



KINGDOM OF BELGIUM
Foreign Affairs,
Foreign Trade and
Development Cooperation

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Father Dejaeger's nationality

date: 15 September 2010

The FPS Foreign Affairs wishes to point out that, contrary to media reports, Father Eric Dejaeger no longer has Belgian nationality.

In the wake of repeated allegations and suspicions about him, in July 2010 his case was carefully reviewed. Although until that time his name had featured in the National Register of Belgian citizens, it is now apparent that he had already lost his Belgian nationality because:

- at his own request he gained Canadian citizenship in 1977; and
- was then no longer obliged to do military service.

At the time Father Dejaeger lost his Belgian nationality, he was registered with a local authority in Belgium. Consequently, it would seem that he neglected to inform the successive local authorities in Belgium with which he registered that he had taken Canadian nationality. He also gave false information about his nationality to Belgian consular officials in Canada.

This information was passed on to the Canadian authorities on 29 July, via the FPS Justice.

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