

Fourth Study 2018

## Attracting and retaining international students in the EU

Luxembourg



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The European Migration Network, created by Council Decision no. 2008/381/EC of 14 May 2008, has the objective of supplying up-to-date, objective, reliable and comparable information on migration and asylum in the Community institutions, to the authorities and institutions of the Member States and to the general public with a view to support policy- and decision-making with the European Union.

## Preface

The opinions expressed in this report are those of the authors. They do not necessarily reflect the positions of the Luxembourg Ministry for Family, Integration and the Greater Region or of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs.

The present report was drafted by Ralph Petry, Nicolas Coda and Adolfo Sommarribas, staff members of the National Contact Point Luxembourg within the European Migration Network, under the overall responsibility of Prof. Dr. Birte Nienaber. Continuous support was provided by the members of the national network of the National Contact Point Luxembourg: Sylvain Besch (CEFIS), Christiane Martin (Directorate of Immigration, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs), François Peltier (STATEC) and Marc Hayot (OLAI, Ministry for Family, Integration and the Greater Region).

## Methodology

National reports are produced by the respective National Contact Points (NCPs) on the legal and policy situation in their Member State according to common specifications. Subsequently, a comparative synthesis report is generated by the European Commission with its service provider giving the key findings from each national report, highlighting the most important aspects and placing them as much as possible within an EU perspective. The various national accounts and the summary report are made publicly available.

The EMN engages primarily in desk research, i.e. it collects and analyses data and information already available or published at the Member State or international level. Legal texts, official documents (such as parliamentary documents) and reports have been used for this study. Furthermore, experts from the following stakeholders have been consulted: the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs as well as from various departments of the University of Luxembourg, namely the Student Department, the Student Admission Office, the International Relations Office, the Alumni Relations Office as well as the Responsible of the Career Centre and Entrepreneurship programme.

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# EMN STUDY 2018

## Attracting and retaining international students in the EU

### National Contribution from Luxembourg

*Disclaimer: The following information has been provided primarily for the purpose of contributing to a Synthesis Report for this EMN Study. The EMN NCP has provided information that is, to the best of its knowledge, up-to-date, objective and reliable within the context and confines of this study. The information may thus not provide a complete description and may not represent the entirety of the official policy of the EMN NCPs' Member State.*

### Top-line factsheet

*The top-line factsheet will serve as an overview of the **National Contribution** introducing the Study and drawing out key facts and figures from across all sections, with a particular emphasis on elements that will be of relevance to (national) policy-makers. Please add any innovative or visual presentations that can carry through into the synthesis report as possible infographics and visual elements.*

*Please provide a concise summary of the main findings of Sections 1-5:*

Unlike many other EU Member States, the higher education system in Luxembourg is marked by a particular characteristic, namely the fact that the University of Luxembourg is the only public university in the country. Established by law in 2003, the University of Luxembourg is therefore the main actor in the higher education system and hosts the large majority of international students in Luxembourg (see statistical annex).

In addition to the University of Luxembourg, two more types of institutions complement the higher education system in Luxembourg and are recognised by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research as higher education institutions (hereafter referred to as 'HEIs'), namely: 1. Secondary educational institutions offering educational programmes that award an advanced technician's certificate ('*Brevet de technicien supérieur*' – 'BTS'); 2. Private foreign universities having infrastructures or campus in Luxembourg. In order to be able to award higher education diplomas as well as to host international students, all HEIs are mandatorily required to be approved by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, with the exception of the University of Luxembourg because it was established by law.

The admission conditions for international students to study at a HEI in Luxembourg are twofold: First, the international student must apply and be accepted at an approved HEI or at the University of Luxembourg. Second, once accepted at a HEI, s/he needs to apply for a temporary authorisation of stay, and subsequently, if applicable, a Visa D (valid for 3 months), from his/her country of origin before being authorised to travel to Luxembourg and before being issued a 'student' residence permit (valid for minimum 1 year and renewable) in Luxembourg. To conclude, the HEIs in Luxembourg, under the overall auspice of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, as well as the immigration authorities are the main stakeholders in the context of international students studying in Luxembourg.

The statistics related to immigration as well as to higher education show that international students are a constantly growing migratory group in Luxembourg and contribute to the internationalisation of the national higher education system, in particular via the University of Luxembourg. While the immigration authorities issued 343 'student' residence permits in 2013 (first issuances and renewals)<sup>i</sup>, this number had nearly doubled in 2017 (606 first issuances and renewals).<sup>ii</sup> The Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (hereafter referred to as 'Directorate of Immigration') reported that, as of 1 October 2018, 542 'student' residence permits are valid in Luxembourg.<sup>iii</sup> A look at the statistics related to higher education shows a similar picture, with, however, higher number of international students enrolled in HEIs. Between the academic years 2013-2014 and 2017-2018, the student body of the

University of Luxembourg, for example, stayed relative stable, with between 6.200 and 6.400 total students per academic year (see statistical annex). However, the share of international students had increased from around 9% in 2013-2014 to around 13% in 2017-2018 (see statistical annex).

This being said, it is important to highlight the fact that the data related to HEIs does not allow to draw a distinction between international students arriving in Luxembourg for the purpose of study (i.e. with a 'student' residence permit) and those currently residing in Luxembourg and holding a different residence permit (i.e. international protection, family member, etc.). Moreover, some international students may have a resident permit of a neighbouring country, but study in Luxembourg. These factors explain the gap between the statistics related to 'student' residence permits (mentioned above) and the international students enrolled in HEIs (see statistical annex).

Luxembourg transposed the Directive (EU) 2016/801 by the Law of 1 August 2018, which amended the amended 'Immigration Law' and entered into force on 21 September 2018. In this context, the study highlights in particular the introduction of a new residence permit for 'private reasons' in view of seeking employment or establishing a business in Luxembourg. This residence permit was newly introduced by the transposition of the Directive and allows international graduates to remain in the country for a maximum duration of nine months in order to find a job or establish a business in relation to their academic training. Prior to the transposition, international students were only able to change their immigration status to 'salaried worker' immediately after their graduation. Moreover, the transposition modified a number of legal dispositions, such as the increase of the maximum amount of hours that students are authorised to work, from 10 hours to 15 hours per week. Furthermore, Bachelor students enrolled in their first year of academic studies as well as students enrolled in a study programme awarding them a 'BTS' are no longer excluded from exercising a salaried activity as allowed by law. Lastly, the transposition also facilitates the intra-European mobility of international students who follow a European or multilateral programme that contains mobility measures or a convention between two or more HEIs.

The consulted stakeholders reported that they are not yet able to evaluate the impacts of the transposition because, as mentioned above, the Law of 1 August 2018 only entered into force on 21 September 2018. In addition to this transposition, the Law of 8 March 2017 amended the access to the labour market for international students by authorising them to change their status to 'salaried worker' or 'independent worker' under a number of conditions and thus to integrate into the labour market permanently.

The attraction and retention of international students are not considered as a national political priority per se by the Luxembourgish authorities, but have to be perceived in an overall national political priority of attracting "talents" to Luxembourg, i.e. (highly) qualified persons, regardless of their nationality and in the interest of the country and its economy. In this context, Luxembourg particularly identified several priority fields, such as the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) because of the needs of the Luxembourgish labour market in this sector.

The stakeholders consulted in the context of this study identified several factors that may have positive effects on the attraction and retention of international students. These include, among others:

- the geographical position of Luxembourg with an important financial sector and several European institutions
- the multilingual environment of the country as well as the University of Luxembourg
- the HEI ranking of the University of Luxembourg
- the comparatively low levels of tuition fees, particularly of the national public HEIs
- the fact that the level tuition fees is the same for every student, no matter his/her nationality, with the exception of examples from private HEIs

Furthermore, the consulted stakeholders identified several examples of good practices in the context of this study, such as for example:

- A close and diligent collaboration between all stakeholders, in particular between the Directorate of Immigration, the Ministry of Higher Education and Research and the University of Luxembourg
- Quality management of private HEI (mainly through the approval procedure) in view of the best interest of students

- Affordable tuitions fees in the higher education system

At the same time, the consulted stakeholders have identified several challenges, such as:

- the languages of instruction (with a strong emphasis on French and German especially at the Bachelor/'BTS' levels) and the primary working languages (French and Luxembourgish)
- socio-economic factors, particularly the high costs of living and the challenge of finding affordable housing
- authenticity and veracity of transmitted diplomas in the context of a diploma recognition
- a challenging procedure related to the entrance exam for international students who hold a high school diploma issued in a country that is not a signatory country of Paris/Lisbon conventions
- potential misuse of the 'student' residence permit in view of trying to stay in the country instead of succeeding in the studies.

In addition to the major legislative change introduced by the transposition of the Directive and the various factors and challenges mentioned above, the study also highlights a number of initiatives, offered in particular by the University of Luxembourg, aiming to support international students after their graduation and to encourage them to establish and/or maintain a connection to the national labour market.

The study concludes with a section on bilateral and multilateral cooperation with third countries, both at the level of the Luxembourgish State as well as at the level of HEIs. The cooperation led by the Luxembourgish State takes place within the framework of economic or cultural missions, the framework of the ERA Roadmap ('European Research Area') that includes the development of a national Higher Education, Research and Innovation strategy, or the framework of the national development cooperation policy. International cooperation agreements of the University of Luxembourg cover a wide range of partner universities worldwide and include, in particular, student and research exchanges, common research projects as well as capacity building in the countries of origin.



## Section 1: National legal and policy framework in the Member State

*This section aims to provide an overview of the national policies in the Member States and Norway related to entry and residence of third-country nationals as students. The focus should be put on the recent changes that have been introduced in Member States and Norway since 2012.<sup>1</sup>*

*Please note: Statistics provided in Annex 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 will be used to contextualise the national legal and policy framework reported on by Member States in this section.*

**Q1a.** What is the **transposition status** of Directive (EU) 2016/801 in your national law?

- transposition completed.
- in process: completion of transposition expected by:
- other, please specify:

The transposition of Directive (EU) 2016/801 has been implemented by the Law of 1 August 2018<sup>iv</sup>, which amends the amended Law of 29 August 2008 on free movement of persons and immigration (hereafter referred to as 'Immigration Law') and which entered into force on 21 September 2018.

**Q1b.** Are **doctoral candidates** (PhD students) treated as students or researchers under national law? *Please note that if doctoral candidates fall within the category of researchers, these should not be considered in the answers to the subsequent questions.*

- PhD students are treated as students
- PhD students are treated as researchers
- Other

*Please elaborate:*

In accordance with the Immigration Law<sup>v</sup> and the Law of the University of Luxembourg<sup>vi</sup>, PhD students are considered as students and not as researchers. Their student residence permit includes the notion 'doctoral training' ('*formation doctorale*' in French).<sup>vii</sup>

**Q1c.** What are the **main changes** to: (a) law, (b) policy and (c) practice since 2012 with regard to international students? Please specify whether these changes were made in response to Directive (EU) 2016/081 or other national policy priorities.

*Please describe briefly:*

- a) Regarding the **changes to law** with regard to international students, it is necessary to divide between the changes to law regarding the Immigration Law and changes to law related to the higher education system overall.

A. Main changes regarding the Immigration Law

1. The Law of 8 March 2017, which amended the access to the labour market for international students.<sup>viii</sup> The amendment proposed to allow third-country nationals authorised to stay in Luxembourg as 'students' to change their status to 'salaried worker' or 'independent worker' under a number of conditions and thus to integrate into the labour market permanently.<sup>ix</sup> For instance, students wishing to change their status must have successfully completed the last year of a five-year university degree in Luxembourg having resulted in a diploma of higher education or have successfully defended their doctoral thesis in Luxembourg.<sup>x</sup> The salaried work they intend to exercise must be related to their diploma.<sup>xi</sup> Until the entry-into-force of the changes introduced by the law of 8 March 2017, students were not allowed to change status and would at most be granted an authorisation to stay for 'salaried worker', which was valid for a maximum of two years and not renewable.

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<sup>1</sup> The last EMN studies related to this public were published in 2013 (see the study on Highly qualified migrants at [https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european\\_migration\\_network/reports/studies\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/reports/studies_en))

2. The agreement between the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Republic of Cape Verde concluded on 13 October 2015 in Luxembourg and approved by the Law of 20 July 2017.<sup>xii</sup> The agreement foresees that Cape Verdean students can stay in Luxembourg to gain a first professional experience after they have successfully finalised a cycle having led to a diploma of higher education in Luxembourg. In this context, a temporary authorisation of stay for a maximum period of two years can be issued if the conditions of the Immigration Law are fulfilled and the salaried activity is in relation to his/her academic training.<sup>xiii</sup> Furthermore, the law foresees the encouragement of reinserting the students in their country of origin after the first professional experience.<sup>xiv</sup>
3. The Law of 1 August 2018 amending the amended Immigration Law, which, as mentioned above, transposed Directive (EU) 2016/801 into national law.<sup>xv</sup> The adoption of this law introduced several main legislative modifications, namely:
  - a) The possibility of the issuance of a residence permit for 'private reasons' for a duration of nine months at most (i.e. not renewable) in view of seeking employment or establishing a business (see also Q14a).<sup>xvi</sup>
  - b) The extension of the maximum duration of a salaried activity for international students from 10 hours per week to 15 hours per week as well as the abrogation of the restriction on students enrolled in a study programme awarding them an advanced technician's certificate ('*Brevet de technicien supérieur*' – 'BTS') or enrolled in the first year of a Bachelor programme (see also Q8a).<sup>xvii</sup>
  - c) The facilitation of intra-European mobility of international students (and researchers) who follow an European or multilateral programme that contains mobility measures or a convention between two or more HEIs. The validity of the residence permit issued to students who follow such a programme is of at least two years, or the duration of the period of mobility, if this period is inferior to two years.<sup>xviii</sup> As for international students who have been issued an authorisation to stay as a student by a first Member State due to their participation in European or multilateral programme that contains mobility measures or a convention between two or more HEIs, they can stay and study in Luxembourg for a period of 360 days at most.<sup>xix</sup> The student, or the student's HEI in Luxembourg, must notify the authorities of the first Member State and the minister in charge of Immigration<sup>xx</sup> of the intention that part of the studies will be carried out in Luxembourg.<sup>xxi</sup> A certificate is issued by the minister in charge of Immigration certifying that the international student is authorised to stay in Luxembourg during the period of mobility.<sup>xxii</sup>
4. The transposition of the Directive into national law (see point 3. above) also required an amendment to the grand ducal regulation of 5 September 2008 in order to adapt the conditions of resources and accommodation due to the changes introduced by the transposition (see Q4h).<sup>xxiii</sup>

**B. Main changes related to the higher education system**<sup>xxiv</sup>

1. The law of 28 October 2016<sup>xxv</sup> transposing the Directive 2013/55/EU of 20 November 2013.<sup>xxvi</sup> This transposition established the creation of a national register of certificates of academic education, with which every students applying for a Master or doctoral programme needs to register his/her academic diplomas in order to be admitted to the HEI.
- b) Regarding the **changes to policy**, both related to the Immigration Law (A.) as well as to the higher education system overall (B.), the Directorate of Immigration as well as the Ministry of Higher Education and Research reported that no major modifications have been introduced in this regard.<sup>xxvii</sup>
  - c) The same goes for **changes to practice**, where the competent authorities have reported no major changes but only small adjustments in their respective administrative practices.<sup>xxviii</sup>

**Q1d.** Are **any changes planned** to law/ policy/ practice regarding international students in your Member State? Such planned changes could relate both to the transposition of the Students and Researchers Directive or other changes not pertaining to the Directive.

