



Local organiser:

Public Management Institute

Instituut voor de Overheid

KULeuven (Faculty of Social Sciences)

Academics involved

Geert Bouckaert is professor of Public Management, Director of the Public Management Institute at the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, and President of the European Group of Public Administration. He published on issues of performance measurement and management reform.

Koen Verhoest (dr.) is Assistant Professor at the Public Management Institute (Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium) where he specializes in research on government control, organization, marketization and governance, including relationships between the state, agencies, and private sector organizations. He has published several book chapters and articles on these issues in, among others, *Governance*, *Public Administration and Development*, *Public Organization Review*, *International Review of Administrative Sciences* and *Policy Studies Journal*.

Brief history of the Public Management Institute

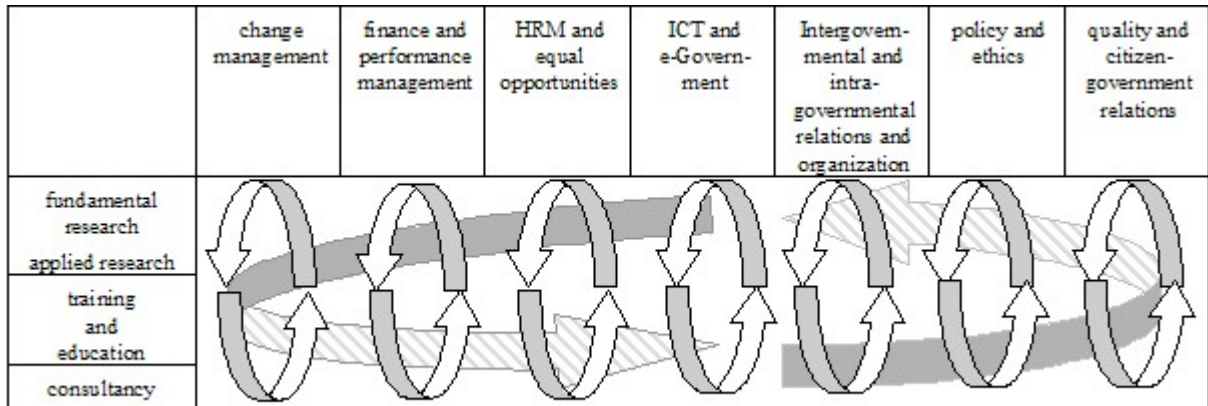
The Public Management Institute (in Dutch: Instituut voor de Overheid) is an independent and self-supporting academic institution. The Institute exists in its present form since 1998. Its predecessors however date back to the 1960s, when the first training sessions in management were held for senior civil servants. The founding fathers were prof. dr. em. Roger Depré and prof. dr. em. [Hugo Van Hasselt](#).

The Public Management Institute was integrated in the [Faculty of Social Sciences](#) (Department of Political Science) in 1973, when a distinction was made between 'public' and 'private' management training programmes. In the 1980s, the number of applied research projects grew, as well as fundamental research (Ph.Ds). The 1990s saw an increase in research projects as a result of programmes commissioned by the federal and Flemish governments.

The approximately 30 [staff](#) of the Public Management Institute have different academic backgrounds such as public administration, business administration, economics, sociology, political science, psychology and law.



Objective of the Public Management Institute



The main objective of the Public Management Institute is to improve public management, public organization and public policy. The Institute attempts to function as an interface between the university and the public sector. Its main activities are:

- fundamental and applied research
- training and education for students and civil servants
- consultancy

Applying an interdisciplinary approach, the Public Management Institute is active in a number of fields:

- change management
- finance and performance management
- HRM and equal opportunities
- ICT and e-Government
- intergovernmental and intragovernmental relations and organization
- policy and ethics
- quality and citizen-government relations

One of the major strengths of the Institute is the combination of research, training and education as well as consultancy. The Institute's interdisciplinary research has always been utilized in its training activities and consultancy. Contacts with public organizations through consultancy and networking link research and education with the practice of public management.

Members of the Public Management Institute participate in national as well as international networks in order to exchange information and experiences. At a national and regional level, members of the Public Management Institute are engaged in the Belgian and Flemish Institute of Public Management. They are active members of several editorial boards (amongst others the Flemish Journal of Public Management).



At an international level, the staff of the Public Management Institute is active in EGPA (European Group of Public Administration), IIAS (International Institute of Administrative Sciences), SCEPTA (Standing Conference of European Public Service Training Agencies), EPAN (European Public Administration Network) and EES (European Evaluation Society). The Public Management Institute has been an active contributor to the OECD PUMA-project on 'Performance, Accountability and Control'. Members of the Public Management Institute participate in the editorial boards of several international journals.

Within EGPA, several staff members are chair or co-chair of permanent study groups such as: productivity and quality, personnel policies, public finance and management, ethics and integrity.

The Public Management Institute has been an active contributor to the OECD PUMA-project on Performance, Accountability and Control. Members of the Public Management Institute participate in the editorial boards of several international journals including Bestuurskunde (Vereniging voor Bestuurskunde, The Netherlands), Public Performance and Management Review (American Society of Public Administration, USA), Public Voices (Public Performance Press, New York).