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Institutional Position	Professor at the Department of Political Science President of the Centre for Local Politics (CLP) Head of the Urban Policy Research Centre (UPRC)
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Research interests and expertise	Specialised in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Changes and reforms in local democracy● Political participation and citizen satisfaction● Local social policy● Belgian politics● Gender patterns in local politics and local policy Countries: European Union
Consultancy work	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Quick Scan - Improving local policy power of the Municipal Executive (various local governments) (in collaboration with WIVO)● Commission for the evaluation of the City Fund (Bruges, Belgium)● Commission for the evaluation of Citizenship (The Hague, The Netherlands)
Funded projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Local political leadership (FWO Research Foundation Flanders, 2004-2007)● Municipal amalgamations (BOF Ghent University, 2006-2009)● Strategic planning in local government (FWO Research Foundation Flanders 2005-2008)● Local minorities policy (City of Ghent)● Citizen participation in Flemish cities (SBOV, Flemish Government, 2007-2011)● Evaluation of innovations, introduced by the 2005 decree, in local policy and politics (SBOV, Flemish Government, 2008-2009)● The influence of networking in local policy, politics and management (SBOV, Flemish Government, 2007-2011)
Other projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Political elites in Flanders (2006, Ghent University and Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)● Municipal Assemblies in European Local Governance in Transition (2006-...)
Languages	Spoken: Dutch, English (fluent), French (advanced) Written: Dutch, English (advanced), French (intermediate)
Key words	Comparative local politics Political reforms at the local level Political participation and citizen satisfaction Election studies Political elite studies (recruitment) Decision making at the local level Local social policy