



THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG

Luxembourg

**The natural choice to host the
European Banking Authority**

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Foreword

By Prime Minister Xavier Bettel & Minister of Finance Pierre Gramegna

Luxembourg is one of three European capitals and host to European institutions and agencies. The country lies at the heart of Europe, with Brussels and Strasbourg close by.

Frankfurt and Paris, which between them host the European Central Bank as well as the two other European financial supervisory authorities, the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority and the European Securities and Markets Authority, are reachable within two hours by road or rail.

Luxembourg is an important international financial centre, specialised in cross-border services and a major player in the EU's capital markets infrastructure. As such, it is also home to the European Investment Bank and the European Stability Mechanism.

A relocation of the European Banking Authority to Luxembourg would ensure a smooth relocation process for the agency, its staff and their families. Business continuity has been a key factor in the discussions leading to the adoption of the procedure on the relocation of the agencies. Luxembourg will provide a dedicated building free of rent that will be operational in time, thereby allowing for a risk-free relocation from London.

Building on Luxembourg's long history as a host city, a dedicated and experienced team will assist the agency in its move to Luxembourg, from logistical planning through to the conclusion of a headquarters agreement.

Luxembourg will also provide an appropriate environment to employees and their families. The labour market is one of the most dynamic and multilingual in the EU. The strength of the country lies in the diversity of its people.

In this truly European and international centre, employees of the agency will not only be able to secure the continuity of their operations, but also thrive personally. Their families will find everything they need, from healthcare, childcare and education to culture, sports and employment opportunities in a city that has been named the safest capital in the world. Last but not least, Luxembourg is the cradle of the European school system, which was founded in Luxembourg in 1953. The children of EBA staff will have the choice between attending one of the European schools, various international schools or the local school system. Their access to the European schools is guaranteed.

For all these reasons, we are convinced that Luxembourg is the right choice. We understand that other considerations such as the geographical spread might also play a role in the decision making process. However, we firmly believe that as a European capital and the host to judicial and financial institutions of the Union since 1965, Luxembourg stands out as the natural choice for the relocation of the European Banking Authority.



Xavier Bettel,
Prime Minister



Pierre Gramegna,
Minister of Finance

Introduction

The criteria as adopted on 22 June 2017 in document XT 21045/17 on the relocation of the European Medicines Agency and the European Banking Authority in the context of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union are as follows:

- 1) **The assurance that the agency can be set up on site and take up its functions at the date of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the Union**
- 2) **The accessibility of the location**
- 3) **The existence of adequate education facilities for the children of agency staff**
- 4) **Appropriate access to the labour market, social security and medical care for both children and spouses**
- 5) **Business continuity**
- 6) **Geographical spread**

On the basis of these criteria, **Luxembourg is the natural choice to host the European Banking Authority** (EBA) not only to ensure complete business continuity, but also to allow the agency to pursue its harmonious development as one of the Union's three financial supervisory authorities.

With regard to criterion 6, Luxembourg agrees with the overarching goal to achieve to the extent possible a balanced representation of agencies across the Union, but underlines that this goal should not undermine the objective of the efficient functioning of agencies. Nor should it be prejudicial to other decisions taken by the representatives of the Member States. Therefore, the applicability of this criterion has to be assessed on a case-by-case basis, taking into account all other relevant factors.

A separate brochure illustrating our candidacy is attached and a video accompanying our offer can be found on the following website: [Video - Luxembourg, the natural choice to host the EBA \(http://www.gouvernement.lu/7156424\)](http://www.gouvernement.lu/7156424).

A European Capital

A founding member of the European Union, Luxembourg is **one of the three capitals of the European Union and home to EU institutions** such as the European Court of Justice and General Court, the European Court of Auditors, the European Investment Bank and the European Stability Mechanism.

As the European Banking Authority exchanges and interacts on a regular basis with the European Investment Bank and the European Stability Mechanism, their proximity will be of substantial advantage. Furthermore, relocating the European Banking Authority to Luxembourg will position it at the geographical centre of the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA), the European Central Bank (ECB)/Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM) and the European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB) in Frankfurt, the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) in Paris, and the Single Resolution Board (SRB) in Brussels. Luxembourg is within a two-hour travel distance from each of these cities.

The Luxembourg Government will be able to draw on its considerable experience of hosting EU institutions to swiftly undertake the steps required to welcome the European Banking Authority, including the conclusion of a headquarters agreement. The Protocol (No 7) on the privileges and immunities of the European Union would of course be applicable. The EBA would become part of the EU bodies already settled in Luxembourg and its staff would have access to all the facilities available to the staff of other EU agencies.

