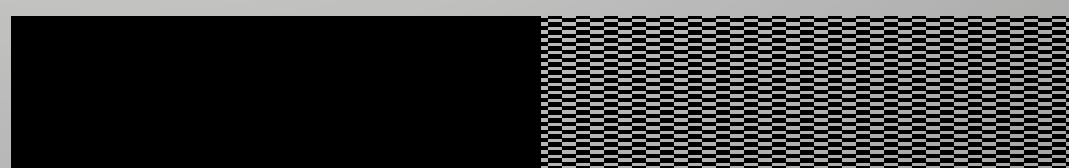
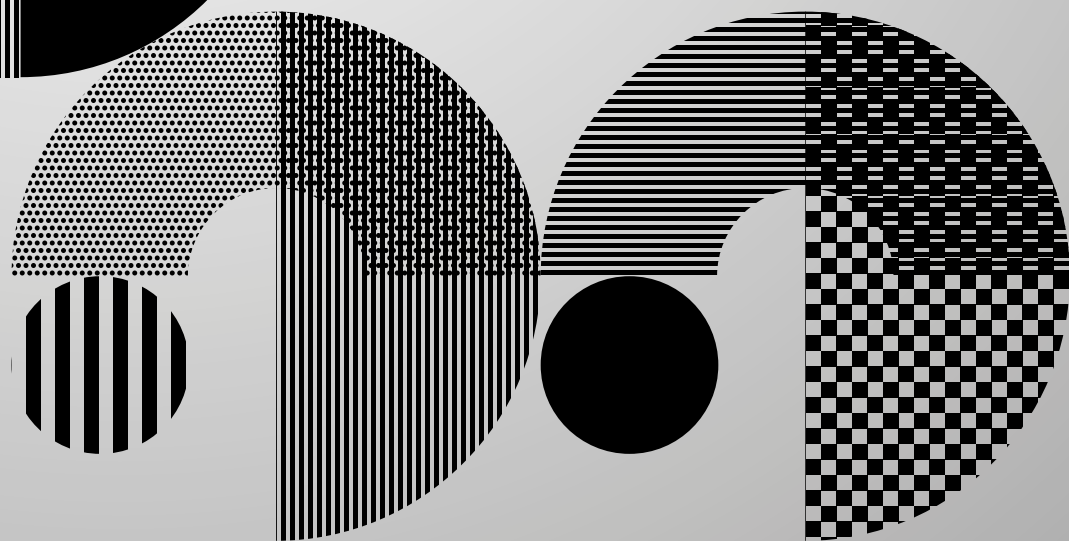
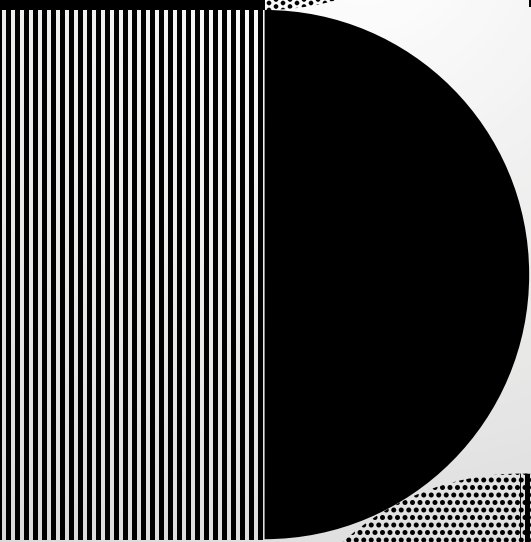
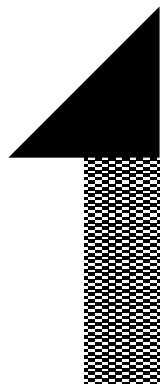


ANNUAL REPORT 2022
NATIONAL LIBRARY
OF LUXEMBOURG

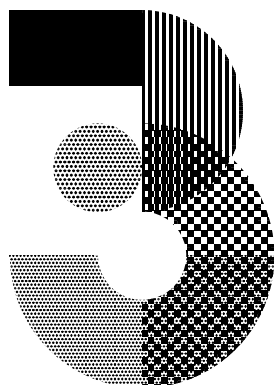
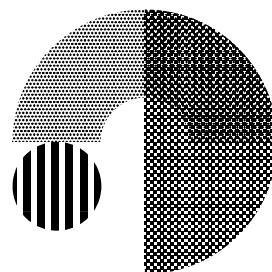


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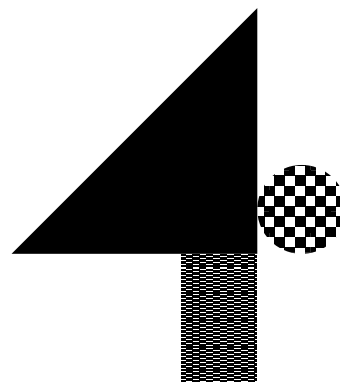
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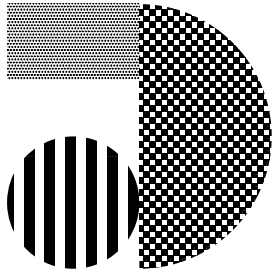
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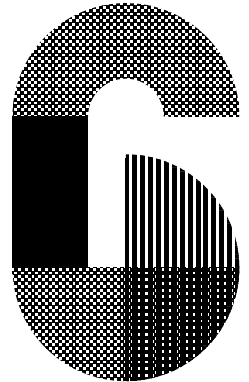




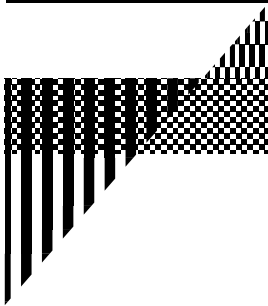
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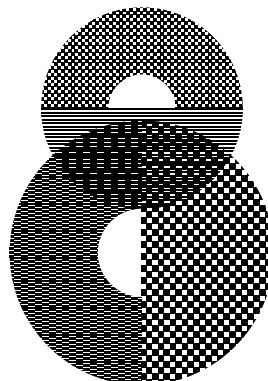
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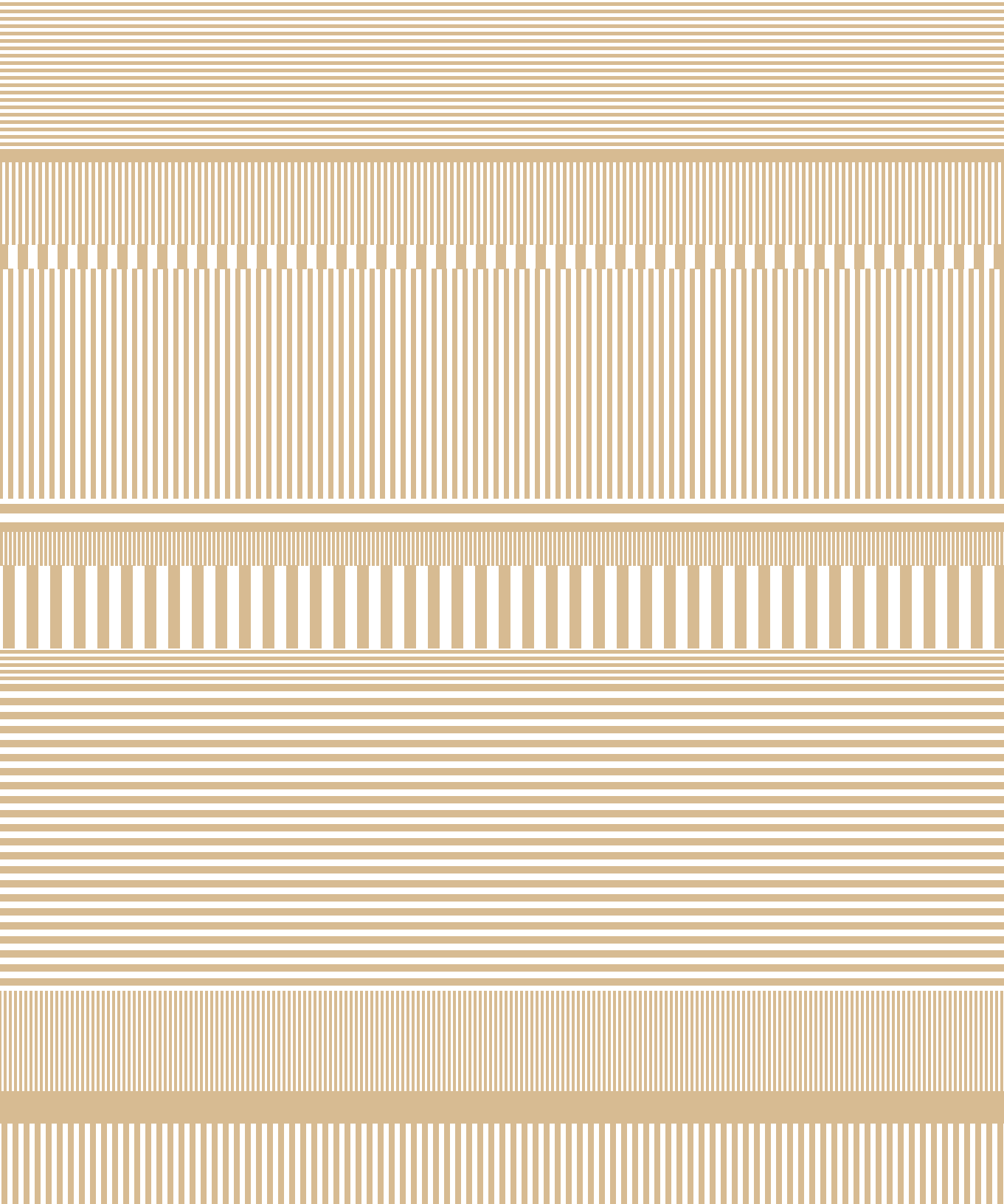


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FOREWORD

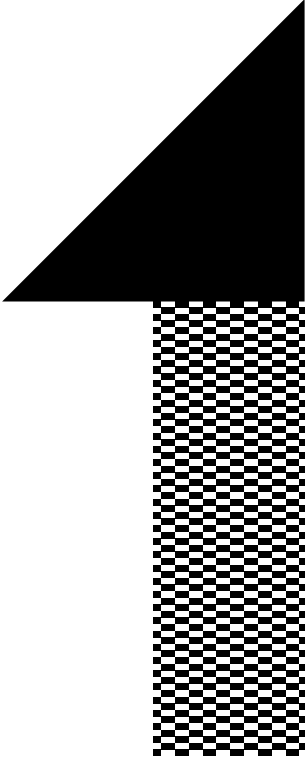
In 2022, the BnL has continued its transformation process as initiated in its work programme and in line with its vision 2020-2030. At the centre of our efforts is our desire to ensure easy access to the collections, allowing us to optimise the use of our services and our research tools.

In collaboration with the Government IT Centre (Centre des technologies de l'information de l'État, CTIE) and the national network of Luxembourgish libraries bibnet.lu, the BnL has migrated from the Aleph library management system to the new Alma software, enabling over 80 libraries in Luxembourg to enhance their management of librarianship data and to offer higher-performance documentary research tools. This is enabling us to provide greater autonomy to experts in their fields. In addition, the new platform will be the basis of new projects such as extending the network of libraries or personalising the research interfaces.

This ambitious project has not prevented us from meeting other challenges: the redesign to the website bnl.lu, accessible in French, Luxembourgish, German and English, the expansion of our opening hours, and registration with BnL via MyGuichet.lu. A total of 22 projects were accomplished in 2022, ranging from updating the corporate style guide to arranging exhibitions on James Joyce in Luxembourg or on the Luxembourgish composer Johny Fritz and encompassing the colloquium on library policy in Europe in the territories occupied by the Nazis.

I invite you to discover these projects and our services in the following pages.

Claude D. Conter
Director of the National Library of Luxembourg



THE BnL IN TRANSFORMATION

WORK PROGRAMME 2022-2024

In 2022, we completed 22 projects, including five flagship projects, presented at the press conference on 16 December 2022 in the presence of the Minister of Culture, Sam Tanson.

1. Migration to a new integrated library management system (Alma)

The BnL, in collaboration with the Government IT Centre (Centre des technologies de l'information de l'État, CTIE) and the national network of Luxembourgish libraries bibnet.lu, has migrated its library management system, enabling over 80 libraries in Luxembourg to optimise their management of librarianship data and to offer higher-performance documentary research tools.

2. Redesign of the bnl.lu website

The BnL has put its new website www.bnl.lu online. It is accessible in French, Luxembourgish, German and English. Currently, the BnL is the first and only Government cultural institute to offer a site in four languages, including Luxembourgish. As the national library and guardian of its written heritage, it is incumbent on the BnL to promote the Luxembourgish language whilst remaining as inclusive as possible.

3. Expanding our opening hours

Since 2 January 2023, the Reading Room is also open on Mondays from 14.00 to 20.00. The BnL is a place of research and study, frequented by various audiences, notably students, researchers, book-lovers and culture-lovers. In fact, visitor numbers at the BnL have not stopped growing, despite the pandemic. With the expansion of our opening hours, the BnL is responding to a need from its users, who can now enjoy the BnL premises on all working days.

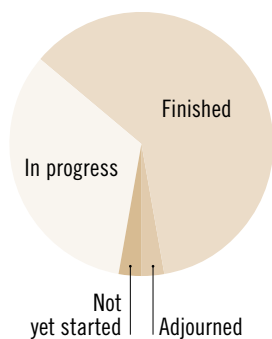
4. Publication of new digitised documents and digitally-born content on eluxemburgensia.lu

The BnL has just published a selection of publications from STATEC (National Institute of statistics and economic studies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg) from 1902 to 2005 on the portal eluxemburgensia.lu. A total of 49,052 pages / 596 documents from STATEC are now freely accessible remotely. The BnL intends to digitise all monographs and periodicals in the Luxembourgish Collection by 2030. At present, 505 digitised works are accessible online via eluxemburgensia.lu and a-z.lu.

5. Registration for the BnL via MyGuichet.lu

Since Monday 12 December 2022, registration has been possible online via the portal MyGuichet.lu. MyGuichet.lu brings together, in a single place, a multitude of online Luxembourg government services. Registration via MyGuichet.lu is part of the Government's initiative to simplify administrative procedures, and takes account of the BnL's desire to digitise its main services to the public and make them as flexible as possible.

Alongside these projects, ensuring easy access to the collections and enabling the BnL to develop the use of its services and its research tools, the BnL aims to increase reader autonomy and guarantee them optimum flexibility in all their endeavours. The BnL staff have achieved many more projects, such as developing a digital collection of documentaries and VOD films (MéNuLu project), arranging exhibitions such as the one on James Joyce in Luxembourg, organising the international colloquium on "Nazi library policy and practice in Europe" (NS-Bibliothekspolitik und -praxis in Europa) or consolidating the corporate style guide of the BnL. Twelve of the projects started in 2022 are still in progress and will be completed in 2023, alongside the 36 projects scheduled for 2023.



Status	36
Not yet started	1
In progress	12
Finished	22
Adjourned	1
Rejected	0

VISION 2020-2030

The National Library of Luxembourg (BnL) has the ambition of remaining the Grand-Duchy's leading heritage library. Thanks to printed and digital legal deposit, through the development of Luxembourg's national bibliography and by making available high-performing library research tools, the BnL will be able to ensure easy and free access to heritage collections, whether manuscript, printed or digital. Following an acquisition policy adapted to the expectations of a society that is aware of conservation and of the valorisation of heritage, it will supplement its collections by acquiring handwritten, printed, digital, iconographic and multimedia documents, as well as by donations and legacies. It will apply the principles of curative and preventive conservation to all of its collections.

In an international and dynamic context comprising research institutions, scientific organisations and research companies, the BnL wishes to evolve as a scientific and research library in order to better meet the needs of education as well as those of the academic and professional worlds. It intends to be, for all libraries and public research actors in Luxembourg, the preferred partner in the field of negotiation, management and bibliometrics of digital resources.

The BnL will act as head of the bibnet.lu network and as a national bibliographic agency and will, in accordance with national and international standards, provide reference cataloguing for sharing under open licence. As single-source provider of library services, it will manage the infrastructure and the technical facilities needed for the collective catalogue to operate. It will also ensure the adaptation of standards, offer professional training programmes and operate as a partner in the library ecosystem.

The BnL is always aware of the fundamental role it plays in a knowledge-based society, and consequently it will ensure easy and free access to its collections, both on site in suitably equipped reading rooms or online in accordance with the legal provisions in force. With this purpose, it will step up the process of automating its services to the public: registration, information and guidance for users, inventorying in the reading room and in the stacks, optimisation of the search for and the consultation of digital documents.

The BnL will strengthen its mission of promoting science, education and culture through an ambitious digitisation programme, by organising events, conferences, meetings, temporary exhibitions, publications and by offering research tools on site and online. In the context of a pluralistic society, it intends to raise awareness of the international aspects of Luxembourgish heritage, with the aim of contributing to the social cohesion of the different communities living in Luxembourg. Moreover, it will be a vector for heritage-related knowledge and for actors in the book field in Luxembourg.

In order to successfully complete these projects of adapting and modernising its missions, it is essential for all staff to be at the heart of these developments.

The guiding thread of the vision draws from the motto of transformation of a library with a unique character taking up the challenges of the 21st century.

- We want to contribute to the advancement of research and scientific progress and to the enrichment of the social and cultural life of Luxembourg.
- We would like to position the BnL more firmly as a trusted partner in dialogue and as a facilitator of innovation in library science.
- We wish to guarantee free access to knowledge and culture and thus contribute to maintaining and the progress of democracy.
- It is through our status, the richness of our resources and our infrastructures and the expertise of our staff, that the BnL intends to remain the country's flagship library and will ensure a complete service - from collection and conservation to content production and knowledge dissemination.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1. We ensure easy access to the collections and services and adapt them to new needs.
2. We digitise heritage collections.
3. We develop, enrich, complete, manage, conserve and preserve the manuscript, printed, digital and audiovisual collections.
4. We ensure cultural, educational and scientific valorisation of the collections.
5. We strengthen the culture of recognition, collaboration and training.
6. We develop the BnL's digital transformation process.
7. We promote the information sciences professions.
8. We pursue strategic national and international partnerships.
9. We draw up an infrastructure development plan.

The BnL has also signed up to an Ethics Charter prepared by the Ministry of Culture as part of its Cultural Development Plan 2018-2028. This charter aims to defend the values of ethics and professionalism that underpin the relationship of trust between the cultural structures, artists and citizens.

2022 in figures



Staff
111.45 FTE

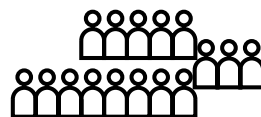
Average age of BnL staff
42.8 years



83

Libraries
participating in the
bibnet.lu network

Annual funding
7,124,012

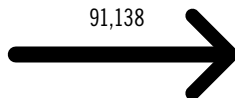


Total registrations
36,826

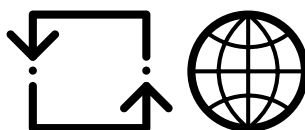
Workstations
in the Reading
Room
440



Visits to
the BnL
91,138

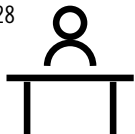


Home loans
68,046



Interlibrary loan requests
2,938

**Carrel
reservations**
8,628



Electronic periodicals
67,757



784,677
Scientific e-books

Audio books
1,641



116,667
General interest e-books

20,289 films

VOD



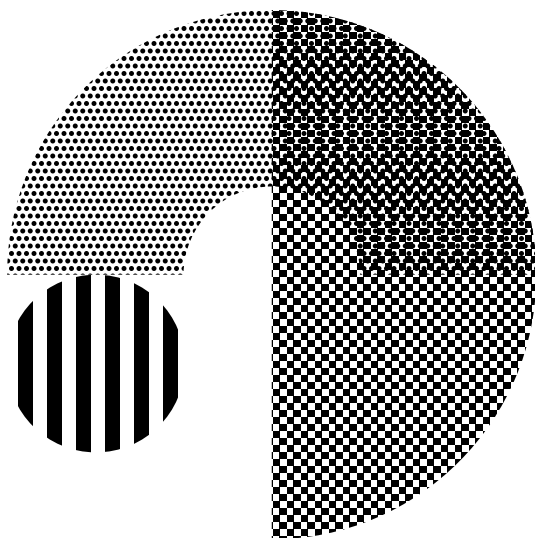
Web archive
4.5 bn files

**Bicherbus tours
undertaken**
204



**Bicherbus km
covered**
24,766

KM



ALMA – BEACON PROJECT FOR 2023

For many years now, digital transformation has been at the heart of the work of the BnL.

