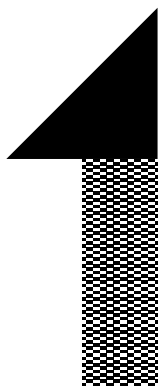


The background is a solid red color. Overlaid on this are several large, overlapping white and red geometric shapes. These shapes include circles, semi-circles, and rectangles. Some of these shapes are filled with various patterns: a fine grid of small red dots, a larger grid of red squares, vertical red stripes, horizontal red stripes, and a red and white checkerboard pattern. The patterns are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and complexity. The text 'ANNUAL REPORT 2023 NATIONAL LIBRARY OF LUXEMBOURG' is centered in the upper right quadrant of the page.

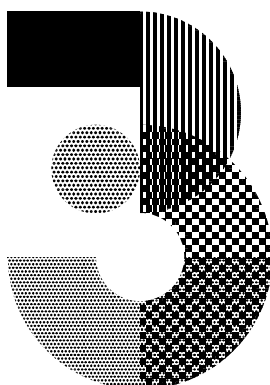
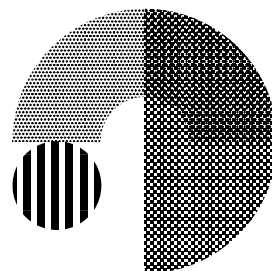
ANNUAL REPORT 2023
NATIONAL LIBRARY
OF LUXEMBOURG

CONTENTS



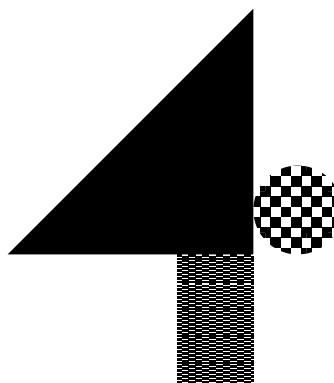
1. The BnL in transformation	8
Work programme 2022-2024	8
Vision 2020-2030	10
Strategic priorities	11
2023 in figures	12

2. Active and loyal readers	14
-----------------------------------	----

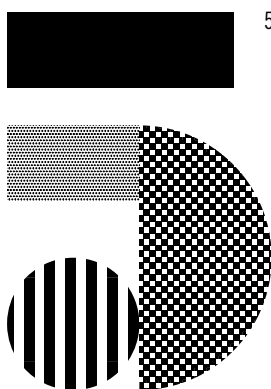


3. A look at our collections	16
Printed collection	16
Notable acquisitions, donations and deposits	18
Binding and restoration of documents	39
Digitised collection	42
Open Access	47

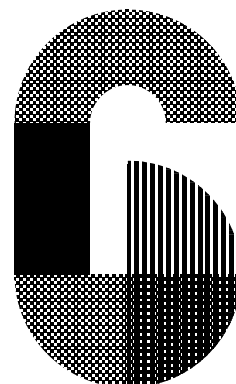
4. Digital innovation	48
Artificial intelligence.....	48
Web archive	50
Digital legal deposit.....	51
Long-term digital preservation.....	52



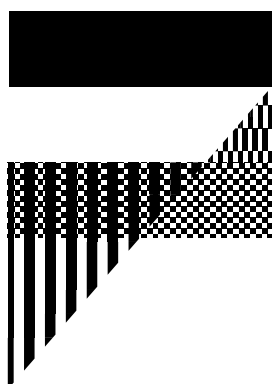
5. La BnL – beacon partner to libraries and actors in the book world.....	54
The bibnet.lu network of Luxembourg libraries.....	54
ISBN, ISMN, ISSN standardisation agency.....	56
Persistent identifiers: ARK and persist.lu.....	56
National and international collaborations	57

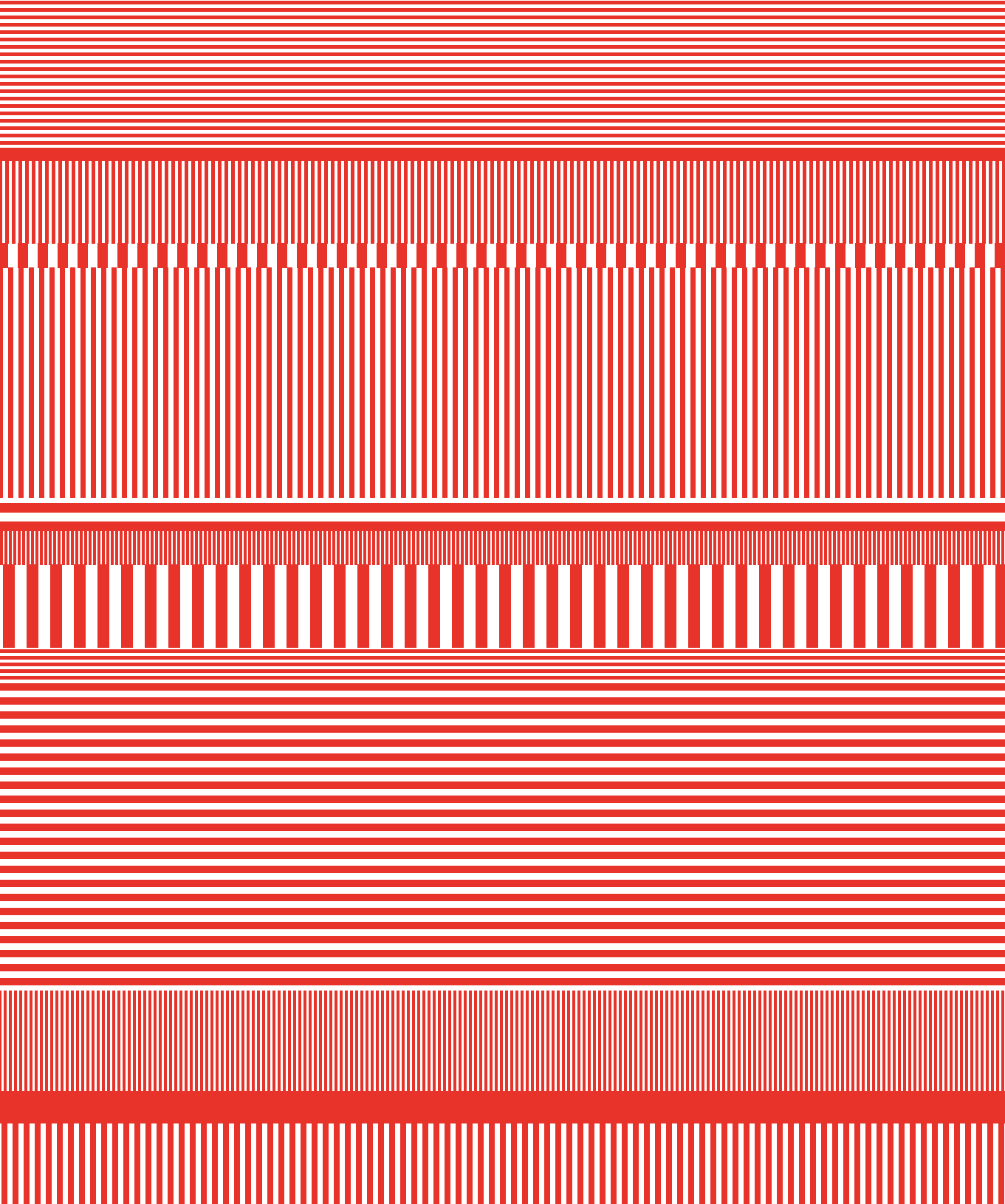


6. Cultural mediation and promotion of the collections	62
Open Days.....	62
Conferences and seminars.....	64
Exhibitions	66
Publications	68
Presentations	72
Educational offers	73
Summer School.....	74
Communication initiatives	74
Website and social networks	76
The BnL in the media	77



7. A responsible administration	78
Technical infrastructure maintenance	79
Human resources	80
Budget	83





FOREWORD

The National Library looks back on a remarkable year 2023 - a year notable for many highlights and the celebration of our 225th anniversary. To mark the occasion, we strengthened our links with our users through numerous events and our open days.

In addition, we once again demonstrated our expertise in delivering innovative projects such as the brand new AI-based chatbot for the eluxemburgensia.lu portal. The chatbot guides users through the history of Luxembourg using digitised newspaper articles.

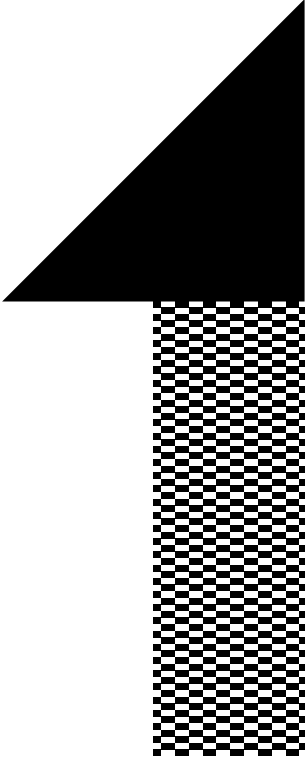
In the field of human resources, we have strengthened our team by welcoming new employees and appointing a deputy director.

For the future, we have identified areas for improvement. Firstly, we are committed to optimising our relations with users as part of the new Alma library management system. Its implementation turned out to be more complex and on a larger scale than expected, which slowed down the process considerably.

Our priorities for the year ahead are varied. Firstly, we aim to conclude agreements with the national copyright management society and publishers so that we can offer users remote access and digital loans. Secondly, we plan to expand the library network and extend our digital offers to new partners. We are starting the new year with ambition and determination, hoping to make it as successful as the last.

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 2023, we will have completed 24 projects as part of the work programme 2022-2024.

1. Organisation of seminars

As part of its scientific development strategy, the BnL has organised international seminars, including the 31st EBLIDA Council & Conference and the 22nd EBLIDA-NAPLE-PL2030 Event, the Cedom study day and the e-D-A-CH-L study meeting of the national libraries of Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Luxembourg, forming a collaborative platform for the exchange of knowledge in the German-speaking world.

2. Development of the BnL intranet

As part of the strategy for decompartmentalisation and improvement of internal communication, but also to facilitate the integration of new employees, an intranet site containing important information for all BnL staff has been set up.

3. Improving acoustics in the Reading Room

To ensure the best possible conditions in the Reading Room, the initial acoustic problems have been resolved. The soundproofing in the music room has been improved so that the sound of the piano can no longer be heard. Above all, a number of measures have been taken at the loan desk and information desk to ensure that users of the Reading Room are not disturbed by conversations between staff and users.

4. Publication of new digitised and born-digital documents on the eluxemburgensia.lu website

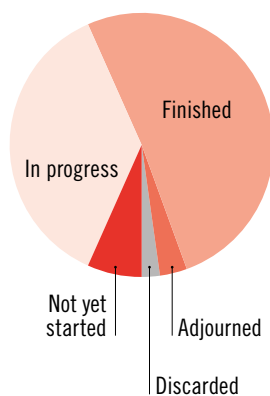
In 2023, *Memorial A* (1814-1940) and *Memorial C* (1961-1995) went online. As a result, 650,000 digitised pages have been added to eluxemburgensia.lu. This initiative represents an important step towards preserving and disseminating the history of Luxembourg's legislative deeds.

In addition, BnL intends to digitise all the monographs and periodicals in the Luxembourgish Collection by 2030.

Alongside these projects, which guarantee easy access to the collections and greater autonomy for readers, the BnL teams have carried out many other projects, such as the organisation of the exhibition "Vu Gäert a Bicher", the publication of works such as the "De Georgely" songbook or the proceedings of the seminar "Adel im Vormärz".

33 of the projects started in 2023 are still in progress and will be completed in 2024, alongside the 12 projects planned for 2024.

Status	90
Finished	46
In progress	33
Not yet started	6
Adjourned	3
Discarded	2



VISION 2020-2030

The National Library 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 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 develop, enrich, complete, manage, conserve and preserve the manuscript, printed, digital and audiovisual collections
3. We digitise heritage 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

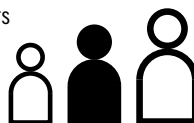
The guiding thread of the vision draws from the motto of transformation of a library with a unique character taking up the challenges of the 21st century.

2023 in figures



Staff
114.40 FTE

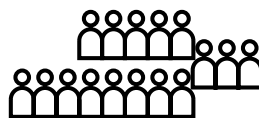
Average age of BnL staff
42.6 years



90

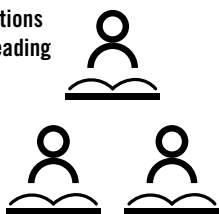
Libraries
participating in the
bibnet.lu network

Annual funding
7,550,000



Total registrations
37,515

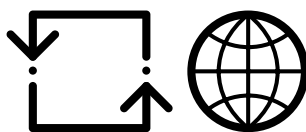
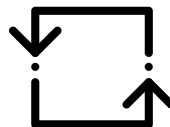
Workstations
in the Reading
Room
470



Visits to
the BnL
142,018

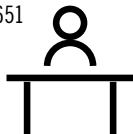


Home loans
76,062



Interlibrary loan requests
1,295

Carrel
reservations
12,651



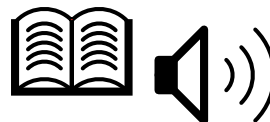
Electronic periodicals
81,359



900,795

Scientific e-books

Audio books
1,744



107,713

General interest e-books

22,137 films

VOD



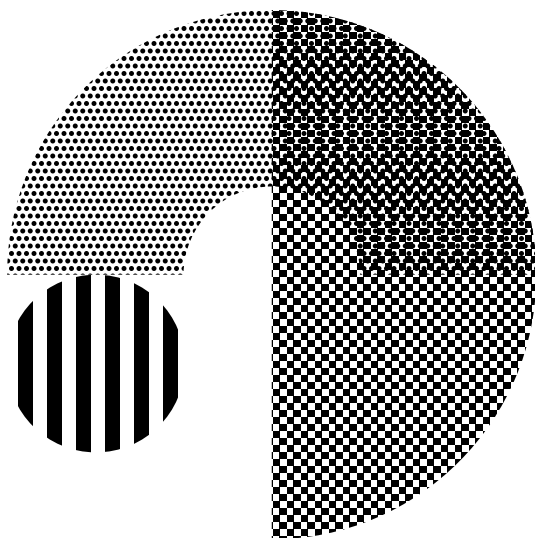
Web archive
5.9 bn files

Bicherbus tours
undertaken
195



Bicherbus km
covered
22,470

KM



ACTIVE AND LOYAL READERS

The BnL has recorded 37,515 registered users, of whom 10,204 are new registrations. There were 142,018 visits to our Reading Room that year. April was the busiest month, with a peak of 608 visits per day.

NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS AND VISITS		
	2023	Trend since 2022
Registrations		
Number of reader accounts with the BnL ¹	37,515	+ 11%
New registrations with the BnL ² of which, online registration ³	10,204 5,393	+ 36% + 270%
Number of Bicherbus reader accounts ¹	1,743	- 7%
New registrations with the Bicherbus ²	340	+ 9%
Visits to the Reading Room	2023	Trend since 2022
Total	142,018	+ 56%
Average per day	566	+ 59%
Peak in April	608	+ 33%

1. Reader accounts with an expiry date after 01/01/2023 and a registration date before 31/12/2023.

2. Not including requests to renew library cards.

3. From 12.12.2022, registration by e-mail has been replaced by registration via MyGuichet.lu.



The Reading Room is equipped with computer workstations, relaxation islands and armchairs. There are also eleven carrels (group rooms), three audio booths and a music room. 470 seats of all types are currently available in the Reading Room.

NUMBER OF ROOM RESERVATIONS	2023	Trend since 2022
Carrels	12,651	+ 47%
Music Room	1,398	+ 47%
Audio booths	2,020	+ 84%
Total	16,069	+ 51%



The work space most often reserved is the Music Room.

Discover our Reading Room by scanning the QR code.

ACTIVE BORROWERS	2023	Trend since 2022
Active borrowers BnL	5,583	+ 17%
Active borrowers Bicherbus	1,069	+ 2%

A total of 76,062 home loans were made in 2023. The most-loaned works by Luxembourgish authors were *Le droit judiciaire privé au Grand-Duché de Luxembourg* by Thierry Hoscheit and the 2020 *Code civil*. The most-loaned document from the Media Centre was the language learning curriculum *Le Luxembourgeois à grande vitesse* from the Assimil collection. StudioCanal's TV series *Le bureau des légendes* and the audio book *Denker des Abendlandes - die Geschichte der abendländischen Philosophie* by Bertrand Russel were also very successful.

