

Newsletter

The latest news, views, and announcements



Interview with Henri Kox,

Minister for Housing Minister of Internal Security

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INSIDE

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Henri Kox (déi Gréng) is Minister for Housing and Minister of Internal Security

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A Message from our Chairman, Paul Schonenberg



Dear AmCham members and friends,

Welcome back from your summer holiday breaks. We hope you are returning with energy and excitement to face the future!

While you have been away, we have been working hard clearing up loose ends and getting our fall program ready for launch. We are very pleased with the program... and hope you will be too. Please see the details further on.

But first there are a few other things that we want to report on concerning our summer schedule. We were very pleased over the summer for the Chamber of Deputies to bring the work permit revision bill to a vote with the included provisions to ensure easier work permission access for accompanying resident spouses and partners of non-EU citizens, also resident and with their own work permits. This change which impacts accompanying spouses and partners from the USA, Canada, Japan, India, Australia, Singapore, the rest of Asia, South America and Africa is a big win for those persons impacted... and also a big win for the country of Luxembourg.

On the day of the vote, I took a dozen woman leaders with me to sit in the gallery of the Chamber of Deputies to watch and listen to the discussion and see the final outcome. We all were very pleased that every attending member of the Chamber of Deputies in the room voted yes to approve this change. Fixing this law and correcting the inherent structural discrimination against women was the right thing to do. Our hats are off, and all compliments to this country we all love! Please see the excellent <u>article</u> written for us explaining all of this which has been prepared by two lawyers from the Brouxel & Rabia law firm who joined us in the gallery and have been monitoring this legal change for us for some time, at our request. Likewise stay tuned in the coming weeks for a further article co-written by the founder of a major Luxembourg relocation company and the government offices of Adem, giving their official views and further information.

We are pleased to announce the launch of our newest committee, which will be chaired by Italo di Lorenzo of Amazon with our AmCham mandate for managing government relations. This past Friday, Mr. di Lorenzo came with Daniel McKenzie, Anne Perä and myself to have a day of meetings with our counterparts and partners from the American Chambers accredited to the EU in Brussels. AmCham EU has been doing this mission for many years now and we welcomed their advice, wise counsel and their agreement to partner with us as we seek to track and manage the full range of Luxembourg and EU government affairs projects. We are undertaking this initiative in an effort to better serve you. Please contact us for further information if this project interests you.

We are also delighted to announce that Amazon will be hosting us for a round table conversation with key politicians - moderated by David Arendt - which will take place just shortly before the national elections with a total focus on economic prosperity issues. Please see the details here and join us.

Our feature in this digital newsletter is with Minister Henri Kox who has the responsibility for the management of the national police and for government housing policy and actions. I admit that it has taken some time to bring this conversation with Minister Kox to you all. But we believe he is well worth the wait. Enjoy the interview!

Two Sundays ago, Daniel, Miriam, Anne and I spent the day at Abbaye de Neumünster managing a booth at the first ever Expat Days hosted by LuxTimes & Mediahuis and attended by over 7,000 attendees. It was a great day with brilliant information sharing and networking. Out compliments to Robert Hever and his team for their great effort to make this a success. If you missed us this year, don't worry but do make sure you join us next year when we will do this again!

This past Sunday, I spent with our friend and partner organization, Avia Sport, at Findel airport, as they presented the requirements and opportunities to persons wishing to study and be approved to have private pilot licensees. We like and respect Bill Erpelding and his colleagues at Avia Sport for their passion and professionalism about flying. Their club owns 5 aircraft and has 150 members, all of whom are totally passionate about flying. 41 people attended the training sessions and many also took the opportunity to take aircraft rides from the pilot member of the club. I am very happy to admit that I had a great flight myself! If you have any interest in private flying, remember their name: Avia Sport! If you think you have heard the name before, but are not sure where, we partnered with these pilots and their aircraft last year to take the NATO Ambassadors accredited to Luxembourg on a fly-in to the USAF F-16 fighter base at Spangdahlem Air Base in Germany... a day we all will long remember!

