



## NEWS REPORT

<b>Update of flash report nr:</b>	Update of 1179-BE-65-Belgium_FR "The federal Act prohibiting 'the wearing of the <i>burqa</i> and the <i>niqab</i> ' in the public sphere adopted in Belgium", 946_BE_46_Belgium_FR "Towards a prohibition of the <i>burqa</i> and the <i>niqab</i> in the public sphere in Belgium" and 947_BE_47_Belgium_FR "The prohibition of the <i>burqa</i> and the <i>niqab</i> in the public sphere in Belgium adopted by the Parliament's House of Representatives"
<b>Date:</b>	22 August 2011
<b>Expert:</b>	Emmanuelle Bribosia
<b>Title:</b>	The federal Act prohibiting "the wearing of the <i>burqa</i> and the <i>niqab</i> " in the public sphere enters in force in Belgium
<b>Country:</b>	Belgium
<b>Context</b>	
<b>Issue at stake:</b>	The federal Act prohibiting "the wearing of the <i>burqa</i> and the <i>niqab</i> " in the public sphere entered in force in Belgium on 23 July 2011
<b>Ground of discrimination:</b>	Religion/belief, ethnicity.
<b>Source:</b>	Legislation
<b>Field:</b>	Areas accessible to the public
<b>Legislative provisions:</b>	Act aiming at prohibiting the wearing of any clothing totally, or principally, hiding the face, dated from 1 June 2011 and published in the official Journal ( <i>Moniteur belge</i> ) on 13 July 2011

### Content

**Law:** After a year of a chaotic legislative process, the federal Act prohibiting "the wearing of the *burqa* and the *niqab*" in the public sphere, adopted on 1 June 2011 (See FR n° 1179-BE), was published in the official journal on 13 July 2011 and entered in force on 23 July 2011.

Samia Belkacemi and Yamina Oussar, two Muslim women occasionally wearing a headscarf totally or principally hiding their face, decided to file a claim for annulment and suspension of the Act to the Constitutional Court for annulment and suspension of this Act, on 27 July 2011 (appeal No 5191).

### **Internet link source and additional information:**

<http://www.ejustice.just.fgov.be/cgi/welcome.pl> (Moniteur belge, 13 July 2011, n° 2011000424, p. 41734).