

The Flandrensis Times

HAPPY NEW YEAR

LET'S MAKE THIS

A

GREEN YEAR

New Year's
Greetings



Grand Duchy of Flandrensis

Gran Duché du Flandrensis

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!!

EDITION

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REDACTION

Niels of Flandrensis

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THIS EDITION

Russian micronationalist violates sovereignty of several micronations: joint statement of the Antarctic micronational community, Flandrensis disappointed in the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Madrid, Follow Flandrensis radio on Soundcloud, 62 new Flandrensiens in 2019, Already 68 letters to governments and head of states, Grand duke Niels created a new institution: the privy council, National bank of Flandrensis advises to take measures for 2021



RUSSIAN MICRONATIONALIST VIOLATES SOVEREIGNTY OF SEVERAL MICRONATIONS: JOINT STATEMENT OF THE ANTARCTIC MICRONATIONAL COMMUNITY

In December 2019 the United Republic of Antarctica entered the micronational community and contacted several micronations, claiming to be the successor of the Antarctic Micronational Union (AMU) and giving the impression that Flandrensis and several others are falling under their jurisdiction.

On December 26, 2019 Flandrensis made a public statement together with former-AMU members Westarctica, Karnia-Ruthenia and Lostisland: *“None of the entities we represent bear any connection whatsoever with this micronation, and we call on Vasia Bratchuk and other people associated with it to immediately remove the mentions of us from their website. We will take all the necessary measures to protect our sovereignty and intellectual property.”* Grand Duke Niels also send a protest letter to the URA with the demand to clarify their intentions in the micronational community, drop their claims on the former AMU, and communicate in the micronational community that there is no connection with Flandrensis, nor with any former AMU-member.

The joint statement is a bit of a surprise, because Flandrensis and several other micronations like Westarctica and Karnia-Ruthenia left the AMU in 2016 (see the Flandrensis Times edition 7J88). Because of the aftermath behavior toward Flandrensis several micronationalists got ignored for almost 3 years.

As this is the third attempt since 2016, the head of state Lostisland proposed the former AMU members to take measures against future attempts. The Grand Ducal Cabinet clearly stated that a copy-paste of the old AMU is not a possibility, but delivered a first draft with a proposal for a pact instead of a formal organization: for Flandrensis the focus is on the mutual protection of sovereignty and intellectual property, environmental protection, and that mutual corporation is limited only on Antarctic affairs. The debate has started and other micronations are working on a counter-proposal. Grand Duke Niels: *“We’re open for a mature debate and to reach a consensus, but the final result will be presented to the Flandrensiens people by referendum.”*

‘Grand Duke Niels: For more than 11 years, we put a lot of time and energy into the development of our micronation, so we don’t tolerate that other micronations using our reputation or announce that there is a connection with Flandrensis.’

FLANDRENSIS DISSAPPOINTED IN THE UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE IN MADRID

UN Secretary-General Guterres says that planet Earth is 'close to a point of no return', still more than 50 world leaders were unable to reach consensus in many areas. Meanwhile, the European Union declared “Climate Emergency” and launched the EU Green Deal. Grand Duke Niels reacted enthusiast on these decisions, but is—to his regret—pessimistic: *“This is the same as screaming “fire, fire, fire!” without a fire brigade or someone to help. To quote Bas Eickhout (Green MEP): “The people on the streets don’t ask for declarations, they are asking us for actions”. I hope that the EU will translate their words in actions. The Green Deal is a fantastic initiative which I support, but I fear that as long the EU don’t act as an united entity all proposals will lost in bureaucracy and regional problems. For example: Belgium was represented in Madrid by 4 regional Ministers for Climate who disagree with each other and the Green Deal in front of the camera.”*