Inside this newsletter, you will also see a great recipe from our favorite chef/entrepreneur Bibi Wintersdorf, generous offers associated with our Member Benefits Club (MBC) Program and many more pieces of useful information.

Before I close, I want to give a shout out to Tetjana Karpenko who produces the Expat Stories program for Radio ARA. Tetjana very kindly allowed me to be interviewed with the results published last week and available on line from 15 September. Thanks Tetjana for brilliantly interviewing me and giving me this opportunity to tell some aspects of my and AmCham's stories!

As always I close by thanking you, readers, for letting us serve you. If you like what you see, tell your friends and encourage them to talk to us about joining the very biggest and best private Chamber of Commerce in Luxembourg... all nationalities are welcome!

With all our respect and very best wishes,

Paul Schonenberg Chairman and CEO AmCham.lu

AMCHAM upcoming events



This month's events

20/9/2023 (10:00 am) AI: hopes and fears for an inclusive workplace

The theme of the conference revolves around examining the challenges and opportunities posed by AI in promoting diversity, equity and inclusion amongst HR professionals.

20/9/2023 (6:00pm) Election event Focused on Finance & Economy

Amcham has the pleasure to partner up with Amazon for an exclusive election event which will be focused on Finance and Economy.

26/9/2023 Exploring the Impact of New Draft Bills on the Real Estate and Financial Industry

This event will shed light on the profound implications of the latest draft bills on the real estate and financial sectors.

Past Event Highlights



Expat Day 2023



10th anniversary of the Luxembourg International Polo Tournament



Learning Fest'23 Webinar Series is now online



Click here to see our full event listing until 2024, including

- Thanksgiving Gala Dinner
- Amcham Christmas Lunch
- Transatlantic Trade and Investment Event
- Town Hall Meeting

AMCHAM Member Benefits Club

Welcome new Partners



MBC feature: first half of 2023 roundup

It all started in March 2021, when AmCham, the American Chamber of Commerce in Luxembourg, your largest private Chamber of Commerce in Luxembourg, decided that it needed to do more for their members and also to help the Luxembourg economy. Covid was slowly phasing out and the world had changed, and new habits had come into place. More orders from online companies seemed to be the new norm. Something needed to change in order to get foot traffic back into stores again.

With a strong base of over +10'000 email addresses on our database and a newsletter going out over 40 times a year on Thursday mornings, it was a signal that something could be done to help the shops in Luxembourg and the economy.

Businesses were called and it was a very timid start, some businesses had never heard of us. Others thought it was a great idea. So, with some partners already signed on we started the AMBC (AmCham Members Benefits Club).

The AMBC is a program that offers exclusive discounts and benefits to AmCham members. We partner with businesses in the local community to provide discounts and other benefits to our members. This helps to strengthen the relationship between AmCham and the local business community, while also providing our members with exclusive savings. The AMBC is open to all AmCham members. Businesses can join the program by signing up with an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding).



Luxdates is an international, safe, serious and discreet Introduction Agency for educated and sophisticated singles in Luxembourg & the Greater Region.



Flowbox is dedicated to provide the best quality crossfit and yoga experience for its members.



Éveil des Sens can help you relieve your aches and pains with this facial reflexology method.



AMBC Partner specials of the season

>>> Click here to learn all about the Members Benefits Club

Welcome to AMCHAM's Newest Members

Ambitious finance leaders use **Prophix** to drive progress. By improving the speed and accuracy of decision making, Prophix's Financial Performance Platform elevates the talents of finance teams to do their best work. Crush complexity, reduce uncertainty, and illuminate insights with access to best-in-class Al insights and planning, budgeting, forecasting, reporting, and consolidation functionalities. Prophix is a private company, backed by Hg Capital, a leading investor in software and services businesses. More than 2,500 active customers across the globe rely on Prophix to achieve organizational success.

