

SPEZIALGEBIETE DER GEBÄUDELEHRE

PARLAMENTE / BELGIEN

WINTERSEMESTER 2014/15 / CHRISTIAN KÜHN
VERFASSERIN: ANTONIA PRAMSCHÜFER (1428032)

FEDERAL PARLIAMENT BELGIUM - BRUSSELS

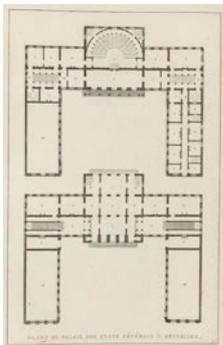
1. BASIC DATA OF THE PARLIAMENT
2. STRUCTURE OF THE PLENARY HALL
3. GRAPHICAL RECONSTRUCTION
4. UNCLARITIES / PROBLEMS
5. REFERENCES

1. BASIC DATA OF THE PARLIAMENT



1

- „Palace de la Nation“ was built in 1778–1783 by Barnabé Guimard and Philippe-Jerôme Sandrié; designed and built in neoclassical style
- Parliament is located in Bruxelles/Rue de la loi
- Form of government in Belgium: federal parliamentary
 - Federal parliament together with the king occupy the legislative power
- Parliament consists of 2 chambers: House of Representatives and Senate
- Parliament has been extended over the centuries (see aerial photo below)



2

3

¹ http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Goetghebuer_-_1827_-_Choix_des_monuments_-_023_Palais_Etats_Generaux_Bruxelles.jpg

² http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Goetghebuer_-_1827_-_Choix_des_monuments_-_024_Plans_Palais_Etats_Generaux_Bruxelles.jpg

3

<https://www.google.de/maps/place/Br%C3%BCssel,+Belgien/@50.854975,4.3753899,12z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m2!3m1!1s0x47c3a4ed73c76867:0xc18b3a66787302a7>

2. STRUCTURE PLENARY HALL



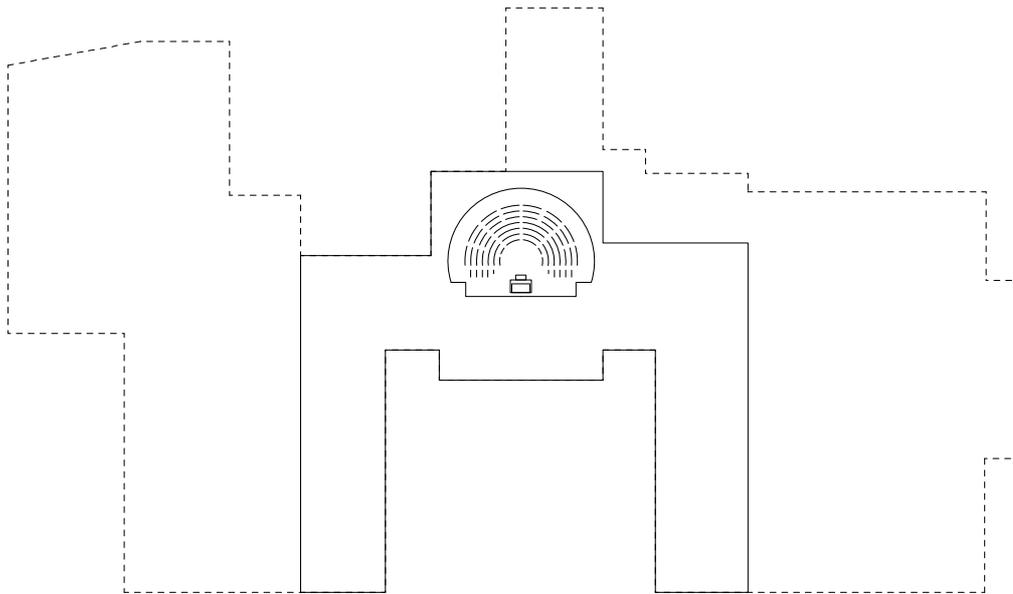
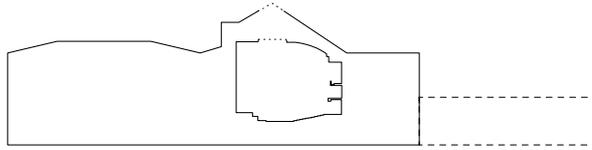
- Plenary hall of Senate: coloured in red; hold in semi-circle
- Plenary hall of the House of Representatives: green; also hold in semi-circle
- Colouring of those two halls refers to the british parliament
 - to honour the parliamentary tradition of Great Britain
- Different terms of reference and a different composition of the two chambers
- Political role of the House of Representatives is bigger
- 150 representatives of 11 constituencies in the House of Representatives
- Senate is composed of 71 senators as well as Prince Philip, Princess Astrid and Prince Laurent who are senators by right
- The House of Representatives is the political Chamber of Parliament «par excellence»: the federal government must answer to the House of Representatives for its policy
- The Senate is a «reflection» assembly on legislation and major society issues; also the meeting place for the communities