NUMBER OF ON-SITE LOANS BY COLLECTION	2023
Luxembourgish collection and Cedom	6,104
Non-Luxembourgish collection	408
Total works reserved	6,512

NUMBER OF HOME LOANS	2023	Trend since 2022
Reading Room	26,957	+ 20%
of which, Luxembourgish collection including Media Centre ⁴	2,044	+ 3%
Magazines	6,712	+ 26%
of which, Luxembourgish collection ⁵	5,046	- 32%
of which, Uni.lu users	1,622	- 35%
Total home loans from BnL collections	32,003 ⁶	+ 7%
Bicherbus	44,059	+ 16%
Total documents loaned ⁶	76,062	+ 12%

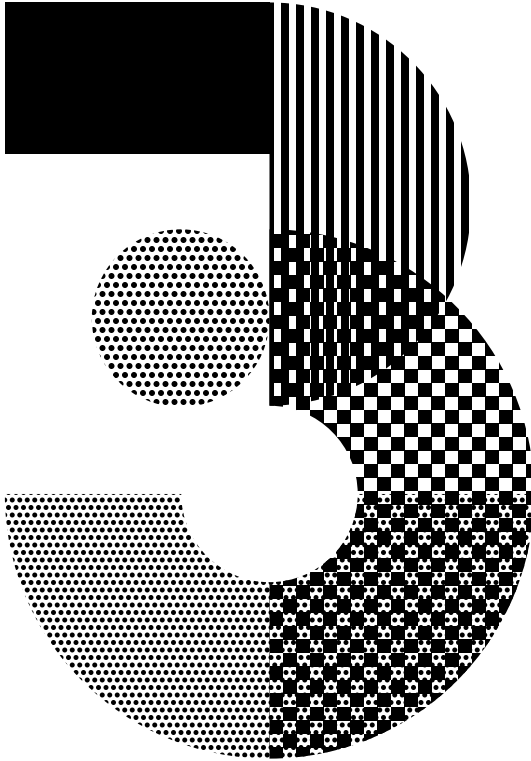
NUMBER OF INTERLIBRARY LOAN REQUESTS	2023	Trend since 2022
Total	1,259	- 56% ⁷
of which BnL users	1,226	- 43%
of which Uni.lu users	33	- 95%
Foreign libraries	26	- 62%
Total requests	1,285	- 56%

4. Including Cedom music CDs.

5. Including printed scores, Cedom monographs and periodicals.

6. Excluding interlibrary loan shipments.

7. This figure is lower because, since March 2023, Uni.lu has been handling its members' interlibrary loan requests itself.



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 31.12.2023	Trend since 2022 (physical units)
Monographs	292,675	+ 7,695
of which, works acquired in addition to the legal deposit		+ 890
of which, foreign works having a connection with Luxembourg		+ 848
of which, works accepted as donations		+ 428
Periodicals (number of titles)	5,320	+ 43
Dissertations and theses ⁸	10,993	+ 14
Heritage acquisitions ⁹	s.o.	+ 10,820
Luxembourgish works/subjects, of which, admitted as legal deposits	1,962	+ 144 + 104
NON-LUXEMBOURGISH COLLECTION	At 31.12.2023	Trend since 2022 (physical units)
Monographs ¹⁰	674,742	+ 6,714
Periodicals ¹¹ (no. of titles)	2,768	+ 11
Sound documents: audiobooks	2,455	+ 1
Audiovisual documents	20,166	+ 254
Multimedia documents: language learning media	921	+ 1
Number of suggested acquisitions from readers	588	+ 210



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	At 31.12.2023	Trend since 2022 (physical units)
Manuscripts Collection		
Manuscripts (6 th -20 th centuries)	933	-
Rare Books Collection		
Incunabula	184	+ 1
Rare and precious printed works	370	-
Facsimile editions	170	-
Historical and artistic bindings	432	-
Poster and illustrated postcard collection		
Historic and contemporary posters of which, admitted as legal deposits	52,488	+ 1,230 + 891
Historical and contemporary postcards ¹² of which, admitted as legal deposits	59,437	+ 12,573 + 697
Collection of Cards, Maps, Atlases and Views		
Maps & plans (atlases) of which, admitted as legal deposits	7,313	+ 140 + 127
Cedom Music Collection		
Sound documents: music ¹³	12,076	+ 164
Printed scores of which, admitted as legal deposits	7,850	+ 148 + 40
Manuscript musical scores	3,982	-
Iconography Collection		
Illustrated and art books of which, illustrated books by Luxembourgish artists of which, illustrated books by foreign artists	1,710	+ 13 + 12 + 1
Prints of which, admitted as legal deposits	2,723	+ 262 + 20
Iconography documents	3,336	+ 73
Historic portraits	1,167	+ 19
Bicherbus Collection		
Bicherbus Collection of which, new titles	67,512	+ 2,548

8. Including works deposited in 2023 and awaiting cataloguing.

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

10. Not including back-catalogued documents.

11. Periodicals from international organisations are not included.

12. Including 3,544 postcards received by donation.

13. All types of media taken together (magnetic tapes, audio records or cassettes, compact discs).

In order to facilitate research of Luxembourgish documents, the BnL is working on updating the presentation module of the national bibliography. 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. The national bibliography will be available online in 2024.

NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS, DONATIONS AND DEPOSITS

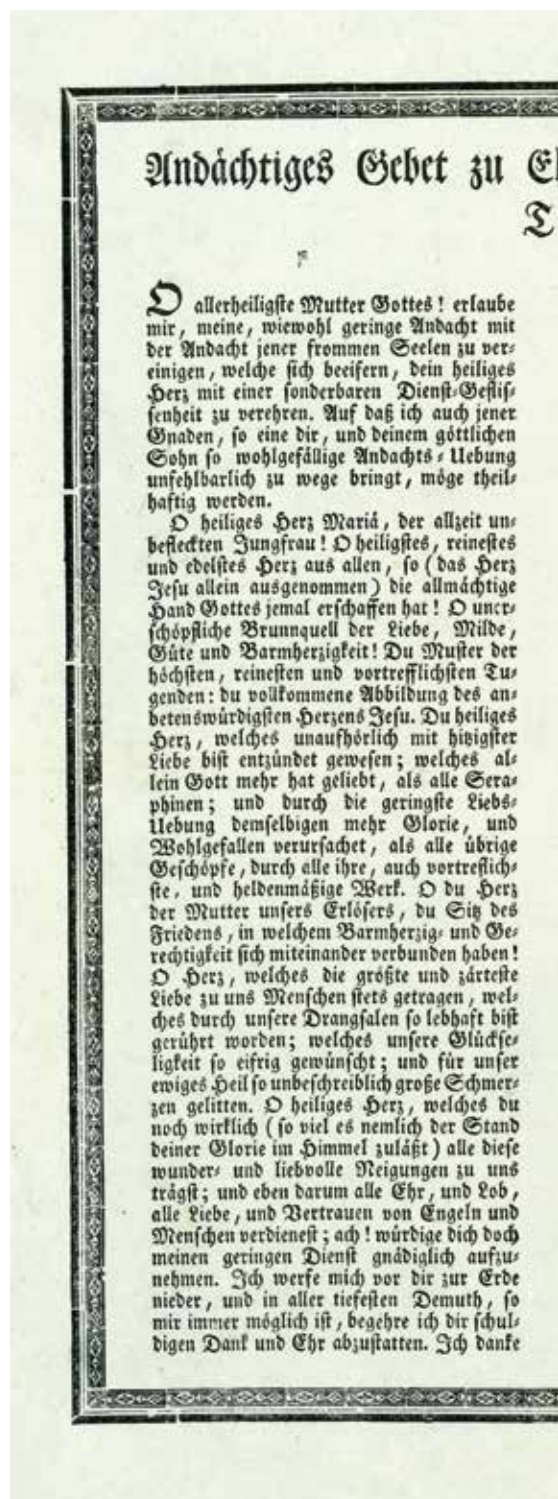
Amongst the notable acquisitions in 2023 are documents drawn from the BnL's various Special Collections: the Rare Books Collection, the Manuscripts Collection, the Collection of Cards, Maps, Atlases and Views, the Cedom (Centre d'études et de documentation musicales – Centre for Music Research and Documentation) Music Collection, the Iconography Collection, the Posters and Postcards Collection, the Ephemera Collection and the Media Centre.

RARE BOOKS COLLECTION

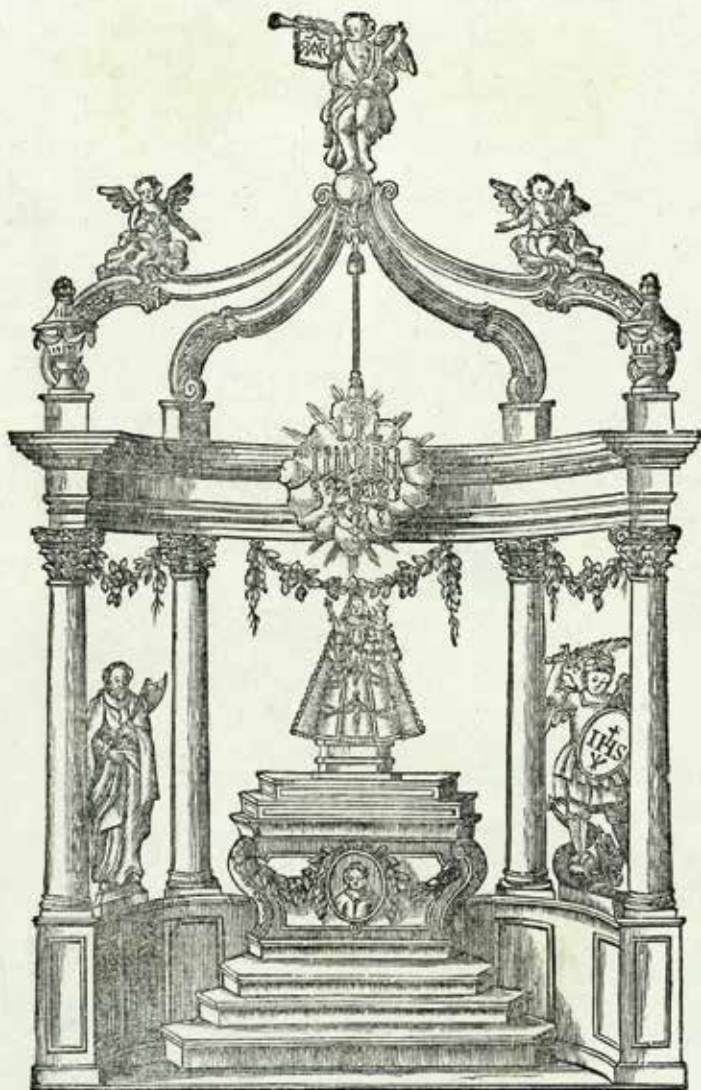
In July 2023, the BnL was able to restore an extremely rare item, which now forms part of the collection of Luxembourg prints dating from before 1800.

This leaflet, first described by the Luxembourg priest and bibliophile Martin Blum (1845-1924) in 1924, is thought to have been published on the occasion of the celebration of the secular jubilee of the election of Our Lady of Luxembourg, consoler of the afflicted, as patron saint of the city (1666) and duchy (1678) of Luxembourg and county of Chiny in 1781.

The sumptuous typographical apparatus accompanying and surrounding this affectionate prayer to the *Consolatrix afflictorum* undoubtedly echoes another important publication from the same year: the *Description du jubilé, célébré à l'honneur de Marie, consolatrice des affligés* (...), from the presses of André Chevalier's heirs (BnL, I.L. 234).



Ehren der Mutter Gottes von Lützburg, welche unter dem Titel
Trösterinn der Betrübten verehret wird.



dir von Grund meiner Seelen, für das barmherzige Mitleiden, so du in meinem Ansehen, so oft und vielmal mit mir getragen: für so viele aus dem Abgrund deiner unendlichen Güte hergestlossene Wohlthaten, so ich empfangen. O Herz! O der Mutter eines göttlichen Heilands recht anständiges Herz! ich gefesse mich zu so vielen reinen Seelen, deren höchste Lust, und Freude ist, dich zu lieben, zu ehren und zu loben. Diese haben von dem H. Geist, der sie leitet, gelernt, daß wir durch deine Vermittelung den Zutritt zu Christo suchen müssen, um bei diesem vermenschten Gott, unsere ihm schuldige Pflichten abzusatteln. Sie haben gelernt, daß wir ihn durch dich müssen anbeten, lieben, beneiden und anrufen, ihm dank sagen, uns selbst ihm aufopfern; und also aus dem unerschöpflichen Schatz deiner Verdiensten dasjenige erlangen, was uns armen und an allen Dingen höchst bedürftigen Menschen abgeht.

O wunderwürdig- und holdseliges Herz! Du wirst hinführo der Gegenwurf meiner Liebe und Verehrung seyn: du wirst die Strafe seyn, auf welcher ich zu meinem göttlichen Heiland gelangen werde. Durch dich werde ich Gnade und Barmherzigkeit bei ihm erwerben. Du wirst meine Zuflucht seyn in der Noth, und mein Trost in der Betrübniß. Du wirst der Spiegel, und das Vorbild seyn, worauf ich meine Augen schlagen werde; die Schule, allwo ich die heilige Lehr meines göttlichen Lehrmeisters anhören werde. Bei dir will ich lernen die Demuth, Keuschheit, Geduld, Sanftmuth, Verachtung der Welt und fürnehmlich die Liebe zu Jesu meinem Erlöser. Ich will diese Tugenden durch deine Verdiensten und Fürbitte begehren, nicht zweifelnd, ich werde sie erlangen.

O Herz Maria! verschaffe endlich, daß mein Herz dort oben im Himmel einstens mit dir vereiniat, Gott auch mit dir ewig lieben möge, Amen.

JEAN-BAPTISTE DETERME COLLECTION

In June 2023, the BnL received a donation of part of the private library of the Luxembourg prelate, Jansenist theologian and confessor to the members of the Imperial House of Habsburg in Vienna, Jean-Baptiste Determe (1741-1787).

This donation, which is not only generous but also significant because it comes from a key figure in the intellectual and ecclesiastical history of the Austrian Netherlands in the 18th century, was made by a descendant of this illustrious ancestor's family, the Luxembourg mycologist and botanist Madame Marie-Thérèse Tholl de Doncols. In addition to books on theology and edification *ad usum simplicem* by the "cantor et praelatus eccl[esi]ae metro. [politanae] Viennensis", as we learn from the bookplate of Jean-Baptiste Determe (or de Terme), created around 1778, the collection includes a copy of the Vulgate, translated by Louis-Isaac Lemaître de Sacy (1613-1684). This edition of the Vulgate, also known as the Port-Royal edition, is undeniable proof of Abbé Determe's Jansenist militancy.

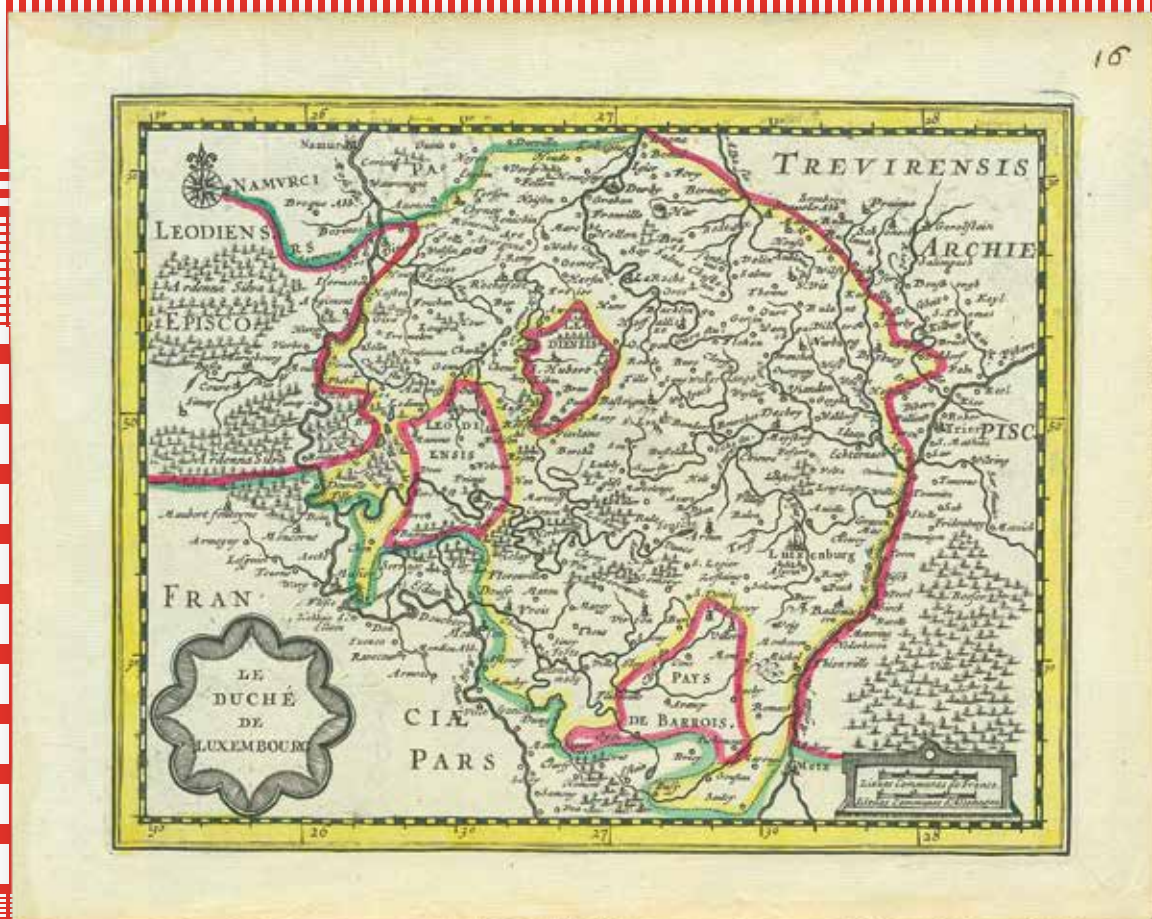
Thanks to this donation, the National Library now owns, in addition to books from other members of Jean-Baptiste Determe's family, around twenty volumes (and therefore the majority of known books) from the Luxembourg prelate's library.

This edition of the Vulgate, also known as the Port-Royal edition, is undeniable proof of Abbé Determe's Jansenist militancy.