Prior to 1985, cataloguing was carried out using simple index cards. With membership of the REBUS network (Réseau des bibliothèques utilisant SIBIL) in 1984, this way of working gradually gave way to cataloguing on workstations, using the SIBIL information system (Système intégré pour les bibliothèques de Lausanne).

Starting from 01.01.1985¹, updating the BnL's card catalogue finally stopped, and records were captured using SIBIL, installed on a central computer at the Government IT Centre (CTIE). The task was both to dematerialise the information and to optimise and simplify access. SIBIL also enabled the BnL to manage other aspects of the librarian's work, such as acquisitions or lending. These standardisations were necessary in order to ensure uniformity of cataloguing and better accessibility. They also made it possible to open the platform to other libraries in Luxembourg and to create a network. In 2000, this library network already had 13 members.

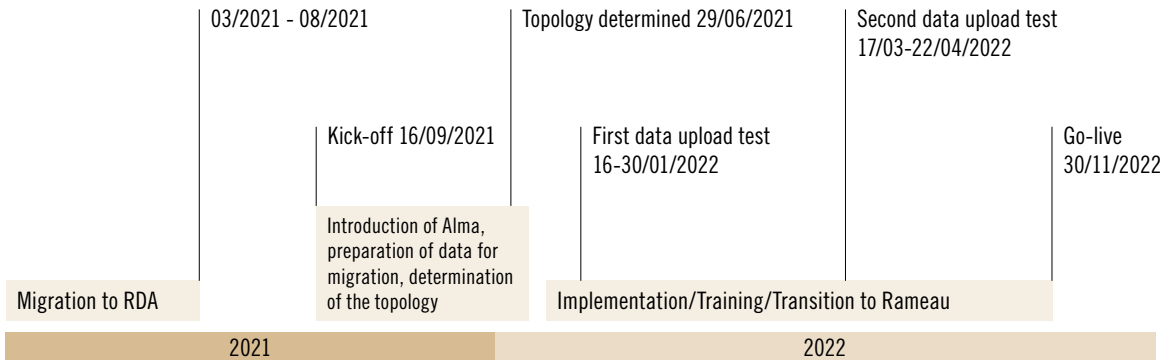
1. Michel Donven, Jean-Marie Reding, Geschichte des IT-Einsatzes in der Nationalbibliothek Luxemburg, ("History of using IT in the National Library of Luxembourg"), in *Feuille de liaison ALBAD* Vol. 17 (2010), No. 2 (38/July), pp. 26-30.



The 1990s were similarly marked by another development – the emergence of the World Wide Web and the first browsers. Libraries were calling for greater visibility and flexibility. Searching the catalogue from a workstation was replaced by an online catalogue; the central computer replaced by a client-server architecture, still located at CTIE. SIBIL was replaced by the Aleph software, from the Ex Libris company. The network of libraries, renamed bibnet.lu in 2003, continued to grow and, in 2022, it has 83 members.

Aleph was primarily designed to digitise workflows and reference a library’s physical collection on the web. Complementary software (SFX, Metalib, a-z.lu) was acquired to answer this need. Since then, the number of electronic and digital documents has never stopped growing, and integrated management systems are no longer proving sufficiently flexible to cope with this trend. Moreover, Ex Libris – publisher of the Aleph software – had decided to stop development. Acquiring new-generation software, with better performance and above all more adapted to the current and future needs of the libraries in the bibnet.lu network, became inevitable.

All these considerations came together in the drafting of a set of specifications for acquiring a new service platform. These specifications comprised 223 selection criteria (criteria that the bidder was required to validate for the bid to be considered) and 419 award criteria (the award criteria enabled the qualifying tenders to be assessed to determine which was the most financially advantageous). The invitation to tender was published on 2 March 2021, and following the opening of tenders on 13 April 2021, the contract was awarded to Ex Libris/Clarivate, offering its Alma/Primo VE product, a cloud-based computing solution.



Luxembourg’s libraries have acquired a new generation of software that is more efficient and, above all, better adapted to the current and future needs of the bibnet.lu network.

A number of preparatory works were undertaken ahead of migration to Alma. To make cataloguing more effective, to be able to manage every type of resource (including electronic resources), to open cataloguing to the Semantic Web and to optimise use of data by third-party systems, the superseded AACR2 (Anglo American Cataloguing Rules version 2) were replaced by the RDA (Resource Description and Access) cataloguing instructions, and the IDS MARC data modelling format by MARC21 (international format).

A huge volume of work was accomplished to prepare the data upload from our Aleph source system to Alma. (Notable in this: the creation of manuals to the collections, adaptations of types of equipment, updating the readers' register and data from the periodicals collections). These changes were validated during two temporary data uploads.

To facilitate management of members of the bibnet.lu network, a new topology comprising six groups, called institutional zones, was created. These institutional zones currently include twelve public libraries, 40 libraries in educational and lifelong learning facilities, 26 libraries in institutions or associations, two scientific libraries, together with the University of Luxembourg and the National Library with its Bicherbus (mobile library).

Twelve working groups, composed of professional experts from the BnL and the library network bibnet.lu, developed proposals and recommendations for implementation. They considered the following subjects: system architecture, data migration, circulation, management of readers, cataloguing, acquisitions, technological change, interlibrary loans, search engines, statistics and reports, risk assessment and course management.

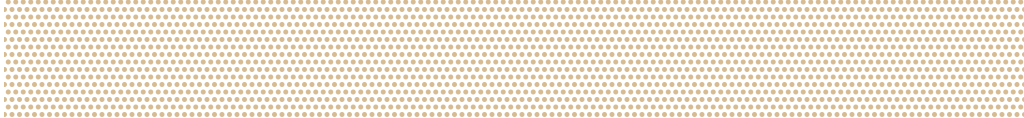
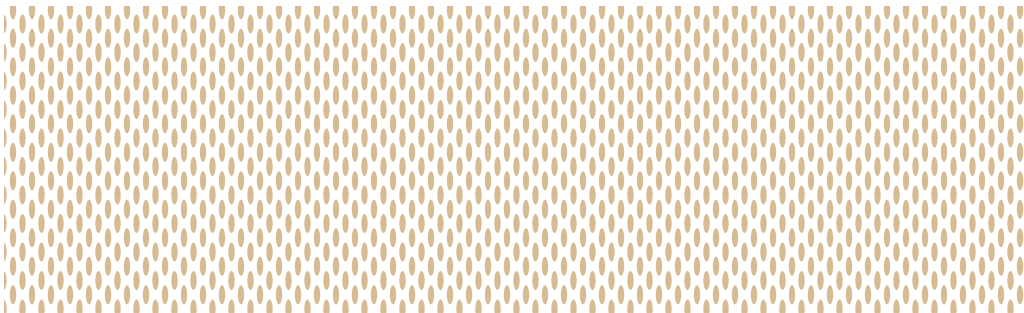
A team of 19 staff headed up the transition project as professional insiders, ensuring day-to-day mentoring and support to the libraries. A total of 44 training courses on acquisition of documents (legal deposits, gifts, purchases), cataloguing and indexing of resources and making these available to the public complemented the numerous presentation sessions and online help, interviews and dialogues between various working groups and representatives of the libraries.

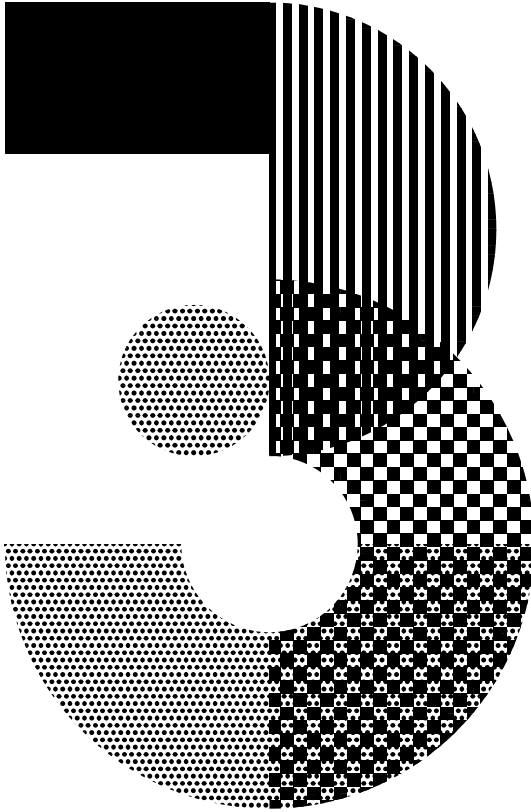
In fact, throughout this year of transition, staff from the member libraries have participated actively in defining and configuring the platform, in the working groups or as testers. Their suggestions, criticisms and comments helped to better understand the needs of the libraries, and contributed to implementation of the system.

The new platform has been operational since 30 November 2022. It is the basis of a number of future projects:

- Extension of the bibnet.lu network
- Personalisation of research interfaces
- Development of new applications to facilitate document flows using API (application programming interfaces)
- Implementation of creation, management and access tools for the bibliographic lists for University of Luxembourg students
- Provision of digitised or scanned books via digital lending

For the BnL, it was not possible to reorganise the library in parallel with commissioning Alma. Temporarily, the library is continuing with its old procedures, but the new software is an excellent inducement for re-evaluating its operations in the near future.





ACTIVE AND LOYAL READERS

The year 2022 was marked by a return to normal, following a long period of access restrictions linked to the Covid-19 pandemic. The maximum quota of 200 simultaneous visitors in the Reading Room, which applied from October 2021, was discontinued in April 2022. This has allowed users to freely reclaim the space, whilst enjoying maximum flexibility.

Thus the BnL has recorded 33,812 registered users, of whom 7,510 are new registrations. There were 91,138 recorded visits in 2022.

NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS AND VISITS		
	01.01.- 22.10.2022⁶	Trend since 2021
Registrations		
Number of reader accounts with the BnL ²	33,812	- 10%
New registrations with the BnL ³	7,510	- 14%
of which, online registration ⁴	1,458	- 48%
Number of reader accounts with the Bicherbus ²	1,865	- 33%
New registrations with the Bicherbus ³	311	- 29%
Visits to the Reading Room⁵	2022 (number of visits)	Trend since 2021
Total	91,138	+ 124%
Peak in December: average per day	914	+ 98%

2. This number only includes registrations with an expiry date after 1 January 2022.

3. Not including requests to renew library cards.

4. From 12.12.2022, registration via e-mail was replaced by registration via MyGuichet.lu.

The Reading Room comprises the workstations with IT equipment, the relaxation pods, and the armchairs. Eleven carrels (group rooms), three audio booths and a music room complement this suite of facilities. 440 spaces across all categories are currently available in the Reading Room.

NUMBER OF ROOM BOOKINGS	2022	Trend since 2021
Carrels	8,628	+ 73%
Music Room	952	+ 140%
Audio booths	1,097	+ 131%
Total	10,677	+ 82%



The most frequently-booked carrel is Carrel 3.7 (for 6 people) + Take a look at our Reading Room by scanning the QR code

In March 2022, the specialist consultation room located on the first floor of the Reading Room was renamed the Dr Jean-Claude Loutsch Rare Books Reading Room, in honour of the exceptional gift of the specialist library of the deceased Dr Jean-Claude Loutsch by his wife, Mrs Josannette Loutsch-Weydert.

ACTIVE BORROWERS	01.01.- 22.10.2022 ⁶	Trend since 2021
Active borrowers BnL	4,767	+ 25%
Active borrowers Bicherbus	1,044	+ 5%

5. In 2022, the number of visitors to the Reading Room was limited to 200, for health reasons. This restriction was discontinued in April 2022, which is why visitor numbers have increased.

6. Following a change of IT system, the statistical data from 23.11. to 31.12.2022 cannot be extracted yet. Configuration of the statistics from the new system will be carried out in 2023.

7. Including printed scores, Cedom monographs and periodicals.

8. Including periodicals.

9. Including periodicals.

10. The number of home loans is greater than the number of reservations, as with the full reopening of the Reading Room users were able to select and borrow free-access works themselves.

11. The total of home loans issued from the stacks is well below the total of reservations on the stacks, because for the most part the latter are works to be consulted on-site.

12. Excluding works posted out under interlibrary loans.

A total of 68,046 home loans were made in 2022. The most-borrowed printed documents in French were *Connemara* by Nicolas Mathieu and *Anéantir* de Michel Houellebecq, whilst the most-loaned works by Luxembourg authors were *Le droit judiciaire privé au Grand-Duché de Luxembourg* by Thierry Hoscheit and the 2020 *Code pénal*.

NUMBER OF RESERVATIONS OF WORKS IN THE STACKS	2022	Trend since 2021
Luxembourgish Collection and Cedom Music Collection	9,994	- 20%
Non-Luxembourgish Collection	6,319	- 25%
Total works reserved	16,313	- 22%

NUMBER OF HOME LOANS BY COLLECTION	01.01.- 22.10.2022 ⁶	Trend since 2021
Luxembourgish Collection ⁷ of which, collection in closed stacks	4,468 2,484	- 19% n/a
Non-Luxembourgish Collection ⁸ of which, collection in closed stacks	20,154 4,933	+ 13% n/a
Media Centre ⁹ of which, collection in closed stacks	5,371 24	+ 23% n/a
Total home loans from BnL Collections of which, collection in closed stacks	29,993 ¹⁰ 7,441 ¹¹	+ 8% n/a
Bicherbus	38,053	+ 0%
Total of documents loaned ¹²	68,046	+ 4%

NUMBER OF INTERLIBRARY LOAN REQUESTS	2022	Trend since 2021
BnL and Uni.lu users of which, BnL of which, Uni.lu	2,869 2,160 709	+ 2% + 23% - 34%
Foreign libraries	69	+ 97%
Total requests	2,938	+ 3%



A LOOK AT OUR COLLECTIONS

As a heritage and scientific library, the BnL features a Luxembourgish Collection and a Non-Luxembourgish Collection of books and printed periodicals, in addition to its special collections. The Non-Luxembourgish Collection makes up around $\frac{3}{4}$ of the print collections at the BnL and encompasses every field of knowledge.

With regard to the BnL's acquisitions policy, orders for documents placed with Luxembourgish suppliers have overtaken those placed with international partners. The result of this is that the BnL is a significant professional intermediary for publishers and libraries in Luxembourg.

PRINTED COLLECTIONS

LUXEMBOURGISH COLLECTION	At 31.12.2022	Trend since 2021 (physical units)
Monographs of which, works acquired in addition to the legal deposit of which, foreign works having a connection with Luxembourg of which, works accepted as donations	284,980	+ 7,958 + 997 + 1,052 + 375
Periodicals (number of titles)	5,277	+ 229
Memoirs and theses ¹³	10,979	+ 15
Heritage acquisitions ¹⁴	n/a	+ 11,256
Luxembourgish works/subjects of which, admitted as legal deposits	1,818	+ 103 + 76
NON-LUXEMBOURGISH COLLECTION	At 31.12.2022	Trend since 2021 (physical units)
Monographs ¹⁵	668,028	+ 7,484
Periodicals ¹⁶ (number of titles)	2,757	+ 25
Sound documents: audio books	2,454	+ 6
Audiovisual documents	19,912	+ 488
Multimedia documents: language learning media	920	+ 7
Number of suggested acquisitions from readers	378	- 254

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	At 31.12.2022	Trend since 2021 (physical units)
Manuscripts Collection		
Manuscripts (9 th -20 th c.)	933	+ 45
Rare Books Collection		
Incunabula	183	+ 3
Rare and precious printed works	370	-
Facsimile editions	170	+ 1
Historical and artistic book bindings	432	-
Posters and Postcards Collection		
Historic and contemporary posters of which, admitted as legal deposits	51,258	+ 931 + 837
Historic and contemporary postcards of which, admitted as legal deposits ¹⁷	46,164 ¹⁸	+ 9,445 ¹⁹ + 447
Collection of Cards, Maps, Atlases and Views		
Maps & plans (atlases) of which, admitted as legal deposits	7,173	+ 96 + 76
Cedom Music Collection		
Sound documents: music ²⁰	11,912	+ 566
Printed scores of which, admitted as legal deposits	7,702	+ 251 + 58
Manuscript musical scores	3,982	+ 2
Iconography Collection		
Illustrated and art books of which, illustrated books by Luxembourgish artists of which, illustrated books by foreign artists	1,697	+ 8 + 4 + 4
Prints (Lux. and foreign) of which, admitted as legal deposits	2,461	+ 45 + 12
Iconography documents	3,263	+ 98
Historic portraits	1,148	+ 19
Bicherbus Collection		
Bicherbus Collection ²¹ of which, new titles	64,831	- 7,643 + 2,258

13. Including works deposited in 2021 and awaiting cataloguing.

14. New category introduced in 2021 and covering documents with heritage value received as gifts or acquired at auction.

15. Not including back-catalogued documents.

16. Periodicals from international organisations are not included.

17. The significant variation in entries found compared to the previous year is explained by the division into postcards and invitation cards since 2022.

18. The 2021 increase needed to be adjusted following publication. The new figures are: total increase 1,479 and total 37,419.

19. The figure includes a significant donation, estimated at around 8,700 postcards.

20. All types of media taken together (magnetic tapes, audio records or cassettes, compact discs): acquisition and legal deposit data merged since 2014.

21. Growth is less than the number of new titles because every year works in the Bicherbus Collection are withdrawn due to reorganisation and the culling of documents.

In order to facilitate research of Luxembourgish documents, the BnL is working on updating the presentation module of the national bibliography. The analysis is still in progress, and several solutions are being looked at. Similar to the layout of the *Luxemburgensia* in the Reading Room, the new classification of the bibliography will be based on the Dewey Decimal Classification.

DR JEAN-CLAUDE LOUTSCH COLLECTION – A MAJOR DONATION

In March 2022, Mrs Josannette Loutsch-Weydert, wife of the deceased Dr Jean-Claude Loutsch, donated her husband's specialist library to the BnL. This collection holds exceptional heritage value and is of unrivalled importance for Luxembourg. It comprises around 30 books from the 16th century, over 200 from the 17th century, and nearly 500 from the 18th century. Amongst the printed Ancien Régime materials, some are unica, such as the heraldic collections of the 16th and 17th centuries, or rare pamphlets such as the *Vraye narration et apologie des choses passées aux Pays-Bas* printed in 1567.

The specialist library of Doctor Loutsch targeted armorial works, heraldic literature and books on history relating to the Duchy of Luxembourg, to the Lorraine region, to Belgium and to western Germany. Amongst the documents from the revolutionary and Imperial period as well as those from the first half of the 19th century, several series of almanacs are rare, almost impossible to find in other major European libraries. For the modern period, landmark works of German or French literature and a good number of brochures or Luxembourgish publications of modest scale, often widely scattered, can be found collected together at the BnL.

This incomparable collection has enriched the National Library's Manuscripts Collection and Rare Books Collection. The Library is able to appropriately preserve these items, to ensure their longevity and to make them available to the public: researchers, experts, students and other enthusiasts. The BnL is thereby fulfilling its legal missions by combining the obligation to conserve the national heritage with a scientific appreciation of its many collections.

Dr Jean-Claude Loutsch (21.07.1932 – 24.07.2002)

Doctor Jean-Claude Loutsch, from a family originally from Austria, which had emigrated to the Duchy of Luxembourg, was born in Paris on 21 July 1932. The son of a doctor, he studied ophthalmology at the University of Paris and opened his practice in Luxembourg in 1964. That said, Doctor Loutsch was not only a doctor, but also a great lover of heraldry, genealogy, history and painting.

Acknowledged by his peers, in France as in Germany, Doctor Loutsch published around twenty articles on the *Armorial Miltenberg*, along with others which have now become authoritative works. That is true of the monumental *Armorial du Pays de Luxembourg* (1974), but also of the *Complément à l'Armorial des Duché de Luxembourg et Comté de Chiny* (1966), of the *Origine des armes de la maison de Luxembourg* (1973), of the *Essai de classement du groupe héraldique des familles luxembourgeoises ayant porté une croix ancrée* (1983) and the *Armorial général de 1696 et le duché de Luxembourg* (1998).

During his lifetime, Jean-Claude Loutsch argued for a multidisciplinary view of heraldry, contending that it was necessary to expand it "to all fields of the arts and of everyday life" (*Essai de classification des sources de l'héraldique*, 1985). He similarly emphasised that the art of heraldry "permeated every class in society, thus extending to the minor nobility, the bourgeoisie, and even the peasant class" (*L'héraldique dans l'histoire et dans les arts*, 1974). In his view, heraldry is much more than an ancillary science of history and art history.

