

MyMachine Flanders & Brussels

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What is your mission in MyMachine?

I am lucky that my personal and the organisation's mission are aligned: to stimulate and develop a growth mindset in youngsters, teachers or partners. My mission is to continue evolving and motivating my own and other people's way of thinking, from an "I can't do this" to "I can do it, maybe not yet, but I will be soon". Progressing but never forgetting the importance of having fun on the way.

Why is MyMachine important to you?

My drive and mission at work resonate with who I am in life. My job is not always easy, but it brings me happiness and personal development. Since I specialised in Human Sciences (Anthropology), I have always considered myself people-oriented and outgoing. Since I started working at

MyMachine, I have always been trusted by my colleagues and partners. In my job, I am responsible for important matters and at the same time, I enjoy having my autonomy, which makes me the happiest.

What advice would you give to your 7-year-old self?

A ship in port is safe – but that is not what ships are built for! (John A. Shedd) The magic and learning often happen outside your comfort zone. Experiment with new things, try to solve problems independently, and push boundaries. I try to work on that myself and show it to my kids, even if I can't do it yet. 😊 This is also very appropriate for students participating in MyMachine.

3 SHORT FACTS

What Is a fun fact about you that no one knows?

When I travelled with my parents to, e.g. the Wadden Islands in the Netherlands, I always told them that I would not die before I had seen all the islands or the whole region. As a travel addict, I still often suffer from escapism.

How do you describe yourself in 3 words?

A colleague once described me as the Queen of the Elastic Mentality :-)
I give myself the freedom to translate this to:

- Queen -> **'Ostend' Queen**: my hometown is known as the 'queen of the seaside towns'; being in and around the sea is my energy source!
- Elastic -> **Resilient**
- Mentality -> **Empathic**

Should you have an unlimited budget, which country do you want to travel to?

BHUTAN - for a hiking trip with my family in the Himalayan mountains and a visit to this region that is at least as impressive culturally.