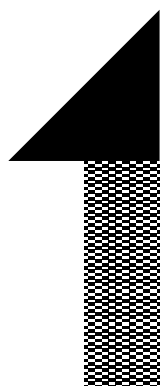


The background of the entire page is a solid dark blue. Overlaid on this are several abstract geometric shapes and patterns. In the top left, there is a solid black square. To its right is a semi-circle filled with a black and white grid pattern. Further right is a large semi-circle with a black and white dot pattern, containing a smaller solid black semi-circle. To the right of that is a solid black rectangle, followed by a series of vertical black lines of varying heights. In the bottom left, there is a large semi-circle with a black and white dot pattern, containing a smaller solid black semi-circle. To its right is a solid black rectangle, followed by a series of horizontal black lines of varying lengths. In the bottom right, there is a large semi-circle with a black and white grid pattern, containing a smaller solid black semi-circle. To its left is a semi-circle with a black and white dot pattern, and below it is a solid black rectangle. The text 'ANNUAL REPORT 2025' is centered in the upper right area, with 'NATIONAL LIBRARY OF LUXEMBOURG' centered below it.

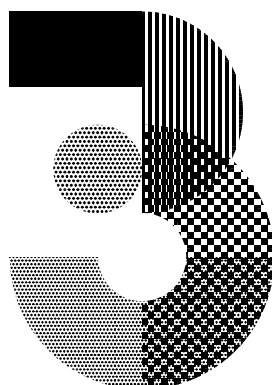
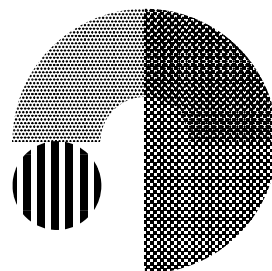
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NATIONAL LIBRARY
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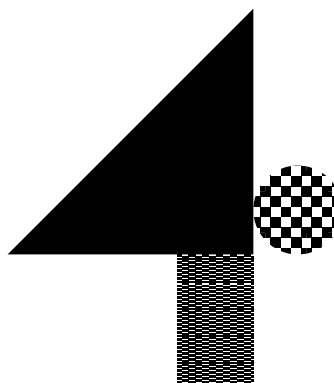
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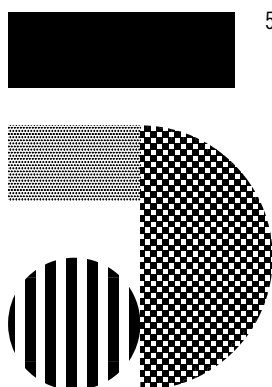


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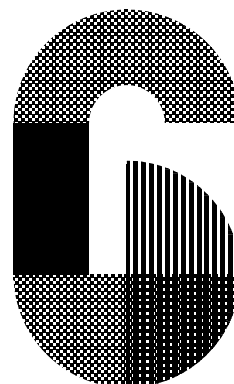
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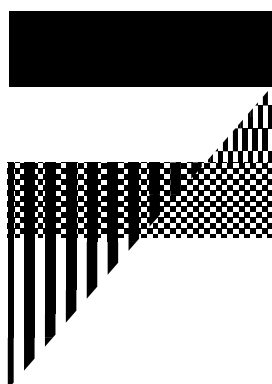
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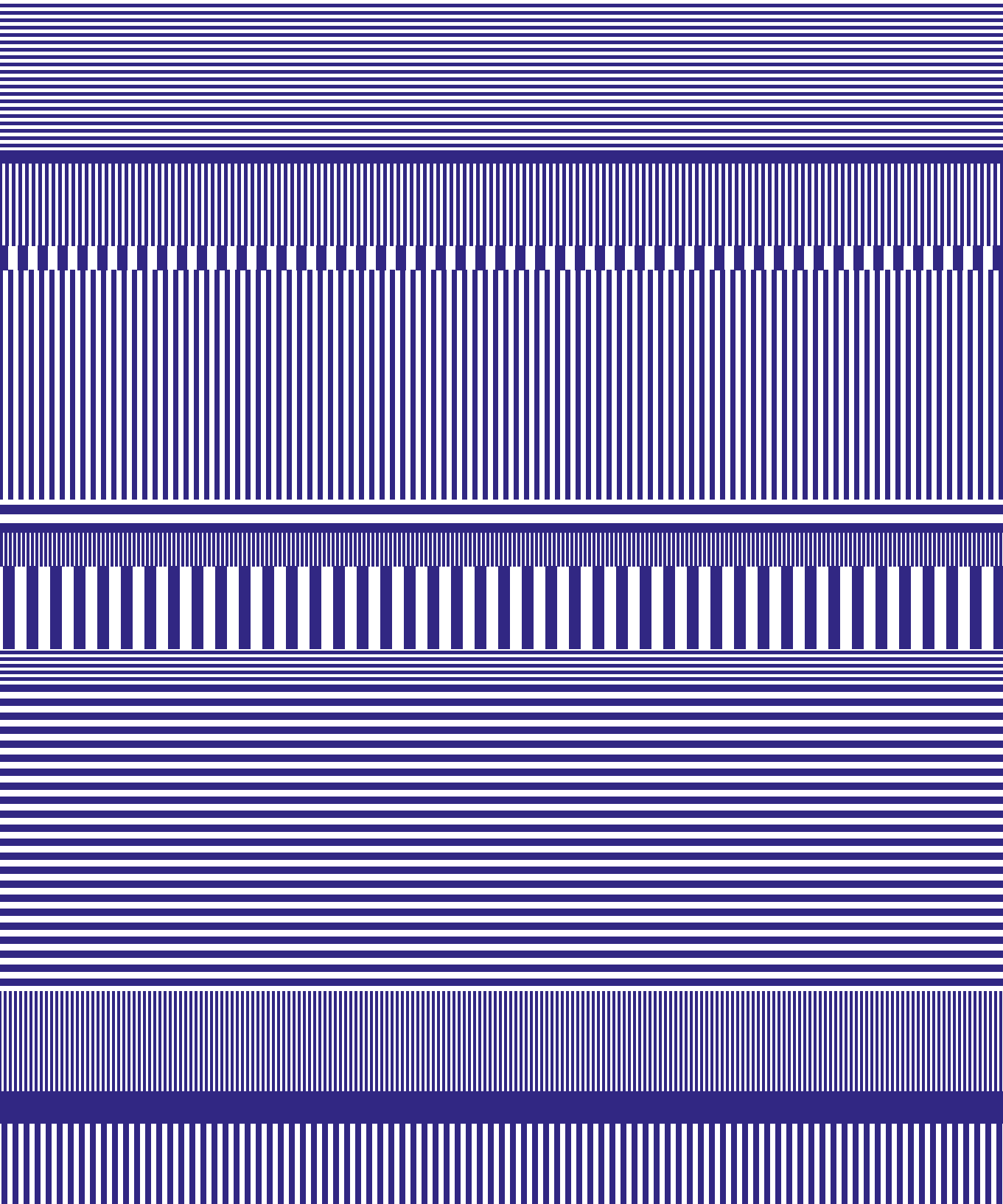


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FOREWORD

The year 2025 was marked by a study commissioned by the National Library of Luxembourg (BnL) from bms marketing research + strategy, in collaboration with the media agency MEFA, to determine the economic value of the BnL. This survey, conducted with 2,166 respondents, confirmed that the National Library represents a sound and profitable investment.

With an annual public subsidy of approximately €8.79 million, the BnL generates an estimated €38.13 million in value for Luxembourg's knowledge society – far exceeding its operating costs. Were its public funding to be withdrawn, the economic and societal losses for Luxembourg would amount to €29.34 million. In other words, every euro invested in the BnL generates €3.34 for Luxembourg's knowledge society.

The study also reaffirmed the strategic positioning of the BnL. It stands at the heart of Luxembourg's knowledge ecosystem and is an essential pillar for research, education, science, and culture. As custodian of the nation's cultural heritage, it bridges past and future through unique analogue and digital collections, freely accessible to all. Beyond being a place of knowledge, it is also a space for interaction, inspiration, and exchange for the wider public.

The BnL thus confirms its strategic role within the national knowledge landscape, its social and cultural value and its strong economic impact. The study fully validates the Vision 2020-2030 and guides the future towards greater digital development, artificial intelligence and accessibility.

We are especially pleased with the exceptional loyalty of our users: 96% report being satisfied with the BnL. 84% rate its services as outstanding, 38% consider them excellent and 46% very good. 84% believe that the BnL represents a strategic and competitive asset. 96% would recommend it without hesitation.

This high level of satisfaction is closely linked to the tireless commitment of our staff to our users. Their energy, their dedication to showcasing our collections, and their ability to inspire enthusiasm for our services are bearing fruit. We extend our sincere gratitude to our entire team for their excellent work in the service of the public.

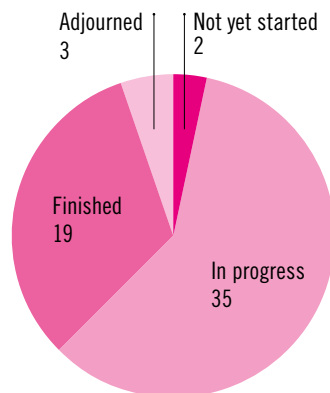
Claude D. Conter and Carlo Blum

THE BNL IN TRANSFORMATION

WORK PROGRAMME - 2025

In 2025, the BnL carried out a series of structural projects built around four complementary priorities: improving user reception and orientation, strengthening digital infrastructures and services, ensuring documentary and scholarly excellence, and consolidating internal organisation and staff competencies.

Projects	59
Not yet started	2
In progress	35
Finished	19
Adjourned	3



A total of 19 projects could be completed whilst 35 are still underway.

Regarding public spaces and user services, the BnL replaced the screens in the group study rooms, clarified classification plans, decided about the number of copies of Luxembourgish publications in the reading room, and completed the reorganisation of the Dewey 100, 200, 700 and 800 collections, offering users clearer and more intuitive access to the content. In the same spirit of user-centred service, the BnL introduced the possibility of returning borrowed items via the Bicherbus, adding flexibility to the circulation of documents.

In terms of platforms and the preservation of digital heritage, the portal eluxemburgensia.lu, dedicated to digitised and born-digital documents, underwent a full redesign to improve navigation and enhance the visibility of national collections. The migration and expansion of the Browsertrix platform strengthened web-archiving capacity, while the implementation of digital workflows for the State's long-term preservation platform secured the ingest and preservation of files within an inter-institutional framework. These efforts were supported by the update and expansion of the quality-control programme for digitisation, ensuring a reliable production chain from the original document to long-term dissemination.

Documentary excellence formed a third major pillar. The RVM–RAMEAU conversion project aligned subject-indexing standards with best practice, improving interoperability and thematic search. Enhancing the quality of MU-format bibliographic records further improved the completeness and consistency of metadata for musical materials.

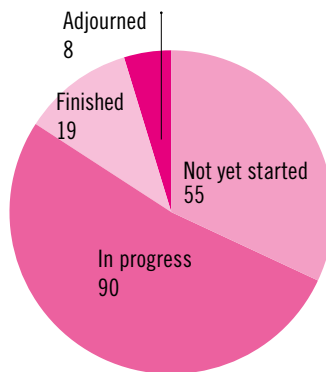
Cultural and scholarly outreach was further strengthened through an exhibition and its catalogue dedicated to Pierre Nimax Sr., as well as by the publication of a monograph dedicated to the Pescatorea. These initiatives reinforced the BnL's role as the central custodian of Luxembourg's cultural memory.

Finally, organisational maturity progressed through the formalisation of role descriptions, bringing clarity and transparency to internal responsibilities. IT tools were also updated: the replacement of Interflex with MyRH-Time modernised human-resources management. The BnL also supported skills development beyond its walls by offering a training series for school librarians on the optimal use of a-z.lu.

2025-2028

The 2025-2028 programme pays particular attention to users and aims to improve BnL's services while maintaining a balance between continuity and transformation. The result of a collaborative approach, this programme bears witness to the involvement of employees and to BnL's desire to evolve in step with its environment.

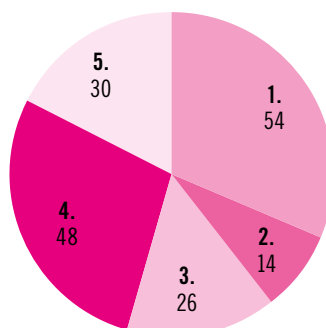
For the period 2025-2028, we have identified a total of 172 projects, including new initiatives as well as projects still underway.



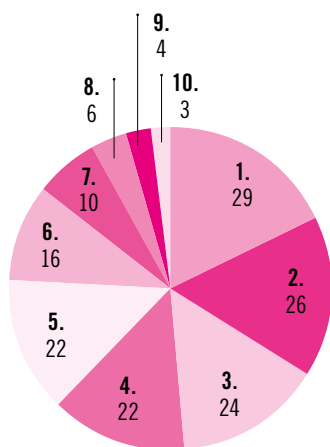
Projects 2025-2028	172
Not yet started	55
In progress	90
Finished	19
Adjournd	8

A significant proportion of the projects is devoted to the development, enrichment, completion, management, conservation and preservation of manuscript, printed, digital and audiovisual collections. Legal deposit is rigorously applied and the BnL adds to its collections through acquisitions and donations. As a result, cultural and scientific promotion remains an integral part of every project. In addition, consolidating BnL's role as a research centre remains a priority.

As part of the national digitisation strategy, BnL is stepping up its efforts to make its heritage collections available. Furthermore, infrastructure improvements are becoming increasingly important, not least because automation, digitisation and robotisation are becoming an integral part of everyday life. The BnL is also committed to increasing its efficiency while improving working conditions for its staff and users.



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FLAGSHIP PROJECTS 2025-2028

- Enabling BnL users to load credit onto their reader card online
- Developing an online help platform for eluxemburgensia.lu
- Implementing AI-driven solutions to support users
- Automating metadata synchronisation between Alma, PrimoVE, Preservica and eluxemburgensia
- Implementing a solution for sending loans via pickup stations
- Analysing and developing diversity in the BnL's documentary policy
- Developing a unified platform for legal deposit
- Establishing a collection of national scholarly output
- Digitising monographs from the Luxembourgish Collection
- Organising an exhibition on peace movements in Luxembourg
- Integrating the library card of the bibnet.lu libraries into mobile wallets
- Developing an automated inventory solution for reading room collections
- Organising the CENL General Assembly at the BnL in 2026
- Continuing the transformation to Open Access
- Setting up new digital libraries

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

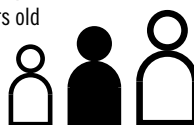
1. We ensure easy access to the collections and services and adapt them to new needs
2. We develop, enrich, complete, manage, conserve and preserve the manuscript, printed, digital and audiovisual collections
3. We digitise heritage collections
4. We ensure cultural, educational and scientific valorisation 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

2025 in figures



Staff
120.58 full time
equivalents

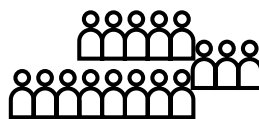
Average age of BnL staff
42.5 years old



94

**Libraries
participating in the
bibnet.lu network**

Annual funding
9,047,000

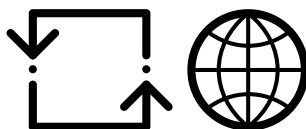
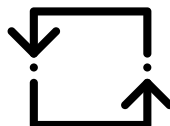


Total registrations
41,350

**Admissions in the
reading room**
351,874

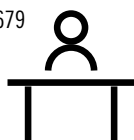


Home loans
74,687



Interlibrary loan requests
948

Carrel
reservations
15,679



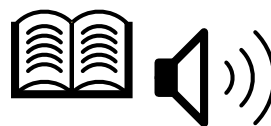
Electronic periodicals
83,000



827,000

Scientific e-books

Audio books
2,600



18,500

General interest e-books



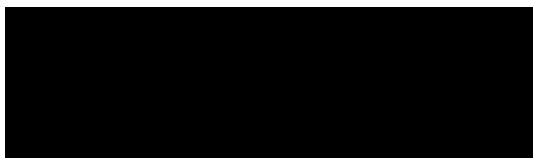
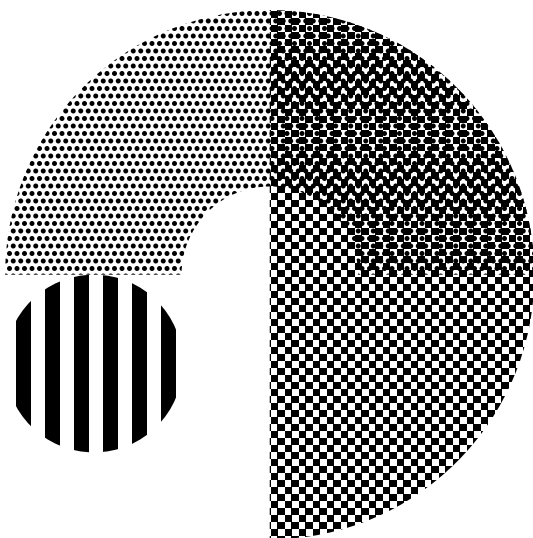
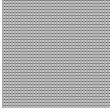
Web archive
566.8 TB

Bicherbus tours
undertaken
215



Bicherbus km
covered
23,312

KM



ACTIVE AND LOYAL READERS

The BnL recorded 41,350 registered users. In the same year, 351,874 entries to the reading room were recorded. May was the busiest month, with an average of 1,583 admissions per day.

As of 31 March 2025, the National Library of Luxembourg is open from Monday to Friday, 10:00-20:00 and on Saturdays from 10:00-18:00.

NUMBER OF REGISTRATIONS AND VISITS		
Registrations	2025	Trend since 2024
Number of user accounts at the BnL	41,350	+ 1%
Number of Bicherbus user accounts	1,649	- 2%
Visits to the reading room	2025	Trend since 2024
Total	351,874	+ 9%
Average per day	1,139	- 11%
Peak in May	1,583	+ 7%



The reading room offers different ways of using its resources, from comfortable armchairs to desks with computers. Over the three floors there are also eleven carrels (group study rooms), three soundproof booths and a Music Room. A total of 470 seats of all types are currently available in the reading room. A twelfth carrel, located on the first floor of the reading room, will be added in 2026.

In addition, the BnL expanded its cloakroom area by adding 100 lockers, allowing it to better accommodate the increase in visitor numbers.

ROOM BOOKINGS	2025	Trend since 2024
Carrels	15,679	+ 9%
Music room	2,816	+ 91%
Audio booths	1,745	- 32%
Total	20,240	+ 10%



The most frequently booked workspace is carrel 3.7 for six people.

Scan the QR code to find out more about our premises.

NUMBER OF ON-SITE LOANS BY COLLECTION	2025	Trend since 2024
Luxembourgish and Special Collections	4,173	- 25%
Non-Luxembourgish Collection	426	+ 22%
Total reserved items	4,599	- 22%

NUMBER OF HOME LOANS BY COLLECTION ¹	2025	Trend since 2024
Luxembourgish Collection ²	3,662	- 11%
Non-Luxembourgish Collection	19,646	- 7%
Media Centre ³	6,586	- 7%
Bicherbus	44,793	+ 6%
Total documents loaned ⁴	74,687	0%

NUMBER OF INTERLIBRARY LOAN REQUESTS	2025	Trend since 2024
Total	988	- 1%

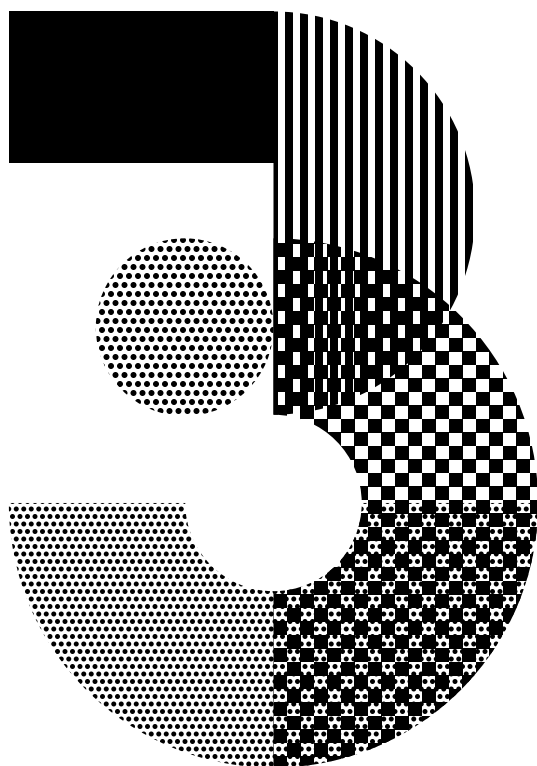
A total of 74,687 home loans were made in 2025.

