# PERMANENT EXHIBITION "THE LUXEMBOURG STORY"

## EXHIBITION TEXTS

### 10th to 18th centuries (level 0)

## THE MEDIEVAL TOWN

Towering above a river loop of the Alzette, the rocky outcrop of the Bock provided a perfect fortification setting. Already in late antiquity, the site housed a watchtower to guard the Roman Reims-Trier road leading into the valley. Around 963, Count Siegfried chose to build a castle here and gradually a town started to take shape. During the 13th century, Luxembourg established itself as the main centre of a territorial principality, the County of Luxembourg, which covered the area between the Meuse and the Moselle. At the same time, the town's inhabitants were granted personal freedom and political rights. The town was surrounded by walls, attracting a growing number of residents, who settled there as merchants and craftsmen. From 1340 onwards, an annual fair cemented the town's transregional influence. Charters and archaeological finds provide an insight into daily urban life. Home to about 5,000 inhabitants, Luxembourg was a medium-sized town.

### The beginnings of the city

Around 963, in a deed with the abbey of St Maximin in Trier, Count Siegfried acquired the small fort of *Lucilinburhuc* on the river Alzette in exchange for land in the Ardennes. Today, the document recording the exchange is generally considered the "birth certificate" of the city since it provides the earliest written evidence of Luxembourg, in its Latinised name. Luxembourg was still a long way from being a city, however. Only gradually did life in Luxembourg start to take on urban characteristics. In 1083, Count Conrad founded a house monastery, the Benedictine Abbey of Altmünster, subsequently naming himself after his residence. The first town wall was erected towards the end of the 12th century. In 1244, Countess Ermesinde granted the citizens of Luxembourg a Charter of Freedom, which laid down their rights and duties.

### The city as a production hub

During the Middle Ages, trade was concentrated primarily in the city. Numerous archaeological findings bear witness to the growth of the craft industry. One of the most important economic sectors of the city was that of cloth production. Wool weavers producing for export formed a powerful guild. Tanners and cobblers established their workshops along the Alzette, in the suburbs of Grund and Pfaffenthal. Shoe soles, belts and other leather fragments have all been found near the river. The discovery of pearls and bone fragments points to the existence of a more unusual trade, namely that of manufacturing paternosters – precursors to the rosary – out of bones.

### Trade and markets

The city would not have been sustainable without its market. The weekly market revolved in particular around the regional trade between the city and its surroundings, while the annual market also targeted long-distance trade. Discoveries of foreign cloth seals and imported ceramics paint a picture of how far trade relationships extended. In 1340, Count John of Luxembourg inaugurated the so called *Schueberfouer*. In a bid to attract a large number of merchants, he ensured they were exempt from paying market duties and levies and granted protection upon arrival and departure. He also matched the duration of the fair (8 days from 23 August) to the markets of the Greater Region. Since the 19th century, the annual Schueberfouer has developed into a yearly funfair.

## Urban society

The city was characterised by the coexistence of a large number of people within a small area. Different occupations, rights and financial circumstances led to social stratification. The city's judges and aldermen, the counts' officials and rich merchants made up the urban upper class. The middle class consisted of craftsmen. There were also many day labourers, servants and marginalised groups who lived in poor conditions. Social differences were revealed in the tableware used. Glass was reserved for wealthy families while wood products and simple ceramic ware found their way onto the tables of all social classes.

## Living in the city

Timber-framed wooden constructions were common until the late 13th century, after which more and more stone structures started emerging across the city. Stone houses provided better protection from fire and their architecturally embellished façades became an indicator of social status. These often elaborate sculptural elements were usually restricted to window and door openings. They were generally decorated with geometrical motifs and trefoiled, particularly during the Gothic period. Within the houses, open fires provided warmth and were used for cooking. Over the course of the 13th century, an increasing number of tiled stoves were installed in the city's townhouses.

## The city, a religious centre

The proliferation of churches from the 10th century onwards bears witness to a rapid population growth. In 987, the St Saviour's Church, later called St Michael's Church, was consecrated. In 1083, Count Conrad founded the Benedictine Abbey of Altmünster, which he dedicated to Saint Peter, at the foot of the castle. This became the burial ground of the counts and a place of pilgrimage, further reinforcing the city's role as a religious centre. Towards the middle of the 12th century, the Church of St Nicholas was erected on the city's new marketplace, servicing the neighbourhood inhabited by merchants. Over the course of the 13th century, mendicant orders such as the Franciscans, the Poor Clares and the Dominicans established themselves in Luxembourg. The founding of their abbeys led to the city growing beyond its original town walls.

