its ambition to contribute positively to society, carries out its tasks in a spirit of academic freedom and responsibility, and espouses **active pluralism**.



The University of Antwerp is characterised by its high standards in **pioneering, creative and innovative scientific research** which strives for international excellence. It stimulates both basic and applied research and their valorisation. It has 15 Centres of Excellence (CoE) across all scientific disciplines, each of which is an international flagship, bringing together researchers of proven scientific quality and impact. The GOVTRUST Centre of Excellence is an example of such a research excellence consortium, bringing together interdisciplinary expertise on trust and multi-level (regulatory) governance.

The University of Antwerp also offers **excellent internationally accredited academic education** – closely connected to its scientific research – to students from all social groups and of all generations. Students acquire knowledge about research results during lectures, through course materials and/or digital media. They gain a better insight by discussing research findings with each other and by writing papers about them. The university aims at the development and integration of knowledge, skills and attitudes that will prepare its students to take responsibility in society. Students are stimulated to develop into independently minded people who are capable of thinking analytically.

Moreover, the university provides **student-based education** and emphasises the development of competences. In addition to knowledge and insight, these competences will also include particular skills and attitudes. Thanks to this **competence-oriented education**, its academic graduates are able to function successfully in professional environments.

The University of Antwerp is not an island: it builds **bridges** to secondary education, to industry and, by extension, to society as a whole, and stimulates **public debate** on scientific, social, philosophical and ethical questions. Furthermore, it is committed to the development of its city and region. With its partners in the Antwerp University Association, it takes responsibility for higher education in the

Antwerp region. It also attaches great importance to its close, historic links with Antwerp University Hospital, the Institute of Tropical Medicine and Antwerp Management School. It seeks **constructive partnerships** in the fields of research, teaching and academic service to society. The university shares its expertise with both public and private partners.

The university has **nine faculties**: 1) Applied Engineering, 2) Arts, 3) Business and Economics, 4) Design Sciences, 5) Law, 6) Medicine and Health Sciences, 7) Pharmaceutical, Biomedical and Veterinary Sciences, 8) Social Sciences and 9) Science. Doctoral programmes are available in all faculties, with more than 2,300 PhD students registered.

The University of Antwerp has more than 23,000 fee-paying students. About 4,000 of these students are from foreign countries, with about 130 different nationalities. In line with the Bologna process, the University of Antwerp has adopted the Bachelor-Master structure, offering more than 140 Bachelor and Master programmes in total. The University of Antwerp has over 80,000 alumni. With nearly 7,000 members of staff, it is **one of the most important employers in Antwerp**, Flanders' largest city. It fosters diversity and offers its staff and students equal opportunities and maximum potential for personal development.

## STRATEGO Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence

The [STRATEGO Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence](#) (co-funded by the European Union) aims to teach, research and disseminate knowledge on the dynamics, causes and effects of trust between the actors and institutions involved in EU multi-level governance of sustainable development, with a focus on business and entrepreneurship, climate and biodiversity, and health policies. This empirical scope of STRATEGO connects with the UN's sustainable development goals, the policy priorities of the European Commission and the priorities of the Erasmus+ programme.



STRATEGO is a joint venture of 14 core faculty members from 7 research groups:

- [Politics & Public Governance](#) (Faculty of Social Sciences)
- [International Politics](#) (Faculty of Social Sciences)
- [Government & Law](#) (Faculty of Law)
- [Department of Management](#) (Faculty of Business and Economics)
- [Plant and Ecosystems](#) (Faculty of Science)
- [Evolutionary ecology](#) (Faculty of Science)
- [Centre for Health Economics Research and Modelling Infectious Diseases](#) (Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences)

STRATEGO wants to develop **interdisciplinary synergies on EU governance, trust and sustainable development by bridging teaching, research and outreach efforts across disciplines at the University of Antwerp**. Throughout all activities, STRATEGO goes beyond the usual producers and consumers of EU studies. It brings EU governance knowledge of the Social Sciences, Law and Economics faculties to students and staff of the Science and Health Sciences faculties, and it reaches out beyond the academic environment to foster a dialogue with professionals, civil society and the general public.

