

**Mr. Bart Somers**

*Vice-Minister-President of the Government of Flanders,
Flemish Minister for Home affairs, Administrative affairs,
Civic integration and Equal opportunities, Belgium*

Bart Somers is a Flemish politician, member of the Open Vld party, where he has fulfilled various functions. He has been minister-president of the region of Flanders, party president, Group Chairman for Open Vld in the Flemish Parliament and president of the ALDE-group in the Committee of the Regions.

Since 2001 Bart Somers is Mayor of Mechelen and in 2016 he won the World Mayor Prize. Currently he is the Viceminister-president and minister of Home Affairs & Living Together in Diversity of the Flemish government. Bart was rapporteur for the opinion “Combating radicalization: mechanism for prevention on a local and regional level” which was accepted on 15th of June 2016 in the Committee of the Regions.

He is the author of several books including ‘Living Together: a hopeful strategy against ISIS’ which was translated into German in the beginning of 2018 and was listed in the top 20 of bestselling books.