An International Financial Centre

Luxembourg's **banking industry** is fully diversified, covering a wide range of services from corporate and investment banking, through private banking, custody, trustee and fund services to listing and post-trading services. The country is a **European hub** for a number of key international banks. These banks use the **European Passport** to serve their EU clientele from Luxembourg, positioning the Grand Duchy as an important financial centre in the European Union.

Moreover, the scope of Luxembourg's influence stretches far beyond Europe: it has been chosen as the **global hub** for certain business lines by **major operators** from other European countries, enhancing its position as a global and **pan-European financial** centre. Not only does Luxembourg serve as a **gateway to the EU market**, but also as an **international platform** for European banks with a global reach.

Banking is directly connected to other segments of the financial sector. Supported by a highly developed and comprehensive **ecosystem** of service providers, global banks have developed important custody, fiduciary and post-trading capabilities to support the growth of the **investment fund industry**. Fully incorporated **subsidiaries of American, Canadian, Swiss, German, French, Chinese and Japanese banks**, amongst many others, use the Grand Duchy as the primary European and global hub for their fund servicing business.

Luxembourg banks also operate as distributors and provide third party management to global asset managers. The **insurance industry**, especially the life assurance sector, leverages Luxembourg's **private banking** industry to sell its services throughout Europe as an important wealth management tool, complementing the available products on offer in each market. Banks in Luxembourg also play an important role in **capital markets**, since they act as intermediaries in the listing process, continuously enlarging the stock exchange's pool of clients.

FinTech companies have also developed alongside the banking industry, taking advantage of easy physical access to partnerships and a sophisticated testing ground for their products and services. Luxembourg is a pioneer in **Climate Finance** and has a strong track record in sustainable investment funds. Moreover, it hosts the world's first trading platform dedicated to listing Green Bonds, the Luxembourg Green Exchange (LGX).

- Luxembourg is one of only twelve countries worldwide with an **AAA rating** by all major rating agencies.
- Luxembourg has one of the **lowest debt/GDP ratios** in the EU (20% of GDP) and is the only country in the Eurozone to have consistently respected the Maastricht criteria.
- The Grand Duchy has the **lowest non-performing loans ratio** in the Eurozone (1.15%) and a total own funds ratio averaging 24.8% (CSSF, Q4 2016).
- Banks based in Luxembourg have an **average Tier 1 ratio of 24.1%** in comparison to the European average of 13.4% in 2016 (EBA stress test 2016).

Business Continuity

STATE-OF-THE-ART OFFICE SPACE

Luxembourg offers the European Banking Authority a brand-new building, free of rent, which will be completed towards the end of 2018. It will hence still be **possible to integrate some of the EBA's specific needs into the building's design**. The Luxembourg Government will ensure that the building is ready for the EBA to take up its functions at the withdrawal date of the UK from the European Union.

Possibility for the EBA to provide input

The Luxembourg government will set up a **team of specialists** with different backgrounds and skills (architects, engineers, IT specialists and logistics expert) to act as the prime interlocutor to (designated) EBA staff. The team will assess and process the specific needs of the EBA, in order to coordinate the planning, development and outfitting of the building during the construction phase. During the whole transition phase from London to Luxembourg, the team will be in close contact with EBA staff, making sure all needs are met.

If necessary, and especially during the transition phase, provisional offices will be available, at no cost, to EBA staff in charge of coordinating the move and supervising the development of the new EBA building in Luxembourg.

Location

Located on the route d'Arlon in the centre of Luxembourg City, the building offers 4,200 square meters of usable space spread over five floors. The building features generous office space, meeting rooms, a lobby and breakout areas as well as sanitary facilities. The basement has archival space as well as technical and IT rooms, which can be adapted to the specific requirements of the tenant. An additional area of about 800 square meters of restaurant space and common meeting rooms are available, as well as breakout areas, which are located on the outside.

Route d'Arlon is only a few minutes away from Luxembourg's international airport and Luxembourg City's central railway station, which provide for a wide range of connections to European destinations such as Paris, Amsterdam, Madrid, Milan, Vienna, London, Brussels, Copenhagen, Berlin or Frankfurt.

Comparison chart (Luxembourg EBA building proposal – Factsheet EBA)

	Surface	Reception area	Meeting	Other	Offices	Ratio	Number of work stations
Total area including shared space	4987m ²	71m ²	1438m ²	1097m ²	2381m ²	26.4	202 - 244
Factsheet EBA	4150m ²	190m ²	841m ²	774m ²	2345m ²	21.9	189

The building can accommodate up to 244 employees, which represents a margin of about 29%.

