

# Whistleblower Policy Belgium

1. Reports of suspected violations of the law can always be made internally as provided for in the Integrity Code or - upon request - on location within a reasonable period of time, or externally. Presumed infringements are defined as infringements of European and national laws and regulations or of internal rules that entail a specific obligation and that have been laid down by the employer on the basis of the law, or acts or omissions that endanger public health, safety of persons, the environment and/or public services and affect the public interest.

2. As stated in the Code of Integrity, SGS operates in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. You will receive an acknowledgement of receipt within seven days of receipt of the report, and information about the assessment and any further follow-up within three months of the acknowledgement of receipt. We would greatly appreciate it if you would report such breaches via the [Legal & Compliance Manager](#) or the [Integrity Helpline](#), as this will allow us to respond more quickly.

3. External reports must be made through the external channels provided for by law, i.e. the authorities competent for the infringement of the law:

The following bodies were designated to receive external reports about breaches under the Whistleblower Act for the private sector, each for their own domain:

- the Federal Public Service Economy, SMEs, Self-Employed and Energy;
- the Federal Public Service Finance;
- the Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment;
- the Federal Public Service Mobility and Transport;
- the Federal Public Service Employment, Labour and Social Dialogue;
- the Public Service Programming Social Integration, Poverty Reduction, Social Economy and Urban Policy
- the Federal Agency for Nuclear Control;
- the Federal Agency for Medicines and Health Products;
- the Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain;
- the Belgian Competition Authority;
- the Data Protection Authority;
- the Financial Services and Markets Authority;
- the National Bank of Belgium;
- the Supervisory Board of Auditors;
- the authorities referred to in Article 85 of the Act of 18 September 2017 on the prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing and on the restriction of the use of cash;
- the National Committee for the Security of the Supply and Distribution of Drinking Water;
- the Belgian Institute for Postal Services and Telecommunications;
- the National Institute for Health and Disability Insurance;
- the National Institute for the Social Security of the Self-Employed;
- the National Employment Office;
- the National Social Security Office;
- the Social Intelligence and Investigation Service;
- the Autonomous Anti-Fraud Coordination Service (CAF);
- the Shipping Control.
- Institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the European Union.

They are empowered to investigate and prosecute the reported breaches and publish on their website the procedure to be followed.

You can also report this to the Federal Coordinator via the following link:

<https://www.federaalombudsman.be/en/centre-for-integrity/whistleblowers>.

If the report is admissible and there is a reasonable suspicion of a violation, the latter will then report it to the competent authority.

Reports that are actually suspected of infringement cannot lead to the detriment of the reporting person.

If you have any questions about this regulation, please contact the Legal & Compliance Manager at SGS Group Benelux.

The processing of personal data by SGS under the Whistleblower Act is done in accordance with Belgian/Dutch privacy legislation.

How SGS processes your personal data is clarified in our "data privacy notice / SGS Privacy Notice / Déclaration de confidentialité" found on our website [www.sgs.be](http://www.sgs.be) or [www.sgs.nl](http://www.sgs.nl).