

B-H-V

(Brussels-Halle-Vilvoorde)



What is it all about?

Click to continue

Is B-H-V about the end of Belgium?

No!

About what then?

2002:
The Belgian government
created new constituencies



February 2003 :
Ruling Arbitration Court
(now Constitutional Court):
The constituency Brussels-Halle-
Vilvoorde is **unconstitutional**

Unconstitutional
because there is
discrimination



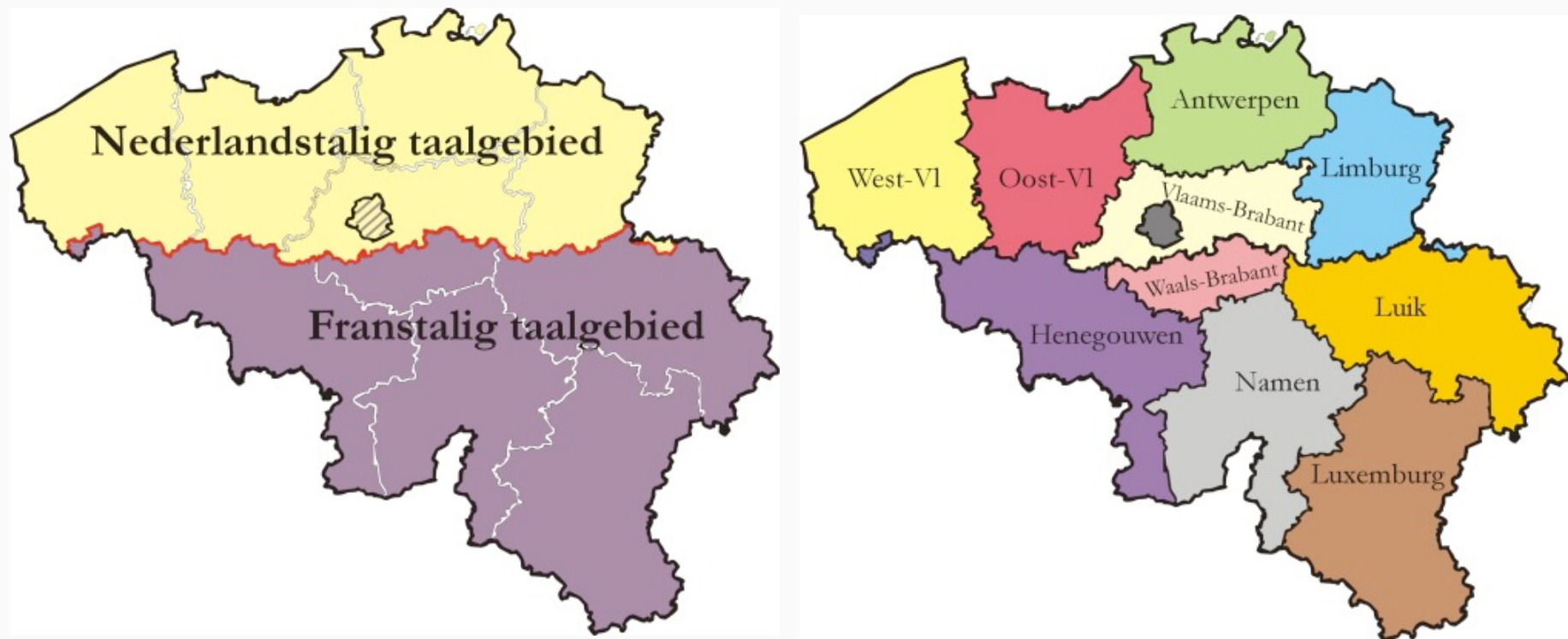
THREE QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. What is the BHV constituency?
2. Why is there discrimination?
3. How to solve it? (aka *split BHV*)

1. What is the BHV constituency?

First you have to know that Belgium is divided into linguistic areas. If we exclude the German-speaking area for a moment, we can say that the north is **unilingual** Dutch, the south **unilingual** French and Brussels (marked area in the centre) **bilingual**. The red line is the **linguistic border**.

You should also know that Belgium is divided into 10 provinces. (see map).
The grey area in the centre is the special case of **Brussels**.



