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Editorial: A new geographical journal

Christian Kesteloot and Christian Vanderमotten



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Editorial: A new geographical journal

Christian Kesteloot and Christian Vandermorten

- 1 The first issue of *Belgeo*, the acronym for the new 'Revue Belge de Géographie – Belgisch Tijdschrift voor Geografie – Belgian Journal of Geography' is in your hands. The 'Tijdschrift van de Belgische Vereniging voor Aardrijkskundige Studies – Bulletin de la Société Belge d'Etudes Géographiques' published in Leuven and the 'Revue Belge de Géographie', published by the Société Royale Belge de Géographie in Brussels, have decided to merge, in order to offer a richer content and a more frequent and regular publication to their readers.
- 2 The new journal will mirror the multicultural Belgian society and its openness to the international scene. It also strives for high scientific quality. The Editorial Board hopes to develop the journal into an open and fertile forum for Belgian and foreign geographers. The Editorial Board is composed by members from the different Belgian universities and has appointed distinguished colleagues, mostly from foreign scientific institutions as corresponding members. From the start, the Editorial Board will be very selective in its publication policy. Every submitted paper will be examined by the Board and then anonymously proposed for advice to referees, mostly chosen among the corresponding members. The multicultural and international character of the journal is reflected in the use of four publication languages: English, French, Dutch and German.
- 3 The journal will cover, besides general topics, European and global issues and of course Belgian matters. The ambition is to turn *Belgeo* rapidly into one of the leading European geography journals on the international scene. The journal will improve the dissemination of the research results of the Belgian geographers, often at the junction of Anglo-Saxon and Latin approaches and will open its pages to the most recent developments in human as well as in physical geography. Therefore, *Belgeo* will be published, from the year 2001 on, in four issues a year. Two issues will be centred on themes in human geography; one issue will address a physical geography topic. The

fourth issue is devoted to papers with various subjects. For each thematic issue, a guest editor, specialised in the subject will be appointed.

- 4 This first volume of *Belgeo* appears at the occasion of the International Geography Conference in Seoul and at the eve of the third millennium. The Editorial Board of *Belgeo* wanted it to be a mirror of the diverse geographical practices in Belgium. It offers epistemological reflections, discussion papers, state of the art papers on Belgian research and portrays Belgium in its European context for foreign readers.

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