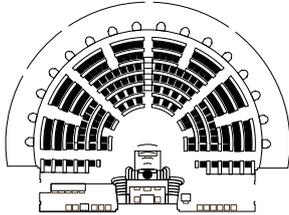
⁴ <http://senate.be/deutsch/index.html>

3. GRAPHICAL RECONSTRUCTION

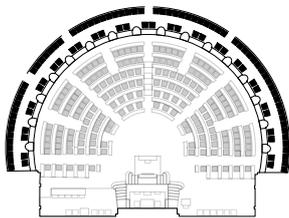
PLENAR 1:1000

BELGIEN

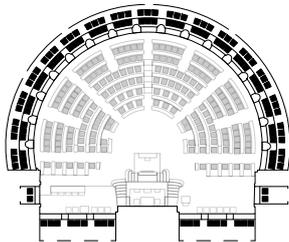




150 representatives of 11 constituencies
The representatives are divided into linguistic (88 Dutch speakers / 62 French speakers) and political groups.

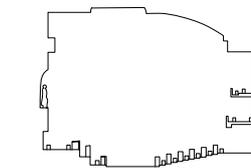


The Secretary General of the House and the Deputy Secretary-General, who are in charge of helping the President during the plenary sessions, sit in the chairs behind the President. The Secretary General is the highest-ranking official of the House.



Below the presidential bureau is the speaker's platform from where the representatives address the Assembly.

Below the rostrum is the bench of the question time from which the representatives ask questions to the government each Thursday afternoon.



The galleries around the room all have a very specific function:

- the gallery to the right of the statue of King Leopold I, allows senators to keep up with the debates going on in the plenary room of the House of Representatives;
- the gallery to the left of the statue is reserved for the military commander of the Palace of the Nation and for the diplomatic corps;
- to the left of the diplomatic corps gallery is the royal gallery;
- to the left of the royal gallery the verbatim report of the meetings is drafted.
- the gallery located on the first floor is reserved for

members of the press, the guests of the President and of the Quaestors, and the collaborators of the ministers.

- the debates held in the House of Representatives are primarily open to the public. The gallery on the second floor is reserved for the public.⁵

⁵ <http://senat.be/deutsch/index.html>

4. UNCLARITIES / PROBLEMS

In the beginning I had some trouble in finding floor plans and sections.

The internet didn't give me enough information – I could only find a very old floor plan of the building - so i had to contact someone.

I wrote to someone that was said by the internet page “www.senat.be” to be a contact persons for any belongings.

Mrs. Brigitte De Clercq helped me in finding the information I needed.

Although it took some attempts to make clear what I exactly needed I could get a detailed section and floor plan of the house of representatitves as well as some floor plans of the building – unfortunately only one half of the building.

Based on these plans I started to reprocess graphically the plenary hall of the House of Representatives.

At the end of my work – maybe a bit too late - I compared the plans with updated photos and recognised that the plans I got from Mrs. De Clercq seemed to be a bit older.

So I had to compare everything I have done so far with photos on the internetpage.

Another difficulty was the reconstruction of the galleries in the first and second floor of the plenary hall.

As I had no plans I looked through the photos and videos on the internet and started to reconstruct them.

I had no trouble in finding the accesses to them but the number and exact location of the seats. According to photos the plans seem to match but I can't tell for sure if the position and the seats are correctly illustrated.

5. REFERENCES

Website of the belgian Senate

<http://senat.be/deutsch/index.html>

Wikipedia – Palais Etats Generaux Bruxelles

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Goetghebuer_-_1827_-_Choix_des_monuments_-_023_Palais_Etats_Generaux_Bruxelles.jpg

Google Maps – Aerial Photo

<https://www.google.de/maps/place/Br%C3%BCssel,+Belgien/@50.854975,4.3753899,12z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m2!3m1!1s0x47c3a4ed73c76867:0xc18b3a66787302a7>

Floor Plans, Sections: sent by Brigitte De Clercq