The BnL warmly thanks Josannette Loutsch-Weydert for the rigour with which she has managed her husband's collection and for the trust that she has shown in the National Library.

PRECIOUS AND NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS

Amongst the notable acquisitions in 2022 are documents drawn from the BnL's various Special Collections: the Rare Books Collection, the Manuscripts Collection, the Collection of Cards, Maps, Atlases and Views, the Cedom (Centre d'études et de documentation musicales – Centre for Music Research and Documentation) Music Collection, the Iconography Collection, the Posters and Postcards Collection, the Ephemera Collection and the Media Centre.

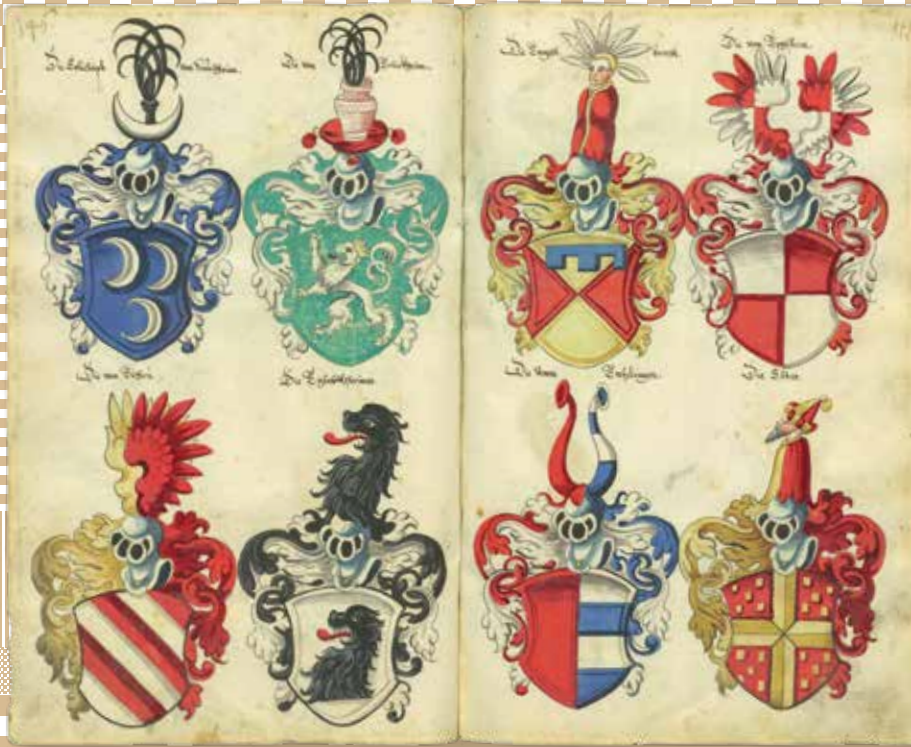
MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTION

The manuscripts of the Dr Jean-Claude Loutsch Collection

The collection comprises 43 manuscripts, of which three are earlier than 1500 (an Italian armorial from the start of the 15th century; an armorial of the families of Burgundy, Champagne, Barrois, Vermandois, Picardy, Ponthieu, Artois and Flanders written in around 1490, and the famous *Armorial Miltenberg* compiled in around 1492) and twelve of which pre-date 1628, at least for their first stratum, including the extraordinary *Armorial de Lorraine* from the end of the 16th century owned by Archduke Maximilian Francis and two *libri amicorum* from Hainault nobles, Philippe de Mérode (died 1605) and Jean-Guillaume de Spangen (died 1618).



The other manuscripts are mainly armorials of Flanders or Burgundy, of France or of the Empire, originating from various countries, from Italy to Spain. Some are of exceptional quality and merit very special attention. For instance, there is the *Escossois* dated 1674, or an armorial of Italian families compiled at the turn of the 17th and 18th century and containing 1,072 crests.



EPHEMERA COLLECTION

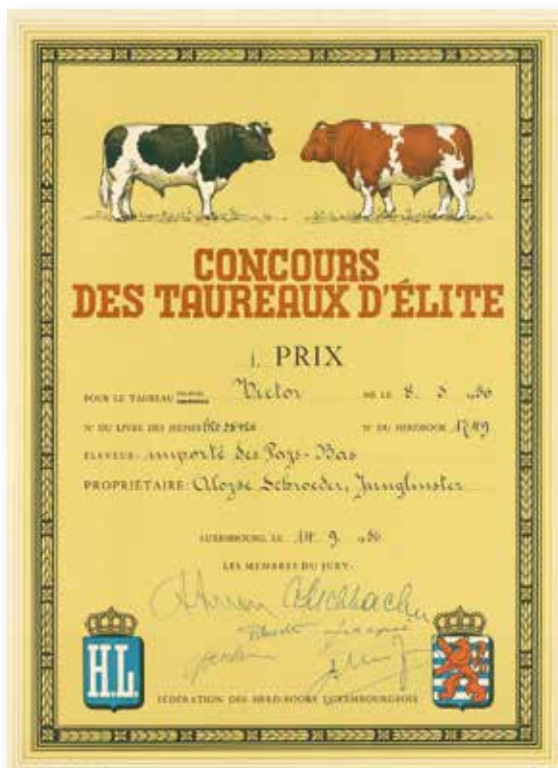
Advertising poster from the *Fabrique de Chicorée Auguste de Saint-Hubert* (1843-1908), a business established in 1834, located in Rue du Nord (Schiggerisgaass) in Luxembourg (undated). The BnL acquired this poster in March 2022. Coffee substitutes such as durian coffee, malt coffee or chicory coffee were not just an affordable product in a time of crisis, but were highly popular since the 19th century. The coffee substitute from the Auguste de Saint Hubert company had won a number of awards, for instance at the Paris Universal Exhibition in 1889. In Luxembourgish, “chicory” translates as “Schigg(e)ri”, meaning that the road had been named in the vernacular language after the producer’s coffee substitute.

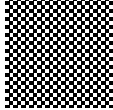




This extract from the *Règlement d'ordre intérieur de l'Établissement des bains communaux de la Ville de Luxembourg* informs the clientèle of the communal baths of the correct manners to be adopted during their visit. Article 6 specifies that only soap, starch and bran could be used for medicinal bathing. These rules were printed in Luxembourg and typeset by Frédérique Beffort in 1875. The BnL acquired this poster in September 2022.

This certificate (1st prize) was awarded to Victor, a young bull of the Pie Noir breed, at the Elite Bulls Competition held on 14 September 1956 and organised by the Luxembourg Herd Book Federation (Fédération des Herd-books luxembourgeois). It was created by the artist René Wismer and printed by Art. Ed Huss & Cie. The certificate is signed by the members of the jury: Victor Fischbach, Arnould Anen, Charles Wirtgen, Dr. René Wester, Albert Berchem, Joseph Jacqué. This document was bequeathed to the BnL in January 2022.





COLLECTION OF CARDS, MAPS, ATLASES AND VIEWS

In 2022, the BnL acquired nine sheets of *Leo Belgicus* to complete the collection of items that the BnL had already managed to acquire in the past.

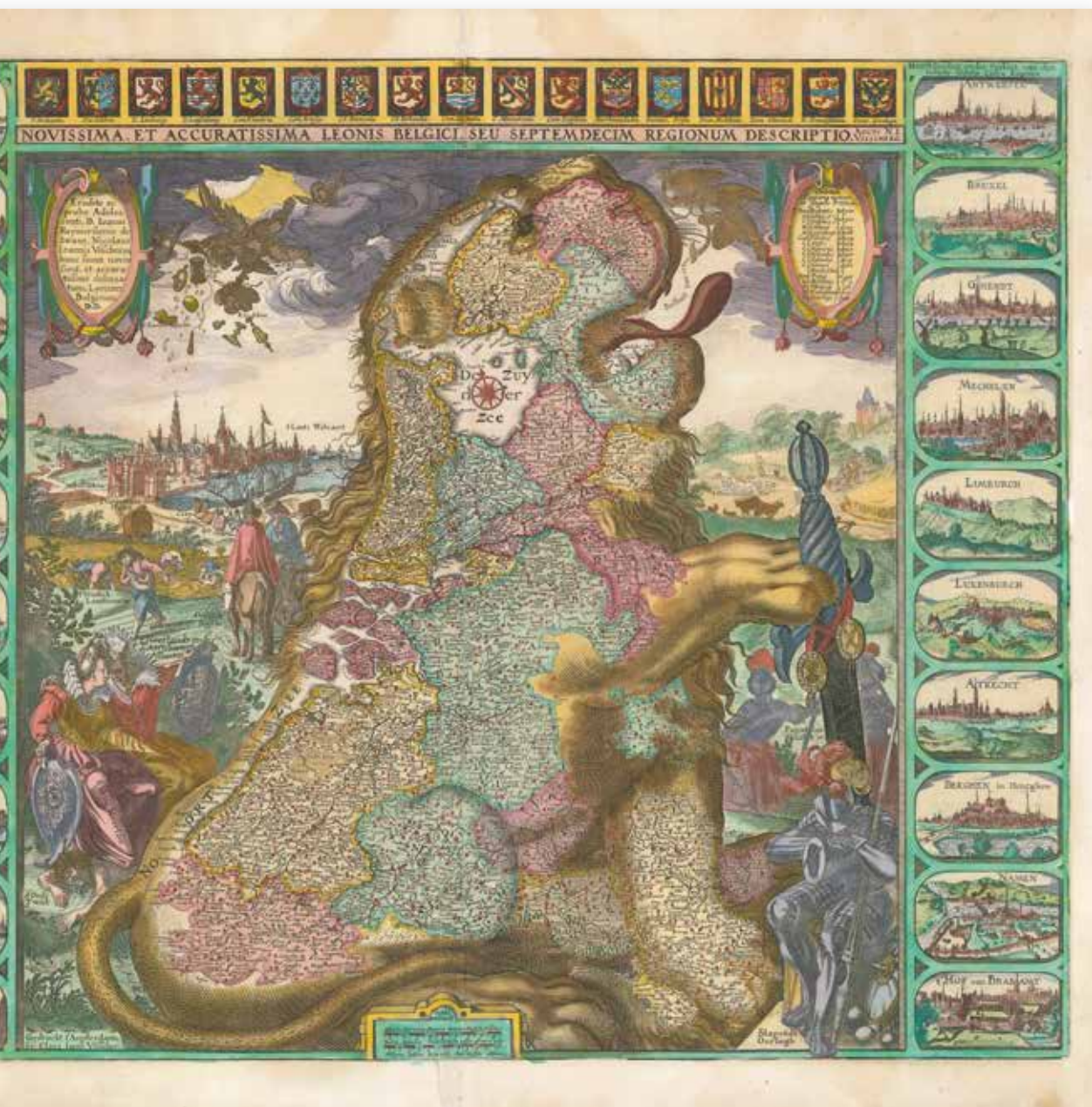
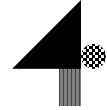
The *Leo Belgicus* is one of the most famous cartographic curiosities of all time. The original format, going back to the Austrian Michael von Aitzing (*De Leone Belgico, ejusque topographica atque historica descriptione liber ... Michaele Aitsingero auctore, Cologne: G. Campensis, 1583*), represents the Seventeen Provinces of the Netherlands in the form of a lion rampant, looking to the East, whose back follows the line of the coast. The Luxembourg of that time (often accompanied by Metz and Trier) is typically contained in the left front paw. The work where the lion is printed for the first time gives details of the wars of independence conducted by the Netherlands against the yoke of the Habsburgs.

The symbolism is readily explained: the lion is considered as the strongest of the animals, and the Belgians were, according to the judgement of Julius Caesar in his *Gallic Wars*, the fiercest of the Gallic tribes.

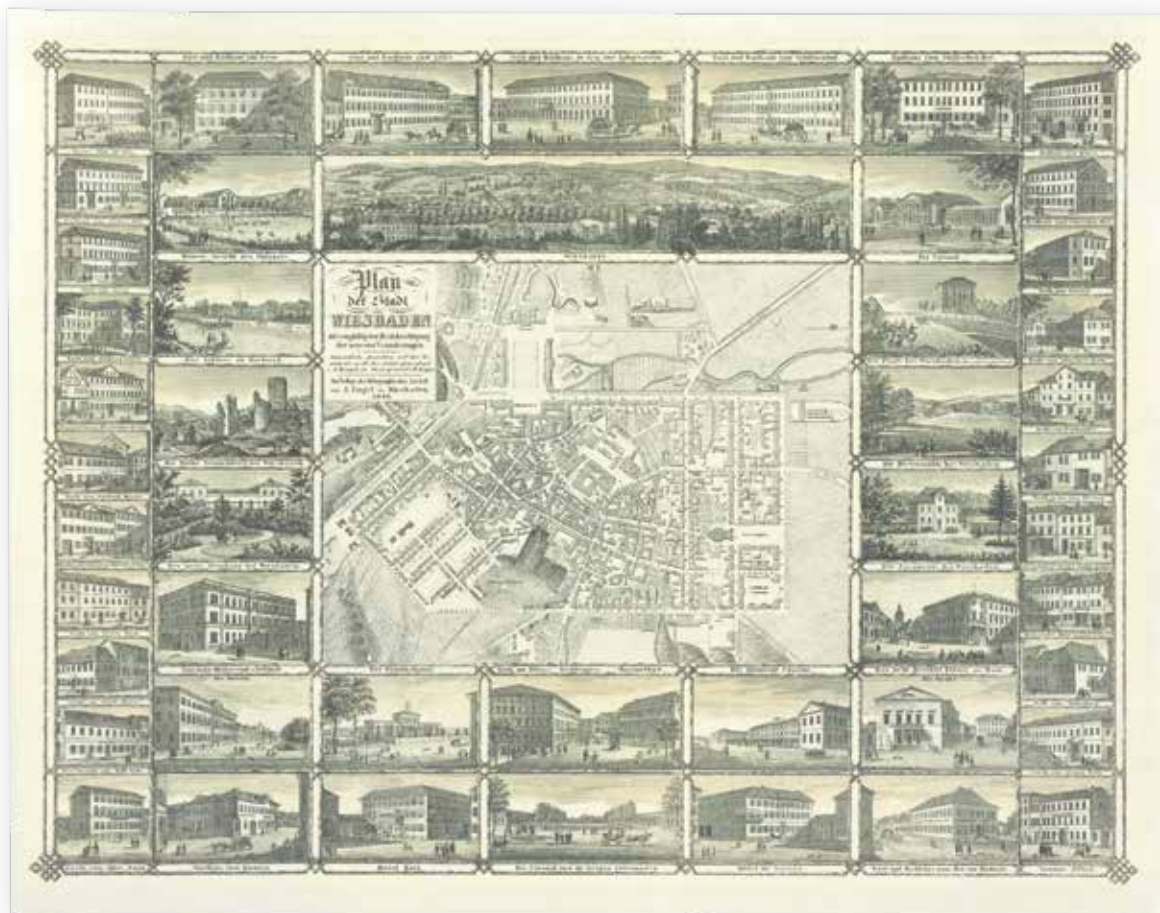
While all the parts taken individually are exceptional, the version executed by H. Hondius (1630) is noteworthy – only two copies exist in the public collections in the entire world (in Koblenz and Paris); as is the sheet probably engraved by H. Gerritsz in around 1611, of which no other copy is known; and the map attributed to C. J. Visscher (c. 1611 - c. 1621), which in addition to the province of Luxembourg also contains, in its right border, a view of the fortress of Luxembourg, unknown elsewhere.



The *Leo Belgicus* is one of the most famous cartographic curiosities of all time.



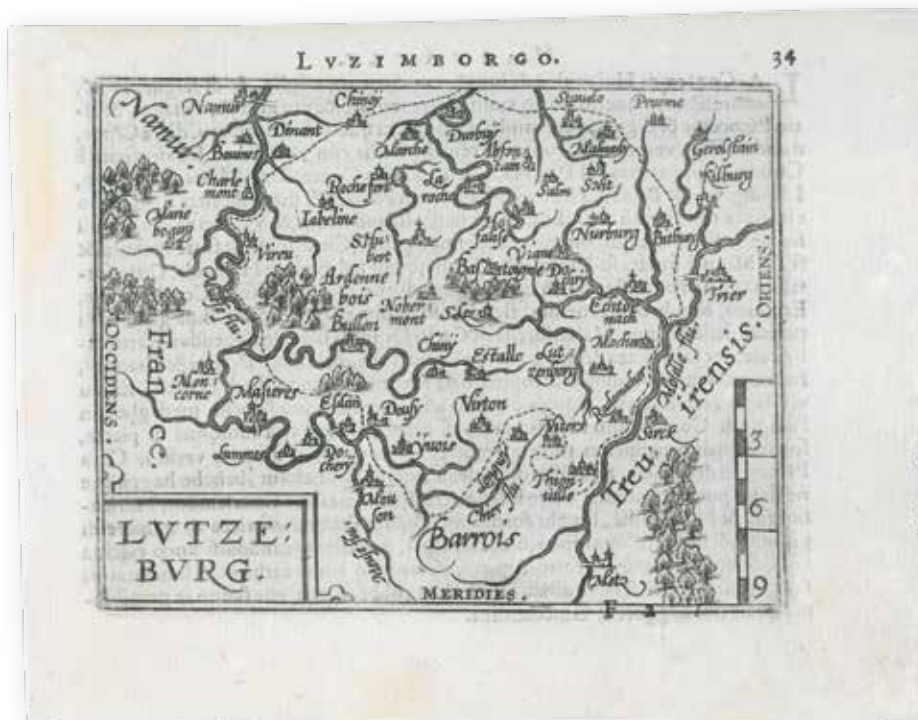
Map which, in addition to the province of Luxembourg, also contains, in its right border, a view of the fortress of Luxembourg, unknown elsewhere.



Map of Wiesbaden, drawn by J. Zingel and engraved by W. Zigel in 1845. On it, the map of the town can be seen, along with 47 sketches of buildings located in the town or its surroundings. This document has been restored.



Print of the town and fortress of Luxembourg, viewed from the Limpertsberg (Belle-vue), showing the siege and capture by the French under Louis XIV of 3 June 1684, commanded by Marshal Créquy with the assistance of the Marquis de Vauban. The print was painted by Adam François van der Meulen.

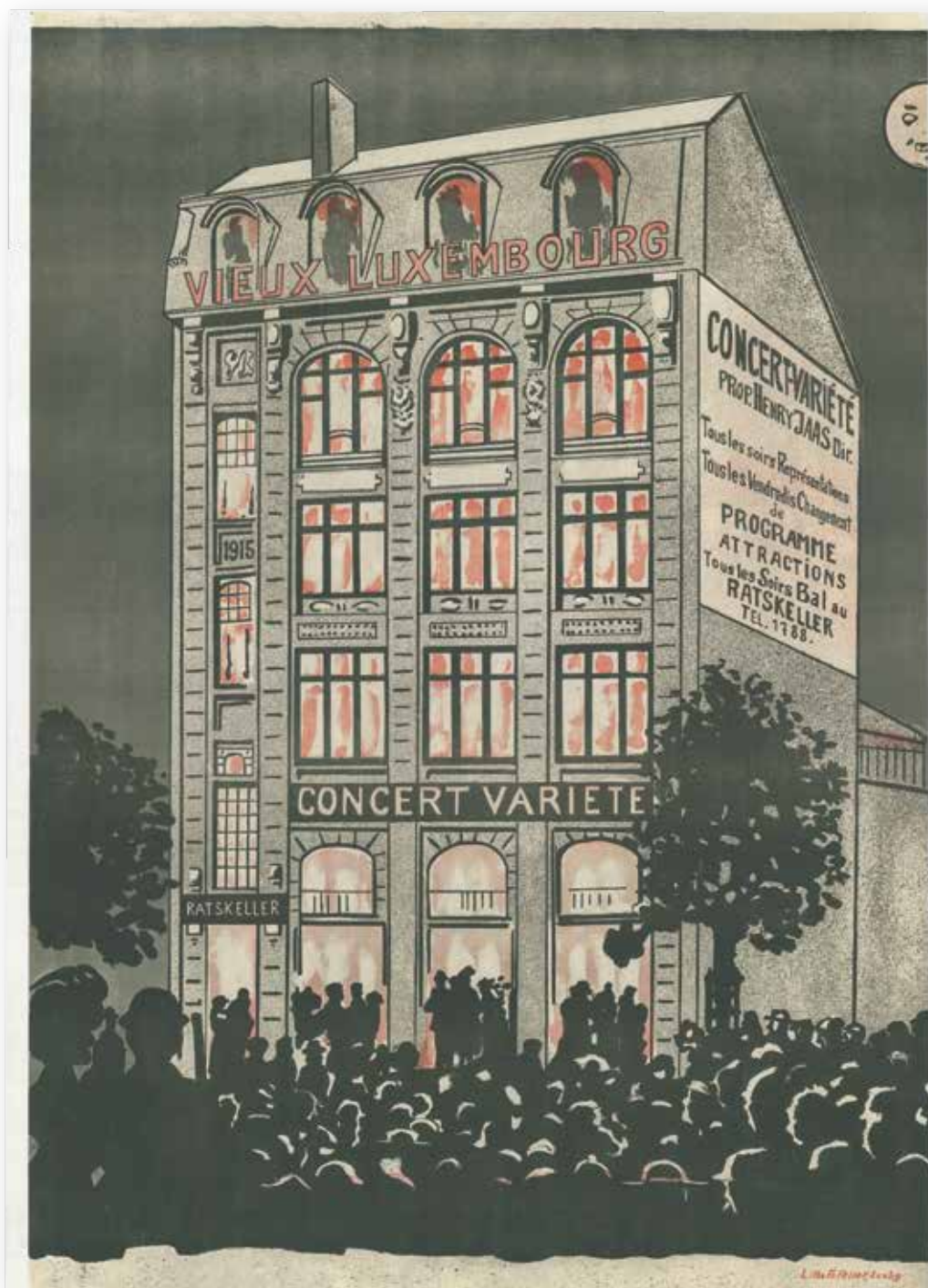


Small map of Luxembourg, showing just 27 Luxembourg towns. It was drafted by the mapmaker Abraham Ortelius and engraved by Philippe Galle for the printer/publisher Christophe Plantin. It is an intaglio print with typographic text on the verso of the sheet. Van der Vekene, Cartes, no. 1.04.a.

