

PRESS RELEASE

Belfius Bank joins the Covered Bond Label

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The **Covered Bond Label Foundation (CBLF)** is pleased to announce the further strengthening of its presence in a core EU jurisdiction, Belgium, with the recent addition of Belfius Bank to the Label, with both its Mortgage Pandbrieven and Public Pandbrieven Programme.

The Covered Bond Label now covers a total of **123** issuers and **165** cover pools in **24** jurisdictions.

The ever-increasing interest of covered bond issuers in the Label, both in Europe and globally, is a clear recognition of the relevance of the Initiative and a strong signal of the confidence placed in it by market participants.

Commenting on this development, **Luca Bertalot**, Covered Bond Label Foundation Administrator, said:

“We are delighted to welcome Belfius Bank as the third Belgian issuer to join the Covered Bond Label family. The further expansion of the Covered Bond Label in Belgium demonstrates again the commitment of core covered bond market participants to transparency and comparability through the Harmonised Transparency Template (HTT).”

Commenting on this **Ellen Van Steen**, Head of Long Term Funding & Investment Portfolio at Belfius Bank, stated:

“Belfius is very pleased to join the Covered Bond Label, underlying the great importance attached to enhanced transparency and comparability of information, endorsed by the covered bond investor community.”

The Covered Bond Label is a quality label, the purpose of which is to highlight the security and quality of covered bonds to investors, and to further enhance recognition of and trust in the covered bond asset class.

The Covered Bond Label is open to all covered bond programmes that are compliant with [the Covered Bond Label Convention](#) and disclose their data by publishing the [Harmonised Transparency Template \(HTT\)](#). More information on all labelled issuers and the Label itself can be found on the Covered Bond Label website at www.coveredbondlabel.com.



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Notes to the Editor:

1. The **Covered Bond Label Foundation (CBLF)** was established in 2012 by the European Mortgage Federation - European Covered Bond Council ([EMF-ECBC](#)). The Covered Bond Label [website](#) became fully operational on the 1st of January 2013, with the first Labels being effective since then. The website features the Harmonised Transparency Template (HTT), published by 123 issuers disclosing information on 165 labelled cover pools across 24 jurisdictions. The Covered Bond Label website currently provides issuance data on 5,300 covered bonds, amounting to a total face value of around 2.1 trillion EUR, out of which over 3,000 covered bonds already include information on the Liquidity Coverage Requirement (LCR).
2. Established in 1967, the **European Mortgage Federation (EMF)** is the voice of the European mortgage industry, representing the interests of mortgage lenders and covered bond issuers at European level. The EMF provides data and information on European mortgage markets, which were worth around 8.3 trillion EUR at the end of 2021 (EU27 + UK). As of January 2023, the EMF has 14 members across 12 EU Member States as well as a number of observer members.
3. In 2004 the EMF founded the **European Covered Bond Council (ECBC)**, a platform bringing together covered bond issuers, analysts, investment bankers, rating agencies and a wide range of interested stakeholders. As of January 2023, the ECBC has over 120 members across more than 30 active covered bond jurisdictions and many different market segments. ECBC members represent over 95% of covered bonds outstanding, which were worth over EUR 2.9 trillion at the end of 2021.
4. For the latest updates from the EMF-ECBC, follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#) or visit the [EMF-ECBC](#).