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The **EC Group** is a global player in the field of high-quality and sophisticated composite materials. We serve our customers from all over the world from three production locations. Our consistent growth has made us a leading company in the composite world. In order to meet changing market needs, EC improves continuously: new products, new technologies, deeper integration with our customers and new organizational methods such as methods-time measurement. We are one of the leading manufacturers of complex composite products worldwide. We deliver tailored solutions just-in-time and in the highest quality: Structures, Ready-to-assemble parts, formed and / or milled composites parts, panels, laminates, and honeycomb core materials.

Debevoise & Plimpton is a premier law firm with market-leading practices, a global perspective and strong New York roots.

More than 900 lawyers work in nine offices across three continents, within integrated global practices, serving clients around the world. In the last year, our teams advised on matters in more than 90 countries. We are known for developing a deep understanding of our clients, and pursuing every matter with intensity and creativity.

Our Luxembourg office opened in 2020, and is focused on assisting clients with the establishment of funds and regulatory matters. The team plays a key role in the firm's work with the world's leading private funds.

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Coolum Limited provides equity research and analysis, financial modelling, due diligence, valuation and transaction advisory services to international clients in Metals & Mining, Commodities, Energy and Infrastructure. Also offers commercial strategy and performance, project management, outsourced CFO / COO and company secretariat services. Projects include:

- Due diligence and valuation services for multijurisdictional pre-IPO mining projects, detailed equity research reports, multi-mine financial models with management interrogation on financing and accounting methods.
- Transaction services, preparation of information memoranda and prospectus, investor recommendations, investment research reports, and market intelligence on public-private partnership infrastructure projects.
- Development & implementation of management reporting tools for infrastructure project. Project management and IT coordination for data transformation project. Rebuild of PPP infrastructure database in Excel & VBA.
- Real estate valuation and transaction services for co-living / co-working project in Berlin: preparation of financial models to support planning and execution of transactions. Delivery of first stage of real estate development.



>>> Interested in joining AMCHAM? Click here for more info

News from our Members

News of interest



PWC - Use of Data Analytics and Artificial Intelligence in Luxembourg - 2023 edition

2023 has been a formidable year for AI. Elaborated reports with a single click, studio quality photographs with a simple text query - we are truly living in the age of generative AI. Luxembourg's companies are already investigating the use of this technology as part of their broader strategy around Data and AI.

PwC Luxembourg has conducted the third edition of this study to generate insights on the use of Data & AI technologies in Luxembourg. Our last study in 2021 highlighted how Luxembourg is increasingly data-driven, while facing a challenging talent and investment landscape. Things are progressing at astonishing speed. With new EU Regulations expected in the summer of 2023 and the explosion of generative AI solutions on the market, the time is right to look at this topic again.

- AKD Alternative Investment Funds Quarterly Update
- Arendt: Stefan Staedter appointed Head of Arendt's New York office
- Brouxel&Rabia Brouxel & Rabia: on the new employment scheme for third country nationals

- Chronicle: Goodyear Restructuring Plan Announced
- **LuxTimes**: Households more confident over future finances, central bank says
- What we did over the Summer!
- Paul Schonenberg interviewed by Radio ARA's "Expat Stories"
- AmCham CEO takes flight
- AmCham Lux staff visits AmCham EU in Brussels
- LuxTimes held a day for expats
- Top Tips from AMCHAM Luxembourg Learning Fest'23
- Picture highlights from Expat Day on September 3
 - Adem issues new guidelines for Luxembourg employers
 - FEDIL releases note on the new procedure for hiring third-country nationals
 - Statistiques.lu : Conjoncture Flash" Report August 2023
 - Securex: What entitles an employee to family leave?
- European Commission: proposes steps to make it easier for Europeans to live, work and travel abroad
- Minister Fayot: the missions and activities of LuxNCP

USEFUL LINKS AND OTHER INFORMATION



QUOTE OF THE WEEK



JOB VACANCIES



WHAT'S ON in Luxembourg

Every week, we gather a list of events, happenings and going on that we hope will be interesting to you, our dear reader.



PAUL'S KITCHEN

This week recipe is Orecchiette al Ragù



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