Meeting rooms

The meeting areas are designed to be very flexible and can thus be used for meetings of up to 140 participants. Five of the meeting rooms can, if necessary, be converted into open space areas with a total of 42 additional work stations.

Maintenance

A **service company** will be in charge of the maintenance of the building and its surroundings, the cleaning of the common areas and outside windows, waste removal and recycling. They will also perform regular checks of the building’s technical equipment and infrastructure.

- A total of ± 4.200 square meters of space for exclusive use by EBA to which an area of about 800 square meters of non-office space is added (canteen, breakout areas, additional meeting rooms)
- IT and archive space located in the basement and adaptable to the needs of the EBA
- Between 202 and 244 workstations which can be adapted to the needs of the EBA
- 24 flexible meeting rooms
- Two-level underground car park for staff and a visitor parking area located in front of the building
- Direct access to the capital’s well-developed cycling network
- Park & Ride car park (700 spaces), public transportation, supermarkets, sports and recreational facilities as well as hospitals are only a few minutes’ walk away
- Garden-level restaurant with optional terrace
- Chilled ceiling / air-conditioning
- Energy class B

Luxembourg – The natural choice to host the European Banking Authority



ICT INFRASTRUCTURE

Luxembourg is highly regarded as a **digital trust centre** in Europe. As of today the country offers 3 **Tier IV Constructed Facility Data centres** and 7 **Tier IV Design Data centres** certified by the independent Uptime Institute, with a total of 23 data centres and 46,741 square meters of floor space. Besides being a centre of excellence in this field some of the data centres are 100% operated with green energy and care is taken to lower the CO² footprint. In addition, Luxembourg has the fourth lowest cost of electricity in the EU.

Both the private and public sectors have long recognised the value of Luxembourg as a trust centre. The Grand Duchy for instance hosts the data of the European Commission, runs a platform for service infrastructure of the NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA) and recently signed an agreement with Estonia to establish the world's first "data embassy" in Luxembourg, for the purpose of backing up Estonian administration data. Luxembourg data centres are designed to comply with the very high security standards required by the financial sector. One of the data centres hosting the European Commission, the NSPA, the Estonian "data embassy" as well as the Luxembourg Government's IT data benefits from a NATO clearance of the level SECRET.

A highly fault-tolerant data centre landscape would not be very useful without strong **connectivity**. In this field, Luxembourg acts as an ultra-low latency hub to both citizens and businesses. For businesses Luxembourg offers ultra-low latency connection to the 6 main telecom hubs in Europe i.e.: 3,5 ms to Brussels and Frankfurt, 4,8 ms to Strasbourg and Paris, 6 ms to Amsterdam and 8 ms to London. Luxembourg excels in this field, with 28 different fibre routes to Luxembourg, served by 31 different carriers.

Luxembourg is also state-of-the-art when it comes to **cybersecurity**: its emergency response community has been noted for its management of cybersecurity incidents, defence of IT infrastructure and the exchange and constant updating of critical information with international counterparts.

The country is also at the forefront of **dematerialisation and archiving**. A law on electronic archiving enables companies to rely solely on electronic documents and to archive all eligible paper documents digitally. A law on data reversibility, moreover, guarantees access to data in case of bankruptcy of cloud service providers.

Finally, the Government IT Centre in Luxembourg has unique experience in providing **data centre services to public sector bodies**. This expertise covers tendering considerations, telecom connectivity, data centre furnishing and IT infrastructure operations. The Luxembourg Government stands ready to provide these services to the European Banking Authority in the framework of a headquarters agreement.

CONFERENCE AND MEETING INFRASTRUCTURE

More than 100 **event and conference venues** of different sizes with the latest communication facilities are available all over the Grand Duchy, ready to host groups of up to 1,500 persons. Venues range from high-tech modern conference venues such as the **European Convention Centre Luxembourg**, the meeting venue of the EU Council, or the *Luxembourg Expo*, to alternative sites such as hotels, concert halls, castles, galleries and wineries. Many venues are modular and can be personalised. Given the size of the country, they are easily accessible, allowing for a flexible use of space and efficient time management. A dedicated website has been set up in this regard: <http://meetings.visitluxembourg.com>.

MAINTAINING AND ATTRACTING HIGHLY QUALIFIED STAFF

In addition to setting up the EBA's offices and the facilitation of office relocation, the Luxembourg government will also assist EBA staff and their families in moving to the Grand Duchy. A dedicated contact point will act as a facilitator and offer advice and help when it comes to chores such as removal companies, accommodation requests, schooling or any other administrative questions.