- Yes, changes planned related to the transposition of the Directive.
- Yes, changes planned not pertaining to the Directive.
- No changes planned.

*If you have answered yes, please provide details about the changes planned and the approximate timeframe, i.e. are these changes planned for the short- or long-term?:*

Considering the fact that the transposition of the Directive (EU) 2016/801 entered into force on 21 September 2018, the Directorate of Immigration reported that they could not yet determine if any further changes in regard to the Law of 1 August 2018 are foreseen in the short-term.<sup>xxix</sup>

Additionally, and taken into consideration that legislative elections were held on 14 October 2018 in Luxembourg, both the Directorate of Immigration as well as the Ministry of Higher Education and Research noted that they are awaiting the nomination of the new government in order to assess if changes will be planned regarding the law, policy and practice related to international students in Luxembourg.<sup>xxx</sup>

**Q1e.** Is attracting and retaining international students a **national policy priority, either within the national migration policies or compared to other national policies**? Please explain why.

- Yes, this is a national policy priority.
- No, this is not a major national policy priority.
- Other, please explain:

*Please elaborate:*

The Ministry of Higher Education and Research reported that attracting and retaining international student are not considered as a national political priority as such.

The overall national political priority consists rather of attracting "talents", i.e. (highly) qualified persons, regardless of their nationality and in the interest of the country and its economy. Thus, it is a meritocratic principle that prevails and which is based on equal treatment between all students.<sup>xxxi</sup>

Nevertheless, as mentioned in Q1c, certain legislative changes that have recently been implemented favour the situation of international students in view of remaining in Luxembourg after their graduation, most notably:

- a) The Law of 8 March 2017 amended article 59 of the Immigration Law, allowing international students, who completed a study cycle of at least 5 years or received a doctoral diploma, to change their status to "salaried worker" or "independent worker".<sup>xxxii</sup> This amendment allows these students to enter the labour market after their graduation and thereby to permanently settle in the country, allowing at the same time that Luxembourg benefits of the knowledge derived from these diplomas by integrating them permanently into the labour market.<sup>xxxiii</sup>
- b) The Law of 1 August 2018 amending the Immigration Law, allowing international students to obtain a 'private reasons' residence permit for the purpose of seeking employment or setting up a business.

**Q1f.** Does your Member State have a **national strategy**, or a **lower level (e.g. ministerial, regional) strategy**, for attracting and/or retaining international students?

- Yes, national strategy in place.
- Yes, lower level strategy in place.
- No, a national strategy is not in place.

*If you have answered yes, please indicate whether the strategy focuses on attraction, retention or both, and provide details about the main elements of the strategy (e.g. name, policy goals, year of adoption):*

There is neither a national or ministerial strategy nor dispositions in place that specifically target international students.<sup>xxxiv</sup>

However, higher education and research are promoted within the wider framework of Luxembourg's Nation Branding Strategy. The aim of this strategy is to nurture the image of the Grand Duchy in order to enhance its economic, cultural, tourist and political reputation throughout the world and to render it more attractive to talents, to tourists, for trade, to investors and businesses.<sup>xxxv</sup>

**Q1g.** Does your Member State target **specific fields of studies/subject areas** (outside bilateral/multilateral cooperation) as regards the attraction and/or retention of international students? If so, please briefly elaborate on the reasons why these fields of studies/subject areas are targeted. *Please select all boxes that apply.*

- Yes, specific fields of studies are targeted for the attraction of international students.
- Yes, specific fields of studies are targeted for the retention of international students.
- No specific fields of studies are targeted.

*If you have answered yes, please provide a list of the study fields targeted and the reasons. Please differentiate clearly between attraction and retention:*

The Ministry of Higher Education and Research reported that Luxembourg targets in particular the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) sector because of the needs of the Luxembourgish labour market in this sector.<sup>xxxvi</sup>

Furthermore, the Ministry reported that this phenomenon is also observed on a European and international level.<sup>xxxvii</sup>

At the level of the University of Luxembourg, a number of areas of research excellence have been identified and are in the process of being developed.<sup>xxxviii</sup> However, there is no explicit strategy for attracting international students in the context of the development of these areas of research excellence. The overall priority consists rather of attracting the best students and researchers.<sup>xxxix</sup>

**Q2.** Is there a current or recent **public debate** (i.e. within the past year) with regard to international students in your Member State (e.g. in Parliament, media, etc.)?

- Yes, there is a public debate at national level.
- No, there is no significant public debate at national level.<sup>xl</sup>

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on the main issues of the debate:*

N/A

**Q3.** What is the **structure and governance of the national higher education system** in your Member State? *Please answer by elaborating on the following aspects:*

The Ministry of Higher Education and Research<sup>xli</sup> is the competent authority of the higher education system in Luxembourg, whose legal framework is primarily established by the following legal texts:

- the amended Law of 19 June 2009 organising higher education;
- the amended Law of 27 June 2018 organising the University of Luxembourg;
- the Grand ducal regulation of 24 August 2016 on the approval of foreign higher education institutions and programmes in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.<sup>xlii</sup>

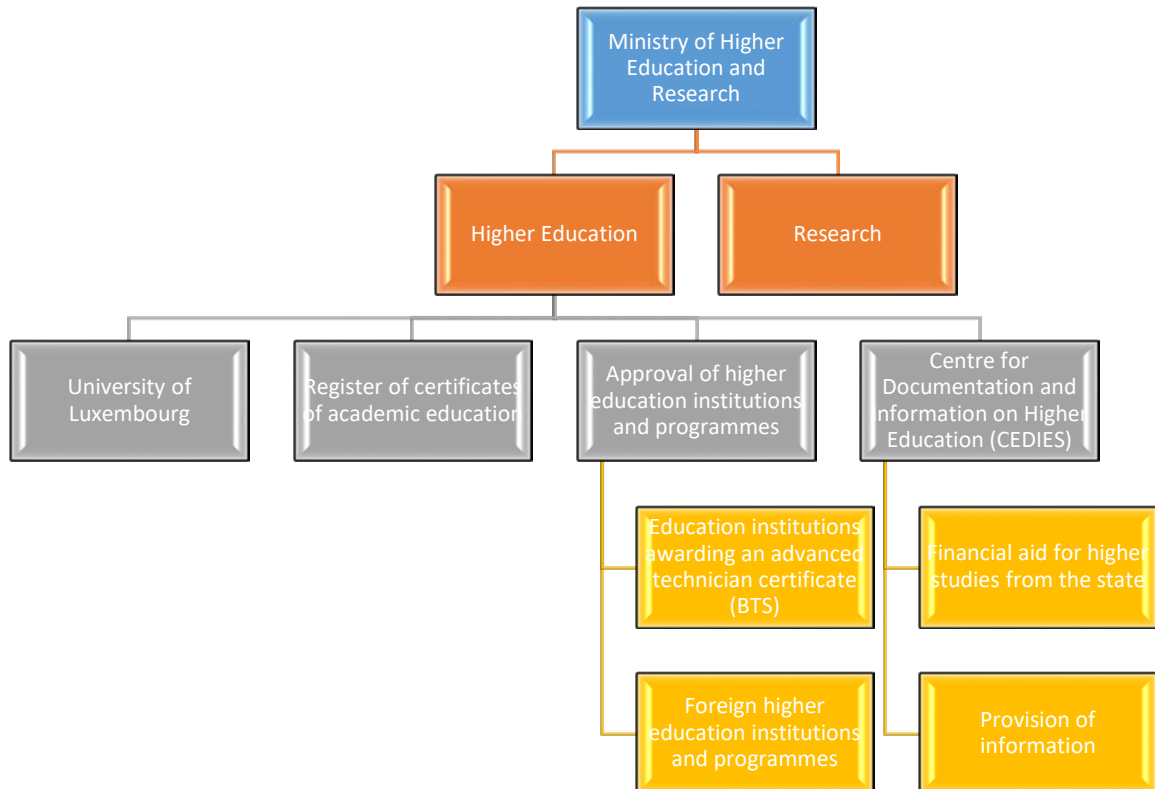
As indicated by the name, the Ministry of Higher Education and Research is divided in two major branches:

1. Higher Education;
2. Research and Innovation<sup>xliii</sup>

Within the branch entitled 'Higher Education', the Ministry of Higher Education and Research is responsible for the following areas of competences that are directly involved with higher education in Luxembourg (see also Figure 1 below):

- a) the University of Luxembourg<sup>xliv</sup>
- b) the register of certificates of academic education<sup>xlv</sup>
- c) the approval of higher education institutions and their study programmes<sup>xlvi</sup>
- d) the Centre for Documentation and Information on Higher Education (CEDIES)<sup>xlvii</sup>

**Figure 1: Main missions and duties of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research regarding higher education in Luxembourg**



Source: Ministry of Higher Education and Research, 2018 © LU EMN NCP

The Ministry of Higher Education and Research is the competent authority in charge of the approval of higher education institutions and their respective study programmes. These approvals are mandatorily required in order for higher education institutions to be able to award higher education diplomas as well as in order to be able to host international students (see Q3c for more information regarding the approval procedure).

The Immigration Law as well as the amended Law of 19 June 2009 organising higher education establish that the following institutions are considered as institutions of higher education in Luxembourg:

- a) University of Luxembourg<sup>xlviii</sup>
- b) Secondary educational institutions offering study courses awarding an advanced technician's certificate ('*Brevet de technicien supérieur*' – 'BTS') within the meaning of the Law of 4 September 1990 on the reform of secondary technical education and ongoing vocational training, as amended;<sup>xlix</sup>
- c) higher education institutions approved under the Law of 19 June 2009 organising higher-education

The higher education system in Luxembourg is marked by a particular characteristic, namely the fact that there is only one public university in the country, the University of Luxembourg. Created by the Law of 12

August 2003, the University of Luxembourg is exempted from an approval.<sup>i</sup> It hosts the large majority of international students in Luxembourg.<sup>ii</sup>

The public higher education system in Luxembourg is complemented by a number of secondary educational institutions offering educational programmes that award a 'BTS'. Both the secondary educational institutions as well as their educational programmes awarding a 'BTS' are mandatorily required to be approved by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research.

In addition to the public institutions mentioned above, there are a number of private foreign universities having infrastructures or campus in Luxembourg and that offer different types of educational programmes. As for the secondary educational institutions and their educational programmes awarding a 'BTS', these foreign higher education institutions as well as their study programmes have to be approved by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research (see answer to Q3c).

Furthermore, the register of certificates of academic education is also under the auspice of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research. Any international student needs to register his/her academic diploma at this register in order to be admitted to Master and doctoral education in Luxembourg (for more information, see also Q4c).

Lastly, the Ministry of Higher Education and Research is also the competent authority of the Centre for Documentation and Information on Higher Education (CEDIES), which has two main missions: 1. Manage the financial aid for higher education studies of the Luxembourgish State; 2. Provide information about the higher education system, the various study programmes and available scholarships in Luxembourg.

**Q3a.** Is there a specific **public entity(ies)** at national level which is responsible for international students in regards to their studies and what are they competent for? What is its role in the application process/supervision of these students?

*Please explain:*

No, there is no such entity in Luxembourg.<sup>iii</sup>

However, there are two public entities dedicated to higher education and students, namely the CEDIES (see Q3 above) as well as EURAXESS Luxembourg. The latter is the national contact point of the pan-European initiative launched by the European Commission and provides information and assistance to researchers (including PhD students) planning to migrate and settle in Luxembourg in the context of their research activities.<sup>iiii</sup>

**Q3b.** Do migration authorities cooperate with HEIs? If yes, in what ways do they cooperate? Is there an institutionalised cooperation mechanism?

Yes, migration authorities cooperate with HEIs.

No, migration authorities do not cooperate with HEIs.

*If you have answered yes, please explain the ways in which they cooperate:*

The Directorate of Immigration reported that the cooperation with HEIs in regard to immigration issues<sup>liv</sup> is regular and very good, in particular with the University of Luxembourg, which, as indicated in Q3, host the large majority of international students in Luxembourg.<sup>lv</sup>

The Directorate of Immigration regularly provides clarifications to HEIs on the legal framework in regard to international students that might be misinterpreted. The preferred approach consists of taking the shortest paths between the stakeholders involved, in particular between the persons in charge of the respective files of international students.<sup>lvi</sup>

The cooperation with the University of Luxembourg was particularly strengthened within the past two years. Between two and four formal meetings are held on a yearly basis, mainly on matters related to authorisations to stay for students, in order to improve the efficiency of the registration and arrival of international students in Luxembourg. In addition to these formal meetings, regular communication between the Directorate of Immigration and the University of Luxembourg are maintained via email/phone

calls.<sup>lvii</sup> The Student Department of the University of Luxembourg regularly transmits lists of accepted international students to the Directorate of Immigration in order to facilitate the issuance of authorisations to stay and avoid any risks of fraud.<sup>lviii</sup>

The Directorate of Immigration also acknowledged that, despite this very constructive cooperation, the awareness raising towards all stakeholders involved as well as a more general proactive approach in the context of legal and procedural changes could still be an element of improvement.<sup>lix</sup>

**Q3c.** Is there an approval procedure<sup>2</sup> in place in your Member State for public/private HEIs for the purpose of hosting international students? If so, are international students only allowed to study in those HEIs?