The closed stacks logistics department processed 10,925 reservations for items stored in the stacks, processed over 41,000 returns and applied more than 21,000 call number labels to newly catalogued documents. Alongside their routine tasks, which also include handling internal service requests, carrying out shelf checks, reconditioning items and moving collections, they also contributed to the inventory of the Non-Luxembourgish Collection and to the logistics of the study on the provenance of the BnL's collections.

Bot4Lib Project: Developing a Solution for Automated Inventory of Reading-Room Collections

In January 2025, the BnL, in collaboration with the GovTech Lab, launched an innovation partnership "Bot4Lib". Through this call for solutions, GovTech Lab is seeking an innovative solution to automate the inventory process in the Reading Room of the National Library of Luxembourg. After several months of testing and development, during which each candidate had to demonstrate the functionality of their solution at the Demo Day in September 2025, Data Design Engineering was selected as the winner of this phase. Work then continued with the design phase, which involves defining all functionalities and the complete architecture of the solution. This phase is ongoing and will continue in 2026.

1. Not including renewed loans.
2. Including printed scores, Cedom monographs and periodicals.
3. Including Cedom music CDs.
4. Excluding items sent as part of an interlibrary loan.



A LOOK AT OUR COLLECTIONS

As a heritage and scientific library, the BnL features a Luxembourgish Collection and a Non-Luxembourgish Collection of printed documents, in addition to its special collections. The latter makes up around three quarters of the physical 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	Number of titles at 31.12.2025	Trend since 2024 (titles)
Monographs	87,878	+ 2,285
Periodicals	5,587	+ 110
Dissertations and theses ⁵	1,851	+ 408
NON-LUXEMBOURGISH COLLECTION	Number of titles at 31.12.2025	Trend since 2024 (titles)
Monographs ⁶	455,931	+ 7,322
Periodicals ⁷	2,808	+ 27
Sound documents: audiobooks	2,456	/
Audiovisual documents	21,137	+ 323
Multimedia documents: language learning media	922	/
Number of suggested acquisitions from readers	668	+ 47



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	Number of titles at 31.12.2025	Trend since 2024 (titles)
Manuscripts Collection		
Manuscripts (6 th -20 th centuries)	951	+ 15
Rare Books Collection		
Incunabula	184	-
Rare and precious printed works	370	-
Facsimile editions	170	-
Historical and artistic bindings	432	-
Poster and Postcard Collection		
Historic and contemporary posters (material units)	55,645	+ 2 124
Historical and contemporary postcards (material units)	62,458	+ 2 311
Collection of Cards, Maps, Atlases and Views		
Maps & plans (atlases) (material units)	7,426	+ 19
Cedom Music Collection		
Sound documents: music ⁸	4,857	+ 124
Printed scores	4,557	+ 425
Manuscript musical scores	17	+ 7
Iconography Collection		
Illustrated and art books	1,747	+ 28
Prints	4,210	+ 324
Iconography documents	3,376	+ 19
Historic portraits	1,190	+ 1
BICHERBUS COLLECTION	Number of titles at 31.12.2025	Trend since 2024 (titles)
Bicherbus Collection	45,971	+ 1,023

5. New counting method: only catalogued documents are included.

6. Retro-catalogued documents are not taken into account.

7. Periodicals from international organisations are not included.

8. Including all types of media (sound discs or cassettes, compact discs). Including items acquired in 2025 and awaiting cataloguing, as well as retro-catalogued documents. Figure adjusted in 2025 based on data extracted from Alma.

9. Including items deposited in 2025 and awaiting cataloguing, as well as retro-catalogued documents. Figure adjusted in 2025 based on data extracted from Alma.

10. Including one item currently being catalogued.



© BnL, Sven Muhlen

BICHERBUS

The Bicherbus travelled across the entire country on 15 tours to 82 towns and villages in Luxembourg. While the BnL's collections contain only a limited amount of children's literature, the Bicherbus' holdings focus more strongly on children and young adults. Interest in certain formats, particularly Tonies figurines, remained strong among young readers, accounting for 4.5% of all loans, while books continued to be the most borrowed medium, representing 93.6% of loans. The linguistic diversity of the collection, with a predominance of German-language materials, continues to reflect users' reading habits.

In 2025, the total number of loans reached 44,793 items, borrowed by 1,054 active readers. This represents a slight increase compared with the previous year (5.5%). July once again recorded the highest number of loans.

Regarding the Bicherbus fleet, a new vehicle, with improvements designed to enhance work efficiency and customer service during periods of high demand, will replace the current one in 2027.

INVENTORIES COMPLETED

In 2025, the BnL continued its inventory work in the stacks of the Non-Luxembourgish Collection. A total of 138,904 items were processed during the year. Since the start of the project in 2023, approximately 292,673 items have been inventoried, corresponding to four of the six stack rooms of the Non-Luxembourgish Collection.



LEGAL DEPOSIT

Legal deposit is a key pillar in preserving a country's cultural and intellectual heritage. At the BnL, it plays a central role in building the Luxembourgish Collection, ensuring the preservation and availability of works published in the Grand Duchy.

Established by law in 1958, legal deposit requires all authors, publishers and printers to submit a copy of their printed or digital publications to the BnL. This obligation extends far beyond books and periodicals: it also includes posters, postcards, leaflets, musical scores, printed graphics, calendars and other types of documents. This legislative framework, designed to safeguard the entirety of the national cultural heritage, reflects the importance placed on collective memory and access to information for future generations.

LEGAL DEPOSIT OF MUNICIPAL AND STATE PUBLICATIONS

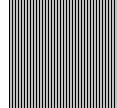
In 2024, the BnL launched a pilot project to facilitate the legal deposit of printed publications issued by municipal administrations.

Specially designed boxes are made available to participating municipalities and are regularly collected by the BnL. Until now, it was up to the municipal authorities to send the documents themselves (see also chapter 7).

Currently, 73 municipalities, 35 ministries and one publishing house take part in this project. In 2025, these state entities deposited 1,526 documents in the boxes, while the municipalities deposited 8,042 documents.

LEGAL DEPOSIT OF PRINTED DOCUMENTS

	Material units	Titles
Monographs	4,520	1,308
Maps and plans	35	10
Historic and contemporary posters	1,736	944
Historic and contemporary postcards	717	245
Prints	32	32
Printed scores	65	58



DIGITAL LEGAL DEPOSIT

	Growth in 2025
Digital monographs (number of titles)	+2,572
Digital periodicals (number of titles)	+130
Newsletters (gigabytes)	+19.02
Digital posters (number of images)	+569

Monographs: a significant increase

In 2025, 2,572 monographs (e-books, brochures, posters and leaflets) were added to the digital collection. This is the third consecutive year in which the volume of digital publications has exceeded that of printed monographs. The considerable increase is explained by reforms to the collection process and the growing adoption of the digital format.

Periodicals: rigorous monitoring

Newspapers, magazines and reports are an essential part of long-term digital preservation. Around 1,200 periodical websites are regularly accessed to identify new editions that have been put online. In 2025, 130 new titles joined the collection.

Newsletters: a source not to be underestimated

Newsletters, often perceived as ephemeral documents, are gradually replacing associations' and companies' information bulletins and brochures. Since 2016, the BnL has been working to expand this collection, which now includes 19.02 GB of informational messages from hundreds of Luxembourgish organisations.

What lives only for
a moment, the digital
legal deposit carries
into permanence.

NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS, DONATIONS AND DEPOSITS

MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTION

Ms 977: Manuscript transcription of a course of philosophy delivered between 1755 and 1757 at the Jesuit College of Luxembourg.

Manuscript course of philosophy in three parts (Logic, Rational Philosophy and General Philosophy), bound together in a single volume. At the beginning of each part is inserted a printed thesis sheet, produced by the Kleber printing house, setting out the doctrinal points to be defended, together with the names of the candidates and the dates of their respective disputations. On the basis of the thesis sheets dated 1755, 1756, and 1757, it may be inferred that the volume constitutes a transcription of the lectures of Professor Matthieu Pirez, and probably also of the logic course taught by Professor Joseph Lalau, both delivered at the Jesuit College of Luxembourg during the years 1755-1757.



COLLECTION OF CARDS, PLANS, ATLASES AND VIEWS



Plan of the fortifications of the City of Luxembourg executed in intaglio engraving, taken from the *Teatro delle città e porti principali dell'Europa, in pianta, in profilo, ed in elevazione, discritte, e pubblicate ad uso dell'Accademia cosmografica degli Argonauti, dedicate all'Altezza Serenissima di Francesco Farnese Duca VII. di Parma, dal Padre Maestro Vincenzo Coronelli [...] in Venetia, 1697* [but in fact 1698], c. 41 x 53 cm.

This plan depicts the reliefs and immediate surroundings of the fortifications of the City of Luxembourg. To the north-east appears the park of the Château de Mansfeld; to the east, the lower town identified as "Gromp" (i.e. the Grund), and to its north the Bock promontory, here labelled "Castello Vecchio". To the south, the Pétusse is shown flowing through "Hollery" (i.e. Hollerich) before joining the "Alsitz" (i.e. Alzette) to the east. To the north-west, the Glacis plateau is clearly represented as a geometrically levelled terre-plein, overlooked to the north by Mont Saint-Lambert (Limpertsberg), though neither is named on the plan.

The plan is enclosed within an ornate "Farnese-style" frame composed of baroque volutes and phytomorphic ornament, with a dedicatory inscription at the foot addressed to His Serene Highness Francesco Farnese (1678-1727), Seventh Duke of Parma, whose arms surmount the frame. To the left of the plan is a legend stating that it was painted and dedicated by Vincenzo Maria Coronelli (1650-1718) to Antonio Bollani, whose arms appear above the legend. Vincenzo Maria Coronelli, described here as cosmographer, was also the founder of the Accademia degli Argonauti in 1684, regarded as one of the earliest geographical societies. Antonio Bollani (fl. 1700), from a family of Venetian condottieri, is identified as a senator of Venice.



Belgii, sive Germaniae inferioris accuratissima tabula. Auctore Henrico Hondio, 1631, copper engraving, c. 48 x 60 cm.

A finely coloured *carte-à-figures* depicting the seventeen provinces of the Spanish Netherlands. The upper and lower borders contain views and plans of various cities, including Luxembourg (4th), Arras (6th), Antwerp (13th), and Groningen (18th). Although the main map is oriented to the west, the plan of the City of Luxembourg is oriented to the north (see Émile van der Vekene, *Plans de la ville et forteresse de Luxembourg*, Luxembourg, 1996, no. 20.44). The Duchy of Luxembourg appears in the lower left corner. Several place-names are striking or unexpected, among them Andreche (for Esch-sur-Alzette), Mariscalle for Marienthal, and Pillincq for Pettingen.



Petrus Montanus Jr., *Lutsenburgh*, engraving, 1613, 17 x 22.5 cm.

This hand-coloured engraving presents the earliest “flattened” or elongated view of the City of Luxembourg (see Jacques Mersch, *Luxembourg. Vues anciennes 1598-1825*, Luxembourg, 1977, no. XXII). The viewer is positioned at the Verlorenkost, looking towards the north-west. In order to create a more uniform urban panorama, the artist raised part of the Grund district to the level of the upper town.

The tallest spire depicted is that of the church of St-Ulric; to its left stands the St-Ulric Gate, also shown with a tower. Further in the distance, almost in line with the boat on the Alzette and distinguished by its two towers, is the church of St Michael.

POSTERS AND POSTCARDS COLLECTION

Jamboree national des scouts du Luxembourg, Esch-sur-Alzette, 10-17 August 1938.

Poster for the first National Jamboree of Luxembourg Scouts (Catholic Scouting Federation), held from 10 to 17 August 1938 in Esch-sur-Alzette. Designed by the Esch-born artist Emile Hulten (1914-1969). The BnL also holds the camp guide and the Festbrochure. Dimensions: 85 x 60 cm.





“D’Tuberkulos lauert iwerall. Loßt èr Kanner derge’nt impfen.”

Public health poster issued by the Ministry of Health, urging parents to have their children vaccinated against tuberculosis. Created by the artist Jemp Ker (1900-1951), and probably dating from the late 1940s. Dimensions: 98 x 51 cm.



Loterie nationale, 1st draw, 20 January 1949, "Achetez les timbres Caritas!".

Poster for the National Lottery in aid of the *Œuvre nationale de secours Grande-Duchesse Charlotte*.

Designed by Ly Rabinger, the poster depicts a young woman in an elegant long gown, steering a ship's helm, an attribute of the goddess Fortune according to Marion Scharff. Dimensions: 98 x 63 cm.

**XIX. Foire aux vins. Easter Thursday, 21 April 1949.
Grevenmacher.**

Poster created by Roger Gerson (1913-1966) for the nineteenth edition of the Grevenmacher Wine Fair. The BnL also holds the accompanying brochure. Dimensions: 100 x 62 cm.



**Danse du feu. Redoute masquée de l'ASSOSS,
Palais municipal de Luxembourg, 26 May 1949.**

Annual masked ball organised by the General Association of Luxembourgish Students (ASSOSS). For the 1949 edition, the poster was produced by the Graphic Studio Mehlen, run by the artist Raymon Mehlen (1914-1983). The event was photographed by Pit Schneider (1920-1976). Dimensions: 99 x 61 cm.

Grands Prix de Vitesse. Autos et Motos. Circuit de Luxembourg, 26 May 1949.

Poster for the 1949 Luxembourg Circuit, organised by the Automobile Club of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (member of the International Automobile Federation FIA) and the Motor-Union (member of the International Motorcycling Federation FIM). Designed by Roger Gerson (1913-1966). The BnL also holds the official programme of this event. Dimensions: 100 x 63 cm.



Postcard: "Stoppt Gewalt géint Fraen a Meedercher".

Postcard issued by the National Council of Women of Luxembourg, with the support of the City of Esch-sur-Alzette and the domestic violence helpline, as part of the Orange the World initiative. The illustration is by David Soner, a Metz-born graffiti artist. Entered the postcards collection by donation in 2025; no date of issue is indicated.

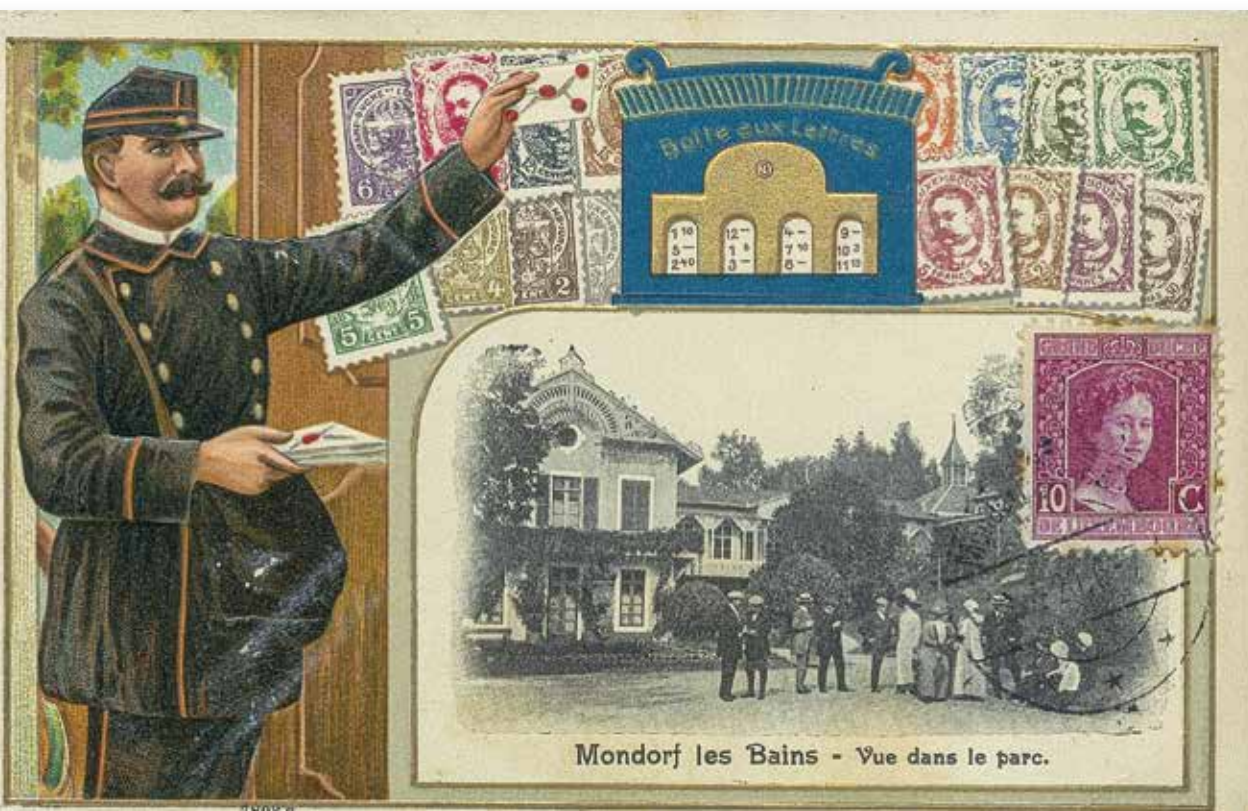


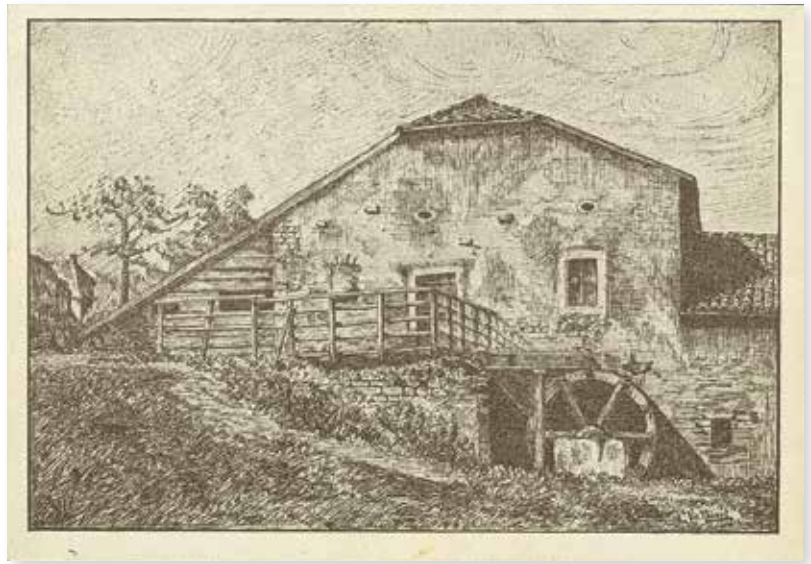
Postcard of the Rugby Club Terres Rouges Dudelange.

Promotional postcard inviting members to bring "a friend" to a training session. The card, unfranked, has the Rugby Club pre-printed as the addressee on the reverse. Entered by donation in 2025; no year of issue is recorded. Note: the name of the publisher is misspelled on the illustrated side.