In terms of [teaching](#), STRATEGO ensures interdisciplinarity through guest lectures, joint supervision of bachelor and master theses and innovative formats such as simulations and micro-credentials. In terms of [research](#), STRATEGO brings together staff from various disciplines through research seminars, PhD masterclasses and a visiting scheme for early career scholars. In terms of [outreach](#) beyond the academic context, STRATEGO organises activities such as thematic webinars, outreach workshops and activities for specific audiences such as secondary schools.

Please check [our website](#) for further information and to learn more about the STRATEGO Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence.

## About the City of Antwerp: Maximise Your City Experience

Antwerp is an atypical metropolis in the heart of Europe. Despite its relatively humble proportions, it boasts one of the biggest port areas in Europe and is named the oldest and largest diamond trade centre in the world. Antwerp combines the grandeur of yesteryear with an urban vibrancy. Its vast offering of cultural, historical and culinary delights is enhanced by more than 170 nationalities. The Grote Markt and cathedral, Scheldt riverbanks and cobbled streets go hand in hand with a thriving nightlife, galleries and art palaces... the options in Antwerp are endless.

The city of Antwerp is not just a backdrop for EuroSim 2025, it's a dynamic, living entity waiting to be explored. Therefore, we have gathered some suggestions on what to see and do in the city during your stay<sup>1</sup>.

Don't miss this opportunity to make the most of your time in Antwerp!



*Giraffe at Antwerp Zoo*

If you arrived in Antwerp by train, you may have passed by the [Antwerp Zoo](#) without even knowing it. Next to the Antwerp Central Station, which is an architectural masterpiece in its own right, lies the Antwerp Zoo. It is one of the oldest and most famous zoos in Europe and offers an oasis of calm in the heart of the city. The beautiful gardens, the characterful listed buildings and, of course, the animals: it is the perfect setting for a fun outing.

As the home of Pieter Paul Rubens, Antwerp has its fair share of cultural destinations and museums worth visiting. The [Rubens House](#) is where Pieter Paul Rubens, one of the most famous Baroque artists of the 17th century, lived and worked. Visit the Rubens Experience, the library, and the colourful redesigned garden. The home of the historic artist is temporarily closed for restoration. In addition, you can encounter the work of Rubens in several other places in Antwerp, such as the [Plantin-Moretus Museum](#) (UNESCO World Heritage site), the Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp, and the Cathedral of Our Lady. Especially the [Royal Museum of Fine Arts Antwerp \(KMSKA\)](#) is an absolute must-do, where you can admire a beautifully renovated building and discover seven centuries of the finest art in a completely new setting. This palace of the arts is home to a staggering collection of over 13,000 pieces. Among them are works by many great historic European painters, including Rubens, James Ensor, Jan van Eyck, Pierre Alechinsky and many, oh so many more. The KMSKA is located in the [Zuid neighbourhood](#), one of Antwerp's nicest neighbourhoods, with wide avenues, stately townhouses, lovely squares, interesting shops and a number of world-



*Restoration of a Rubens painting at KMSKA*



*KMSKA*

<sup>1</sup> Source: Visit Antwerpen (<https://visit.antwerpen.be/en>) and Visit Flanders (<https://www.visitflanders.com/en>)

class museums. Thanks to the many cafes and restaurants, there are also plenty of places where you can have a drink or something to eat.



*Cathedral of Our Lady & Rubens statue*

In the old city centre stands the [Cathedral of Our Lady](#), a monumental building that has graced the Antwerp skyline since the beginning of the 14th century. The cathedral's architecture is gothic, while its interior is baroque. And that is definitely due to Rubens and four of his masterpieces that may be found here. Another church worth visiting is the [St. Charles Borromeo Church](#), which is sometimes considered the essential Rubens church with both paintings and sculptural works from his hand. Located on the picturesque Hendrik Conscienceplein, this triumphant baroque church is certainly an eye-catcher.