Yes.

No.

*Please explain. If you have answered yes, please indicate whether international students are only allowed to those in those HEIs:*

As elaborated in Q3, the Immigration Law<sup>lx</sup> establishes that the following institutions are considered higher education institutions, a precondition in order to be able to host international students:

1. The University of Luxembourg;
2. The education institutions offering study courses awarding a 'BTS' within the meaning of the Law of 4 September 1990 on reform of secondary technical education and ongoing vocational training, as amended;
3. Higher education institutions approved under the Law of 19 June 2009 organising higher education.

In order to be approved by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, a foreign higher education institution in Luxembourg must follow the following procedure:

- The institution must file its application for approval of the institution itself and/or the foreign higher education programme at the Ministry of Higher Education and Research between the 1<sup>st</sup> February and the 1<sup>st</sup> March of the previous year of the approval decision.<sup>lxi</sup>
- The Minister must take the decision on the admissibility of the application at the latest 2 months after the filing of the application (the application must be complete in order for the deadline to apply).<sup>lxii</sup> The Minister can be advised by a consultative group of experts.<sup>lxiii</sup>
- If the application is considered admissible, the approval application must be filed within a deadline of 2 months after the notification of the decision of admissibility.<sup>lxiv</sup> The application must contain all the information required detailing the objectives and indicating if the institution or the programme already benefit from an approval or have been subject of an external evaluation by a quality-notating agency.<sup>lxv</sup>
- The quality-notating agency must present an evaluation report. This report is submitted to the institution for eventual factual corrections. The definitive report must be filed by the agency within a deadline of 9 months after the date of the filing of the application. If the agency is not able to submit the report because of duly motivated reasons in the foreseen deadline, the Minister can extend the deadline for up to 3 months.<sup>lxvi</sup>
- The evaluation of the higher education institution or the programme must meet the criteria<sup>lxvii</sup> of the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area<sup>lxviii</sup> (ESG).<sup>lxix</sup>
- If the evaluation is positive, the Minister will grant the approval of the foreign higher education institution or programme.<sup>lxx</sup>

The University of Luxembourg is exempted from this approval procedure because it was established by the abrogated Law of 12 August 2003.

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<sup>2</sup> Article 15 of the Students and Researchers Directive

**Q3d.** Is higher education for third-country nationals funded by the state (i.e. state-sponsored) in your Member State?

- Yes, higher education is state-sponsored for third-country nationals.
- No, higher education is not state-sponsored for third-country nationals.
- Other (e.g. state support depends on the student's country of origin):

*Please elaborate:*

No, there are no dispositions in place that only target third-country national students.<sup>lxxi</sup>

## Section 2: Measures and incentives to **attract** international students

*This section examines the measures and incentives to attract international students in place in the Member States in terms of admission conditions; hosting and welcoming international students; special incentives and measures; external factors; challenges and good practices in attracting international students.*

### 2.1 Admission conditions for international students

**Q4a.** Which are the common immigration **admission conditions** applicable for all international students determined by the immigration authorities for the purpose of residence in the territory of your Member State?

*Please elaborate:*

The Immigration Law<sup>lxxii</sup> foresees that before granting an authorisation of stay to a third-country national student, the applicant has to provide proof that s/he has been accepted by a HEI, with a view to pursuing there, as his/her main activity, a full-time study programme enabling him/her to obtain a higher-education qualification issued by that establishment. Once the potential student receives a favourable decision from the HEI attesting his/her admission, s/he can submit an application for a temporary authorisation of stay as a student (on plain paper) either directly to Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs or to the Luxembourgish diplomatic mission or the diplomatic mission of the Member State which represents the interest of Luxembourg in his/her country of origin.<sup>lxxiii</sup> The application for the temporary authorisation of stay is only considered admissible if it has been submitted from the person's country of origin or from a country where s/he is allowed to stay.

The applicant must attach the following documents to his/her application:<sup>lxxiv</sup>

- A certified true copy of all the pages of his/her passport;
- A birth certificate;
- where applicable, a copy of the residence permit issued in another EU Member State if s/he resides in the Schengen area;
- An extract from the police records or an affidavit;
- The letter of admission to a HEI in Luxembourg and, if applicable, proof that they benefit from:
  - a European Union programme or a multilateral programme with mobility measures
  - an agreement between two or more HEIs
- Proof of parental authorisation if the candidate is under 18;
- Proof of health insurance covering all risks in Luxembourg;
- Proof of sufficient resources, during the duration of the studies, to cover the living expenses and the return-travel costs. The monthly resources must correspond to at least 1.148,96€ per month during the course of study in Luxembourg (for more information on the sufficient resources, see Q4h).<sup>lxxv</sup>



All documents either have to have an apostil by the competent local authority of the country of origin, or to be legalised by the competent local authority of the country of origin and authenticated by the diplomatic representation of Luxembourg or of any EU Member State, which represents Luxembourg's interests. If such documents are not in English, French or German, they must be accompanied by a certified and sworn translation.<sup>lxxvi</sup>

Once the international student has received a positive answer on his/her application for the authorisation to stay, s/he, if applicable, must apply for a Visa D, valid for 90 days, in order to be able to travel to Luxembourg under the following conditions:<sup>lxxvii</sup>

- Be in possession of a valid travel document and/or a valid visa
- If there is no visa obligation, the entry on the Luxembourgish territory must take place at the latest 90 days after the day of the issuance of the authorisation to stay.

Within three days after the entry into the territory, the international student must declare his/her arrival at the administration of the municipality where s/he intends to establish residence with the following documents:<sup>lxxviii</sup>

- A valid travel document (passport and, where applicable, a visa or a residence permit or authorisation issued by another EU Member State)
- The original of the authorisation to stay issued by the Luxembourgish immigration authorities
- A valid proof of address (i.e.: rental agreement, electricity bill, etc.), where applicable

The international student will receive a copy of the declaration of arrival and will be in a position to request his/her resident permit. As for any third-country national, all international students must undergo a medical check for foreigners as soon as possible after his arrival. The Immigration Medical Department of the National Health Directorate of the Ministry of Health will issue a medical certificate, which will be sent to the Directorate of Immigration in order to allow the application for the residence permit to be processed.<sup>lxxix</sup> This application needs to be submitted to the Directorate of Immigration within three months of arrival in Luxembourg, including the following documents:<sup>lxxx</sup>

- a copy of the filled-in pages of the valid passport;
- a copy of the temporary authorisation to stay;
- a copy of the declaration of arrival issued by the communal authority;
- proof of payment of the fee for the residence permit of 80€.

Once the application for the residence permit is approved, the international students will receive a letter inviting him/her to present him/herself in person at the Directorate of Immigration where s/he will get his/her photograph and fingerprints taken in order for the residence permit to be issued.<sup>lxxxii</sup>

Are the following **admission conditions** listed under Q4b-Q4i required in your Member State? *Please answer with Yes/No and shortly describe the admission condition.*

**IMPORTANT:** *Please explain also under each question Q4b-4i how each of the below listed admission conditions are considered to attract international students / are used to attract them / are used flexibly in order to attract international students, or are there some that are considered disincentives.*

**Q4b.** Is a proof of **acceptance** by HEI required in your Member State in order to obtain the visa/residence permit?<sup>3</sup>

Yes.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate:*

The Immigration Law requires that the international student must be accepted by a HEI in order to grant the student authorisation of stay (see also answer to Q4a above).<sup>lxxxii</sup>

At the University of Luxembourg and according to the study regulations, course directors are responsible for the establishment of the eligibility criteria for each study programme as well as for the selection and

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<sup>3</sup> Article 11 (1) of the Students and Researchers Directive

recruitment of students.<sup>lxxxiii</sup> In case of approval of a student application, an official letter of admission is issued by the University and sent to the student. This document is used as a proof of acceptance and must be sent with the other required documents to the competent authority.

**Q4c.** How is the **academic recognition** of foreign academic degrees regulated in your Member State? Is this done in a centralised manner (e.g. by a specific organisation) or by each HEI?

- Recognition of degrees carried out centrally.
- Recognition of degrees carried out by each HEI.
- Other.

*Please explain:*

The academic recognition of foreign academic degrees is carried out in a centralised manner by two ministries, depending on the level of the diploma.

1. The recognition of foreign secondary school certificate

The Department for the Recognition of Diplomas of the Ministry of National Education, Childhood and Youth is the responsible authority for the recognition of secondary school leaving diploma.<sup>lxxxiv</sup> Foreign certificates or diplomas are not automatically recognised in Luxembourg, but are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The equivalence is recognised at the holder's request<sup>lxxxv</sup> and is mandatory in order to register in a Bachelor programme at the University of Luxembourg.

In the recognition procedure, a distinction is made between, on the one hand, certificates/diplomas from a country that has signed the Paris and Lisbon Conventions on the mutual recognition of diplomas and, on the other hand, diplomas from third countries that have not signed the Paris and/or Lisbon Conventions.<sup>lxxxvi</sup>

For countries that are signatories to the Paris and/or Lisbon Conventions, a recognition may be granted for school-leaving certificates/diplomas after examination if the following criteria are met:<sup>lxxxvii</sup>

- the diploma must have been awarded in recognition of the successful completion of at least 12 consecutive years of schooling;
- the certificate/diploma must enable access to higher-education or university studies in the country of origin.

As for school-leaving certificates/diplomas issued in countries that have not signed the Paris and/or Lisbon Conventions, equivalency to a Luxembourg secondary school leaving diploma, be it for general, technical and/or technician studies, will only be recognised in the following cases:<sup>lxxxviii</sup>

- if the candidate holds a diploma awarded by an institute of higher education recognised by and located in a Member State of the European Union (EU), in recognition of the successful completion of at least 3 years of study (bac+3, 180 ECTS credits), or;
- if the candidate can produce proof of enrolment (formal) for higher education studies in an EU Member State, and if the diploma meets the following criteria: the diploma examinations must have covered at least 2 languages (including French or German), as well as the following areas: social sciences, natural sciences, mathematics, technology, fine arts and music, or;
- if the candidate holds a diploma awarded by an institute of higher education recognised by a third country, in recognition of at least 3 years of study (bac+3, 180 ECTS credits), and if they can produce
  - a level B2 language certificate for Luxembourgish, French or German under the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages,<sup>lxxxix</sup> or;
  - proof of 3 years of studies of one of the 3 aforementioned languages during the school years, or;
  - a certificate attesting that either the Luxembourgish, the French or the German language were one of the subjects passed at the secondary school graduation exam.

Students whose school-leaving diploma is not recognised by the Ministry of National Education, Childhood and the Youth and who wish to apply for a Bachelor program at the University of Luxembourg have to submit an acceptance test which is organised in Luxembourg. Candidates must provide a complete application file in the correct form (with double legalisation or apostille) that is evaluated by a Selection Committee. If the application is accepted by the Selection Committee, the candidate will be invited to take an entrance exam organised by the National School for Adults ('Ecole Nationale Pour Adultes'- ENAD).<sup>xc</sup> The candidate has to cover all costs.

## 2. The registration of foreign university diplomas

Registration of higher education diplomas in the higher education department of the register of certificates of academic education is the normal procedure for the academic recognition of final higher education diplomas. As mentioned in Q3, this procedure is under the authority of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research.

A higher education diploma obtained abroad is formally recognised:<sup>xcii</sup>

- either through registration in the register of certificates of academic education;
- or through the approval that is required to obtain admittance to supplementary courses on Luxembourg law.

A higher education diploma is recorded in the register of certificates of academic education:

- if it is a final higher education diploma;
- if it is a final diploma of successful completion of a higher education study cycle;
- if it was obtained in accordance with the law and regulations in the country where it was awarded.

Diplomas not recognised by the State authorities in the country where they were issued, may not be recorded in the register of certificates of academic education. Applicants must send their application to the Ministry of Higher Education and Research with the following supporting documents:

- a copy of the final diploma to be registered in the higher education section of the register of certificates of academic education (including a French, German or English translation established by a sworn translator if the diploma is in a language other than one of these 3 languages);
- a diploma supplement, or if not available, a copy of the transcript;
- a professional and academic CV;
- a copy of the ID card;
- a proof of payment of the fee (see Q4e for the level of the fee), e.g. a debit note/bank statement.

A copy of the residence permit for Luxembourg is required from every third-country national student.

Once the diploma has been registered, the Ministry of Higher Education and Research forwards a ministerial order to the applicant with regard to the registration of the diploma in the register of certificates of academic education.

**Q4d.** What are the **level of tuition fees for third-country nationals** in your Member State? <sup>4</sup> *If applicable, please distinguish between the different qualifications levels (ISCED levels 5-8).*

- If possible, please provide here a range of the level of tuition fees per academic year in euro/national currency:

The level of tuition fees at HEIs in Luxembourg depends on the respective institution where students intend to enrol or are enrolled. As a reminder, the Luxembourgish higher education system consists of three different types of institutions:

### 1. The University of Luxembourg

The tuition fees at the University of Luxembourg are the same for every student, independent of his/her nationality, and correspond to the following amounts (for full-time study programmes):<sup>xciii</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> See Article 11(1)(b) of the Students and Researchers Directive

- At the Bachelor level (ISCED level 6), the tuition fees amount to 800€ for the first academic year (i.e. 400€ for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semester) and 400€ for the second and the third academic year (i.e. 200€ per semester for semesters 3 to 6).
- For the majority of the Master programmes (ISCED level 7), the tuition fees amount to 400€ per academic year (i.e. 200€ per semester).<sup>xciii</sup> However, for some professional master programmes, the tuition fees are different:
  - o Master in Security Management of Information Systems (3.200€ per academic year)
  - o Master in Accounting and Audit (3.200€ per academic year)
  - o Master in Entrepreneurship and Innovation (5.000€ for the first academic year and 3.000€ for the second academic year)
  - o Master of Science in Banking and Finance (17.500€ per academic year, 1 year study programme)
  - o Master in Wealth Management (17.500€ per academic year, 1 year study programme)
  - o Master in Psychotherapy (5.200€ per academic year, three year study programme)
  - o Master in Logistics and Supply Chain Management (24.000€ for the academic year 2018-2019, 1 year study programme)<sup>xciv</sup>
- As for doctoral education programmes (ISCED level 8), the tuition fees amount to 400€ per academic year (i.e. 200€ per semester), carried out over three or a maximum of four years (see Q10a for more information on the maximum period of time for the completion of studies).<sup>xcv</sup>

## 2. National public education institutions awarding a 'BTS'

The tuition fees for education institutions awarding a 'BTS' (ISCED level 5) are fixed by law and amount to 200€ per academic year (i.e. 100€ per semester).<sup>xcvi</sup>

## 3. Private HEIs approved by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research

Private HEIs that are approved by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research are autonomous regarding the level of tuition fees.<sup>xcvii</sup>

The following tuition fees provide a non-exhaustive range of the different levels of fees:

### - LUNEX University<sup>xcviii</sup>

At the Bachelor level (ISCED level 6), the tuition fees amount to 9.550€ for the first academic year and 9.000€ for the second and the third academic year.