POSTERS AND POSTCARDS COLLECTION



This poster reproduces the text of the Franco-Anglo-American League against cancer, and probably dates from the second half of the 1920s. The Luxembourg Red Cross founded the National League Against Cancer in July 1925. The poster text represents facing French and German texts. The document was restored in 2022. Dimensions: 60 x 92 cm.

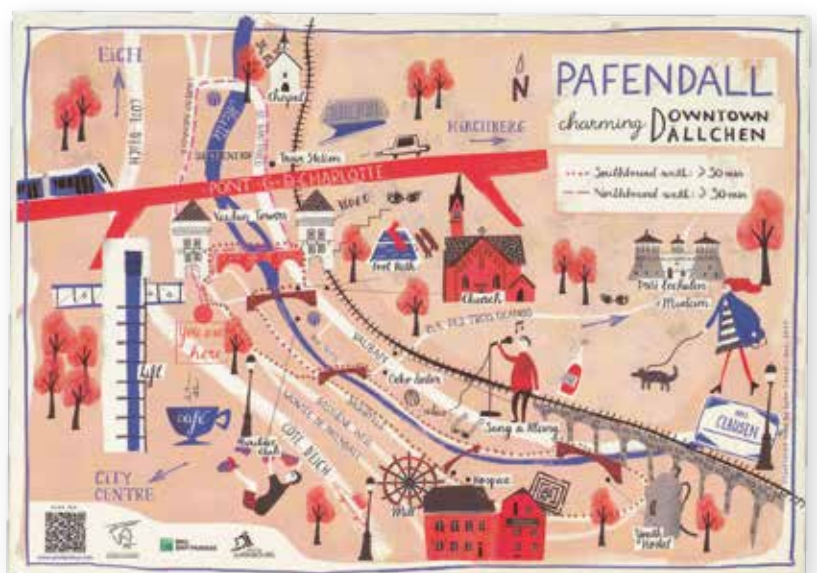


The "Vieux Luxembourg" Music Hall, resident in the "Ratskeller" of the Cercle Municipal. The poster was printed by Litho Fr. Feller: established in around 1922, this company brought together the two printers François and Jean-Pierre Feller. The printing-house was located in Rue de l'Eau in Luxembourg City, and was probably liquidated during the Second World War, as mentioned by Carlo Schmitz in his work *L'affiche luxembourgeoise avant 1940*, published in 1985. This is a restored acquisition. Dimensions: 58x43 cm.



This illustrated postcard, published in France and acquired by the BnL in 2022, presents a view over the Alzette valley, Neumünster Abbey, Montée de Clausen and the Ville Haute. The card presents the town of Luxembourg as a picturesque tourist destination, integrated in the rail network, operated by the *Compagnie des Chemins de Fer de l'Est* in the 19th century. The document was acquired in December 2022.

Illustrated map of Pfaffenthal district, with tourist information (“Luxembourg-Pfaffenthal: tours starting at the scenic elevator”) and the inscription “Moien, e schéine Bonjour aus dem Dällchen! Hei ass et quant*. (*Jéinesch a bedeit: schéin – schön – beau – nice)” on the verso. This postcard, illustrated by Lynn Cosyn and published by the *Syndicat d'intérêts locaux Pfaffenthal-Siechenhof* in 2018, came into the collections of the BnL in April 2022 by way of a gift.





This postcard, illustrated by Alan Johnston, represents two apples of the *Lëtzeburger Triumph* variety, along with apple blossom. The verso provides detailed explanations about this variety of apple, and the longevity of its trees. The card, published by Natur- a Geopark Mëllerdall in 2017, came into the collections of the BnL as a legal deposit.



This coloured postcard, published in Diekirch by Emile Zenner, carries the inscription “Vianden de la route de Poutscheid” and represents an outstanding view of Vianden Castle before its restoration, and its surroundings.

Postcards from the gift of Dr Henri Kugener

In 2022, the National Library of Luxembourg received a considerable gift from Vera Kugener, the widow of Dr Henri Kugener, who died in February 2022.

Henri Kugener was a doctor, a historian of medicine and a Luxembourg author who regularly held conferences and published scientific articles or essays, notably in the field of medical history. Amongst other things, he is the author of the publication “Die zivilen und militärischen Ärzte und Apotheker im Grossherzogtum Luxemburg”, published in 3 volumes in 2005.

Now conserved in the Posters and Postcards Collection, the Henri Kugener Collection includes close to 8,700 Luxembourgish postcards which will complement the collection of 36,000 illustrated postcards in the BnL, of which 17,500 are digitised and can be viewed on eluxemburgensia.lu.

In addition to the numerous tourist postcards, the Henri Kugener Collection also contains advertising cards such as the one for the Knepper House. The Knepper establishment, located on the Place d'Armes until 1959, was a shop specialising in wool knitting and carpet wool, children's and ladies' clothing, lingerie and tablecloths.



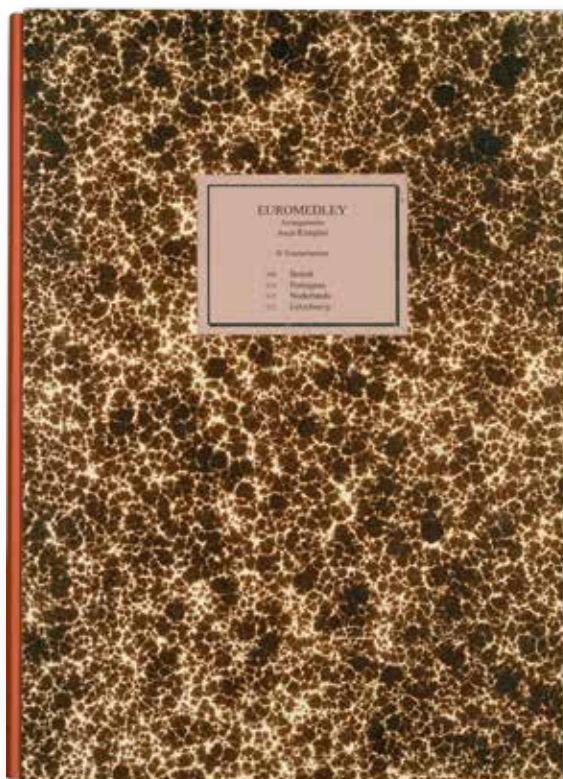
Postcard dating from around 1905 by Charles Bernhoeft (1859-1933), court photographer since 1891, showing portraits of the Grand Ducal family: Grand Duke William IV and his wife Marie-Anne de Bragance, Crown Princess Marie-Adélaïde, the mother of Grand Duke William IV, Adélaïde-Marie d'Anhalt-Dessau, and a portrait of all the children of the Grand Ducal couple: Marie-Adélaïde, Charlotte, Hilda, Antoinette, Elisabeth and Sophie.

CEDOM (CENTRE D'ÉTUDES ET DE DOCUMENTATION MUSICALES) MUSIC COLLECTION

Archive collection of Luxembourgish composers

Asca Rampini Collection

Asca Rampini (1931-1999) was a Luxembourgish composer and arranger of Italian origin, who composed primarily for wind orchestra. He was also known as a very talented multi-instrumentalist, as well as conductor of the Differdange Harmonie municipal orchestra. The Asca Rampini Collection comprises compositions and arrangements by the artist, in the form of manuscript and published musical scores, sound recordings, posters, press cuttings, correspondence, photos and private documents.



Asca Rampini, *Euromedley: arrangements*, [s.l.], [s.n.], 1990-1993.

Third part of an autograph manuscript score in three booklets arranged between 1990 and 1993. The work describes a veritable musical journey through the European Union, crossing Italy, Ireland, France, Spain, Greece, Germany, Denmark, Belgium, the UK, Portugal, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg. It was commissioned by Georges Calteux for the Troaterbattien ensemble, who performed it on-stage in multiple reprises, with a narrator and accompanied by image projection.



Black and white photograph of Asca Rampini conducting.

Troaterbattien Collection

The Troaterbattien Collection documents the history of a wind ensemble of around 30 amateur and professional musicians, who have interpreted a repertoire that could be described as a pot-pourri of popular music. Mainly comprising musical works and shows by Luxembourgish composers and arrangers, the Troaterbattien Collection also includes financial documents, concert programmes and various objects.

The Asca Rampini Collection and Troaterbattien Collection are currently being processed.



The insignia of the Troaterbattien wind ensemble.

Printed Scores Collection

Hymnes nationaux des alliés. Luxembourg, [J. Feller], c. 1918.

Published score “en souvenir de l’entrée solennelle des troupes alliées à Luxembourg, le 21 novembre 1918 et à l’honneur de nos sauveurs” (“in memory of the solemn entry of the Allied troops into Luxembourg on 21 November 1918, and in honour of our saviours”). It was sold to benefit Allied prisoners held in Luxembourg, with a sale price of LUF1.25.

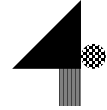


Sound Documents Collection



Francesco Tristano Schlimé: *On early music*. Germany: Sony Music, 2022.

This compact disc by Francesco Tristano Schlimé, a classical pianist, electronic musician and Luxembourgish composer who graduated from the Juilliard School, was awarded the Opus Klassik prize in the Klassik ohne Grenzen category, a major German prize in the field of classical music.



ICONOGRAPHY COLLECTION

politische portraits

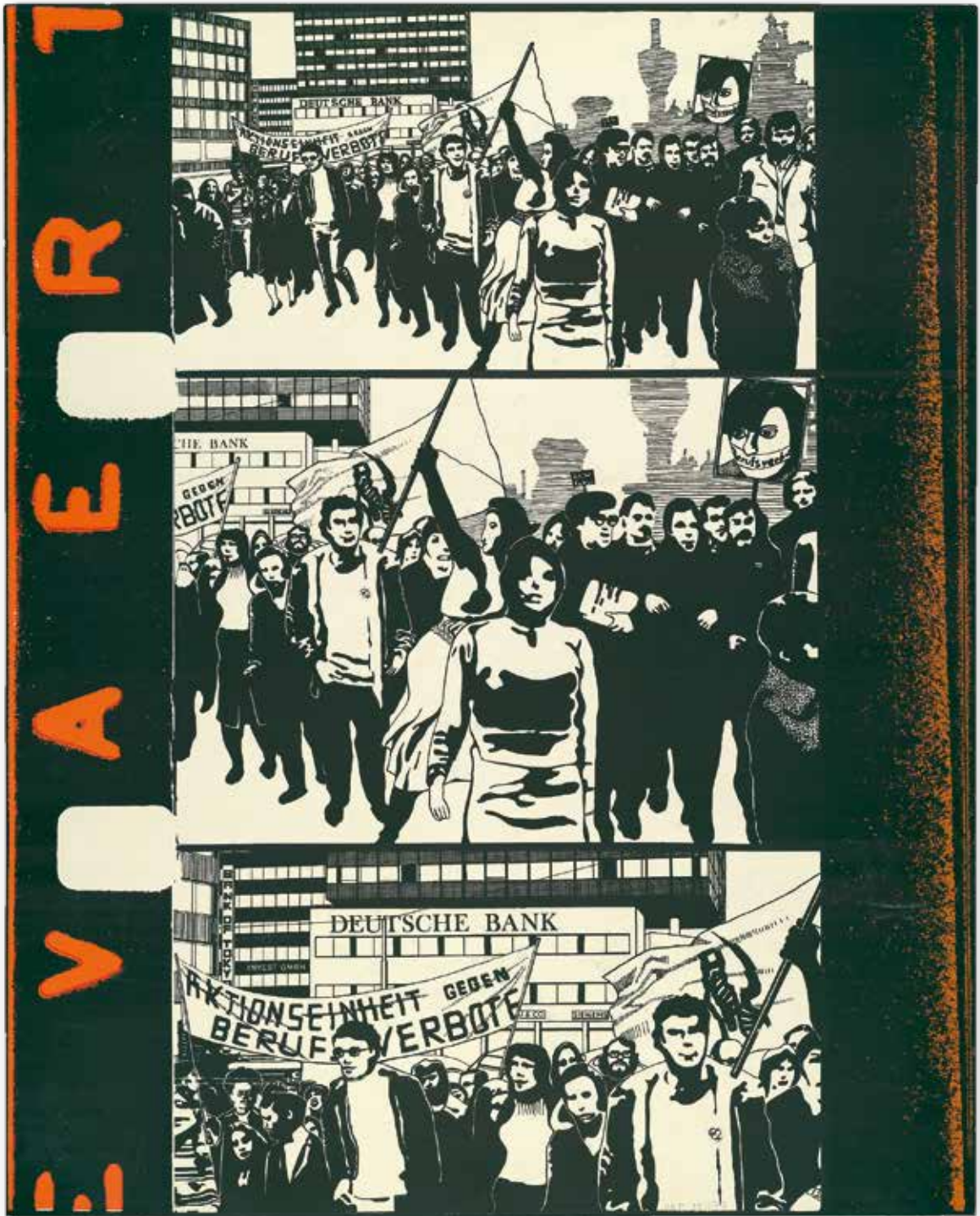


DIESE ARBEITEN WAREN NICHT ALS ZUSAMMENHÄNGENDE GEPLANT DENNOCH FASSEN SIE GUT ZUSAMMEN HÄNDEN SIE IN IHRE ANORDNUNG ENTHALTEN SICH DIE FORMALEN UND INHALTLICHEN WIDERSPRÜCHE UND GEWISSANKHEITEN

**DIESE MAPPE ENTHAELT VIER SIEBDRUCKE VON M. DALEIDEN
EXEMPLAR NO DUESSELDORF, NOVEMBER 73**

Misch Da Leiden, engravings and prints

In 2022, the Bnl acquired an exceptional set of engravings, prints and two artist's books by Misch Da Leiden, a Luxembourg artist, for whom the *Summer of 69* exhibition at the Villa Vauban (November 2021 to May 2022) has been 2021 to May 2022) was partially dedicated to.



The graphic works acquired highlight the artist's political and social commitment at a time marked by agitprop, protest and activist art.



Portrait of William I, King of the Netherlands from 1772 to 1843

The portrait was engraved on steel by Johann Hürliman in around 1840. This document is a new acquisition that has been restored. It forms part of the special collection of historic portraits of sovereigns with a connection to the history of Luxembourg. The collection comprises 1,148 portraits.

BINDING AND RESTORATION OF DOCUMENTS

Binding is a means of protection for the document. In the case of periodicals, it makes it possible to collect together individual booklets in a lasting fashion, preventing them from becoming scattered whilst also protecting them against impacts and light.

The BnL outsources the binding of periodicals. In 2022, it used a Luxembourgish company and a Belgian company. The selection criteria for binding having been reviewed, the number and total volume of purchase orders has reduced somewhat: in 2022, six orders were placed, for a total quantity of 439 volumes, as compared with twelve orders for a total of 1,266 volumes in 2021.

Since October 2018, the BnL undertakes simple restoration of contemporary documents in-house, from repairing torn pages to making new covers with gilding. The documents mainly come from the Non-Luxembourgish Collection. They are identified during projects in the collections, cataloguing, or loans. When a document reserved by a reader is found to be damaged, it is repaired as a priority, often that same day, before being sent to the reader.

In 2022, 1,031 documents were processed, of which 522 required more extensive work (e.g. making a new spine, glued or stitched bindings, or making new covers).

Restoration is a vital task in order to ensure the preservation of heritage items and long-term access to documents which are sadly often worn and in a critical condition.

Books in return for a donation to restoration of documents

In October 2022, visitors to the National Library had the opportunity to acquire books which were surplus at the BnL, in return for a small donation towards restoration of historic documents. This initiative was highly successful, and thanks to the gifts received, the BnL was able to restore three historic posters.

Once restored, the posters are ready to be digitised. After that, they are included in the catalogue and the metadata added. If necessary, the copyrights are also clarified before the document is published on the eluxemburgensia.lu portal.



Founded in 1899 in Esch-sur-Alzette, the Union luxembourgeoise des sociétés de gymnastique (ULSG) assumed the name of Fédération luxembourgeoise de gymnastique (Luxembourg Gymnastics Federation) in 1998. At the advertised event in 1909, 14 nations were present, as mentioned in the newspaper *L'Indépendance luxembourgeoise* of 2 August 1909. The artist, Pierre Blanc (1872-1946), was a founder member of the Cercle artistique de Luxembourg (CAL), of which he was twice president. Dimensions: 140 x 93 cm.



This poster was made for the 2nd international fire safety exhibition in Esch-sur-Alzette. At the same time, the National Fire Service Federation (Fédération nationale des sapeurs-pompiers) was celebrating its 50th anniversary. The artist Jean-Pierre Calteux (1911-1983) was known primarily as a painter of still lifes and landscapes, but he also produced posters for events. He received the Grand Duke Adolphe Prize in 1954. Dimensions: 98 x 62 cm.

The posters were restored with funds raised from the surplus event.

DIGITISED COLLECTION

eluxemburgensia.lu

By digitising and putting online Luxembourgish periodicals, the BnL is answering a need coming both from the general public and from the world of research. Large-scale digitisation and putting online makes it possible to make the national written heritage more visible and more accessible to an international public, whilst ensuring optimum conservation of the delicate originals due to their age and/or their frequent use. It also ensures the sharing of knowledge, enabling everyone to exercise their right to information.

The eluxemburgensia.lu portal allows the user to freely access the full text of the documents digitised by the BnL.

In December 2022, the BnL put a selection of publications from STATEC (National institute of statistics and economic studies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg) from 1902 to 2005 online. A total of 49,052 pages and 596 documents from STATEC are now freely accessible remotely. In addition, the digitising of the *Mémorial A* (1914-1940) and *Mémorial C* (1961-1995) archives were also completed at the end of 2022. They will be available on the eluxemburgensia.lu site in spring 2023. They number over 22,000 documents and 653,000 pages.

Several digitisation projects are in progress:

- *Revue* periodical: 3,832 copies to be digitised, with a total of 443,424 pages, covering the period from 1945 to 2020
- Digitising of over 60 historic Luxembourgish periodical titles, including *Der Landwirth*, *Luxemburger Zeitung* and the *Escher Zeitung*
- 3,000,000 pages of Luxembourgish monographs

The BnL is intending to digitise all monographs and periodicals in the Luxembourgish Collection by 2030. At present, 505 digitised books are accessible online via eluxemburgensia.lu and a-z.lu. These will be supplemented by a total of 7,015 publications by the end of 2023, and 13,264 books by the end of 2024.

