

Wilton Crescent's Bulletin

by the
Embassy of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in London

Issue 20

The Ambassador's Message



Dear readers,

Being posted to London always brings its share of the unexpected and surprises and for us Luxembourgers in the UK and of course at home, seeing one of our top sportsmen in the quarter finals at Wimbledon is exciting, to say the least. Luxembourg was suddenly in a tennis fervour and the country came almost to a standstill. I am sure that Gilles Muller's acclaimed performance will raise the popularity level of this sport to new heights and encourage quite a number of young people in Luxembourg to embrace that discipline.

What is not a surprise is that all good things come to an end and now, at the end of my four year term, I shall be leaving my post to make way for my successor who will arrive in August. To all our friends in this great country as well as in Ireland and Iceland, which I was always so happy to visit, I wish all the best in these challenging but also rewarding times. Despite the difficulties and constraints, common sense will prevail for the common good. I will leave with fond memories of all the many people I met and was able to engage with for the best of our respective countries and I will be more than happy to stay in touch.

Äddi!

Patrick Engelberg

The Grand Ducal Court



11 May – On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the Treaty of London, HRH the Duchess of Cambridge visited Luxembourg, where she was received in audience by TTRRHH the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess and other members of the Grand Ducal family. HRH the Duchess began her visit at the Grand Duke Jean Museum of Modern Art (MUDAM), where She toured exhibitions by British artists Sir Tony Cragg and Darren Almond, in the presence of HRH Crown Princess Stéphanie and Prime Minister Xavier Bettel. TTRRHH Crown Prince Guillaume and Crown Princess Stéphanie, and Prime Minister Bettel, accompanied HRH the Duchess of Cambridge to both the Luxembourg City Museum and the Dräi Eechelen Museum where they visited the 1867 Commemoration Exhibition about the 150th anniversary of the 2nd Treaty of London. [Read more...](#) Find out more about the Treaty of London and its 150th anniversary below.



23-24 May – Following an invitation from TTRRHH the [Grand Duke and Grand Duchess](#), the President of Portugal, Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, carried out a state visit to Luxembourg. A visit to Luxembourg City’s Corniche and the city’s fortifications was followed by a conference at the Cercle Cité. Afterwards, TTRRHH the Grand Duke and Grand Duchess hosted a gala dinner at the palace in honour of the Portuguese President. The second day of the state visit featured visits to [SES](#), the [EBRC Data Center](#), Belval, the [University of Luxembourg](#) as well as the [National Museum of History and Art](#). Find out more about the visit by [clicking here](#).

23 June – During National Day celebrations in Luxembourg, TTRRHH the [Grand Duke and Grand Duchess](#), accompanied by TTRRHH the Hereditary Grand Ducal couple, attended the official ceremony at the [Philharmonie](#), before presiding over the military parade and attending the Te Deum at Luxembourg’s Notre-Dame Cathedral. The day ended with a reception at the Grand Ducal Palace, in the presence of the members of the government, the members of the Chamber of Deputies, the diplomatic corps, and other Luxembourg officials. [Read more...](#)



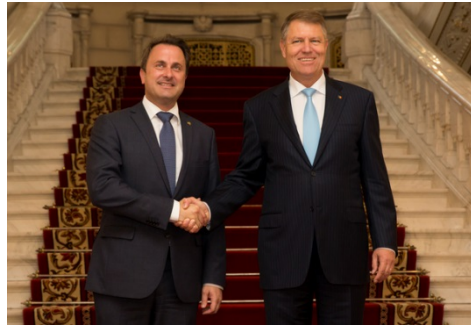
NEWS FROM THE GOVERNMENT

29-30 May – [Jean Asselborn](#), Minister of Foreign and European Affairs travelled to Indonesia for talks with his counterpart Retno Marsudi. Next year will mark the 45th anniversary since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. Discussions focused on bilateral relations and other issues including the fight against terrorism and the situation in the South China Sea. Minister Asselborn also presented the satellite communications platform, [emergency.lu](#), which can be deployed in cases of humanitarian emergencies or natural disasters. [Read more...](#)



31 May – 3 June – [Romain Schneider](#), Minister of Sport, attended the 17th edition of the Games of the Small States of Europe which were held in San Marino. TTRRHH [Crown Prince Guillaume](#) and [Crown Princess Stéphanie](#) also joined Minister Schneider and attended the opening ceremony as well as various competitions. [Read more...](#)

16-18 June – [Prime Minister Xavier Bettel](#) paid an official visit to Romania where he met with the President of Romania, Klaus Iohannis, and the Romanian Prime Minister Sorin Mihai Grindeanu for talks which focused on bilateral relations and issues including migration and the Schengen area. Prime Minister Bettel also met with heads of Romanian companies from the ICT sector and visited the city of Sibiu, which was the European Capital of Culture in 2007 together with Luxembourg. [Read more...](#)



11 July – [Romain Schneider](#), Minister of Cooperation and Humanitarian Action, attended the Family Planning Summit in London, which was organised by the UK Department for International Development, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the United Nations Population Fund. Luxembourg signed the Global Adolescent Data Statement – [click here](#) to access the full statement. Minister Schneider also met with Mabel Van Oranje, member of the Board of Trustees of Girls Not Brides, a global partnership of over 700 civil society organisations committed to ending child marriages. [Read more...](#)



ECONOMIC NEWS

- The IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook 2017 has ranked Luxembourg in 8th place globally and in 4th place within the EU. [Read more...](#)
- The 2017 Global Innovation Index, compiled by Cornell University, INSEAD and the World Intellectual Property Organization, has ranked Luxembourg in 12th place. [Read more...](#)

THE WORLD OF FINANCE

[Hiscox](#) and [FM Global](#) have both announced that they will make Luxembourg their new EU hub. This follows [AIG's recent announcement](#) that it has also chosen the Grand Duchy as the location for its new EU hub following Brexit, [Read more...](#) [RSA](#) and [CNA Hardy](#) have also said that they have decided to establish their new European subsidiaries in Luxembourg – find out more by [clicking here](#). In addition, Northern Trust has announced that it will establish its EU bank in the Grand Duchy – [read more](#).