## The defence of the city

The topography of the city of Luxembourg is characterised by the confluence of two rivers, the Alzette and the Pétrusse, both having carved out deep valleys. Due to its rugged terrain, Luxembourg was virtually predestined for a fortress. By no later than the end of the 10th century, a castle presided over the rocky outcrop overlooking the Alzette. From the 12th century onwards, the city was surrounded by a ring wall with gates and towers. During the first half of the 14th century, construction started on a larger ring wall, incorporating the suburbs of Grund and Acht. Bastioned fortifications were added to the medieval city walls from the 16th century onwards.

# THE FORTRESS

Towards the mid-16th century, the town embarked on its transformation into one of Europe's most important fortresses. Luxembourg initially belonged to Spain, before being part of France under Louis XIV. It subsequently fell under Austrian and once again French rule before finally forming part of the Netherlands and joining the German Confederation. Until their dismantlement in 1867, the town's defence structures underwent continuous expansion. Italian architects erected the first bastions around 1544. Between 1684 and 1698, French military engineer Vauban fortified the heights surrounding the town. Under Austrian rule, an additional outer belt of forts was built and the underground casemates were extended. During the 19th century, the Prussian garrison added shellproof barracks and military hospitals. Emergencies occurred only rarely. In 1684, Marshal Créqui and Vauban captured the town after a siege. In 1795, the fortress surrendered after a seven-month blockade by French revolutionary troops.

## The 1684 siege of Luxembourg

French military engineer Vauban and Marshal Créquy spared no effort during the siege of the Luxembourg fortress, attacking with 18,720 infantrymen and 5,880 cavalrymen. The fortress was defended by a 4,000-strong Spanish garrison. The city came under fire for the first time by the French artillery towards the end of 1683. The shellfire aimed to undermine the morale of the population and to set fire to the granaries. The actual siege started in late April 1684. Capitulation occurred five weeks later after a fierce defence. The French troops lost 8,000 men, while the Spanish deplored the loss of 2,500 men.

## French propaganda

From the dawn of Louis XIV's personal rule, the king was glorified through art. Paintings, tapestries, medals, sculptures and monuments as well as poems, hymns of praise, theatre pieces, ballet performances and operas all painted a picture of a glorious and victorious king. The propaganda devoted to Louis XIV celebrated the capture of Luxembourg as an important moment of his rule. A commemorative medal was coined and engraving prints were published. In 1685, at least five royal almanacs were published containing an image of the siege of Luxembourg.

## A European media event

The siege of the fortress of Luxembourg by the French generated great interest throughout all of Europe. Numerous pamphlets and leaflets reported on the bloody confrontations and featured illustrations of the battleground. Approximately 34 such printed publications are known, having been published in Germany, the Netherlands of the time, England and France. Not all the reports reflected the truth, some containing exaggerations and omissions for political or military reasons. Most of the reporters and engravers were denied access during the siege and thus had to rely on second-hand information.

# CITIZENS AND SOLDIERS

The main centre of the eponymous duchy, Luxembourg was a small provincial town home to some 8,000 inhabitants during the 18th century. By the time the fortress was dismantled in 1867, the population had grown to 13,574 inhabitants. Within the fortress walls, the inhabitants' living quarters seemed almost humble in comparison with the vast military installations. Citizens lived alongside the garrison troops, who were seen as a burden but were also an important economic factor. The relationship between the military and the civil population was full of conflict, as evidenced by the numerous fights, duels and court cases listed in the city's annals. Much depended on the assertiveness of the fortress commander, who was in charge of the discipline of the soldiers. Nevertheless, there is also evidence of peaceful and mutually beneficial relationships, particularly regarding the city's cultural life.

## Governor Peter Ernst von Mansfeld

Peter Ernst von Mansfeld (1517-1604), who was in the service of Emperor Charles V and later King Philip II, played a key political and military role during the Netherlands war. In recognition of his loyal services, Charles V awarded Mansfeld the Golden Fleece, the illustrious order of chivalry founded under the Dukes of Burgundy. From 1545 until his death in 1604, Mansfeld was the governor of Luxembourg. As the representative of the Emperor and later the Spanish King, he was responsible for the defence of the city and the country. Mansfeld pressed ahead with Luxembourg's expansion to a fortress and bestowed a hint of Renaissance culture on the city. He started construction on his palace "La Fontaine" and its extensive grounds in 1563.

## Daily life in the fortress

The citizens shared their city with the garrison. The co-existence of military and civil life was generally peaceful, with only occasional tensions arising. Soldiers purchased goods and services from the town's merchants and craftsmen. Parish registers reveal numerous marriages between members of the military and the daughters of local families. The garrison was grateful to engage in a social life after

monotonous fortress duties. Officers and dignitaries got together for parades and official dinners as well as balls and concerts. The common people encountered soldiers in the suburban beer gardens.