Postcard of the Parc de Mondorf-les-Bains.

Postcard published by Atelier H. Guggenheim & Co., Zürich. Although undated, it was posted in 1920 from Mondorf-les-Bains to Kayl. As it depicts postage stamps of Grand Duke William IV and the national arms, issued between 1906 and 1908, the card may be dated to that period. It is part of a series differing only in the photographic subject and entered by donation in 2025.





Postcard from the series “Verschwundene Winkel aus Esch”.

Postcard published and printed by Kremer-Müller, Esch-sur-Alzette. The present example, unused and undated, shows a drawing by Viktor Robert. The firm Kremer-Müller ceased operations in 2013.



Advertising postcard of Mathias Kraus.

Advertising postcard issued by the bookseller Mathias Kraus, based at 12, Marché-aux-Herbes, Luxembourg-City at the time of the firm's founding in 1896. The example sent in 1900 from Luxembourg-City to Kayl shows a view of the Passerelle and the upper town with the former horse-drawn tramway. Mathias Kraus was the father of Paul Kraus, after whom the Messageries Paul Kraus (MPK) were named; the firm would go on to produce a very large number of illustrated postcards of Luxembourg. The present card entered the collection by donation in 2025 as part of a lot of 218 postcards.

ICONOGRAPHY COLLECTION

Pierre Matsas, *Head XVIII*, 2025, etching and pastel, 1000 x 700 mm.

The BnL has in its collections the work of Pierre Matsas, a young Franco-Luxembourgish artist born in Paris in 1993. Trained at the Jan Matejko Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków, where he specialised in intaglio printmaking, Matsas has developed an oeuvre of striking intensity, drawing on major artistic references such as Albrecht Dürer, Caravaggio, Vladimir Veličković and Francis Bacon. His work is characterised by a renewed exploration of the human face and body, in which presence and erasure, interiority and mystery are interwoven.

After professional experience at the Paris print gallery "Athanase", he has devoted himself fully to his artistic practice since 2023, producing his engravings in the studio of Erik Desmazières and working on drawing and painting in his Montmartre studio. His talent has been recognised through several prestigious awards, including the Prix Frédéric et Jean de Vernon of the Académie des Beaux-Arts in 2024 and the Kiyoshi Hasegawa Prize of the Taylor Foundation in 2025.



Sylvie Karier, *Décomposition II*, 2014, etching and aquatint (intaglio), 3/8, 200 x 300 mm.

The donation by the artist Sylvie Karier of some thirty engravings, including this work from 2014, exemplifies the patrimonial mission of the BnL.

As the only institution in the country to collect contemporary graphic art in a systematic manner, the Library plays a vital role in shaping the nation's visual memory. This responsibility requires close attention to the evolution of current artistic practices, and it also depends on the establishment of long-term, trust-based relationships with artists. Voluntary deposit of works by creators is therefore a significant gesture: it acknowledges the BnL's role as a long-term repository, and affirms its capacity to document, preserve and promote contemporary artistic production. The donation by Sylvie Karier is fully in keeping with this dynamic. It enriches the collections while strengthening the link between present-day creation and the heritage of tomorrow.



Misch Da Leiden, *Portugal*, 1984, screenprint and collage, 701 x 701 mm.

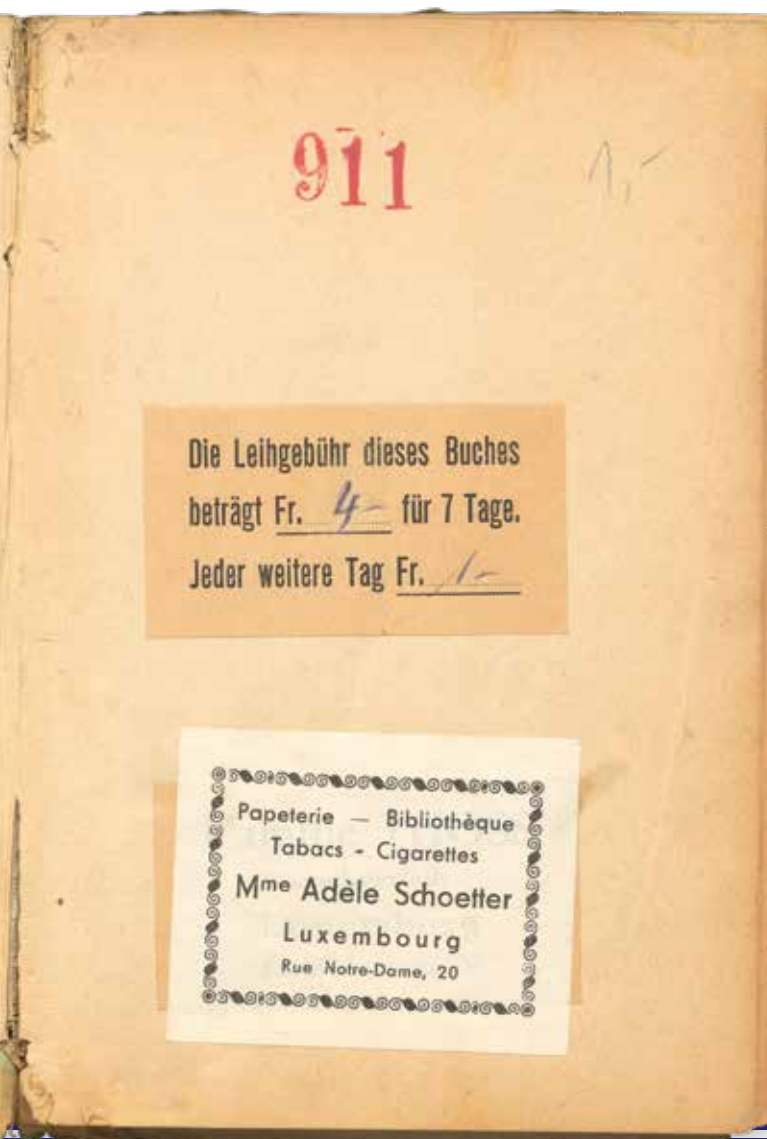
The donation of the studio archive of Misch Da Leiden represents a major enrichment of the BnL's collections. As a Luxembourgish artist trained at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf, where he later settled, Misch Da Leiden developed a body of work spanning both painting and graphic art. His widow entrusted the library with around one hundred works, including unique pieces as well as posters produced for third parties. These prints were made in the artist's own screen-printing studio. The coherence of this archive allows his graphic work to be approached in its full breadth, offering detailed insight into his methods, collaborations and production context. This donation represents a valuable resource for the study of Luxembourg's graphic creation.

Théo Kerg, *Le soleil*, 1948, lithograph, 1/10, 1948, 200 x 155 mm

The Department of Prints currently holds approximately 4,000 prints. Among the earliest are works by Luxembourg artists such as Charles Berg and Jean-Baptiste Fresez. The National Library pursues a sustained effort to complete and enrich these historical collections. Acquiring or receiving older works through donation is an integral part of this heritage mission. The artist Théo Kerg, a major figure in twentieth-century Luxembourg art, is well represented in the collections, largely thanks to the generous donation made in 1995 by his widow, Nini Kerg Krist. Despite the importance of this ensemble, certain gaps remained in the representation of his printed œuvre. These have now been filled through a new donation by the artist's son, the Luxembourg architect Carlo Kerg, who has entrusted the BnL with 78 prints, including *Le soleil*. This addition refines our understanding of the evolution of Théo Kerg's graphic work.



COLLECTION OF THE HISTORY OF LIBRARIES AND BOOKS IN LUXEMBOURG



Wulf Bley, *Ein Herz sprang auf*, 1943.

This volume is notable for having belonged successively to three different commercial lending libraries (*gewerbliche Leihbibliotheken*), as evidenced by three ownership stamps superimposed on one another, all located at the same address: 20, rue Notre-Dame, Luxembourg-City. Research has identified the earliest lending activity as that of Hans Schu, or more precisely a relative, Ingeborg Schu, operating in the Liebfrauenstraße during the German occupation (rental prices expressed in RM-Reichsmark). From March 1945, Camille Thoss (†21.02.1959) appears to have taken over this "Book Lending Service" (rental prices in Luxembourg francs), offering also the "Purchase of German and French books, Novels, Adventure stories etc." as well as "Tobacco, Postage Stamps, Newspapers, Souvenirs" (*Luxemburger Wort*, 10/11.03.1945). At an unknown date, the shop "Papeterie — Bibliothèque — Tabacs — Cigarettes" passed to Mme Adèle Schoetter, still at 20, rue Notre-Dame. The era of commercial lending libraries came to an end around 1970, following the rise of television and the introduction of VAT on private book rentals.

EPHEMERA COLLECTION

**Promotional leaflet of the Luxembourg Youth Hostel Association**

Under the slogan "1/3 vun d'engem Liewen ass fräi Zäit", youth hostels are presented as a remedy for boredom. Through numerous illustrations, the advantages of the membership card are described, along with rules of good conduct for young travellers. Printed by Jos. Beffort, Luxembourg. Illustrations by Pe'l Schlechter.

**Information leaflet**

In 1954, the section of driving-school instructors of the Federation of Garage Owners and Repairers of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, founded in 1947, issued this practical leaflet presenting the principal road-traffic signs. Printed by Imprimerie Huss, Luxembourg.

Certificate

In 1940, the Banque internationale in Luxembourg was gradually placed under German administration, to integrate Luxembourg's financial system into the wartime occupation economy. The bearer share of the institution, now renamed "Internationale Bank Luxemburg", was printed with an embossed seal, ornamental border, and the signatures of the board of directors and supervisory board. It certifies the holder as a shareholder to the value of 100 Reichsmark.



Calendar

The collection of traditional "Bréifdréesch-Kalenner", distributed annually by postmen to residents of their delivery district, dates from 1911 and has now been enriched by an example issued in 1914. In addition to a monthly overview and a calendar of name-days, the Art Nouveau decorative elements are particularly noteworthy. On the reverse appear the postal regulations and the dates of the annual fairs. Printed by M. Huss, Luxembourg.

CEDOM MUSIC COLLECTION

Cedom has been able to enrich its archive holdings of Luxembourgish composers and musical communities through nine transfers for the following archival collections:

- Louis Beicht Collection
- Carlo Bock Collection
- Patrick Colombo Collection
- Victor Fenigstein Collection
- Albert and Romain Moes Collection
- Mathias Moris Collection
- Loll Weber Collection
- An der Uucht Collection
- Lidderuucht Collection
- Gast Waltzing Collection (second deposit)
- The Outsiders Syndicate of Sound Collection (second deposit)

In 2025, seven composer's archives have been made accessible via www.a-z.lu. To enhance their visibility and support wider public engagement, the BnL has created a dedicated list on its website bringing together all musical archival holdings:

- Paul Albrecht Collection
- Jos Berrens Collection
- Jean et René Eiffes Collection
- René Hemmer Collection
- The Outsiders Syndicate of Sound Collection
- Alphonse Foos Collection
- Asca Rampini Collection (partially accessible, cataloguing in progress)

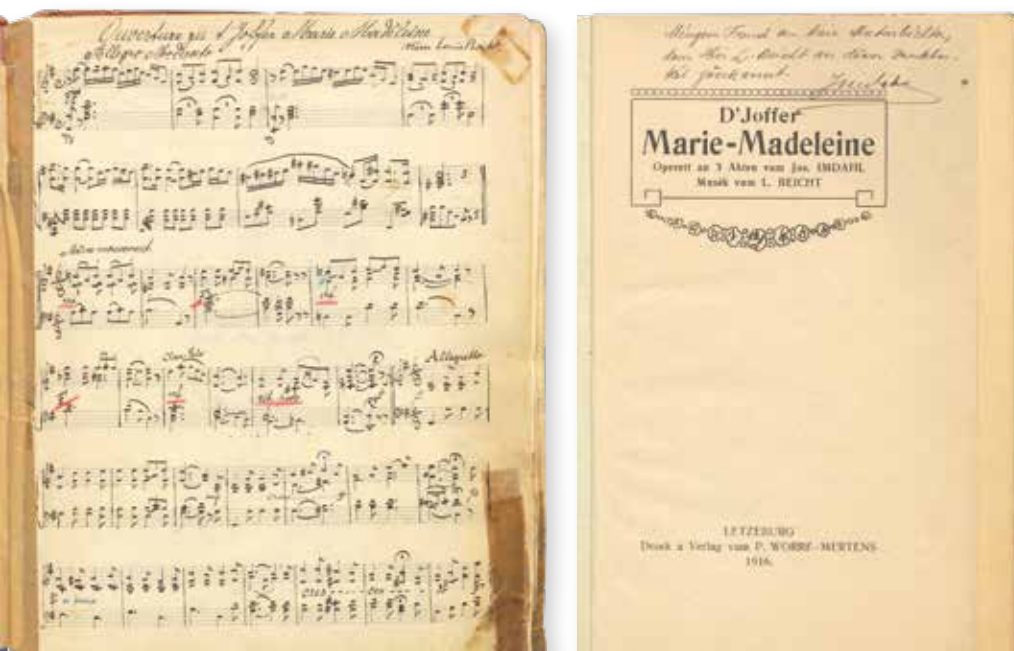
View the lists on bnl.lu:



Louis Beicht Collection

The Louis Beicht Collection documents one of the greatest successes in Luxembourg's musical history: the operetta *D'Joffer Marie-Madeleine*. Premiered in 1916, it achieved remarkable popularity, with more than 300 performances in Luxembourg and abroad.

Its composer, Louis Jean Nicolas Beicht (1886-1943), an official at the Chamber of Accounts, pursued a parallel musical career as a composer, pianist, organist and conductor. A self-taught musician, he developed a diverse body of work that includes several operettas, among them *Sein Associé* and *Déi vum Ierweschten Haff*, as well as marches, lieder and orchestral pieces, performed both on local stages and in radio broadcasts. He was also behind several musical initiatives, notably the founding of the *Orchestre Cercle symphonique*, and played an active role in Luxembourg's cultural and associative life.



Louis Beicht,
D'Joffer Marie-Madeleine:
3 excerpts.



The photograph shows Carlo Bock (seated on the left) with the Andy Felten orchestra (standing).

Carlo Bock Collection

Charles “Carlo” Bock (1933-2024) was a prominent figure in Luxembourg’s popular and entertainment music scene, particularly known for his work as an accordionist. A child prodigy, he appeared on stage from a very young age and quickly gained national recognition. Trained at the Conservatoire de la Ville de Luxembourg, he pursued a professional career outside the musical sphere while remaining active as a musician for several decades. Carlo Bock performed with many well-known ensembles in Luxembourg, including the Johny Nimax and Fernand Tribou orchestras, the Andy Fehlen quartet, the Jean Roderes ensemble, and the Johny Horn orchestra, as well as with groups and musicians such as the Luxembourg Singers and Fausti. He also appeared as a supporting musician for artists like Tom Dallimore and in television programmes such as *Rendez-vous à Luxembourg*. The Carlo Bock Collection documents this long musical career through diplomas, scores, sound recordings, and various materials attesting to his work with numerous ensembles and to his solo discographic output.

Patrick Colombo Collection

Patrick Colombo attended the Limpertsberg primary school and the Lycée de garçons de Luxembourg. He studied music, organ, counterpoint and fugue at the Conservatoire de la Ville de Luxembourg, at Luxembourg’s Notre-Dame Cathedral under Albert Leblanc, and at the Schola Cantorum in Paris. Organist of the parish church of Limpertsberg, he maintained an active career as a concert performer, organised specialised courses, and composed primarily for the organ.

In 1982, he published *Die Orgeln des Luxemburger Landes*. Between 1983 and 1988, his contributions on historic organs appeared in the *Lëtzebuurger Sonndesblad* and the *Luxemburger Marienkalender*.



Among the materials relating to Luxembourg’s organs are notebooks compiling quantitative and qualitative information on the country’s instruments.



Portrait of Victor Fenigstein.

Victor Fenigstein Collection

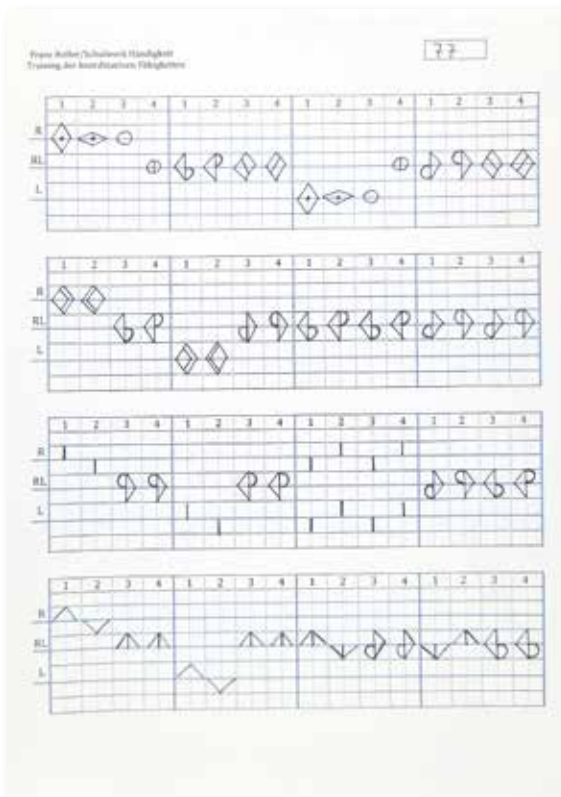
The Victor Fenigstein (1924-2022) Collection holds a special place in the history of the Cedom. As early as 1990, Fenigstein entrusted his complete body of work to the BnL as part of a campaign to collect unpublished compositions. This donation became the first composer’s archive to be deposited at the Cedom. It was later enriched through a testamentary provision ensuring the transfer of all his personal papers.

Born on 19 December 1924 in Zurich into an Orthodox Jewish family, Victor Fenigstein was appointed piano professor at the Conservatoire de la Ville de Luxembourg in 1948 following an international competition. Diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1952, he was forced to abandon a career as a solo pianist and ended his public performances in 1961, devoting himself primarily to composition. His oeuvre includes chamber music and large orchestral works, often characterised by strong social and political engagement. Deeply influenced by the writings of Bertolt Brecht, he composed, among other works, the Singspiel *Die heilige Johanna der Schlachthöfe* between 1982 and 1984. From 1986 onwards, the progression of his illness led him to adopt computer-assisted tools to continue composing. The final deposit of the collection comprises manuscript scores, correspondence, biographical documents, collectible items, and part of the composer’s private library.

Albert and Romain Moes Collection

The Albert and Romain Moes Collection highlights an instrument often relegated to the background: the accordion. The collection includes compositions by the accordionist Albert Moes (1908-1982), as well as several works by his son Romain Moes (1931-1954), an accordionist and pianist who died prematurely at the age of 22. Except for the operetta *Meng kleng Harmonikaspillerin*, Albert Moes composed exclusively for the accordion. Deeply committed to promoting the instrument and its repertoire, he founded the Hollerich Accordion Conservatory, established several accordion orchestras, and directed a music publishing house specialising in accordion literature.

Romain Moes, *En voiture: march*, Luxembourg, music by Albert Moes, c. 1900.



Excerpt from the operetta *D'Finchen* by Mathias Moris.

Mathias Moris Collection

Mathias "Metty" Moris (1901-1978) worked as a steel-industry labourer, employed first in Reckange and later in Belvaux, before settling in Wecker, where he joined the Duchscher company. Alongside his professional life, he developed a strong interest in literature and music.

Writing under the pseudonym MeMo, Moris published satirical texts and poems in the newspaper *De Péckvillchen*, offering a humorous and critical perspective on the society of his time. As an amateur composer, he wrote short songs on a variety of themes, as well as an operetta entitled *D'Finchen*. The Mathias Moris Collection reflects the trajectory of an amateur intellectual at the crossroads of literature and music. It brings together satirical writings and musical compositions that illustrate the cultural engagement of an enlightened amateur.



