

# Luxembourg Embassy Newsletter

**May 2014**

Dear reader,

The Embassy of Luxembourg in Ankara is pleased to send you the new version of its newsletter. In this issue, you will find a special focus on the space industry, as well as economic and cultural news about Luxembourg.

You are always welcome to send your comments to our e-mail at [ankara.amb@mae.etat.lu](mailto:ankara.amb@mae.etat.lu) and to visit our website at <http://ankara.mae.lu/en/>.

Enjoy our newsletter!

## **SPECIAL FOCUS: SPACE**

### **An experience of more than 25 years...**



The space industry is a key high-tech sector for Luxembourg. Since its entry into space business more than 25 years ago, Luxembourg has constantly promoted the development of its key players in this highly specialised sector.



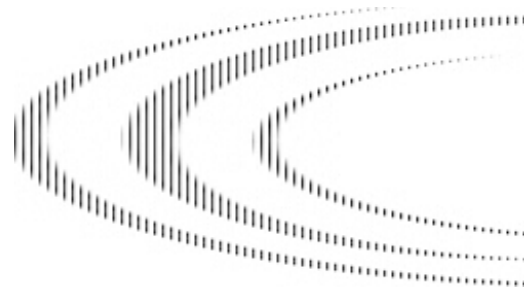
SES, the world's leading satellite group, was established in Luxembourg in 1985 to provide the pioneering satellite communication services for which it has since become renowned throughout Europe and around the world.

The second step in positioning the country in the Space sector was Luxembourg's accession to the European Space Agency (ESA) in 2005. In 2012, Luxembourg took over the chairmanship of ESA, together with Switzerland, for a period of 3 years (2012-2015), and many

highly advanced technology companies operate in the space sector of Luxembourg, such as Euro-Composites, Gradel, Hitec Luxembourg and LuxSpace to name but a few.

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## Luxembourg Space Cluster



The Luxembourg Space Cluster brings together renowned and highly specialised companies and public research organisations in order to develop specific technology topics as well as collaborative RDI projects. The Luxembourg Space Cluster focuses on the following thematic areas: Space telecommunications, Global Navigation Satellite System and Location based Applications, Earth

observation, Maritime security and safety, Space related technologies.

**<http://www.spacecluster.lu/>**

The Luxembourg Space Cluster publishes Newsletters about the latest developments, news & events in the innovative space technologies sector in Luxembourg. Subscription is free of charge: **<http://www.spacecluster.lu/newsletter/subscribe>**

**Industry group for the aeronautic and space industry:  
GLAE**



Following Luxembourg's accession to the European Space Agency (ESA), GLAE (Groupement luxembourgeois de l'aéronautique et de l'espace), an industry group for the aeronautic and space industry, was constituted. Members include all the leading companies in the space sector in Luxembourg. GLAE offers Luxembourg's companies the opportunity to create synergies and partnerships at the national and European level for both the private and the public sector. GLAE operates in total synergy and

complementarity. <http://www.glae.lu/>

## NEWS

### BENCHMARKS

#### Luxembourg, only EU Member State to register a government surplus



According to latest Eurostat figures, Luxembourg was the only EU Member State to register a government surplus in 2013, accounting for 0.1% of GDP. The maximum of 3% budget deficit defined in the Maastricht Treaty were surpassed by ten member states. Luxembourg also had the second

lowest government debt in the Eurozone (23.1%). The latest figures once more underline Luxembourg's stable economic situation – one of the fundamentals of the success of Luxembourg's financial centre. As one of the few remaining European countries, Luxembourg is still AAA rated.

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#### Luxembourg is the 3rd most economic globalised country worldwide

ETH Zurich has published the 2014

edition of the Index on globalisation entitled "KOF Index of globalization". This index measures the economic, social and

political dimensions of globalisation based on a set of twenty-three variables. Based on these three categories, the KOF index measures globalisation on a scale of 1 (least globalised) to 100 (most globalised). Luxembourg's performance is particularly high in the economic dimension of globalisation for which the country ranks 3rd, with a score of 92.53 out of 100. The economic dimension measures the flow of goods, services and capital, information and perceptions that are related to commercial exchanges, as well as the barriers to capital flows and trade.

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## Luxembourg ranked 2nd in global green index



Luxembourg has been ranked the second most environmentally friendly country in the world out of 178 assessed for a report by Yale and Columbia universities. The 2014 Environmental Performance Index put the Grand Duchy just behind Switzerland, and the country was top with the maximum possible score for the Biodiversity and Habitat and the Water and Sanitation categories. Other factors considered in compiling the index include water resources, air quality, forests, health impacts and climate and energy.

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## FINANCE AND INNOVATION

## Luxembourg Future Fund on track

The Luxembourg Future Fund, designed



development of a venture capital ecosystem in Luxembourg. The size of the fund will be € 150 million, co-financed by SNCI (€ 120 million) and the European Investment Fund (€ 30 million).

to encourage companies to establish themselves in Luxembourg is expected to be operational between July and September 2014. The fund aims at supporting the diversification and the sustainable development of the Luxembourg economy by helping to attract innovative entrepreneurial activities from abroad. The fund will invest in innovative SMEs active in various areas of technology including ICT and will therefore contribute to the

## INDUSTRY

### Luxaviation becomes number one in Europe



The Luxembourg group, already present in Belgium, Germany and France, has acquired the biggest operator in the UK, London Executive Aviation, and gains the leadership of the sector in the old continent. Luxaviation has also an office in Singapore and it now aims to concentrate on developing activities in Asia, while continuing to integrate its different companies in Europe.