At the Master level (ISCED level 7), the tuition fees amount to 9.550€ for the first academic year and 9.000€ for the second academic year.

### - Bruxelles Business Institute Luxembourg – (BBI Luxembourg)<sup>xcix</sup>

At the Bachelor level (ISCED level 6), the tuition fees are amount to 9.950 € per academic year (for a three year programme).

At the Master level (ISCED level 7), the tuition fees are amount to 7.950€ per academic year (for a two years programme).

- Is the level of fees for third-country nationals determined centrally (e.g. by the state) or by each HEI?

*Please explain:*

The level of tuition fees are not centrally determined, but are established by each HEI.<sup>c</sup>

Regarding the University of Luxembourg, the tuition fees are established by the Board of Governors<sup>ci</sup>, under the proposition of the Faculty Councils or an ad-hoc commission.<sup>cii</sup> Every year, a list of study programmes are presented to the Board of Governors, and subsequently voted by the Board.<sup>ciii</sup>

– Is evidence of payment an admission condition?

Yes.

No.

For the University of Luxembourg, an international student applying for a study programme must pay his/her tuition fees in order to be officially registered as a student.<sup>civ</sup> The payment must be made within 6 weeks at the latest after the date of issuance of the letter of admission and at least 1 week before the beginning of the study programme that s/he has applied for.<sup>cv</sup> Any international student must present a copy of his/her authorisation to stay and/or residence permit at the admission office of the University of Luxembourg in order to register.<sup>cvi</sup>

The registration is valid for a semester and has to be renewed each semester.

Regarding the admission to education institutions awarding a 'BTS', the law stipulates that admission is only effective after the payment of the registration fees.<sup>cvi</sup>

– Are the fees capped in your Member State (i.e. is there a higher/lower threshold limit imposed)?

Yes.

No.<sup>cviii</sup>

In general, tuition fees are not capped in Luxembourg.<sup>cix</sup>

However, for the University of Luxembourg, any decision related to the tuition fees are subject to the Ministry of Higher Education and Research's approval.<sup>cx</sup>

The only exception are the 'BTS' study programmes offered by national public education institutions, for which the cap of the fees are fixed by law at 100€ per semester, independent of the nationality of the student.<sup>cx</sup>

– Are the fees for international students the same as those for domestic students? If no, what is the difference (i.e. are they higher or lower)?

Yes.

No.

*If you have answered no, please elaborate:*

The answer to this question is 'Yes' when it comes to the tuition fees for international students at public higher education institutions, i.e. the University of Luxembourg and HEIs awarding a 'BTS'.<sup>cxii</sup>

However, some private foreign HEIs ask for additional fees for international students: Regarding the Bruxelles Business Institute Luxembourg (BBI Luxembourg), the tuition fees for an EU citizen amount to 8.700 € per year for a BA programme and 9.950 € for an international student because of additional administrative costs.<sup>cxiii</sup>

– Are specific groups of international students exempt from fees? Which ones and why?

Yes.

No.<sup>cxiv</sup>

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on which groups are exempted and why:*

**Q4e.** What is the level of **administrative fees** for third-country nationals in your Member State? Please elaborate also on other types of fees (e.g. administrative fees at universities)

*Please elaborate:*

The level of administrative fees varies depending on the nature of the required document. Regarding the level of fees for immigration documents, the following fees apply:

a) Temporary authorisation of stay

No fees for the application.<sup>cxv</sup>

b) Visa D

In principle, a fee of 50€ applies. A reduced fee of 35€ is granted to nationals of Russia, Moldova, Ukraine, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Albania, Georgia, FYROM (Macedonia), Armenia, Azerbaijan and Cape Verde.<sup>cxvi</sup>

c) Residence permit

The issuance of the residence permit costs 80€.<sup>cxvii</sup>

As for the costs to register the higher education diplomas in the register of certificates of academic education, the following costs apply for every person to the same extent (see also Q4c):<sup>cxviii</sup>

- 75€ for high school diplomas awarded by a country that is signatory of the Paris and Lisbon conventions
- 125€ for high school diplomas awarded by a country which is not signatory of the Paris and Lisbon conventions
- 75€ for the registration of a higher education certificate in the higher education section of the register of certificates.

**Q4f.** Are international students required to provide a proof of sufficient **knowledge of the language** of the course?<sup>5</sup> If so, what is the required level? Does the student have to provide an attestation (e.g. TOEFL test)?

Yes, proof of sufficient knowledge of the language of the course is required in general.

A proof is required for specific courses.

No, proof of sufficient knowledge of the language of the course is not required.

*If proof is required (either in general or for specific courses), please elaborate and specify the required level, using the levels defined by the CEFR:<sup>6</sup>*

The University of Luxembourg defines itself as a multilingual and international university.<sup>cxix</sup> This feature is a central part of the pedagogical approach promoted by the University of Luxembourg in its pedagogical Charter.<sup>cxx</sup> Therefore, most of study programmes are bilingual and are taught in either French/English or French/German:<sup>cxxi</sup>

- 100 % of Bachelor programmes are taught in two or more languages
- 59 % of the Master programmes are taught in two or more languages
- 36 % of the Master programmes courses are taught in English exclusively

Within this framework and according to the law, each course director is in charge of defining the eligibility criteria of his/her study program, which includes specific requirements related to the language skills of the candidate.<sup>cxxii</sup> The required level of knowledge of the language depends on the study program, but a B2 level is usually required in most of cases.<sup>cxxiii</sup> It will depend on the Director of the programme or the Evaluation Committee (composed by the director of the programme and professors) to request the type of certificate needed to enter into the programme.<sup>cxxiv</sup>

If the student carried out his/her previous studies in a country where one of the official language is English, French or German, the University of Luxembourg will accept the fact that the student masters the language of the country where s/he had studied.<sup>cxxv</sup>

For the institutions awarding a 'BTS', a proof of sufficient knowledge of language (French/German) is not required, but some exams can/must take place depending on the field of specialisation.<sup>cxxvi</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> See Article 11(1)(c) of the Students and Researchers Directive

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages/table-1-cefr-3.3-common-reference-levels-global-scale>

For private entities, such as Lunex, a proof of sufficient language (English) is not required during the application, but an exam is mandatory in a second phase.<sup>cxxvii</sup>

- The student has to provide an attestation.
- Yes, an attestation is required for all courses.
- An attestation is required for specific courses.
- No.

*Please elaborate:*

Most of study programmes require an attestation, usually a certificate (TOEFL, IELTS, ESOL, DELF,...), which states a proficiency at B2 level. Other types of proof may be accepted as well, depending on the study programme, such as:<sup>cxxviii</sup>

- Transcripts of records
- Previous studies made in a country where the official language is English, French or German
- Interview (face to face or via Skype)
- Essay – Letter of motivation
- In some case, an exam

Public education institutions awarding a 'BTS' may require the applicant to provide proof of sufficient language, depending on the specificity of the study programme.<sup>cxxix</sup>

Public foreign HEIs are autonomous in the requirement of providing proof of sufficient knowledge of language in order to be admitted to their study programmes.

**Q4g.** Are international students automatically qualified for **health insurance**?<sup>7</sup>

- Yes, students automatically qualify for health insurance.
- No, students need to submit proof of health insurance.

*Please elaborate:*

The Immigration Law requires that the applicant must prove that s/he is covered by healthcare insurance.<sup>cxxx</sup>

Furthermore, the University Law provides that students must provide an attestation of the affiliation to a medical cover indicating precisely the period of coverage (obligatory mentions of the dates of beginning and end of this insurance).<sup>cxxxi</sup> The attestation must cover the duration of the whole studies. If the candidate does not have such insurance, s/he will be asked to pay the fees together with the registration fees directly to the University (around 38 € per month).<sup>cxxxii</sup>

**Q4h.** Is there a pre-determined level of **sufficient resources** for international students at national level?<sup>8</sup> If so, what is the level of sufficient resources and what type of resources are accepted?

- Yes. <sup>cxxxiii</sup>
- No.

– What is the level of sufficient resources and what documents are accepted as proof?

*Please explain:*

As elaborated in the answer to Q4a, international students need to dispose of at least 1.148,96€ per month during the course of their studies (corresponding to at least 80% of the minimum guaranteed income in Luxembourg).<sup>cxxxiv</sup>

<sup>7</sup> See Articles 7(1)(c) and 11(2) of the Students and Researchers Directive

<sup>8</sup> See Articles 7(1)(e), 7(3) and 11(1)(d) of the Students and Researchers Directive

– *What type of resource(s) are accepted by your Member State? Please check all applicable boxes.*

Bank statement<sup>cxxxv</sup>

Guarantee by a third person

Other, please specify:

The Directorate of Immigration reported that the bank statement is the most common document presented as proof of sufficient resources.<sup>cxxxvi</sup>

A guarantee by a third person needs to cover the living costs, including study and health costs, for at least one year as well as the return-travel costs. Furthermore, it is important to highlight that the Immigration Law requires that the third person attesting a guarantee has to fulfil one of the following two conditions:<sup>cxxxvii</sup>

- a) be of Luxembourgish nationality;
- b) be authorised to reside in Luxembourg for at least one year.

In addition to the two aforementioned documents, the Luxembourgish immigration authorities also accept a certificate of a grant or student loan awarded to the international student, indicating the amount granted and its duration, as proof of sufficient resources.<sup>cxxxviii</sup> The Directorate of Immigration reported that such certificates are very rarely presented as proof of sufficient resources, except for the Erasmus mobility grants.<sup>cxxxix</sup>

The assessment of the sufficiency of the resources is based on an individual examination of the case and takes the material benefits into account that are available to the international students, such as free housing as well as the income derived by the salaried activity of the student (see answer to Q8a-d for more information).<sup>cxl</sup>

#### **Q4i. Other admission conditions**

If applicable, please describe any other admission conditions for the purpose of residence on the territory of your Member State:

*Please elaborate:*

N/A

### **2.2 Special incentives for attracting international students**

**Q5.** Please indicate which of the incentives listed below (Q5a-Q5i) are in place in your Member State *and please provide a brief description*. What are the incentives/measures carried out 'centrally' or by individual HEIs. *If measures are carried out by the state/regional authorities, individual HEIs and/or private entities (e.g. companies, research organisations, etc.), please provide examples.*

**NB:** *Please also state whether measures to attract are targeted to a specific qualification level (ISCED levels 5-8) or sciences/fields of education (e.g. STEM<sup>9</sup>).*

**Q5a.** Does your Member State carry out **promotional activities and dissemination of information in the countries of origin?** *Please select all boxes that apply and elaborate.*

- Yes, carried out centrally.
- Yes, carried out by HEIs.
- Yes, carried out by other (educational) organisations.
- No.

*If you have answered yes, please explain/elaborate by giving 1-2 examples.*

According to the Ministry of Higher Education and Research, there are no explicit promotional activities and dissemination of information in the countries of origin by the Luxembourgish Government. However,

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<sup>9</sup> Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics



in the context of economic or cultural missions, a representative of the University of Luxembourg may assist the official delegation in order to promote higher education and research during the missions (see also Q20).<sup>cxli</sup>

However, it should be stressed that the main source of information for (international) students in regard to higher education in Luxembourg (i.e. study programmes, admission conditions, recognition of diploma, visa procedure, etc.) are the governmental websites '[www.guichet.public.lu](http://www.guichet.public.lu)' and '[www.cedies.lu](http://www.cedies.lu)' (see also Q3 and Q3a).

As highlighted in the latest EMN study related to the immigration of international students to Luxembourg (2012), the University of Luxembourg, as the country's only university and the main institution in terms of student numbers, plays the main role in attracting international students. The Government has given to the University of Luxembourg a large leeway and freedom to develop its international strategy.<sup>cxlii</sup>

In this regard, the University of Luxembourg develops a communication strategy based on digitalisation: mainly with a new website, the development of social media channels and the creation of engaging and meaningful multimedia content in order to outreach and attract the best researchers and students who are digital natives accustomed to smart devices as their primary channel for communication.<sup>cxliii</sup>

Another powerful lever is the development of bilateral international agreements with third countries universities in order to attract international students and take advantage of this cooperation (see Q20).

The University of Luxembourg participates and sends international relations staff to student fairs in Europe, but also in North America and Asia.<sup>cxliv</sup>

Lastly, a staff member has been specially recruited by the University of Luxembourg in order to promote some study programmes (Physics) for the Chinese market.<sup>cxlv</sup>

**Q5b. Are scholarships and bursaries available?** *Please select all boxes that apply and elaborate by giving 1-2 examples (incl. the amount, type and length of the scholarship/bursary).*

Yes, provided by the state/regional authorities. *Please elaborate by providing 1-2 examples:*

Financial assistance from the State is granted via the Centre for Documentation and Information on Higher Education (CEDIES) of the Ministry of Higher Education and Research (see also Q3).

This financial assistance may be granted to international students who:<sup>cxlvi</sup>

- have resided in Luxembourg for at least 5 years or have been granted the status of long term resident prior to submission of the first application, and;
- have a Luxembourgish secondary school diploma or a secondary school diploma recognised as being equivalent to the Luxembourgish diploma.

In other words, this scheme does not apply for international students recently migrated to Luxembourg for the purposes of study, but for international students who already live in Luxembourg.

The Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs provides scholarships for international students from partner countries (Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Russia, Thailand, Turkey, Vietnam, USA). Scholarships are provided to students before their arrival in Luxembourg and cover accommodation and tuition fees. The University of Luxembourg is in charge of the administrative management and follow-up of this budget.<sup>cxlvii</sup>

The Ministry of Higher Education and Research also provides scholarships to international students who have already been registered at the University of Luxembourg. International students registered in a Bachelor or Master study programme can benefit from this scholarship of 2.100 € per semester based on a merit scheme evaluated by a committee at the end of each academic semester. 100 international students per semester will be selected for this merit-based scholarship. The University of Luxembourg is in charge of the administrative management and follow-up of this budget.<sup>cxlviii</sup>

Yes, provided by HEIs. *Please elaborate by giving 1-2 examples:*

The University of Luxembourg provides several types of scholarships, such as:

- Fellowship programmes (such as “Ferrero Fellowships” that consists of a partnership with a private entity in order to provide students, on the one hand, a scholarship covering student accommodation costs and, on the other hand, the opportunity to complete an internship within the private entity).<sup>cxlix</sup>
- Tuition fees deduction in some study programmes (such as scholarships provided by the Master in Logistics and Supply Chain Management study programme, which provides scholarships in order to reduce the tuition fees from 24.000 € to 5.000 €).<sup>cl</sup>
- Mobility grants (such as Erasmus mobility grants, Mobility funds or other grants) in order to finance students their study mobility in a university during their studies.<sup>cli</sup>

Yes, provided by private entities. *Please elaborate by giving 1-2 examples:*

Several private entities support students by providing them scholarships. However, they do not necessarily only target international students, but all students:

- Support to students with financial needs (such as the ‘Luxembourg University Foundation’<sup>clii</sup> or the ‘Les Amis de l’Université du Luxembourg’<sup>cliii</sup>)
- Students registered in a specific study programme, with a selection on a merit basis (such as the ‘University of Luxembourg Foundation’<sup>cliv</sup> and the ‘ATOZ Foundation’<sup>clv</sup>)
- Students registered as PhD student, in a specific field of study and research (such as the ‘Fondation du pelican’<sup>clvi</sup>)

No.

**Q5c. Are there any other financial incentives or financial support** (e.g. loans, tax benefits, etc.) in place?

- Yes, provided by the state.
- Yes, provided by HEIs.
- Yes, provided by private entities.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate by giving 1-2 examples:*

Student loans are available and are granted as well by CEDIES<sup>clvii</sup> under the same conditions that applied for a public scholarship.<sup>clviii</sup>

The University of Luxembourg with the European Investment Fund (EIF) has recently launched a new pilot scheme allowing students to defer tuition fees and accommodation rent payment for two years. This agreement will support students from any of the 32 other Erasmus+ Programme countries to move to Luxembourg in order to undertake their Masters programme at the University of Luxembourg. The agreement between the EIF and the University of Luxembourg is the first of its kind in Europe and benefits from the Erasmus+ loan guarantee scheme, funded by the European Union and managed by EIF.<sup>clix</sup>

**Q5d. Are any incentives with regard to family reunification in place?**

- Do family members of international students have access to family reunification in your Member State?

- Yes.
- No.<sup>clx</sup>

No, article 69 (1) of the amended Immigration Law states that third-country nationals are eligible to family reunification if their residence permit is valid for at least one year and if the holder of the residence permit has the perspective to obtain long term residence. The student residence permit does not fulfil the latter condition (see also answer to Q11).<sup>clxi</sup>

However, the Directorate of Immigration reported that spouses of PhD students with a work contract that allows them to support themselves and their family can obtain a residence permit for private reasons.<sup>clxii</sup>

- If yes, do family members have the right to work in your Member State?

Yes.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please explain:*

N/A

**Q5e.** Is any support targeted at **spouses and other family members of international students** offered in your Member State (e.g. counselling spouses to find employment, continue their education or engage in voluntary work, social and networking activities for spouses, help with enrolling children in kindergartens/schools)? *Please select all boxes that apply.*

Yes, support for spouses available.

Yes, support for children available.

Yes, support for other family members available (please specify which family members this includes when elaborating below).

No.

Seeing that students do not have access to family reunification, there are no specific support measures in place that would target spouses and other family members of international students.

**Q5f. Are courses offered in English/other languages than the national language(s)?**

Yes.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate:*

As indicated above, the University of Luxembourg is a multilingual institution.

The University of Luxembourg Language Center (ULLC) is specifically devoted to languages courses. Within this frame, the University of Luxembourg students have the opportunity to learn and practice several languages (English, French, German, Luxembourgish and Portuguese) through different pedagogical methods such as peer tutoring, tandem learning, independent learning and workshops without paying any fees. Furthermore, the Language Center allocates ECTS or credits to most of its courses. <sup>clxiii</sup>

Moreover, a Confucius Institute has been recently established at the University of Luxembourg. <sup>clxiv</sup> This entity provides the opportunity for students to discover and learn about the Chinese language and culture.

Lastly, the University of Luxembourg works closely with the National Center of Languages <sup>clxv</sup> (*Institut National de Langues* – INL) in order to have access to its general courses and sites where the INL provides classes.

**Q5g.** Are there any incentives from the state for HEIs providing **courses in other languages**?

Yes.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate:*

No such incentives are provided to approved private HEIs from the state because they are autonomous regarding their approach to provide language courses. <sup>clxvi</sup>

In the context of the University of Luxembourg, the Ministry of Higher Education and Research actively encouraged the establishment of facilities of the National Institute for Languages on the main campus of the University of Luxembourg in Esch-Belval. These facilities, however, do not only target (international) students, but the wider public. <sup>clxvii</sup>

**Q5h. Is there a possibility for a fast-track application for visa/residence permits?**

- Yes  
 No<sup>clxviii</sup>

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate:*

N/A

**Q5i. Are any other incentives not listed above in place?**

If applicable, please describe any other incentives in place not mentioned above.

A new procedure is under finalisation in order to facilitate the admission of international students at the University of Luxembourg, especially at the Bachelor level.<sup>clxix</sup> For now, international students who do not hold a secondary certificate issued by a signatory country of Lisbon/Paris Conventions have to pass an entrance exam in Luxembourg in order to assess their skills.<sup>clxx</sup> This procedure has the disadvantage of being expensive and therefore dissuasive for most of the selected candidates. The new procedure aims to establish, in cooperation with the course directors, a database of third countries' secondary diplomas in order to ensure that the applicant has sufficient skills for a Bachelor study programme admission and avoid an entrance exam in this regard.<sup>clxxi</sup>

Furthermore, a new system is under finalisation in order to identify and prepare promising international students for an admission in a study programme at the University of Luxembourg by integrating them in a one-year preparatory class at the National School for Adults ('*École Nationale Pour Adultes*'- ENAD).<sup>clxxii</sup>

**2.3 Hosting international students: preparation, arrival and housing**

**Q6a.** What is the nature of the document issued (long-stay visa or residence permit)? *Please indicate the type and length of the residence permit. Please select all relevant boxes.*

- Long-stay visa issued in the third country:  
 Residence permit issued (please specify the type and length of the permit):

The nature of the student authorisation of stay is temporary<sup>clxxiii</sup> (meaning that it cannot allow the holder to obtain a long-term residence permit, see also Q11). The Immigration Law stipulates that the residence permit is issued with a minimum validity of one year and can be renewed if all the conditions for granting it remain.<sup>clxxiv</sup> In general, the residence permit is issued for one year<sup>clxxv</sup> and is renewed on provision of proof that the student has been readmitted to continue his/her studies in the HEI.<sup>clxxvi</sup>

The residence permit includes information about its holder (surname, first name, nationality, date and place of birth), as well as specific information about the residence permit (permit category, date of beginning and end of validity of the permit).<sup>clxxvii</sup>

Certain residence permit categories include additional information in the field 'observation'. In the case of the 'student' residence permit, the observation on the permit includes information on eligibility for work.<sup>clxxviii</sup>

- Other (please specify):

- If your Member State issues a residence permit, is this issued in the territory of your Member State or in the third country?

- Residence permit issued in the third country:

Residence permit issued in the territory of the Member State. *If so, do you issue a long-stay visa in the third country first (yes/no)?:*

After arrival on the Luxembourgish territory, s/he will be issued the student residence permit at the Directorate of Immigration (see also Q4a).<sup>clxxix</sup> In order to be authorised to enter to Luxembourg, the international student needs to apply for a Visa D, valid for 3 months, in his/her country of origin.

**Q6b.** What are **processing times for visa/residence permit applications** for third-country nationals in your Member State (minimum, maximum and average)?

*Please elaborate:*

The processing times vary according to the required document:

d) Temporary authorisation of stay

The maximum processing time to receive a response by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs is generally 60 days.<sup>clxxx</sup> The Directorate of Immigration reported that the actual processing time is therefore less than 60 days. If no response is received within this time, the application shall be deemed to have been rejected.<sup>clxxxii</sup>

e) Visa D

There is no maximum processing time established by law for the Visa D. The actual processing time largely depends on the fact if a Luxembourgish diplomatic representation is present in the country from which the application is submitted.<sup>clxxxii</sup>

f) Student residence permit

There is no maximum processing time established by law for the student residence permit. The actual processing time largely depends on the time it takes the international student after his/her arrival to Luxembourg to fulfil the necessary conditions in order to obtain the residence permit.<sup>clxxxiii</sup>

**Q6c.** What are the main requirements for the **renewal of a residence permit** for international students (e.g. does the student need to prove his/her attendance in HEI courses or is the study progress measured)?

*Please explain:*

The Immigration Law states the student residence permit can be renewed if the conditions for granting it are still being fulfilled.<sup>clxxxiv</sup> In other words, the renewal of the residence permit takes place during the phase of re-admission in the HEI from one academic year to the other. If after an examination of the study progress the international student is eligible to continue his/her studies, s/he needs to pay the tuition fees for the upcoming semester.<sup>clxxxv</sup> Once the student pays the fees, s/he receives a certificate of readmission, which s/he needs to present to the Directorate of Immigration in order for his/her student residence permit to be renewed. A certificate of readmission is required in all cases.<sup>clxxxvi</sup>

In principle, the Immigration Law does not require that the student proves his/her attendance in HEI courses. Nevertheless, the Immigration Law considers that the residence permit can be withdrawn or refused to be renewed if the holder does not make sufficient progress in his/her studies and s/he is formally excluded from the programme in accordance with the evaluation of the educational establishment.<sup>clxxxvii</sup>

In regard to the University of Luxembourg, the new University Law requires that every student needs to obtain, during the first academic year, at least 50% of the ECTS (i.e. at least 30 ECTS) or that every student who is registered in a study programme which requires to pass an exam (contest) ('*examen-concours*' in French) must pass it.<sup>clxxxviii</sup> If the student fails to fulfil these conditions, s/he will be excluded from the programme.<sup>clxxxix</sup> If the student has finished his/her bachelor programme and wants to enrol in a master programme, the Student Department sends the final grades mentioning that the student will be granted the academic diploma.<sup>cx</sup>

Currently, there is no legal disposition that obliges the University of Luxembourg to contact the Directorate of Immigration during the first 10 semesters (maximum period of study for Bachelor programmes; see also answer to Q10a) if the student has unsatisfactory results, but has not been formally excluded from the programme.<sup>cxci</sup> However, the Directorate of Immigration reported that, in practice, there are regular contacts between the Directorate of Immigration and the University of Luxembourg and that the evaluations of the study progresses of international students are conducted jointly with the Student Department of the University of Luxembourg.<sup>cxcii</sup>

**Q7.** Please indicate if the **hosting initiatives and measures** listed below (Q7a-Q7e) are in place in your Member State. Please state which institution is responsible for these measures.

**Q7a. Is induction and orientation support provided in your Member State** (incl. opening a bank account, registering in the healthcare system, etc.)? *Please select all relevant boxes.*

Yes, state-organised measures for support in place.

Yes, support provided by HEIs.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on the support measures provided:*

Due to its large number of international students, the University of Luxembourg offers a large range of support services and devices, such as:

- Dedicated services (Student Mobility Office – Euraxess Luxembourg) that provide a personalised accompaniment and support to international students and researchers throughout the application process, including the visa application, until their actual arrival on campus.
- Hosting initiatives such as “Meet and Greet”,<sup>cxci</sup> coordinated by the Student Mobility Office with the cooperation of student associations, that offer a picked-up service of the international student from the airport or station by a regular University of Luxembourg student to their new home.
- Social events, guidance and a buddy program<sup>cxci</sup>
- A student handbook that contains all useful information related to the University services and everyday life on campus (Student services, ‘who’s who’ organisation chart, funding opportunities, transports, social insurance, housing, facilities, useful addresses on the campus: shopping, pharmacies, medical care, cultural venues,...) and an access to a one-stop access point (*‘Guichet étudiant’*<sup>cxci</sup>) and to all the other online platforms where they can find all the information on how to settle in Luxembourg (i.e. open a bank account, how to register at the National Health Fund, etc.).<sup>cxci</sup>

**Q7b. Is support with finding housing and accommodation** provided in your Member State? Please select all boxes that apply.

Yes, state-organised measures for support in place.

Yes, support provided by HEIs.

Yes, support provided by other organisations.

No, support not available.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on the type of support provided:*

The University of Luxembourg provides a one-stop access point to all services related to student life on campus, the Student Department (*‘Service des Études et de la Vie Étudiante’* - SEVE).<sup>cxvii</sup> A part of this service is specifically devoted to accommodation.<sup>cxviii</sup> International students can make a housing pre-request choosing the type of accommodation that is the most appropriate to his/her budget and needs from a real estate online catalogue<sup>cxix</sup>. It should be stressed that providing affordable housing to its students is a priority for the University of Luxembourg and that significant progress has been made in this regard in the past years.<sup>cc</sup>

EURAXESS Luxembourg also provides free advice and guidance to researchers (PhD students included) moving to Luxembourg and support newcomers in all the administrative procedures and practical information related to housing and others issues of daily life.<sup>cci</sup>

Lastly, a non-profit organisation, LISEL (*‘Lieu d’Initiatives et de Services des Étudiants au Luxembourg’*) provides support to international students with finding and providing as well housing.<sup>ccii</sup>

**Q7c.** Are **preparatory courses (incl. language courses, orientation courses, multicultural sessions, intercultural awareness/diversity courses)** offered in your Member State?