Another place worth visiting is Antwerp's iconic [Grote Markt](#). You can admire the beautiful renaissance Town Hall (UNESCO World Heritage site) and the countless 16th-century guild houses, and enjoy a drink on one of the many terraces. Another must-see in the square is the impressive Brabo Fountain, depicting the legend from which Antwerp is said to have derived its name (see this brochure's cover picture). Near the Grote Markt, look for the hidden, picturesque [Vlaeykensgang](#), a medieval alley that transports you into another era. If you head towards the river, you will encounter the medieval castle [Het Steen](#), currently a tourist information centre



*Vlaeykensgang*



*MAS at Het Eilandje*



*Local De Koninck beer ('bolleke')*

[Het Eilandje](#) (Little Island), so-called because it is surrounded by water, has long had a reputation as one of Antwerp's coolest neighbourhoods. It breathes water and exudes charm with its monumental warehouses, lanterns, and cobblestones. A focal point of the neighbourhood is the stately [Museum aan de Stroom](#), or MAS. This city museum is well worth a visit in itself, and its breathtaking rooftop panorama doubly so. Visit the rooftop (free access!) at sunset for an ultimate other-worldly view of the city, the river and the port. You can also explore the area's many culinary hotspots. In addition, the many pubs and cafés in this area are perfect places to familiarise yourself with that other great Belgian heritage item: beer. You may want to order a glass of De Koninck, the local brew. One (or several) of these 'bollekes' will assure you of a good night's sleep. Side note: Belgian beers tend to be higher in alcohol than most beers from other countries, so drink wisely and responsibly.

Finally, venture a little more to the north to encounter another highlight: the [Port House](#). The structure houses the headquarters of Antwerp's Port Authority, which manages one of the largest ports in Europe. This modern icon, where a sparkling diamond is perched on top of an old fire station, was

created by architect Zaha Hadid. The stunning structure soon became a city landmark, an instantly recognisable part of the skyline.



*The Port House*



For further information on Antwerp, visit the website of Visit Antwerp (<https://visit.antwerpen.be/en>).

Or visit one of the Tourist Information Offices located at Steenplein 1, 2000 Antwerp or in the Antwerp Central Railway Station.

## Where to Get Food and Drinks in Antwerp

**Food places tailored for students in proximity to the hotels and university (including the staple of Belgian fries)!**

### Agora Caffee

Since 1994, Agora Caffee has been a beloved hotspot at the University of Antwerp where students, lecturers, and visitors can enjoy delicious hot snacks and refreshing drinks. Whether you are looking for a hearty breakfast to start your day well, a delicious lunch between classes, or a relaxing drink after a long day of work or study, Agora Caffee is always the right place!

Opening hours: Monday to Friday → 8 am to 10 pm & Saturday and Sunday → closed

Address: Grote Kauwenberg 2, 2000 Antwerpen

Website: <https://www.agoracaffee.com/>

### Tartoer

A quaint cafe with vintage decor and a relaxed vibe. They serve excellent coffee, homemade cakes, and light lunch options. A great place to unwind after classes.

Opening hours: every day → 9.30 am - 6 pm (Korte Koepoorstraat 2) & Monday to Friday → 8.30 am - 5 pm, and Saturday & Sunday → 10 am - 5 pm (Ossenmarkt 23)

Address: Korte Koepoorstraat 2, 2000 Antwerpen & Ossenmarkt 23, 2000 Antwerpen (the one closer to university)

Website: not available but the place is very much 'google-able'!

### vandoag is't

A cozy, student-friendly coffee bar and eatery located near the Ossenmarkt in Antwerp. Known for its relaxed vibe, this spot is perfect for grabbing affordable drinks and hearty snacks with friends. The rustic, welcoming interior makes it a great spot to unwind after a long day.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday → 8.30 am - 6.00 pm, Saturday & Sunday → closed

Address: Prinsesstraat 2, 2000 Antwerpen

Website: not available but the place is very much 'google-able'!