High-standard, up-market locations in natural surroundings figure prominently as characteristics of the Luxembourg housing market, which offers a variety of options adapted to different lifestyles, in town, the suburbs or the countryside.

The website www.justarrived.lu/en/ offers a range of practical information and contact details and the citizens' portal www.guichet.lu helps you to find your way through the administrative formalities in English, French and German.

Whilst the shared objective will certainly be to maintain as much if not all of the EBA's staff, it should be noted that Luxembourg's labour market attracts highly qualified workers. Hence there is no lack of expertise particularly in fields such as consulting, banking or the legal professions. The EIB has for instance recruited more than 900 people over the past two years.

The financial sector benefits from a **truly European workforce** and roughly half of the residents are foreigners, of which over 42% originate from the EU. However, Luxembourg's highly skilled talent pool goes well beyond its national borders, drawing commuters from France, Germany and Belgium. Around 5 million people live within a 1-hour commute of Luxembourg.

- **Most multilingual country in Europe with an average of 3.6 languages spoken by residents** (Eurobarometer & European Commission)
- 84% speak at least 2 languages (Eurobarometer & European Commission)
- **7th most proficient English-speaking country in the world** (EF English proficiency Index 2016)
- **Highest labour productivity** in the EU (Eurostat)
- 62%: largest share of **highly skilled workers** in the world (WEF)
- 2nd country in the world for **retaining talent**, 3rd for **attracting talent** (INSEAD Global Talent Competitiveness Index 2017)

Seamless Relocation

The brand new offices, completed in accordance with EBA requirements, will be ready for use as of late 2018. The relocation of staff and equipment will be scheduled in accordance with expressed needs for continuity. Indeed, depending on the volume to be moved (i.e. with or without office furniture and IT equipment), different scenarios are to be envisaged.

“Light move”

If the move exclusively concerns personal office belongings and agency archives, relocation companies estimate a period of 2-3 working days for the complete resettlement of the EBA’s 175-190 staff members. EBA employees would be asked to pack their personal office belongings in London beforehand. Loading would take one day, transfer to Luxembourg a further day (if possible overnight) and one day would be required for offloading. The new IT infrastructure has to be installed and tested from servers to computers and crucial IT staff should be available at the new location when staff arrive. Such a “compressed 3-day relocation move” is possible as the receiving offices will be ready to run upon entering. It would be feasible to kick off the move on a Friday and be fully operational again on the following Tuesday.

If the preference is to ensure continuity (teams working in parallel in London and in Luxembourg), services could be moved in batches over a two-week period.

Compressed move	Fri	WE	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	WE	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
Loading	X												
Transport		X											
Offloading			X										
By steps, 2-3 weeks													
Loading	A*			B*			C*			D*			
Transport		A			B			C			D		
Offloading			A			B			C			D	
50-60 staff/week													

*A, B, C, D represent different batches of staff to be relocated at the same time

Moving the whole “kit and caboodle”

If the agency prefers to move with furniture and existing IT equipment, at least 12 working days, consecutive or spread out, would be required. Depending on accessibility in Canary Wharf and the amount of material/equipment to be moved, packing/loading, overnight transport from London to Luxembourg, unpacking and installing can be done for an average of 30-35 people per 4 working days. One day of packing and one day of loading per 35 staff members, transfer to Luxembourg and one day of offloading would mean 4 days out of office per person.

Two weeks (or 10 working days) for packing and loading of all staff, with regular departures followed by offloading, would require approximately 12 working days in total from the first day of packing to the last day of offloading for the entire staff. Each employee would be out of office during 3-4 working days. This could be done either during a continuous period or in steps.

Continued move, 12 working days	Mon	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	WE	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	WE	Mon	Tue
Pack/load	A	A	B	B	C		C	D	D	E	E			
Transport			A		B			C		D			E	
Offload				A			B		C		D			E
By steps, 5 weeks	A	A												
35 staff/week			A											
				A										
Number of staff per batch	35													

Archives can be transferred at the same time or separately, depending on the sensitivity of the documents and records.