COLLECTION OF CARDS, MAPS, ATLASES AND VIEWS



***Le duché de Luxembourg* by Joannes Janssonius, reproduced by Pieter van der Aa around 1711.**

Map of the Duchy of Luxembourg, originally by Jan Janssonius (1588-1664), reproduced in slightly modified form by Pieter van der Aa (1659-1733) in *L'atlas soulagé de son gros et pesant fardeau*, published in Leiden around 1710.

The colouring seems to reflect the political division after the Treaty of Ryswick (1697), marking the return of the territories of Saint-Hubert, Bouillon and Bar, which had been annexed by Louis XIV.

The map, referenced in Emile van der Vekene, *Les cartes géographiques du Duché de Luxembourg*, no. 2.18.b, was acquired by the BnL in November 2023.



Der hl. Willibrordus, Apostel des Luxemburger Landes (lithograph by Conrad Rosbach, Luxembourg), published by Jean-Baptiste Fallize, 1876.

The lithograph, distributed as a bonus to purchasers of the periodical *Luxemburger Sonntagsblatt*, shows Willibrord (+739), the patron saint of Luxembourg. The barrel on which he is seated is one of his attributes and refers to his miracles with wine (filling almost empty containers in a reflection of the Wedding at Cana). Echternach Abbey is visible in the background. This document was restored in 2023.



Luxenburg, copper engraving published by the German printer Jakob Koppmayer (1640-1701), around 1689, 16.5 x 31.9 cm.

Following the publication in 1684 of an engraving depicting the siege of Luxembourg in the same year, Koppmayer once again uses a Luxembourgish subject in this engraving. Offering a less belligerent iconography of a now well-known subject, this issue closely follows the famous panoramic view of the city of Luxembourg by Matthäus Merian the Younger (1621-1687) in 1659.

The publishing history of this sheet, which is as diverse as it is complex, is well established and can be consulted in general in Emile van der Vekene, "Eigentliche Relation der Belagerung von Luxemburg: Flugblätter, Flugschriften, Pamphlete und Pläne aus den Jahren 1683/84/85", in: *Luxembourg et Vauban: exposition organisée à la Villa Vauban du 27 novembre au 23 décembre 1984*, Luxembourg 1984, pp. 20-44. The copy acquired by the BnL in November 2023 is hand-coloured.

ICONOGRAPHY COLLECTION

Pompa funebris optimi potentissimiq[ue] principis Alberti PII, Archiducis Austriae (...), Louvain : Hendrik van Haestens, 1623.

In November 2023, the BnL acquired this extremely spectacular iconographic print, which is also significant for the history of the Spanish Netherlands. The prints depict the funeral of Archduke Albert VII (1559-1621) as ruler of the Spanish Netherlands. In addition to 64 engravings depicting the funeral procession in detail, they include an accompanying text and two fold-out engravings. A particularly remarkable feature of this rare first edition is the trilingual accompanying text, written in Latin, Spanish and Flemish.

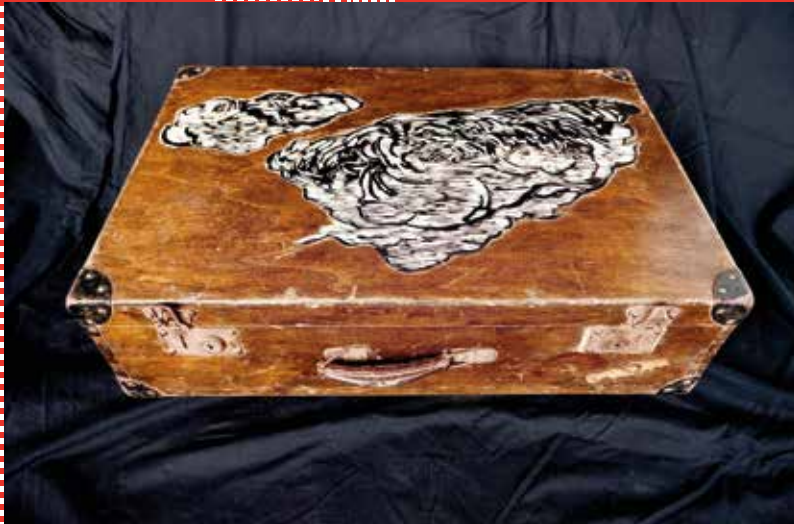
Among the representatives of the Benedictine order who took part in the funeral procession, we find a familiar face: that of Pierre Roberti (1565-1636), abbot of the Abbey of Notre-Dame de Munster in Luxembourg City from 1602 until his death in 1636.





Portrait of Emperor Sigismund of Luxembourg (1368-1437) in coronation regalia, by an unknown German artist (?) around 1630, 32.7 x 41 cm.

Full-length portrait of Emperor Sigismund of Luxembourg acquired by the BnL in November 2023. This extremely rare item features the Emperor of the illustrious Imperial House of Luxembourg surrounded by the regalia of the Holy Roman Empire. The imperial crowns (II) of Rudolf II (XV), the sword of Charlemagne (V), the purse of Saint Stephen (XIII), the imperial stole (X) and the orb (III) and sceptre (IV) can all be seen. Only two other copies appear to be known, including a version with a slightly modified depiction of the emperor in the collections of the Royal Collection Trust.



***The necessity of longing*, Anneke Walch, object book.**

In her work *The necessity of longing*, Luxembourg artist Anneke Walch integrates printmaking techniques with the concept of the artist's book. She shapes the wooden lid of a multimedia box like a printing die and carves an image into it. For years, Walch has taken a keen interest in wood engraving, a printing technique with a long history that developed in Europe during the 15th century with the distribution of illustrated books and pamphlets. *The necessity of longing* is a highly personal work on longing as a source of inspiration and a driving force for personal development.

ILLUSTRATED POSTERS AND POSTCARDS COLLECTION



This illustrated postcard shows a view of the entrance to St Willibrord's Basilica in Echternach. Received by the Town of Echternach as part of its legal deposit, it is one of a series of 6 tourist postcards of the town. Neither the publisher nor the illustrator is indicated on the reverse side.

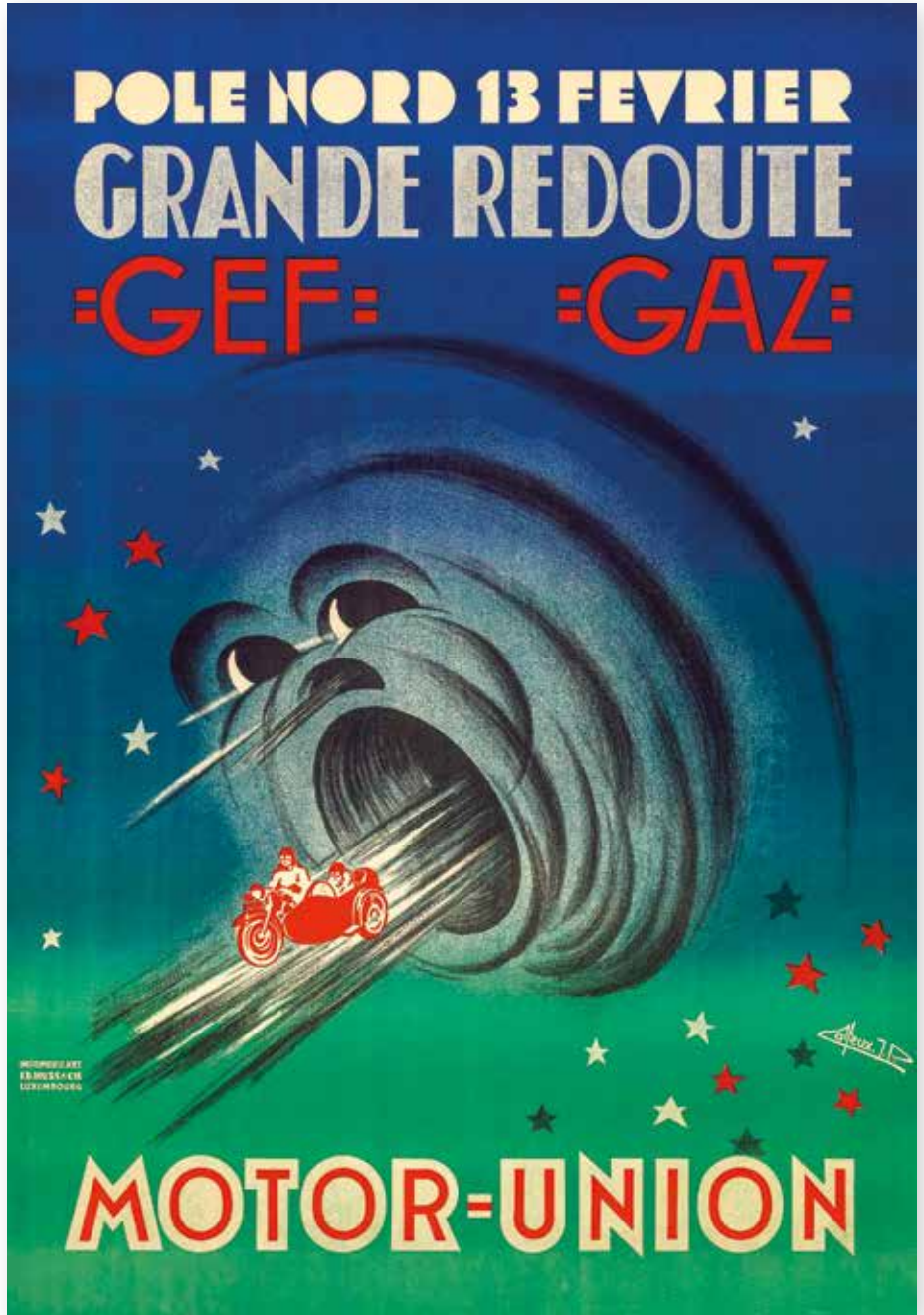
The 3rd European Hot Air Balloon Championship in 1982 is reproduced on a card published by MPK (Messageries Paul Kraus) and forms part of a major collection acquired in 2023. The history of the *Feierwôn* balloon dates back to 1975 and promotes the sport of ballooning in Luxembourg. In 1982, the Fédération Internationale Aéronautique (International Aeronautical Federation) entrusted Luxembourg with the organisation of the championship in Ettelbruck/Warken.





This illustrated postcard belongs to a significant collection of publications reflecting the life of American soldiers in Luxembourg after the First World War. Published by W. Capus, it offers a fine view of the ruins of Vianden Castle and the surrounding area. On the reverse of this card, franked in January 1919, an American soldier stationed in the Grand Duchy describes the Luxembourgish landscape as follows: "This post card shows a good view of how the land is formed. But it is sure rich soil but awful hilly."





The Motor-Union du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg (Motor Union of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg – MUL) was founded on 5 May 1922 and has been the national representative to the FIM (Fédération Internationale Motocycliste – International Motorcycling Federation) and FIM Europe since 1926. A 1936 drawing by artist Jean-Pierre Calteux (1911-1983) was used for the poster, which was probably designed for 1954. Imprimerie Art. Éd. Huss & Cie Luxembourg.

EPHEMERA COLLECTION



American soldiers of the 5th Division were stationed in Luxembourg between November 1918 and July 1919, particularly in Esch-sur-Alzette, Dudelange, Diekirch, Echternach and Larochette. Numerous events were organised for the entertainment of the soldiers and the people of Luxembourg, including car shows, sports competitions and horse shows.

The ephemera collection includes printed matter in common use. This covers calendars, diplomas, devotional souvenirs, invitations and advertisements.

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

The Cedom has been able to enrich its archive collections of Luxembourg composers and musical associations with the following four contributions:

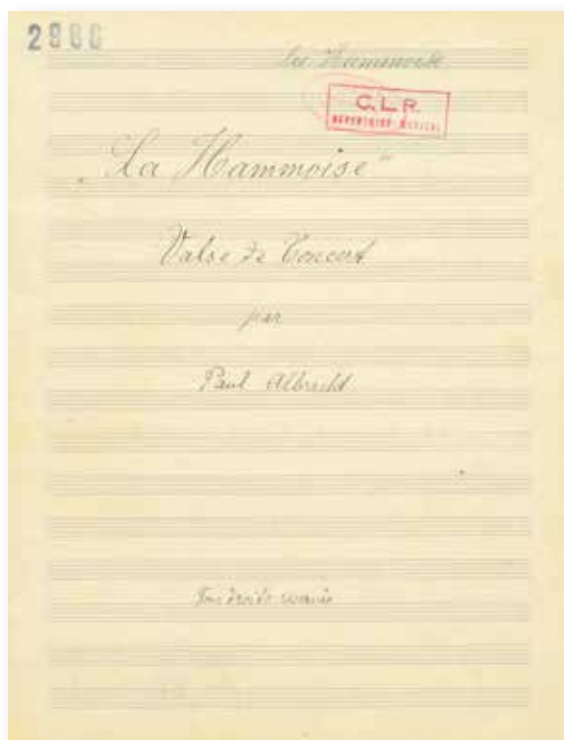
- Luxembourg Philharmonic Orchestra Collection
- Luxembourg Military Band Collection
- Walter Civitareale Collection
- Marc Mangen Collection

The first inventories of music archive collections have been made available online at a-z.lu in the form of lists containing, among other things, the title of the work, the authors/composers/arrangers, the date of production and the format:

- Peter Faber Collection
- Victor Goldschmit Collection
- René Mertzig Collection
- Lou Koster Collection
- Jean-Pierre Kemmer Collection
- Pierre Nimax sen. Collection

Luxembourg Philharmonic Collection

The contribution to the Luxembourg Philharmonic Collection received from the Etablissement public Salle de Concerts Grande-Duchesse Joséphine-Charlotte (Grande-Duchesse Joséphine-Charlotte Concert Hall) consists mainly of musical scores from the music library of the Orchestre Philharmonique du Luxembourg (Luxembourg Philharmonic). This collection includes scores by Luxembourgish composers (Ivan Boumans, Dafydd Bullock, Walter Civitareale, Rudi de Bouw, Victor Fenigstein, David Ianni, Claude Lenners, Jeannot Sanavia, Marcel Wengler), commissions for musical compositions from the Philharmonie Luxembourg, manuscript scores and musical publications bearing the stamps of former conductors (such as Henri Pensis or Roger Ellis) or Luxembourgish music publishers. The various contributions to this collection trace the history of the OPL, from the creation of the Compagnie Luxembourgeoise de Radiodiffusion (C.L.R.) in 1933 to the musical interludes and jingles of the RTL Orchestra, including the scores approved by the Nazi regime during the Second World War.



Paul Albrecht, *La Hammoise* : valse de concert.
Handwritten score [s.d.].



Signature tune "Kuck elei".

Handwritten score [s.d.].

Among the many signature tunes in the Luxembourg Philharmonic Orchestra's collection is one for the popular programme "Hei elei, kuck elei".

Tatsiana Zelianko, *In itinere* : for two violins and orchestra, Luxembourg : [s. n.], 2014.

This piece, dedicated to Luxembourg composer Claude Lenners, was commissioned by the Luxembourg Philharmonic Orchestra as part of the "Luxembourg" concert scheduled for 16.01.2015.



Luxembourg Military Band Collection

As the oldest professional orchestra in the Grand Duchy, the contribution to the Luxembourg Military Band Collection has a significant heritage value. This collection has been expanded to include works by Luxembourgish composers such as Jean-Antoine Zinnen, Fernand Mertens and Nicky Kirsch, arrangements by André Reichling, as well as military calls and sound recordings made by the Musique Militaire.



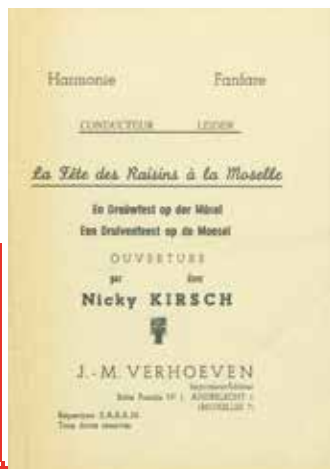
**Jean-Antoine Zinnen, *Marche aux flambeaux*.
Luxembourg, 22 October 1878.**

Handwritten copy by M. Theisen.

Solo clarinet part in B. The first traceable performance of this piece was on 25 July 1876 by the band of the fire brigade of the lower towns of Grund and Pfaffenthal at the bandstand on the Place d'Armes in Luxembourg City (in: *Luxemburger Wort*, 1876. Jg., no. 171 (22.07.1876), p. 3.)

Nicky Kirsch, *La fête des raisins à la Moselle – Ouverture*, J.-M. Verhoeven, Anderlecht, [ca. 1950].

Title page of the conducting part and solo tuba part containing the stamp “Musique Militaire Luxembourg”.



Rappel de pied ferme : honneurs pour les généraux de division. Handwritten score [s.d.].

The Luxembourg Military Band has several military calls. The *Rappel de pied ferme* is designed to pay tribute to general divisional officers or equivalent ranks on their arrival and departure.

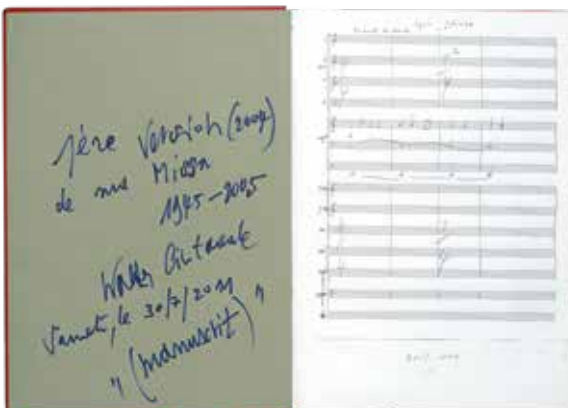


Walter Civitareale Collection

The Luxembourg composer Walter Civitareale, whose musical works are of significant heritage value, particularly for the Luxembourg music repertoire of the 20th and 21st centuries, has made another contribution to his music archive held by Cedom. This section contains mainly musical scores of works by the composer himself, but also sound recordings and resources documenting the composer's artistic career.