### Wasbar Antwerp

Trendy spot where you can enjoy sandwiches, salads, and light meals in a quirky setting. Bonus: you can even do your laundry while eating!

Opening hours: Every day → 9 am - 7 pm, except for the one in Graanmarkt that is open from 9 am - 9pm

Address (multiple locations in Antwerp): De Keyserlei 43 / Graanmarkt 15 / Melkmarkt 15

Website: <https://www.wasbar.com/>

## De Broers van Julienne

This vegetarian/vegan-friendly restaurant serves healthy and tasty dishes, perfect for students who want a wholesome meal. They also offer gluten-free options.

Opening hours: Monday - Thursday → 12.00 pm - 8.00 pm, Friday & Saturday → 12.00 pm - 9.00 pm, and Sunday → 5.30pm - 8.00 pm

Address: Kasteelpleinstraat 45/47, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: <https://www.debroersvanjulienne.be/>

## Otomat Antwerpen

A Belgian-inspired pizzeria offering creative toppings and quirky decor. Try it with their suggested Belgian beer of choice!

Opening hours: Monday - Thursday, and Sunday → 12.00 pm - 10.00 pm, Friday & Saturday → 12.00 pm - 11.00 pm

Address: Van Schoonbekeplein 11, 2000 Antwerpen

Website: <https://otomat.be/en>

## Quick De Keyserlei

A well-known fast-food chain in Belgium (and it's Belgian!), Quick is perfect for grabbing an affordable and satisfying meal on the go. Known for its burgers, fries, and signature sauces, it offers a wide range of options, including vegetarian choices and meal deals.

Opening hours: every day → 10.00 am - 11.00 pm

Address: De Keyserlei 22, 2018 Antwerpen

Website for more info: <https://www.quick.be/nl>

### FUN FACT ABOUT BELGIAN FRIES

Belgian fries are thick-cut, fried twice for extra crispiness, and served with an array of sauces like andalouse, tartare, or the classic mayonnaise. Fries being such a staple in Belgian culture comes with also establishments called 'Frituur' (plural: 'frituurs'). These are quintessential Belgian establishments dedicated to fries and fried snacks. Frituurs also sell items like bitterballen, frikandel, and loempia, creating a fast-food experience that is uniquely Belgian.

## Frites Atelier

Perfect for indulging in high-quality Belgian fries with gourmet toppings. A bit pricier than typical fry stands, but worth it for the unique flavours.

Opening hours: every day → 11.30 am - 8.00 pm

Address: Korte Gasthuisstraat 32, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: <https://www.fritesatelier.com/>



## Frituur n°1

A notable *frituur* to check out is Frituur n°1, a favourite among locals and tourists, known for its golden fries and wide selection of sauces.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday → 12.00 am - 3.00 am & 10.00 am - 12.00 am, and Saturday & Sunday → 12.00 am - 6.00 am & 10.00 am - 12.00 am

Address: Hoogstraat 1, 2000 Antwerpen

Website: not available but the place is very much 'google-able'!

## Restaurants at De Keyserlei

De Keyserlei is a main street in the centre of Antwerp right off Antwerp Central Station. It holds (diamond) shops, but it also boasts many restaurants. Conveniently located near the hotels, De Keyserlei offers many affordable yet tasty food options:

- [Wasbar](#) (bagels, salads)
- [San Remo](#) (Italian, pizzeria)
- [Ellis Gourmet Burger](#) (burger restaurant)
- [Takumi Ramen Kitchen](#) (authentic Japanese ramen)
- [Panos](#) (sandwiches)
- [Hawaian Poké Bowl](#)
- Wagamama (Asian)
- Fastfood: [Quick](#), [McDonald's](#), [Five Guys](#), [KFC](#)



*San Remo at De Keyserlei*



*Frituur n°1 at Hoogstraat*

## Where to get the best waffles, chocolates & Antwerpse Handjes (Antwerp Hands)

### BELGIAN WAFFLES

Belgian waffles are world-famous for their golden, crispy exteriors and light, airy interiors. There are two main types: Brussels waffles, which are rectangular, fluffier, and often served with toppings like whipped cream, strawberries, and chocolate; and Liège waffles, which are denser, sweeter, and made with pearl sugar that caramelizes as it cooks. Perfect as a snack or dessert, they're a must-try when exploring Belgian cuisine!