13 July – [Pierre Gramegna](#), Minister of Finance visited London for meetings with high-level officials. During his visit he also gave an interview to [Bloomberg](#) reiterating that Luxembourg is looking forward to continuing working very closely with the UK and London in the years to

come. Check the interview out by [clicking here](#). He also gave a speech at a seminar “Luxembourg: Your Payment Hub in the EU” which was organised by [Luxembourg for Finance](#) at the Luxembourg Embassy.

Discover the latest guide published by Luxinnovation entitled “Luxembourg: The smart choice for your digital business.” The guide is available online – [click here](#).

As part of the government’s Nation Branding initiative, a [newsletter “Inspiring Luxembourg”](#) has now been launched and is available online. [Read more...](#)

CULTURAL LUXEMBOURG

Luxembourg was represented at the international village of the [Marché du Film](#) which was held during the Cannes Film Festival. The Luxembourg pavilion grouped together 21 companies and a “Luxembourg Day” was organised on 18 May, in the presence of TTRRH [Crown Prince Guillaume](#) and [Crown Princess Stéphanie](#), and Prime Minister [Xavier Bettel](#), who also attended the festival’s opening ceremony on 17 May. [Read more...](#)



Twenty-six Luxembourg artists will be displaying their work at this year’s Rencontres d’Arles, taking place from 3 July to 24 September in the south of France. This famous photography festival attracted approximately 104 000 visitors last year. [Read more...](#)

OTHER NEWS



- A team of Luxembourgish students and teachers from the [Lycée des Arts et Métiers](#) took part in the Shell Eco-marathon Europe which was held in London, 25-28 May. This event brought together groups of students who were tasked with designing, constructing and driving an energy-efficient car. [Read more...](#)



The Luxembourg tennis player, Gilles Muller, had an exceptional run at Wimbledon this year. Muller, who is now ranked 22nd on the ATP world tour after his success at Wimbledon, beat the second seed Rafael Nadal in an epic five-set match, attended by [HRH Prince Felix](#), that lasted almost five hours. Muller progressed to the quarter finals at Wimbledon where he was defeated by Marin Cilic after another exhausting five set match. Muller was cheered on by [HRH Crown Prince Guillaume](#) and [Prime Minister Xavier Bettel](#) who travelled to London for this quarter final match. [Read more...](#)

NEWS FROM THE EMBASSY

On 5 May 2017 Ambassador Patrick Engelberg attended the annual Luxembourg Studies Colloquium at the University of Sheffield where he gave the opening speech. This year's colloquium, which was entitled "[Crossing Languages, Crossing Cultures](#)," also featured a keynote lecture by Claudine Kirsch from the [University of Luxembourg](#) as well as a reading by the author/translator Sandra Schmit. [Read more...](#) Find out more about the work of the Centre for Luxembourg Studies in Sheffield by [clicking here](#).



On 7 June 2017, Ambassador Patrick Engelberg hosted the private view of an exhibition of photographs by Raoul Ries, "Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji," at Luxembourg House. The exhibition will be open to the public during summer 2017 – please contact the Embassy prior to visiting.

To find out more about Raoul Ries and his work, [click here](#).

Christine Bory's exhibition of portraits, "Diplomatic Moves" was displayed from 14 to 30 June 2017 at Europe House's 12 Star Gallery in London. Ambassador Engelberg hosted the opening reception on 14 June which featured wine and food from various participating Embassies in addition to a musical performance by the London Intermediate Accordion Orchestra.



For further information on Christine Bory and her work, check out her website:
<http://artisformae.com/>

Ambassador Engelberg and Mrs Engelberg hosted the annual National Day reception at their residence on 22 June 2017. This year's festivities included a book fair which displayed the work of several authors and photographers, namely Ruth Dugdall, Anne Faber, Tammy Faires-Back, Marianne Majerus, Pierre Marmann, Daniel Pembrey, Tony Prince and Raoul Ries.

DID YOU KNOW THAT ...

The Treaty of London was signed on 11 May 1867. As a result of this treaty which reaffirmed Luxembourg's independence and neutrality, the Prussian garrison left the Grand Duchy and the city's fortifications were dismantled, transforming the Grand Duchy into an open and modern nation. This treaty, often called the Second Treaty of London after the 1839 Treaty, was agreed to following the Austro-Prussian War and the Luxembourg Crisis.

As part of the 150th anniversary celebrations of the Treaty of London, the Luxembourg Post Office issued a commemorative stamp. It shows part of the fortification of the City of Luxembourg, the 'Gibraltar of the North', superimposed on the existing park of Luxembourg. The fortifications were dismantled as a consequence of the Treaty of London. [Read more...](#)



Save the Date ...

Francesco Tristano will perform on 27 July 2017 during the Dublin International Piano Festival . For more information on the concert, [click here](#).
To find out more about Francesco Tristano, [click here](#).

Save the Date ...


The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, under the baton of Charles Dutoit, will perform at Luxembourg's Philharmonie on 14 September 2017. [Read more...](#)

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