ELUXEMBURGENSIA.LU DIGITISED COLLECTION	At 31.12.2022	Trend since 2021
Periodicals (as full text)		
Titles/Objects	68	+ 5
Pages	882,692	+ 49,052
Periodicals (as images)		
Titles/Objects	11	-
Pages	138,972	
Reference works (as images)		
Titles/Objects	5	-
Pages	17,049	
Monographs		
Titles/Objects	505	-
Pages	51,710	
Historic postcards		
Titles/Objects	17,421	-
Imaging (recto/verso)	34,842	
Manuscripts		
Titles/Objects	15	-
Pages	3,255	
Luxembourgish posters		
Titles/Objects	782	-
Imaging (recto/verso)	1,564	

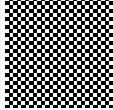
TOTAL PAGES VIEWED ON ELUXEMBURGENSIA.LU	2022	Trend since 2021
Periodicals (as images)	251,184	- 66%
Periodicals (as full text)	1,792,259	+ 23%
Reference works (as images)	100,375	- 42%
Monographs (as full text)	32,063	- 3%
Historic postcards	19,482	+ 44%
Manuscripts	2,099	- 1%
Posters	61	+ 7%
Total	2,197,523	- 9%

Digital resources acquired under access licence agreements

Since 2022, the BnL has managed the acquisition, administration and promotion of digital resources for its many partners, including:

- The eleven public libraries in the ebooks.lu project
- The University of Luxembourg
- LIST (Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology)
- LIH (Luxembourg Institute of Health)
- The Ministry of the Civil Service and the Governmental Library bibgov.lu
- IFEN (Institut de formation de l'éducation nationale – National Educational Training Institute)
- LISER (Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research)
- MPI (Max Planck Institute for International, European and Regulatory Procedural Law)
- Read-y, a reading for pleasure library open to all secondary school students for SCRIPT (Service de coordination de la recherche et de l'innovation pédagogiques et technologiques – Division for research coordination and for educational and technological innovation)

The National Library has received six requests from potential partners in 2022. All of these have benefited from individual advice regarding their digital resource needs.



A GROWING COLLECTION

The offer of digital content under licence from the National Library has expanded, notably to include:

- The *Genios* database (German-language press, with *Die Zeit*, *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, *Der Spiegel*, etc.)
Genios supplements the existing digital offer from the National Library: *Europresse* (French-language section) and *PressReader* (international section)
- The global climate knowledge portal *Brockhaus – Klima der Welt*
- The collection of Cambridge University Press journals and e-books
- The video on demand (VOD) offering from MéNuLu (Médiathèque numérique du Luxembourg - Luxembourg Digital Media Centre), in collaboration with the CNA (Centre national de l'audiovisuel - National Audiovisual Centre) and the Cité Bibliothèque (Luxembourg City Library)

DIGITAL RESOURCES ACQUIRED UNDER LICENCE AGREEMENTS	At 31.12.2022	Trend since 2021
Electronic periodicals	67,757	- 10%
Scientific e-books	784,677	+ 3%
Databases	304	- 9%
e-books (ebooks.lu)	116,667	- 10%
Audio books (ebooks.lu)	1,641	+ 6%
Videos on demand	20,289	n/a

Following a significant increase in 2020, use of the digital collection remained stable in 2022.

For the third year in succession, the most-consulted digital resource was the science review *Nature*, while the daily newspaper most frequently consulted online was *Le Monde*, closely followed by *Le Figaro*, *Libération* and *L'Équipe*.

The *Europresse* portal recorded 3,429 sessions, equating to around 94,000 downloads, while the *PressReader* platform recorded 1,516 sessions and 66,000 downloads.

The most-used scientific databases were *Science Direct*, *Beckonline* and *Springer*.

In order to optimise searches of reliable digital resources, the BnL offers its users a download of the browser add-on "Lean Library". This add-on gives access to the digital content of the library where the user is registered when browsing and conducting web searches. The add-on runs in the background to connect search results to the library's digital offering. This means that users no longer need to carry out their searches on different sites. Lean Library takes care of it. The add-on is available at the a-z.lu homepage.

The BnL offers its users both scientific documents and those related to leisure as well as to everyday life.

OPEN ACCESS

The National Library and Cambridge University Press have signed a three-year transformative agreement, which provides access to content from academic journals and covers publishing costs, signaling a significant step forward in the world of Open Access Publishing.

The agreement, which takes effect immediately, enables researchers and authors from the Consortium Luxembourg (University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology, Luxembourg Institute of Health, National Library of Luxembourg, Max Planck Institute Luxembourg for International, European and Regulatory Procedural Law) to publish their research in Cambridge University Press' prestigious academic journals under open access principles, without being charged with additional publishing fees.

This will not only help in promoting the visibility of the research and academic community of Luxembourg on the global stage, but also provide greater access to the latest research findings.

The National Library has continued to contribute as observer to the working group dedicated to Open Access involving the University, the research bodies and FNR (Fonds national de la recherche – Luxembourg National Research Fund). Several partners have since decided to implement the ChronosHub service (already used by the FNR to manage its Open Access collection since 2021) to manage their article publication costs from 2023. The aim of this is to supplement the costs for subscriptions with the costs for publications, to have an overview of costs broken down by the various publishers.

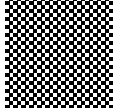
ebooks.lu

The ebooks.lu (www.ebooks.lu) programme, offered by eleven public libraries, the BnL and its mobile library, has sustained an increased level of consultations. Currently, users have access to 116,667 works in French, German or English. It is free to use.

The number of loans of e-books has returned to a pre-Covid level, totalling 33,769 loans. In effect, the pandemic and lockdown triggered an exceptional use of e-books and digital resources.

The three most-borrowed works were: Yuval Noah Harari, *Sapiens. A Brief History of Humankind*; Susanne Abel, *Stay away from Gretchen – Eine unmögliche Liebe*; and Hervé Le Tellier, *L'anomalie*.

NUMBER OF E-BOOKS DOWNLOADED	2022	Trend since 2021
In French	2,916	- 22%
In German	9,796	- 16%
In English	21,057	- 23%
Total	33,769	- 21%



NUMBER OF AUDIO BOOKS DOWNLOADED	2022	Trend since 2021
In French	494	- 19%
In English or German	10,180	+ 10%
Total	10,674	+ 8%

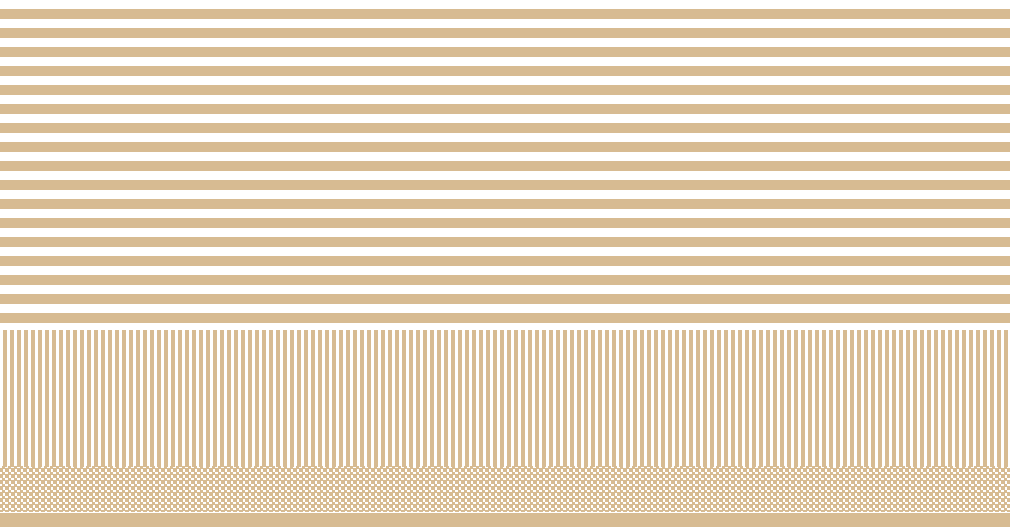
The application *Libby* from Overdrive allows direct access to the e-books offered by the BnL and its partners (apart from French-language works). The app is free, exceptionally practical, and easy to use. The figures confirm it: 88% of e-book downloads in English and of audio books in English and German are via the *Libby* app.

Read-y

Read-y is a read-for-pleasure library for students in public or private secondary schools. It was launched by the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth and the BnL. Over 22,960 e-books and audio books, mainly in English, German and French, are available online. The initiative aims to encourage a love of reading amongst young people, free from financial constraints.

The two most-borrowed works in 2022 were: *One of Us is Lying* by Karen M. McManus and *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas.

READ-Y: NUMBER OF DOWNLOADS	2022	Trend since 2021
E-books	23,424	+ 5%
Audio books	150	- 35%
Total	23,574	+ 4%



MéNuLu – Médiathèque Numérique du Luxembourg

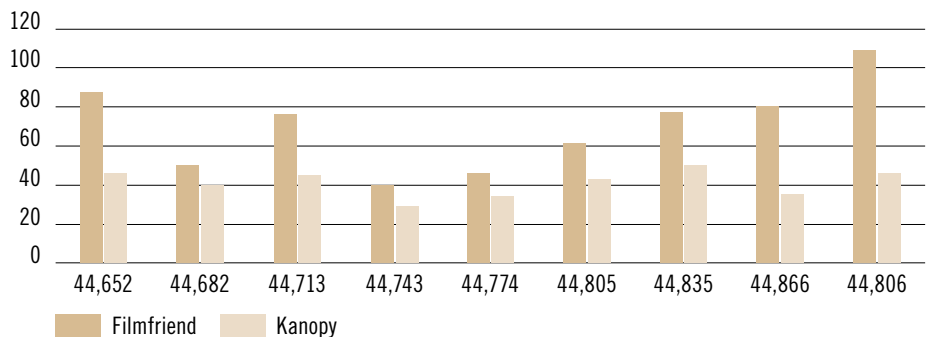
The BnL, Cité Bibliothèque (City Library) and the Media Library at the Centre national de l'audiovisuel (National Audiovisual Centre) have come together to establish a shared VOD (video-on-demand) service. Thanks to this cooperation, users registered with at least one of the three partner libraries in the project have access to the Kanopy, Filmfriend and Tènk platforms, offering programmes in all genres – documentaries, series, fiction films, films for children and music films. Access to the platforms is free and comes via a-z.lu.



Direct access to video-on-demand platforms

REGISTERED USERS	01.04.-31.12.2022
Tènk	207
Filmfriend	360
Kanopy	452
Total	1,019

Monthly active users (1 April - 31 December 2022)



Use 01.04.-31.12.2022	Watch time in hours	% per platform
Tènk	376	23%
Filmfriend	481	29%
Kanopy	788	48%
Total	1,645	100%

Bibgov.lu

The digital governmental library provides ministry departments and the State administrations with specialist digital resources, thereby answering the need for professional documentation and continuous training of officials. Bibgov.lu currently offers eleven specialist databases, two online reviews and two international press databases, *Europresse* and *Genios*.

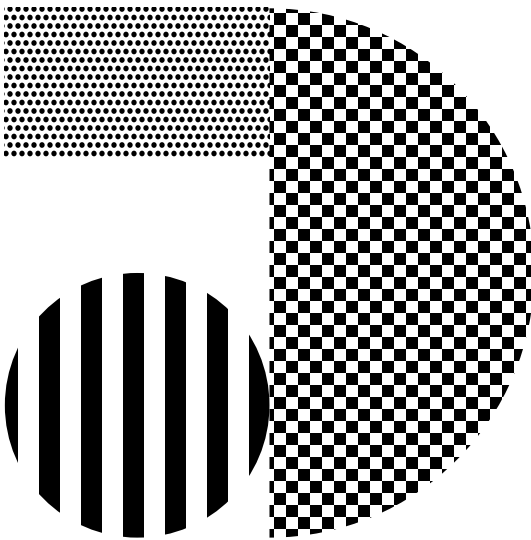
DIGITAL INNOVATION

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The BnL, always striving to offer the best services to its users, has launched a set of initiatives and experiments in 2022 aimed at optimising searches on the site eluxemburgensia.lu. These developments have been conducted with the help of AI technologies.

Identifying similar illustrations

To make searching for illustrations, photos, portraits or caricatures easier, a proof of concept has been developed to classify images by genre and to identify those with strong similarities. By using a set of 600,000 illustrations taken from digitised newspapers from 1844 to 2007, the various properties of these illustrations have been extracted using AI technologies. These properties have then been used to establish pre-existing similarities. A de-duplication option has also been implemented, to eliminate identical illustrations.



Signature

Source: photos, drawings, other (30% maximum)
Content: original, printed, scanned, photo, caricature, family, scene, 1844-2007, drawing



08.21c - November - 1928
photo, scene - signature



06.21c - November - 1928
photo, scene



06.21c - November - 1928
photo, scene



08.21c - November - 1928
photo, scene



07.21c - November - 1928
photo, scene



07.21c - November - 1928
photo, scene



07.21c - November - 1928
photo, scene

This promising technology will simplify visual exploration of the digitised and scanned collections, and the BnL will continue with this development over the next few years.



Determining the content of illustrations

This development aims to simplify exploring illustrations from our digitised collections by adding key-words to the images. Automatic learning models have been used to determine, for each illustration:

- Its type: photo, drawing, other
- Its general content: portrait, group, architecture, map, caricature, music, miscellaneous
- Objects present in the illustration
- Subjects describing the illustration

With the aid of Google Vision models, 432 objects and 3,140 different subjects have been identified for 349,915 images.



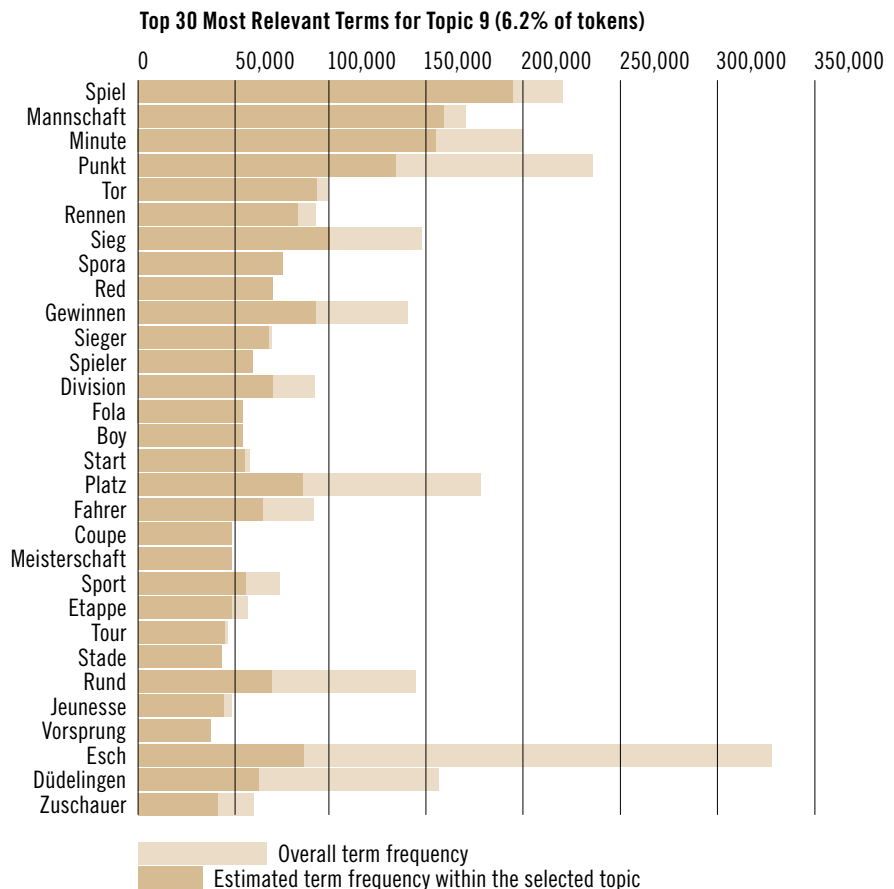
Example of twelve images containing at least one umbrella as an object.

The use of artificial intelligence techniques allows for faster and deeper analyses of collections. It facilitates indexing and classification of documents as well as access to our digital resources.

Identifying subjects in newspaper articles

Another initiative, made possible thanks to the Nautilus-OCR project (improving the quality of texts identified using optical character recognition), aims to identify the subject of newspaper articles, to have a better overview of the collection and to allow users to search by subject. It is a preliminary phase for classifying articles and moving on to training automatic learning models specific to the BnL.

A statistical model (Latent Dirichlet Allocation, LDA) was applied to 3.5 million German-language articles to group similar content together. Experiments were performed with a variable number of groups ranging from five (more general themes) to 100 (more specific themes). These groups can be displayed using the most relevant terms. All the groups were analysed and the most suitable were adopted to serve as the basis for classification by subject.



Display of an illustrative subject that was established automatically and which looks to group together sports articles. The most relevant terms are indicated by their total frequency in the corpus and by their frequency in this subject. For instance, the term “Mannschaft” (team) is subject-specific, whereas “Esch” appears in many other thematic groups.

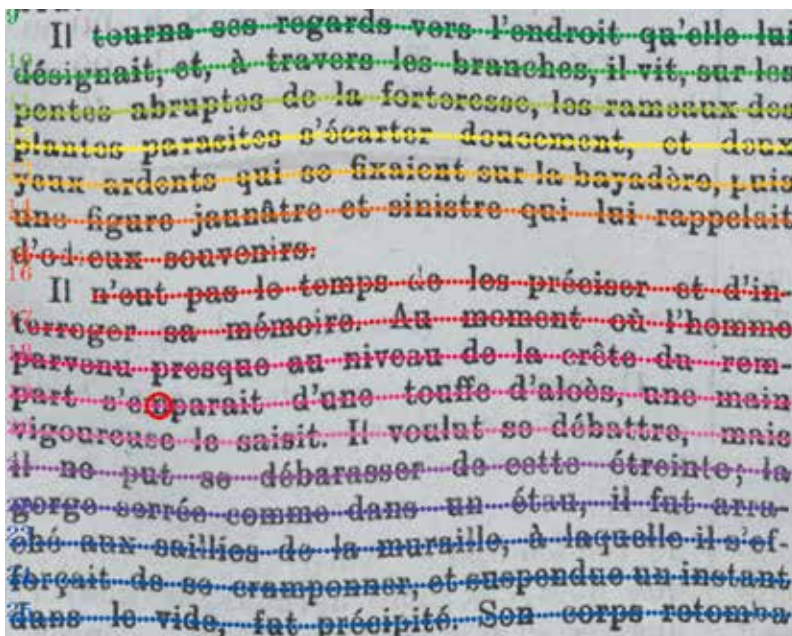


Quality verification of the results of digitisation campaigns

The BnL's digitisation campaigns are organised with the help of public submissions. An economic operator is commissioned to scan a set of documents from the BnL's collections. When the scanned documents are returned, the BnL checks, amongst other things, the quality of the images produced compared to the requirements in the specifications. AI technologies have made it possible to improve this process and to make it more efficient.

Automated methods have been implemented to identify scanned documents containing sloping or malformed lines of text. For example, the system detects sloping text on a scanned image and filters out the images where the incline of the slope exceeds a limit set by the BnL (+/- 0.5°). These methods supplement the manual verifications and make the quality control more reliable.

As part of the Nautilus-OCR project, the scientific article “Rerunning OCR: A Machine Learning Approach to Quality Assessment and Enhancement Prediction”, which follows on from the article “Combining Morphological and Histogram based Text Line Segmentation in the OCR Context” (2021), was published in November 2022 in the *Journal of Data Mining & Digital Humanities*. The method presented in the article explains how to select OCR-processed articles where the text quality can be improved following a repeat OCR processing. The aim of this is to avoid repeating a pointless rerun on good-quality content, and to limit the risk of downgrading existing data.



Identifying images with malformed text

Pit Schneider & Yves Maurer, “Rerunning OCR: A Machine Learning Approach to Quality Assessment and Enhancement Prediction”, in *Journal of Data Mining & Digital Humanities* 8561, November 2022

OPEN DATA AND OPEN SOURCE

Open Data

The BnL is releasing its data and making it accessible. Opening up the data helps in research, increases the transparency of public data and encourages citizens to participate actively in the dissemination of knowledge. Citizens are free to develop new applications, to supplement them or to associate them with other sources of information.

The BnL also provides several application programming interfaces (APIs) and various web services which make it possible to search and recover metadata from the BnL catalogues, to automate tasks and create new applications.

In 2022, sets of open data with the metadata and full text of articles from Luxembourgish periodicals from before 1879 were updated and published on the BnL's Open Data site, the Open Data site of the Luxembourg government and on the Huggingface site. The year 1879, with 752 issues, 2,672 pages and 120,000 articles, has also been added.

Webharvesting

The program "browsertrix-api-client" is a new tool making it possible to communicate with the "Browsertrix Cloud" web crawler manager developed by the International Internet Preservation Consortium. This is an emerging software in the world of web harvesting, using an internal browser to visit the sites to be archived and simulating a human behaviour on those sites. This tool developed by the BnL, and written in Java, thus enables Browsertrix Cloud to be integrated in more complex workflows and to automate harvesting tasks.