- Yes, state-organised measures for courses in place.
- Yes, courses provided by HEIs.
- Yes, support provided by other organisations.
- No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on the courses provided:*

**Q7d.** If applicable, please describe **any other hosting initiatives and measures not mentioned above.**

*Please elaborate:*

The University of Luxembourg offers several programmes and hosting initiatives in order to facilitate (international) students' integration, such as:

- A Welcome Day<sup>cciii</sup> organised at the beginning of each academic year in order to help new students to integrate and get to know their university and their city, and which consists of a combination of academic, leisure and social activities. In this context, new students receive a Welcome package that contains useful information about the University of Luxembourg services and other practical information about social life in their host city/campus.<sup>cciv</sup> A national PhD Welcome Day<sup>ccv</sup> that targets specifically PhD students is also organised with the cooperation of research institutes.
- Wine and Dine event,<sup>ccvi</sup> consists in inviting an international student to a Luxembourg resident or national for a dinner in order to make him/her discover the country and the city. This initiative is coordinated by a University entity called "Espace cultures"<sup>ccvii</sup> that is dedicated to promote the quality of life at the University by organizing social events.
- An International Summer School<sup>ccviii</sup> has been recently organised by the International Relations Department and consists of a three weeks programme that combines languages courses and interdisciplinary exploration of Europe

Lastly, student associations<sup>ccix</sup> are one of the key actors in this context and contribute actively to the international students' integration within the local community by organizing many social events. Some of them are specifically dedicated to support the integration of a geographic community, such as CEAL ('*Cercle des Étudiants Africains au Luxembourg*'), CSA (Chinese Student Association) and ISAL (Indian Student Association Luxembourg). These student associations benefit from an administrative and financial support from the University of Luxembourg in the view of achieving their goals.

## [2.4 Rights of international students](#)

### **Q8. Right to work**

**Q8a.** How many hours are international students allowed to work per week or months per year?<sup>10</sup>

*Please elaborate:*

International students are authorised to exercise a salaried activity for a maximum duration of an average of 15 hours per week over a period of 1 month, outside of the time dedicated to their studies.<sup>ccx</sup> This restriction, however, does not apply for salaried activities exercised during school vacations,<sup>ccxi</sup> nor do they apply to research activities conducted by PhD students in a HEI or an approved research institute.<sup>ccxii</sup> Prior to the transposition of Directive (EU) 2016/801, international students were authorised to work a maximum duration of an average of 10 hours per week over a period of 1 month.

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<sup>10</sup> See Article 24 of the Students and Researchers Directive.

Furthermore, prior to the transposition of the Directive, international students enrolled in a study programme awarding them a 'BTS' or enrolled in the first year of a Bachelor programme were not authorised to work. This restriction was abrogated by the Law of 1 August 2018.

**Q8b.** Are any restrictions in place in your Member State in terms of the **type/field of work international students** are allowed to work in?

Yes, restrictions in place.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on the type of restrictions in place:*

No, in accordance with article 24 of the Directive (EU) 2016/801, there are no restrictions in place in terms of type/field of work for international students. They are authorised to exercise a salaried activity independent of their study programme. <sup>ccxiii</sup>

**Q8c.** Do students need to obtain **prior authorisation** for the right to work in accordance with national law?

Yes, prior authorisation required.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on the purpose of this prior authorisation and the entity responsible for granting it:*

No special working permit is necessary to this end. <sup>ccxiv</sup> The student can be hired on presentation of their residence permit for students, but employers must notify the Minister in charge of immigration that he/she has engaged a third-country national student. <sup>ccxv</sup>

**Q8d.** Are international students entitled to exercise **self-employed economic activity**?

Yes, self-employment possible.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on the regulations in place:*

No, as mentioned in Q8a, international students are only entitled to exercise salaried activities as defined by the law.

**Q9.** Do students have the right to **carry out in parallel to their studies or defer their studies for a training or a job** in the Member State?

Yes, deferral of studies possible.

Yes, carrying out a training/job in parallel to studies possible.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on the regulations in place:*

No, as elaborated in Q3a, international students are required to hold of a student residence permit and therefore have to complete, as a main activity and on a full-time basis, a study programme awarding them an academic degree or diploma issued by that HEI. <sup>ccxvi</sup> In other words, students cannot carry out a job in parallel to their studies that does not comply with the legal framework of the Immigration Law as elaborated in Q8. <sup>ccxvii</sup>

In regard to trainings, the international student holding a student residence permit who wants or needs to carry out an unremunerated training in the framework of his or her higher education studies during the validity of the permit is entitled to do so and does not need to apply for a new authorisation of stay as a trainee. <sup>ccxviii</sup>



**Q10a. Do students have to complete their studies within a maximum period of time?**

Yes.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please indicate the period:*

Regarding the University of Luxembourg, the maximum durations of studies for Bachelor, Master and PhD programmes are established by the University regulations and subsequently submitted to Ministry of Higher Education and Research for approval.<sup>ccxix</sup>

International students at the University of Luxembourg need to complete their full-time studies according to the maximum periods of their respective level of study:<sup>ccxx</sup>

- a) Bachelor level (ISCED level 6)
  - a. 10 semesters for a study programme of 180 ECTS
  - b. 12 semesters for a study programme of 240 ECTS
- b) Master level (ISCED level 7)
  - a. 4 semesters for a study programme of 60 ECTS
  - b. 8 semesters for a study programme of 120 ECTS
  - c. 10 semesters for a study programme of 180 ECTS
- c) Specialised studies in Medicine (ISCED level 7)
  - a. 10 semesters for a study programme of 180 ECTS
  - b. 12 semesters for a study programme of 240 ECTS
- d) Doctoral programmes (ISCED level 8)

PhD students must finish their doctoral studies at the latest 48 months after their admission at the University of Luxembourg.<sup>ccxxi</sup>

However, students enrolled in ISCED level 6 and 7 study programmes that reach the end of these time limits may request, in duly motivated cases, for a suspension of their studies in order to be able to complete their studies within the maximum periods of time.<sup>ccxxii</sup> The decision on awarding a suspension is made by the director of the study programme in question. PhD students are exempted from the suspension described above as they are supposed to finish their doctoral studies within 36 months. In order for them to extend the maximum period of time to 48 months as set by the University Law, the PhD student needs to request a derogation.

The internal regulations of the University of Luxembourg further regulate the progress that students are supposed to make during their studies:<sup>ccxxiii</sup>

- A certain number of ECTS credits must be collected otherwise the student will not be allowed to register
- However, the course director can grant the student a suspension of his/her studies in exceptional cases (see above)<sup>ccxxiv</sup>

A Committee is also in charge of the follow-up of PhD students. This Committee shall meet with the PhD student at least once per year in order to evaluate the progress of the research activities of the PhD student. In case of serious shortcomings, the Committee can recommend to the Rector not to readmit the PhD student with the consequence of an exclusion of the PhD Student in this study field.<sup>ccxxv</sup>

As for the programme awarding a 'BTS', the maximum period of time to complete the studies is, in principle, two years.<sup>ccxxvi</sup>

**Q10b.** In accordance with Directive 2016/801 Article 21(3),<sup>11</sup> Member states may withdraw a visa/residence permit in case of a lack of progress in the relevant studies. Has your Member State transposed this provision?

Yes.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on how the lack of progress is assessed by your Member State:*

Yes, this provision is stipulated in the Immigration Law and had already been transposed prior to Directive 2016/801.<sup>ccxxvii</sup>

In practice, this is done implicitly by the HEIs when international students want to be readmitted to the next academic year. In the event that the HEIs do not grant the readmission, the international student automatically loses his/her eligibility for the renewal of the student residence permit (see also answer to Q6c).<sup>ccxxviii</sup>

Furthermore, the Directorate of Immigration and the University of Luxembourg reported that there is an overall close collaboration with regular contacts between the two institutions, also relating to cases of reported difficulties or challenges regarding a lack of progress of international students with a student residence permit.<sup>ccxxix</sup>

**Q11.** Do the **number of years** an international student possesses a residence permit for the purpose of studying count towards being granted access to long-term residence or citizenship?

Yes (for citizenship).

No (for long-term residence).

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on the regulations in place:*

As indicated above, the answer to this question is twofold:

1. Regarding the access to long-term residence, the answer is 'No'.<sup>ccxxx</sup> International student must change their residence status in order to be eligible for the long-term residence permit.<sup>ccxxxi</sup> However, in order to calculate the five-year period of residency necessary to obtain long-term residence, the period of legal residency for the purposes of study or vocational training shall be counted by half if the applicant has acquired a residence permit which allows him/her to obtain long-term resident status.<sup>ccxxxii</sup>

2. Regarding the access to citizenship, the answer is 'Yes'. Naturalisation is accessible to a person of full age provided that s/he has a usual residence in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and has been legally residing in the country for at least five years. The last year of residency prior to the application must be uninterrupted.<sup>ccxxxiii</sup> Students fulfilling these conditions are thereby eligible to apply for Luxembourgish citizenship.

### **External factors affecting attracting international students**

**Q12.** Based on existing national sources (evaluation reports, media reports, etc.), what are the **external factors** affecting the attraction of international students in your Member State? Please select all relevant boxes.

HEI rankings

The University of Luxembourg has gained an international recognition with international rankings and accreditations/certifications:<sup>ccxxxiv</sup>

- Ranked close to the 200 threshold in the group of 201 to 250 top universities in the world (Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2019)
- Ranked 12 worldwide in the Times Higher Education (THE) Young University Ranking 2018

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<sup>11</sup> See Article 21(2)(f) of the Students and Researchers Directive

This international recognition provides to the University of Luxembourg an international visibility and credibility for students and researchers.

Member State is a hub for specific fields

Luxembourg is well known to be one of the most important financial centre in Europe and seat of several European institutions. However, Luxembourg has diversified its economy and has developed activities in several targeted fields such as ICT, bio-tech and bio-medicine, fin-tech, telecommunications and logistics.<sup>ccxxxv</sup> Its geographical location at the heart of Europe (located at few hours of Paris, Brussels or Frankfort) is also a strategic advantage.<sup>ccxxxvi</sup>

Language in which courses are taught

As indicated, the University of Luxembourg is a multilingual institution that provides a majority of bi- and even trilingual study programmes. The number of study programmes taught partially or entirely in English increases in the Master level.

Culture

With three official languages, a population composed at 47 % of non-Luxembourgish and more than 170 nationalities, Luxembourg as well as the University of Luxembourg provide a multilingual environment and an international frame.<sup>ccxxxvii</sup>

Socio-economic factors (e.g. living costs)

Luxembourg is one of the smallest countries of the European Union but at the same time has the highest average wage of all OECD countries<sup>ccxxxviii</sup> and takes advantage of good macro-economics indicators<sup>ccxxxix</sup>, including a strong economic growth that implies plenty of professional opportunities.

Other (please specify):

The University of Luxembourg tuitions fees are affordable and therefore attractive. Moreover, there are no additional fees for international students.<sup>ccxi</sup>

Many student accommodations are available (more than 1100 units) and affordable compared to the national real estate market.<sup>ccxli</sup>

A personalised and fully satisfactory support is made possible because of the size/human dimension of the University of Luxembourg.<sup>ccxlii</sup>

No information available.

*Please elaborate:*

## **2.5 Challenges and good practices in attracting international students**

**Q13.** What are the (a) **challenges** and (b) **good practices** that have been observed in your Member State on attracting international students and for whom is it considered a challenge/good practice (HEI, Member State, student, other)? For each challenge/good practice: why is this considered a challenge/good practice and is this based on input from experts (if so, which experts)/surveys/evaluation reports/interviews/other?

a) Challenges:

*Please elaborate:*

Based on the input provided by stakeholders consulted in the context of this study, the main challenges in attracting international students are the following:<sup>ccxliii</sup>

- Languages of instruction, especially at Bachelor/'BTS' levels with the predominant use of French and/or German, which can be an obstacle in view of attracting international students
- Socio-economic factors (cost of living, affordable housing) are a significant obstacle for the attraction of international students
- Unsatisfactory admission conditions from some private entities (especially regarding languages requirements of students that do not allow them to pursue a study program and therefore to obtain a diploma)
- Abuses around the lucrative business of international students made by some private entities
- Abuses related to a misuse of student visa in the purpose of staying in the country instead of succeeding in his/her studies
- Authenticity and veracity of transmitted diplomas in the context of a diploma recognition
- A challenging procedure related to the entrance exam for international students who hold a high school diploma issued in a country that is not a signatory country of Paris/Lisbon conventions
- A still limited international exposure of the University of Luxembourg and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

b) Good practices:

*Please elaborate:*

Consulted stakeholders have provided a number of examples of good practices as well, such as:

- A close and diligent collaboration between all stakeholders involved in the attraction of international students that favours short and operational paths between all actors in order to attract the best talents in due time and to identify and solve potential issues that might occur during the admission process.<sup>ccxliv</sup>
- Quality management of private HEI in view of the best interest of students. This quality management is also carried out in the public sector by internal and external experts, especially at the University of Luxembourg.<sup>ccxlv</sup>
- A better selection of candidates. A limited number of applications can prevent abusive practices and tendencies and can contribute to better identify and select appropriate candidates.<sup>ccxlvi</sup> As highlighted in the Fourth Four-Year Plan, the University of Luxembourg seeks within this framework to further strengthen its attractiveness to the best-performing students by introducing more targeted and selective admission procedures.<sup>ccxlvii</sup>
- Affordable tuitions fees<sup>ccxlviii</sup>

## Section 3. Measures and incentives to **retain** international graduates

### **3.1 Measures and incentives for the retention of international graduates.**

*This section examines the measures and incentives to retain international graduates after their studies in place in the Member States. Statistics provided in Annex 1.4 and Annex 1.5 will be used to contextualise the measures and incentives reported on by Member States.*

**NB:** *in your answers to Q14-16, if applicable, please indicate whether the policy/offer/strategy differs between qualification levels (ISCED levels 5-8).*

**Q14.** Measures and incentives to **retain** international graduates in Member States.

**Q14a.** What are the conditions for **access after study** to national labour market/ self-employment/ start up or spin-off activities/ research project?

*Please briefly outline the conditions:*

- For what period of time does your Member State allow students to stay after studies in order to seek employment or set up a business?<sup>12</sup> What happens after this period?