Loll Weber Collection

Charles-Lucien “Loll” Weber (1936-2025) is best known as a music critic and author. A lifelong music enthusiast, he trained in musicology as an autodidact. From 1959 onwards, he collaborated with several Luxembourgish newspapers, including the *Luxemburger Wort* and *Lëtzebuurger Land*, while pursuing a professional career outside musical journalism as an office manager at A.R.B.E.D. The Loll Weber Collection documents his work as a critic, his musicological research, and his publications on key figures and institutions in Luxembourg’s musical life. It represents an essential source for the history of music criticism in Luxembourg.

Author’s copy of the publication: Loll Weber, *Das Luxemburger Rundfunkorchester: 1933-1940, 1946-1958: Chefdirigent: Henri Pensis: eine dokumentarische Studie*, Sankt-Paulus-Druckerei, 1993.

An der Uucht Collection

The An der Uucht Collection is closely linked to the Luxembourgish folk-revival movement that emerged after the Second World War. Founded in 1955, the folk group *Uucht – La Veillée* is the oldest formally established folk ensemble in Luxembourg. The collection bears witness to decades of commitment to the research, preservation and transmission of traditional dances, music and customs.

The bequest of Yvette Schulté (1938-2023), a long-standing member of the group, provides a concrete illustration of individual dedication in the service of this shared cultural heritage.

The folk group *Uucht – La Veillée* performing a dance.





Banner of Lidderuucht.

Lidderuucht Collection

On 11 April 1984, the constitutive assembly of a new folk vocal ensemble was held, adopting the name *Lidderuucht Lëtzebuerg*. The association's aim is to revive and transmit the repertoire of Luxembourgish song, bringing traditional songs back into the spotlight while also promoting more recent or lesser-known works.

Through singing and storytelling, the group also seeks to pass on traditions and customs from the past to contemporary generations. *Lidderuucht* concerts are characterised by their participatory nature: the audience is regularly invited to sing along, with a repertoire that includes old folk songs, songs by Dicks, convivial songs, as well as more contemporary compositions. The Lidderuucht Collection brings together songbooks used during concerts, along with press clippings and concert programmes documenting the group's activities and performances.

Printed Scores Collection

Jean-Pierre Beicht is regarded as one of the most important musicians in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg at the turn of the 20th century. During his studies at the Conservatoire de la Ville de Luxembourg, where he was among the pupils of Jean-Antoine Zinnen, he quickly realised that he wished to turn his passion into a profession. Numerous compositions followed, and in 1984 he became the successor of Andreas Heinrich as principal organist of Luxembourg Cathedral. The style of his compositions is highly varied. Nevertheless, the work *Hâl dach déng Mamm an Eiren!* is characterised by a simple and uncluttered form, while conveying a rich and homogeneous atmosphere. As suggested by the title, Jean-Pierre Beicht demonstrates his refined and sensitive aesthetic sense in setting to music a text by the Luxembourgish author Willy Goergen.

Jean-Pierre Beicht and Willy Goergen, *Hâl dach déng Mamm an Eiren! Lid fir Gesank mat Klaweierbeglédonk*, Luxembourg, Guill. Stomps, 1918.



Henri Pensis, born on 3 November 1900 in Luxembourg-Pfaffenthal, holds a notable reputation in the musical history of Luxembourg. After studying at the Conservatoire de la Ville de Luxembourg, in Brussels and in Cologne, he became the first violinist of the orchestra of the Cologne-Langenberg radio station. In 1933, Henri Pensis was appointed the first music director of the Radio Luxembourg orchestra. A versatile musician, he composed numerous works, most of them for symphony orchestra. His output also includes various arrangements for this ensemble, such as his version of the national anthem of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg by Jean-Antoine Zinnen. The present version was published by the Ministry of Arts and Sciences.



Jean-Antoine Zinnen and Henri Pensis, *Ons Hémécht : hymne national luxembourgeois*, Luxembourg, Ministry of Arts and Sciences.

Gustav Kahnt, *Herzog-Adolph-Marsch: für Pianoforte*, Luxembourg, Wilh. Stomps, 1891.

Gustav Kahnt, born on 7 October 1848 in Berlin, showed promising musical talent from an early age. Upon his arrival in Luxembourg in 1881, he became conductor of the Grand Duchy's Military Band, a position he held until 1909.

The *Herzog-Adolph-Marsch* was premiered in June 1890 in its original version for wind orchestra, five months before the accession of Adolphe as Grand Duke. The present piano version was published by Guillaume Stomps in 1891.



Louis Gasté and A. Dubois la Chartre, *Bonjour les amis! Marche officielle des "Amis de Radio Luxembourg"*, Paris, Éditions Lafayette, 1950.

Bonjour les amis! is the official march of the Amis de Radio Luxembourg. The piece is performed by the Luxembourgish singer and radio presenter Camille Felgen (1920-2005). After completing theatre and opera studies as a baritone in 1949, Felgen achieved his first international recording success in 1951 with *Bonjour les amis!* Broadcast daily, the song quickly became the identifying melody of its original broadcaster and established itself as the emblematic signature tune of RTL's French-language programme.

Audio Documents Collection



ROME, *Terres de sang*, Groß-Zimmern, Trisol, 2025. Print.

The group ROME received the Global Project Grant 2025 from Kultur I lx, an annual award granted to musicians from different musical aesthetics. The selection committee praised this project, marking the 20th anniversary of ROME, highlighting that it represents a key milestone in the group's career. The album *Terres de sang – Rarities and Unreleased Tracks 2005-2025* is a collection of rare songs and instrumental pieces, alternative versions, and tracks performed exclusively live, illustrating the stylistic breadth of ROME's work.

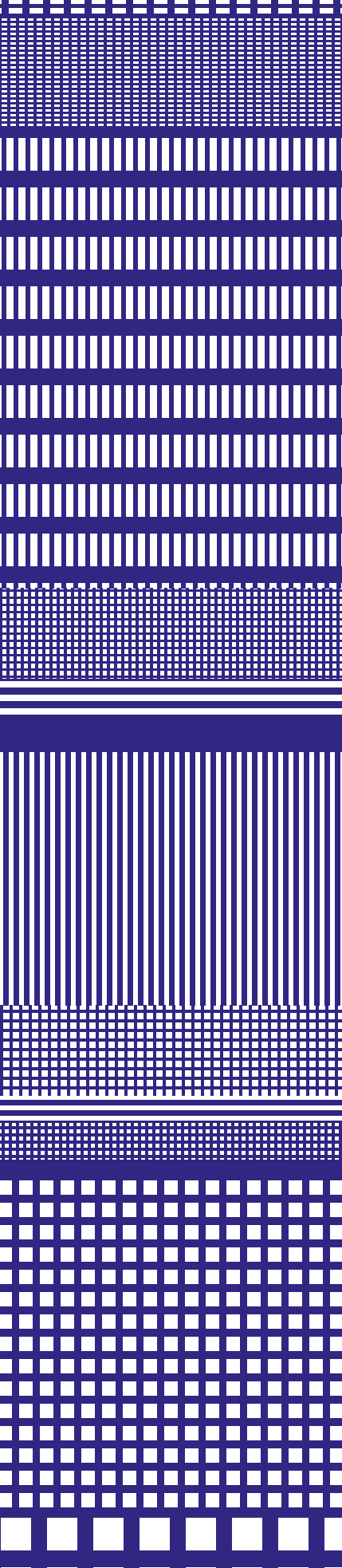
The acquisition of this shellac disc is noteworthy, as its release dates from the early 20th century. The Zonophone Record label was an important phonographic company in Europe from the 1900s onward, launched as a direct competitor to the Gramophone Company and producing 78-rpm shellac discs featuring a wide range of artists.

The piece *Wât d'Hémécht ass*, written by Edmond Lentz, is performed by Willy Hary (born in 1880), a well-known tenor.

The piece *Ech sin e gröszen Hexemëschter*, written by Dicks (Edmond de la Fontaine) and taken from *D'Mumm Sê*s, is performed by Josy Klein, who sang together with Willy Hary in a men's quartet highly appreciated by Luxembourgish audiences in the early 20th century.

Willy Hary, *Wât d'Hémécht ass* / Josy Klein, *Ech sin e gröszen Hexemëschter*, Zonophone Record (shellac).





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 fascicles 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 2025, it used a Luxembourg company and a Belgian company. The number and total volume of orders decreased slightly compared with 2024: in 2025, 6 orders were placed for a total of 306 volumes.

Since October 2018, the BnL undertakes simple restoration of contemporary documents in-house, from repairing torn pages to making new covers with gilding. Restoration is a vital task in order to ensure the preservation of heritage items and long-term access to documents which are unfortunately often worn and in a critical condition. They are detected during projects in the collections, during cataloguing or during loan operations. When a document reserved by a reader is found to be damaged, it is repaired as a priority, often that same day, before being passed on to the next reader.

The documents mainly come from the Non-Luxembourgish Collection. Since November 2025, however, staff members of the Luxembourgish Collection rely on the in-house studio for simple restorations of monographs and periodicals.

In 2025, 1,694 documents were restored, of which 1,013 required more extensive work (e.g. making a new spine, glued or stitched bindings, new covers).

PREVENTIVE CONSERVATION

After an initial phase of intensive monitoring in 2024, which included monthly inspections, the surveillance of the presence of grey silverfish (*Ctenolepisma longicaudatum*) was continued in 2025 with quarterly inspections, a frequency deemed sufficient given the low number of insects detected. At the end of 2025, the species was still present, but in limited numbers.

In addition, the pathways followed by documents and packaging materials from acquisitions were analysed to identify the measures needed to prevent the spread of insects that might be concealed within them. Following this analysis, the BnL designated a specific zone in which external packaging may circulate and adopted the exclusive use of plastic crates with smooth interior surfaces for transporting documents beyond this zone.

Documents received as donations are placed in quarantine in a dedicated room, where they are deposited in plastic boxes before being sorted. If necessary, they are also subjected to dry cleaning there before being transferred to offices and to closed stacks.

DIGITAL COLLECTIONS

The eluxemburgensia.lu portal allows the user to freely access the full text of the documents digitised by the BnL. Mass digitisation and putting items online makes the national written heritage more visible and more accessible to an international public, whilst ensuring optimal 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.

MODERNISATION OF THE PORTAL

The BnL has undertaken a redesign of eluxemburgensia.lu to better meet users' needs. The search tools have been modernised and the overall ergonomics of the site improved.

Extensive work has also been carried out on digital accessibility, which is both a legal requirement and a commitment to ensuring fair access to online content.

NOUVELLES RESSOURCES NUMÉRISÉES

In February 2025, the BnL announced the online publication of 58 historical periodicals, comprising over 403,680 pages and 61,231 issues. These historically significant documents are now freely accessible on the eluxemburgensia.lu platform, offering everyone the opportunity to rediscover key aspects of Luxembourg's history and culture:

Newspapers

The digitised newspapers include *Der Landwirth* (1877-1941) and *Luxemburger Zeitung* (1868-1941). The latter is one of the most significant daily papers in the history of Luxembourg's press. Published six times a week, it introduced up to two daily editions from 1902 onwards. Batty Weber served as editor-in-chief from 1893 to 1922, after which he continued overseeing the cultural pages and the feuilleton, in particular the daily column *Abreiß-Kalender* (1913-1940).

Trade union press

Three titles have been added to the trade union press on the eluxemburgensia.lu portal: *Die Laterne* by the "Luxemburger Berg- und Hüttenarbeiter-Verband" in Esch-sur-Alzette and *Der Gewerkschaftler*, official periodical of the Luxembourgish free trade unions, both from 1917. They were succeeded, in 1919, by *Der Proletarier*, established as the unions' official publication.

Feminist publications

Among the most noteworthy additions were two feminist titles advocating for the rights of women in Luxembourg society and politics: *Die Luxemburgerin. Zeitschrift für die gesamten Fraueninteressen Luxemburgs* (1933-1937) by Emma-Weber-Brugmann and *D'Letzeburgerin* (1945-1946) founded by the Union des Femmes luxembourgeoises following the liberation of Luxembourg.

Cultural press

The cultural press includes short-lived yet significant literary titles such as *Floréal* (1907-1908), *Clarté* (1945), *Ösling* (1938) by Evy Friedrich and *Die Tribüne* (1935) by Franz Clément.

War and Resistance publications

Titles addressing the First and Second World Wars, as well as Resistance publications are also available online. These include the journal *The Fifth Division Diamond* (1919), published by the American army in Luxembourg, and the Luxembourg Resistance publications *Die Wahrheit* (Communist resistance) and *Ons Zeidong* (Alweraje), published between 1940 and 1942. These works, often created at great personal risk, were digitised from original prints.

Publications of the Nazi occupiers

The official publications of the occupying power, *Verordnungsblatt für Luxemburg* (1940-1944) and *Öffentlicher Anzeiger zum Verordnungsblatt für Luxemburg* (1941-1944), complement the wartime collection. The *Mitteilungsblatt*, a publication comprising 8 issues from 1941 to 1942, documented the activities and decisions of the Stillhaltekommissar für das Organisationswesen in Luxemburg. The Stillhaltekommissar sought to align Luxembourg's associations with Nazi ideology and to seize the assets of banned organisations.

Educational and student publications

The BnL has also just begun its first campaign to digitise educational publications. Highlights include the journal *Fortschritt*, seeking to promote dialogue and intellectual discourse between teachers, and *L'Économiste du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg*, featuring economics lectures by Professor Eugène Tedesco (1829-1889). Additionally, the collection includes publications relating to student life, such as *Voix des Jeunes* (1917-1969) and *Tribune du Clan des Jeunes* (1949-1965).

GALERIE

In August 2025, the BnL made the cultural and educational journal *Galerie* available online, comprising more than 25,688 pages across 149 issues.

Founded in 1982 as the successor to the *Bulletin d'information du Centre culturel de Differdange*, *Galerie* was initiated by Cornél Meder and a dedicated editorial committee. The magazine aimed to be firmly rooted in the local cultural and historical scene while also addressing topics of national and international scope. Blending in-depth articles, literary texts, book reviews, and reflections on heritage, *Galerie* established itself – alongside *Nos Cahiers* and *Cahiers luxembourgeois* – as one of Luxembourg's leading literary and cultural journals over the past four decades.

Following the death of Cornél Meder in 2018, an editorial committee composed of Franck Colotte, Armand Logelin, Charles Meder, and Françoise Meder brought the current year to a close. This included a penultimate issue featuring twenty-eight authors from the Luxembourg literary scene, as a tribute to the founder.

CODEX MARIENDALENSIS AND THE GIANT BIBLE OF SAINT-MAXIMIN

In October 2025, the BnL made available online two manuscripts of exceptional historical value: the Codex Mariendalensis and the Giant Bible of Saint Maximin. These documents, witnesses to the cultural origins of Luxembourg, constitute a fundamental pillar of its national heritage.

The digitisation of these manuscripts makes this heritage accessible to the widest possible audience while ensuring the optimal conservation of the originals.

Acquired by the Luxembourg State in 2008 and now held in the collections of the National Library, the Codex Mariendalensis is an exceptional medieval manuscript dating from the early 14th century. It contains the Life of Yolanda of Vianden, one of the most emblematic figures of the country's religious history, told in 5,963 rhymed verses written in Moselle Franconian, a language closely related to modern Luxembourgish. This unique text is a major testimony to early Luxembourgish culture and language.

The Giant Bible of Saint Maximin

The Giant Bible of Saint Maximin is a medieval manuscript acquired by the BnL in 2024, for which a public fundraising campaign was launched to ensure its conservation and enhancement. Beyond its rarity, this Giant Bible stands out for its remarkable state of preservation and its close connection to the scriptorium of Echternach.



TOTAL PAGES VIEWED ON ELUXEMBURGENSIA.LU	2025	Trend since 2024
Periodicals (as full text)	2,967,387	+ 6%
Monographs (as full text)	69,974	+ 3%
Historic postcards	12,886	+ 50%
Manuscripts	21,633	+ 87%
Posters	428	+ 1,057%
Total	3,072,308	+ 6%

TOTAL TITLES ON ELUXEMBURGENSIA.LU	2025	Trend since 2024
Periodicals Titles	144	+ 58
Monographs Titles	520	0
Historic postcards Objects	17,421	0
Manuscripts Titles	28	+ 2
Posters Objects	782	0

DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS ACQUIRED UNDER ACCESS LICENCE AGREEMENTS

Since 2002, the BnL has been managing 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 and the LCEL,
- 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)

Since 2025, Read-y, a digital library service for leisure reading aimed at secondary-school students, has been fully administered by SCRIPT (Department for the Coordination of Educational and Technological Research and Innovation) and is no longer operated by the National Library of Luxembourg.

DIGITAL PUBLICATIONS ACQUIRED UNDER LICENCE AGREEMENT	2025	Trend since 2024
Electronic periodicals	83,000	- 2%
Scientific e-books	827,000	- 1%
Databases	282	- 12%
e-books (ebooks.lu)	18,500	- 9%
Audio books (ebooks.lu)	2,600	+ 15%
Video-on-demand (MéNuLu)	26,972	+ 10%
Naxos Video Library, medici.tv	7,806	Not applicable
Sound recordings (Naxos)	215,000	- 15%

In 2025, there were 297,141 successful logins on a-z.lu.

Regarding the number of successful authentications for licensed digital resources, one unit is counted each time a user attempts to access digital resources available via a-z.lu, Library Access, or ebooks.lu and authenticates using their library card. This metric therefore reflects the intensity of use, but it is independent of the number of unique users.

The most frequently consulted digital resources were the scientific journals *Nature*, *Nature Communications*, and *Scientific Reports* (Nature Publishing Group), *Business Strategy and the Environment* (Wiley), *Journal of Business Ethics* (Springer), as well as *Accounting*, *Auditing & Accountability Journal* (Emerald).

The most frequently consulted scientific databases were *ScienceDirect*, *IEEE* (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers), *Beckonline*, *Wiley* and *Springer*.

The most frequently read online newspaper was *Le Monde*, followed by *Le Figaro*.

ebooks.lu

The ebooks.lu service, offered by eleven public libraries, the National Library of Luxembourg, and its mobile library, maintained a high level of use.

NUMBER OF E-BOOKS DOWNLOADED	2025	Trend since 2024
French	4,797	+ 23%
German	6,259	+ 109%
English	18,825	+ 12%
Total	29,881	+ 26%

NUMBER OF AUDIOBOOKS DOWNLOADED	2025	Trend since 2024
French	1,014	+ 38%
English or German	19,913	+ 27%
Total	20,927	+ 27%



The most frequently borrowed titles were:

In English: Freida McFadden, *The Housemaid* (unabridged)

In French: Marie Vareille, *La dernière allumette*

In German: Onyx Storm, *Flammengeküsst*

The Libby app by OverDrive provides direct access to e-books offered by BnL and its partners. The app is free, particularly practical and easy to use.

MéNuLu – Digital Media Library of Luxembourg

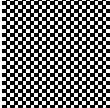
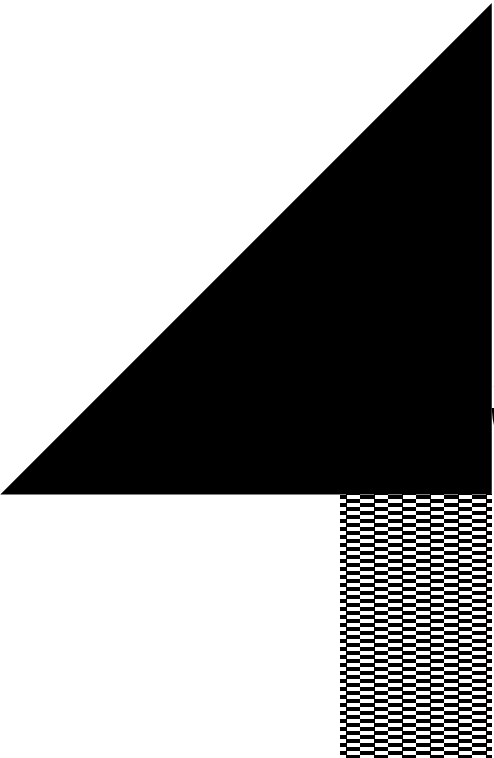
The BnL, the Lëtzebuerg City Bibliothèque, the Media Library at the Centre national de l'audiovisuel, the Escher Bibliothéik, the Mierscher Lieshaus, the Ettelbrécker Bibliothéik, the Bibliothèque municipale de Differdange as well as the Bibliothèque publique régionale de Dudelange offer a shared video-on-demand (VOD) service.