*Brussels waffle*



*Liège waffle*

### Wafelhuis Van Hecke

One of Antwerp's oldest waffle houses, serving **freshly baked Brussels waffles** with a variety of toppings. Their old-school charm and homemade whipped cream make it a standout.

Opening hours: every day → 12.00 pm - 6.00 pm, except for Wednesday when it is closed

Address: Nationalestraat 88, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: not available but the place is very much 'google-able'!

### The Smallest Waffle Shop In The World

A hidden gem offering fresh **Liège waffles** baked to perfection. Their waffles are small but incredibly flavorful, perfect for eating on the go.

Opening hours: not available but usually open during the day throughout the week

Address: Meirbrug 1, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: not available but the place is very much 'google-able'!

### House of Waffles

A cozy waffle café that specializes in both **Liège** and **Brussels waffles**, served with an extensive choice of toppings, from fresh fruit and whipped cream to Nutella and savoury toppings. Located in the heart of Antwerp, it's a fantastic spot for indulging in authentic Belgian waffles.

Opening hours: every day → 10.30 am - 6.30 pm

Address: Handschoenmarkt 17/21, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: <https://www.thehouseofwaffles.com/>

## BELGIAN CHOCOLATE

Belgium is synonymous with high quality chocolate, known for its rich flavour and silky texture. Belgian chocolatiers like Neuhaus, Leonidas, and Pierre Marcolini craft iconic pralines, truffles, and bars using traditional techniques and premium ingredients. Whether you prefer creamy milk chocolate, intense dark chocolate, or inventive fillings, Belgian chocolate is a delight for every palate and a hallmark of the country's culinary heritage, just like fries!

### The Chocolate Line

Known for its innovative and bold flavours (think bacon or wasabi chocolates), famous Belgian chocolatier Dominique Persoone's creations are a must-try. The shop's artistic chocolate sculptures are also a treat for the eyes. Its location alone, inside a former royal palace, is worth a visit.

Opening hours: Tuesday to Saturday → 9.30 am - 6.30 pm, and Sunday & Monday → 10.30 am - 6.30 pm

Address: Meir 50, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: <https://www.thechocolateline.be/nl/>



*The Chocolate Line*



*Leonidas pralines*

### Leonidas

An affordable yet high-quality option for classic Belgian pralines, truffles, and chocolate bars. A great everyday indulgence.

Opening hours: Monday to Saturday → 10.00 am - 6.30 pm, and Sunday → 12.00 pm - 6.00 pm

Address: Meir 38, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: [https://www.leonidas.com/gb\\_en](https://www.leonidas.com/gb_en)

### Neuhaus

A classic Belgian brand famous for inventing the praline. Offers beautifully packaged chocolates that make for perfect gifts.

Opening hours: Monday to Friday → 10.00 am - 6.00 pm, Saturday → 10.00 am - 6.30 pm, and Sunday → closed

Address: Korte Gasthuisstraat 1, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: [https://www.neuhauschocolates.com/en\\_BE/home](https://www.neuhauschocolates.com/en_BE/home)

### ANTWERPSE HANDJES (ANTWERP HANDS)

A beloved specialty of Antwerp, these hand-shaped biscuits and chocolates symbolize the legend of the giant Druon Antigoon and the hero Brabo, who cut off the giant's hand and threw it into the river. The buttery biscuits are lightly sweet and often sprinkled with almonds or sugar, while the chocolate versions can be filled with praline or other sweet fillings.

