

# A Comparative Analysis of Euthanasia Acts in BENELUX

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## Abstract

There are not only some common social and economic aspects in BENELUX, but also one more common characteristic aspect that these three states have their own euthanasia act. The Netherlands is the first state in the world which enacted the Euthanasia Act in 2001 (coming into effect in 2002). And yet there were very long struggles for the legislature. The process was very interested for us. Especially the evaluation system per five years is characteristic in the aspect of openness. And Belgium is the second state which enacted the Euthanasia Act in 2002. The Belgian Act has been influenced by the Dutch Act, but the system is something different from the Dutch. Furthermore Luxemburg is the third state which enacted the Euthanasia Act in 2009. This act has been strongly influenced by the Belgian Act. The system is very similar to the Belgian. We have had an international symposium on Euthanasia Acts in LUXEMBURG with the specialists in these countries in Kyoto University and Waseda University in March 2012. And I have visited Belgium and the Netherlands to research on the newest information on euthanasia. In this paper I try to analyze the results of these researches.