Thanks to this cooperation, users registered with at least one of the partner libraries have access to the Kanopy, Filmfriend and Tënk platforms, offering programmes in all genres – documentaries, series, fiction films, films for children and music. Access to the platforms is free and comes via a-z.lu.

Viewing in hours	2025	Trend since 2024
Filmfriend	2,176	+ 38%
Kanopy	2,883	+ 3%

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*.



DIGITAL INNOVATION

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

The chatbot on the eluxemburgensia.lu portal continues to attract interest from the public and BnL's partners. 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.

In May 2025, the BnL organised a workshop on artificial intelligence with the national libraries of Belgium, Slovenia and Latvia. These institutions were interested in developing a chatbot based on the content of their own digital libraries and wished to gain insight into the inner workings of the chatbot used on the eluxemburgensia.lu portal. A second session focused on the practical implementation of such a chatbot.

Autocat: automated cataloguing

To manage the growing volume of documents received through digital legal deposit, the BnL has chosen to focus on automated cataloguing. A multidisciplinary team composed of librarians, collection managers, IT specialists and AI researchers has developed an innovative method. Using vision-enabled language models, the pages of digital publications are analysed and metadata are extracted. This will make it possible to reference these documents in a-z.lu alongside the other works of the national bibliography.

The process was first applied to a set of one thousand monographs, and the results were reviewed and verified by an expert. This made it possible to refine the method and identify its current limitations. In 2026, specialised AI projects targeting these aspects are planned to automate the workflow as extensively as possible.

WEB ARCHIVE

The National Library preserves Luxembourg's web as part of the country's digital heritage. To achieve this objective, it regularly organises extensive harvesting campaigns as well as more targeted collections.

During 2025, harvesting capabilities were significantly expanded, increasing from a single installation of Browsertrix, the system used for capturing and archiving websites, to three installations, while also upgrading to the latest version of the software. These new installations provide substantial time-saving during quality control thanks to a customised configuration.

Following two public tenders for web-archiving services in 2021 and 2023, a third contract was awarded to Internet Archive. Over the next three years, Internet Archive will carry out four domain crawls per year and will manage the collection of Luxembourgish media. The third component of the contract includes the provision of a tool for collecting and managing thematic and event-based collections, enabling one-off or regular crawls depending on the BnL's specific needs. The combination of enhanced internal harvesting capabilities and the services provided by the Internet Archive gives the BnL the flexibility and capacity required to ensure the best possible coverage of the Luxembourg web domain.

Luxembourg's web archives have surpassed the milestone of 500 TB of archived data.

The BnL has formalised its collaboration with the National Archives of Luxembourg through an agreement stipulating that both institutions will carry out joint annual campaigns to archive the social media accounts of producers listed in the ANLux records schedules. As part of this collaboration, the BnL and ANLux collected the social-media accounts of members of the government and the ministries.

A dedicated collection was established to document the celebrations of the “Trounwiessel” in connection with the accession to the throne. The collection aims to preserve online publications related to this historic event, including coverage by international media, posts by members of foreign royal families, and content from the official website of the Grand Ducal Family.

WEB ARCHIVES IN FIGURES	
New collections archived	11 (4 domain crawls, 2 event collections, 1 news media collection, 4 paywall collections)
New files archived	134,122
Size of new archived files	99.6 TB
Total size of the web archives	566.8 TB



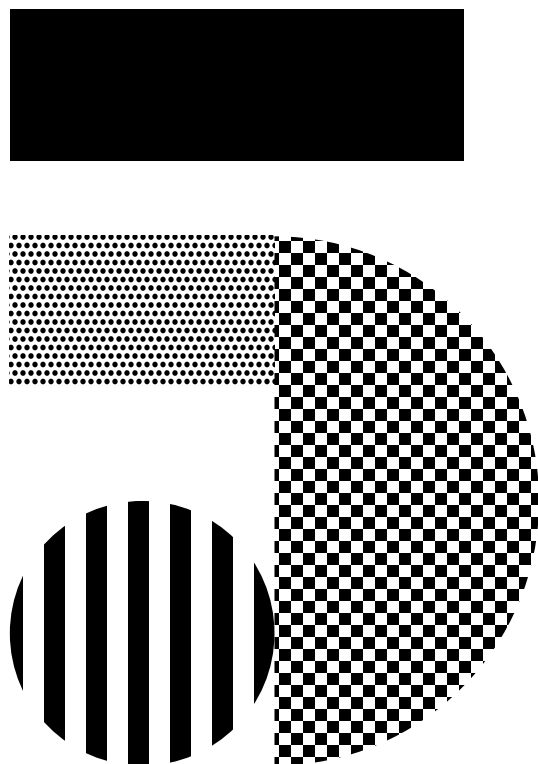
© National Archives of Luxembourg

LONG-TERM DIGITAL PRESERVATION

Long-term digital preservation aims above all to ensure the durability of digital content. Its purpose is to guarantee that future generations will have access to comprehensive documentation. With this objective in mind, the library intensified its efforts to optimise the interconnection of its various systems: the preservation system, the library management system, the platform for digitised and born-digital content (eluxemburgensia.lu), as well as the a-z.lu search engine. This harmonisation is intended to simplify user experience while establishing direct links between printed collections and digital resources.



The BnL released a video on digital preservation and web archiving. It is available on its YouTube platform.



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

THE BIBNET.LU NETWORK OF LUXEMBOURGISH LIBRARIES

The bibnet.lu network has 94 members, including three new ones in 2025: the Centre for Children and Young People with Autism Spectrum Disorder (CTSA), the Council of State, and the National Institute for Archaeological Research (INRA). There were two departures: the National Institute of Languages in Belval (INLL-Belval) and the National Museum of Resistance and Human Rights (MNR).

BIBNET.LU NETWORK DAY

In March 2025, the National Library of Luxembourg hosted the third bibnet.lu Network Day, which brought together more than one hundred professionals and librarians. The BnL offered several thematic workshops focusing on cataloguing and workflow optimisation, as well as plenary presentations highlighting examples of good practice within libraries. Other key topics, such as the network's future challenges and the automation of cataloguing, were also on the agenda. The event reaffirmed the bibnet.lu network's commitment to innovation, cooperation among libraries, and digital support.

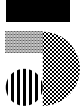


“Libraries are true palaces for citizens, open to all, where architecture and missions evolve with the user’s ever-changing expectations. In a world that is constantly transforming, libraries in our network strive to remain intuitive, inclusive, and always dedicated to serving their communities.”

**Sveinbjörg Sveinsdóttir,
Director of the Icelandic Libraries Consortium**

MEMBERS OF THE NETWORK	2025
NATIONAL LIBRARY AND BICHERBUS	2
UNIVERSITY OF LUXEMBOURG (LLC)	1
PUBLIC AND ASSOCIATION LIBRARIES	13
EDUCATION & TRAINING	48
Secondary education	32
Higher education & lifelong learning	16
SPECIALIST LIBRARIES	28
Cultural & other institutes/Administrations/Public bodies	22
Association libraries	6
DIGITAL SCIENTIFIC LIBRARIES	2
TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBER LIBRARIES IN THE BIBNET.LU NETWORK	94

CATALOGUE, USERS, LOANS, TRAINING	2025	Trend since 2024
COLLECTIVE CATALOGUE		
Total of bibliographic notices	1,672,882	+ 1%
Total copies	3,142,328	+ 3%
USERS		
Registered users	142,126	+ 6%
New registrations	35,197	- 12%
LOANS AND ACTIVE BORROWERS		
Home loans	416,214	- 2%
Active borrowers	29,876	- 2%
TRAINING (IN COLLABORATION WITH THE INAP)		
Training courses	19	- 7
Participants	190	- 61



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 compliance checks, 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](https://myguichet.lu).

LUXEMBOURGISH ISBN AGENCY	At 31.12.2025	Assignments in 2025
Number of unique ISBN and sequences of numbers assigned	3,338	+ 240
LUXEMBOURGISH ISMN AGENCY		
Number of unique ISMN and sequences of numbers assigned	28	+ 1
LUXEMBOURGISH ISSN AGENCY		
Number of ISSN attributed	1,060	+ 313



The international ISSN Agency celebrated its 50th anniversary. Read the testimony of the staff of the ISSN Luxembourg agency.



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PERSISTENT IDENTIFIERS:

ARK AND PERSIST.LU

Over the last few years, the assignment of persistent ARK (Archival Resource Key) identifiers has become standard practice at the National Library. Currently, various materials such as born-digital publications, bibliographic records, authority records and certain web pages or access policies are likely to receive ARKs.

In 2025, the BnL continued to assign persistent identifiers with a “persist.lu” permalink to digitised content and to all digital publications. Thanks to the use of cutting-edge tools, a new version of persist.lu has been developed. It offers enhanced functionality for users.

At the same time, the National Library has undertaken the considerable task of replacing its old references on various platforms with ARKs.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL

COLLABORATIONS

National collaborations

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), 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).

The BnL also collaborates with other institutions within the national consortium NLP4LTZ, which collects data and methods to advance research in natural language processing for Luxembourgish. Indeed, the BnL’s collections offer a unique perspective on the evolution of written Luxembourgish from its origins to the present day.

Luxembourg hosted the third bibnet.lu Network Day in March 2025. The event highlighted the strength of the network: an essential space for collaboration, knowledge-sharing and exchange. It reaffirmed the central role of bibnet.lu in the development of a modern and dynamic library ecosystem, supporting innovation, strengthening cooperation between libraries and guiding sector professionals through their digital transition.

Through a partnership with Luxorr and the EUIPO (European Union Intellectual Property Office), the BnL facilitated access to works that are no longer commercially available. In 2025, the BnL published on the EUIPO website a list of Luxembourgish publications considered out of commerce. This list was made available for six months, during which rights holders had the opportunity to oppose the inclusion of their works. Once this period elapsed, and in the absence of objections, the digitised works would be made available on eluxemburgensia.lu and would become accessible outside the BnL reading room. This initiative is part of a partnership between the BnL and Luxorr, ensuring wider dissemination of these publications through the eluxemburgensia.lu platform. By making forgotten works available to the public once more, this project contributes to the preservation and promotion of Luxembourg’s cultural heritage.

In May 2025, the Deputy Director of the BnŁ, Carlo Blum, and the Director of the National Archives of Luxembourg, Josée Kirps, signed an agreement defining the framework for future collaboration between the BnŁ and ANLux in conducting joint campaigns to archive the social-media accounts of ministers and ministries. This campaign will be repeated annually, and the collected data will be systematically shared between the two institutions. In the context of the 2023 national elections, the BnŁ, in collaboration with ANLux and the Ministry of State, had already launched a pilot project to archive the social-media profiles of members of the Government.

As part of Post Luxembourg's annual call for proposals for commemorative stamps, the BnŁ, as it does each year, submitted names of personalities who could be honoured. This time, it selected Maisy Montgenast-Servais, one of the pioneers of the women's emancipation movement and a leading advocate for women's rights.

International cooperation

The BnŁ is a member of the Board of Directors of the ALTO (Structured Layout and Text Object) group and of the Executive Board of Directors of the Digital Preservation Coalition (DPC), with Roxana Maurer now Director for Research, Good Practice Sub-Committee Chair. The BnŁ is also a member of 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), IIPC (International Internet Preservation Coalition), LIBER (Ligue des bibliothèques européennes de recherche - League of European Research Libraries), OPF (Open Preservation Foundation) and RFN (Réseau francophone numérique - Digital Francophone network).

Since 2025, the BnŁ has been a member of UKSG, an international organisation that brings together all stakeholders in the scholarly and academic information sector. UKSG's mission is to connect the knowledge community and foster the exchange of ideas on scholarly communication. This membership is part of the BnŁ's strategy to participate actively in international networks, strengthen its internal expertise, and ensure continuously improving and sustainable access to scientific information for its users.

The BnŁ attended the Annual General Meeting of the Conference of European National Librarians (CENL), held from 15 to 17 June 2025 in Edinburgh. The conference focused on the theme "Artificial Intelligence meets Cultural Heritage". The Deputy Director of the BnŁ, Carlo Blum, gave a presentation on the library's automated cataloguing system, Autocat, which enables the processing of the growing volume of documents received through digital legal deposit. The BnŁ remains active within the CENL AI group, where it also presented the Autocat project in detail. In May 2025, the BnŁ organised a two-day workshop for the national libraries of Belgium, Slovenia and Latvia on the use of AI in libraries, with a particular focus on chatbots.

As part of the preparations for the CENL General Meeting to be held at the BnŁ from 14 to 16 June 2026, the library hosted the CENL Executive Committee on 29 September 2025 for a working session dedicated to defining the theme and structure of the conference. The meeting brought together Franz Scholze, President of CENL and Director of the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek; Gilles Pécout, Vice-President of CENL and President of the Bibliothèque nationale de France; Karin Grönvall, Treasurer and Director of the National Library of Sweden; as well as members Sara Lammens, Director of KBR; Tomáš Foltýn, Director General of the National Library of the Czech Republic; Ivanka Stričević, Director of the National Library of Croatia; and Susanne Oehlschläger and Annika Wenzel of the Deutsche Nationalbibliothek.



Visit of the CENL Executive Committee to the BnL.

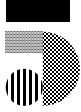
Claude D. Conter was elected to the Board of Directors of CERL (Consortium of European Research Libraries) at the General Assembly on 22 October 2025. The BnL's involvement in CERL is closely linked to one of the key research priorities of the Heritage Department, which focuses on the *Dictionnaire des auteurs 1500-1815*, the cataloguing of incunabula, manuscript inventories and the portrait gallery. CERL is the international reference point for engagement with early printed books and manuscripts – the written heritage of Europe – represented through the collections of its members and beyond. Its work centres on manuscripts and printed books produced before the mid-19th century.

Claude D. Conter is also a member of the Scientific Council of the National and University Library of Strasbourg, attending its meetings twice a year. In addition, he serves on the Scientific Committee of the Bachelor's programme in Information Science at the Geneva School of Business Administration.

In December 2025, the BnL joined the international association AI4LAM (Artificial Intelligence for Libraries, Archives and Museums) as a founding member. This organisation brings together cultural institutions from around the world to promote the use of artificial-intelligence technologies in the management, enhancement and accessibility of collections. In this context, the BnL took part in the annual *Fantastic Futures* conference, the leading event dedicated to AI in libraries and heritage institutions. At the 2025 edition, Carlo Blum, Deputy Director of the BnL, signed the Memorandum of Understanding formalising the library's membership in AI4LAM. The Head of the IT and Digital Innovation Division also presented two flagship BnL projects:

1. Autocat, a project aimed at automating and optimising cataloguing processes using AI models;
2. chat.eluxemburgensia.lu, a conversational interface based on advanced language technologies enabling intuitive exploration of the digital resources available on the eluxemburgensia.lu portal.

BnL staff actively participated in conferences and exchanges with international partners.

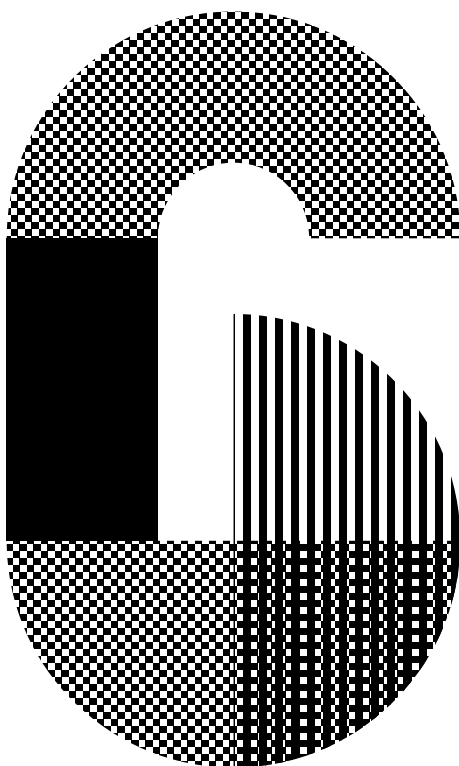


On 20 and 21 May 2025, the BnL organised a workshop on artificial intelligence, bringing together the national libraries of Belgium, Slovenia and Latvia. The aim was to share innovative uses of AI in the library sector and to strengthen cooperation between European institutions. A dedicated session presented the chat.eluxemburgensia.lu platform, allowing partners to explore its architecture and operating principles. Several libraries expressed interest in developing similar solutions based on their own digital collections. The workshop also included a practical session guiding participants through the implementation of a chatbot. Partner libraries presented the progress of their AI projects, covering areas such as title-page recognition, colourisation of black-and-white photographs and automated cataloguing of video cassettes. This initiative showcased the expertise developed by the BnL in artificial intelligence and helped consolidate a technical and scientific collaboration network at the European level.

As part of the WARCNet project, which concluded in 2025, Ben Els and Yves Maurer contributed to the scientific analysis of web-archive collections and to the development of comparison tools. WARCNet (Web ARChive Studies Network) is a European research network dedicated to the study of web archives, their scholarly use and the evolution of national and transnational web domains. The project enabled the BnL team to establish valuable contacts, gain a deeper understanding of researchers' needs and investigative methods, and identify strategic directions for the future development of the BnL's web-archiving service. A publication entitled *The Routledge Companion to Transnational Web Archive Studies*, which includes two scholarly articles co-authored by the BnL team, has just been released.

A meeting between the teams of the BnL and the Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF) took place on 6 November 2025 to discuss topics related to the automation of bibliographic metadata creation and document indexing using artificial-intelligence technologies. The BnL aims to enrich its catalogue with resources that have so far remained inaccessible, particularly those stemming from digital legal deposit.

**International
collaboration
is a key driver
of library
development,
promoting
knowledge
exchange and
building lasting
partnerships
between
institutions.**



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.

ONLINE SURVEY: THE VALUE OF KNOWLEDGE

In 2025, the National Library launched an online survey designed to assess its economic contribution to society and to the scientific landscape of Luxembourg. This pioneering initiative seeks to demonstrate the tangible benefits of the library for the country's economic and cultural development, guiding strategic decisions for the future.

The survey was conducted online from 20 January 2025 to 23 March 2025. The results were presented in July 2025 at a press conference.



Access the survey results

DETERMINE
THE VALUE OF
KNOWLEDGE

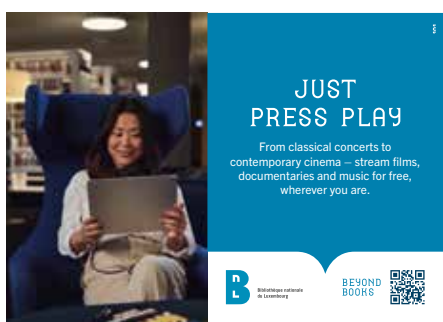
WE WANT
YOUR
FEEDBACK!

COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGNS

The online survey on the value of knowledge was supported by a communication campaign designed to encourage participation from the public and from library users. Implemented from January to the end of March, the campaign was shared via the National Library's website and its social media channels.



