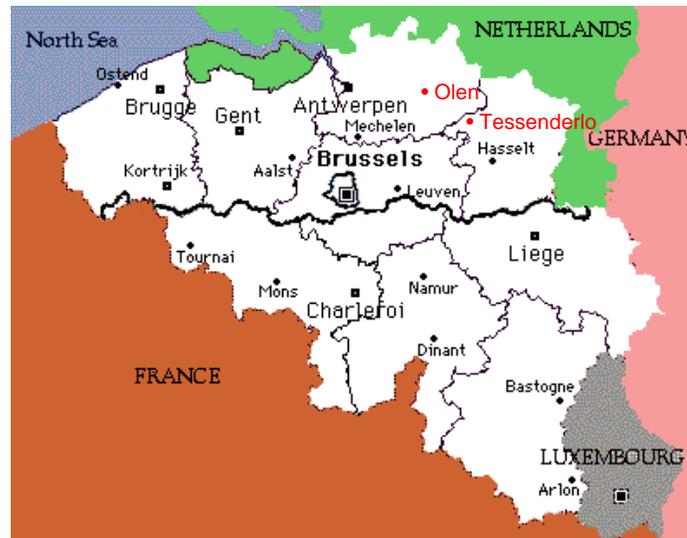


## Belgium as host country ?

**Location**: Brussels city center (offices of FANC)

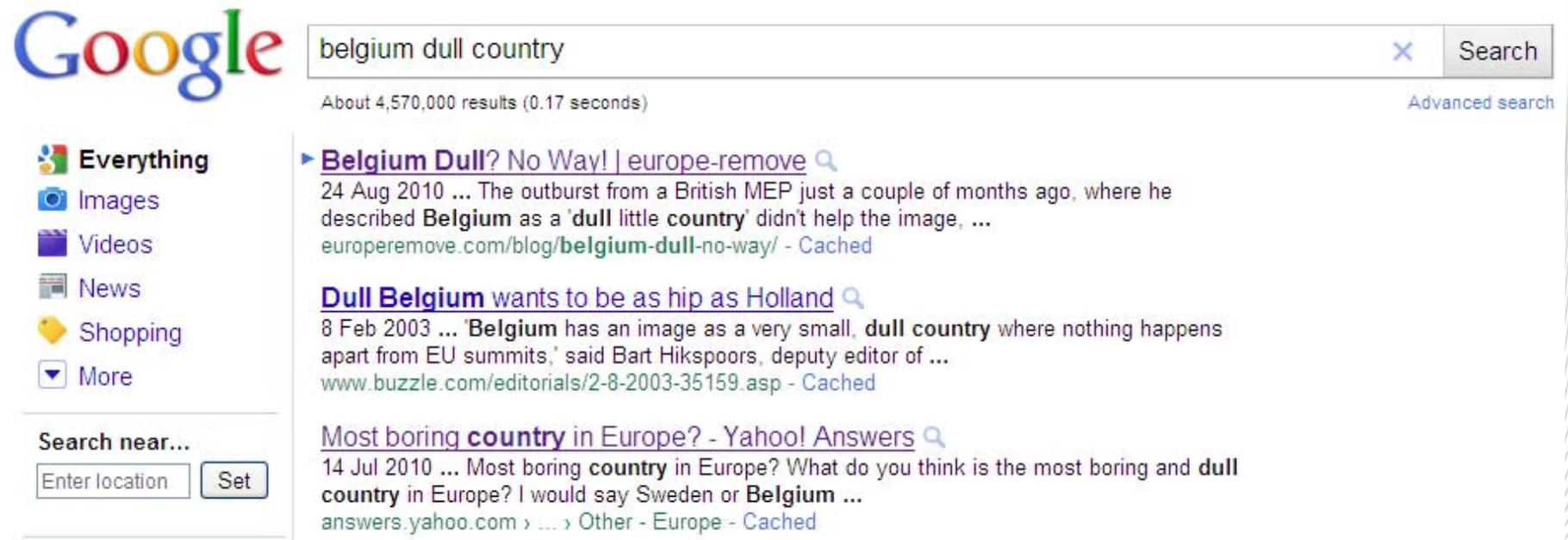
**Sites visit**: three possible choices (to be decided by the group)

- Former radium extraction facility (**Olen**)
- $\text{CaF}_2$  landfill – phosphate industry (**Tessenderlo**)
- Former Fe-Nb extraction facility (**Ghent**)



# Belgium: the con's ...

"*Belgium dull country*" ⇒ more than **4.5** millions hits on google...