## The garrison

The expansion of the fortress also led to an increased military presence. During the 1684 siege, the Spanish garrison counted 1,936 infantrymen and 703 cavalrymen. During the 18th century, the size of the garrison varied between 2,000 and 8,000 men depending on the military situation. After 1815, Luxembourg being part of the German Confederation, an average of 4,000 Prussian soldiers were stationed in the fortress. Until the end of the 17th century, soldiers did not have their own living quarters, instead residing with the city's inhabitants. The first barracks were erected by the Spanish in 1671. These barracks accommodated ordinary soldiers, while officers continued to live in residential houses.

## Economic advantages and disadvantages

During fortress times, the city was difficult to access, hindering trade. The upper town could be reached only by passing through several lines of defence works. Furthermore, the city gates were locked at night. During the Ancien Régime, the city's economic life was ruled by the guild system. Crafts and trades were divided into 13 guilds, each comprising more or less closely related professions. Soldiers were important consumers, requiring food, clothing, accommodation and entertainment. Nevertheless, these needs were met only partially by craftsmen and merchants from the guilds. Large-scale traders from abroad ensured the army was supplied with bread, for instance.

# CHURCHES AND MONASTERIES

From the outset, the church played an important role in the town's development. Numerous monasteries, churches and chapels shaped the face of the town and religious practices governed the daily routine of the inhabitants. During the Middle Ages, Luxembourg became home to several important monastic orders: the Benedictines, followed by the Franciscans, the Dominicans and the Poor Clares. From the end of the 16th century onwards, the Catholic Reformation broadened the influence of the church while simultaneously excluding Protestantism. In 1603, the Jesuits established a secondary school in Luxembourg and supported the increasingly widespread worship of the Virgin Mary. In 1666, the Virgin Mary was declared the patron saint of the town and in 1678 the entire country was placed under her protection. The Baroque decorations in the churches provided significant work for local sculpture and goldsmith workshops. During this entire period, Luxembourg was still ecclesiastically affiliated to other dioceses. Luxembourg did not become a diocese in its own right until 1870.

## The advent of the goldsmith industry

During the middle of the 18th century, there were eight active goldsmith workshops in Luxembourg. The livelihood of these goldsmiths, many of foreign origin, was ensured by the numerous abbeys and churches, which placed substantial orders. The chalice here on display was commissioned by the superior of the Franciscan abbey and the reliquary of Saint Blaise by the prior of the Dominican abbey. The monstrance originates from the former church of the Capuchin Fathers of Arlon. Felix Scherrer, Alexander Guerring and Jean-Michel Kutzer were among the most prolific and well-respected goldsmiths of Luxembourg.

## The city as a place of worship of the Virgin Mary

Following their settlement in Luxembourg in 1594, the Jesuits developed the cult of the Virgin Mary, the most visible expression of this being the pilgrimage to the holy Mother of God. This pilgrimage can be traced back to 8 December 1624, the day that Pater Jacques Brocquart and Jesuit College students carried a statue of the Virgin Mary outside the city gates. The statue soon became a centre of devotion to the "Consoler of the Afflicted" and her perceived miraculous powers. In times of war, plague and

famine, this devotion took on such proportions that the construction of a chapel in front of the fortress gates was called for. In 1640, the pilgrimage chapel on the Glacis grounds was extended.

## Veneration of saints

During the Counter-Reformation, the worshipping of saints was encouraged. Numerous statues of saints in Luxembourg churches bear witness to the piety of the people. Saints were called upon to protect against illness and other causes for concern. Saint Donatius, whose relics are housed in St John's Church in Grund, was invoked against thunder and lightning. Saint John Nepomucene, whose statue stands in the parish church of St Nicholas, was the patron saint against floods. Each guild was attached to a religious brotherhood with its patron saint. Saint Eligius was the patron saint of goldsmiths, while cooks worshipped Saint Lawrence.

## The Virgin Mary, patron saint of the city and the country

Two important dates contributed to the ongoing significance of the pilgrimage to "Our Lady of Luxembourg". In 1666, the provincial council and the magistrate appointed the Virgin Mary the patron saint of the city of Luxembourg. Twelve years later, in 1678, the estates of the nobility and the clergy as well as the country's towns, for their part, proclaimed the "Consoler of the Afflicted" the patron saint of the entire Duchy of Luxembourg and the County of Chiny. To this day, the annual "Oktave" pilgrimage attracts pilgrims from all over the region of the former Duchy of Luxembourg.