### Philip's Biscuits

Known for their artisanal biscuits, including some of the finest Antwerpse Handjes in the city. Their attention to detail and quality ingredients make their cookies stand out.

Opening hours: Monday to Saturday → 10.00 am - 6.00 pm, and Sunday → closed

Address: Korte Gasthuisstraat 39, 2000 Antwerpen / Hoogstraat 2-4, 2000 Antwerp (open all days)

Website: <https://www.philipbiscuits.online/en>



*Philip's Biscuits*

## Fun cafés (as Belgians call bars) to hang out at with friends

Belgium's café culture is an integral part of daily life, blending a relaxed atmosphere with a love for good food and drinks. Belgian cafés often serve as versatile spaces where people gather for a morning coffee, a mid-day beer, or an evening meal. Popular in Antwerp and other cities, cafés reflect the country's rich culinary traditions. Many offer **local beers, croquettes**, and other Belgian specialties, making them perfect for both casual and social occasions. As a matter of fact, Belgium is world-renowned for its **diverse range of beers**, from rich Trappist ales to refreshing wheat beers, offering something for every palate. In Belgian café culture, enjoying a beer is a ritual, with cafés often featuring extensive beer menus and pairing recommendations, making them the perfect hubs for beer enthusiasts. Side note: Belgian beers tend to be higher in alcohol than most beers from other countries, so please drink wisely and responsibly.

Below you can find some popular and student-friendly cafés to check out!

### Ossenmarkt area

There are multiple cafés around the [Ossenmarkt area](#), including 'Kassa 4' and 'Barracuda' – located in the heart of the student neighborhood

### Vrijdagmarkt area

There are multiple cafés around the [Vrijdagmarkt area](#).

### Mechelseplein area

There are multiple cafés around the [Mechelseplein area](#), including 'Kapitein Zeppos'.



*Kapitein Zeppos terrace at Mechelseplein*



*Kassa 4 at Ossenmarkt*

## Papa Jos

The perfect place to end a long day – sit back, relax and enjoy a well-deserved drink. Cool music, a lively atmosphere and great people – start your weekend the right way at Papa Jos.

Opening hours: Monday to Saturday → 11.00 am - 11.59 pm, Sunday → closed

Address: Blindestraat 39, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: <https://cafe-papa-jos.metro.bar/?lang=en>

## Café Cabrón

A quirky, alternative bar with a relaxed atmosphere and eclectic decor. Known for affordable drinks and a cool student vibe, it's a bit different from your usual pub experience.

Opening hours: every day → 1.00 pm - 3.00 am, except for Tuesday → closed

Address: Kaasrui 1, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: <https://www.cafecabron.be/>

## De Muze

A classic jazz bar in Antwerp, perfect for those who enjoy live music with their drinks. While it attracts a slightly older crowd, students often visit for the music and chill vibe, and it is usually quite busy with students, as well.

Opening hours: Monday to Thursday & Sunday → 11.30 am - 2.00 am, Friday & Saturday → 11.30am - 3.00 am

Address: Melkmarkt 15, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: <https://jazzcafedemuze.be/>

## Barok Antwerp

This is a stylish and sophisticated bar offering a wide selection of cocktails, wines, and craft beers in an elegant, chic setting—more on the pricey side. The modern décor, combined with a welcoming atmosphere, makes it a perfect place for both casual drinks with friends and special occasions.

Opening hours: Monday to Thursday → 4.00 pm - 2.00 am, Friday & Saturday → 2.00 pm - 3.00 am, and Sunday → 2.00 pm - 2.00 am

Address: Melkmarkt 11, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: not available but the place is very much 'google-able'!

## Luddites Books & Wine

A unique fusion of a bookstore and wine bar, Luddites Books & Wine offers a cozy, intimate setting where guests can enjoy a glass of organic wine while browsing through a curated selection of books. It is an ideal spot for literature lovers and wine enthusiasts alike (regular coffee options and teas are served as well with pastries), with a focus on high-quality, natural wines and a warm, welcoming atmosphere. The perfect place to relax, read, and sip away the afternoon.