A second awareness campaign, entitled Beyond Books, was launched in autumn to strengthen the visibility of the National Library's key services and offerings, including free registration, access to digital resources, and its collections. The campaign employed a multichannel approach with print advertising (Luxembourg periodicals and municipal newsletters), digital platforms, short promotional videos on social media and on the Library's internal digital signage screens. It ran from October 2025 to January 2026.



CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

The National Library hosted 32 lectures and panel discussions on various subjects related to its collections. Of these, 8 were organised by the Institut Grand-Ducal in collaboration with the BnL.

In addition, the BnL invited the media to a press conference, attended by the Minister for Culture, Eric Thill, at which the results of the survey *The Value of Knowledge* were presented.

Finally, in October 2025, the Library held a recognition event for its donors, whose support made possible the digitisation of the *Giant Bible of Saint-Maximin*.

1ST QUARTER

23.01.2025 Conference by Antoine F. Goetschel: *... und dem Tier? Wohin entwickelt sich unser Verhältnis zum Tier – aus der Sicht von Gesellschaft, Recht, Ethik und Wirtschaft?*

08.02.2025 Office hours with the management of the National Library: *What you've always wanted to ask us.*

08.02.2025 General public workshop: *Discover a-z.lu and improve your skills.*

12.02.2025 Round table discussion with Monique Goldschmit, Frédéric Héran, Georges Ravarani, Fränk Schleck: *Les Enjeux autour du vélo*. Organised by Conférence Saint-Yves and the Conférence du Jeune Barreau de Luxembourg in collaboration with the Fédération du Sport Cycliste Luxembourgeois and the association ProVelo.lu.

27.02.2025 Conference by Antoinette Lorang: *Paysages du fer – e konschthistoresche Bléck op de Wandel vum Minett duerch d'Zäit*.

14.03.2025 Concert by Dina Nimax: *Sons littéraires – un voyage musical à travers les pages*. In collaboration with the Mierscher Theater.

15.03.2025 General public workshop: *Experience history with eluxemburgensia.lu*.

17.03.2025 bibnet.lu Network Day.

19.03.2025 Book presentation: *Lëtzebuenger Sproochatlas 1900 – Wuertatlas*. Presented by Christiane Kremer. In collaboration with Zenter fir d'Lëtzebuenger Sprooch (ZLS) and with the Section Linguistique, Ethnologie et Onomastique of the Institut Grand-Ducal (IGD-LEO).

20.03.2025 Conference by Rudi Balling: *Interdisciplinarity – easier said than done*. Conference organised by Institut Grand-Ducal – Section des Sciences.

31.03.2025 Round table discussion with Christelle Diederich, Hardy Grüne, Paul Philipp, Paul Wilwerdang, Laurent Schüssler: *Wohin entwickelt sich der Luxemburger Fußball?*

26.04.2025 General public workshop: *From paper to screen: mastering the ebooks.lu offering*.

30.04.2025 Discussion with Nicole Tung and Antony Penrose: *Conversations on War Photography*.

2ND QUARTER

06.05.2025 Lecture by Viktor Yushchenko: *Europe – Ukraine. Shaping a unified strategy in times of change*. Organised in partnership with LUKraine asbl.

17.05.2025 General public workshop: *Discover a-z.lu and improve your skills*.

19.05.2025 Musical Conference by Guy Schons: *Ech kéint dech friessen! Kannibalismus am Laf vun der Geschicht*.

30.05.2025 Conference by Wolfgang Dahmen: *Kamen die Siebenbürger Sachsen ursprünglich aus Luxemburg?* In collaboration with Institut Grand-Ducal – Section Linguistique, Ethnologie et Onomastique.

31.05.2025 General public workshop: *The Luxembourg Web Archive at the BnL*. This workshop took place as part of the Archives Month.

03.06.2025 Conference by Simeon Hagspiel: *Energy security – Meaning and implications for Luxembourg in times of transition and geopolitical uncertainty*. In collaboration with the Institut Grand-Ducal – Section Sciences morales et politiques.

11.06.2025 General public workshop: *From the artists' workshop to the reading room: collecting and mediating artists' books*.

12.06.2025 Round table discussion with Sandra Kegel, Sieglinde Geisel, Jérôme Jaminet: *Literatur hoch 3*.

14.06.2025 General public workshop: *Experience history with eluxemburgensia.lu*.

19.06.2025 Book presentation by Jan Philipp Reemtsma: *»Sagt, hab ich recht?« – Drei Reden zur Gegenwart alter Probleme*. In Discussion with Caroline Mart. In collaboration with Institut Pierre Werner Luxembourg.

28.06.2025 Exhibition opening *Pierre Nimax sen. – Zwischen Tasten und Taktstock*.

29.06.2025 Concert at Conservatoire de la Ville de Luxembourg: *En Mémoire de Pierre Nimax sr.*

05.07.2025 Office hours with the management of the National Library: *What you've always wanted to ask us*.

07.07.2025 Exhibition opening *Pierre Nimax* by Lycée des Arts et Métiers in the reading room of the BnL.

09.07.2025 Round table discussion with Josiane Weber, Jean-Marie Mangen, Marc Biver: *Pescatorea – D'Geschicht vun enger bedeitender Orchideeësammlung*. In collaboration with Fondation J.P. Pescatore and LUGA.

19.07.2025 General public workshop: *From paper to screen: mastering the ebooks.lu offering*.

04.-06.08.2025 BnL Summer School 2025.

3RD QUARTER

09.09.2025 Lecture by Sarah Stitzlein: *Teaching Honesty to Strengthen Democracy*. In collaboration with Miami University John E. Dolibois European Center.

23.09.2025 Lecture by Lukas Held: *Der Reiz der Epistokratie*. Organised by Institut Grand-Ducal – Section des Sciences morales et politiques.

25.09.2025 Lecture by Stefanie Zutter: *»Sag mir, wo die Blumen sind« – Botanische Kulturschätze im Fokus Luxemburger Sammlungen*.

26.09.2025 Multilingual theater workshop *D'Méiw*. Organised by the Minsitry of Culture and Bonobo Collective.

27.09.2025 General public workshop: *Discover a-z.lu and improve your skills*.

01.10.2025 Serge Tonnar, Georges Urwald: *Kapoutty – originell Neiinterpretatioune vum Pouitty Stein senge Lidder*.

16.10.2025 Symposium *Watch it! Freedom of Artistic Expression – International cultural policy conference*. Organised by the Ministry of Culture.

18.10.2025 Office hours with the management of the National Library: *What you've always wanted to ask us*.

18.10.2025 General public workshop: *The Luxembourg Web Archive at the BnL*.

21.10.2025 Séverine Menétrey : *Les poursuites-bâillons, le procès contre le débat public*. In collaboration with Institut Grand-Ducal – Section des Sciences morales et politiques.

30.10.2025 Film showing *The Librarians* in collaboration with CITIM, CID Fraen a Gender, Lëtzebuerg City Bibliothèque, oekobib mediathéik and Cinémathèque.

15.-16.11.2025 Book fair : *La BnL aux Walfer Bicherdeeg*.

19.11.2025 Round table discussion with Alexandra Oxacelay, Michel Simonis and Jean Ehret: *Altersarmut zu Lëtzebuerg*. Moderated by Laurence Bervard.

20.11.2025 General public workshop: *Experience history with eluxemburgensia.lu*.

26.11.2025 Lecture by Frank Usbeck: *Labrador, Sachsen und die Kirche – missionarische Inuit-Objekte in den ethnographischen Sammlungen Sachsens*. Organised by Institut Grand-Ducal – Section Linguistique, Éthnologie et Onomastique.

27.11.2025 Lecture by Dominik Trauth: *Thomasmehl – Vom Nebenprodukt zum Nationaldünger*. In collaboration with Fondation Bassin Minier as part of the event series »Die Bauern und die Industrialisierung des Bassin Minier«.

28.11.2025 Lecture by Martin Joachim Kümmel: *Sprache als Fenster zur (Vor)Geschichte – Wie man mithilfe von Sprachvergleich rekonstruiert*. Organised by Institut Grand-Ducal – Section Linguistique, Éthnologie et Onomastique.

12./14.12.2025 Concerts *Hopp Marjänn*. In collaboration with Mierscher Theater.

13.12.2025 General public workshop: *From paper to screen: mastering the ebooks.lu offering*.



31.03.2025 Round table discussion with Christelle Diederich, Hardy Grüne, Paul Philipp, Paul Wilwerdang, Laurent Schüssler:
Wohin entwickelt sich der Luxemburger Fußball?



09.09.2025 Lecture by Sarah Stitzlein: *Teaching Honesty to Strengthen Democracy.*
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© Alexandre Benavente Martingil



01.10.2025 Serge Tonnar, Georges Urwald:
Kapoutty – originell.Neiinterpretatioune vum PouTTY Stein senge Lidder.



©BnL, Christine Kremer, Sven Mühlen, Vera Seitz



EXHIBITIONS

CLOÎTRÉS, CONNAISSEURS ET COLLECTIONNEURS – LES BIBLIOTHÈQUES LUXEMBOURGEOISES ENTRE LE 16^E ET LE 19^E SIÈCLE

The exhibition *Cloîtres, connaisseurs et collectionneurs* was held from 7 December 2024 until March 2025.

A true journey through time, the exhibition illuminates the diversity of Luxembourg's historical libraries, ranging from monastic and ecclesiastical collections to the private libraries of figures such as Pierre Roberti (c. 1566-1636) and Pierre-Ernest de Mansfeld (1517-1604). The exhibition also highlights the influence of notable personalities including Jean-Baptiste Halle (1748-1824) and Dominique-Constantin Munchen (1763-1818), whose efforts left a lasting mark on the nation's documentary heritage.

Particular attention has been devoted to printed books, which have often been overshadowed by manuscripts perceived as more visually striking. Within this context, various aspects of the book as an object are brought into focus: its authors, the subjects addressed, its dedicatees, the social groups who consulted it, traces of use, and its provenance. Together, these elements testify to the value and lived history of these precious volumes.

Curator : Max Schmitz



Virtual tour of the exhibition
and further information

PIERRE NIMAX SEN. – ZWISCHEN TASTEN UND TAKTSTOCK

The exhibition *Pierre Nimax sen. – Zwischen Tasten und Taktstock* takes place from 30 June 2025 to 20 June 2026.

Pierre Nimax Sr. (1930-2021) shaped the musical history of Luxembourg for decades as a conductor, pianist, organist, composer, singer, educator, and court conductor. For the first time, his life, musical works, and influence on Luxembourgish theatre, the Revue, musical theatre, male choirs, and military music are explored.

Previously unpublished documents and photographs from his archive holdings preserved at the National Library offer a glimpse into his vibrant post-war life.

Curator: Elisabet Wirtz-Lemmel



Virtual tour of the exhibition

THE GIANT BIBLE VISITS ECHTERNACH

The Giant Bible of Saint-Maximin is an exceptional document recently repatriated to Luxembourg by the National Library, thanks to the generous contributions of the public. This medieval manuscript is the last surviving example of the giant Bibles produced in the 11th century, and it is unique in its close connection to the scriptorium of Echternach, one of the foremost intellectual and artistic centres of its time.

This exceedingly rare Bible was on display in the Basilica of St Willibrord in Echternach from 6 to 10 June 2025.

ARS HERALDICA – CREATE YOUR OWN COAT OF ARMS



The National Library invites readers to design their own coat of arms online via a dedicated platform, following the exhibition *Ars Heraldica – The World of Heraldry* (2024).

TO DISCOVER IN THE READING ROOM

Library staff have curated displays featuring documents from the Luxembourgish and the Non-Luxembourgish Collections on the 1st and 2nd floors of the reading room.

In the display cases on the 1st floor

January-February: *Patrona patriae: éditions textuelles et stratégies visuelles d'une dévotion jésuite* by Tom Zago

March-April: *Peter Faber* by Georges Urwald

May-June: *La région Minett* by staff of the Luxembourgish Collection

July-August: *L'histoire d'une décision : Les différées ordonnées et décidées en époque moderne* presented by staff of the Rare Books Collection

September-October: *Pol Albrecht* by Elisabet Wirtz-Lemmel

November-December: *D'Éislek* by staff of the Luxembourgish Collection

In the display cases on the 2nd floor

January-February: *Carnaval aux États-Unis* by Nadine Esslingen

March-April: *Cabaret* by Christine Bentz

May-June: *Le « Jazz Age » et la photographie* by staff of the Non-Luxembourgish Collection and Cedom

July-August: *Bandes dessinées* by staff of the Luxembourgish Collection

September-October: *Industrie et ingénierie : Design industriel* by Andreas Amendt

November-December: *Beaux-Arts : Grafik und Malerei / Painting and print – ein Verhältnis in Bücher und Bildern* by Stefanie Zutter

Themed selections in the discovery area

January: *Romans de l'année* by Christine Bentz, Monique Gredt, Julia Schelling

February: *Luxembourg Overshoot Day* by Tania Mousel, Andreas Amendt, Corinne Wiltgen

March: *Welttag der Poesie* by Christine Bentz, Monique Gredt, Julia Schelling

April: *Literaturverfilmungen* by Yorick Schmit, Marc Fritz

May: *Autour du jazz* by Nadine Esslingen, Françoise Molitor, Patrick Steffen

June: *Un tour du monde en récits de voyages* by Corinne Wiltgen

July: *La marche des fiertés (Pride)* by Tania Mousel

August: *Le monde de la BD* by Lucie Guibal, Marc Fritz

September: *Ingénierie – Design industriel* by Andreas Amendt

October: *Churchill et la Deuxième Guerre mondiale* by Stéphanie Kovacs

November: *Droit de la nature* by Nora Humbert

December: *Romans de l'année* by Christine Bentz, Monique Gredt, Julia Schelling

Art installations on the ground floor

May-June: *Raymond Clement, le jazz à fleur de peau*

July-August: *Pierre Nimax sr. – seen by Lycée des Arts et Métiers*

October-December: *In Linie gebannt, in Farbe befreit / Bound by Line, Freed by Colour – Schenkung des grafischen Werks von Tina Gillen* by Stefanie Zutter



PUBLICATIONS

The BnL has published several works linked to its exhibitions, its missions, and its collections.

Nimax – Zwischen Tasten und Taktstock

Catalogue of the eponymous exhibition, with contributions by Jean-Claude Braun, Noemi Deitz, Marlène Duhr, Elisabeth Wirtz-Lemmel.

240 pages, €35

Pescatorea : Jean-Pierre Pescatore – Sa vie, son œuvre, ses orchidées

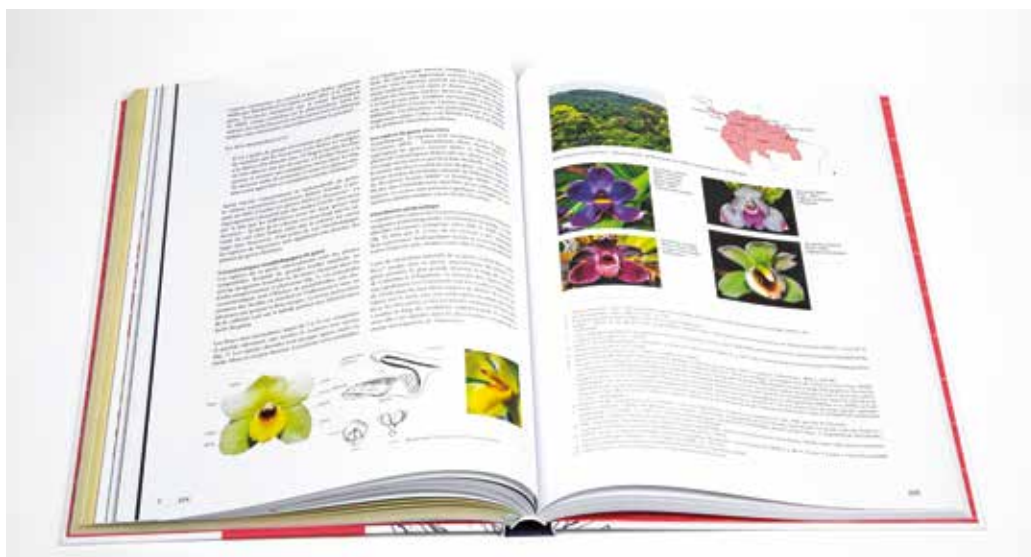
This volume highlights the celebrated botanical work *Pescatorea. Iconographie des orchidées*. It contains reproductions of the original chromolithographed plates, created by the most eminent artists of the period, depicting in detail 48 orchid species described by the explorer, botanist and horticulturist Jean Jules Linden, and cultivated in the greenhouses of the estate of La Celle-Saint-Cloud by the banker and patron Jean-Pierre Pescatore.

The book also offers a biographical account of the private and professional life of Jean-Pierre Pescatore, revealing numerous previously unpublished details, and traces the development of the estate of today's Fondation Jean-Pierre Pescatore and its immediate surroundings since the dismantling of the fortress. It provides an overview of Pescatore's contribution to orchid cultivation and of the systematic botany of this plant family, presents a cultural history of 19th century orchidophilia, and explains the techniques of chromolithography.

The book serves as an introduction to the biological particularities of the orchid family, giving significant attention to their modes of life and to an analysis of the morphological characteristics of the 31 orchid genera that make up the *Pescatorea*.

With contributions by Marc Biver, Claude D. Conter, Jean-Marie Mangen, Paul Pescatore, Robert L. Philippart, Josiane Weber, Stefanie Zutter.

344 pages, €55



Schengen – Künstlerische und literarische Reflexionen über Grenzen und Freiheit

This art book brings together 116 graphic works in a variety of techniques, accompanied by six literary texts and an essay on the notion of borders. The volume presents itself as an open, polyphonic book in which Schengen is less a historical place than a surface for the projection of individual experiences and artistic interpretations.

With contributions by Ulrike Bail, Claude D. Conter, Tullio Forgiarini, Gast Groeber, Gilles Ortlieb, Nora Wagener and Stefanie Zutter.

206 pages, €35



Postcard set *Making the invisible visible*, LUGA

Set of illustrated postcards produced as part of the national LUGA 2025 exhibition, in collaboration with the Zenter fir d'Lëtzebuerger Sprooch.

€7

***The BnL's economic impact on Luxembourg's knowledge society*, Peter Kurz, Dr. Sabine Graumann (bms), BnL**

Online brochure available in German and English presenting the results of the survey *The Value of Knowledge*.

81 pages, online access



Articles by BnL staff in national and international publications

Marc Biver and Montserrat Filella, "Stability Constants of Kinetically Inert Ge(IV) Complexes in Aqueous Solution by Discontinuous Potentiometry: Hydroxycarboxylate, Aminocarboxylate and (Poly-)Amino(Poly-)Carboxylate Ligands", in *Journal of Solution Chemistry*, 2025. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10953-025-01459-y> (open access)

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Marc Biver, « Fior diabolico, fiore simbolico – l'orchidée dans les arts », in Marc Biver et Claude D. Conter (eds.), *Pescatorea – Jean-Pierre Pescatore. Sa vie, son œuvre, ses orchidées*, Luxembourg, Bibliothèque nationale du Luxembourg, 2025.

Carlo Blum, »Automating Cataloguing in the Age of Digital Legal Deposit: An AI-Based Approach at the National Library of Luxembourg«, in *Artificial Intelligence Meets Cultural Heritage – The Transformative Power of AI for and through National Libraries, Conference of European National Librarians (CENL)*, Frankfurt am Main: DNB 2025, pp. 65–76.