Walter Civitareale, Jubilee-Suite, [s.l.], 1996.

Photocopy of the handwritten manuscript. Subsequent annotation by the composer: "1^{re} version de 'Jubilee-Suite' dont reste à remanier quelques numéros de la Suite (de cette 'Jubilee-Suite')" (1st version of 'Jubilee-Suite' with several numbers of the Suite (of this 'Jubilee-Suite') remaining to be recast).



Walter Civitareale, Missa 1945-2005, s.l., 2011.

Photocopy of the handwritten manuscript. Subsequent annotation by the composer: "1^{re} version (2004) de ma 'Missa' 1945-2005. Walter Civitareale : samedi, le 30/7/2011" (1st version (2004) of my 'Missa' 1945-2005. Walter Civitareale: Saturday, 30/07/2011). (Manuscript)

Marc Mangen Collection

The addition of the Mark Mangen Collection – Mark Mangen is a versatile jazz pianist, organist and composer – has enabled Cedom to broaden the range of genres in its music archive collection, from classical music to jazz. The music archive includes a diverse selection of the artist's compositions, including jazz pieces, works for his own jazz group Afrodisax, works for big band, as well as vocal works for choir and organ music in a style known as “classical” music. A small collection of press cuttings documenting Marc Mangen's artistic development is also included.

Marc Mangen, *Forest as ancient as the hills*, s.l., 2007. Autograph manuscript score.



Marc Mangen, *Life out of balance*. [pour sax. alto, sax. tenor, sax. baryton, trompette, cor, percussion, piano, basse, trombone], s.l., 2007. Autograph manuscript piano part. The piece was composed in 1992 for Afrodisax's album *Life out of balance*.

Collection of printed scores

Alphonse Foes, *Düdelingen (Weihgesang)*, s.l., 25 April 1937. Text by J.-P. Hoffmann.
Manuscript part for solo baritone. The cantata was first performed on 1 August 1937.



Louis Mosinger, *De gre'ste Schmirz*. Strasbourg, 11. Juli 1944 [sic !]. Text and music by Louis Mosinger.
Handwritten copy by François Obertin.

Collection of sound documents



Maria Miteva, *Golden Lights*, Luxembourg, Maria Miteva, 2023.

Golden Lights contains ten works by Luxembourgish and Bulgarian composers. Performed and published by Maria Miteva, this album establishes a special link between contemporary music and jazz. The fusion of different musical styles and origins makes this record an exceptional revelation.



MEDIA CENTRE COLLECTION



Be Natural: the Untold Story of Alice Guy-Blaché / directed by Pamela B. Green, screenplay Joan Simon, Pamela B. Green, based on the book *Alice Guy-Blaché, Lost Visionary of the Cinema* by Alison McMahan.

Pamela B. Green conducted an 8-year investigation in search of information on French director Alice Guy-Blaché, who emigrated to the United States, and on her films. The documentary follows the investigation step by step, travelling back and forth from Paris to New Jersey, where Alice Guy set up her production studio in 1910. She started out as Léon Gaumont's secretary and rose to become head of Gaumont production, as director, artistic director, scriptwriter and stage manager. In 1907, she followed her husband when he was sent by Gaumont to the United States, and the documentary suggests that Léon Gaumont was not ill pleased to get rid of a woman in an industry that had proven lucrative and had been monopolised by men. She had a successful career in the United States, where she made feminist films ahead of their time with funny, strong protagonists. Following problems in her private life, she returned to France, where she had been forgotten and struggled to get back on her feet. This film shows how the history of cinema in France has been written by male film critics, who have failed to mention the pioneering role played by a woman in the development of cinema. Thanks to the films rediscovered in the archives of the Library of Congress, we can hope that Alice Guy will regain the place she deserves in France alongside Méliès and the Lumière brothers.



***Corsage* / written and directed by Marie Kreutzer.**

Elisabeth, Empress of Austria and Queen of Hungary, nicknamed “Sissi”, still fascinates film-makers to this day, despite the famous trilogy starring Romy Schneider, which was the most successful film of its day in Germany and Austria. Romy Schneider found the role burdensome for her career, but Vicky Krieps plays a much less watered-down character in Kreutzer’s film. The director focuses on Elisabeth’s complex personality at a time in her life when she is in her forties and no longer a young ingenue. Although the film diverges from historical reality, Kreutzer read the correspondence of her husband, Emperor Franz Joseph, her children and the ladies of the court to set the right tone for the film and define the main character. Sissi did not want anyone to see an image of her ageing and this contributed to her myth, which lives on today and makes her a modern icon in the age of Instagram, where the focus is on putting oneself on display.



BINDING AND RESTORATION OF DOCUMENTS

Binding is a means of protection for documents. 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 2023, it used a Luxembourgish company and a Belgian company. The number and total volume of orders have remained constant compared with 2022: in 2023, 6 orders were placed for a total of 481 volumes.

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 2023, 909 documents were processed, of which 511 required more extensive work (e.g. making a new spine, glued or stitched bindings, or making new covers). 140 of these documents were processed prior to an inventory in the Non-Luxembourgish Collection.

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 exchange for a donation to restoration of documents

On 9 December 2023, visitors to the National Library were given the opportunity to buy books of which the BnL had surplus copies, in return for a small donation towards the restoration of historical documents. The campaign was a great success, and thanks to the donations collected, the BnL was able to restore two 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.



Poster for the annual redoubt of the ASSOSS (Association générale des étudiants luxembourgeois – General Association of Luxembourgish Students, 1912-1968) on 31 March 1962 at the Cercle municipal (Municipal Circle). The ambiguous title “marché aux puce... s” (flea market) can easily be read as “marché aux pucelles” (maidens’ market). Artist: Lex Weyer (1914-2005). Linocut: Imprimerie Centrale, Luxembourg. (tears and missing parts) - Dimensions: 95 x 63 cm. Source: Kanerz Art Sàrl, Howald, 30.05.2021.

DIGITISED COLLECTION

eluxemburgensia.lu

The eluxemburgensia.lu portal allows users to freely access the full text of the documents digitised by the BnL. Large-scale digitisation and placing items online makes 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 that knowledge is shared and enables everyone to exercise their right to information.

Since April 2023, users have been able to filter their search results according to their preferred language, for example German, French or Luxembourgish. The newspapers, books and historical magazines digitised by the BnL bear witness to the culture of multilingualism present in Luxembourg and often bring together different languages on the same page. The new filtering option allows users who prefer to read articles in a specific language to filter all the content and target their search more precisely.



Den Dag vum eluxemburgensia.lu

On 10 July 2023, BnL organised its first discovery day for the eluxemburgensia.lu portal with the presence of Sam Tanson, Minister of Culture. The programme included presentations and workshops,

particularly on the use of AI. Participants were also able to communicate their needs and ideas to the experts of the BnL.

New Luxembourgish digital resources

In March 2023, recent editions of the *Bulletin de la Société des naturalistes luxembourgeois* (Bulletin of the Luxembourg Naturalist Society) and of the historical journal *Hémecht* were put online. These new editions extend the collection already digitised and accessible since 2015 and 2020 respectively.

In June, *Memorial A* and *Memorial C* were put online. This initiative marked an important stage in the preservation and dissemination of the history of Luxembourg's legislative deeds.

In July, 307 recent editions of the Luxembourg weekly *d'Lëtzebuurger Land*, from 2017 to 2022, were made available on eluxemburgensia.lu. These editions complete the first sample published online in 2013, which covered issues from 1954 to 2007.

Since November 2023, BnL users have had access to the entirety of the *journal.lu* and *Luxtimes: Luxembourg Times* websites. At the same time, the National Library is working on a project to digitise and put online the historical editions of the *Lëtzebuurger Journal* published between 1948 and 2020. The aim of this partnership is to guarantee democratic access both to the digital press, such as *Wort Plus*, *Tageblatt*, *Le Quotidien Premium*, *Reporter.lu* and *Journal.lu*, and to its printed versions.

In December 2023, the *Luxroots.org* database was added to the BnL's documentary panel. Since then, genealogy enthusiasts have had access to over 3 million records, including 2 million birth certificates, 342,000 marriage certificates and 686,000 death certificates.

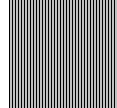
Other digitisation projects are in progress:

- The periodical *Revue*: 3,832 copies, making a total of 443,424 pages, covering the period from 1945 to 2020
- More than 60 titles from Luxembourg's historic periodicals, including *Der Landwirth*, *Luxemburger Zeitung* and *Escher Zeitung*
- 3,000,000 pages of Luxembourg monographs



TOTAL PAGES VIEWED ON ELUXEMBURGENSIA.LU	2023	Trend since 2022
Periodicals (as images)	224,244	- 10%
Periodicals (as full text)	1,976,408	+ 10%
Reference works (as images)	117,347	+ 16%
Monographs (as full text)	35,358	+ 10%
Historic postcards	11,505	- 40%
Manuscripts	2,315	+ 10%
Posters	68	+ 11%
Total	2,367,245	+ 8%

ELUXEMBURGENSIA.LU DIGITISED COLLECTION	At 31.12.2023	Trend since 2022
Periodicals (as full text)		
Titles/objects	73	+ 5
Pages	1,552,726	+ 670,034
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	21	+ 6
Pages	6,247	+ 2,992
Luxembourgish posters		
Titles/objects	782	-
Imaging (recto/verso)	1,564	



Digital resources acquired under access licence agreements

Since 2002, 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 Acquisition and Management of Digital Publications division has developed and put into production a new cost allocation model, which considerably improves the predictability of multi-year budgets for the University of Luxembourg, LIST, LIH and the National Library.

Following preparatory work, a new, more flexible proxy server, enabling a more precise alignment of requirements and existing licences, went into production in January 2023.

DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS ACQUIRED UNDER LICENCE AGREEMENTS	At 31.12.2023	Trend since 2022
Electronic periodicals	81,359	+ 20%
Scientific e-books	900,795	+ 15%
Databases	320	+ 5%
e-books (ebooks.lu)	107,713	- 8%
Audio books (ebooks.lu)	1,744	+ 6%
Videos on demand	22,137	+ 9%

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

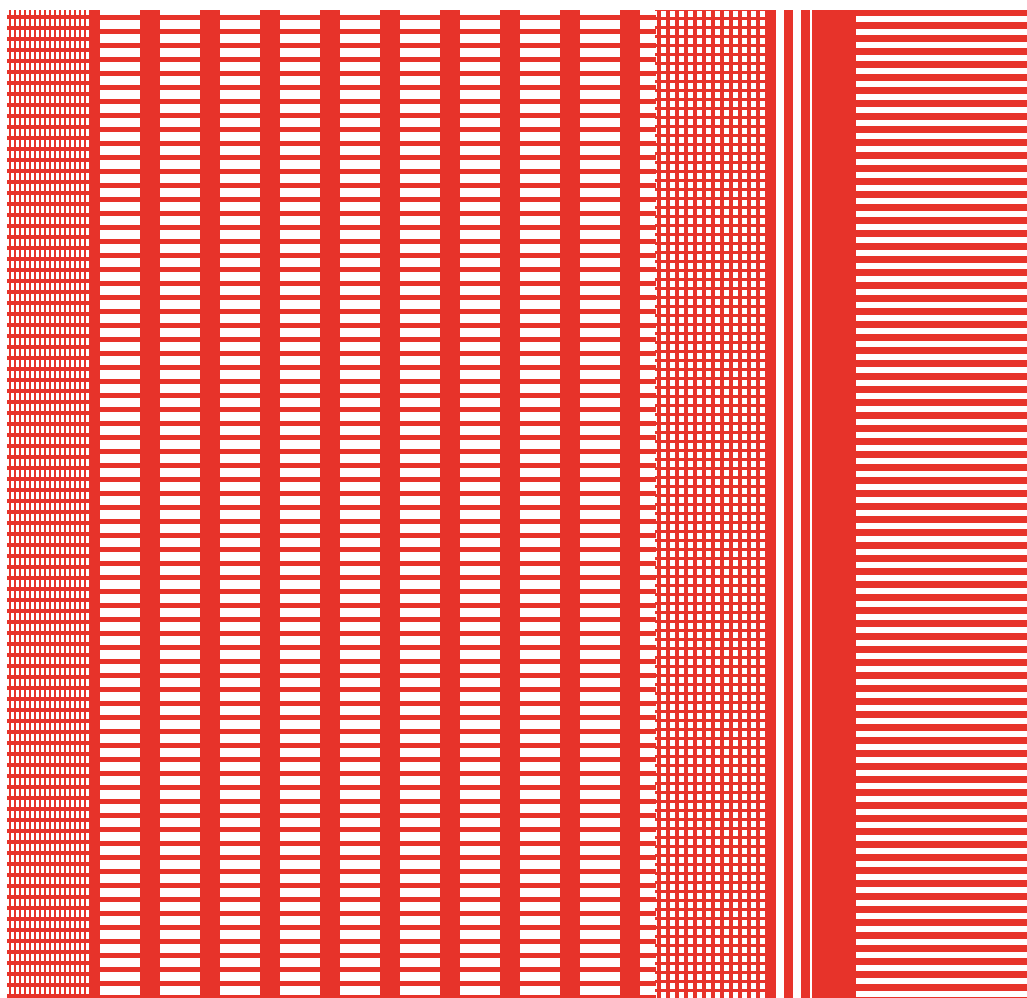


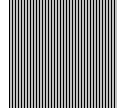
The most-consulted digital resources were the scientific journals *Nature and Science*, while the daily newspaper most frequently consulted online was *Le Monde*, followed closely by *Le Figaro*.

The *Europresse* portal recorded 82,468 downloads, while the PressReader platform recorded 89,041 sessions.

The most-used scientific databases were *Science Direct*, *Beckonline*, *Springer* and *IEEE* (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers).

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 works behind the scenes to link search results to the library’s digital offer. 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 home page.





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. Users currently have access to 107,713 e-books in French, German or English. It is free to use.

The three most-borrowed works were Brianna Wiest, *101 Essays That Will Change the Way You Think*, Susanne Abel, *Stay Away From Gretchen - Eine unmögliche Liebe* and Barbara Abel, *After the End*.

NUMBER OF E-BOOKS DOWNLOADED	2023	Trend since 2022
In French	2,815	- 3%
In German	7,475	- 24%
In English	15,631	- 26%
Total	25,921	- 23%

NUMBER OF AUDIO BOOKS DOWNLOADED	2023	Trend since 2022
In French	707	+ 43%
In English or German	12,915	+ 27%
Total	13,622	+ 28%

The *Libby* app from Overdrive provides direct access to e-books offered by BnL and its partners (except those in French). The app is free, particularly practical and easy to use.

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 books were: *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* by Joanne K. Rowling and *Spy x Family, Vol.1.* by Tatsuya Endo.

READ-Y: NUMBER OF DOWNLOADS	2023	Trend since 2022
E-books	20,356	- 13%
Audio books	136	- 9%
Total	20,492	- 13%



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 Tënk 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.

In 2023, the Filmfriend platform recorded 1,384 active users, while Kanopy recorded 551.

Viewing in hours	01.01.-31.12.2023	01.04.2022-31.12.2022
Tënk	367	376
Filmfriend	1,452	481
Kanopy	1,227	788

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 11 specialist databases, 2 online reviews and 2 international press databases, *Europresse* and *Genios*.

OPEN ACCESS

BnL and the publisher DeGruyter have signed an agreement that has been called “transformational”. This agreement gives access to all scientific journals and covers publication costs. The agreement, which takes effect in 2024, will enable researchers and authors from the Luxembourg Consortium (University of Luxembourg, LIST, LIH, BnL) to publish their research work according to Open Access principles, without having to pay additional publishing fees.

Several partners have begun a test phase with ChronosHub service regarding centralised management of their article publication costs in 2023. The National Library continued to contribute as an observer to the working group for Open Access among the University, research bodies and the FNR.

Based on the “lessons learned” from the first transforming agreements, a survey of consortial partners was carried out. They indicated that the centralisation of procedures was too complex. All the transforming, renewed and additional agreements in 2023 have taken these results into account with a simplified publication quota model.



DIGITAL INNOVATION

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

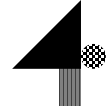
On 4 October 2023, BnL launched the new chatbot on the eluxemburgensia.lu portal. Able to understand French, German and English, it helps Internet users to explore Luxembourg's history and provides well-supported answers based on historical press articles.

Thanks to a technology used by ChatGPT, the artificial intelligence conversational agent developed by OpenAI, the BnL's experts have indexed the digitised Luxembourgish documents and prepared a high-performance database that enables semantic searches to be carried out.

This breakthrough marks a major milestone in the BnL's mission to provide easier and richer access to its digitised Luxembourgish resources.

The chatbot was presented to researchers from the University of Luxembourg, staff from cultural institutes, the IT department of the Luxembourg Ministry of Home Affairs, members of the CTIE and international experts from the CENL.

CHATBOT	(4.10.2023-31.12.2023)
Registered users	593
Number of questions asked	2,796



Copyrights

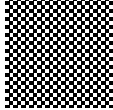
Following the transposition into Luxembourg law of the Directive on copyright and related rights in the digital single market, the various legal measures to facilitate access to knowledge were examined and implemented.

The National Library first contacted the publishers' federation to adopt a common approach to the application of the new legal status of "commercially unavailable works". A similar approach will be taken for publishers who are not members of the federation and for self-published authors.