The image shows a screenshot of a Google search interface. The search bar contains the text "belgium dull country". Below the search bar, it indicates "About 4,570,000 results (0.17 seconds)". On the left side, there are navigation links for "Everything", "Images", "Videos", "News", "Shopping", and "More". Below these links, there is a "Search near..." section with an input field for "Enter location" and a "Set" button. The search results are listed on the right side, with the first result being "Belgium Dull? No Way! | europe-remove" dated 24 Aug 2010. The second result is "Dull Belgium wants to be as hip as Holland" dated 8 Feb 2003. The third result is "Most boring country in Europe? - Yahoo! Answers" dated 14 Jul 2010.

Google

belgium dull country

About 4,570,000 results (0.17 seconds)

Advanced search

Everything

Images

Videos

News

Shopping

More

Search near...

Enter location Set

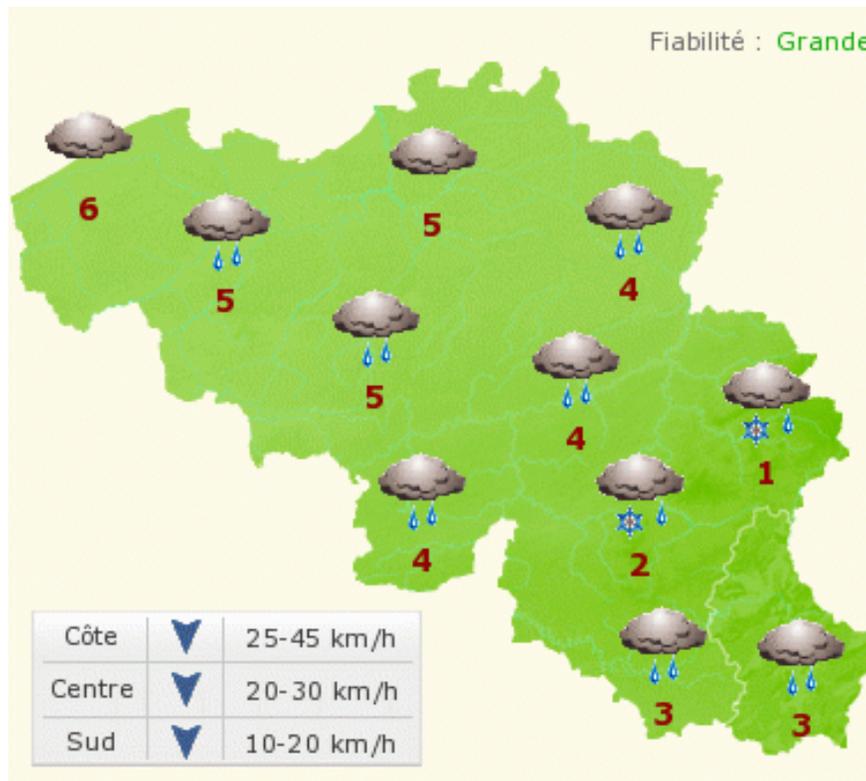
▶ [Belgium Dull? No Way! | europe-remove](#) 🔍  
24 Aug 2010 ... The outburst from a British MEP just a couple of months ago, where he described **Belgium** as a '**dull little country**' didn't help the image, ...  
[europeremove.com/blog/belgium-dull-no-way/](#) - Cached

[Dull Belgium wants to be as hip as Holland](#) 🔍  
8 Feb 2003 ... '**Belgium** has an image as a very small, **dull country** where nothing happens apart from EU summits,' said Bart Hikspoors, deputy editor of ...  
[www.buzzle.com/editorials/2-8-2003-35159.asp](#) - Cached

[Most boring country in Europe? - Yahoo! Answers](#) 🔍  
14 Jul 2010 ... Most boring **country** in Europe? What do you think is the most boring and **dull country** in Europe? I would say Sweden or **Belgium** ...  
[answers.yahoo.com](#) › ... › Other - Europe - Cached

# Belgium: the con's

A typical Belgian weather forecast ...



# Phosphate industry: the Tessenderlo's sites

Tessenderlo: treatment of phosphate ores to produce cattle food

HCl process =>  $\text{CaF}_2$  sludges as residues

⇒ Disposal on landfills ("Veldhoven" => [Ra-226] ~ 10 Bq/g)

⇒ Banks of nearby river contaminated by past discharges

Possibility to visit the facility + landfills



# Olen sites

Metallurgical company (UMICORE): radium extraction and production of radium sources from 1922 till 1969

- ⇒ Dumpsites D1 and S1 (to be remediated)
- ⇒ Contamination of banks of nearby river (« Bankloop ») (remediation project almost over ⇒ licensed disposal site for remediation waste)



# Ghent: former Fe-Nb extraction facility

**Ghent:** former dumpsite (slags) of **ferro-niobium** extraction facility (facility still in operation but no Fe-Nb anymore)  
⇒ (patchy) contamination up to 60 Bq/g Th-232, 12 Bq/g U-238