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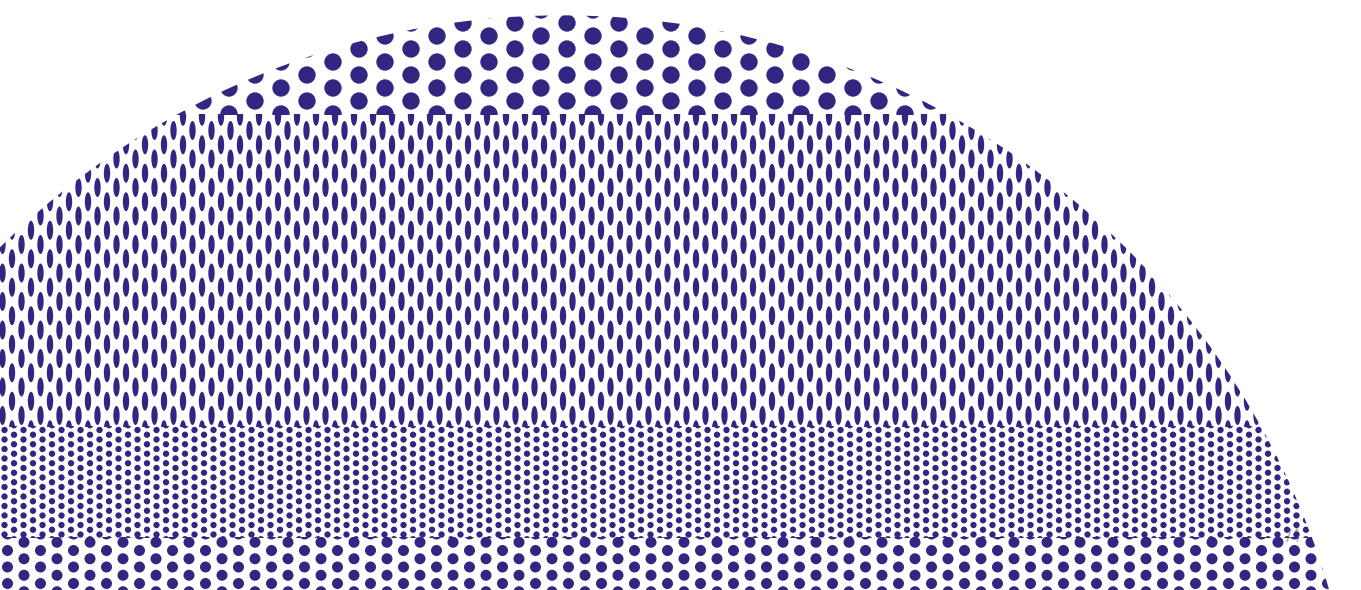
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Marlène Duhr, »Luxemburgische Musik als (im)materielles Kulturerbe« in *Mémoires futures : le patrimoine culturel au Luxembourg = Künftige Erinnerungen: Kulturerbe in Luxemburg*, Luxembourg, Commission luxembourgeoise pour l'UNESCO, 2025.

Marlène Duhr, »Pierre Nimax sen. und die Militärmusik«, in *Nimax – Zwischen Tasten und Taktstock*, Luxembourg, Bibliothèque nationale du Luxembourg, 2025, pp. 51–85.

Luc Deitz among others, *Cornelius Loos, De vera et falsa magia. Editio princeps* (latin-german), Trier, Paulinus-Verl., 2024–2025, 622 p.



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Max Schmitz, »Die Komödie *Eng Hellecht am Schreinermeister Pétchen senger Wérkstätt* (1916) von Pierre Dillenburg«, in *De Cliärrwer Kanton* 47/3 (2025), pp. 77-86.

Elisabet Wirtz-Lemmel, »Mäi léifsten Terrain. Klavierbegleitung und Kammermusik«, in *Nimax – Zwischen Tasten und Taktstock*, Luxembourg, Bibliothèque nationale du Luxembourg, 2025, pp. 89-113.

Elisabet Wirtz-Lemmel, »Pierre Nimax sen. (22.09.1930-19.01.2021) Dirigent, Pianist, Organist, Sänger, Pädagoge«, in *Nimax – Zwischen Tasten und Taktstock*, Luxembourg, Bibliothèque nationale du Luxembourg, 2025, pp. 11-47.

Elisabet Wirtz-Lemmel, »Das Werk von Pierre Nimax sen. im Überblick«, in *Nimax – Zwischen Tasten und Taktstock*, Luxembourg, Bibliothèque nationale du Luxembourg, 2025, pp. 151-166.

Elisabet Wirtz-Lemmel, »Musiktheater: Bühnenmusik von Pierre Nimax sen.«, in *Nimax – Zwischen Tasten und Taktstock*, Luxembourg, Bibliothèque nationale du Luxembourg, 2025, pp. 11-47.

Stefanie Zutter, « Pit Wagner : Le dessin comme catalyseur de pensée », article published on the *AICA Luxembourg* website, 03.03.2025.

Stefanie Zutter, »Grenzgänger auf Papier – Mail Art als transnationale Praxis zwischen Luxemburg und der Welt«, in *Schengen: künstlerische und literarische Reflexionen über Grenzen und Freiheit*, Luxembourg, Bibliothèque nationale du Luxembourg, 2025, pp. 173-181.

Stefanie Zutter, »Pescatorea – Naturalia und Artificialia im Dialog«, in *Pescatorea : Jean-Pierre Pescatore : sa vie, son œuvre, ses orchidées*, Luxembourg, Bibliothèque nationale du Luxembourg, 2025, pp. 147-155.

Stefanie Zutter has also published thirteen articles in the journal *Opus*.

Articles published on the BnL website

23.01.2025 Sarah Stephan »Die Revue als Spiegelbild der Luxemburger Gesellschaft. Gründung und 1950er Jahre«.

13.02.2025 Kim Krier »Gegen Trunksucht und Branntweinplage. Der Kampf des Luxemburger Vereins gegen den Alkoholismus«.

03.03.2025 Georges Urwald »Zum 50. Todesjahr von Peter Faber, Freund und Wegbegleiter von Poutty Stein. Erinnerung an den vielseitig begabten ‚Fabesch Péiter‘, der als Schriftsteller, Komponist, Musiker, Musikkritiker und Sprachforscher die luxemburgische Kulturszene mitgeprägt hat«.

20.03.2025 Stéphanie Kovacs « Du républicanisme au corporatisme. Emile Eiffes ou le parcours d'un original de la politique luxembourgeoise de l'entre-deux-guerres ».

16.04.2025 Beth Park "Mapping Luxembourg's Libraries. How to programmatically use the BnL's Open Data".

22.04.2025 Kim Krier »Limonadenhäuschen in der Stadt Luxemburg. Für die Förderung der Volksgesundheit und die Verkehrssicherheit«.

22.05.2025 Jean-Marie Reding »Die Leihbibliothek. Exkurs zu den Mietbibliotheken«.

19.06.2025 Max Schmitz « Tout un zoo. Les *Leones Belgici* à la BnL ».

01.07.2025 Tom Zago "Norms in print, or, the anatomy of early modern legal texts".

01.07.2025 Tom Zago "Power and print, or, comments on the visual rhetoric of authority".

01.07.2025 Tom Zago "In the margins, or, unexpected testimonies of everyday encounters".

10.07.2025 Philippe Majeres « L'âge d'or de la carte postale. La carte postale – un moyen de communication essentiel aux alentours de 1900 ».

01.09.2025 Elisabet Wirtz-Lemmel »Der hundertjährige Musiker. Zum 50. Todesjahr von Pol Albrecht (1874-1975)«.

30.09.2025 Marlène Duhr « Au son des marches grand-ducales. Musique, dynastie et identité au Luxembourg ».

02.10.2025 Eric Speicher »Pierre Pescatore und das lateinamerikanische Integrationsprojekt. Über die peruanische Verfassung im Bestand der BnL«.

15.10.2025 Pit Péporté »Im Zeichen des Schildes. Aus welchen Elementen besteht ein Wappen?«.

23.10.2025 Max Schmitz « Comment faut-il cuisiner le hérisson ? BnL, Ms 95 ».

11.11.2025 Elisabet Wirtz-Lemmel »Der *Bartrenger Hunnendanz* in Weimar. Luxemburgs tierischer Auftritt in der europäischen Kulturhauptstadt 1999«.

19.11.2025 Elisabeth Wirtz-Lemmel »*Spigel, Spigel, hopp we' de Wand! Wién ass de' Sche'nst am ganzen Land?* Märchenoperetten in Düdelingen«.

27.11.2025 Stefanie Zutter « Ligne captive, couleur en liberté. Tina Gillen et la pensée graphique de la peinture ».

18.12.2025 Max Schmitz « La chute de Luxembourg (1795) ».

The BnL's collection managers regularly share favourites and reading lists on bnl.lu.

In 2025, 12 reading lists were published online.



Access the reading lists

LISTES DE LECTURE

20.01.2025 Corinne Wiltgen, Tania Mousel, Andreas Amendt »Earth Overshoot Day, ein Aufruf zu nachhaltigem Umdenken?«.

13.02.2025 Nadine Abel-Esslingen "New Orleans: A city in folklore, photography and literary imagination".

06.06.2025 Christine Bentz »Thomas Mann zum 150. Geburtstag. Literarische Dimensionen eines Jahrhundertautors«.

08.06.2025 Corinne Wiltgen »In Reiseberichten um die Welt«.

01.07.2025 Tania Mousel, Sven Muhlen "Writing the Queer Self: Stories of Identity and Belonging".

01.09.2025 Andreas Amendt "Product design: designing products, designing identities".

09.09.2025 Corinne Wiltgen »Bildung, Wahrheit und Demokratie: eine Selbstverständlichkeit?«.

09.10.2025 Andreas Amendt, Luc Schneider »Künstliche Intelligenz: Chancen und Risiken auf dem Weg zur Superintelligenz«.

03.11.2025 Nora Humbert « Repenser notre lien au vivant : Les droits de la nature ».

11.11.2025 Stéphanie Kovacs, Corinne Wiltgen, Nora Humbert, Monique Gredt, Christine Bentz „6 Bicher, déi Dir fir d'Walfer Bicherdeeg net verpassen dierft“.

04.12.2025 Christine Bentz »Rainer Maria Rilke – ein Leben in Worten. Zum 150. Geburtstag im Gedenken an den Dichter«.

08.12.2025 Julia Schelling, Monique Gredt, Christine Bentz « 10 Romans qui nous ont marqués en 2025 ».

PRESENTATIONS

In 2025, BnL staff took part in various seminars and conferences to present the results of their work and exchange views with national and international experts:

11.02.2025 Alliance musicale College Creators – Marlene Duhr

21.02.2025 Alliance musicale College Supporting Professors – Marlene Duhr

18.03.2025 Alliance musicale College Performers & Creators – Marlene Duhr

31.03.2025 BnF's 30th anniversary celebration – Carlo Blum

02.04.2025 General Assembly of the Alliance musicale – Marlene Duhr, Françoise Molitor

22.-23.05.2025 EURIG Annual Meeting (European RDA Interest Group) a Stockholm – Christel Kayser

02.06.2025 Alliance musicale College Performers & Creators – Marlene Duhr

13.06.2025 14. Archivdag vun de Lëtzebuurger Archivisten – Carlo Blum

15.-18.06.2025 Annual Conference of European National Librarians (CENL) in Edinburgh – Claude D. Conter, Carlo Blum, Kim Krier

19.06.2025 Alumni Stories Podcast “Preserving the digital web: conversations with a digital curator” – Ben Els

24.-27.07.2025 9th Library Congress 2025 in Bremen – Lynn Classen

06.08.2025 Musée Dräi Eechelen »Luxemburger Bundeskontingent Militär und Gesellschaft im 19. Jahrhundert« – Claude D. Conter

15.-18.09.2025 IGeLU Annual Meeting (International Group of Exlibris Users) in Sienna – Jackie Dupont, Christel Kayser Annick Stein

02.10.2025 RENOVAUD 9th Annual Assembly in Lausanne – Christel Kayser

06.10.2025 Hall O Oberkorn « Le monde rural et présence des usines (1870-1914) : rejet ou acceptation ? » – Stéphanie Kovacs

09.10.2025 Alliance musicale College Performers & Creators – Marlene Duhr, Françoise Molitor

17.10.2025 Université du Luxembourg »Der Codex Mariendalensis: kodikologische Anmerkungen und Beitrag der zeitgenössischen Handschriften von Marienthal?« – Thomas Falmagne

27.10.2025 Centre culturel opderschmelz « Little Italy – histoire d'un quartier entre mythe et réalité » – Stéphanie Kovacs

30.-31.10.2025 Schweizer Bibliothekskongress 2025 in Bern – Lynn Classen

06.11. BnL – BnF Professional Exchange in Paris – Carlo Blum, Michel Donven, Christel Kayser, Yves Maurer, Pit Schneider

11.11.2025 BiblioVision Vienna »Bibliothek im Wandel: Wie die Luxemburger Nationalbibliothek KI und Automatisierung gestaltet« – Carlo Blum

13.11.2025 Hall Polyvalent Dudelange, « Le monde rural et présence des usines (1870-1914) : rejet ou acceptation ? » – Stéphanie Kovacs

EDUCATIONAL OFFER

TRAINING SESSIONS AND GUIDED TOURS

Ten Luxembourg secondary schools – including the Lycée des Arts et Métiers, the Lycée Technique du Centre, the École privée Fieldgen, the Lycée du Nord, the Lycée de Garçons de Luxembourg, the Lycée technique de Lallange, the Lycée classique d'Echternach, the Maacher Lycée Grevenmacher, the Lycée Technique d'Ettelbruck and the École Internationale Mondorf-les-Bains – took part in a total of 20 activities introducing students to the workings of the BnL. Four additional institutions also joined this programme: the St-Willibrord-Gymnasium in Bitburg, the Centre de formation Lucien Huss, the École aux Hôpitaux Robert Schumann, and the Institut national des langues.

In 2025, 24 guided tours for the general public and 34 tours for private groups or associations were organised. These were offered in Luxembourgish, German, French and English. In addition, 17 guided tours of the exhibitions on Pierre Nimax Sr. (9) and on historical libraries (8) were offered to interested visitors in 2025.

The BnL also delivered 10 introductory workshops on a-z.lu, ebooks.lu, eluxemburgensia.lu and the Luxembourg Web Archive.

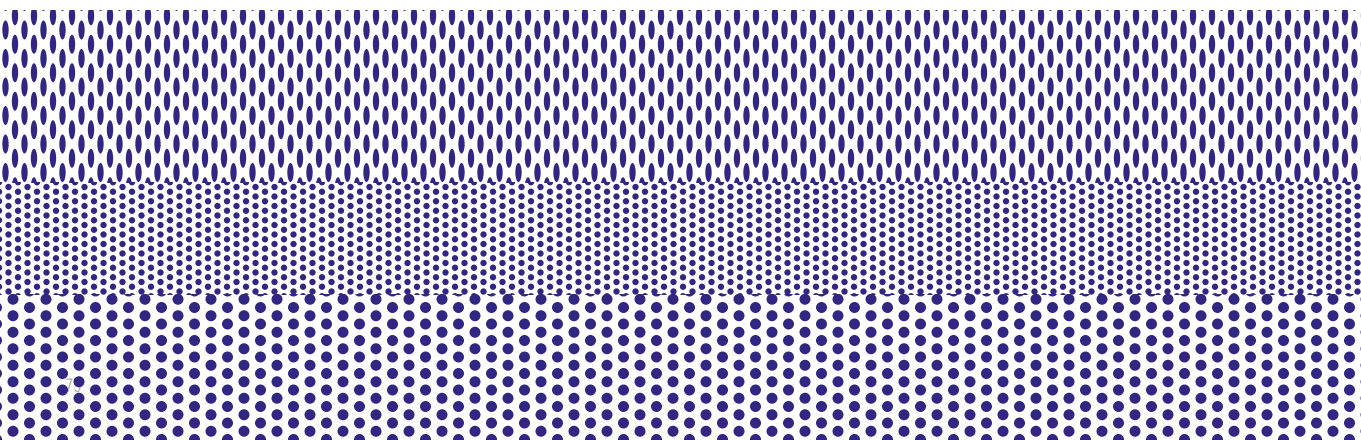
The BnL also launched a *Train the trainer* cycle for school librarians. Two sessions were held in 2025.

INFORMATION MATERIAL

The BnL has expanded its range of informational material to explain to readers how to make the best use of the computer equipment available in the reading room (computers, copiers, printers, wifi and multimedia accessories).

PRESENCE AT FAIRS

The BnL and the Bicherbus took part in the “Walfer Bicherdeeg” book fair, held from 15 to 16 November 2025. The BnL also participated in the 6th edition of the *Mois des archives*, coordinated by the National Archives of Luxembourg. In addition, the National Library was present at the “Biergerpakt” Orientation Day to welcome visitors and inform them about the BnL's collections, services and educational offer.



THE BNL ON THE WEB

WEBSITE

The BnL website, www.bnl.lu, recorded a total of 328,923 views. Visitors can use it to find information about the library, how it operates, and how to make the best use of its services. They also have access to analytical articles (“Documents in the spotlight”) written by BnL staff. The online shop offers a selection of publications (exhibition catalogues and reference works) available for purchase. The site functions on all devices and complies with the accessibility criteria set by Directive (EU) 2016/2102 of the European Parliament.

It is worth noting that the “Registration” page remains the most frequently consulted with 28,676 views in 2025.

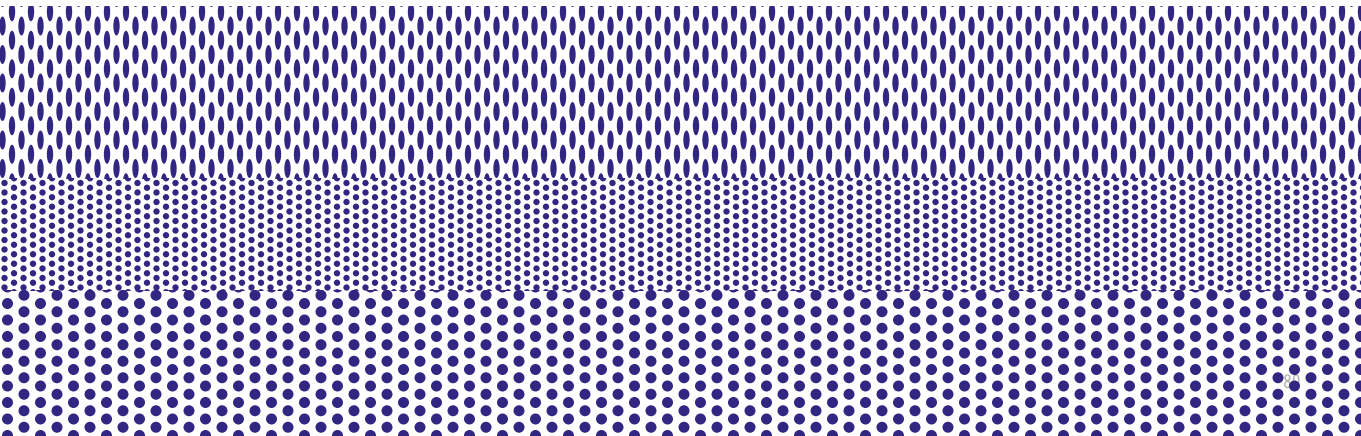
The site is available in French, Luxembourgish, German and English. The statistical distribution of reading languages is determined by the configuration of the user’s browser, which also explains the absence of Luxembourgish.

English	43.7%
French	26.6%
German	23.3%
Other	6.4%

SOCIAL MEDIA

The BnL is active on the main social media platforms, where it shares not only news and events but also highlights its collections.