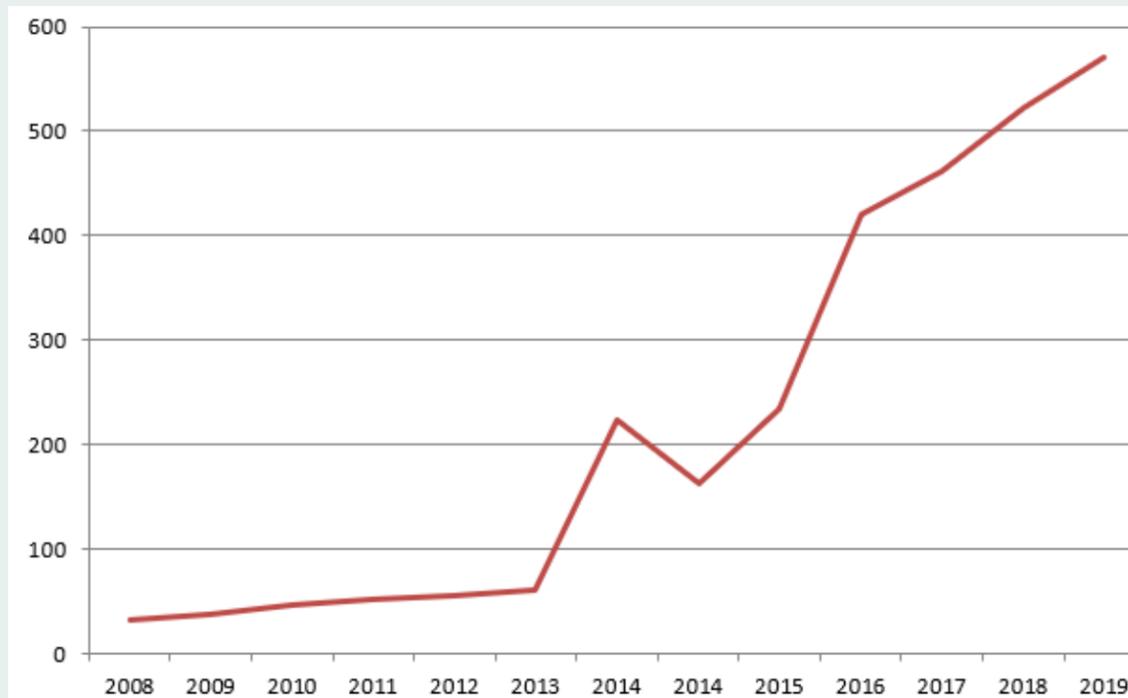
FOLLOW FLANDRENSIS RADIO ON SOUNDCLOUD

In 2019 the cabinet experimented with a podcast, due the success and the many positive responses the Grand Ducal Cabinet decided to make a priority of Flandrensis Radio in 2020. Are you interested to participate, do you want to share a story or are a musician: contact us!



62 NEW FLANDRENSIANS IN 2019

On December, 2019 there are 587 Flandrensiens worldwide! With 67 different nationalities! The biggest community of Flandrensiens lives in the U.S.A. (168), followed by Belgium (79), Russia (41) and Canada (31). In Greece we didn't have any citizens until a complete family joined in March 2019 (5)! There are 165 female and 418 male citizens and Flandrensis is also gender-neutral and has 4 transgenders. Almost 45% of all Flandrensiens have English as their first language, followed with Dutch on the second place with 16%. 12% speaks a Slavic language and 4% are Francophone. Many numbers but with a very short conclusion: Flandrensis is a worldwide multicultural community with respect for diversity.



ALREADY 68 LETTERS TO GOVERNMENTS AND HEAD OF STATES

Since October 2019 Grand Duke Niels signed the letters to the head of states of Azerbaijan, Albania, Andorra, Belarus, Malaysia and Ukraine to remind them to the Paris Climate Accords and to underline the fact that polluted water and air has terrible effects on the climate and thus on Antarctica's fragile ecosystem. Since 2016 Flandrensis send 68 letters to countries and organizations.



Grand Duke Niels signing and stamping the letters

GRAND DUKE NIELS CREATED A NEW INSTITUTION: THE PRIVY COUNCIL

The Privy Council is an informal body of advisers to the Flandrensiens Grand Duke. The members are honored senior Ministers or Flandrensiens politicians. The Privy Council works within the Grand Ducal Cabinet. Hugo de Saint-Paul (Lux.), Wesley Phoenix (Bel.) and Albie Mayo De Sabina (UK) are the first candidates. Furthermore, Grand Duke Niels made herald George Lapshynov (Fr.) a full member of the Cabinet. In the next weeks Chancellor Castillo-Lopez (U.S.A.) will publish the vacancy for 5 positions in the Grand Ducal Cabinet 2020.

NATIONAL BANK OF FLANDRENSIS ADVISES TO TAKE MEASURES FOR 2021

Transparency is important. That is why the National Bank of Flandrensis publish the national bank's financial report every year. For the third year there is again a positive balance without any debts! In 2019 the Government invested 132,77 FL (the Flandri has the same value as the Euro) and had an income of 105 FL, with a total financial balance of 325,26 FL.

Every financial investment is with the approvement of the Grand Ducal Cabinet. Flandrensis don't sell titles of nobility to title collectors (in Flandrensis you earn them!) or passports to collectors (to much risk for misuse), so instead of yearly € 1.000-2.000 FL our only income are from the shop (coins, stamps and flags).

The government has some investments in 2020 (for example: the stock of flags are sold out, costs for hosting the website, etc.). So in order to maintain the financial balance in 2021, the bank advises the Grand Ducal Cabinet to look for extra funds.