*19th century (level 1)*

# THE PATH TO INDEPENDENCE

During the 19th century, Luxembourg became an independent state. The path to independence was a long and gradual one. The Grand Duchy was born in 1815 as an outcome of the Congress of Vienna, which adopted the reorganisation of Europe after Napoleon's defeat. William I of Orange-Nassau, King of the Netherlands, was appointed Grand Duke of Luxembourg. Luxembourg's present borders were established in 1839, with the French speaking part of the country allocated to Belgium. The revolutionary year of 1848 saw the young state receive its first parliamentary constitution. Permanent neutrality was declared in the Treaty of London in 1867: the Prussian garrison withdrew from the fortress. In 1890, a rule of succession signalled the end of the personal union with the Netherlands. With Adolphe of Nassau-Weilburg ascending the throne, Luxembourg had its own dynasty. During this time, the city of Luxembourg gradually became the political heart of the new state.

# THE CAPITAL CITY

The country's political emancipation had an impact on the town: Luxembourg became the capital city. With the Grand Duchy achieving administrative sovereignty in 1839, the political decision-making centre moved from The Hague to Luxembourg. A series of successive constitutions gave rise to new institutions: the Chamber of Deputies, the Council of State and the government. The expansion of state administrations was accompanied by a rise in public employees and civil servants. When the Grand Duchy acquired its own dynasty in 1890, Luxembourg grew into a residential city. Grand Duke Adolphe extended the city palace and parts of the court were transferred to Luxembourg. The first foreign diplomats were accredited. The 1843 municipality law laid down provisions for the municipal administration of the capital. The mayor, the college of aldermen and the municipal council adopted resolutions and issued regulations.

# THE END OF THE FORTRESS

In 1867, the Second Treaty of London decided to dismantle the fortress of Luxembourg to prevent conflict between Prussia and France. Luxembourg was declared a perpetually neutral country. The Prussian garrison withdrew. Between 1867 and 1878, the city of Luxembourg resembled a construction site of an impressive scale. The majority of the fortification structures and military buildings were torn down. A handful of bastions and military structures, deemed suitable for civilian purposes, were nevertheless preserved. The end of the fortress of Luxembourg captured the interest of an international audience. Foreign publications reported on the dismantling works. The fortress ruins soon attracted the first photographers. The oldest photographs of the city date back to this period; previously, photographing the fortifications or capturing them in drawings was subject to strict military censorship.

## Stereoscopic images

Stereoscopic photography provides a particularly interesting testimony of the dismantling of the fortress. Stereoscopy is the rendition of images with a spatial impression of depth. With the help of a two-lens camera and a special viewer, images are created with a perception of three-dimensional depth. From 1861 onwards, a model designed by Oliver Wendell Holmes became the standard stereoscope and sold with great success. Around 1880, German entrepreneur August Fuhrmann developed a large-scale concentric stereo viewer, known as the "Kaiserpanorama". This was a popular entertainment medium until the early 20th century. It also displayed Luxembourg themes.

## The drawings of Burnier

For military strategic reasons, the creation of drawings or photographs of the fortress of Luxembourg was forbidden without express authorisation until it was dismantled in 1867. Despite this blanket ban, in 1858 a former artillery colonel by the name of André Burnier (1793-1879), in celebration of the baptism of his grandson, created a series of 20 small-format watercolours, which captured both civil buildings and military structures of the fortress of Luxembourg. Burnier used for this purpose his own invention, the "homographe", a device enabling also less accomplished artists to create realistic drawings.

# THE OPEN CITY

The dismantling of the fortress marked a turning point in the city's history. The disappearance of the walls and bastions gave rise to an urban expansion of a scale not witnessed since the Middle Ages. New urban quarters emerged, their streets and avenues dotted with stately houses or villas surrounded by gardens. The Viaduct and especially the Adolphe Bridge provided easy access to the surrounding regions. In parallel with its geographical expansion, the city's infrastructures were also modernised. The installation of water mains, the creation of a telephone network and the introduction of a horse car, later replaced by an electric tram, were just some of the many new developments. The city's connection to the railway network, its industrialisation and rise in trade generated strong population growth.

# THE INDUSTRIAL CITY

Concurrently with its geographical expansion, Luxembourg witnessed substantial economic growth. Various industries established themselves on the outskirts of the city. Before becoming a city dedicated to the tertiary service, Luxembourg had been in the 19th century an industrial city. Its accession in 1842 to the German customs union, known as the Zollverein, and the construction of the railway after 1859 fostered the growth of the textile, glove, metal and food industries. The city of Luxembourg

developed into the country's industrial hub, retaining this position until it was supplanted during the 1870s by the iron and steel district in the south. After 1870, a new industrial quarter emerged in the vicinity of the railway station with metal-working businesses, tobacco factories and the Mercier champagne cellar, the latter establishing itself in Luxembourg to sidestep the Zollverein barriers. The First World War and even more so the economic crisis of the 1930s would disrupt the industrial dynamics of the city.