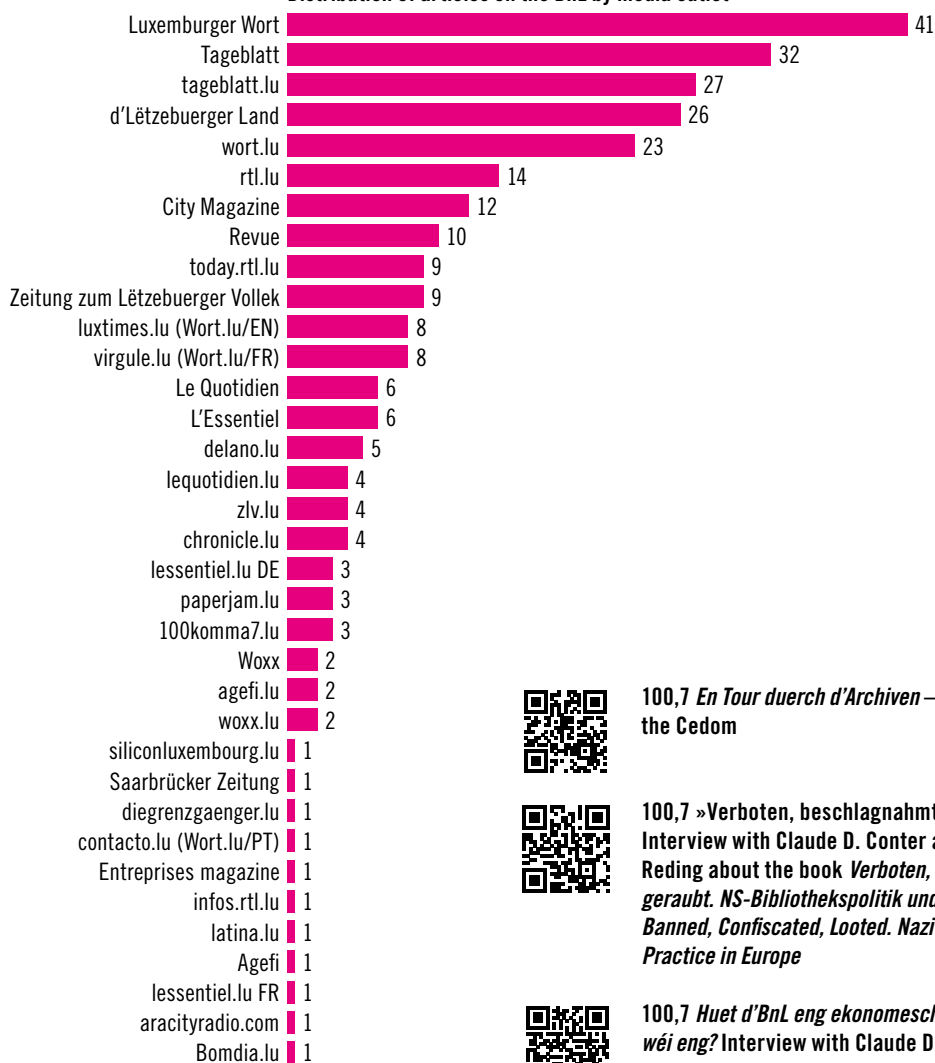
This is done through thematic studies of documents from the special collections, favourites selected by the collection managers, and thematic reading lists. The BnL also shares digitised documents that highlight Luxembourg’s rich past (photographs, postcards, posters, periodicals), linking them to current events and contemporary subjects. Once again this year, the BnL expanded its social-media audience, reaching a total of 14,521 followers across its platforms, compared with 11,437 in 2024.



THE BNL IN THE MEDIA

A total of 274 articles relating to libraries and the book sector were published in the Luxembourg media. *Luxemburger Wort* leads with 41 articles, closely followed by *Tageblatt* with 32.

Distribution of articles on the BnL by media outlet



100,7 *En Tour duerch d'Archiven* – Presentation of the Cedom



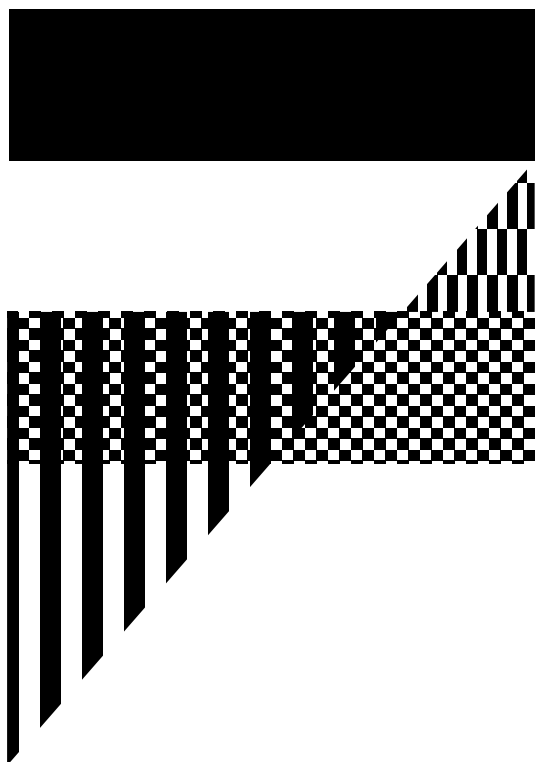
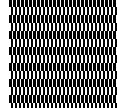
100,7 »Verboten, beschlagnahmt, geraubt« – Interview with Claude D. Conter and Jean-Marie Reding about the book *Verboten, beschlagnahmt, geraubt. NS-Bibliothekspolitik und -praxis in Europa/ Banned, Confiscated, Looted. Nazi Library Policy and Practice in Europe*



100,7 *Huet d'BnL eng ekonomesch Valeur – a wa jo, wéi eng?* Interview with Claude D. Conter



RTL, 04.10.2025, Interview with Claude D. Conter on the *Trounwiesel*



A RESPONSIBLE ADMINISTRATION

TECHNICAL MAINTENANCE OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE

In 2025, the BnL's technical department completed the installation of an industrial shelving system for the Bicherbus collections. It also coordinated the redesign of the access terminals to the courtyard of the building. In addition, drainage work was carried out in preparation for the wastewater system of a new Bicherbus.

Throughout the year, cleaning, painting, repair, protection of installations and humidity-control interventions were carried out.

The technical staff also took part in the installation and dismantling of the temporary exhibitions organised by the BnL, both in the reading room and in the exhibition space on the second floor, as well as off-site, notably during the exhibition of the Giant Bible of Saint-Maximin in Echternach in spring 2025.

The BnL's distribution and warehousing department manages all incoming and outgoing mail for the BnL, including letters, parcels, newspapers and other periodicals. In 2025, it processed 37,500 incoming items, including around 30,000 periodicals, as well as 3,084 outgoing postal items.

This department also collects donations accepted by the BnL, which involves travelling to donors. In 2025, 1,051 km were covered to collect 8 tonnes of documents, nearly double the previous year (2024: 4.3 tonnes). When necessary, documents are dusted before being transferred to the stacks or offices, ensuring optimal preservation conditions.

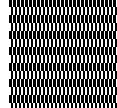
Since 2024, the service has also been responsible for emptying the legal deposit collection boxes. In 2025, 7,568 documents were collected from 109 addresses, representing 960 kg of material and 3,091 km travelled.



Learn more
about the BnL's
technical team.

**“The BnL confirms
what Jorge Luis Borges
said: ‘I have always
imagined that
paradise will be a
kind of library.’”**

**A BnL user, as part of the survey
*The Value of Knowledge***



HUMAN RESOURCES

On 31 December 2025, the BnL had 120.58 FTEs, corresponding to 172 individual staff members.

Aware of its training mission, the BnL employed 19 students working 8 to 15 hours per week to support the various departments in their daily tasks.

As the BnL works on concrete projects requiring staff with specific expertise for a given period, it was supported in 2025 by 5 specialists. In addition, it relied on external service providers in the fields of cleaning, security, public services, digitisation and logistics (30 people).

The average age of BnL staff is 42.5 years, while the average length of service is 13 years.

ORGANISATION CHART

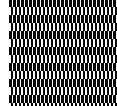
In 2024, a process to reorganise the structure of the heritage collections was initiated to meet the requirements of new workflows, improve the efficiency of processes and align the organisational chart with the *Vision 2020-2030*. It was therefore decided to merge the Luxembourg Collection Division and the Special Collections Division into a new Heritage Collection Division. This decision was preceded by an in-depth analysis of existing workflows. Three working groups were tasked with identifying synergies and optimising processes.

In addition, the accounting procedure was modified on 1 January 2025. The new organisational chart shifts from a document-type-based structure to a process-based structure. From now on, a distinction will be made between collections managed through legal deposit and those not determined by legal deposit. Following a reflection on electronic and physical documents, there is no longer any distinction in the acquisition process between monographs and periodicals, nor between physical and electronic documents. However, the BnL now separates acquisition from cataloguing. Furthermore, the Media Centre is now part of the Non-Luxembourgish Collection Division.

The following collections are part of the Special Collections service: the Manuscripts Collection, the Rare Books Collection, the Ephemera Collection, the Maps, Plans, Atlases and Views Collection, the Cedom, and the Collection of the History of Libraries and Books in Luxembourg.

Within the Legal Deposit sub-service are, among others, the Iconography Collection and the Posters and Postcards Collection.

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
	Heritage Collection	
		Luxembourgish Collection
		Special Collections
		Cedom
		Digitisation
	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
		Media Centre



ORGANISATION CHART		
	Division	Departments/Units
	Free access collections management	
		Reading Room
	Logistics and preservation	
		Binding and restoration
		Closed stacks logistics department
		Distribution and warehousing department
	IT and digital innovation	
		Library service
		Digital collections service
		IT infrastructure development and maintenance
	National library network bibnet.lu	
		Metadata (cataloguing, indexing and authority) department
		Library network supervision and training department
		Mobile library department
	Digital publications acquisitions and management	
		Licences and financing department
		Metadata and statistics department
		National digital publications management department



SURVEY ON EMPLOYEE SATISFACTION AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES WITHIN THE STATE

In 2025, the BnL took part, for the second consecutive year, in the survey on employee satisfaction and management practices within the state conducted by the State Centre for Human Resources and Organisation Management (CGPO) in collaboration with the University College London (UCL), the University of Nottingham, Roskilde University and the Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research (LISER).

The survey results enable the BnL to implement improvement measures by giving staff the opportunity to contribute actively to the development of the administration. The aim of this comparative analysis was to identify strengths and areas for development, as well as to provide systematic data to support decision-making on human resource management practices within the organisation.

At the BnL, 80% of staff responded to the survey. The survey collected data on employees' attitudes, such as job satisfaction and organisational commitment. It also examined their perception of human resource management practices, such as leadership, change management and organisational communication. 85% of BnL participants reported being satisfied with their work, 87% said they were proud of it, 77% feel happy when working intensively, and 68% are even willing to take on additional tasks that are not strictly expected of them in their role.

Regarding organisational commitment, i.e. their desire to remain in the organisation, to recommend the BnL as a good place to work, and their motivation to serve the public, 85% of BnL participants gave a positive assessment (compared with 62% in the other participating organisations).

With respect to health, well-being and non-discrimination at work, 77% of staff indicated that they are able to balance work and personal life in a satisfactory manner.

BUDGET

The BnL received funding of €9,047,000 from its parent ministry, the Ministry of Culture.

The BnL generated revenue amounting to €501,042. The analysis of the executed 2025 budget produced an encouraging result: infrastructure and operating costs account for nearly 29.8%, while expenditure related to legal missions amounts to 66.21%. Among operating costs, cleaning and security services represent 13.93% of the total budget.

As a heritage library, the BnL allocates a substantial amount to the acquisition of documents intended to enrich its special collections; expenditure therefore amounts to €287,530.20 for the purchase of maps, posters, post-cards, ephemera, scores, prints, artists' books, etc.

As a research library, the BnL strives to maintain high-quality collections, including the Non-Luxembourgish Collection, foreign periodicals, the circulating Bicherbus library, and digital resources (scientific e-books, data-bases, e-journals, etc.).

The amount dedicated to enriching these collections totals €2,349,729. The BnL therefore invests 25.8% of its budget in acquisitions for the library, the media centre, the heritage collections, the bibnet.lu network and copyright fees.

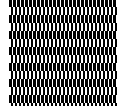
The BnL aims to be a reliable partner for the book sector in Luxembourg. It continues to pursue an acquisition policy that supports Luxembourgish bookshops and publishers.

A total of 4,206 orders were placed with Luxembourg suppliers, while 2,586 orders were placed with international suppliers. The total number of titles received amounts to 7,322 works.

Invoices from Luxembourg suppliers total €147,433, while those from international suppliers amount to €216,226. The budget for digital resources made available to the research sector in Luxembourg is €877,758.

The BnL continues its ambitious mass-digitisation programme and the free online publication of books and newspapers, in compliance with current regulations. 25.8% of the BnL's budget is devoted to the Digital Library as well as to expert and study fees. Expenditure on the promotion of these collections – including publication costs, exhibitions, conferences, study days and events, as well as awareness-raising and information activities – represents only 9% of the budget, i.e. €836,514.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPERATING COSTS		Value in % of total
Administration and training		
Continuing training	18,268.46€	
Travel and accommodation (Lux. + abroad)	65,508.78€	
Office expenses	14,792.26€	
National membership fees	1,570.00€	
International membership fees	37,183.51€	
Third-party service	389.50€	
Bank charges	4,570.65€	
Subtotal	142,283.16€	1.56%
Building and vehicles		
Building – Electricity consumption	283,901.22€	
Building – District heating consumption	80,637.57€	
Building – Wastewater + floor sealing	26,418.46€	
Subtotal	390,957.25€	4.29%
Building – Cleaning (incl. products)	440,841.02€	4.84%
Building – Maintenance and repairs	100,488.30€	
Building – Municipal taxes	12,538.37€	
Building – Security	877,643.42€	9.64%
Building – Underground parking operation	156,140.48€	
Vehicles – Maintenance_insurance	36.41€	
Vehicles – Maintenance_fuel	12,549.58€	
Vehicles – Maintenance and repairs	16,274.92€	
Subtotal	2,007,469.75€	22.04%
Operating expenses		
Postal and telecommunications costs	32,661.84€	
Small tools & low-value special equipment (Technical Service and Photolab)	41,032.45€	
Public service	16,396.03€	
Subtotal	90,090.32€	0.99%
IT		
Expert & study fees (IT)	138,148.58€	
Licence renewals / software maintenance	164,307.18€	
Software acquisition / development	0.00€	
Maintenance of IT equipment	31,267.68€	
IT Service – Hardware maintenance	92,566.54€	
Subtotal	426,289.98€	4.68%
Total infrastructure and operating costs	2,666,133.21€	29.28%



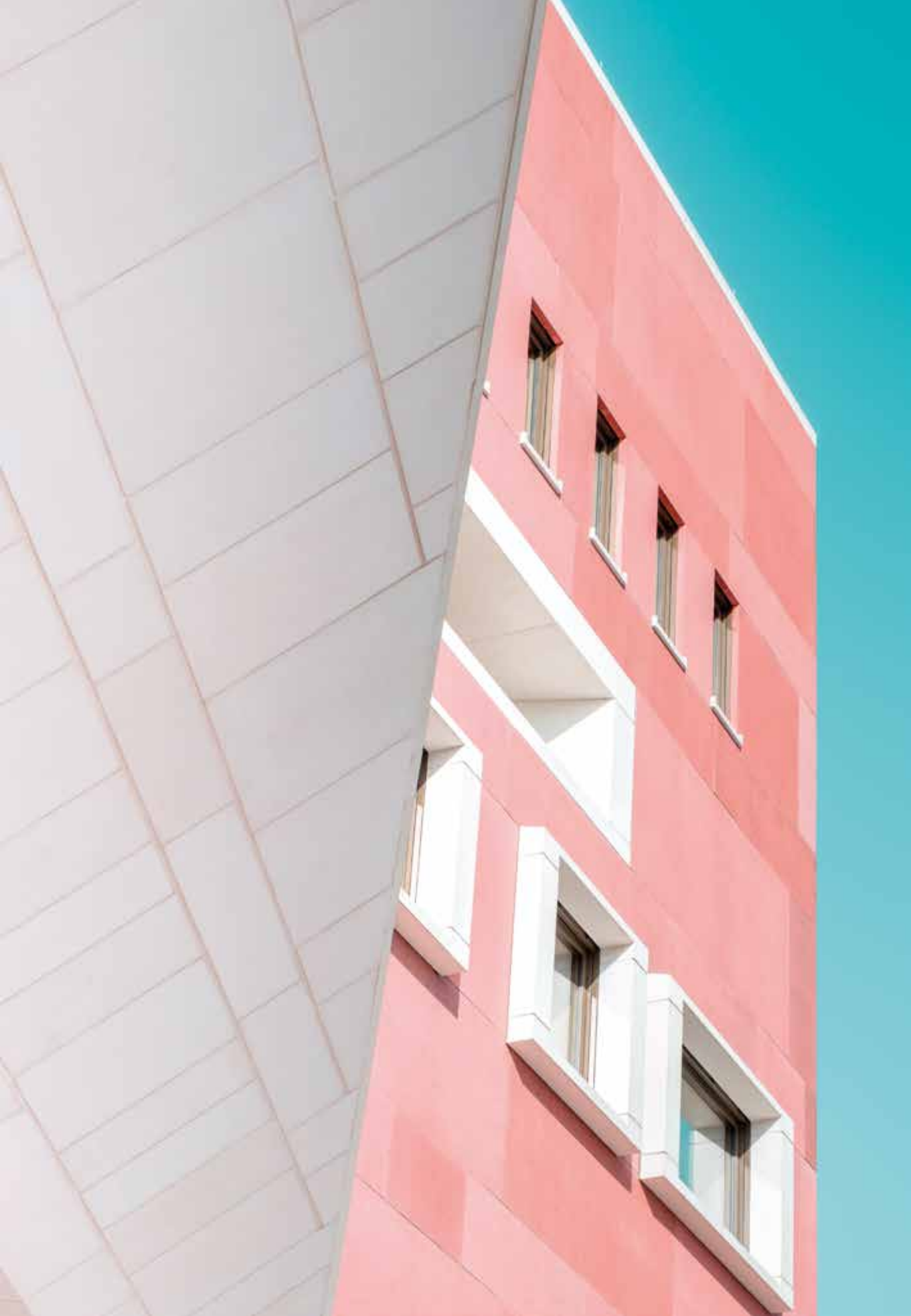
BNL MISSIONS		Value in % of total
Library and Heritage		
Library & media centre acquisitions	2,021,425.50€	
Heritage collections acquisitions	287,530.20€	
bibnet.lu network	17,629.17€	
Copyright and related rights	23,144.81€	
Subtotal	2,349,729.68€	25.80%
Archiving and Logistics		
Conservation / Restoration	402,878.03€	
Binding costs	22,425.39€	
Logistics and Preservation	63,303.27€	
Subtotal	488,606.69€	5.37%
Experts and Digitisation		
Expert and study fees	1,382,326.22€	
Digital Library	971,932.05€	
Subtotal	2,354,258.27€	25.85%
Valorisation		
Publication costs	215,920.73€	
Advertising, awareness and information	419,434.11€	
Exhibitions	116,325.44€	
Conferences, seminars, workshops and study days: organisational costs	84,834.49€	
Subtotal	836,514.77€	9.19%
Total BnL missions	6,029,109.41€	66.21%
TOTAL EXPENDITURE 2025	9,106,651.75€	

BUDGET ANALYSIS	
2025 Allocation	9,047,000.00€
2025 Revenue	501,042.78€
2025 Expenditure	9,106,651.75€
BUDGET BALANCE	441,391.03€

GLOBAL BUDGET	
2025 Allocation	9,047,000.00€
Transfer from Ministry of Culture (water/electricity/ heating)	0.00€
2025 Revenue	501,042.78€
Carry-over from 2024 (commitments + available)	2,613,065.84€
2025 Expenditure	9,106,651.75€
Carry-over to 2025 (commitments + available*)	3,054,456.87€

* Carry-over details: Commitments 2,207,270.72€
Available balance 847,186.15€

**The National Library
of Luxembourg
thanks all donors
whose contributions,
in the form of documents
and financial
support, have helped
enrich the BnL's
heritage collections
and ensure their
long-term preservation.**





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