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## ICT

### Luxembourg strengthens its position as an ICT hub



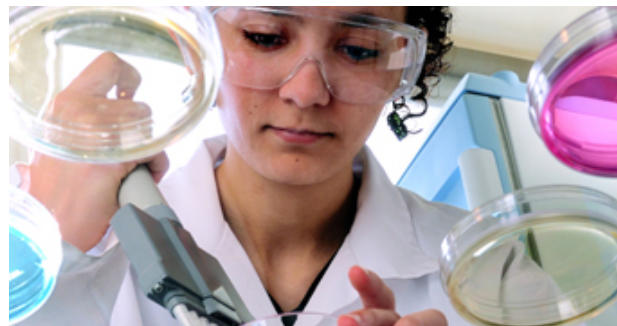
Europe4StartUps is a non-profit organization based in Luxembourg that aims at helping promising eBusiness and multimedia companies to start up or boost their ventures in Europe by offering them 12 months' worth of unconditional, premium cloud, networking and

business services for free. On 23 April, a special event, «Together Strong Party» was organised in Luxembourg, gathering all the stakeholders of the ICT start-up ecosystem in the Grand-Duchy, including Europe4StartUps. The objective was to strengthen Luxembourg's position as an ICT hub that is favorable to innovative business creators. "Today, Luxembourg becomes a nation that is internationally recognised as favorable to the development of start-ups" says the President of Europe4StartUps, H  l  ne Michel.

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## BIOTECHNOLOGIES

## Biotech start-ups gathered in Luxembourg



On 30 April, 10 pre-selected start-up companies from various European countries, operating in the field of biotechnologies, gathered at Luxembourg's Technoport, in order to introduce themselves to potential investors, on the occasion of the "Biotech Venture Lounge". Many pharma companies already use Luxembourg as a

logistics platform, but now, Luxembourg also invites them to develop their research activities and propose new solutions in/from Luxembourg.

## LOGISTICS

## Cargolux named Best Freighter-Only Airline

British trade magazine Air Cargo News





has presented Cargolux Airlines International SA with its «Best Freighter-Only Award» during the «31st Cargo Airline of the Year» event on April 26, 2014 at the Lancaster London Hotel. Votes were cast by the readers of Air Cargo News who are drawn from the global freight forwarding industry.

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## CULTURE

### Exhibition themed "Luxembourg, my beloved country" in Izmir



The exhibition themed "Luxembourg, my beloved country", which was first inaugurated by the Embassy of Luxembourg in Ankara at the international terminal of Atatürk Airport in Istanbul, in March, has now moved to Izmir. Since 7 May, the works of Jacques Schneider, the young photographer-artificer of Luxembourg origins, are displayed at the "Ahmed Adnan Saygun Art Centre" in Izmir. An opening reception was organised for the

exhibition by the Honorary Consulate of Luxembourg in Izmir, which was attended by the new Honorary Consul, Mrs Feyhan Yaşar, as well as many representatives from the business community in the region.

### Luxembourg Coproduction at Cannes Film Festival



The Luxembourg coproduction "Amour



"Fou" has been selected to compete in the 2014 Cannes Film Festival, which takes place on 14-25 May. Less than two months after "Mr Hublot" received an Academy Award, another Luxembourg co-production is under the spotlights, confirming the success of Luxembourg cinematographic industry.

"Amour Fou" by Jessica Hausner is competing under the "Un Certain Regard" section of the prestigious festival, a section which has been rewarding more original and unusual movies since it was introduced in 1978. The film, which is coproduced by Amour Fou Luxembourg, is a "romantic comedy" based loosely on the suicide of the poet Henrich von Kleist in 1811 Germany.

## CONSULAR AFFAIRS

### Visas for residents in Turkey



Visas for residents in Turkey are currently issued by the Embassy of Luxembourg in Ankara, in cooperation with the external service provider VFS Global located in Istanbul.

Applicants for a Schengen visa or residence permit in Luxembourg can directly contact the consular offices in Ankara or VFS Global in Istanbul (Tel: 0212 373 58 09 in order to fix an appointment.

Details regarding the application procedures can

be found at:

<http://ankara.mae.lu/tr/VIZE-Konsolosluk-Hizmetleri/Tuerk-Vatandaslari-VIZE>

## FUTURE EVENTS

### Seed4Start, 5 June 2014, Luxembourg





Seed4Start, a crossborder platform of risk capital in the Greater Region, will organise a breakfast presentation in Luxembourg, on 5 June 2015, in order to gather innovative start-ups and private investors. The event will start at 8:30 at Technoport. Registration is possible through "seed4start@cc.lu"

and the program is available on [www.seed4start.org](http://www.seed4start.org)

## The Greater Region Business Days 2014, 18 & 19 June 2014, Luxembourg



The Greater Region Business days will bring together several micro events spread over 2 days utilising the various facets of business networking and partnership building. The aim of the organisers is to build a platform with high dynamism and momentum to respond to the requirements of SMEs in the current economic scenario by providing new business opportunities. With the GR Business Days you will have more interesting ways to find new partners,

enlarge your products and service range, explore new technologies and more... Furthermore, you will have the opportunity to participate in interactive conferences, workshops, networking receptions and symposiums to get an insight into economic perspectives amongst the business community in the greater region and beyond.

Easy & quick: Register online [www.gr-businessdays.com](http://www.gr-businessdays.com)

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