### Social provisions and occupational safety

In its transition from an agrarian to an industrial society, Luxembourg was also hit by social hardship. Workdays lasted 14 hours, child labour was common. There was no financial security for workers if they became sick or incapacitated or were unable to continue working due to old age. The first workers' support associations were formed in 1849, yet statutory health, accident and old-age insurance was not introduced until the early 20th century. The steel concern ARBED took action during the 1920s to reduce the number of workplace accidents. Posters were displayed to raise awareness among workers of accident prevention and health risks.

### Working conditions in the leather industry

Established in Luxembourg Grund in 1882, the Reinhard glove factory provides an insight into the industrial working world. Employing up to 1,000 workers and sewers, at one point it was the largest industrial plant in the city. Adult men as well as male youths worked in the tannery, the dyeworks and the tailoring department. Dog excrement was used in the tanning process of the sought-after Glacé leather, while the dyeworks used human urine in the production of dyes. Women sewed and embroidered the gloves. Young women in particular were in high demand for this type of work, since their eyesight was as yet unaffected by the bad lighting in homes.

# TRADE IN THE CITY

Until the late 18th century, the city's economic life was dominated by the guilds. Manufacturing was carried out to order; with the exception of the weekly market at which farmers and travelling merchants sold their goods, the range of products was limited. It was only over the course of the 19th century that a modern business world emerged. The progressive urbanisation and industrialisation transformed people's living habits. City inhabitants, but also increasing parts of the rural population no longer supplied their own food and clothing. Instead they became consumers and bought the required goods in shops, which gradually replaced workshops. 1850 marked the beginning of the "golden" retail age, when several traditional houses set up shop. Shortly before the outbreak of the First World War, Luxembourg welcomed its first modern department stores. To this day, the city is a constantly evolving retail hub.

# THE CITIZENS' CITY

From the 19th century onwards, Luxembourg – like other cities – became home to a new and influential social class: the modern bourgeoisie. Businessmen, entrepreneurs, bankers, senior officials and members of the educated middle class with academic jobs, alongside civil servants with academic qualifications, judges, priests and teachers, despite differences in income, all shared a common bourgeois culture. The portraits of the time reveal a bourgeoisie that exuded confidence. The rise of factories and manufacturers brought about a new class of labourers and ordinary workers. The everyday lives of these social classes generally featured simple living and housing conditions.

## Birth

Throughout all of the 19th century, the birth rate in Luxembourg was very high at 3 to 4%. Children were born at home in the presence of a midwife. Not until 1877 did the Luxembourg State establish a "Royal Grand Ducal Midwifery School and Maternity Hospital" in the suburb of Pfaffenthal. Maternal and infant mortality were high: little more than half the children born reached adulthood. They fell victim mainly to diseases and epidemics such as cholera, influenza, scarlet fever, diphtheria, whooping cough and tuberculosis. Health among the lower social classes was further compromised by precarious living and housing conditions as well as child labour.

## Childhood

The children of the upper bourgeoisie grew up in a sheltered family environment. They did not have to work and were able to develop in a carefree setting. Enormous value was placed on their education, which aimed to prepare them for adult life and give them the means to take part in society and culture. Children from the lower urban class were frequently forced to contribute to the livelihood of their families. In 1876 a law was adopted restricting child labour. Henceforth, no child under the age of 12 was allowed to work in an industrial plant. Adolescents under the age of 16 were prohibited from working at night as well as in mines, pits or quarries. Nevertheless, this did not enable offspring of the poorer classes to enjoy a carefree childhood.

## School

In the mid-19th century, despite the presence of several primary schools, the capital was home to just one secondary school, the *Athénée*. This is where the future bourgeois elite of the Grand Duchy received a classical humanistic education. The education of the working classes was mostly limited to primary school attendance, which nonetheless provided the key to modest social advancement. The 1881 school reform stipulated a six-year compulsory education and led to better education for teachers and a more modern and differentiated school system. The founding in 1909 of the first secondary school for girls meant that girls too were able to reap the benefits of a higher education.

## Marriage

As a rule, marriage between two people occurred within the same social class. In both the urban upper class and the rural population, marriages often served to connect two families. The civil ceremony and church wedding usually took place on the same day. The white wedding dress came into fashion during the mid-19th century, symbolising the purity and virginity of the bride. While brides from upper class families donned white dresses, those less prosperous wore dark garments. They simply wore their best dress, one they could wear again and again. The main purpose of a marriage was to procreate and bring up children. Offspring provided a public testimony of a functioning marriage.