Opening hours: Wednesday to Sunday → 11.00 am - 8.00 pm, and Monday & Tuesday → closed

Address: Hopland 34, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: <https://www.luddites.be/>

## The Playground Bar

The Playground Bar offers a fun, vibrant atmosphere where the focus is on great drinks and socializing whilst playing your favourite board games. With its casual vibe, it is a perfect spot for enjoying craft cocktails, beers, and a playful mix of games. It is a go-to for anyone looking to unwind and have some fun.

Opening hours: Monday & Sunday → 2.00 pm - 10.00 pm, Tuesday → closed, Wednesday & Thursday → 2.00 pm - 12.00 am, and Friday & Saturday → 2.00 pm - 1.00 am

Address: Hoofkerkstraat 7, 2000 Antwerpen

Website for more info: [https://www.the-playground.be/?srsId=AfmBOoqvNA7UnOh3g-bZUXTDev\\_cn\\_043SGbYVdAeajDkmgiea-bECZ](https://www.the-playground.be/?srsId=AfmBOoqvNA7UnOh3g-bZUXTDev_cn_043SGbYVdAeajDkmgiea-bECZ)

## Getting Around

### Public transport: Trams and buses

Antwerp has a dense public transportation network. Buses and trams are available to take you to different parts of the city. A single ticket within the city is €2.5 and allows you to use public transportation (buses and trams) for one hour. You can consider buying a *De Lijn* card (10 rides for €17), a day of unlimited travel (€7.50) or a 3-day ticket (€15). Tickets can be purchased in advance via the app, the [website](#) or at the [sales points in the city](#). On all buses and trams of De Lijn you can also pay for your ticket 'contactless' via the white terminal, by using your contactless bank card (Maestro, Mastercard, VPAY and Visa), payment apps (Apple Pay, Google Pay), or wearables (Fitbit Pay, Garmin Pay).



For more information on local tram and bus services De Lijn:  
<https://www.delijn.be/en/gemeente/antwerpen/>

### Cycling and scooting

Antwerp is a bike-friendly city. The distances are not too large, the bike lanes are flat and with the right gear, you can cycle all year round.



**Velo** is Antwerp's metropolitan bike scheme. There are check-in and drop-off zones of the city bikes throughout the entire city. To ride Velo you have to register beforehand. You can buy a day pass for €5 or a week pass for €12. After purchasing a day or week pass, you can use the bikes for a maximum of 30 minutes per session. Find more information on [www.velo-antwerpen.be/en](http://www.velo-antwerpen.be/en).

**Donkey Republic** is a bike rental service. It offers normal and electric bikes; short or long bike rentals and you pay as you go via the app. Find more information on [www.donkey.bike/cities/bike-rental-antwerp/](http://www.donkey.bike/cities/bike-rental-antwerp/).

In Antwerp we have **shared electric scooters** from [Voi](#), [Lime](#) and [Poppy](#). They all work with a free-floating system, meaning that they do not have a fixed parking spot, but can be found scattered throughout the city. To use a scooter, you must first download the Voi, Lime or Poppy app. Use the app to find the closest scooter and scan the QR code. After your journey, leave the scooter in a place where it cannot obstruct traffic and end your journey in the app.



## Riding

### Uber



Uber is available in Antwerp: <https://www.uber.com/be/en/>. You can request a ride in real-time or request a ride in advance so your ride is ready when you are. Whether you're traveling in a group or alone, you can use the app to find a ride option for your needs. Open the Uber app and enter your destination to begin exploring Antwerp.

### Taxi



#### **Antwerp-Taxi**

Karel Oomsstraat 14, 2018 Antwerpen

[www.antwerp-taxi.be](http://www.antwerp-taxi.be)

Telephone: +32 3 238 38 38