Regarding the case of Belgium, the process has followed the opposite direction.

In 1995 and in 2003, districts have been merged and enlarged for federal and regional elections.

For national elections, in 1995, 30 districts were merge into 22.

In 2003, the number was reduced to 11.

Two considerations have dominated.

The first was that districts should followed the boundaries of the provinces (dating from the Belgian independence in 1831).

Second, within provinces (in 1995 because in 2003 the 10 provinces + Brussels became the 11electoral districts), the Belgian legislator has primarily merged smaller and rural districts together. More urban districts, around larger cities were not merged with smaller ones. The reason was to have districts of approximatively the same population (and therefore with the same district magnitude).

One last element to keep in mind is that it is absolutely clear that no redistricting should lead to split municipalities across several districts.