Copyrights

In April, the new Directive on copyright and related rights in the digital single market was transposed into Luxembourg law. It contains essential improvements for which the National Library has been lobbying for some time, notably including:

- Researchers now have a right to reuse all content to which they have legal access, to carry out text and data mining operations. This therefore includes all the various digital collections managed by the National Library in their name.
- The introduction of the concept of a "non-commercial work" ("œuvre hors commerce") will make it easier to make digitised heritage collections available via the internet. For the National Library, this will involve negotiating an "extended collective" licence with Luxorr (Luxembourg Organization for Reproduction Rights).

**Giving access to
information requires
providing quality data
and state-of-the-art
technologies.**



WEB ARCHIVE

In collaboration with the Internet Archive Foundation, the BnL ensures daily or weekly captures of all online Luxembourgish media. It undertakes four large-scale harvests per year, and uses its service provider's duplication eradication techniques for better data compression. In 2022, the BnL archived 4.5 billion files, the equivalent of 213 TB.

In addition to the campaigns to archive the ".lu" domain, the BnL also maintains targeted collections, event-related collections and thematic collections:

- The Covid-19 collection gathers together the official governmental and healthcare sector websites.
- The thematic collection of Luxembourgish media archives the daily or weekly captures of all newspapers, radio and television stations in Luxembourg.

DIGITAL LEGAL DEPOSIT

With a view to simplifying, harmonising and rationalising the collection and preservation of all documents published by the State and others, in 2022 the BnL implemented an administrative procedure overseeing the legal deposit of printed and digital documents. In close collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, a circular was drafted pulling together the administrative and technical modalities of legal deposit, and disseminated to the ministries and administrations of the Luxembourg state. In 2023, a similar procedure will aim to make the communes in Luxembourg aware of the challenges of legal deposit.

Monographs (e-books, brochures and flyers)

In 2022, 1,108 monographs were added to the digital collection. From a thematic point of view, it is possible to distinguish two major categories of publications: fiction and non-fiction. The majority of digital publications are not commercial, and are freely accessible online.

Periodicals (newspapers, magazines, reports)

Currently, 1,085 websites for periodicals are consulted regularly, in order to spot new online editions. In 2022, 184 new titles were added to the collection. Since the start of systematic collection of periodicals in 2016, a total of 38,330 files have been archived manually, which is the equivalent of 259 GB.

Newsletters

One type of ephemeral document that is often neglected in relation to digital preservation is the newsletter, which is increasingly replacing the information bulletin and conventional brochures produced by associations and enterprises. Since 2016, the BnL has been working to expand its collection of newsletters, which currently numbers 5.1 GB of information communications originating from 296 Luxembourgish bodies.

LONG-TERM **DIGITAL PRESERVATION**

In 2022, the BnL continued to work on several aspects of digital preservation, from transferring data to the electronic archive to access to publications.

For two decades, the BnL has been digitising its historic collections, and making the results available on *eluxemburgensia.lu*. However, when the conversation turns to access to digitally-created content, the situation is more complicated, for various reasons. The first reason is a technical one: in the context of digital legal deposit, the BnL receives and collects a variety of formats and versions. These files require different viewers to access the content, and it is not always possible to find them and to offer them to the public. In addition, integrating these publications into *eluxemburgensia.lu* remains a challenge and, even where this is possible, these publications will have less functionality than their digitised counterparts.

Another major challenge, this time organisational, is copyrights. One of the missions of the BnL is to make its collections available to the public, but this poses a problem for recent publications due to copyright. For that reason, the BnL is in contact with the Luxembourgish publishers and the content creators in order to sign agreements which will allow publications to be broadcast on *eluxemburgensia.lu*, ideally beyond the BnL premises. In addition, the BnL has benefited from these discussions to offer another route for collecting digitally-created content: receiving the files used to publish paper-based content, in order to eliminate the need for digitisation campaigns in future.

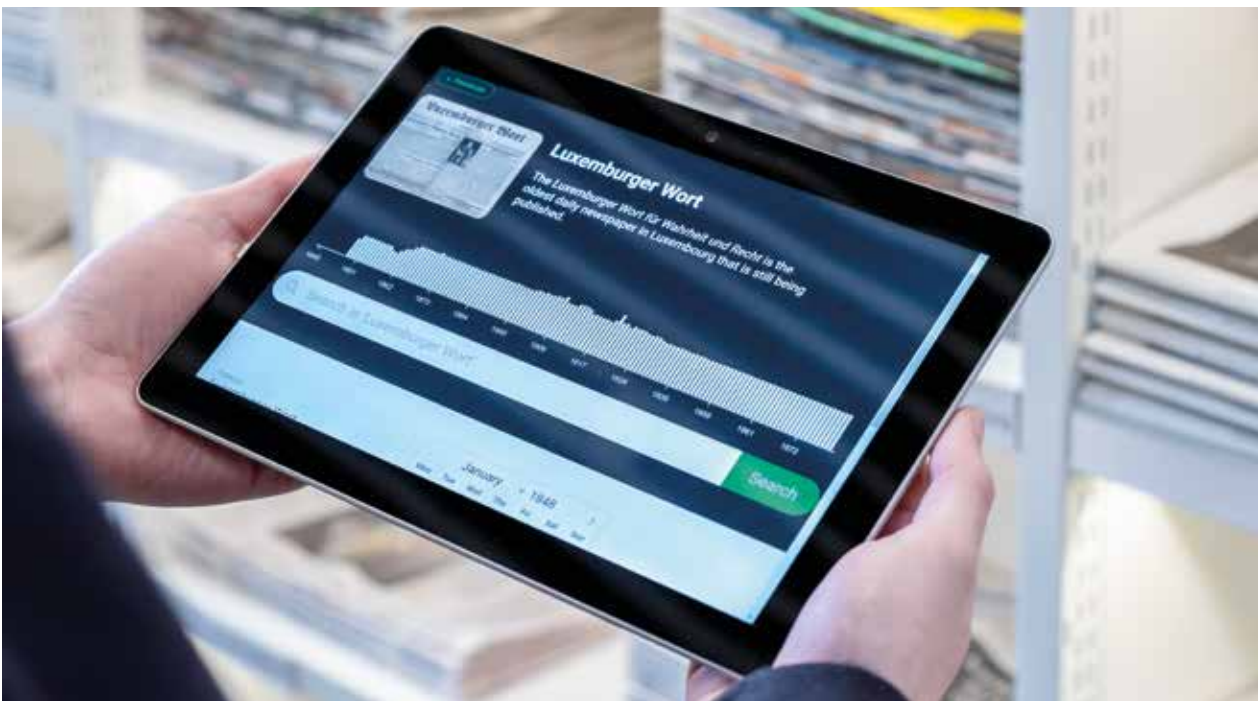
In 2022, the BnL focussed its first access works on two titles, as a pilot project for future digital publications to follow: *Hémecht* and *Bulletin de la Société des naturalistes luxembourgeois*. Thanks to the agreements between the BnL and the respective publishers, the library received the printed equivalent of these publications for the last decade, starting with the first edition after the last digitised one. These publications will be available on *eluxemburgensia.lu* from early 2023, in addition to their digitised editions, although their functionalities will be slightly reduced for the digitally-created editions. Other titles will follow in 2023 and in the years beyond, following an evaluation of their technical characteristics and the copyright situation.

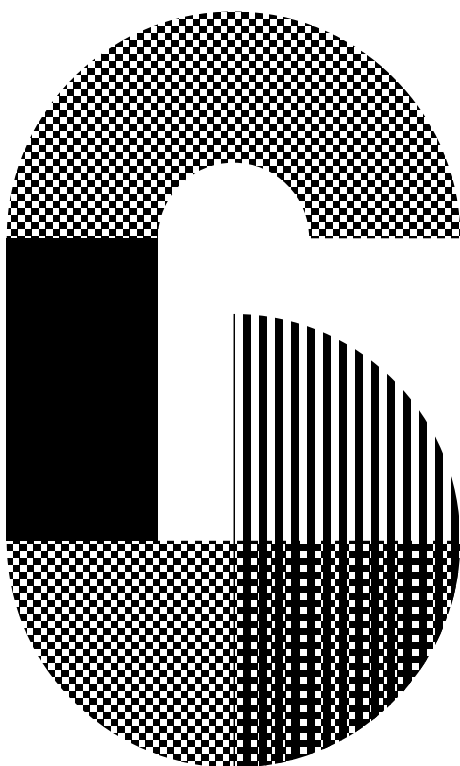
Another major part of the work of digital preservation has been realised in collaboration with the CTIE, for the shared platform for long-term preservation. At the end of 2022, the new version of the digital preservation system went live, and the BnL team helped to test the new functionalities and to identify and resolve possible bugs arising during migration.

With regard to the new data flows, the team has expanded the volume of data received from the publishers and has channelled that data to the BnL's digital archive. The collaboration with Mediahuis has been expanded by including the paper equivalent of the publication *Télécran* and a new collaboration has started with Editpress, to receive the paper equivalents of titles such as the *Tageblatt*.



The BnL acts in accordance with copyright legislation. This also applies to digital publications, for which it is necessary to find an agreement with publishers and content creators.





THE BNL – BEACON PARTNER TO LIBRARIES AND ACTORS IN THE BOOK WORLD

THE BIBNET.LU NETWORK OF LUXEMBOURGISH LIBRARIES

At the end of November, 83 member libraries of the bibnet.lu network of Luxembourgish libraries migrated to the Alma platform, and some 320 staff from these libraries began to catalogue their collections and make them available via the Alma platform.

Some 18 new libraries, which have submitted requests for integration into the network between September 2021 and the end of 2022, can potentially be added to these 83.

MEMBERS OF THE NETWORK	2022
National Library and Bicherbus	2
University of Luxembourg (LLC)	1
Public and association libraries	12
Education & Training	
Secondary education	31
Higher education & lifelong learning	9
Specialist libraries	
Cultural & other institutes / Administrations / Public bodies	21
Association libraries	5
Digital scientific libraries	2
Total number of member libraries in the bibnet.lu network	83

The transition to Alma in November 2022 involved a temporary interruption to cataloguing and to reader registrations.

GROWTH OF THE COLLECTIVE CATALOGUE	2022	Trend compared to 2021
Total of bibliographic notices	1,417,313 ²²	- 20,282
Total copies	2,970,037 ²²	- 10,103
Registered users	2022	Trend compared to 2021
Single registrations ²³	119,257	-3,099
New single registrations	25,201	+ 81
Loans and active borrowers	2022	Trend compared to 2021
Active borrowers	26,824	+ 1,076
Home loans	331,568	- 27,452
Inductions and CPD (in collaboration with INAP)	2022	Trend compared to 2021
Training courses	44	+ 37
Participants	286	+ 132

22. The decrease in catalogued notices and copies at 31 December 2022 is explained by the multiple initiatives to eliminate duplications, to prune down and to stock-take notices and copies ahead of migration to Alma.

23. For users registered with several libraries in the bibnet.lu network, the registration is only counted once.

ISBN, ISMN, ISSN **STANDARDISATION AGENCY**

The BnL fulfils a function as the national agency for ISBN (International Standard Book Number), the national agency for ISMN (International Standard Music Number) and the national agency for ISSN (International Standard Serial Number). These agencies are tasked with assigning an identification number to Luxembourgish publications and to ensure checks on these, in consultation with the international bodies. They contribute to greater visibility of Luxembourgish publications, by facilitating their referencing in non-Luxembourgish databases.

The BnL also fulfils a function as the registration agency for ISNI (International Standard Name Identifier). The ISNI is a global standard number which makes it possible to identify natural and legal persons active in the creation and distribution of intellectual content. It is defined in standard ISO 27729.

Requests for ISBN, ISMN, or ISSN identification numbers can be submitted online via MyGuichet.lu.

LUXEMBOURGISH ISBN AGENCY	At 31.12.2022	Attributions in 2022
Number of unique ISBN and number tranches attributed	2,729	+ 162
of which, unique ISBN		+ 94
of which, tranches of 10 ISBN numbers		+ 63
of which, tranches of 100 ISBN numbers		+ 5
of which, tranches of 1,000 ISBN numbers		-
LUXEMBOURGISH ISMN AGENCY		
Number of unique ISMN and number tranches attributed	48	+ 24
of which, unique ISMN		-
of which, tranches of 10 ISMN numbers		-
of which, tranches of 100 ISMN numbers		-
LUXEMBOURGISH ISSN AGENCY		
Number of ISSN attributed	454	+ 20
of which, on the initiative of the ISSN agency		+ 4
of which, on request from the publisher		+ 16

PERSISTENT IDENTIFIERS: **ARK AND PERSIST.LU**

As part of its legal missions to secure the persistence of the written heritage and with a view to guaranteeing permanent and rapid access to national digital resources, the BnL has continued to assign ARK (Archival Resource Key) persistent identifiers with a permanent link “persist.lu” to digitised content, and respectively to all digital publications archived in 2022 in the long-term preservation system.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

National section

Through its various missions, the BnL collaborates with numerous national institutions and partners. The BnL is a member of and provides the secretariat for the CSB (Conseil supérieur des bibliothèques – Higher Council of Libraries). It is also a member of the Conseil national du livre (National Book Council) and the Conseil des Archives (Higher Council of Archives). Furthermore, it is a member of the associations ALBAD (Association luxembourgeoise des bibliothécaires, archivistes et documentalistes – Luxembourg Association of Librarians, Archivists and Documentalists), Jonk BAD and VLA (Association des archivistes luxembourgeois – Luxembourg Association of Archivists). Since 2022, the BnL has been on the Advisory Board of C²DH (Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History).

In 2022, in collaboration with the Luxembourg National Archives, the BnL undertook work on the *tableau de tri* (records schedule) with a view to depositing its administrative archives, in compliance with the law of 17 August 2018 concerning archiving.

Together with the Luxembourg City Library (Cité Bibliothèque) and the National Audiovisual Centre's Media Library, the BnL launched a new library-based video-on-demand service in 2022. The *MéNuLu* (Médiathèque numérique du Luxembourg – Luxembourg Digital Media Centre) project gives access to over 20,000 audiovisual documents to members of the partner libraries.

With a view to ensuring compliance with the legal provisions relating to legal deposit, and also to simplifying, harmonising and rationalising the collection, conservation, preservation and digitisation of all documents published by the ministries and administrations and by the local authority bodies, the BnL implemented an administrative procedure overseeing legal deposit. An initial discussion on this subject was held on October 2022 between the association of Luxembourg cities and municipalities SYVICOL (Syndicat des villes et des communes luxembourgeoises) and the BnL. A circular recalling the legal obligations for legal deposit in respect of the BnL was sent to ministerial departments and state administrations in November 2022.



Representatives of the BnL and SYVICOL in the Reading Room of the library.

International section

Through its various missions, the BnL collaborates with numerous international institutions and partners.

The BnL is a member of the Board of Administration for the ALTO group (Structured Layout and Text Object), of the Executive Board of Directors for the Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC), and of the working group for the Alma/Primo consortia at IGeLU. It is involved in the following organisations: AIFBD (Association internationale francophone des bibliothécaires et documentalistes – International Association of French-speaking Librarians and Documentalists), CDNL (Conference of Directors of National Libraries), CENL (Conference of European National Librarians), CERL (Consortium of European Research Libraries), EBLIDA (European Bureau of Library Information and Documentation), ICOLC (International Coalition of Library Consortia), IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions), IGeLU (The International Group of ExLibris Users), LIBER (Ligue des bibliothèques européennes de recherché – Association of European Research Libraries) and OPF (Open Preservation Foundation). The BnL is a founder member of the RFN (Réseau francophone numérique – French-Language Digital Network), created under the patronage of the OIF (Organisation mondiale de la francophonie – International Organisation of La Francophonie) to strengthen the presence of French-language cultural and intellectual production on the web. It is also a member of the IIPC (International Internet Preservation Coalition) and regularly publishes articles on its digital preservation strategy on the IIPC blog. The BnL is a member of the Open Access Strategic Advisory Board for Project COUNTER, working on a library statistics methodology, implemented by the publishers (projectcounter.org).

In May 2022, the BnL took part in the University Library Directors Day organised by ExLibris and ProQuest in Paris, which looked at common challenges such as diversity, equality and inclusion (DEI), distance learning and the affordable costs of learning.

Furthermore, the BnL was represented at the Annual Council Meeting and Conference of EBLIDA (European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations) from 14-16 June 2022 in Athens. The theme was: “Ready to take off: Libraries’ commitment towards a sustainable, democratic and equitable society”. The following Annual Council Meeting of EBLIDA was held on 18-19 April 2023 at the BnL.

The BnL attended the Annual General Meeting of the Conference of European National Librarians (CENL) from 18-21 June 2022 in Ankara. This year, the conference was held under the theme of “The relevance of national libraries for society”, which was debated by representatives of the various European national libraries and on which topic Barbara Lison, President of IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) gave the opening speech. In connection with this, Director Claude D. Conter gave a presentation titled “Thinking the data of the future. Web Archiving and Ephemera as Challenges for National Libraries.” The CENL Executive Committee also announced that the AGM would be held at the BnL in 2026.

In 2026, the Annual CENL Conference (Conference of European National Librarians) will be held at the BnL.

From 12-15 September 2022, staff at the BnL participated online in the annual conference of IGeLU (The International Group of ExLibris Users) on the theme of “Still here – the library in the new normal.”

On 14 September 2022, representatives of the BnL attended the inauguration, after over ten years of renovation and transformation, of the Richelieu site, the historic cradle of the National Library of France (BNF).

From 3-5 May 2022, the BnL welcomed a delegation of colleagues from the National Library of Estonia, for fruitful exchanges with the various departments of the library. These meetings addressed the following themes, amongst others: strategic objectives and vision, library management, new building (design process, main challenges), implementing Alma, how the Bicherbus operates, target audiences and the main services offered. The visit was awarded the Erland Kolding Nielsen bursary from the CENL (Conference of European National Librarians), which supports projects by member libraries promoting international collaboration and strengthening links between European national libraries.

As part of a visit to share experiences of legal deposit and archives with Luxembourgish institutions, on 25 January 2022 the BnL welcomed Mr Katchèki Hèzouwè Kaditche, honourable director of the archives and of legal deposit at the Ministry of Territorial Administration, Decentralization and Development of Territories (MATDDT) in Togo.

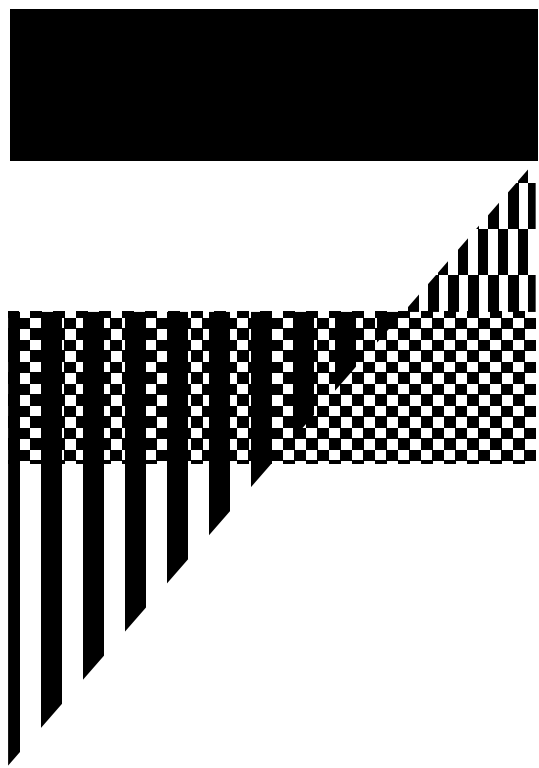
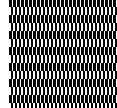
On 28 April 2022, attendees at the LIBER Architecture Working Group (LAG) seminar of the Association of European Research Libraries, organised by the University of Luxembourg, visited the BnL. In an introduction to the guided tour of the BnL building, Monique Kieffer, former director of the library, Julia Bolles-Wilson, architect, and Thierry Hirtz from the Public Building Administration gave an overview of the development and construction of the library. The seminar, held under the theme of “Designing for Learning and Scholarship: a challenge for librarians, architects, and all”, allowed librarians and architects to come together and share ideas about library buildings.

On 1 June 2022, the BnL welcomed participants to the 8th DH Benelux conference, which was held at the University of Luxembourg. DH Benelux is an initiative aimed at strengthening the collaboration between activities, research and scholarship in the digital humanities in Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg. The conference enabled the community of interdisciplinary researchers to meet together, present and discuss their latest research findings and to demonstrate tools and projects.

In 2022, the BnL renewed its relations with Trier’s Science Library (Wissenschaftliche Bibliothek der Stadt Trier) with a view to a joint project aimed at appreciating documents originating in the Greater Region.