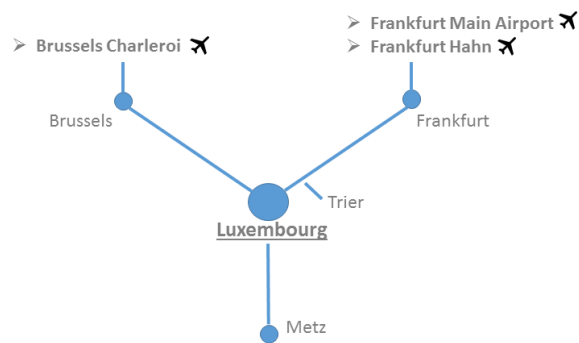
Staff with family, and in particular children in school, can opt for moving either at the same time as the agency or if they prefer not to change school during the year, they can do so over the summer either in 2018 or in 2019. As Luxembourg enjoys excellent connections with London City Airport, weekly commutes are possible.

Travel and Hotel Infrastructure

Located at the heart of Europe, Luxembourg is **within an hour's reach of major European cities** and financial centres such as London, Berlin, Frankfurt, Paris, Milan, Amsterdam and Zurich. The boutique **airport** combines the services and destination choices of a large international airport with the tranquillity of a regional one. It is only a 15-minute drive from the city centre and offers direct flights to **more than 70 European destinations**.

Luxembourg Airport is growing fast: a total of 3.02 million passengers passed through the airport in 2016, an increase of 12.4% compared to 2015 and the trend is upwards. Hence, some airlines are currently considering adding direct flights to other European destinations such as Budapest in the near future. A new terminal opened in July 2017 increasing the capacity of the airport by about 1 million passengers. There are plenty of flights to the EU's major international airport hubs (Frankfurt, Paris, London, Munich, Vienna, Copenhagen, Madrid) on a daily basis, allowing for seamless connections to all parts of the world without losing hours on your way to the airport: you just need to arrive 40 minutes before flight departure whichever your destination.

Luxembourg is one of the hubs covered several times daily by a **long-range coach service** linking airports between the Grand Duchy, Belgium, France and Germany.



Luxembourg can also be reached by a **high-speed train connection** to Paris, allowing financial professionals to have meetings with clients in Paris all day and be back home in time for dinner.

Connecting Luxembourg with other EU Member States

EU-Country	Capital City	Flights	Frequency	Airlines	Flight Duration (in hours)
Austria	Vienna	direct	3x daily	Luxair	01:50
Belgium	Brussels*				
Bulgaria	Sofia	transfer	several	Austrian, KLM, LOT, Lufthansa, Swiss	04:30
Croatia	Zagreb	transfer	several	Austrian, KLM, Lufthansa, Swiss	02:50
Cyprus	Nicosia	transfer	limited	Austrian, LOT, Lufthansa	04:00
Czech Republic	Prague	direct	4x weekly	Luxair	01:20
Denmark	Copenhagen	direct	2x daily	Luxair	01:45
Estonia	Tallinn	transfer	several	KLM, LOT, Lufthansa, SAS	04:25
Finland	Helsinki	transfer	several	KLM, LOT, Lufthansa, Luxair, SAS	04:00
France	Paris-CDG	direct	3x daily	Luxair	01:00
Germany	Berlin-Tegel	direct	2x daily	Luxair	01:30
Germany	Frankfurt	direct	4x daily	Lufthansa	00:40
Greece	Athens	direct	2x weekly	Aegean	02:55
Hungary	Budapest	transfer	several	Austrian, KLM, LOT, Lufthansa, Swiss	02:55
Ireland	Dublin	direct	2x daily	Luxair	02:30
Italy	Rome	direct	1x daily	Luxair	01:50
Latvia	Riga	transfer	several	KLM, LOT, Lufthansa, SAS	03:55
Lithuania	Vilnius	transfer	several	KLM, LOT, Lufthansa, SAS	03:55
Malta	Valletta	transfer	several	Air Malta, Lufthansa	03:50
Netherlands	Amsterdam	direct	5x daily	KLM	01:05
Poland	Warsaw	direct	2x daily	LOT	01:55
Portugal	Lisbon	direct	3x daily	Easyjet/Luxair/Ryanair/TAP	02:45
Romania	Bucharest	transfer	several	Austrian, KLM, LOT, Lufthansa, Swiss	03:30
Slovakia	Bratislava	transfer	several	CSA, Lufthansa	04:00
Slovenia	Ljubljana	transfer	several	Austrian, KLM, LOT, Lufthansa, Swiss	03:00
Spain	Madrid	direct	2x daily	Luxair/ Ryanair	02:10
Sweden	Stockholm-Arlanda	direct	1x daily	Luxair	02:40
United Kingdom	London-City	direct	7x daily	Luxair	01:10
United Kingdom	London-Heathrow	direct	2x daily	British Airways	01:30
United Kingdom	London-Gatwick	direct	1x daily	Easyjet	01:20
United Kingdom	London-Stansted	direct	1x daily	Ryanair	01:20

* Brussels is a two-hour drive from Luxembourg and trains to the Belgian Capital run every hour.

