



Information for people residing in **Belgium** 

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# Leave a Legacy of Peace and Justice Information for people residing in Belgium

Including Pax Christi International in your will is a meaningful way to ensure that your values live on. Your legacy can help build a more peaceful, just, and nonviolent world for generations to come.

#### **How to Include Us in Your Will**

- 1. Choose the type of gift you wish to leave:
  - A specific sum of money
  - A percentage of your estate
  - A specific asset (e.g. property, shares, or artwork)
  - The remainder of your estate after other gifts have been made
- 2. Provide your notary with our legal details:
  - Full legal name: Pax Christi International aisbl
  - Registered address: Avenue de la Reine 141, 1030 Brussels, Belgium
  - Enterprise number (BCE/KBO): 0878.735.767

Don't have a notary yet? You can find one in your area via www.notaris.be





#### **Suggested Wording for Your Will**

"I bequeath to Pax Christi International aisbl, headquartered at Avenue de la Reine 141, 1030 Brussels, Belgium registered with the Crossroads Bank for Enterprises under number 0878.735.767:

- the amount of €10,000; or
- 10% of my estate; or
- the remainder of my estate after other gifts have been distributed.

This gift is made freely and without condition."

#### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### 1. Do I need to be wealthy to leave a legacy gift?

Not at all. Many people choose to leave a small portion of their estate to a cause they care about. Every gift - large or small - helps build a better future.

#### 2. What kind of will should I make?

- Holographic will: Handwritten, signed, and dated by you.
  Legally valid in Belgium, but should be stored safely and ideally reviewed by a notary.
- Authentic (notarial) will: Prepared with a notary. Offers more legal certainty.
- International will: Valid in many countries under the Washington Convention of 1973.

Speak with your notary to choose the type that best fits your situation.





#### 3. What kind of legacy can I leave?

- Specific legacy: A particular amount of money or a named asset (e.g. €5,000 or a painting).
- General legacy: A percentage of your total estate.
- Universal legacy: Your entire estate or what remains after other gifts.

#### 4. How much inheritance tax will apply to my gift?

In Belgium, charities benefit from preferential inheritance tax rates:

• Flanders: 0%

• Brussels & Wallonia: 7%

**Note**: Tax rates are subject to change and may vary based on your personal circumstances. Please consult your notary for current details.

For more information on the details of inheritance tax, please visit this website.

#### 5. What if I own property abroad?

Assets located outside Belgium may be subject to double taxation. However, Belgium offers **partial relief** in some cases. Your notary can advise you on your specific situation.

#### 6. Can I change my will later?

Yes - you can update or revoke your will at any time. It's a good idea to review it regularly to make sure it still reflects your wishes.





#### 7. What's the difference between a will and a lifetime gift?

- A gift (donation) is made during your lifetime and is usually irrevocable.
- A legacy is part of your will and only takes effect after your passing.

Both options can help support our mission. Contact us if you'd like to explore them.

## 8. Do I need to inform you if I include Pax Christi in my will?

You're under no obligation, but letting us know allows us to thank you and share how your gift can make a long-term impact. Your information will remain confidential.

#### We are Here to Help

For a confidential conversation or more information about leaving a legacy, please contact:

Martha Inés Romero, Secretary General <a href="mailto:secgen@paxchristi.net">secgen@paxchristi.net</a>

You can also download a free guide via <u>testament.be</u> with detailed information and concrete examples.

Thank you for considering a legacy gift to Pax Christi International.

Your commitment to peace and justice will live on through future generations!