The BnL is a member of a working group of technical experts which oversees the development and maintenance of specifications, software and servers handling the infrastructure of the ARKs-in-the-Open/ ARK Alliance community.

The head of the IT and digital innovation department is a member of the DATA-KBR-BE Scientific Advisory Board of the Royal Library of Belgium (KBR). The DATA-KBR-BE project is a 24-month project (2020-2022) funded by the Belgian Science Policy Office (Belspo) as part of the BRAIN 2.0 programme. It is an interdisciplinary collaboration between experts in cultural heritage, researchers in the digital human sciences and data scientists from the Royal Library of Belgium and the universities of Ghent (GhentCDH and IDLab) and Antwerp (ACDC). The aim of the DATA-KBR-BE project is to simplify access to the digital and native collections of the KBR for research in the digital human sciences.



CULTURAL MEDIATION AND PROMOTION OF THE COLLECTIONS

In addition to its missions to collect and conserve the written national heritage, the BnL seeks to promote appreciation of its collections through activities for cultural mediation: exhibitions, conferences, seminars, publications, training courses aimed at the general public, and communications initiatives.

In 2022, the team in the public relations department consolidated the corporate style guide of the BnL in order to ensure visual coherence across all communications media produced.



CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

The BnL hosted 14 conferences in 2022, covering subjects related to its various collections. It also welcomed media representatives to two press conferences:

22.03.2022 Press conference *L'héraldique à l'honneur* (Celebrating heraldry) in the presence of Sam Tanson, Minister of Culture. The BnL honoured and presented the exceptional gift of the specialist library of the deceased Dr Jean-Claude Loutsch, donated by his widow Mrs Josannette Loutsch-Weydert. The collection is of exceptional heritage value and is of unrivalled importance for Luxembourg.

16.12.2022 Press conference *La Bibliothèque nationale en voie de transformation – nouveaux projets* (*The National Library in transformation – new projects*) in the presence of Sam Tanson, Minister of Culture. The BnL presented five projects which were completed in 2022 and which aim to ensure easy and flexible access to the BnL's collections and services.

20.01.2022 Conference *La pensée juridique de Pierre Pescatore* (*The legal thinking of Pierre Pescatore*) – with the participation of Koen Lenaerts, President of the Court of Justice of the European Union; Dr Vera Fritz, Researcher at the University of Copenhagen; Jean-Louis Halperin, Professor of Law at the École normale supérieure, Université Paris Sciences et Lettres; and Dr Corinne Schroeder, Conservator, National Archives of Luxembourg.

24.02.2022 Conference François Soulages: *Les livres de Paul di Felice* (*The books of Paul di Felice*).

09.03.2022 Conference Jean Portante: *1913 – L'année où le poème français a explosé* (*1913 – The year French poetry exploded*).

22.03.2022 Conference Jean-Christophe Blanchard: *Jean-Claude Loutsch et l'héraldique* (*Jean-Claude Loutsch and heraldry*). Jean-Christophe Blanchard presented a selection of works from the Dr Jean-Claude Loutsch Collection.

06.04.2022 Round-table discussion: *D'Ro'd Wullmaus op Besuch an der BnL* (*The Red Vole visits BnL*) – with the participation of the authors and caricaturists André Gilbertz and Robert Soisson. Moderator: Nadine Ewerling.

23.04.2022 Private viewing for the exhibition: *"This is a lovely quiet rose-growing part of dirty old Europe" James Joyce in Luxembourg*. Exhibition curator: Gaston Mannes. The exhibition ran from 26.04.2022 to 10.09.2022.

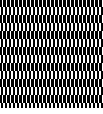
05.05.2022 Conference Alberto Manguel: *Une bibliothèque pour les curieux* (*A library for the inquisitive*). In collaboration with C²DH and the University of Luxembourg.

31.05.2022 Round-table discussion: *Fënnef Joer „état de crise“ - dat allerlescht Mëttel vum Rechtsstaat oder eng Gefor fir eis Demokratie?* With Sam Tanson (Minister of Justice), Robert Biever (former State Attorney General) and Luc Heuschling (Professor of Constitutional and Administrative Law at the University of Luxembourg). Moderator: Michel Erpelding.

13.06.2022 Round-table discussion: *Das Blaue Sofa – Luxemburg feiert Premiere* (*The Blue Sofa – Luxembourg celebrates a première*). With authors Jenny Erpenbeck, Daniel Wisser, Julia Holbe, Samuel Hamen. Moderators: Susanne Biedenkopf (ZDF), Michael Sahr (ZDF) and Jérôme Jaminet (RTL). In collaboration with Bertelsmann, ZDF, Deutschlandfunk Kultur, 3sat.

07.09.2022 Conference Gaston Mannes: *1937 – l'été joycien à Colpach* (*1937 – The Joycean summer in Colpach*). This conference was held in the context of the exhibition *"This is a lovely quiet rose-growing part of dirty old Europe" James Joyce in Luxembourg*.

20.09.2022 Conference Frank Wilhelm: *Le philhellénisme luxembourgeois au secours de la Grèce, berceau de la civilisation européenne*.



11.10.2022 Private viewing for the exhibition: *Johny Fritz. Luxemburger Komponist, Musiker und Sammler (Luxembourgish composer, musician and collector)*. Exhibition curator: Marlène Duhr. The exhibition ran from 12 October 2022 to 22 April 2023.

19.10.2022 Round-table discussion: *1997-2022: 25 ans des juridictions administratives. Bilan – perspectives (25 years of administrative jurisdictions – a review)*. The event was jointly organised by the jubilee jurisdictions and the Conférence du jeune barreau (Young Bar Association).

27.10.-29.10.2022 International seminar: *NS-Bibliothekspolitik und -praxis in Europa (Nazi library policy and practice in Europe)*

07.11.2022 Conference Christophe Marinheiro: *Le Portugal au Luxembourg à travers les âges (Portugal in Luxembourg through the ages)*. In collaboration with the Centre Culturel Portugais – Camões.

23.11.2022 Round-table discussion: *Plagiate in der Wissenschaft (Plagiarisms in science)*. With the participation of Dr Jochen Zenthöfer and Prof Dr Martin Stierle. Moderator: Dr Henning Marmulla. In collaboration with the journal *forum – für Politik, Gesellschaft und Kultur*.

EXHIBITIONS

The BnL organised two temporary exhibitions in 2022. Access to the exhibition space is free and with no limits on age. The exhibitions are also accessible as a virtual version on the website bnl.lu. The exhibition catalogues can be purchased in bookshops or at the BnL, on-site or online.

26.04.2022 - 10.09.2022 “This is a lovely quiet rose-growing part of dirty old Europe” James Joyce in Luxembourg.



Discover the exhibition on YouTube.

The exhibition presented, first and foremost, the city of Luxembourg as a tourist destination in the 1930s. It shone a spotlight on the correspondence of James Joyce during his stay in Luxembourg, the focal point of which was lifting the ban on Ulysses in the United States, whilst mentioning the importance of Radio Luxembourg for the singing career of his son George. The exhibition also highlighted the role of Aline Mayrisch-de Saint Hubert with regard to publication of an important study on the famous author by the young French intellectual Armand Petitjean. Lastly, it recounted how Joyce was received by Luxembourgish journalists and authors, and showed how the Grand Duchy and its rivers would ultimately populate the pages of the celebrated *Finnegans Wake*, published in 1939.

Three guided tours with Gaston Mannes, the exhibition curator, were offered to the public on 30 April, 4 June and 25 June 2022. The Gaston Mannes conference *1937 – l’été joycien à Colpach* was also held as part of the exhibition.

12.10.2022 - 22.04.2023 Johny Fritz. Luxemburger Komponist, Musiker und Sammler. (Luxembourgish composer, musician and collector)



The BnL presented the private collection of the Luxembourgish composer Johny Fritz (b. 1944). This collection highlighted his work as a teacher, musician and collector, together with his interest in the French composer Erik Satie (1866-1925), from whom he collected countless personal letters, of which several are unpublished to date. An audio booth enabled a selection of his original compositions to be listened to.

At the private viewing for the exhibition, the public was able to discover, as a preview, the work *images en mouvement pour flûte, clarinette et harpe (moving images for flute, clarinet and harp)*, composed by Johny Fritz as a commission from Noise Watchers Unlimited.

Five guided tours with the exhibition curator, Marlène Duhr, were held on 28 October and 15 December 2022, 18 February, 4 March and 21 April 2023.

Beside the two exhibitions on James Joyce and Johny Fritz, staff at the BnL also showcased documents from the Special Collections and the Non-Luxembourgish Collection in the display cases on the first and second floors of the Reading Room.

1st floor display cases

- Historical views – by Pia Jank
- Evolution of musical notation – by Pierre Schwickerath
- Tourism in Luxembourg – by Marion Rockenbrod
- Portraits of Luxembourgish figures and sovereigns – by Pia Jank
- René Hemmer – by Elisabeth Wirtz-Lemmel
- 450th anniversary of the publication of *Lusiádas (The Lusiads)* – by Christophe Marinheiro

2nd floor display cases

- Arts of the years 1960-1970 – by Stefanie Zutter
- Archaeology in Luxembourg – The Titelberg – by Julia Schelling
- Cinema studios – by Nadine Esslingen
- Historiography of a science – by Julia Schelling
- Architecture in artists' books – by Michèle Wallenborn
- Masculinity in photography – by Nadine Esslingen
- Jazz in Luxembourg – by Patrick Steffen
- Voyages and expeditions – by Lucie Guibal
- Art history – by Stefanie Zutter
- 450th anniversary of the publication of *Lusiádas (The Lusiads)* – by Christophe Marinheiro
- The second encyclopaedia of Tlön – by Michèle Wallenborn

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

Litty 8: Lëtzebuurger Fräiheitsliedder 2 - Geschicht a Politik am Lidd.

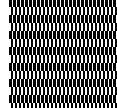
In June 2022, Cedom (Centre d'études et de documentation musicales - Centre for Music Research and Documentation) published *Litty 8: Lëtzebuurger Fräiheitsliedder 2 – Geschicht a Politik am Lidd*. This new publication supplements the collection *Les Carnets didactiques du Cedom*, launched in 2014, which now numbers publications 1-5 and 7-8. *Litty 7* and *8* are special editions in collaboration with ZpB – Zentrum für politesch Bildung and the Théâtre des Casemates, covering protest music in Luxembourg.

While *Litty 7* covered the history of Luxembourg from 1830 to 1945 through a representative selection of protest songs, *Litty 8* focused on musical production from the end of World War II. The post-war period was characterised by the emergence of political cabaret in Luxembourg, which explored critical themes such as the Cold War, immigration, racism, international politics, the riots of 1968, the feminist movement or the housing shortage.

The next issue will look at rock music in Luxembourg.

The *De Litty* collection is the work of teacher Georges Urwald, who benefits from support from Cedom. The figure of the young “Litty”, inspired by the cabaret artist Pierre-Toussaint Stefani (1872-1932) and created by the Luxembourgish illustrator Andy Genen, serves as a playful *leitmotif* guiding the reader through the various themes covered.

Cedom's educational booklets are aimed at students and teachers in the cycles: EF CY 2-4 – ES/EST CY INF – ES/EST CY SUP. The collection is distributed to secondary and primary school libraries. The BnL also ensures distribution to libraries in the bibnet.lu network and to all interested persons.



Exhibition catalogue: “This is a lovely quiet rose-growing part of dirty old Europe” James Joyce in Luxembourg. BnL.

Exhibition catalogue: Johnny Fritz. Luxemburger Komponist, Musiker und Sammler (Luxembourgish composer, musician and collector). BnL.

Armand Petitjean: Essay on the Situation of Joyce. Hildesheim: Olms Verlag.

The library of Aline Mayrisch-de Saint Hubert in Colpach Castle included four works by James Joyce and the typescript *Essay on the Situation of Joyce*, for a long time unpublished. This essay, written by the talented young French intellectual Armand Petitjean (a “man of genius”, as described by Aline Mayrisch), was a gift from the author by way of thanks for the support he had received from the Luxembourgish sponsor.

The *Essay on the Situation of Joyce* by Armand Petitjean was published by the Olms publishing house in collaboration with the BnL. Gaston Mannes, curator of the exhibition “*This is a lovely quiet rose-growing part of dirty old Europe*” James Joyce in Luxembourg, also edited and annotated this publication.

All these works are available at the BnL, on bnl.lu and in your favorite bookshop.

Claude D. Conter “Kaller Metamorphosen. Norbert Scheuers Roman *Mutabor*”, in *Bücher = Livres* A. 28 (Sept.-Oct 2022), p. 16.

Claude D. Conter, Henning Marmulla, Matthias Lorenz “Ich darf ein Arschloch sein, aber ich muss auch mit den Konsequenzen leben. Über das Sagbare und Nichtsagbare in Zeiten der Cancel Culture – wenn es sie denn gibt.”, in *Trouvailles. Archives – recherches – lettres* 5 (2022), pp. 175-183.

Stéphanie Kovacs “Hygiène et salubrité publique dans les communes industrielles émergentes du Bassin minier (1870-1914)”, in *La santé publique dans le Bassin minier – l’évolution de la santé publique dans le sud du Luxembourg (1870-2020), Mutations – mémoires et perspectives du Bassin minier*, n°12, Fondation Bassin Minier, Luxembourg, 2022, pp. 11-26.

Christophe Marinheiro “Mapping a New World with Ancient Authors. The Reception of Antique Authors by the *Conimbricenses* and their Role in Constructing a New Imago Mundi”, in *Universum infinitum. Nicolaus Cusanus and the 15th Century Iberian Explorations of the Ocean World*, ed. by Thomas Horst, Harald Schwaetzer and Matthias Vollet in coll. with Kirstin Zeyer (Texte und Studien zur Europäischen Geistesgeschichte, Reihe B, Bd. 25), Münster, Aschendorff 2022, pp. 211-221.

Yves Maurer “Investigate holdings of web archives through summaries: cdx-summarize”, article published in the IIPC (International Internet Preservation Consortium) blog in August 2022.

Yorick Schmit “Frisch gedruckt: Sediment und Sedum. Ein Essay von Bernd Marcel Gonner, Ludwigsburg, Killroy media Verlag, 2021, 80 S., 19 €” in *Forum für Politik, Gesellschaft und Kultur, Luxembourg*, No. 426, July 2022, p. 69.

Yorick Schmit “Frisch gedruckt: Luxemburger Standarddeutsch. Wörterbuch der deutschen Gegenwartssprache in Luxemburg von Heinz Sieburg, Berlin, Duden, 208 S., 2022, 19 €”, in *Forum für Politik, Gesellschaft und Kultur, Luxembourg*, No. 428, November 2022, p. 81.

Yorick Schmit “Frisch gedruckt: Saumes Kinoplakat. Sonette von Nico Helminger, Luxemburg, éditions guy binsfeld, 2022, 160 S., 18 €”, in *Forum für Politik, Gesellschaft und Kultur, Luxembourg*, No. 427, September 2022, p. 61.

Max Schmitz “Découverte d’un mandement d’Antoine de Bourgogne, duc de Brabant, relatif à un hommage du chevalier Jean de Renesse (31 mars 1406)”, in *Revue Belge de Philologie et d’Histoire* 99/2 (2021, published in 2022), Belgium, Société pour le Progrès des Études Philologiques et Historiques, pp. 531-542.

Max Schmitz “Die unveröffentlichte Komödie *De’ Silwesterowent* von Nicolas Steffen (1821-1874)”, in *nos cahiers* 43/1 (2022), Luxembourg, pp. 19-38.

Max Schmitz “Poèmes inédits de Paul Dultier (pseudonyme Pierre LATIN)”, in *Ausbleck* 32 (2022), Luxembourg, pp. 259-273.

Max Schmitz “*La Rose et l’Épine* d’Auguste Vierset (1864-1960)”, in *De Cliärrwer Kanton* 2022/2, Luxembourg, pp. 44-45.

Max Schmitz “Eine Urkunde für Roth an der Our (Fortsetzung von „Fünfzehn Urkunden für Vianden)”, in *Hémecht* 74/4 (2022), Luxembourg, pp. 477-484.

Max Schmitz “Niki Laux unveröffentlichte Komödie *Töff-Töff* (1903)”, in *nos cahiers* 43/4 (2022), Luxembourg, pp. 53-73.

Pit Schneider & Yves Maurer “Rerunning OCR: A Machine Learning Approach to Quality Assessment and Enhancement Prediction”, in *Journal of Data Mining & Digital Humanities* 8561, November 2022.

BnL staff also contributed to the series *BnL-Wëssen entdecken* published in the supplement *Warte-Perspectives*. All these articles are available on the BnL website, under the heading “Documents in the spotlight”:

13.01.2022 Stéphanie Kovacs *Un témoignage de l'épopée industrielle luxembourgeoise – Sur l'ouvrage commémoratif du Cinquantenaire de la “Société des Mines du Luxembourg et des forges de Sarrebruck”.*

10.02.2022 Kim Krier *Ech sinn, sou wäit ech denken, e Muttergotteskand – Das Marienbuch von Jean Pastoret.*

10.03.2022 Jean-Marie Reding *Die letzte katholische Volksbibliothek – Die Pfarrbibliothek Limpertsberg 1909-2020.*

21.04.2022 Marc Biver *Le tartre émétique: de l'hermétisme à la chimie quantique – Petite histoire culturelle d'un sel complexe.*

12.05.2022 Georges Urwald *De „Fausti“ vun deemools? De Lëtzebuenger Ënnerhaltungskënschtler genannt ‘de Litty’ kënnit virun 150 Joer zu Lëtzebuerg op d'Welt.*

09.06.2022 Yorick Schmit *Distant reading – Schlaglichter auf die elektronische Literatur Luxemburgs.*

14.07.2022 Claude D. Conter *Motorengeheul am Findel – Zum ersten Sportrennfahren in Luxemburg 1939.*

22.09.2022 Roxana Maurer, Yorick Schmit *Wie dokumentiert man eine Pandemie? Digitale Pflichtabgabe und Langzeitarchivierung in der Nationalbibliothek am Beispiel der Covid-19-Sammlung.*

20.10.2022 Jean-Marie Reding ... *einer der führenden Intellektuellen in Luxemburg – Vor 130 Jahren wurde Staatsminister und -bibliothekar Pierre Frieden geboren.*

24.11.2022 Michèle Wallenborn *Die Enzyklopädie von Tlön Eine Enzyklopädie des Imaginären – unbekannt und unvollständig.*

15.12.2022 Claude D. Conter *Der Streit um die Verbotslisten – Zur NS-Bibliothekspraxis in Luxemburger Bibliotheken.*



Other publications

The BnL published an information booklet on its vision and its strategic objectives. It can be obtained at the reception desk or viewed online at bnl.lu. It has also produced a flyer presenting the Reading Room and the layout of the direct-access collections.

PRESENTATIONS

In 2022, BnL staff participated in various seminars and conferences to present the results of their work or to engage in discussions with national and international experts:

11.01 - 13.01.2022 17th APE Conference 2022: *The Future of the Permanent Record* – attended by Patrick Peiffer

22.02.2022 Winter School of the Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C²DH) – attended by Ralph Marschall

08.04.2022 Round-table discussion *Europe and Media Virality* – attended by Ben Els and Yves Maurer

20.04.2022 Conference *Déi fréier Useldinger Porbibliothék* – presentation by Jean-Marie Reding

28.04.2022 Liber LAG 2022 – Monique Kieffer, former director of the library, Julia Bolles-Wilson, architect, and Thierry Hirtz from the Public Building Administration gave an overview of the development and construction of the library. Guided tours led by BnL staff.