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<sup>12</sup> See Article 25(1) of the Students and Researchers Directive

*Please elaborate:*

As elaborated in the answers to Q1a and Q1c, Luxembourg has transposed the Directive (EU) 2016/801 into national law with the Law of 1 August 2018. This transposition newly introduced the possibility to be issued a residence permit for 'private reasons' for a duration of nine months at most (i.e. not renewable) in view of seeking employment or establishing a business.<sup>ccxlix</sup> The maximum processing time for the application for the residence permit is 90 days.<sup>cccl</sup>

An authorisation of stay for 'salaried worker' or 'self-employed person' can be issued to the holder of this newly introduced residence permit if the conditions for the respective residence permits are fulfilled<sup>cccli</sup> and thus to integrate into the labour market permanently.<sup>cccli</sup>

– Does your Member State have any restrictions in place regarding the job field in which the international student can seek employment or set up a business?

Yes.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on the restrictions in place:*

Yes, holders of the residence permit for 'private reasons' in view of seeking employment based on Article 67-4 of the Immigration Law are obliged to seek employment that is in relation to their academic training.<sup>ccliii</sup>

If this condition as well as the conditions for issuing a 'salaried worker' residence permit are fulfilled, the third-country national will be issued a 'salaried worker' residence permit for a maximum duration of one year<sup>cccliv</sup> that is limited to one sector and one profession (no access to the public sector), but to any employer.<sup>cccliv</sup> In addition, the condition of employment priority for EU citizens needs to be fulfilled.<sup>ccclvi</sup> This residence permit can be renewed for a maximum period of three years<sup>ccclvii</sup> and after one year of legal employment, the restrictions to one sector and one profession are removed<sup>ccclviii</sup> (with the exception of the access to the public sector).

As for applications for the 'self-employed person' residence permit based on Article 67-4 of the Immigration Law, the same conditions as for any application for this residence permit apply.<sup>ccclix</sup>

– Does the international student require a minimum level of degree in order to be allowed to stay after studies in order to seek employment or set up a business?<sup>13</sup>

Yes.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please indicate the minimum level required:*

The international student applying for the residence permit for 'private reasons' in view of seeking employment or establishing a business must have either successfully completed the last year leading up to a Master degree (ISCED 7) or have successfully defended his/her doctoral thesis based on research work done in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and leading to a Doctoral degree (ISCED level 8).<sup>ccclx</sup>

**Q14b.** Are there any other particular **policy measures** or incentives to retain international students in place?

*Please select all relevant boxes:*

Lowered salary requirement for a work/residence permit.

Unrestricted access to the labour market.

Other incentive(s).

No.<sup>ccclxi</sup>

*If you have answered yes, please briefly elaborate on the measures or incentives in place.*

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<sup>13</sup> See Article 25(2) of the Students and Researchers Directive

**Q15.** Are there **initiatives of HEIs or the private sector** whereby support is provided to students following the completion of their studies? (e.g. in specialised or niche areas, in the form of counselling, contract with students to commence work with a company after the completion of their studies). Please also consider initiatives at a regional level. *Please select all relevant boxes and if applicable, please provide best practice examples of the initiatives of universities/HEIs, private sector, local governments, etc. in the retention of international graduates (e.g. in specialised and niche areas, in the form of scholarships, apprenticeship contracts, counselling, etc.).*

- Yes, initiatives implemented by HEIs.
- Yes, initiatives implemented by the private sector.
- Other initiatives.
- No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate and provide 1-2 examples of best practices:*

The University of Luxembourg offers several services to its students in order to establish and maintain a connection with the professional world as well as enhancing their employability, such as:

- A "Career Centre" that aims to support students in their job search with a wide range of services (an online platform that gathers recruiters and students, counselling, organisation of workshops and dedicated events such as jobs fairs<sup>cclxii</sup>) and to raise awareness of employers and students about the legislative changes introduced by the transposition of the Directive and its opportunities.<sup>cclxiii</sup>
- A "University of Luxembourg Incubator"<sup>cclxiv</sup> that aims to prepare students to enter the labour market and facilitate the start-up creation and as a contribution to the socio-economic growth of Luxembourg. More specifically, this entity offers several services to students such as office spaces, access to a full infrastructure at low costs, administrative support, mentoring, access to a business network and organisation of events.<sup>cclxv</sup>
- An "Internships service"<sup>cclxvi</sup> that acts as an intermediary between students and the business community and provides advice to students on career choices as well as ensuring that they have support during their placements. Partnerships have been concluded in this regard with several institutional and high-level professional partners such as the 'Big Four' (Deloitte, PwC, EY and KPMG).<sup>cclxvii</sup> Complementary to this service, Erasmus+ traineeships<sup>cclxviii</sup> are also available for a training period in one of the 33 participating countries.
- Others initiatives with private sectors<sup>cclxix</sup> in order develop stronger ties between the University and the industry by supporting and recruiting students, sharing experience and encouraging PhD collaboration.

**Q16.** Does your government and/or HEIs implement any strategies in your Member State to **encourage former international graduates** (i.e. international alumni who have already left the Member State) to establish and/or maintain a connection to the national labour market)? *Please select all relevant boxes.*

- Yes, strategy implemented by HEIs.
- Yes, strategy implemented by the government.
- No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on the main elements of the strategy:*

There is no specific strategy implemented by the Luxembourgish government in view of encouraging former international graduates to establish and/or maintain a connection to the national labour market.<sup>cclxx</sup>

However, the University of Luxembourg has implemented a global and inclusive strategy for all former students, independent of their nationality. This strategy aims to cultivate a strong sense of community and belonging of alumni towards the University as well as to Luxembourg. This strategy comprises the following elements:<sup>cclxxi</sup>

- a) the creation of an Alumni office
- b) the creation of a central database (which follows the European regulations – GDPR)

- c) the acquisition of a platform enabling the creation of a social network (which includes alumni, regular students, Luxembourgish public and private partners)
- d) the organisation of social events (such as Graduation week, Uni.lu anniversary celebration, ...)

Additionally, over the coming years, the University's Alumni Officer will work closely with the Employability Service and Entrepreneurship initiative to build up an active network of former students, employers, the entrepreneurial ecosystem of the Greater Region as well as cultural and social actors, in an effort to create springboards for careers and to energise the University of Luxembourg education with real world perspectives.<sup>cclxxii</sup>

### **3.2 Challenges and good practices in retaining international students**

**Q17.** What are the (a) **challenges** and (b) **good practices** that have been observed in your Member State on retaining international students and for whom is it considered a challenge/good practice (HEIs, Member State, student, other)? For each challenge/good practice: why is this considered a challenge/good practice and is this based on input from experts (if so, which experts)/studies/evaluation reports/surveys/interviews/other? Please briefly summarise the input and findings of these experts/studies/evaluation reports/interviews/other.

A) Challenges:

*Please elaborate:*

Based on the input provided by stakeholders consulted in the context of this study, the main challenges in attracting international students are the following:

- The languages of the country and the labour market, particularly French and Luxembourgish as main working languages in the private/public sectors<sup>cclxxiii</sup>
- The costs of living, particularly related to finding affordable housing<sup>cclxxiv</sup>
- The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) poses a challenge in the context of the implementation and maintenance of an alumni database<sup>cclxxv</sup>
- The lack of awareness of students and employers regarding the opportunities provided by the newly introduced residence permit for 'private reasons' in view of seeking employment or establishing a business.<sup>cclxxvi</sup>

B) Good practices:

*Please elaborate:*

Consulted stakeholders have provided a number of examples of good practices as well, such as:

- A significant number of work contracts to Master graduates who want to enter a doctoral programme, which can contribute to maintain the best students in Luxembourg<sup>cclxxvii</sup>
- To raise awareness to target audiences regarding the opportunities offered by the introduction of new dispositions and/or regulations related to international students.<sup>cclxxviii</sup>

## Section 4: Bilateral and multilateral cooperation with third countries

**Q18.** Has your Member State concluded and/or intends to conclude any **bilateral and/or multilateral agreements** with countries of origin concerning international students? Please distinguish between agreements in place with countries with developed economies and those with developing economies<sup>14</sup> as classified by the United Nations<sup>15</sup> and summarise and provide an overview of the type of agreements – without listing all the agreements and detailed provisions.

*[Possible visual element to be included in the Synthesis report: map indicating the regions/countries of origin with which agreements are in place.]*

Yes, bilateral/multilateral agreements in place or planned with industrialised countries. *Please elaborate on the aspects listed below):*

- The most common provisions of the agreements;
- Most common world regions/countries of origin with which agreements have been concluded;
- Are specific fields of studies or qualification levels covered in the agreements?
- Are specific categories of persons covered under the agreements? (e.g. specific age groups; gender; other socio-demographic characteristics).

Within the framework of the ERA roadmap ('European Research Area'), Luxembourg is developing an international cooperation with the following countries: China, USA, Japan, Israel and Singapore. The Luxembourg national ERA roadmap identifies several priorities and objectives. Priority 6 specifically targets international co-operation, particularly via bilateral partnerships with the target countries mentioned above, increasing the percentage of doctoral students from third countries as percentage of the total number of doctoral students and providing a number of bilateral grants with specific institutions from targeted countries. Overall, the national public research and development (R&D) efforts are focussed on a limited number of priority areas that relates to material and nanotechnologies; Sustainable development; ICT/HPC and Biomedicine (ERA priority 1).<sup>cclxxxix</sup>

Yes, bilateral/multilateral agreements in place or planned with developing countries. *Please elaborate on the aspects listed below):*

- The most common provisions of the agreements;
- Most common world regions/countries of origin with which agreements have been concluded;
- Are specific fields of studies or qualification levels covered in the agreements?
- Are specific categories of persons covered under the agreements? (e.g. specific age groups; gender; other socio-demographic characteristics).

As indicated in Q1c, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Republic of Cape Verde concluded a bilateral agreement on 13 October 2015 in Luxembourg, which was approved by the Law of 20 July 2017. Within this framework, Cape Verdean students can stay in Luxembourg after they graduate from a higher education programme in order to gain a first professional experience. A temporary authorisation of stay for a maximum period of two years can be issued if the conditions of the Immigration Law are fulfilled and the salaried activity is in relation to the students' academic training.<sup>cclxxx</sup> Furthermore, the law foresees the explicit encouragement of reinserting the students in their country of origin after the first professional experience (see Q19 for more information).<sup>cclxxxii</sup>

Within the framework of the development cooperation policy,<sup>cclxxxii</sup> Luxembourg provides annual scholarships to students and teachers for Bachelor/Master degrees at the Bruxelles Business Institute Luxembourg (BBI Luxembourg), a school for international hospitality and tourism business in Wiltz, Luxembourg. Teachers and students of these two fields are selected from target countries (Laos, Cape

<sup>14</sup> This distinction is relevant as the objectives and purpose of such agreements could differ significantly between these two categories.

<sup>15</sup> [http://unctadstat.unctad.org/EN/Classifications/DimCountries\\_DevelopmentStatus\\_Hierarchy.pdf](http://unctadstat.unctad.org/EN/Classifications/DimCountries_DevelopmentStatus_Hierarchy.pdf)



Verde, Nicaragua and Vietnam) where Luxembourg is financing vocational training projects in the concerned fields. Up to fourteen students are selected every year to attend (vocational) trainings at BBI Luxembourg.<sup>cclxxxiii</sup>

Furthermore, there are inter-university cooperation agreements between the University of Luxembourg (Faculty of Law, Economics and Finance) and the universities of Bamako<sup>cclxxxiv</sup> and the National University of Laos<sup>cclxxxv</sup>. These agreements are also situated in the wider framework of the development cooperation policy of the Luxembourgish State and target in particular the capacity building of the higher education in the countries of origin (see also Q19 and Q20).

No bilateral/multilateral agreements in place or planned.

**Q19.** Are there any measures or incentives in place to avoid **brain drain** in the country of origin when attracting and retaining international students?

Yes, measures related to brain drain in place.

No

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on the measures in place:*

The aforementioned agreement between Luxembourg and Cape Verde intends to “encourage a temporary migration based on mobility and the incitation to a return of skills to the country of origin, in particular concerning students, professionals with a high level of qualification and management and thereby to promote a circular professional migration”.<sup>cclxxxvi</sup> Furthermore, the agreement itself is based on the principle that “migratory movements must be conceived in a perspective that is favourable to development and must not translate into a definitive loss of the resources, competencies and dynamism of the country of origin”.<sup>cclxxxvii</sup> Within this framework, a measure is in place in this regard. More specifically, the two states commit to “implement inciting and coordinated measures destined to enable the reintegration of Cape Verdean nationals who were living in Luxembourg for at least two years and return voluntarily to Cape Verde” and to encourage “the reintegration of students in their country of origin after a first professional experience acquired in Luxembourg, after having completed their higher education”.<sup>cclxxxviii</sup>

In addition to this agreement between Luxembourg and Cape Verde clearly referring to students, there are measures in place within the development cooperation policy of Luxembourg that avoid brain drain in the country of origin. As an example, the current Indicative Cooperation Programme (2015-2019) foresees, amongst other things, an interuniversity cooperation project between the University of Luxembourg and the University of Bamako in the domains of law and economy, with the creation of specific and relevant Master programmes in Mali. In this context, multiple researchers from Mali came and will come to Luxembourg for research or training internships. This project aims to strengthen the local university governance directly and to avoid brain drain in Mali.<sup>cclxxxix</sup>

At the level of bilateral agreements of the University of Luxembourg, there are no explicit measures in place to avoid brain drain in the countries of origin. This being said, a number of agreements target more explicitly development assistance in the countries of origin in terms of capacity building, such as the aforementioned framework agreement of the Faculty of Law, Economics and Finance of the University of Luxembourg and the Universities in Bamako, Mali (see also Q20).<sup>ccxc</sup>

**Q20.** Do HEIs in your Member States have **initiatives and cooperation agreements with HEIs** in third countries in place? If so, what types of agreements and for which purpose (e.g. student exchange programmes)? *If there are many different agreements in place, please only provide 1-2 examples of agreements in place.*

Yes.

No.