## Midlife

Adulthood was shaped by work and child-rearing. While mothers from the upper classes did not have to work and were able to fully focus on their domestic and child-rearing duties, women from the lower social classes were forced to seek gainful employment. A burgeoning association life in the city of Luxembourg meant that, in their spare time, inhabitants played an active part in various organisations, depending on their personal interests. This social interaction was cultivated across all layers of society. Those who could afford it went on holiday trips, a privilege reserved nevertheless for members of the urban upper class.

## Old age, sickness, death

Old age and health insurance only gradually evolved during the 19th century. In factories, workers' associations ensured that the workforce was supported in the event of sickness. A statutory health, accident and old-age insurance was not introduced until the beginning of the 20th century. Much like birth, death generally also took place in the home. The life expectancy for the city of Luxembourg was lower than that for the country. Prior to the dismantling of the fortress, Luxembourg was an unhealthy and insalubrious city, marked by a high population density, a lack of wells and cisterns and an absence of sewerage and water supply lines. Women lived longer than men, but the high infant mortality rate brought the population's life expectancy down to below 40 years.

## Association life

From the 1820s onwards, the city of Luxembourg became home to several cultural associations. These associations were the result of private initiatives and involved literature, science, culture, social interaction and sport. Members of these social associations hailed primarily from the upper and middle bourgeoisie. Despite association life being shaped primarily by men, charitable organisations enjoyed equal input from men and women. The rapid rise of association establishments reflected an overall European phenomenon and had an extremely positive impact on the social, economic, cultural and political life of the capital.

## Work and paternalism

Work played an important role in the world of the bourgeoisie: the social rank of a family was determined by the professional status of the man. For the poorer parts of the population, work was vital for survival and, in addition to men also affected women and children. From the mid-19th century onwards, associations supporting workers started emerging. Initially, this initiative did not come from the workers themselves, but from the church and the bourgeoisie. These associations covered the entire workforce of an establishment and in addition to providing practical support also pursued moral and educational objectives. This private in-house social policy, described as paternalist, on the one hand served the interests of the factory owners but on the other hand also promoted a spirit of solidarity.

## Private social interaction

Befitting their social status, the upper classes, in addition to public functions, also engaged in private forms of social interaction. These included private parties, visits, dinners, soirées, receptions and banquets. As the hostesses and organisers of these gatherings, women were at the heart of society. They were responsible for fostering networks of relatives and acquaintances and in doing so also exerted an influence on their husbands' careers. In these gatherings, the women embodied the family's social status to the outside world. The various forms of private social interaction represented the connection between family and work, between private and public life.

## Travel and leisure

The emergence of the industrial society was accompanied by a separation between working life and private life, which is what paved the way for leisure activities in the first place. While all social classes actively participated in associations outside of work, only the urban upper class was able to engage in leisure activities without any material concerns. Alongside reading, writing, playing music and drawing, these also included hunting and extensive travel. The most popular form of travel was visiting relatives and friends, as well as health trips. It was only towards the end of the century that tourist travel to foreign countries became fashionable.

## "Fanfare" music society

Founded in 1905, the "Fanfare municipale Luxembourg-Pfaffenthal" is one of the capital's oldest cultural and music societies. Not long after its establishment, the music society started gaining not just local and regional but also national and international recognition. During the 1930s, the society had 800 paying and 100 honorary members. The Fanfare suspended its official activities during the Second World War. After 1945, membership numbers dropped. During the 1980s, the society founded its own music school, which also provided it with new members. The music society discontinued its activities in 2015.

## Shooting club

In 1402, citizens of the city of Luxembourg founded the brotherhood of St Sebastian, a precursor of the "Arquebusiers" shooting club. The capture of the city by French revolutionary troops in 1795 marked the end of the brotherhood, but it was re-established in 1837 under the name "Société du tir à l'arquebuse". After the dismantling of the fortress, shooting competitions were a popular pastime of the bourgeoisie. Interest in shooting waned after the Second World War, and the club turned its focus to tennis activities, which had been running since 1902. To date, the "Tennis Club des Arquebusiers" has produced several national tennis champions.

## Cycling

In 1884, the first cycling club, known as the "Véloce Club Luxembourgeois", was founded by urban residents and notables. A bicycle was initially deemed a luxury item, available only to the wealthier members of society. During the early 20th century, however, it developed to an everyday commodity for people from all walks of life. New cycling associations emerged, their members no longer exclusively from the middle and upper classes: 1901 saw the emergence of "Vélo-Sport Hamm", 1905 the "Pédale Millebaach" and 1913 the "Club Cycliste Hollerich". Cycling became one of the most popular forms of sport. Races at the Villa Louvigny cycling track and, from 1921 onwards, the new Belair velodrome drew hordes of spectators.