Getting around in Luxembourg

Luxembourg offers a large and affordable **public transport system**, connecting Luxembourg City to the rest of the country as well as the neighbouring regions in France, Germany and Belgium.

A brand new **tram** will enter into service by the end of 2017 and the network will be continuously extended in coming years. This major investment in public transport will permit smooth and smart connections with other means of transportation (bike, car, train, bus or plane).

The network of **cycling** paths is coordinated, clearly marked and well-maintained, making cycling as a means of transportation a genuine alternative for getting around in the City and the Grand Duchy.

Rental bikes and professional car sharing offers are available across the city.

Staying in Luxembourg

Luxembourg offers a wide variety of **hotels**, from family hotels through to historic chateaux. The City of Luxembourg is full of business hotel rooms as remarkable for their historic setting as for the modern convenience of their comforts. Be they close to the city airport or set in Luxembourg's rural regions, more than 6,000 hotel rooms are available in the country. Capacity will further increase in the near future, as projects under way will add more than 1,000 rooms in Luxembourg City.

Childcare and Schooling System

CHILDCARE

Childcare is affordable, multilingual and accessible from 7am to 7pm, while short commutes makes parents' lives easier. There are currently 482 public and private nurseries in the Grand Duchy, most of them using at least two languages. As of October 2017, **20 hours of day-care per week and per child will be free of charge.**

Children of EBA staff will have access to the Interinstitutional Children's Centre (CPE). The CPE aims to provide parents from EU Member States who are officials and agents of the European institutions in Luxembourg with access to after-school care facilities for their children.

EUROPEAN, INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL SCHOOLS

The Luxembourg educational establishment stands out for its wide choice of multilingual schooling options. EBA staff will have the choice between the **European schools, state run or private international schools** and the local multilingual school system. Their **access to the European schools is guaranteed.**

Since over 60% of the pupils in the Grand Duchy are non-Luxembourg natives, the **state-run and private schooling system** has been geared up to **cater for the needs of the country's international population:**

European Baccalaureate

➤ European Schools of Luxembourg (ESL)

The very idea of a European school was born in Luxembourg in 1953. The first European Baccalaureate was awarded here in July 1959 and the qualification was recognised as fulfilling basic entrance requirements by all the universities of the member states and beyond.

There are two European schools in Luxembourg, one in Kirchberg (ESL 1) and the other in Bertrange / Mamer (ESL 2). Both campuses are within a 6 km drive from the projected EBA office. They follow the same syllabus and share the same administrative structure. Both schools offer nursery, primary and secondary levels. Both schools have English, French and German speaking sections and teach Irish. Pupils of the following mother tongues and sections are automatically enrolled in the ESL 1: Bulgarian, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, and Swedish, whereas pupils of the following mother tongues and sections are automatically enrolled in the ESL 2: Czech, Danish, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Maltese, Romanian, Slovenian, Slovakian and Croatian.

➤ International School in Differdange and Esch-sur-Alzette

Luxembourg has also recently set up a **state school accredited by the Schola Europaea**, which is about to increase its capacity to 1,500 pupils. This offer will be further expanded over the coming years. Parents can enrol their children in the French, English or German section. Luxembourgish is also taught at the school.

International Baccalaureate (IB) – English/French

The International Baccalaureate diploma (IB) is a classic diploma offered by 2,500 secondary schools in 140 countries worldwide, in three languages: English, French and Spanish. In Luxembourg, both French and English are available.

Private schools

- International School of Luxembourg (IB in English)
- Ecole Waldorf (IB in French)

State schools

- Lycée technique du Centre (IB in French)
- Athénée de Luxembourg (IB in English)

A-levels and IGCSE

➤ St. George's International School

St George's International School Luxembourg welcomes students of all nationalities between the ages of 3 to 18+ years, whose parents require an English speaking, international education for their children. The school follows the precepts and practices of the National Curriculum of England and Wales, leading to I/GCSEs (International General Certificate of Secondary Education) and A (Advanced) levels.

➤ English classes at the Lycée Michel Lucius (state school)

ISML enables students to follow all subjects in English and choose French and/or German as a second or third language. It caters for both international and local students wanting to follow an international education. The syllabus prepares the students for the following qualifications:

- International General Certificates of Secondary Education (IGCSE);
- Advanced Subsidiary levels (AS-levels);
- Advanced levels (A-levels).