At the same time, negotiations have begun with the Luxorr (Luxembourg Organisation for Reproduction Rights) collecting society with a view to concluding an "extended collective" licence in 2024, governing the online availability of works that are not commercially available.

In addition, an in-depth analysis has been launched to determine the precise framework for the application of the new legal exception concerning text and data mining, particularly in international research projects involving digitised heritage collections.

The use of artificial intelligence techniques means that collections can be analysed faster and in greater depth. It makes it easier to index and classify documents, and to search and access our digitised resources.



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 2023, the BnL archived more than 5.93 billion files, equivalent to 340.71 TB.

In addition to archiving campaigns for the “.lu” domain, the BnL also maintains targeted collections, event-based collections and thematic collections using the Archive-It tool. A new special collection dedicated to the “Superwaljoer”, including regular captures of all websites related to political campaigns, was created in 2023. The daily archiving of all Luxembourg news portals was a key element in the coverage of the elections.

The collections have been managed by the Internet Archive since 2020. Unfortunately, there are some major shortcomings, in particular the lack of systematic archiving of paid-for information sites. To remedy this, BnL has set up its own webcrawler. Thanks to individual programming, it archives the wort.lu, virgule.lu, contacto.lu, luxtimes.lu, tageblatt.lu, lequotidien.lu, journal.lu, reporter.lu and woodee.lu websites on a daily basis. This initiative aims to ensure complete and accurate coverage of the information from these sources, thereby enhancing the richness of the BnL's archives in the context of current political events in Luxembourg.

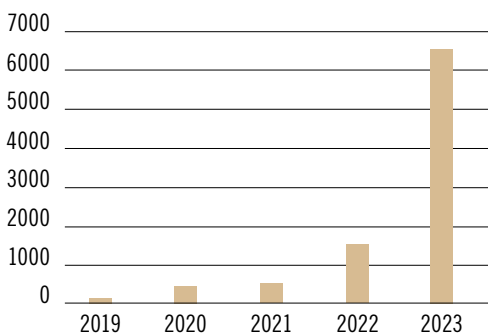
In addition to the new webcrawler, other significant innovations have been introduced on the technical front: all web archive data has been transferred to a new S3 storage infrastructure, supplied by the CTIE, and 4 new high-performance machines have been purchased to host the indexing and replay applications. The migration of around 339 TB of data and metadata into a dedicated system paved the way for a much more powerful search engine, the PyWayback Machine, which went live in December 2023. It makes searching and browsing faster, and improves the quality of reproduction of content in web archives. Preparations are already underway for the next stage in improving the use of web archives: the SOLR Wayback Machine. It offers a wide range of functions, including full-text search and targeted search by language, document type or image. In future, the BnL will use the hybrid solution of PyWb and SOLR Wayback to benefit from the advantages of both systems.

**Facilitating access
to information
requires quality
data and cutting-
edge technologies.**

DIGITAL LEGAL DEPOSIT

Monographs (e-books, brochures and leaflets)

In 2023, 6,615 monographs were added to the digitised collection. For the first time in the history of Luxembourg legal deposit, the number of digital documents archived in a year has exceeded that of the paper collection. The considerable increase in this collection can be explained partly by reforms to the collection process (BnL was able to receive a large number of digital documents published before 2022), and partly by the digital shift in publication methods.

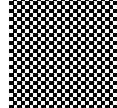


Periodicals (newspapers, magazines, reports)

1,192 periodical websites were regularly consulted in order to identify new editions posted online. In 2023, 62 new titles were added to the collection. Since the start of systematic collection of periodicals in 2016, over 40,000 files have been archived manually, which is the equivalent of 280 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 14.7 GB of information communications originating from hundreds of Luxembourgish bodies.



LONG-TERM DIGITAL PRESERVATION

The main aim of digital preservation is to ensure that digital content lasts. In this way, it guarantees that future generations will have access to complete and exhaustive documentation. The BnL is committed to making different types of content accessible remotely, from born-digital newspaper editions to digitised manuscripts.

Making its collections available to as many people as possible is one of the BnL's fundamental missions. However, respecting copyright represents a major challenge, particularly for recent publications, whether printed or born-digital. Thanks to agreements between the BnL, Luxembourg publishers and content creators, the library has received not only the digital publications subject to legal deposit, but also the original files and the necessary rights to make them accessible online.

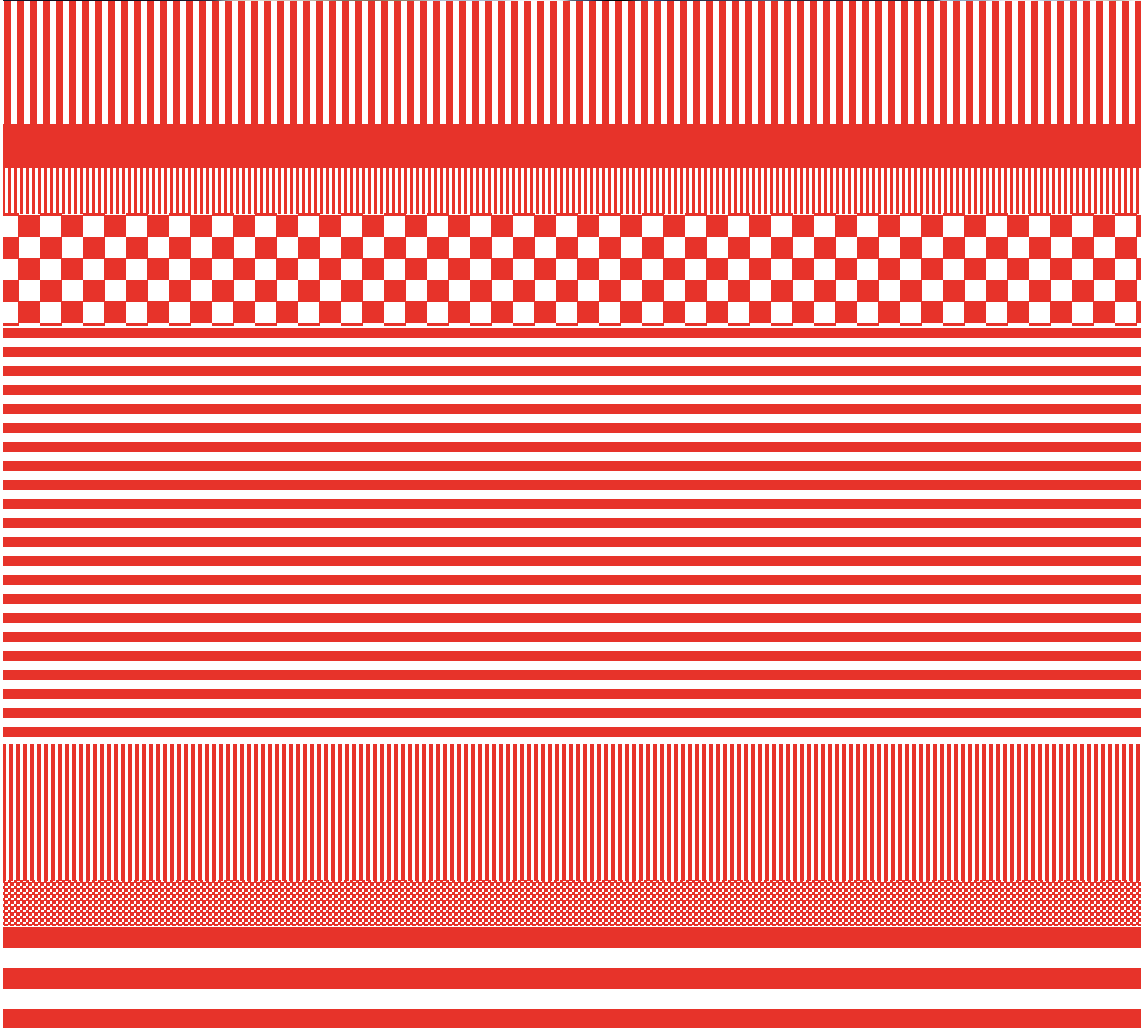
The first born-digital content to be published on the *eluxemburgensia.lu* portal in early 2023 includes recent editions of the *Bulletin de la Société des naturalistes luxembourgeois*, the history magazine *Hémecht* and 307 editions of the Luxembourg weekly *d'Lëtzebuerger Land*, dating from 2017 to 2022.

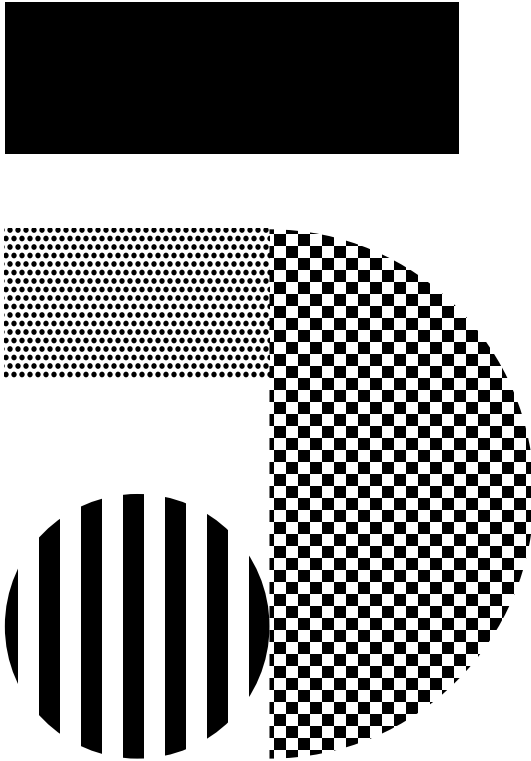
As part of its acquisition, transfer and deposit process, the National Library has pursued its commitment by establishing new contracts and expanding its collaborations, in particular with private publishers (Mediahuis, Editpress), public administrations (Government Press and Information Service) and the University of Luxembourg (Melusina Press).

These collaborations are essential to guarantee the diversity and richness of the digital and printed content available in the library.

For the purpose of ongoing optimisation of transfer and payment flows, BnL has introduced automated processes. Automation speeds up the processing of publications, improves operational efficiency and reduces the time between acquiring publications and making them available to the public.

Last year, several months of work were devoted to uploading digitised content to the long-term digital preservation system. More than 50 terabytes of data, covering weeklies, historical newspapers, books, manuscripts and postcards, have been transferred to the digital preservation system.





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

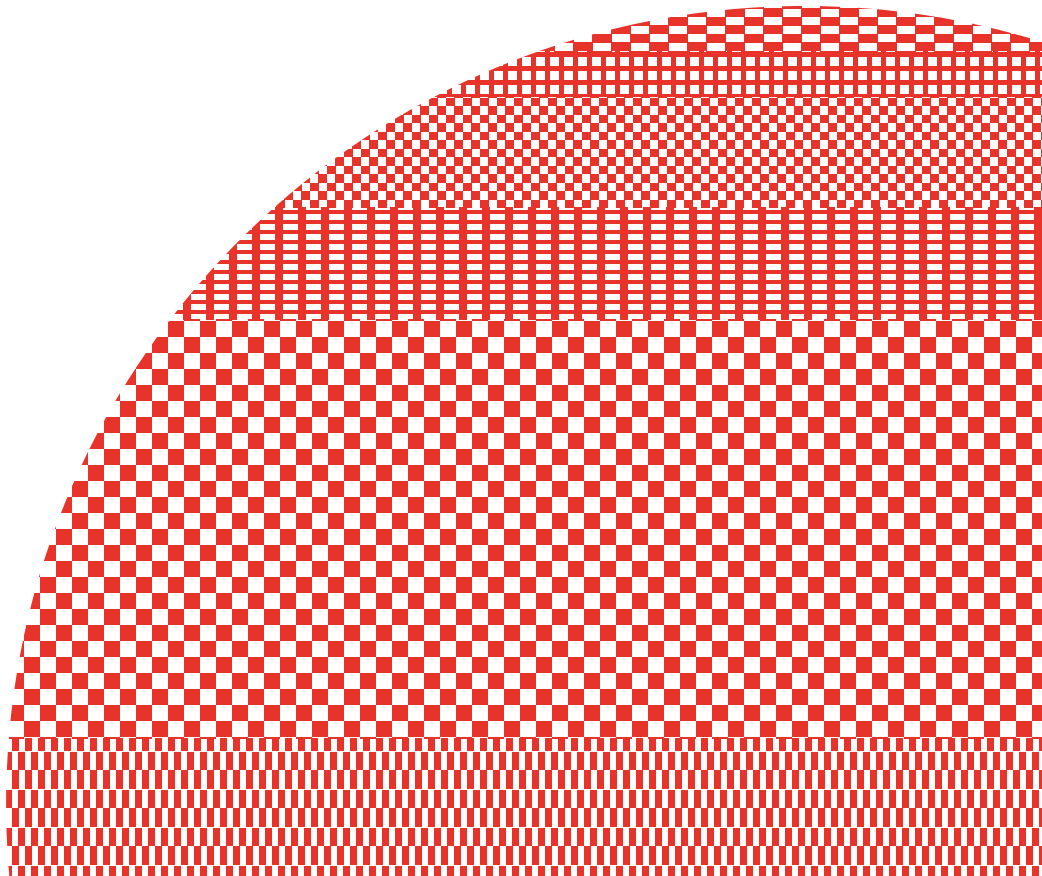
THE BIBNET.LU NETWORK OF LUXEMBOURGISH LIBRARIES

The bibnet.lu network has 90 members, including 7 new members in 2023.

MEMBERS OF THE NETWORK	2023
National Library and Bicherbus	2
University of Luxembourg (LLC)	1
Public and association libraries	12
Education & Training	
Primary education	1
Secondary education	31
Higher education & lifelong learning	14
Specialist libraries	
Cultural & other institutes/Administrations/ Public bodies	21
Association libraries	6
Digital scientific libraries	2
Total number of member libraries in the bibnet.lu network	90



CATALOGUE, USERS, LOANS, TRAINING	2023	Trend compared to 2022
COLLECTIVE CATALOGUE		
Total of bibliographic notices	1,507,859	+ 90,546
Total copies	3,044,430	+ 74,393
USERS		
Registered users	126,072	+ 6,815
New registrations	30,366	+ 5,165
LOANS AND ACTIVE BORROWERS		
Home loans	410,970	+ 79,402
Active borrowers	31,400	+ 4,576
TRAINING (IN COLLABORATION WITH THE INAP)		
Training courses	22	- 22
Participants	162	- 124



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 31.12.2023	Attributions in 2023
Number of unique ISBN and number tranches attributed	2,932	+ 203
of which, unique ISBN		+ 113
of which, tranches of 10 ISBN numbers		+ 78
of which, tranches of 100 ISBN numbers		+ 9
of which, tranches of 1,000 ISBN numbers		+ 3
LUXEMBOURGISH ISMN AGENCY		
Number of unique ISMN and number tranches attributed	24	+ 0
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	521	+ 67
of which, on the initiative of the ISSN agency		+ 6
of which, on request from the publisher		+ 61

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 2023 in the long-term preservation system.



NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS

National collaborations

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 of the associations ALBAD (Association luxembourgeoise des bibliothécaires, archivistes et documentalistes – Luxembourg Association of Librarians, Archivists and Documentalists), Jonk BAD (Cercle des étudiants luxembourgeois en bibliothéconomie, archivistique et documentation – Circle of Luxembourgish Students of Library, Archive and Documentation Sciences) and VLA (Association des archivistes luxembourgeois – Luxembourg Association of Archivists). Since 2022, the BnL has been a member of the Advisory Board of the C2DH (Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History).

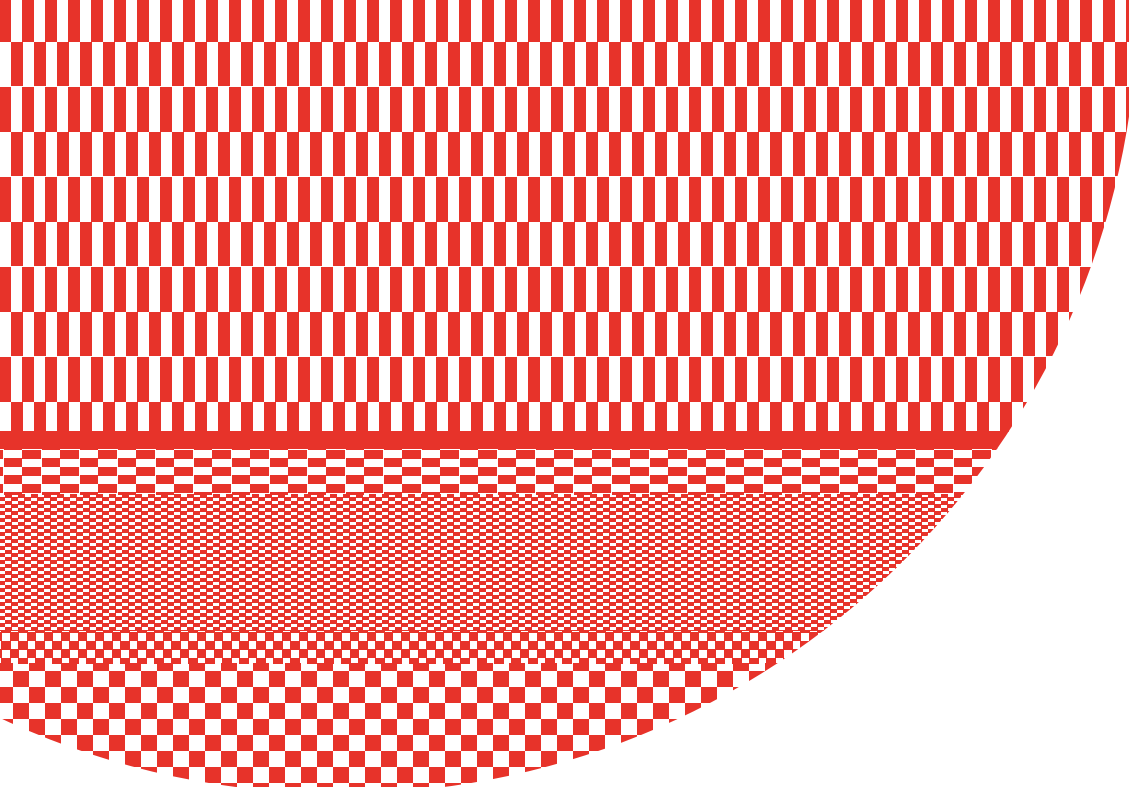
With a view to ensuring compliance with the legal provisions relating to legal deposit, and also to simplifying, harmonising and rationalising the collection, conservation, preservation and digitisation of all documents published by the ministries and administrations and by the local authority bodies, the BnL has implemented an administrative procedure overseeing legal deposit. As of December 2023, the BnL has contacted 67 municipalities as well as 46 ministries and government departments. An increase in deposits (paper and digital) has been noted.

