



**our reference**

P0.0/PRO.3143/05.02.2021/VACCIN/1

The Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation presents its compliments to the diplomatic missions, consular posts and international organizations established in Belgium and has the honour to inform them about **the vaccination campaign in Belgium**.

**All members of diplomatic missions, consular posts and international organizations who reside in Belgium and who are registered with the Protocol Directorate** will be included in the [national vaccination strategy](#), on a voluntary basis, according to **the same criteria as the whole population** of the Kingdom, Belgians as well as foreigners.

This is a public health concern of common interest.

Vaccination is optional. It is organized by the competent regional authorities. The vaccination schedule will be phased out together with the supply of vaccine doses.

In order to be eligible to the vaccination program, each potential beneficiary must have a Social Security Identification Number (NISS). **No individual action is needed** to obtain this number.

- The vast majority of persons holders of a **special residence permit, issued by the Protocol Directorate and bearing the letter "P" or "S"**, already have this number: it is identical to their national register number, assigned by the municipal administration of their place of residence. It is possible to contact the municipality to find this number out.  
These persons will be invited to be vaccinated by the competent authority on the basis of their NISS, or, in certain particular cases, by the international organization where they are employed.
- Persons holders of a **special residence permit, issued by the Protocol Directorate and bearing the letter "D" or "C"**, do not in principle yet have an NISS. In order to assign them one, the Protocol Directorate is obliged to transmit certain strictly necessary personal data<sup>1</sup> to the Crossroads Bank for Social Security (BCSS), a public institution in charge of NISSs.  
When this will be completed, the competent authority will be able to invite these people to be vaccinated.

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<sup>1</sup> Name, First names, Date and place of birth, Sex, Nationality, Civil status (if known), Special residence permit number, Contact address in Belgium. This is the address of the mission or organization where the function holder performs his duties. *The private address will NOT be communicated.*

The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), however, requires the Protocol Directorate to leave the option to each diplomatic mission, each consular post and each international organization **to oppose, for all of its members holding diplomatic ("D") or consular ("C") status**, to data transmission.

This choice is final. For the purposes of good management, **individual "opting in" or "opting out" choices of these categories of agents will not be taken into account.**

The Protocol Directorate will communicate the aforementioned data to the BCSS, in the absence of an express objection to be submitted:

- mandatorily **before February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.,**
- via **one single e-mail** with as subject: "Vaccination: OPT OUT" + name of the diplomatic mission, consular post or international organization,
- to the address: [corona-protocol@diplobel.fed.be](mailto:corona-protocol@diplobel.fed.be) .

The Protocol Directorate reiterates its concern to integrate members of the diplomatic community into the rigorous framework of the [vaccination campaign](#) managed by the competent authorities.

It will subsequently communicate to the recipients of this note, any useful information to this purpose, and urges to not submit individual requests that cannot be taken into account.

The Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation avails itself of the opportunity to renew to the diplomatic missions, consular posts and international organizations established in Belgium the assurances of its highest consideration.

Done in Brussels on February 5<sup>th</sup> 2021.



To the diplomatic missions, consular posts  
and international organizations established in Belgium