French diplomas

➤ Lycée Vauban

The Lycée Vauban follows the national French education syllabus and is certified by the French Ministry of Education. It belongs to the Agency for French Education Abroad (AEFE) network and welcomes pupils from 3 to 18+ years. The whole school will relocate to a brand-new

campus for the 2017-2018 school year, bringing together pupils from the “maternelle” to the “terminale” (French Bacalaureate).

➤ École privée Notre Dame Sainte Sophie (EPND)

The EPND offers elementary school education as well as years 6, 5 and 4 of the French college. The EPND is also certified by the French Ministry of Education.

➤ École privée Grandjean (EPG)

The EPG prepares pupils for the Brevet d'études professionnelles "Métiers des Services Administratifs" (professional studies for administrative services) and for the STMG degree (Sciences et technologies du management et de la gestion - sciences and management technologies and management).

German and Luxembourgish diplomas

➤ Lycée germano-luxembourgeois de Schengen

The Lycée germano-luxembourgeois de Schengen in Perl welcomes students from Germany and Luxembourg. It combines elements of the two school systems. The language used for lessons is mostly German. Some subjects are taught in French.

Certifications:

- certificate of completion of compulsory schooling (Hauptschulabschluss),
- "mittlerer Bildungsabschluss", at the end of year 10,
- Bacalaureate (Abitur), simultaneously with the end of secondary school certification,
- Administrative and commercial technical diploma.

The recognition of diplomas is guaranteed by both countries.

HIGHER EDUCATION

In terms of **higher education**, the Grand Duchy's **University of Luxembourg**, founded in 2003, offers a truly multilingual (programmes are generally taught in two languages French/English or French/German, some in three and some are entirely taught in English), international (academic staff originates from 20 different countries; nearly 6,200 students originate from 120 different countries) and research-oriented curriculum, making it the second most international university in the world according to the Times Higher Education ranking. It is close to the EU institutions and to Luxembourg's financial centre. The University has three faculties and three interdisciplinary centres:

- The Faculty of Science, Technology and Communication (FSTC)
- The Faculty of Law, Economics and Finance (FDEF)
- The Faculty of Language and Literature, Humanities, Arts and Education (FLSHASE)
- The Interdisciplinary Centre for Security, Reliability and Trust (SnT)
- The Luxembourg Centre for Systems Biomedicine (LCSB)
- Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C²DH)

Students can also enrol in 6 **different universities within a 100km radius, linked to the University of Luxembourg by the network of the University of the Greater Region**. There are also a number of foreign universities that have set up campuses in Luxembourg.

Some EBA staff members could have the possibility of **teaching** at the Luxembourg School of Finance, the Sacred Heart University, the Miami University or the University of Luxembourg.

Labour Market and Healthcare

Partners and spouses will find that the Luxembourg **labour market** is very dynamic and well-connected to Europe and the rest of the world. Due to the country's diverse economy and its international scope, the choice of job openings is broad, especially for people used to a cosmopolitan environment.

Partners and spouses wanting to work can register as jobseekers with the **national employment agency** (ADEM, *Agence pour le Développement de l'Emploi*). A personal employment advisor will deal with each individual file and assist in terms of job hunting and careers advice. ADEM will do everything to help you to find a job and offers plans based on the age and qualifications of each jobseeker. Alternatively, it is possible to make use of the large network of professional head-hunters established in Luxembourg.

Aside from being a high-level financial hub, Luxembourg offers a wide range of possibilities in other **sectors** ranging from more traditional sectors such as manufacturing and logistics to innovative and forward-looking ones such as space exploration and start-ups. Luxembourg has equally become a globally recognised hub for information and communication technologies (ICT) and is further positioning itself as a centre of excellence in cyber security and data protection. The life sciences sector is rapidly expanding in the Grand Duchy and attracting researchers from across the globe. Another notable new initiative by the Ministry of Economy represents the newly created "Creative Industries Cluster", which brings together actors in the field of creative industries in the Grand Duchy. It is fair to say that everyone working in Luxembourg will cater to an international clientele. The economy is rooted in this multilingual environment which makes it easily accessible for newcomers.

In recent years, the country has also seen an impressive increase in the number of new business set-ups. The "1€ corporation" initiative, for instance, has allowed entrepreneurs to start their own company with 1 euro as starting capital. New businesses are welcomed and supported. Innovative **start-ups** are incubated, hosted and coached in publicly and privately owned facilities to ease their early development and to provide access to other actors and markets.

