

## The Ambassador's Message



In February, the Embassy was delighted to host a reception on the occasion of the launch of the book written by Tony Prince, one of the most famous DJs of Radio Luxembourg. Tony Prince wrote this book together with Jan Šesták, a well-known Czech DJ, showing Radio Luxembourg's vast and long-lasting impact and influence throughout Europe, including the British isles and across the Iron Curtain. We were also delighted to welcome the famous singer and actress Petula Clark who was among our many guests. Radio Luxembourg is certainly a tremendous soft power for our country and we were all pleased to see how vivid the memories of this ground-breaking radio station remain to this day. More information on this event can be found below under "News from the Embassy."

*Patrick Engelberg*

## The Grand Ducal Court



9 February – HRH Crown Princess Stéphanie visited the Museum of Modern Art Grand Duke Jean (MUDAM) where she met the English artist Darren Almond, and the British sculptor Tony Cragg. Both artists' works are currently being exhibited at the museum. [Darren Almond's exhibition](#) is open until May 2017 and [Tony Cragg's work](#) will be shown until September 2017. [Read more...](#)



4 March – HRH the Grand Duke and HRH the Grand Duchess attended the official inauguration of the 34<sup>th</sup> Festival of Migration, Culture and Citizenship. They were joined by Mars di Bartolomeo, the President of the Chamber of Deputies, [Corine Cahen](#), Minister of Family and Integration, and Lydie Polfer, the Mayor of Luxembourg City. [Read more...](#) To find out more about the Festival, [click here](#).

15 March – HRH the Grand Duke and HRH the Grand Duchess inaugurated the social incubator, 6zero1, in the presence of [Nicolas Schmit](#), Minister of Labour. The new incubator, which is based in Differdange, has the aim of supporting the development of social enterprises and entrepreneurs in Luxembourg. [Read more...](#) To find out more about 6zero1, [click here](#).



## NEWS FROM THE GOVERNMENT



31 January – Luxembourg’s “Creative Industries Cluster” was presented by [Francine Closener](#), Secretary of State of the Economy, at a press conference. The cluster’s goal is to encourage the development of this sector which includes fields such as architecture, literature and the visual arts. Approximately 2 200 companies, which employ about 6300 people, work in the creative industries

sector. The new cluster will be managed by [Luxinnovation](#), Luxembourg’s national agency for the promotion of innovation and research. [Read more...](#)

1 February – The route of this year’s Tour de France through Luxembourg on 3-4 July 2017 was presented in the presence of [Romain Schneider](#), Minister of Sports, and [Francine Closener](#), Secretary of State. The third stage of the tour will cross 18 of Luxembourg’s municipalities, from Wemperhardt to Esch-sur-Alzette, followed by the fourth stage which will leave from Mondorf-les-Bains. [Read more...](#)

16 February – The Foreign Minister of Nepal, Prakash Sharan Mahat, paid a working visit to Luxembourg where he met with [Prime Minister Xavier Bettel](#) and Foreign Minister [Jean Asselborn](#) for talks which mainly focused on bilateral relations. Mr Mahat also met with [Minister Romain Schneider](#) to discuss issues related to development cooperation and humanitarian action. [Read more...](#)



17-18 February – Foreign Minister [Jean Asselborn](#) attended the Munich Security Conference 2017 which looked at the future of transatlantic relations and NATO, following the election of Donald Trump. Topics such as the EU’s work in the field of security and defence policy, as well as the crisis in Ukraine and the war in Syria were also discussed. [Read more...](#)

2 March – Minister [Romain Schneider](#) attended the conference “She Decides – Global Fundraising Initiative” which was held in Brussels and which brought together representatives from almost 50 countries and raised approximately 181 million euros. [Read more...](#) On the occasion of International Women’s Day on 8 March, Minister Schneider also joined his Danish, Swedish, Dutch, Finnish, Estonian, Portuguese and Belgian counterparts for an [editorial](#) on the rights of women and girls as part of the “She Decides” initiative. [Read more...](#)



10 March – Foreign Minister [Jean Asselborn](#) travelled to Dublin for a working visit where he met his Irish counterpart Charles Flanagan to discuss the excellent bilateral relations between the two countries as well as other issues such as Brexit and the situation in Northern Ireland. Minister Asselborn also spoke at the Model European Council held at Dublin Castle which was attended by over 200 students, in addition to travelling to the border region between Ireland and Northern Ireland. [Read more...](#)



## ECONOMIC NEWS

- Luxembourg’s Ministry of the Economy and the European Investment Bank have signed an Advisory Service Agreement as part of the Luxembourg government’s [SpaceResources.lu](#) initiative. Read the full press release [here](#). In addition, Luxembourg has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ispace, a Japanese space robotics company. [Read more...](#)
- Check out an interview given by Deputy Prime Minister [Etienne Schneider](#) to Jean-Michel Gaudron about [Asteroid Day](#) which takes place on 30 June, and which will be coordinated from Luxembourg. [Read more...](#)
- Check out the European Commission’s [Winter 2017 Economic Forecast](#) for Luxembourg which forecasts that the country’s economy will grow this year as well as next year. [Read more...](#)
- The most recent edition of “Merkur” magazine, published by the [Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce](#), is now available online. [Click here](#).