As the legal deposit obligation also applies to graphic works, the BnL has strengthened its collaboration with the association Empreinte atelier de gravure asbl. The latter has deposited a set of 315 prints by 79 renowned artists, considerably expanding the iconographic collection of the National Library. Together with Atelier Bo Halbirk, Atelier Empreinte also presented the BnL in October 2023 with the *Pandora* graphic box set, which contains 50 graphic works created as a tribute to the Danish artist Torben Bo Halbirk.

The BnL has entered into a cooperation agreement with the non-profit organisation luxroots. Readers of the National Library now have access to the *luxroots.org* database, which contains a vast collection of genealogical documents covering mainly the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and its neighbouring regions, spanning more than three centuries.

In association with POST Philately, the BnL took part in the production and distribution of two commemorative stamps to mark two anniversaries linked to the BnL. The special *225 Joer Nationalbibliothék* stamp highlights the collections held by the BnL and its missions. The second stamp was issued to mark the 100th birthday of Luxembourgish composer Jean-Pierre Kemmer, whose archives are held by Cedom.





In collaboration with the Luxembourgish media, the National Library guarantees democratic access not only to the printed Luxembourgish press, but also to digital versions. Since the end of 2023, BnL users have had free access to the entirety of the *journal.lu* and *Luxtimes: Luxembourg Times* websites. These new resources complement the digital offering available since October 2020, which provides free access to various Luxembourgish media. In addition, in 2023, the BnL put 307 recent editions of the Luxembourg weekly *d'Lëtzebuurger Land*, from 2017 to 2022, online on eluxemburgensia.lu.

BnL works closely and successfully with other public bodies. As part of the strategy of digitising internal files and procedures, in 2023 BnL, in conjunction with the CGPO (Centre de gestion du personnel et de l'organisation de l'État – Centre for Governmental Staff and Organisation Management), digitised the personal files of its employees, in accordance with the provisions of the Luxembourgish Civil Service concerning electronic personal files. In partnership with INAP (Institut national d'administration publique – National Institute for Public Administration) and as part of the development of managerial and team management skills, BnL has launched a project to draw up specific training plans for senior staff. As part of its strategy to decompartmentalise and improve internal communication, the BnL launched its new, modernised and adapted intranet site, which it developed with the support of CTIE (Centre des technologies de l'information de l'État – Government IT Centre).

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



International cooperation

The BnL's multiple missions have led it to collaborate with numerous institutions and international partners.

BnL is a member of the Board of Directors of the ALTO (Structured Layout and Text Object) group, the Executive Board of Directors of the Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC) and the IGeLU working group for the Alma/Primo consortia. It participates in the following organisations: 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 recherche – League of European Research Libraries) and OPF (Open Preservation Foundation). The BnL is a founder member of the RFN (Réseau francophone numérique – Francophone Digital Network), created under the patronage of the Organisation mondiale de la francophonie (World Francophone Network) to strengthen the presence of French-language cultural and intellectual production on the web. It is also a member of the International Internet Preservation Coalition (IIPC) 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” of Project COUNTER, which is developing a methodology for library statistics, implemented by publishers (projectcounter.org).

In January 2023, a prospecting visit was made to the Luxembourg embassy in Dublin, Ireland, as part of the “James Joyce in Luxembourg” exhibition organised by the BnL in 2022. The programme of this visit gave rise to enriching exchanges with cultural institutions, including the National Library of Ireland.

From 18 to 19 April 2023, the BnL hosted the 31st annual conference and board meeting of EBLIDA. These brought together 128 librarians and information professionals from 23 countries to discuss the latest trends and developments in the field. The conference offered a wide range of sessions and workshops, covering topics such as democratic participation and citizen empowerment, the challenges faced by libraries in different countries due to political interference, and the role of libraries in promoting social cohesion and community engagement.



The BnL attended the Annual General Meeting of the Conference of European National Librarians (CENL) from 18 to 20 June 2023 in Paris. The theme of this year's conference was "National Libraries and Sustainability". In 2026, the CENL General Assembly will be held at the National Library of Luxembourg.

Given the importance of strengthening and boosting relations with other national libraries, the BnL was honoured to take part in the official celebrations of the British Library's 50th anniversary on 6 July 2023 in London.

A BnL delegation also took part in the IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) conference and general assembly from 21 to 25 August 2023 in Rotterdam. IFLA's mission is to inspire, engage and connect the global library sector.

The IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) is the most international professional event for the library and information services sector. It brings together high-level speakers, experts and library and information professionals from around the world to contribute to the development of an international programme and to explore issues and developments of interest to the global library sector. The 2023 edition, entitled "Let's work together, let's library", attracted more than 3,000 participants.

The BnL was also present at the annual meeting of the CDNL (Conference of Directors of National Libraries), which is held each year at the same time as the IFLA congress, and which in 2023 was devoted to artificial intelligence.

At the invitation of the Swiss National Library, the BnL took part in a public-oriented workshop in August 2023 on the concept of library use. As part of the redevelopment of its main building, the Swiss National Library organised this workshop to gather ideas and advice from external experts. This was a unique opportunity to discover new and innovative ways of working and to exchange ideas.

On 6 September 2023, the BnL received the University Librarian of Trinity College Dublin for a courtesy visit, following initial contacts made at a meeting at the British Library in July.

In September 2023, BnL staff attended the IGeLU conference in Leuven on the theme of "Libraries enabling innovation". The University of Minnesota and Harvard University also paid a courtesy visit to the BnL.

From 23 to 24 October 2023, the BnL hosted the annual e-D-A-CH-L conference, which brought together the national libraries of Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Luxembourg, forming a collaborative platform for the exchange of knowledge in the German-speaking world. Representatives were able to participate in person or online.

The BnL was represented at the ICOLC (International Coalition of Library Consortia) conference in Prague from 25 to 28 October 2023.



Visit by the National Library of Estonia to the BnL in November 2023

In the context of digital innovation and long-term preservation, for which the BnL has been working for more than 20 years, in June 2023 it took part in the Preservica International User Group meeting in Oxford and in September 2023 in the iPRES conference, the first and longest-running series of conferences on digital preservation, at the University of Illinois. iPRES brings together researchers, archivists, librarians and experts from many different sectors and fields to share new ideas on a wide variety of topics related to digital preservation.

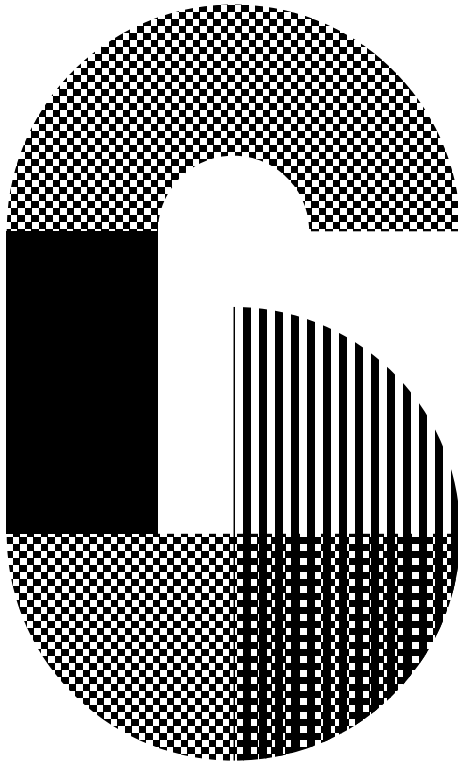
From 7 to 8 November 2023, the BnL received a delegation of colleagues from the National Library of Estonia for discussions on the implementation of a library network in Estonia.

In 2023, the BnL and the National Library of Hungary (NSZL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding. The collaboration between these two libraries aims to improve the web archiving infrastructure of the NSZL and the BnL, to renew certain workflows and to share knowledge. The project won the Erland Kolding Nielsen grant awarded by CENL (Conference of European National Librarians), which aims to support member libraries' initiatives and encourage international collaboration while strengthening links between European national libraries. As part of this cooperation, two BnL employees took part in the 404 Conference in Budapest on 28 November 2023, where they presented the Luxembourg web archive.

The BnL has signed a five-year partnership agreement with the University of Lorraine as part of its efforts to promote the Jean-Claude Loutsch collection held at the National Library of Luxembourg. The collaboration between the two institutions includes the organisation of a study day on medieval armorials and a seminar on *libri amicorum*, as well as the publication of the proceedings of these two events and the organisation of an exhibition on heraldry.

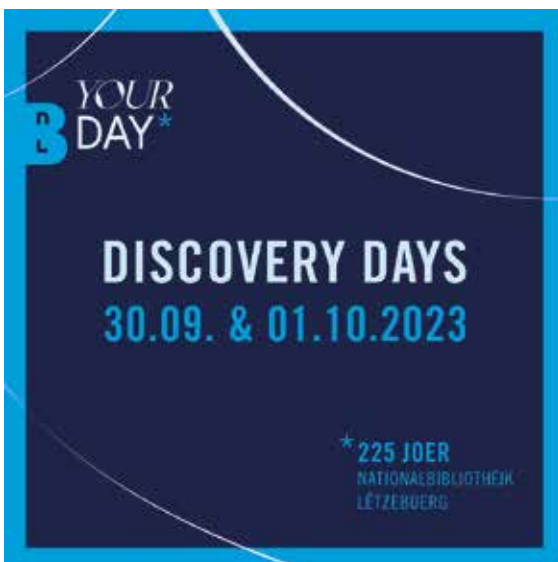
The BnL is a member of the technical experts working group, which oversees the development and maintenance of the specifications, software and servers supporting the ARKs-in-the-Open / ARK Alliance community infrastructure.

The head of the IT and digital innovation division was 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. This is an interdisciplinary collaboration among cultural heritage experts, digital humanities researchers 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 facilitate access to KBR's digitised and native collections for research in the digital humanities.



CULTURAL MEDIATION AND PROMOTION OF THE COLLECTIONS

In addition to its tasks of collecting and preserving the national written heritage, the BnL is committed to promoting its collections through cultural mediation activities: exhibitions, conferences, seminars, publications, training courses for the general public and communication campaigns.



OPEN DAYS

To celebrate the 225th anniversary of the BnL, “Discovery Day” open days were held on the weekend of 30 September 2023. The programme included guided tours of the storage areas and a Discovery Tour of the Reading Room. Visitors had the opportunity to meet many of the library’s staff and discover exceptional documents that have left their mark on the country’s history.

Fun and instructive workshops rounded off the educational programme over the two days: iron gall ink making, book binding, manga illustration, presentation of the Luxembourg web archive, the a-z.lu search tool, the ebooks.lu service and the VOD offering from the Médiathèque Numérique du Luxembourg (Digital Library of Luxembourg - MéNuLu).

Visitors were also able to take part in a competition designed to present the BnL’s various collections in a fun and interactive way.

A special edition of the reader card, called “Your Key to Knowledge”, was also offered to the public.



Discover the highlights of the “Discovery Days” on YouTube

The bday.lu website, specially designed to promote the Discovery Days, informed visitors about the range of activities, services and collections on offer, as well as how to register and gain access.



Go back in time and consult the bday.lu website in the Luxembourgish web archive

An advertising campaign on the web and social networks was deployed from 5 August until 1 October 2023. These measures were complemented by advertisements on RTL radio and posters in urban areas.

More than 2,500 people took part in the Open Days, discovering the National Library’s collections and services. The BnL would like to thank its many visitors for helping the library team to transform its building into a lively and vibrant place, open to all, promoting culture and the dissemination of knowledge.

The BnL would also like to thank Deborah Storn from the Cité Bibliothèque and Claire Krieger from the Centre national de l’audiovisuel for supporting our staff during the MéNuLu presentations.



CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

The BnL invited visitors to 26 events on various subjects related to its collections. It also invited media representatives to a press conference:

04.10.2023 Press conference *L'intelligence artificielle au service du patrimoine imprimé luxembourgeois* (Artificial intelligence at the service of Luxembourg's printed heritage). Sam Tanson, Luxembourg Minister for Culture, Claude D. Conter, Director of the BnL, and Carlo Blum, Deputy Director of the BnL, presented the new chatbot on the eluxemburgensia.lu portal.

11.01.2023 Study day *Assises sectorielles du livre – littérature et édition* (Sectoral Book Conferences – literature and publishing).

08.02.2023 Conference *Le rôle des juristes dans le développement de la place financière* (The role of lawyers in the development of the financial centre) – with the participation of Benoît Majerus, Pierre Sorlut and Catherine Bourin. In collaboration with the Conférence Saint-Yves and the Centre for Contemporary and Digital History.

23.02.2023 Conference Jean-Luc Lehnens: *Der Anfang von Raum und Zeit*. In collaboration with the Grand-Ducal Institute, Natural Sciences, Physics and Mathematics Section.

09.03.2023 Round table *Nationalbibliotheken in der Globalisierung*. With Barbara Lison (President of the IFLA), Lily Knibbeler (Director of the Royal Library of the Netherlands) and Frank Scholze (Director of the German National Library and President of the CENL). Moderated by: Claude D. Conter. The conference was held as part of the BnL's 225th anniversary celebrations.

20.03.2023 Discussion and reading *Tahar Ben Jelloun parle de son Maroc* (Tahar Ben Jelloun talks about his Morocco) – in dialogue with Jean Portante. In collaboration with the Institut français du Luxembourg (French Institute of Luxembourg).

20.03.2023 First *Cedom Study Day*. This is a specialist conference on music with international experts and members of Cedom.

30.03.2023 - 31.03.2023 Concerts by Georges Urwald as part of the launch of the *De Georgely* publication. The event took place at the Stued Theater in Grevenmacher.

18.04.2023 International conference 31st EBLIDA Annual Council and Conference and 2nd EBLIDA-NAPLE-PL2030 Event. In collaboration with ALBAD (Associatioun vun de Lëtzebuurger Bibliothekären, Archivisten an Dokumentalisten - Association of Luxembourgish Librarians, Archivists and Documentalists).

20.04.2023 Debate *Le long combat de l'Afrique pour son art. Histoire d'une défaite postcoloniale* (Africa's long struggle for its art. The story of a post-colonial defeat?) - with Bénédicte Savoy and Régis Moes. In collaboration with the National Museum of History and Art.

05.05.2023 - 06.05.2023 *Du Litty do!* concert-shows at the Trifolion in Echternach. In collaboration with the Lycée Classique d'Echternach (Echternach Classical Secondary School).

06.05.2023 Online-Sprichstonn mam Direkter vun der Nationalbibliothéik *Wat Dir ons schonn ëmmer froe wollt*.

11.05.2023 Conference Benoît Niederkorn: *Koreaner aus dem Lëtzebuurger Land. Lëtzebuurger Fräiwëlleger am Koreakrich* (1950-1953). In collaboration with the National Museum of Military History.

03.06.2023 Workshop *Archiver le web luxembourgeois pour l'avenir* (Archiving the Luxembourgish web for the future) as part of Archives Month "Archives Diversifiées - Diversité d'Archives" (Diversified Archives - Diversity of Archives), organised by the Luxembourg Archivists' Association.

09.06.2023 Concert-show *Du Litty do!* at the Mierscher Kulturhaus. In collaboration with the Lycée Classique d'Echternach (Echternach Classical Secondary School).

10.06.2023 *Den Dag vum eluxemburgensia.lu* – discovery day with workshops and presentations.

08.07.2023 Opening of the exhibition *Vu Gäert a Bicher*. The exhibition ran from 10.07.2023 to 17.02.2024.

20.07.2023 - 21.07.2023 OKAJU Summerseminar (Office of the Ombudsman fir Kanner a Jugendlecher).

31.07.2023 - 05.08.2023 BnL Summer School 2023.

05.09.2023 Opening of the art installation *Kunst am Bau* in the green space of the National Library with the artists Martine Feipel & Jean Bechameil.

27.09.2023 Round table: *Firwat (nach) Walen?* - with Paul-Henri Meyers, Blanche Weber and Dany Semedo. Presentation: Marie-Paule Jungblut. Moderated by: Michèle Schilt. In collaboration with the Zentrum fir politesch Bildung.

28.09.2023 Reading at the Kasemattentheater: *Alles fir d'Hémecht? Sogeannte „Heimatreue“ als Deckmantel für völkische Ideologie im Luxemburger Volksblatt (1933-1941)*. In collaboration with the Kasemattentheater.