1. What is the BHV constituency?

Apart from provinces Belgium also has constituencies (as explained before new constituencies since 2002). Below to the right you see the different coloured constituencies. Almost all constituencies overlap with the **provinces**, **except for B-H-V** (the blue area in the centre).



1. What is the BHV constituency?

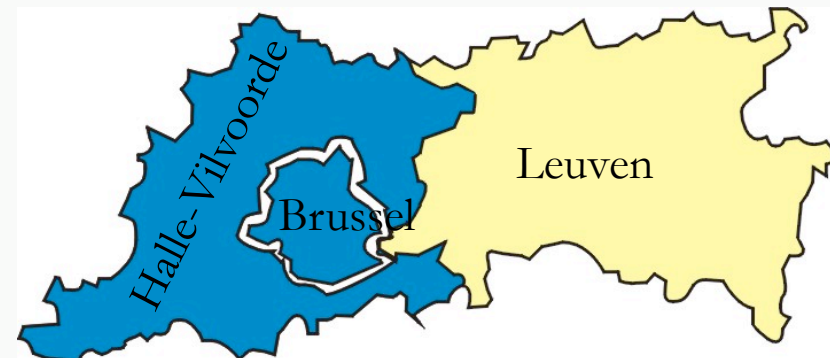
The province Flemish-Brabant is split into two parts:

- Leuven (yellow)
- Halle-Vilvoorde (blue)

Halle-Vilvoorde was put together with Brussels (so also blue) and forms the constituency B-H-V.

In a nutshell: B-H-V is composed of

- Brussels (**bilingual**)
- Halle-Vilvoorde (**unilingual Dutch**)



2. Why is there discrimination?

In Halle-Vilvoorde Francophone parties can stand for election despite the fact that H-V is **unilingual Dutch**. Francophones from Brussels, but also from Wallonia (at European and Senate elections) can gather votes in a Dutchspeaking area.

The other way around is impossible!

Flemish parties that stand for election in Brussels-Halle-Vilvoorde **cannot get votes across the linguistic border** for their list, for example in Walloon-Brabant.