29.04 - 01.05.2022 Buchkunst Trier 2022 – attended by Claude D. Conter, Stefanie Zutter and Michèle Wallenborn

11.05 - 12.05.2022 University Library Directors' Day 2022 – attended by Claude D. Conter

30.05 - 01.06.2022 8th Library Conference Leipzig – presentation by Patrick Peiffer

01.06 - 02.06.2022 International Archive Symposium – attended by Clara Victor

01.06 - 03.06.2022 8th DH Benelux Conference – attended by Ben Els, Ralph Marschall and Yorick Schmit

10.06.2022 11. Archivdag – *Archivage électronique : chances et défis* – attended by Claude D. Conter, Liz Jost, Marion Rockenbrod and Yorick Schmit

10.06 - 11.06.2022 Workshop of the Network of Partners for Data Mining and Analysis (ResPaDon) – attended by Yves Maurer

12.06.2022 Gustav Regler Prize Award – praise by Claude D. Conter

14.06 - 16.06.2022 EBLIDA Annual Council and Conference – attended by Jean-Marie Reding

19.06 - 21.06.2022 CENL Annual General Meeting 2022 – attended by Claude D. Conter, Carlo Blum and Kim Krier

14.07.2022 Workshop *Presse culturelle et culture dans la presse* – attended by Mélanie Correia Da Veiga, Christine Kremer and Sven Muhlen

17.07 - 22.07.2022 Dagstuhl Seminar – *Computational Approaches for Digitised Historical Newspapers* – attended by Yves Maurer

05.09 - 09.09.2022 ISBN International Meeting – attended by Philippe Majeres

12.09 - 16.09.2022 iPRES International Conference on Digital Preservation 2022 – attended by Roxana Maurer-Popistasu

14.09 - 15.09.2022 Conference *Wanted: Social Media Data – Archiving Practices and Research Use* – attended by Ben Els

17.10 - 18.10.2022 Conference *Web Archive studies researching web domains and events* – attended by Ben Els, Yves Maurer and László Tóth

19.10 - 21.10.2022 2nd International IEF Colloquium *Roads to Care*, Coimbra (Portugal), “Cura librorum, curator animae. Is the care of books a form of curating our souls?” – conference by Christophe Marinheiro

09.11.2022 *Internal advocacy for web archives* – presentation by Ben Els

14.11.2022 ALBAD Visio-Lunch on ISSN, ISMN, ISBN, ARK, ISNI numbers – presentation by Roxana Maurer-Popistasu, Françoise Molitor, Jacqueline Rippert and Sarah Stephan

23.11 - 25.11.2022 Workshop *Witnessing the Now* – attended by Yves Maurer

28.11 - 29.11.2022 E-DACH Conference – attended by Roxana Maurer-Popistasu and Yves Maurer

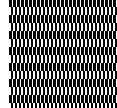
EDUCATIONAL OFFERS

Following two years of restrictions due to the health measures associated with Covid-19, the BnL's education services department returned to normal operations. A total of 42 secondary school classes took part in training events and guided tours, initiating them into how the BnL operates and into documentary research using “a-z.lu”.

There were 93 guided tours arranged for the general public. The maximum number of participants was increased from 15 to 20. The visits were offered in Luxembourgish, German, French and English.

Cedom at the BnL offered two CPD courses on its *De Litty* educational booklets and on using this material for class teaching, for the IFEN (Institut de formation de l'éducation nationale - National Educational Training Institute).

The BnL took part in the “Walfer Bicherdeeg” book fair, held on 19-20 November 2022. The Bicherbus was also on-site there. The BnL also took part in the 3rd edition of the Mois des archives (Archive Month), coordinated by the National Archives.



COMMUNICATIONS INITIATIVES

In 2022, the BnL carried out four communications campaigns, with posters used in urban settings and targeted advertisements on social networks. Two campaigns were conducted as part of the exhibitions on James Joyce and Johny Fritz. The focus of a third campaign was to promote the Luxembourgish and international sports press. The final campaign of 2022 was aimed at announcing the launch of the new BnL website. That campaign ran on social media and on the web.



Two videos were filmed at the BnL for POST Philately's *Programme d'émission 2023* in view of the launch of two unpublished stamps, one commemorating the 100th anniversary of Jean-Pierre Kemmer and the other in honour of the 225th anniversary of the BnL in 2023.

WEBSITE AND SOCIAL NETWORKS

The BnL launched its new website, www.bnl.lu, in December 2022. It is accessible in French, Luxembourgish, German and English. Currently, the BnL is the first and only Government cultural institute to offer a site in four languages, including Luxembourgish. As the national library and guardian of its written heritage, it is incumbent on the BnL to promote the Luxembourgish language whilst remaining as inclusive as possible. The BnL opted for a pared-down site, simple and clear, with seven first-level headings summarising the main information needed for readers or future readers.

Internet users can learn about the BnL, how it works, and about how to make best use of its services. They can also access analytical articles ("Documents in the spotlight") prepared by BnL staff on a specific subject related to the collections. In addition to this, there are monthly favourites and annotated reading lists. The online shop offers a selection of publications (exhibition catalogues and reference works) published by the BnL and available for purchase.

The website www.bnl.lu runs on all media and meets the accessibility criteria specified in Directive (EU) 2016/2102 of the European Parliament. It was created in collaboration with the Government IT Centre (Centre des technologies de l'information de l'État, CTIE).

Together with increased accessibility, it also satisfies the BnL's desire for transparency in its procedures, rules and charters and in respect of visibility of contact persons. In fact, the site lists all BnL staff, along with their contact details.

**Since December 2022, the site has recorded 268,368 views and the "Registration" page was the most-visited, with 15,322 views.
Breakdown of reading languages: English 44.8%, French 25.7%, German 20.7%, Others 8.8%**

The BnL has a presence on YouTube, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook. It publishes news there, along with recommended reading, videos and tutorials, announces forthcoming events and interacts with its subscribers. Instagram, Facebook and YouTube are also used to spread awareness-raising and promotional campaigns.

The BnL currently has 8,282 followers (+17.7% compared to 2021) and has published a total of 851 posts (+19.9% compared to 2021).

THE BNL IN THE MEDIA

A total of 223 articles were reported in the written press in relation to the BnL.

Notable mentions on radio or television



23.03.2022 100komma7 - Wichtigste privaten Don un een ëffentlecht Kulturinstitut
Article on the exceptional donation of the specialised library of the late Dr Jean-Claude Loutsch by his wife Mrs Josannette Loutsch-Weydert. This collection includes armorial works, heraldic literature and literature and history books relating to the Duchy of Luxembourg, Lorraine, Belgium and Western Germany.



26.04.2022 RTL.lu - En Abléck an d'Archive vun der Nationalbibliothéik
Report on rtl.lu about the donation of the specialised library of the late Dr Jean-Claude Loutsch by his wife Mrs Josannette Loutsch. Claude D. Conter, director of the BnL, presents a selection of documents from this new collection.

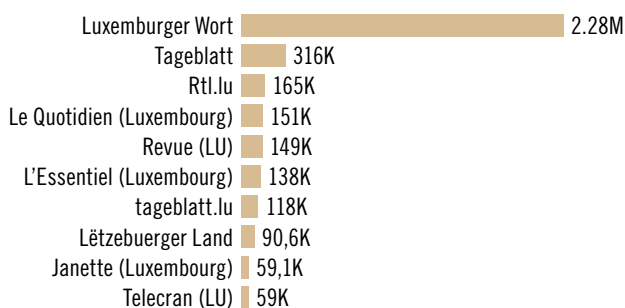


22.04.2022 100komma7 - De Claude D. Conter bei "Sot emol"
Interview with Claude D. Conter, director of the BnL, on 100komma7 radio.



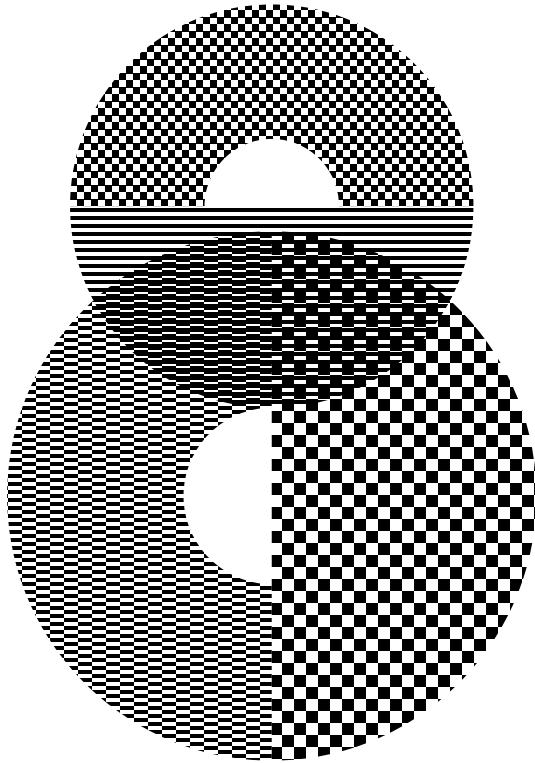
19.12.2022 100komma7 - Nationalbibliothéik um Wee vun der Transformatioun
Interview with Claude D. Conter, Director of the BnL and Carlo Blum, Head of the IT and Digital Innovation Division, on five projects completed in 2022.

Distribution of articles on the BnL by media outlet



Distribution of articles on the BnL by format





A RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATION

**The BnL ensures
efficient and
sustainable
management of its
infrastructure,
human resources
and budget.**



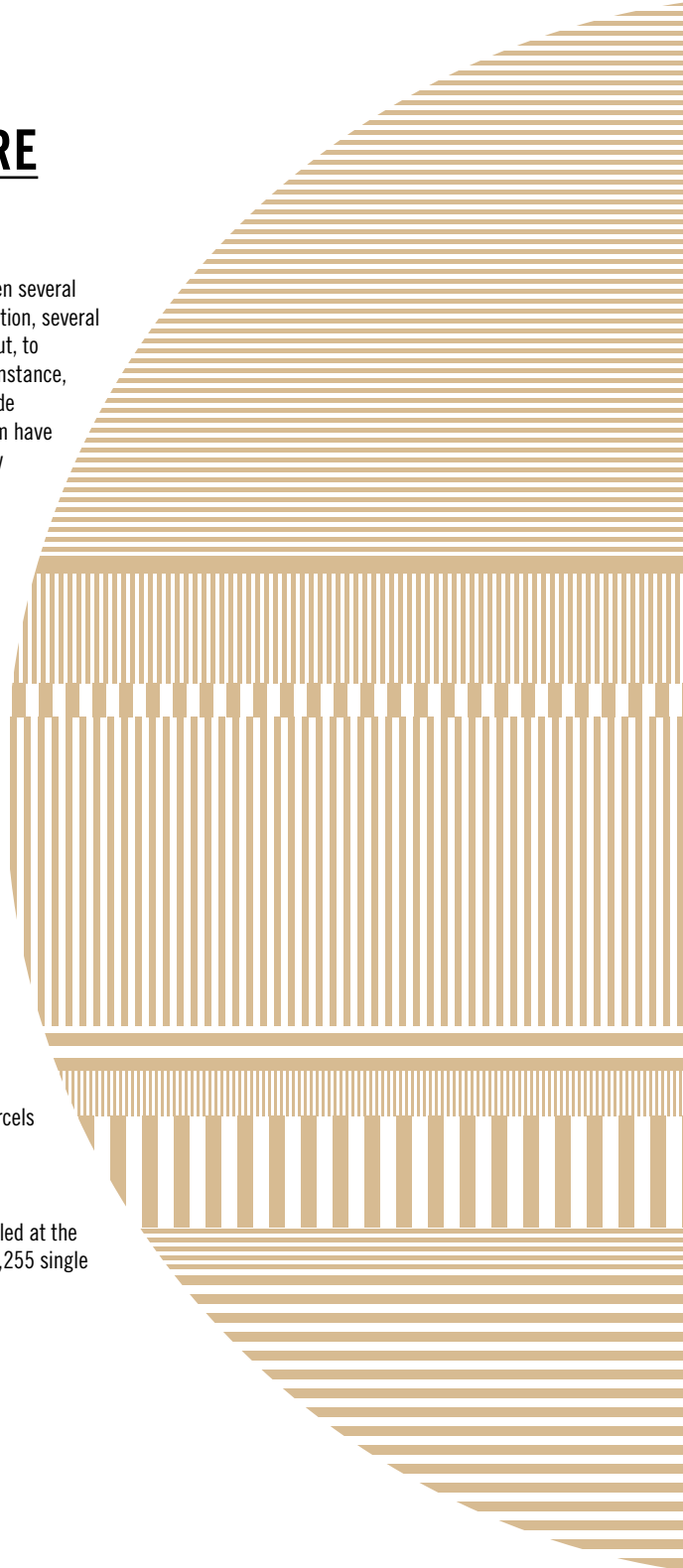
TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE

The technical department has undertaken several maintenance works during 2022. In addition, several improvement works have been carried out, to benefit users in the Reading Room. For instance, the table lamps have been fitted with side screens, the acoustics in the Music Room have been improved, and the seating capacity has been increased by 70, now offering a total of 440 seats. The technical department has also launched two projects to complete BnL infrastructure: a row of large-format lockers will be added and a sound-absorbing panel will be installed on the ground floor of the Reading Room opposite the information desk.

The exhibition room has likewise been improved from a technical perspective, offering greater flexibility in terms of various staging options.

The BnL's distribution and warehousing department handles the full management of incoming and outgoing post, including receipt and sending of letters, parcels, journals and periodicals. It also handles the internal collection of mailings, distribution of parcels received, and traceability of all mailings thanks to sophisticated tracking tools.

In 2022, 39,918 kg of parcels were handled at the library. In addition to this, there were 42,255 single items received in 2022.



HUMAN RESOURCES

At 31 December 2022, the BnL had 111.45 FTE (full-time equivalent) staff. In 2022, 123 employees were on permanent contracts (including six registered as disabled) and 14 on temporary contracts. A total of 78 women and 59 men are employed at the BnL. Five persons were on secondment from other organisations and educational establishments. Three employees were working under an OTI/ATI (temporary occupation) scheme. Career-wise, the staff banding breaks down as follows:

- Civil servants/Employees: A1: 44; A2: 23; B1: 24; C1: 22; D1: 4 ; D3: 10
- Salaried staff: E: 1; B: 9

Aware of our training mission, we offer two apprentice posts to train as a *Gestionnaire qualifié DAP en logistique*, and we have taken on ten students for 10 to 15 hours per week to help the various departments of the BnL.

As the BnL works on particular projects requiring staff with specific knowledge for a given period, it has been supported in 2022 by four experts. In addition, it has called on assistance from external service providers for cleaning, security, services to the public and digitisation (28 people).

The average age of the staff at the BnL is 42.8.

ORGANISATION CHART		
Division	Departments/Units	
Management	Executive secretariat	
	General administration	Human resources department
		Accounting department
		Print and digital acquisitions department
		Technical department
		Reprographics department
		Personal data department
		Public relations
	Communications and web marketing department	
	Educational department	
	Services to the public	Reference services
		Reception and library/media centre loans department
		Interlibrary loans department



ORGANISATION CHART	
Division	Departments/Units
Luxembourgish Collection	Books and brochures department
	Periodicals and ISSN agency department
	Posters and Postcards Collection
	Legal deposit and ISBN agency department
	National bibliography department
	Digital curating department
	Digitisation department
Non-Luxembourgish Collection	Subject experts
	Cataloguing department
	Foreign periodicals department
Free access collections management	Reading Room
Special collections	Manuscripts Collection
	Rare Books Collection
	Collection of Cards, Maps, Atlases and Views
	Cedom Music Collection
	Media Centre
	Iconography Collection
	Collection of the History of Libraries and Books in Luxembourg
Logistics and preservation	Binding and restoration
	Closed stacks logistics department
	Warehousing and distribution department

ORGANISATION CHART	
Division	Departments/Units
IT and digital innovation	Webharvesting
	Long-term preservation
	Digitisation
	Library Services
	Discovery Services
	IT infrastructure development and maintenance
National library network bibnet.lu	Metadata (cataloguing, indexing and authority) department
	Library network supervision and training department
	Mobile library department
Digital publications acquisitions and management	Licences and financing department
	Metadata and statistics department
	National digital publications management department



BUDGET

The BnL benefited from funding of €7,124,012 from its parent ministry, the Ministry of Culture. Added to this is funding for utilities costs (water, heating and electricity) of €319,948.97. The BnL has generated receipts totalling €290,378.12. The analysis of the 2022 implemented budget revealed a pleasing result: the costs of infrastructure and operations totalled close on 25%, while expenditures relating to its legal missions totalled 75%. Amongst the operating costs, the costs of cleaning and security make up 14% of the total budget, and are therefore the most significant items.

Given our mission as a heritage library, we commit a considerable sum to acquiring documents supplementing our special collections; thus we spent €901,192.70 to purchase maps, posters, postcards, ephemera, music scores, imprints, art books, etc. Amongst these notable acquisitions, the nine maps of *Leo Belgicus* stand out. In view of our mission as a research library, the BnL endeavours to maintain collections that are high-quality and up-to-date, including those in the Non-Luxembourgish Collection, foreign periodicals, the Media Centre, the Bicherbus mobile library and its digital resources (scientific e-books, databases, e-journals, etc.). The total spent on supplementing these collections was €2,095,695.83. The BnL is therefore investing 37.5% of its budget in acquisitions for the library, the Media Centre and the heritage collections.

The BnL aims to be a reliable partner to the book sector in Luxembourg. As far as possible, we purchase documents from Luxembourgish suppliers. In fact, we pursue an acquisitions policy favouring publishers and bookshops in Luxembourg. In line with this, we have ordered documents from the following bookshops: Alinéa, Bicherhaischen, Diderich, Ernster, Promoculture, um Fieldgen and Zimmer. In total, we have issued 3,400 orders to Luxembourgish suppliers, compared with 2,681 orders placed with international suppliers.

From a financial point of view, the situation is different. Hence the total of invoices paid to international suppliers is €874,080.01 whereas the total of invoices paid to Luxembourgish suppliers is only €281,081.69. Although this financial split appears unbalanced on first sight, it should be emphasised that there is practically no second-hand book market in Luxembourg, meaning that books which are no longer on sale on the market, particularly for the Non-Luxembourgish Collection, can practically only be ordered abroad. One-off heritage acquisitions were offered by international antiquarian booksellers. The situation was similar with regard to the digital offer that the BnL provides to the research sector in Luxembourg, and which totals over 900,000 e-books and 67,757 e-journals. The budget for this totals €1,439,070.01.

The BnL is pursuing its ambitious programme of large-scale digitisation and free provision online of books and journals, whilst respecting the regulations in force. 24.5% of the BnL's budget is devoted to digitisation. Expenditures on exploiting the value of these collections, including costs of publication, exhibitions, seminars, study days and events, together with the costs of awareness-raising and information measures, represent just 8% of the budget, i.e. €648,751.67.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS		Value in % of total
Administration and training		
Third party service	566.85€	
Continuing training	26,156.28€	
Travel and subsistence expenses	17,070.50€	
Office expenses	25,116.67€	
Bank charges	8,365.76€	
National membership fees	385.00€	
International membership fees	40,620.24€	
Subtotal	118,281.30€	1.47%
Building and vehicles		
Building - cleaning	392,906.12€	4.87%
Building - maintenance and repairs	119,301.17€	
Building - municipal taxes	12,690.00€	
Building - surveillance	728,867.38€	9.03%
Building - underground car park maintenance	130,725.82€	
Vehicles - insurance maintenance	1,564.16€	
Vehicles - fuel maintenance	10,226.90€	
Vehicles - maintenance and repairs	26,878.60€	
Subtotal	1,423,160.15€	17.64%
Operating costs		
Postage and telecommunications	58,799.11€	
Acquisition and maintenance of small tools and special equipment of low value	22,141.20€	
Public services	35,005.19€	
Subtotal	115,945.50€	1.44%
IT		
Costs of experts and studies on IT matters	37,809.62€	
Re-subscription of licences/software	187,253.65€	
Acquisition of software	0.00€	
Maintenance of IT equipment	81,230.80€	
Subtotal	306,294.07€	3.80%
Total infrastructure and operations	1,963,681.02€	24.34%



Capital expenditure		Value in % of total
Acquisition of special equipment		
Trolleys, electric desks, trade fair booth, acoustic panels, defibrillators, photographic equipment	79,513.59€	0.99%
Total capital expenditure	79,513.59€	0.99%
BNL REMIT		
		Value in % of total
Library and Heritage		
Acquisitions - library and media centre	2,095,695.83€	
Acquisitions - heritage collections	901,192.70€	
Bibnet.lu network	18,370.17€	
Copyright and related rights	10,094.16€	
Subtotal	3,025,352.86€	37.5%
Archiving and Logistics		
Conservation/Restoration	242,078.42€	
Binding costs	46,617.95€	
Logistics and Preservation	80,858.37€	
Subtotal	369,554.74€	4.58%
Experts and Digitisation		
Experts and study costs	1,093,765.50€	
Digital Library	887,830.68€	
Subtotal	1,981,596.18€	24.56%
Promotion		
Publication costs	158,700.01€	
Advertising, awareness-raising and information costs	192,185.52€	
Exhibitions	251,223.60€	
Colloquia, conferences	46,642.54€	
Subtotal	648,751.67€	8.04%
Total BnL remit	6,025,255.45€	74.68%
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,068,450.06€	
Water/heating/electricity consumption costs	319,948.97€	
2022 Implemented budget	8,388,399.03	



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