30.09.2023 - 01.10.2023 Discovery Days as part of the 225th anniversary of the National Library.

25.10.2023 Conference *Italo Calvino – la ville mode d'emploi* (Italo Calvino – A user's guide to the city) with Elio Baldi and Corina Ciocârlie. In collaboration with the Fondation Cavour, under the Patronage of the Italian Embassy.

07.11.2023 Presentation of the *Lëtzeburger Buchpräis* finalists in the "Nonfiction" category in Walferdange, moderated by Claude D. Conter and Kim Krier.

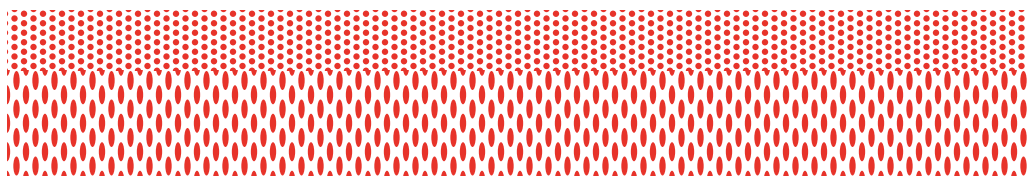
08.11.2023 Conference Marcel Atze: *Ihre Briefe bewahre ich alle. Die Korrespondenz zwischen Felix Salten & Stefan Zweig*. With the participation of Marc Limpach.

23.11.2023 Axel Karenberg lecture: *Nervenheilkunde und Nationalsozialismus*. In collaboration with the Grand-Ducal Institute, Medicine Section.

04.12.2023 - 05.12.2023 Study days *De nouveaux regards sur les armoriaux médiévaux* (A new look at medieval armorials). In collaboration with the University of Lorraine and the Fondation Jean-Claude & Josannette Loutsch-Weydert.

08.12.2023 Reading at the Kasemattentheater: *100 Jahre Les Cahiers luxembourgeois*. Produced by Kasemattentheater and the Cahiers luxembourgeois, with the support of BnL, CNL and the Centre culturel et d'éducation populaire Bonnevoie (Bonnevoie Cultural and Popular Education Centre).

11.12.2023 Conference Michel Goedert: *Understanding neurodegenerative diseases*. In collaboration with the Grand-Ducal Institute, Medicine Section.



EXHIBITIONS

The BnL organised three temporary exhibitions in 2023. Access is free and there are no age restrictions.

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

Virtual tour of the exhibition



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.



Johny

Luxemburger
Komponist, Musiker
und Sammler

Fritz

AUSSTELLUNG

12·10·²⁰
22
25·03·²⁰
23

bnl.lu

08.07.2023 – 17.02.2024 *Vu Gäert a Bicher*

Virtual tour of the exhibition



The garden was in the spotlight at this major exhibition. Selected documents - books, magazines, songs, prints, maps and postcards - illustrated a host of historical and fictional gardens and guided visitors through the world of horticulture, from parks to school gardens, from kitchen gardens to convent gardens. From advertisements to sumptuous botanical illustrations, the aim was to rediscover the garden. Staff from the National Library, the University and other cultural institutions contributed to this exhibition by approaching the garden from the angle of the natural sciences, art and literature, general and cultural history, and library science. The result was an anthology of diverse and varied contributions. A total of 13 guided tours were offered to the public in 2023 / 2024. HRH the Hereditary Grand Duchess visited the exhibition on 7 December 2023.



The BnL has also put on display in its Reading Room a selection of photographs from the *Sleeping With Books* series by artist Caecilia Tripp. Caecilia Tripp's work has been shown in numerous galleries and museums, including the PS1/MOMA residence in New York (USA), the Musée d'Art Moderne in Paris (France) and the Contemporary Arts Center in New Orleans (USA). The artist is represented by Erna Hecey Gallery. A selection of books on photography and civil rights rounded off the exhibition. Nadine Esslingen, Collections Manager, offered 10 guided tours.

In addition to these three exhibitions, BnL staff also showcased documents from the Special Collection and the Non-Luxembourgish Collection in the display cabinets on the 1st and 2nd floors of the Reading Room.

In the windows on the 1st floor:

- Lithographs of Luxembourgish landscapes, castles and buildings (between 1834 and 1836) - Pia Jank
- 125 Joer Doud vum Jean-Antoine Zinnen - Marlène Duhr
- Remarkable bindings on a floral theme - Pia Jank and Marion Rockenbrod
- 100 Joer Gebuertsdag vum Jean-Pierre Kemmer - Marlène Duhr
- Sport in Luxembourg - Marion Rockenbrod

In the windows on the 2nd floor:

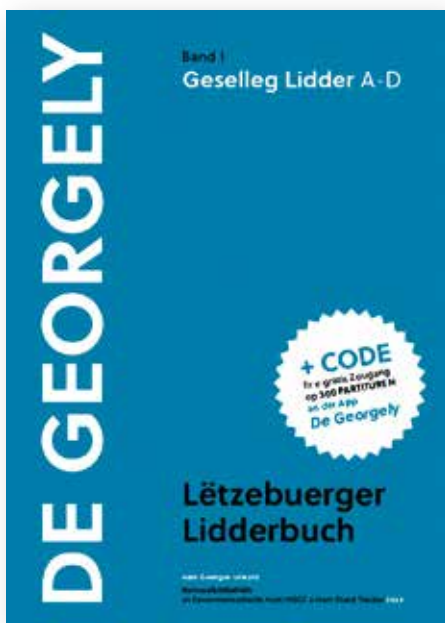
- Scenic locations and Russian ballets - Tona Peters
- Gardens - Lucie Guibal, Julia Schelling
- Civil rights - Nadine Esslingen
- The art market - Stefanie Zutter

In addition, the Direct Access Collections Management division has set up themed selections of documents on the ground floor in the discovery area.

Themed selections (discovery area):

- Reading
- Glaciers
- Mineralogy
- Return of works of art
- Elections and democracy
- Gardens
- Fruit
- Ancient Rome

PUBLICATIONS



De Georgely : Lëtzebuerger Lidderbuch, 2. verbessert Oplo, Luxembourg, BnL.

De Georgely brings together 300 popular songs with lyrics, melodies and accompanying chords. This publication by the National Library's Cedom provides an overview of the wealth of music and literature in Luxembourg from the 19th century to the present day. *De Georgely* facilitates access to the Luxembourgish song repertoire, not only for musical ensembles and schools, but also for individuals.

The first volume was published by the BnL in collaboration with the Institut européen de chant choral (European Institute for Choral Singing - INECC) and the Stued Theater. The collection will continue with a second volume featuring Luxembourgish political songs.

The songbook is dedicated to Georges Weyer (1848-1924), a renowned organist from Grevenmacher who was widely known throughout the country. The INECC also offers a digital version of *Georgely* in the form of an app to which interested parties can subscribe. This app provides access to instrumental and vocal versions

of the most famous of the 300 songs listed, performed by well-known Luxembourg singers. To register or activate a free annual subscription to the De Georgely app, a link and scratch code are provided in the book.



Exhibition catalogue: *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Luxembourg, BnL.

The ambiguity of the title *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, which translates as *Gardens and Books* or *Gardens in Books*, hints at the thematic scope of this work: selected documents - books, magazines, songs, prints, maps and postcards - illustrate a multitude of historical and fictional gardens, taking us on a journey through the world of horticulture, from parks to school gardens, from kitchen gardens to convent gardens. From advertisements to sumptuous botanical illustrations, let's rediscover the garden! Previously unpublished documents offer a new insight into nature and into the ideas associated with gardens. They revisit Luxembourg's social, scientific and cultural history.

CD: *Lëtzebuerger Rousen- a Gaardelidder*, Luxembourg, BnL.

As part of the *Vu Gäert a Bicher* exhibition, the BnL has also published a CD of 28 Luxembourgish songs about roses and gardens.

Brochure for show: *Du Litty do!*, Luxembourg, BnL.

In this concert-show, Georges Urwald traces the life and work of Pierre-Toussaint Stefani (1872-1932). It was created by the Lycée Classique d'Echternach (Echternach Classical Secondary School) in collaboration with the Mierscher Kulturhaus, the Trifolion and the BnL. A brochure, written by Georges Urwald and illustrated by Andy Genen, completes the musical experience. The show took place on 5 and 6 May and 9 June 2023.

Proceedings of the conference *Adel im Vormärz. Begegnung mit einer umstrittenen Sozialformation* Claude D. Conter with Urte Stobbe, Bielefeld, Aisthesis.

The Vormärz period was characterised by fundamental changes, especially for the nobility. Although the aristocracy was still in power - the monarchical principle was omnipresent - the call for political participation of non-aristocratic sections of the population became increasingly louder. Nevertheless, the nobility was still able to assert its social supremacy and political influence after 1848. The interdisciplinary volume "Adel im Vormärz" describes and analyses the manifestations of the nobility's 'staying at the top' and its social formation of the aristocracy and its confrontation with liberal ideas. Not only in the area of social and processes of social and political change, but also in the field of literature and the arts in particular, the achievements of various forms of nobility have so far been underestimated. Twelve contributions from the fields of literature and musicology, history and cultural studies and philosophy provide new insights into forms of aristocratic self-assurance, aristocratic salons and nobility and writing.

Articles published by BnL staff

Marc Biver, Yves Schulze, Payam Ghiaci, Liqian Zhao, Jonas Warringer, Montserrat Filella, Markus J. Tamas "Chemical-genomic profiling identifies genes that protect yeast from aluminium, gallium, and indium toxicity", in *Metalomics* 15/6 (2023).

Marc Biver "Eisenvitriol und Galläpfel", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 492-507.

Marc Biver "*Orchidaceae* and *Lindenia*: the astonishing career of an explorer and businessman, and his great orchidological contribution", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 36-53.

Claude D. Conter "Metafiktionale Ankerwürfe - zur Poetik von Norbert Scheuer. Über Bibliotheken und Sammlungen, den Zusammenhang von Erinnern und Erzählen und die Bedeutung der Gruppe und des Feldstechers im Werk Norbert Scheuers", in *Arts et Lettres*. Publication of the Arts and Literature Section of the Grand Ducal Institute 7 (2023), pp. 153-162.

Claude D. Conter "'Erzeugungsschlachten': der Kleingarten während des Zweiten Weltkrieges in Luxemburg", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 182-197.

Marlène Duhr "Die Militärmusik von gestern bis heute", in *Ons Stad* 127 (2023), pp. 26-28.

Marlène Duhr "Luxemburgische Musik als (im) materielles Kulturerbe - über die Wandelbarkeit einer Sammlungsaufgabe", to be published in a UNESCO collection in 2024.

Patrizia E. Ganci, Marc Biver "*L'illustration horticole* sur le devant de la scène", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 54-69.

Liz Jost "*Botanische Plaudereien für meine jungen Freunde*. Über Edmond Joseph Kleins pädagogisches Engagement in der Zeitschrift *Morgenglocken*", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 384-393.

Liz Jost "Die Blumenfeste in Luxemburg-Stadt (1908) und Ettelbrück (1913) auf Postkarten", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 70-77.

Kim Krier "'Kartoffelschlachten': die Kartoffel als Postkartenmotiv", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 394-419.

Kim Krier "'Lebendige Bücher' - die Natur als Lehrmeisterin: Schulgärten im 'Dienste des Unterrichtes und der Erziehung'", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 420-443.

Kim Krier "Die Gärtnerei Wilhelm in Clausen: Wiege des Luxemburger Gartenhaus" in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 332-361.

Kim Krier "Die Gartenratgeber von Jean-Nicolas Pfeffer", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 378-383.

Kim Krier "*Perle der Parkgärtnerei*: der Mondorfer Kurpark - Wirkungsstätte des Gärtner-Ehepaars Hauptert", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 156-171.

Philippe Majeres "Les jardins dans la conception urbaine de la Cité ouvrière du Brill", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 178-181.

Philippe Majeres "L'inauguration du parc Galgebiert à travers une vignette commémorative", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 172-177.

Christophe Marinheiro "*Comment les célèbres planches de Vésale arrivèrent-elles en Allemagne ? Grâce à un luxembourgeois !*", article published on the BnL website.

Ralph Marshall, Yves Maurer, Pit Schneider "Nautilus: an End-To-End METS/ALTO OCR Enhancement Pipeline", in *LiberQuarterly* 33/1 (2023).

Marion Rockenbrod "*Catalogue alphabétique des plantes indigènes trouvées dans le Grand-Duché de Luxembourg von François Auguste Tinant: Versuch einer Datierung*", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 508-519.

Yorick Schmit, Ben Els "Luxemburgs grünes Internet: Natur- und Umweltschutz im Webarchiv", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 520-533.

Yorick Schmit "Das Gelände lesen: deutschsprachiges Nature writing in Bernd M. Gonnors *Sediment* und *Wilde Saaten* (2021)", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 282-297.

Yorick Schmit, Pit Schneider "Natur- und Umweltschutz im gesellschaftlichen Diskurs: eine linguistische Spurensuche im eluxemburgensia-Korpus", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 534-550.

- Georges Urwald, Marlène Duhr
Erënnerung un e villsäiitegt musikalescht Talent - Dem Jean-Pierre Kemmer (1923-1991) fir den 100. Gebuertsdag, article published on the BnL website.
- Max Schmitz "Neufund des *Memoriale metricum super Regula beati Benedicti* von Iohannes Schlitpacher", in *Maniculæ 4* (2023), pp. 11-14.
- Max Schmitz "Eine weitere Inkunabel mit Gengenbacher Provenienz" (Luxemburg, BnL, Inc 225), in *Die Ortenau. Jahrbuch des Historischen Vereins für Mittelbaden 103* (2023), pp. 69-74.
- Max Schmitz "Heiliger Willibrord, Bischof von Trier?", in *De Cliärrwer Kanton 45/1* (2023), pp. 59-61.
- Max Schmitz "*Zirkus Schmierinsky* (1949) von François Schneider (*1915-†1995)", in *De Cliärrwer Kanton 45/2* (2023), pp. 93-106.
- Max Schmitz "Der Luxemburger Amerikaauswanderer Jean-Michel Kasel (*1855-†1936)", in *De Cliärrwer Kanton special edition* (2023), pp. 109-119.
- Max Schmitz "Adam Reiners' Theaterstück *Wulfilaich* (1914)", in *nos cahiers 44/2* (2023), pp. 31-64.
- Max Schmitz "Deux poèmes inédits en honneur de John Scudamore 1638", in *Arts et lettres*. Publication of the Arts and Literature Section of the Grand Ducal Institute 7 (2023), pp. 91-96.
- Aimée Schultz "Der Garten als Leseort", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 252-261.
- Georges Urwald "Rouselidder als Erënnerung un d'Lëtzebuenger Rousenindustrie", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 214-229.
- Michèle Wallenborn "Natur im Fokus der Buchkunst: zum Künstlerbuch *Schattengarten* von Susann Hoch", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 262-269.
- Danielle Werner "Die Blumenschau in Mondorf - Blumen- und Geldsegen", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 78-81.
- Elisabet Wirtz-Lemmel "Über den Paradiesgarten im Eischtal", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 240-246.
- Stefanie Zutter "Im Spiegel natürlicher Schönheit: Florilegien in den Sammlungen der Nationalbibliothek Luxemburg", in *Vu Gäert a Bicher*, Bibliothèque nationale (2023), pp. 14-35.
- BnL staff also contributed to the *BnL-Wëssen entdecken* series published in the *Warte-Perspectives* supplement. All these articles are available on the BnL website in the "Documents à la loupe" section:
- 26.01.2023 Yorick Schmit *Der Zeichner als Zeitzeuge – Pierre Bergems Pionierarbeit 'De l'änge Wé' (1946)*.
- 23.02.2023 Stéphanie Kovacs *Quand l'étincelle de Budapest atteint le Luxembourg – Retour sur la vague d'effervescence qui secoue le Grand-Duché dans la foulée de l'insurrection hongroise d'octobre 1956*.
- 16.03.2023 Marlène Duhr *Komponist für die Oberschicht Luxemburgs? Zum 125. Todestag von Jean-Antoine Zinnen*.
- 27.04.2023 Kim Krier *Die Bürstenfabrik Eugène Beck – Was eine Preisliste über die Geschichte eines mittelständischen Unternehmens verrät*.
- 25.05.2023 Claude D. Conter *Fußball unterm Hakenkreuz – Zum Fußballspiel Schalke 04 gegen Stade Düdelingen am 10. Mai 1942*.
- 29.06.2023 Jeff Schmitz *Louis Joseph Zelle im Dienste der Luxemburger Künste – Über das niederländische Wertheim-Album und seine luxemburgischen Beiträge*.
- 21.09.2023 Stéphanie Kovacs *Un projet longtemps en sommeil voit enfin le jour – L'inauguration du Canal des Mines de Fer de la Moselle le 14 août 1932*.
- 12.10.2023 Stefanie Zutter *Matrizen ungesehener Natur – Alfred Steinmetzers künstlerische Vermessung der Natur*.
- 16.11.2023 Marc Biver *Von Bildern, die sich selber malen – Die Professorenkleckse des Friedlieb Ferdinand Runge*.
- 14.12.2023 Eric Speicher *Aufklärung über Atomwaffen als medizinische Prävention - Der Luxemburger Kinderarzt Emile Tockert und die Résistance médicale aux armes nucléaires*.