Various public and private initiatives and networking associations assist potential founders and can guide them through administrative steps. Importantly, **Luxembourg authorities accept paperwork in English.**

Luxembourg's healthcare system is rated as one of the best in the world. The national healthcare system's quality criteria are high and patients have the right to choose their doctors. The coverage of the national **health insurance** scheme is among the broadest in the world. Furthermore, the Joint Sickness Insurance Scheme of the European Institutions (JSIS), which covers all those working for the European Union, has concluded agreements with the health

care providers in Luxembourg, which offers a reliable framework for everyone falling under this health insurance.

The Grand Duchy currently has four **hospital groups**, with close to 3,000 beds, as well as an extensive network of **assistance and care at home options, including long-term care**. The care and equipment on offer reflect the latest technological evolutions in medicine.

- **Low unemployment rate:** 6% (EA19: 9.3%, EU28: 7.8%; Eurostat, May 2017)
- **2.5% annual employment growth rate**
- **Lowest pay gap between sexes in the EU** (Statec)
- **Highest healthcare expenditure per capita in the EU** (OECD Health at a Glance: Europe 2016)
- **Quality of healthcare: #10** out of 195 countries (The Healthcare Access and Quality Index 2017 published in the medical journal 'The Lancet')

Quality of Life

Luxembourg is an attractive place to live and offers an **excellent work-life balance**. **Short commutes** make it possible to maintain a healthy and well-balanced family and social life.

International culture, cosmopolitan attitudes and multilingualism have become defining features of the country's identity, allowing anybody to feel at home and part of society at large.

Luxembourg combines an incredible variety of fascinating cultural gems. The **arts scene** of the Grand Duchy is a true reflection of its diverse and multicultural population. Top-notch infrastructures hence offer a varied range of major events, be they classical, jazz and world music with the world's top conductors and orchestras at the acclaimed *Luxembourg Philharmonie*, live opera, dance and theatre productions at the capital's *Grand Theatre*, rock, pop and indie concerts at the *Rockhal*, open-air festivals in summer or contemporary art at *MUDAM* or *Casino Forum d'Art Contemporain*.

The Old City, a medieval fortress at the centre of the capital, is a **Unesco world heritage site**. The City of Luxembourg accounts for just 2% of the surface of the country and half of it consists of **parks and green areas**. The country offers beautiful, varied landscapes with 35% covered by **woodland**.

A well-marked network of **hiking routes**, **cycle paths** and **mountain bike tracks** is available for **outdoor** pursuits. Luxembourg's **location in the heart of Europe** makes it the ideal starting point for visiting its neighbouring countries Germany, France and Belgium. Amateurs of sports will find a plethora of leisure activities to accomplish, from climbing and cycling, to nautical sports and aviation, combining physical challenges with entertainment for both young and old. Modern gym facilities, Olympic sized swimming pools, wellness, health and spa centres throughout the country allow one to get away from everyday life within 15-30 minutes of one's home.

Numerous multilingual **activities for children** are offered all year round across the country, traditionally free of charge.

With **11 Michelin-starred restaurants**, Luxembourg City also boasts the most stars per capita of any city in the world.

All these factors make Luxembourg the **best country globally in which to work abroad** (Expat Insider, Working Abroad Index 2016). The country has continuously developed and improved its living conditions alongside an impressive population growth of 13% since 2010 (Statec).

- Luxembourg City is the **safest capital in the world** (Mercer Quality of Living Survey 2016).
- **96%** of residents declare themselves **highly satisfied with life in the city of Luxembourg** (Flagship publication Urban Europe, Eurostat, 2016).
- **107th globally in terms of cost of living**, making it significantly cheaper than Zurich (4th), Geneva (7th), London (30th), Paris (62nd), Dublin (66th), Amsterdam (85th), Brussels (104th) (Mercer Cost of Living 2017)

Useful Links

The Grand Duchy

www.visitluxembourg.com

www.gouvernement.lu

www.luxembourg.public.lu

Administrative Support

www.guichet.public.lu

www.justarrived.lu

Financial Centre

www.luxembourgforfinance.com

Education

www.euroschool.lu

www.islux.lu

www.st-georges.lu

www.vauban.lu

www.uni.lu

www.luxembourgschooloffinance.lu

www.lifelong-learning.lu

Job Centre

www.adem.public.lu

Business in Luxembourg

www.surprisinglux.com

Statistics

www.statistiques.public.lu

Videos

[Welcome to Luxembourg](#)

[Your values are ours – Welcome to Luxembourg](#)

[Live your Unexpected Luxembourg](#)

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