## Masonic lodges

In the 18th century, soldiers from the Austrian military brought a new form of secular society to Luxembourg: Freemasonry. In 1770, "La Parfaite Union" lodge was founded. Cultivating a philanthropic and egalitarian ideal, it brought together officers from the military, nobility and the bourgeoisie. But as a result of the repressive measures of Joseph II, this first lodge was forced to close down. Freemasonry reappeared in the 19th century, and the civil lodge "Les Enfants de la Concorde fortifiée" was founded in 1803. In 1820, officers from the Prussian garrison created their own military lodge – "Blücher von Wahlstatt". The two lodges co-existed as a brotherhood until the Prussians' departure in 1867. Many eminent figures in the city of Luxembourg were once Freemasons.

**20. JH. (EBENE 2)**

## THE CITY IN CRISIS

1914 saw Luxembourg being drawn into the First World War, when German troops marched into the neutral Grand Duchy. Despite military occupation, the Grand Duchess and the Luxembourg government remained in office. A shortage of supplies, aggravated by a lack of national solidarity, caused much suffering to the population. After the withdrawal of the Germans, a political crisis broke out, leading to the abdication of Grand Duchess Marie-Adélaïde. In 1919, the same year universal suffrage was introduced and women were given the right to vote, the population voted in a referendum to retain the dynasty with a new monarch, Grand Duchess Charlotte. The creation in 1921 of the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union signalled a new economic orientation. During the interwar period, the burgeoning national consciousness masked the multifaceted tensions within Luxembourg society. National cohesion was reinforced by public and private welfare.

## UNDER GERMAN OCCUPATION

As part of the German offensive in the West, Luxembourg was occupied once again on 10 May 1940. Grand Duchess Charlotte and the Luxembourg government sought exile in London and Canada. In August 1940, Luxembourg was placed under direct German administration. From 1942 onwards, young Luxembourgers were forcibly enrolled in the German army. The occupying forces aimed to annex Luxembourg to the German Reich and to germanise the population. The use of French was forbidden. A concerted propaganda campaign endeavoured to attract the support of the Luxembourg people for the Nazi regime. While some Luxembourgers succumbed and were recruited as collaborators, others rejected integration into the German Reich and joined the resistance, leading the occupier to respond with acts of terror and deportation. The Jewish community suffered particularly under National Socialist persecution. Luxembourg City was liberated by the Americans on 10 September 1944.

## THE EUROPEAN CITY

The Grand Duchy is a founding member of all the multilateral cooperation communities that formed after the Second World War. The country's decisive opening occurred in the context of the European unification process: Luxembourg became actively involved when Robert Schuman launched his plan outlining the creation of a European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC). In 1952, Luxembourg diplomats succeeded in bringing the provisional seat of the ECSC to Luxembourg. In 1957, alongside France, Germany, Italy, Belgium and the Netherlands, Luxembourg was a signatory of the Treaties of Rome, which founded the European Economic Community (EEC) and regulated the use of atomic energy (Euratom). Further European institutions settled in Luxembourg and the government established a European quarter on the city's Kirchberg Plateau to accommodate them. In the words of Jean Monnet, "a small city has become a crossroads of Europe".

## THE FINANCIAL CENTRE

During the 1960s, the city grew into an international financial centre, with the Grand Duchy taking advantage of restrictive foreign legislation and the development of the eurodollar market. International banks established themselves in large numbers in Luxembourg, the majority of them in the capital. They initially specialised in the loan and money market business. From the 1980s onwards, new fields of activity emerged in private banking. In its most recent development stage, Luxembourg's financial centre has become a leading global domicile for investment funds. Given recent debates on tax evasion and banking secrecy as well as the 2008 banking crisis, the financial centre is presently facing the challenge of retaining its attractiveness in the years to come. In 2015, Luxembourg was home to 143 banks from 27 different countries. The finance sector is complemented by a diversified service sector.

## THE CHANGING CITY

Luxembourg's cityscape has undergone rapid change since 1950. The establishment of European institutions and the rise of the financial centre have turned the city into an international metropolis. Thanks to the economic upswing, the capital is experiencing a building boom of unprecedented proportions. The city is endeavouring to come to grips with this growth via successive urban development plans. Today, Luxembourg City is home to more than 115,000 inhabitants and provides over 170,000 jobs. 70% of the inhabitants are foreigners of 160 different nationalities. The city attracts employees from surrounding areas and neighbouring countries. Countless commuters cause huge volumes of traffic on a daily basis. The issue of mobility is a key feature of today's urban policy. The rich cultural offerings reflect the city's dynamic character and contribute to the quality of life of its residents.