PRESENTATIONS

In 2023, BnL staff took part in a variety of seminars and conferences to present the results of their work and exchange views with national and international experts:

16.01 - 18.01.2023 Prospecting visit to the Luxembourgish embassy in Dublin with a view to an exhibition – Claude D. Conter

20.03 - 22.03.2023 ReCreating Europe Final Conference 2023 in Brussels – Patrick Peiffer

09.05 - 12.05.2023 IIPC General Assembly and Web Archiving Conference in Hilversum – Yves Maurer, László Tóth, Ben Els

06.06 - 07.06.2023 16th Berlin Open Access Conference, in Berlin – Marie-Sophie Werz

09.06.2023 Presentation "De Lëtzebuerger Komponistenarchiv. Sammlungskonzept und Perspektiven" at the Archivists' Day in Esch-Alzette – Françoise Molitor

12.06 - 14.06.2023 Preservica International User Group meeting 2023 in Oxford – Roxana Maurer

17.06 - 20.06.2023 CENL General Meeting in Paris – Claude D. Conter, Carlo Blum, Kim Krier

17.06 - 24.06.2023 London Rare Books School Week, in London – Tom Zago

29.06 - 30.06.2023 Médiation littéraire et activité journalistique en France et en Allemagne autour de 1800 à Metz (Literary mediation and journalistic activity in France and Germany around 1800 in Metz) – Adrien Paschoud

06.07 - 07.07.2023 50th anniversary of the British Library in London – Carlo Blum, Kim Krier

17.08.2023 IFLA Satellite Conference in Amsterdam – Stefanie Zutter

20.08 - 24.08.2023 IFLA Conference and General Assembly in Rotterdam – Claude D. Conter, Nadine Esslingen

23.08 - 24.08.2023 Nestor Tagung - Webarchivierung - Praxis und Perspektiven in Frankfurt – Yves Maurer

28.08 - 30.08.2023 Schweizerische Nationalbibliothek: Publikumsorientiertes und operatives Nutzungskonzept in Bern – Claude D. Conter

07.09 - 10.09.2023 Internationaler Fahrbibliotheks-kongress 2023 in Cuxhaven – Michel Molinaro

10.09 - 13.09.2023 IGeLu Conference 2023 in Leuven – Carlo Blum, Teresa Fernandez Olaizola, Anne Manternach, Vicky Pelkes, Florence Buhler, Jacqueline Rippert, Christel Kayser, Annick Stein

18.09 - 24.09.2023 iPRES 2023 in Champaign - Urbana (US) – Roxana Maurer

18.09 - 22.09.2023 Jahrestagung 2023 of IAML Deutschland in Lubeck – Marlène Duhr

23.10 - 26.10. 2023 48th meeting of the Directors of ISSN National Centres in Brussels – Sarah Stephan

25.10 - 29.10.2023 ICOLC Conference in Prague – Patrick Peiffer

28.11 - 30.11.2023 404 Conference – National Széchényi Library in Budapest – László Tóth, Ben Els

EDUCATIONAL OFFERS

18 secondary school classes, including the Lycée des Arts et Métiers, the Lycée Technique du Centre and the École d'Hôtellerie et du Tourisme du Luxembourg, the Lycée Technique pour Professions de Santé, the Lycée Josy Barthel, the École privée Fieldgen, the Lycée Aline-Mayrisch, the Lycée du Nord, the Lycée Bel-Val, the Lycée de Garçons de Luxembourg, the Lycée classique de Diekirch, the Lënster Lycée and the International School Schifflange took part in training courses and guided tours that introduced them to the workings of the BnL and to documentary research with a-z.lu.

80 guided tours for the general public took place. They were offered in Luxembourgish, German, French and English.

The cultural mediation service also ran a-z.lu workshops for all audiences.



BnL has launched a series of tutorials to help users search for documents on a-z.lu. These practical guides are available in French, German and English.

The first five tutorials went online in December 2023.



Watch the five videos on Youtube:

1. Signing in
2. Doing a simple search
3. Filtering results
4. Reserving documents
5. Extending loans

The BnL and the Bicherbus took part in the “Walfer Bicherdeeg” book fair held from 18 to 19 November 2023. From 24 to 26 April 2023, the Bicherbus was also present at the “Schoulfoire” at Luxexpo.

In addition, the BnL took part in the 4th “Mois des Archives”, coordinated by the National Archives of Luxembourg.



SUMMER SCHOOL

The 2nd BnL Summer School took place from 31 July to 5 August 2023. Its aim was to teach, through workshops and practical work, the various skills needed by future librarians, archivists and documentalists. Fifteen high school and university students completed the BnL Summer School 2023 and were presented with a certificate of participation that will help them in their future professional endeavours.

The study programme was highly varied: the courses covered the acquisition and cataloguing of documents, the operation of the Reading Room and logistics within the BnL, as well as the acquisition of digital publications and the preservation and digitisation of Luxembourg's heritage.

COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES

In 2023, BnL carried out 3 communication campaigns with posters in urban areas and targeted announcements on social networks. The first was aimed at promoting the general interest press. A second advertising campaign took place as part of the Open Days/Discovery Days.



The aim of the last campaign was to present the BnL staff at the end of 2023. This was deployed on social networks.



LUCIE

Gestion des collections en accès direct

Mon plus grand défi est de repenser continuellement l'aménagement et la mise à disposition des collections en accès direct afin d'optimiser l'autonomie de nos lecteurs.



MICHEL

Bücherbus

E Bus, net fir matzefueren, mee deen d'Bücher méi no bei d'Leit beweegt. Dëst war, ass a bleibt ëmmer eppes Besonnesches, dat net nëmmen d'Kanner zum Staune bréngt a Freed um Liesen erwächt.



BEN

Digital Curator

Mam Lëtzebuenger Webarchiv versécheren ech, datt den Internet och fir d'Generatioune vu muer weiderhi fräi an accessibel bleift.



DAPHNÉ

Fonds luxembourgeois

Meng Passioun: Deene Jonken de Patrimoine culturel an de Beruff vum Bibliothekär méi no bréngen.

WEBSITE AND SOCIAL NETWORKS

Since the launch of its new website, the BnL has seen an impressive increase in its use, with a total of 348,475 views recorded, representing growth of 29.8% compared with 2022.

It is interesting to note that the “Registration” page remains the most consulted, recording 27,155 views over this period. 51 news articles were published on the site, reinforcing the BnL’s commitment to the public by sharing relevant information.

Internet users spend an average of 260 seconds on www.bnl.lu. This is well in excess of established norms. As a general rule, an online visit duration of more than 53 seconds is considered to be a good indicator that the content is qualitative and interesting.

The site is available in French, Luxembourgish, German and English. The statistical breakdown of reading languages is based on the browser setting used by the Internet user, which also explains the absence of Luxembourgish.

English	44.7%
French	26.6%
German	23%
Other	8.8%

Internet users can find out more about BnL, how it works and how to make the most of its services. They can also access analysis articles (Documents in the spotlight) written by BnL staff on a specific subject related to the collections. The online shop offers a selection of publications (exhibition catalogues and reference works) available for purchase.

56 monthly favourites and 11 reading lists, with commentary by collection managers, were placed online in 2023.

The www.bnl.lu website works on all media and meets the accessibility criteria set out in Directive (EU) 2016/2102 of the European Parliament.

New for 2023

The “Digital offerings” section gives users an overview of all the online resources available, organised by type of medium: e-books, audio books, music, video on demand, general interest press, scientific journals and databases. Each of these pages offers specific examples with access links, and highlights new offers recently added. This section was launched in spring 2023 in The aim is to help users navigate the BnL’s digital offering, which is not only more complex but also more abstract than its printed collections.

The BnL maintains a presence on YouTube, Instagram, LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook. There it publishes news, 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.

On social networks, the BnL has seen a significant increase in its audience, reaching 10,976 followers on Facebook, Instagram, X and LinkedIn in 2023, an increase of 32.5% from the previous year (8,282 in 2022).

THE BNL IN THE MEDIA

290 articles related to the BnL were published in the press.

Notable mentions



01.10.2023 RTL.lu – Discovery Days : 225 Joer Nationalbibliothék
Comprehensive report on the BnL's Open Days.



05.10.2023 RTL.lu – Chatbot vun der eluxemburgensia
Article and audio report on the launch of the new Chatbot on the eluxemburgensia.lu portal.



16.10.2023 RTL.lu – *Vu Gäert a Bicher*
Video and article on the *Vu Gäert a Bicher* exhibition, which runs from 08.07.2023 to 17.02.2024.

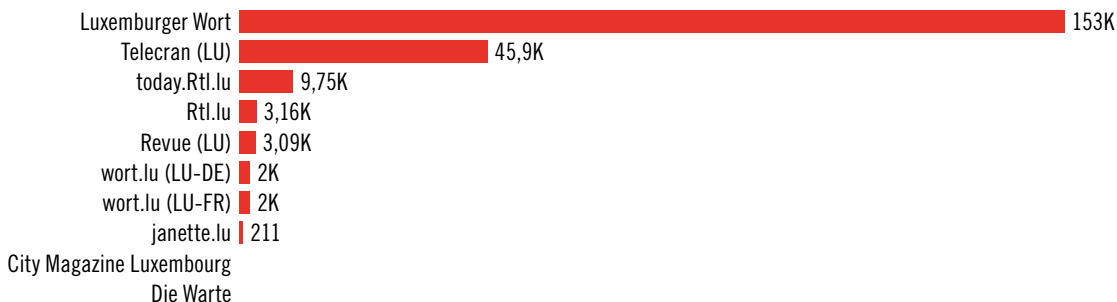


23.10.2023 journal.lu – Eine Zeitung wandert ins digitale Langzeitgedächtnis
The article highlights the BnL's digitisation efforts by looking at the various stages involved in the long-term preservation of a Luxembourgish daily newspaper.



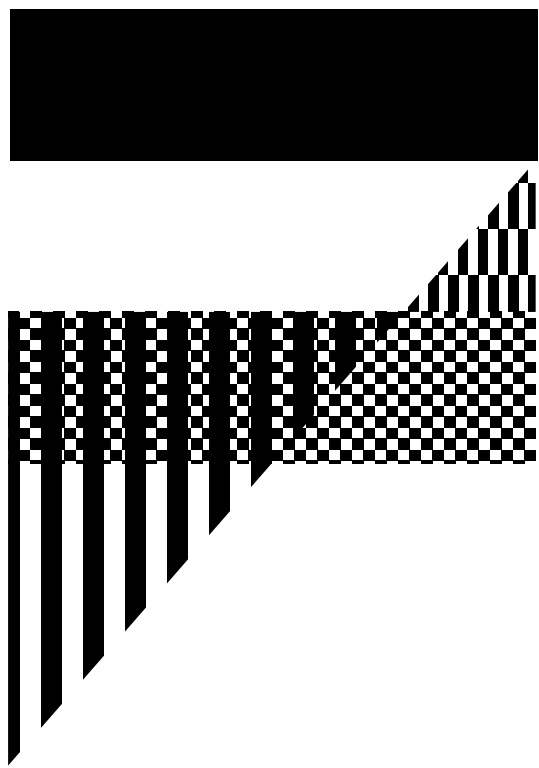
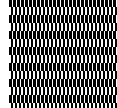
26.10.2023 wort.lu – Ohne sie keine Nationalbibliothek
Article about the staff of the BnL and their day-to-day work. Access is via Wort+, accessible free of charge at the BnL.

Distribution of articles about the BnL by media outlet



Breakdown of articles about the BnL by medium: printed press or online





A RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATION

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

TECHNICAL INFRASTRUCTURE **MAINTENANCE MAINTENANCE**

The technical department has undertaken several maintenance works during 2023. The BnL has acquired an audio terminal which has been installed on the first floor of the Reading Room. A soundproofing solution has been put in place for the information desk in the Reading Room. The lighting infrastructure has undergone substantial improvements, including the replacement of 30 desk lamps with more efficient reading lights. In addition, a function has been added that allows the lighting intensity in the foyer and Reading Room to be adjusted manually, offering greater flexibility for specific events.

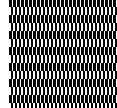
In the BnL lobby, 45 new lockers have been added, including several large-sized lockers, so that visitors can leave their hand luggage. 12 “Chargy” electric charging points have been installed in the BnL underground car park.

A brand new multimedia infrastructure has been added to the conference room, bringing significant improvements to the audiovisual equipment.

To optimise the acoustics of the administrative corridors on the 5th and 6th floors, soundproofing panels were added in 2023.

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 2023, the library handled a total of 67 tonnes of parcels and deliveries, representing a monthly average of 3,300 items and 5,650 kg.



HUMAN RESOURCES

At 31 December 2023, the BnL had 114.40 FTE (full-time equivalent) staff, corresponding to 138 physical persons. 123 employees were on permanent contracts (including five registered as disabled) and 15 on temporary contracts. A total of 78 women and 60 men are employed at the BnL.

Four persons were on secondment from other organisations and educational establishments. Two employees were working under an OTI/ATI (temporary occupation) scheme. Career-wise, the staff banding breaks down as follows:

- Civil servants/Employees: A1: 45; A2: 25; B1: 22; C1: 21; D1: 4; D2: 3; D3: 11
- Salaried staff: 7

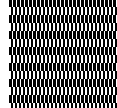
Aware of our training mission, we offer one apprentice post to train as a Gestionnaire qualifié DAP en logistique, and we have taken on eleven students for 10 to 15 hours per week to help the various departments of the BnL.

As the BnL works on particular projects requiring staff with specific knowledge for a given period, it has been supported in 2023 by 6 experts. In addition, it has called on assistance from external service providers for cleaning, security, services to the public and digitisation (30 people).

The average age of the staff at the BnL is 42.6.

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
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



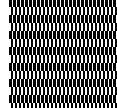
BUDGET

The BnL benefited from funding of €7,550,000 from its parent ministry, the Ministry of Culture. Added to this is funding for utilities costs (water, heating and electricity) of €337,738. The BnL has generated receipts totalling €298,787.37. The analysis of the 2023 implemented budget revealed a pleasing result: the costs of infrastructure and operations totalled close on 32%, while expenditures relating to its legal missions totalled 68%. Amongst the operating costs, cleaning and security make up 15% of the total budget, and are therefore the most significant items.

Given our mission as a heritage library, the BnL commits considerable sum to acquiring documents supplementing its special collections; thus, we spent €420,283.21 to purchase maps, posters, postcards, ephemera, music scores, imprints, art books, etc. 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 €1,953 731.14. The BnL is therefore investing 30% 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. In fact, we pursue an acquisitions policy favouring publishers and bookshops in Luxembourg such as Alinéa, Bicherhaischen, Diderich, Ernster, Promoculture, um Fieldgen and Zimmer. In total, we have issued 4,660 orders to Luxembourgish suppliers, compared with 2,254 orders placed with international suppliers. The total of invoices paid to Luxembourgish suppliers is €162,704.13, whereas the total of invoices paid to international suppliers is €154,608.50. The budget for the digital offering made available to the research sector in Luxembourg is €1,392,531.

The BnL is pursuing its ambitious programme of large-scale digitisation and free online access to books and journals, whilst respecting the regulations in force. 22.78% 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 information measures, represent just 11% of the budget, i.e. €902,427.72.



INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS		Value in % of total
Administration and training		
Continuing training	9,287.82€	
Travel and subsistence expenses	37,306.54€	
Office expenses	18,478.57€	
Bank charges	6,467.56€	
National membership fees	520.00€	
International membership fees	40,971.84€	
Subtotal	113,120.93€	1.41%
Building and vehicles		
Building - cleaning	440,934.01€	5.49%
Building - maintenance and repairs	174,478.68€	
Building - municipal taxes	12,769.74€	
Building - surveillance	802,155.80€	9.98%
Building - underground car park maintenance	136,111.87€	
Vehicles - insurance maintenance	603.92€	
Vehicles - fuel maintenance	12,944.51€	
Vehicles - maintenance and repairs	44,110.09€	
Subtotal	1,624,108.62€	20.21%
Operating costs		
Postage and telecommunications	54,177.12€	
Acquisition and maintenance of small tools and special equipment	28,851.53€	
Public services	23,674.82€	
Subtotal	106,703.47€	1.33%
IT		
Cost of experts and studies	37,809.62€	
Re-subscription of licences/software	187,253.65€	
Acquisition of software	0.00€	
Maintenance of IT equipment	81,230.80€	
Computer Server - Hardware maintenance	93,108.67€	
Subtotal	427,929.40€	5.33%
Total infrastructure and operations	2,271,862.42€	28.27%

Special equipment		Value in % of total
Total capital expenditure	300,755.43€	3.74%
BNL REMIT		
Library and Heritage		
Acquisitions - library and media centre	1,953,731.14€	
Acquisitions - heritage collections	420,283.21€	
Bibnet.lu network	14,651.26€	
Copyright and related rights	12,691.75€	
Subtotal	2,401,357.36€	29.88%
Archiving and Logistics		
Conservation and Restoration	230,115.61€	
Binding costs	36,766.84€	
Logistics and Preservation	61,567.10€	
Subtotal	328,449.55€	4.09%
Experts and Digitisation		
Cost of experts and studies	990,547.53€	
Digital Library	839,988.99€	
Subtotal	1,830,533.52€	22.78%
Promotion		
Publication costs	190,090.76€	
Advertising and information costs	408,219.58€	
Exhibitions	114,674.75€	
Seminars, conferences	189,442.63€	
Subtotal	902,427.72€	11.23%
Total BnL remit	5,462,768.15€	67.98%
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,035,386.00€	
Water/heating/electricity consumption costs	470,020.73€	
Budget implemented in 2023	8,505,406.73€	

The BnL is an ideal place for learning, offering an essential platform for the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge.



**Bibliothèque nationale
du Luxembourg**

Date : June 2024
© Bibliothèque nationale
ISSN 2738-9375