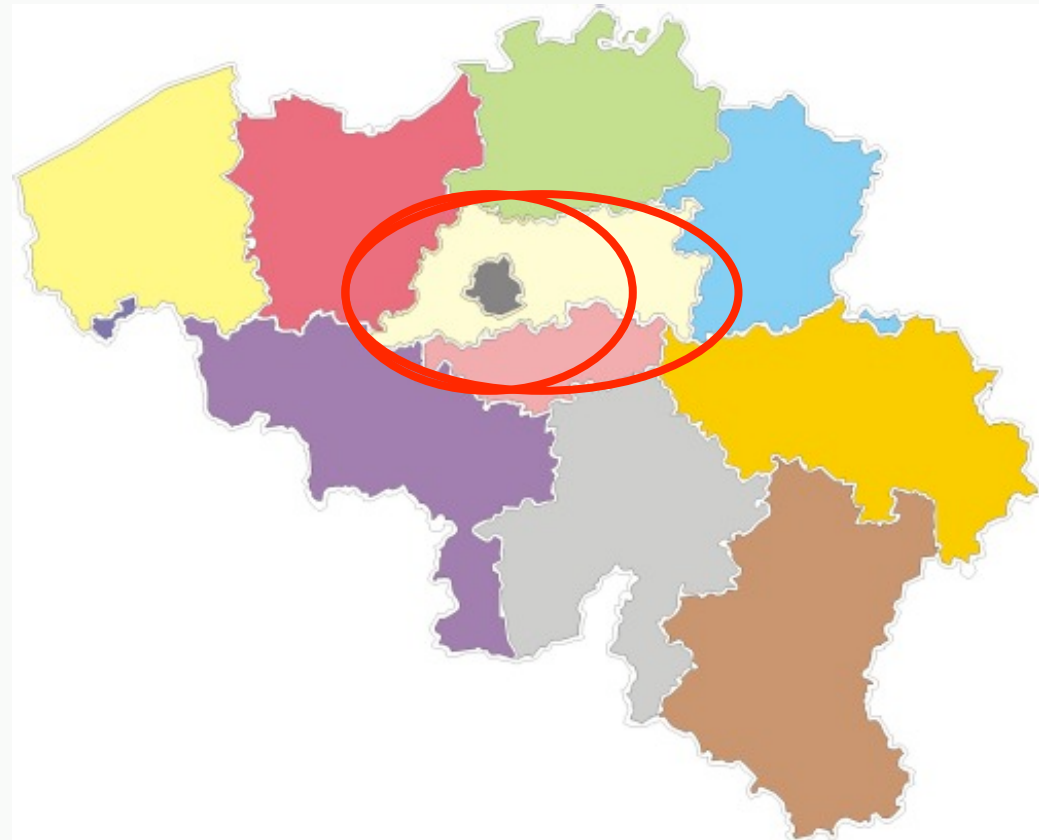


3. How to solve it? (aka *split bhv*) (the proposal of all Flemish parties)

Splitting B-H-V means:

(see map)

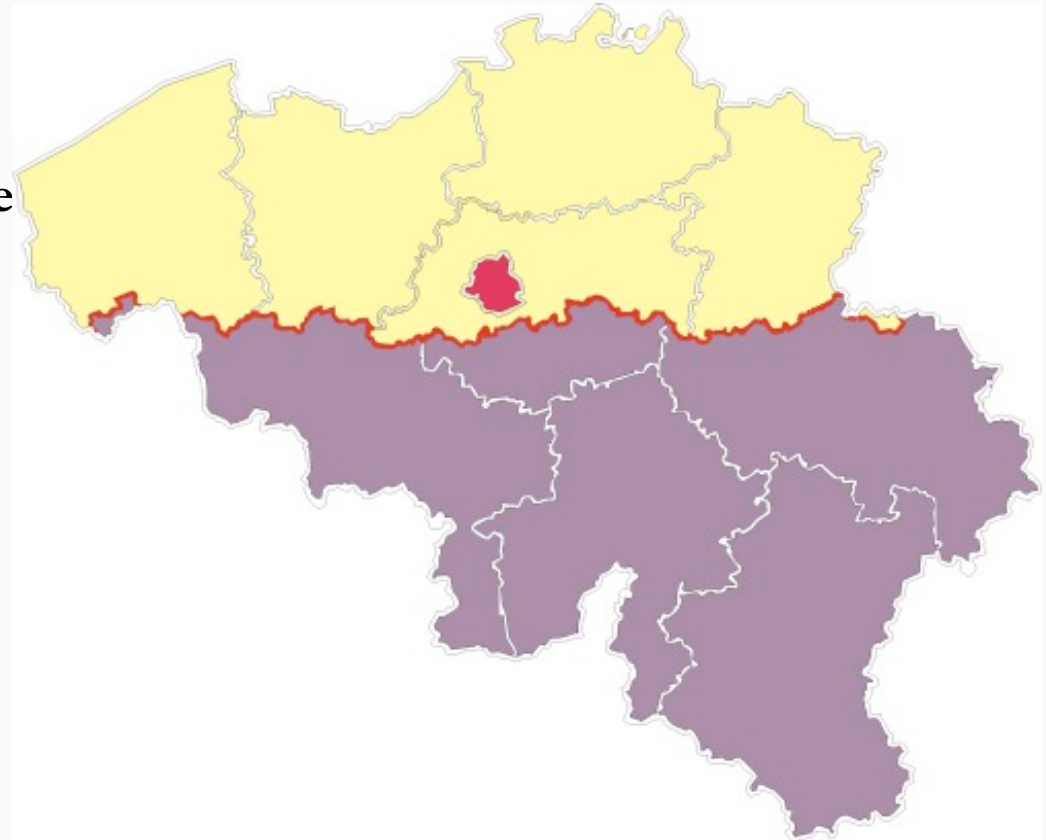
- unilingual Halle-Vilvoorde apart from bilingual Brussels
- bilingual Brussels apart
- Put Halle-Vilvoorde together with the rest of Flemish-Brabant (like **all other** provinces)



3. How to solve it? (aka *split bhv*)

Splitting B-H-V means

- Dutch speakers get votes in the Dutch-speaking area and Brussels
- French speakers get votes in the Francophone area and Brussels and **not in the Dutch-speaking area**



**Splitting B-H-V means
removing discrimination.**

**Splitting B-H-V means
respecting the constitution.**