### Demographic development

The high demand for labour in industry and the booming service sector have resulted in enormous waves of immigration from abroad. The percentage of the foreign working population in Luxembourg has been rising since the 1960s. From the 1970s to the end of the 1990s the number of inhabitants in the city remained constant at around 76,000, rising to 95,000 by 2011 and to over 115,000 by 2016. Projections on the demographic development indicate continued strong growth. An international society comprising people from 160 countries and a variety of languages spoken on a daily basis have become distinguishing features of the city.

## Culture

The cultural scene of the city of Luxembourg has grown in leaps and bounds since the 1950s. The construction in 1964 of today's Grand Théâtre gave the city a home for theatre, opera and dance productions. The *Théâtre des Casemates* opened its doors the same year, hoping to attract a new younger audience with its avant-garde productions. In 1985, the *Théâtre des Capucins* and the new *Conservatoire de Musique* opened their doors. The 1995 Year of European capital of culture led to a significant expansion of the city's cultural infrastructure and several new establishments, among others the Museum of Natural History, the Casino Luxembourg, the National Theatre as well as the City History Museum. Today Luxembourg is home to numerous theatres and museums, a concert hall, as well as many other musical and artistic venues. The city's cultural energy radiates far beyond its borders into the Greater Region.

## Retail

Luxembourg's retail sector is in a permanent state of change. The postwar period saw the establishment of supermarkets and department stores operating on the principle of self-service. Large supermarkets and shopping centres soon started emerging on the outskirts of the city, easier to reach by car. The high rents in the inner city meant that it became home to an increasing number of international franchises and luxury shops. The biggest challenge facing the retail sector is electronic commerce. The percentage of online shopping of the total trade volume will continue to grow in coming years. In the present era of online shopping, the synergy between mobile technologies and traditional shop sales will prove crucial for economic success.

## Mobility

Luxembourg City represents an important centre from both a national and regional perspective. The concentration of so many workplaces as well as the numerous administrative offices, shopping facilities, cultural institutions and leisure centres attract myriads of people to the city. While the train and tram were considered to be the most important means of transport in the 1960s, the car has taken on greater significance over the years. Today, the large number of commuters, who prefer to use their own car, is the cause of a high volume of traffic. Mobility has become an important subject in urban policymaking. Sustainable measures, such as the construction of a modern tram, the wide range of public transport, setting up a car-sharing system with electric cars or the bicycle rental system Vél'Oh, aim to stem private motorised transport.

## Economic development

The economic boom in industry during the so-called "Trente Glorieuses" (1945-1974) shaped the growth of Luxembourg's economy. At the same time, the government focussed on a policy of economic diversity and set out guidelines to encourage foreign companies to establish branches in Luxembourg. Parallel to the development of the iron and steel industry, a boost was given to the service sector, trade, the hotel and catering industry and, most notably, the financial sector. In its capacity as an important administrative centre of the European Union and also, especially, as a world-renowned player in finance and insurance, Luxembourg continues today to attract international company headquarters and employees, not least also in the field of research and science.

## Urban planning and architecture

The economic recovery of the post-war years and Luxembourg's commitment to European integration have left their mark on the development of urban planning and architecture in the capital city. In the 1960s, the Kirchberg Plateau, previously used for agriculture, became the home of European institutions. A new quarter developed to the northwest of the old city. In addition to a considerable number of administrative buildings, the capital city also witnessed the emergence of cultural institutions, theatres, exhibition halls, cinemas and department stores. The unabated dynamic of the service sector has to this day generated rapid urban development and a strong increase in the population with many challenges for the future.

## Myths and traditions

Myths and traditions play a key role, both in the city's collective memory and in the everyday life of its residents. They play an important unifying role and are part of the city's identity. The city's treasure trove of legends includes the romantic narrative surrounding the foundation of the city, the love story

of Count Siegfried and the nymph Melusina. Some urban traditions date back to the Middle Ages, the most popular among them the funfair known as "Schueberfouer", originally a trade fair, the "Oktav" pilgrimage to the Virgin Mary and the Easter "Éimaischen". Only time will tell whether more recent urban events such as the "ING Night Marathon" or the Pétrusse valley "Duck Race" will also develop into genuine traditions.

*21st century (level 3)*

## FUTURE OUTLOOK

Luxemburg City is currently undergoing an exciting phase of urban development. In a time and society characterised by globalisation and internationalisation, political, economic and cultural interactions have intensified beyond domestic borders. These dynamic processes have an impact on the production of city and space. Population growth forecasts also herald significant change. The many challenges arising from this rapid urban development are addressed and espoused by the municipal administration with the help of multi-layered planning instruments. One of the key planning tools is the so-called *Plan d'aménagement général* (PAG), Luxembourg City's new zoning plan. The PAG was drawn up by experts in urban development following numerous citizen participation meetings in the various suburbs and an in-depth study of current life in the city as well as its growth forecasts.