## THE WORLD OF FINANCE

12-14 February - HRH Crown Prince [Guillaume](#) and HRH Crown Princess [Stéphanie](#) headed a finance mission to the United Arab Emirates which was led by [Pierre Gramegna](#), Minister of Finance. While in Dubai, talks were held with Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, the UAE’s Foreign Minister, as well as with Sheikh Nahyan Bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Culture, Youth and Social Development.

The World Government Summit in Dubai also featured on the visit’s agenda, with Minister Gramegna giving a keynote speech at a session dedicated to Fintech which was organised in partnership with the IMF. Minister Gramegna also held a meeting with Obaid al Tayer,



Minister of State for Finance, in order to discuss bilateral relations and the development of Fintech. On 13 February, HRH Crown Prince Guillaume gave the opening speech at a [seminar organised by Luxembourg for Finance](#), entitled “Luxembourg and UAE, partners in global finance” which was attended by over 300 professionals from the finance sector. [Read](#)

[more...](#)

14-15 February – The Luxembourg delegation then travelled to Oman where Minister Gramegna, HRH Crown Prince Guillaume and HRH Crown Princess Stéphanie met the Deputy Prime Minister of Oman, HH Sayyid Fahad Mahmoud Al Said, in addition to other officials. [Read more...](#)

3 March - Moody's has reaffirmed Luxembourg's AAA rating with stable outlook. [Read more...](#)

Do you want to find out more about Luxembourg's participation in Expo 2020 taking place in Dubai from October 2020 to April 2021? Visit the new website <http://www.luxembourgexpo2020dubai.lu>

### *Save the Date ...*

ALFI's London cocktail and conference will be taking place Monday 22 May to Tuesday 23 May at Central Hall Westminster in London. [Click here](#) for more information.



If you are organising an event or congress in Luxembourg, then check out the following website to find out [more information](#) and to discover how the General Directorate of Tourism can help support your event. [Click here!](#)

Luxembourg's Ministry of National Education, Childhood and Youth has a new Facebook page – check it out by [clicking here!](#)



To find out more about the work carried out by the Ministry, visit the website [www.men.public.lu](http://www.men.public.lu)

## CULTURAL LUXEMBOURG

- The Luxembourg City Film Festival took place 2-12 March 2017. At this year's festival, 15 Luxembourg co-productions were screened, including *"The past we live in"* and *"Ethel and Ernest."* [Read more...](#)

- Luxembourg's "Printemps Musical" music festival began on 24 February and will run until April 2017. This year's edition features concerts by a variety of artists, including Rebekka Bakken, Akua Naru and Yuri Buenaventura. [Read more...](#)

- [Guy Arendt](#), Secretary of State for Culture, travelled to Berlin to meet with representatives of Luxembourg's film sector during the 67<sup>th</sup> Berlin International Film Festival (Berlinale). Three Luxembourg co-productions were screened during this year's festival, namely *"Barrage,"* *"Bye Bye Germany"* and *"Richard the Stork."* Seven co-productions were also represented at the European Film Market 2017. [Read more...](#)



## OTHER NEWS

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Have you ever wondered how to write Luxembourgish? Check out the website [schreiwien.lu](http://schreiwien.lu) where you can find helpful videos, links, and grammar rules. [Read more...](#) An online

## NEWS FROM THE EMBASSY

On 8 February 2017, Ambassador Patrick Engelberg hosted a buffet reception to mark the launch of a book by former Radio Luxembourg DJ Tony Prince and Czech DJ Jan Šesták, *"The Royal Ruler & the Railway DJ."* The event brought together several former DJs, including David 'Kid' Jensen, Paul Burnett and Mark Wesley, as well as singer and actress Petula Clark. Check out coverage of the event by RTL by [clicking here](#).



## DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

Did you know that the origins of the RTL Group and Radio Luxembourg can be traced back to the Anen brothers, François and Marcel, who in 1923 set up a wireless telephony transmitter in the attic of their home in Luxembourg City. This transmission station broadcast both spoken and music programmes from 1924 onwards and became known as Radio Luxembourg by the end of the decade. In 1931, the Luxembourg Broadcasting Company (CLR) was established and by the end of 1933, the station was broadcasting in English, French, German and Luxembourgish. However, with the start of WWII, Radio Luxembourg stopped operating on 21 September 1939. Control of the station would only return to CLR in November 1945 after WWII, during which it had been used by the Nazis for propaganda purposes and, from September 1944, by the Allies. Radio Luxembourg's popularity continued to grow following WWII, and by 1954 it had 16 million listeners in both France and Belgium. To find out more about Radio Luxembourg and RTL's history, check out [this link](#).

### *Save the Date ...*

Luxembourgish jazz duo, Ley & Payfert, will perform at the Gateshead International Jazz Festival on 2 April 2017 and at London's Vortex on 3 April 2017. [Read more...](#)

### *Save the Date ...*

House/Techno artist, [Cleveland](#), will perform at the Berkley Suite in Glasgow on 8 April 2017. [Read more...](#)

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