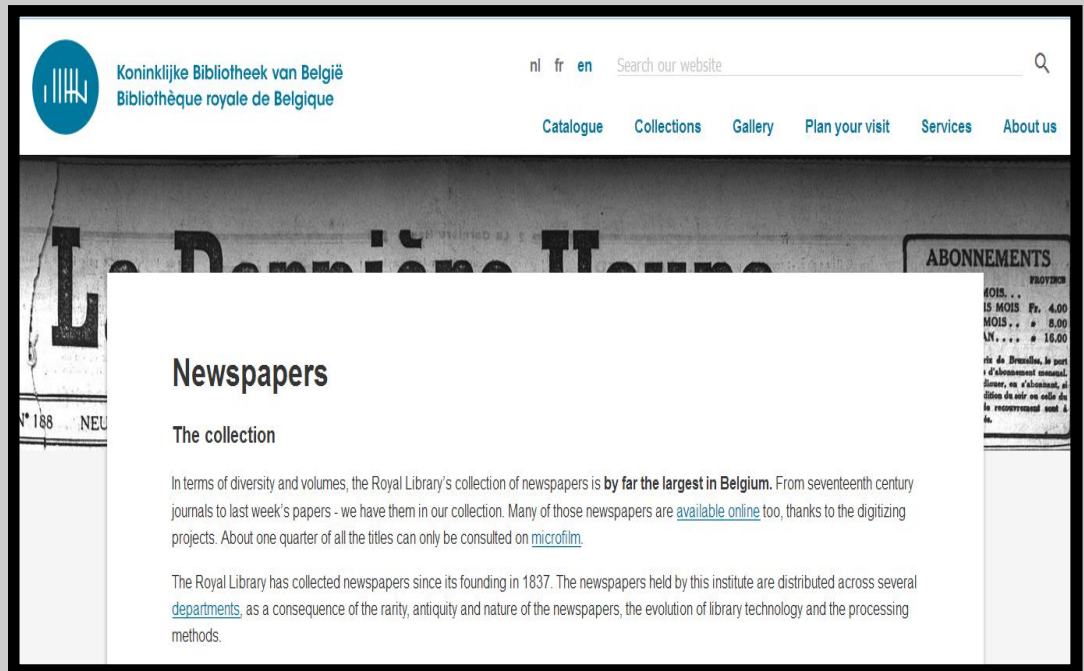


Home Page



Koninklijke Bibliotheek van België
Bibliothèque royale de Belgique

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Newspapers

The collection

In terms of diversity and volumes, the Royal Library's collection of newspapers is **by far the largest in Belgium**. From seventeenth century journals to last week's papers - we have them in our collection. Many of those newspapers are [available online](#) too, thanks to the digitizing projects. About one quarter of all the titles can only be consulted on [microfilm](#).

The Royal Library has collected newspapers since its founding in 1837. The newspapers held by this institute are distributed across several [departments](#), as a consequence of the rarity, antiquity and nature of the newspapers, the evolution of library technology and the processing methods.

Logo



URL

<http://www.kbr.be/en/collections/newspapers>

Subject

Newspapers – Belgium - Archives

Accessibility

Free

Language

Multilingual (available in English, Dutch, French & German)

Publisher

Royal Library of Belgium

Brief History

The Royal Library has collected newspapers since its founding in 1837.

Scope and Coverage

Belgian newspaper titles are available from 1830 and Foreign newspaper titles are also available from the mid of nineteenth century.

Kind of Information

In terms of diversity and volumes, the Royal Library's collection of newspapers is by far the largest in Belgium. From seventeenth century journals to last week's papers are available in their collection. Many of those newspapers are available online too.

The Newspapers and Journals Department has approximately 2,000 different Belgian newspaper titles in its repository. These newspapers belong to the collection "J.B." (*Journaux belges* or Belgian newspapers), which covers the period from the last years of the eighteenth century up to today.

In addition, there are around 500 different foreign newspaper titles in broadsheet format (*grande presse*), either as original copies or on microfilm.

Lastly, there are a few collections of precious works, such as the Gaston Mertens Collection, which has more than 60,000 specimens from some 1,650 Belgian municipalities (dating from the mid-seventeenth century to 1948), and the Philippe Vandermaelen Collection, which contains 2,405 specimens of nineteenth century foreign newspapers (mostly from Europe and the United States).

The Rare Books Department contains:

- Old journals and magazines (seventeenth and eighteenth centuries)
- Clandestine newspapers dating from both World Wars

Special Features

- ❖ There are various ways of searching in the Royal Library's newspaper collections, most suitable way to search the collections is using the online catalogue.
- ❖ Visitors can search the collection by selecting any title



- ❖ Visitors can browse the newspapers by date also



- ❖ Anyone can filter their search by selecting the period of the publication of the newspapers.



- ❖ Some advanced features like, zoom in, zoom out etc. are available with every newspaper pages. A view of the newspaper page from this collection is presented here as for example,



Arrangement Pattern All the newspaper titles are arranged alphabetically



Remarks The Royal Library's collection of newspapers is the largest collection of Belgium newspapers. There are around 500 different foreign newspaper titles are also available. So this is a important tools for the historians and researchers of Belgium.

Comparable Tools

- Newspapers of National Library of Finland (<http://digi.kansalliskirjasto.fi/>)
- National Library of New Zealand : Papers Past (<https://natlib.govt.nz/collections>)
- NLA Trove (<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/>)

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