



PRESS RELEASE

The Social Capital Foundation
PO.BOX 30, B-1310 La Hulpe

E-mail: media@socialcapital-foundation.org

TSCF warns Belgian government against drift to creeping dictatorship

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Back to the nineties, Belgium was a relatively well organised and peaceful country with a still strong spirit of community that allowed settling issues fairly easily. The effects of the power's policy, i.e.: a weak growth, increased poverty, explosive multi-ethnicity and an accelerated sale of crucial assets to foreign powers, have destroyed this fragile balance. The power now tries to alleviate the tragic consequences of its policies by strengthening bureaucratic controls and increasing surveillance over the population.

TSCF expresses its deep preoccupation in the face of the evolution of the country, which reflects the evolution of Europe by and large.

TSCF notes the violation of privacy contained in the extensive misuse of the national identification registry, a tool for the government to track citizens with the involvement of police. TSCF reminds that the domicile is a private variable and must remain inviolable. Similarly, it is inappropriate that the state institutions may access such registry while the citizens ignore what it contains. Projects to cross all data available on citizens were reported.

Other practices are subject to democratic critique, such as the right for the government to seize fiscal assets without any judicial control, in virtue of an 'exemption' it grants to itself.

Instead of increasing control over the population, governments should address the problems they have created, such as unemployment, poverty and immigration.

In a democratic system, the role of the state must be minimal. A powerful civil society is able to solve its own problems. The spirit of community, progressively undermined by bureaucratic control and state welfare, is an essential mean to produce this result.