



## Questionnaire

### National Parliaments' activities on alleged CIA activities in European countries

COUNTRY: **Belgium**  
CHAMBER: The Senate

1. Was there a special committee formed in your chamber, similar to the one of the EP's Temporary Committee on the alleged use of European countries by the CIA for the transport and illegal detention of prisoners - TDIP?

Yes:

No:

2. Does any other permanent committee of your chamber deal with the matters?

Yes:

No:

If yes;

Name:

"Commission chargée du suivi du Comité permanent de contrôle des services de renseignements et de sécurité" (Parliamentary Survey Committee of the Standing Oversight Committee of the Intelligence and Security Services)

What is its mandate regarding these allegations:

- to request inquiries concerning the activities of the intelligence Services to the Standing Oversight Committee of Intelligence and Security Services;
  - to discuss the reports of the enquiries requested;
  - to discuss the Annual Report on activities of the Permanent Committee (every year in April)
- to formulate recommendations to the Government, discussed and voted by the Plenary Session of the Senate
- Under the following links you will find the procedures of the committee:

- [www.Senate.be](http://www.Senate.be)
- [Closed](#)

MPs involved:

Chairman: [Lizin Anne-Marie](#) (PS); Members: [Vandenhove Ludwig](#) (SP.A-SPIRIT), [Wille Paul](#) (VLD), [Defraigne Christine](#) (MR), [Vandenberghe Hugo](#) (CD&V).

Outcome and work programme of the permanent committee:

An inquiry has been ordered of the Standing Oversight Committee to establish which information the Belgian intelligence Services had about the eventual use of the Belgian airport infrastructure for flights chartered by the CIA in order to transport prisoners suspected of being linked to Islamic terrorism (F : « *Enquête de contrôle sur les informations dont disposent les services de renseignement belges à propos de l'éventualité que l'infrastructure aéroportuaire belge ait été utilisée par des vols affrétés par la CIA pour transporter des détenus suspects d'être liés au terrorisme islamique* »). A first report of the Permanent Committee has been discussed. Further inquiries have been ordered: the report of this inquiry will be discussed in the « *Commission chargée du suivi du Comité permanent de contrôle des services de renseignements et de sécurité* » in April 2006.

3. Which permanent committee in your Chamber supervises intelligence services of your country?

Name:

« Commission chargée du suivi du Comité permanent de contrôle des services de renseignements et de sécurité » (Parliamentary Survey Committee of the Standing Committee for Supervision of Intelligence and Security Services)

What is its mandate:

see above

MPs involved:

see above

Outcome and work programme in the area of these allegations:

see above

4. Has your Chamber been involved in another activities relating to these allegations (debate, report, etc.)?

Yes; see files below (click to open):



5. Additional supervision bodies:



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By the law of 18 July 1991, the Belgian Federal Parliament instituted the Standing Oversight Committee of the Intelligence and Security Services as a parliamentary organ for controlling the Belgian intelligence services (in short, in English, *Standing Committee I*).

The missions of this committee:

- +guarantee the protection of the rights which the Constitution confers on individuals;
- +ensure the control of the co-ordination and the effectiveness of the intelligence services;
- +appeal instance in the matter of security clearances (was subsequently added).

The broad goal of this external, parliamentary oversight body over the State Security Service and the General Intelligence and Security Service of the armed forces (ADIV in Dutch, SGR in French) is to provide greater transparency in the functioning of these services and to assure that these agencies respect the constitutional rights of the citizens.

Information on the Standing Committee, including the names of the members, their annual report, publications etc. can be found on [their website](#).