*If you have answered yes, please elaborate on the initiatives/cooperation agreements in place and provide 1-2 examples:*

The University of Luxembourg has signed a number of agreements with partner universities throughout Europe and worldwide.<sup>ccxc1</sup> Cooperation with HEIs in third countries are established through framework agreements that include student exchange, exchange of researchers as well as common research projects.<sup>ccxcii</sup> As of 2017, 288 international agreements (among which 244 within the Erasmus programme) have been signed.<sup>ccxciii</sup> Regarding bilateral agreements with HEIs in third countries in particular, the University of Luxembourg counts 76 agreements.<sup>ccxciv</sup>

The following list provides examples of recent agreements concluded by the University of Luxembourg with partner universities:

- In 2015, the University of Luxembourg signed many new agreements with prestigious partners such as the University of California, Berkeley, the Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan, the Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay and Madras, the Canadian Université de Montréal and Fudan University in Shanghai.<sup>ccxcv</sup>
- In 2016, agreements were signed with the University of São Paulo in Brazil, Nanyang Technological University in Singapore, and Kyoto University in Japan.<sup>ccxcvi</sup>

The University will continue to develop key strategic partnerships with target countries and markets, through collaborations and other mechanisms.<sup>ccxcvii</sup>

In addition to the framework agreements with partner universities, and as mentioned in Q5a, representatives of the University of Luxembourg may assist official delegations of the Luxembourgish Government in the context of economic or cultural missions. As an example, in October 2016, the then President of the University of Luxembourg assisted an official delegation of the Minister of Finance to China, where he signed an agreement with the Confucius Institute Headquarters in China and Fudan University for the establishment of a Confucius Institute at the University of Luxembourg.<sup>ccxcviii</sup> Another example is the assistance of representatives of the University of Luxembourg to a delegation of the Luxembourgish Minister of Health to Japan in October 2017, where a collaboration agreement between the University of Juntendo and the Luxembourg Centre for Systems Biomedicine (LCSB) of the University of Luxembourg in the field of immunology was signed.<sup>ccxcix</sup>

Another example of bilateral cooperation is the establishment of a permanent office of Sophia University (Japan) on the campus of the University of Luxembourg.<sup>ccc</sup>

**Q21.** What are the (a) **challenges** and (b) **good practices** that have been observed in your Member State with regard to bilateral and multilateral agreements and for whom is this considered a challenge/good practice (HEIs, Member State, student, other)? For each challenge/good practice, why is it considered a challenge/good practice and is this based on input from experts (if so, which experts)/studies/evaluation reports/surveys/interviews/other? Please briefly summarise the input and findings of these experts/studies/evaluation reports/interviews/other

A) Challenges:

*Please elaborate:*

The International Relations Office of the University of Luxembourg reported that is a challenge to maintain a balance in international agreements between outgoing students (i.e. students of the University of Luxembourg going to partner universities abroad) and ingoing students (i.e. students of partner universities abroad coming to the University of Luxembourg).<sup>ccci</sup>

B) Good practices:

*Please elaborate:*

The International relations Office of the University of Luxembourg reported the following examples of good practices:<sup>ccci</sup>

- The participation in the Erasmus Mundus Programme
- Agreements on staff mobility between partner universities, as staff can play a multiplier role in the university in their country of origin when it comes to promote Luxembourg as a country and the University of Luxembourg as a HEI
- Scholarships offered by various different stakeholders

## Annex 1 National statistics

Please fill in the attached excel sheet with the respective statistics for your Member State. The Statistical Annex consists of the following:

- Annex 1.1.: Contextual statistics on the types of HEIs
- Annex 1.2.: Number of students per field of study
- Annex 1.3.: Number of international students enrolled in universities by top 5 nationality and gender
- Annex 1.4.: International students who have graduated, interrupted or terminated their studies
- Annex 1.5.: International students who have remained in the Member State **at least two years** after graduation per reason



Statistical  
annex\_students study\_

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- <sup>i</sup> Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, '*Rapport d'activité 2015*', Luxembourg 2016, p. 89, see URL: <https://maee.gouvernement.lu/dam-assets/minist%C3%A8re/rapports-annuels/rapport-annuel-2015.pdf> (last accessed on 26 November 2018).
- <sup>ii</sup> Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, '*Rapport d'activité 2017*', Luxembourg 2018, p. 102, see URL: <https://gouvernement.lu/dam-assets/fr/publications/rapport-activite/minist-affaires-etrangeres-europeennes/2017-rapport-affaires-etrangeres/rapport-d-activite-2017-maee.pdf> (last accessed on 26 November 2018).
- <sup>iii</sup> Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 30 October 2018.
- <sup>iv</sup> Law of 1 August 2018 amending 1: the amended Law of 29 August 2008 on free movement of persons and immigration; 2. the Law of 18 February 2013 on the reception of jeunes au pairs, published in Memorial A-827 of 17 September 2018 and which entered into force on 21 September 2018. See URL: <http://legilux.public.lu/eli/etat/leg/loi/2018/08/01/a827/jo> (last accessed on 26 September 2018).
- <sup>v</sup> Articles 56 (1) and 57 (3) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008 on free movement of persons and immigration (hereafter referred to as 'amended Law of 29 August 2008').
- <sup>vi</sup> Article 1 (11) a) of the Law of 27 June 2018 on organising the University of Luxembourg, published in Memorial A-587 of 11 July 2018, which entered into force on 1st August 2018. See URL: <http://legilux.public.lu/eli/etat/leg/loi/2018/06/27/a587/jo> (last accessed on 10 October 2018).
- <sup>vii</sup> Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- <sup>viii</sup> Law of 8 March 2017 amending the amended Law of 29 August 2008, published in Memorial A-298 of 20 March 2017. See URL: <http://legilux.public.lu/eli/etat/leg/loi/2017/03/08/a298/jo> (last accessed on 10 October 2018).
- <sup>ix</sup> Parliamentary document 6992/00 of 18 May 2016, Commentary of Articles, p. 26. Article 59 of the amended Law of 29 August 2008 as amended by the Law of 8 March 2017.
- <sup>x</sup> Article 59 (1) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- <sup>xi</sup> Article 59 (3) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- <sup>xii</sup> Law of 20 July 2017 approving the agreement between the State of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Republic of Cape Verde on the concerted management of migratory flows and solidary development, made in Luxembourg on 13 October 2015, Memorial A N°672 of 27 July 2017. See URL: <http://legilux.public.lu/eli/etat/leg/loi/2017/07/20/a672/jo> (last accessed on 18 October 2018).
- <sup>xiii</sup> Article 4 of the Law of 20 July 2017.
- <sup>xiv</sup> Article 10 of the Law of 20 July 2017.
- <sup>xv</sup> Directive (EU) 2016/801 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of research, studies, training, voluntary service, pupil exchange schemes or educational projects and au pairing, see URL: [http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ%3AJOL\\_2016\\_132\\_R\\_0002](http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=OJ%3AJOL_2016_132_R_0002) (last accessed on 12 September 2018).
- <sup>xvi</sup> Article 67-4 of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- <sup>xvii</sup> Article 57 (3) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- <sup>xviii</sup> Article 57 (1) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- <sup>xix</sup> Article 58 (1) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.

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- <sup>xx</sup> Article 58 (4) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008 regulates the information and documents that need to be joined to the notification to the minister in charge of Immigration. This information and document consists of the following: a) a valid travel document; b) the valid authorisation of stay issued by the first Member State and covering the entire period of mobility; c) proof that the third-country national carries out part of his/her studies in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in the context of a European or multilateral programme that contains mobility measures or a convention between two or more HEIs; d) a document providing information of the expected duration and the dates of the mobility, if this information does not figure on the aforementioned document; e) proof that the third-country national has been accepted by a HEI in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg; f) proof of sufficient resources during his/her studies to cover the living expenses without having recourse to the social assistance system, as well as his return travel costs, as specified by grand ducal regulation; g) proof that the TCN has health insurance.
- <sup>xxi</sup> Article 58 (3) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- <sup>xxii</sup> Article 58 (7) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- <sup>xxiii</sup> Grand ducal regulation of 1 August 2018 amending the amended grand ducal regulation of 5 September 2008 establishing the criteria of resources and accommodation foreseen by the Law of 29 August 2008 on free movement of persons and immigration, published in Memorial A-828 of 17 September 2018. See URL: <http://legilux.public.lu/eli/etat/leg/rqd/2018/08/01/a828/jo> (last accessed on 10 October 2018).
- <sup>xxiv</sup> The Law of 27 June 2018 on organising the University of Luxembourg does not have any impact on the status of international students at the University of Luxembourg.
- <sup>xxv</sup> Law of 28 October 2016 on the recognition of professional qualifications, published in Memorial A-231 of 18 November 2016. See URL: <http://legilux.public.lu/eli/etat/leg/loi/2016/10/28/n2/jo> (last accessed on 16 November 2018).
- <sup>xxvi</sup> See URL: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:32013L0055&from=FR> (last accessed on 16 November 2018).
- <sup>xxvii</sup> Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018, information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- <sup>xxviii</sup> Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018, information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- <sup>xxix</sup> Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- <sup>xxx</sup> Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018, information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- <sup>xxxi</sup> Information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- <sup>xxxii</sup> Parliamentary document 6992/00 of 18 May 2016, Commentary of Articles, p. 26. Article 59 of the amended Law of 29 August 2008 as amended by the Law of 8 March 2017.
- <sup>xxxiii</sup> Parliamentary document 6992/00 of 18 May 2016, Commentary of Articles, p. 26.
- <sup>xxxiv</sup> Information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- <sup>xxxv</sup> For more information, see URL: <http://www.inspiringluxembourg.public.lu/en/index.html> (last accessed on 16 November 2018).
- <sup>xxxvi</sup> Information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- <sup>xxxvii</sup> Information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- <sup>xxxviii</sup> University of Luxembourg, Fourth Four-Year Plan of the University of Luxembourg, 2018, Luxembourg, see URL: [https://www.uni.lu/content/download/106492/1265448/file/Fourth%20Four-Year%20Plan%20of%20the%20University%20of%20Luxembourg,%202018-2021%20\(PDF\).pdf](https://www.uni.lu/content/download/106492/1265448/file/Fourth%20Four-Year%20Plan%20of%20the%20University%20of%20Luxembourg,%202018-2021%20(PDF).pdf) (last accessed on 22 November 2018).

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These areas of research excellence are a key element of the Fourth Four-Year Plan (2018-2021) and comprise of the following areas (see p. 7): 1. Materials science; 2. Computer Science & ICT security; 3. European and international law; 4. Finance and financial innovation; 5. Education; 6. Digital and contemporary history; 7. Health and Systems biomedicine; 8. Data modelling and simulation.

- <sup>xxxix</sup> See URL: [https://www.en.uni.lu/universite/presentation/vision\\_mission](https://www.en.uni.lu/universite/presentation/vision_mission) (last accessed on 5 November 2018).
- <sup>xl</sup> Information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018, information provided by the International Relations Office of the University of Luxembourg on 9 October 2018.
- <sup>xli</sup> For more information, see: <http://www.mesr.public.lu/> (last accessed on 15 October 2018).
- <sup>xlii</sup> Grand ducal regulation of 24 August 2016 on the approval of foreign higher education institutions and programmes in the Grand Ducal of Luxembourg published in Memorial A-191 of 9 September 2016. See URL: <http://legilux.public.lu/eli/etat/leg/rqd/2016/08/24/n11/jo> (last accessed on 12 November 2018).
- <sup>xliii</sup> The branch "Research and Innovation" will not be further developed here because of the scope of the present study.
- <sup>xliv</sup> Article 2 (3) of the amended Law of 27 June 2018.  
For more information, see URL: <https://www.en.uni.lu/> (last accessed on 17 October 2018).
- <sup>xlv</sup> For more information, see URL: [http://www.mesr.public.lu/enssup/registre\\_des\\_titres/index.html](http://www.mesr.public.lu/enssup/registre_des_titres/index.html) (last accessed on 17 October 2018).
- <sup>xlvi</sup> For more information, see URL: <http://www.mesr.public.lu/enssup/Accreditations/index.html> (last accessed on 17 October 2018).
- <sup>xlvii</sup> For more information, see URL: <https://cedies.public.lu/fr.html> (last accessed on 17 October 2018).
- <sup>xlviii</sup> The University of Luxembourg was created by the abrogated Law of 12 August 2003 and is actually regulated by the amended Law of 27 June 2018.
- <sup>xliv</sup> For more information, see URL: <https://www.bts.lu/> (last accessed on 20 November 2018).
- <sup>i</sup> Article 27 paragraph 2 of the Law of 19 June 2009 in accordance with article 1 paragraph 1 of the abrogated Law of 12 August 2003 and article 2 (1) of the amended Law of 27 June 2018.
- <sup>ii</sup> Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- <sup>iii</sup> Information provided by the Ministry for Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- <sup>iiii</sup> Information provided by the Ministry for Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.  
See also: <http://www.euraxess.lu/> (last accessed on 15 November 2018).
- <sup>lv</sup> Articles 56 to 59 of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- <sup>lv</sup> Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- <sup>lvi</sup> Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- <sup>lvii</sup> Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018, information provided by the Student Admission Office of the University of Luxembourg on 4 October 2018.
- <sup>lviii</sup> Information provided by the Student Admission Office of the University of Luxembourg on 4 October 2018.
- <sup>lix</sup> Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- <sup>lx</sup> Article 56 (2) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.

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- lxi Article 1 paragraph 1 of the Grand ducal regulation of 24 August 2016.
- lxii Article 1 paragraph 2 of the Grand ducal regulation of 24 August 2016.
- lxiii Article 1 paragraph 2 of the Grand ducal regulation of 24 August 2016 in accordance with article 30 of the Law of 19 June 2009.
- lxiv Article 2 paragraph 1 of the Grand ducal regulation of 24 August 2016.
- lxv Article 2 paragraph 2 of the Grand ducal regulation of 24 August 2016.
- lxvi Article 3 of the Grand ducal regulation of 24 August 2016.
- lxvii Article 4 of the Grand ducal regulation of 24 August 2016.
- lxviii Article 4 of the Grand ducal regulation of 24 August 2016 establishes the domains, which have to be evaluated, and the quality evaluation criteria. The main domains of evaluation are: a) Organisation, strategy and sustainability of the higher education institution (article 4 (1)); b) aims and objectives of the study programmes (article 4 (2)); c) admission, evaluation and certifications (article 4 (3)); d) Implementation of study programmes (article 4 (4)), e) Research activities (article 4 (5)); f) Measures to guarantee quality of study programmes and research (article 4 (6)).
- lxix For more information, see URL:  
[https://enga.eu/indirme/esq/ESG%20in%20French\\_by%20Re%CC%81seau%20FrAQ.pdf](https://enga.eu/indirme/esq/ESG%20in%20French_by%20Re%CC%81seau%20FrAQ.pdf) (last accessed on 8 November 2018).
- lxx As examples, see Ministerial Decree of 20 July 2018 amending the ministerial decree of 8 June 2012 on the approval of the institution "Brussels Business Institute – Luxembourg Higher Education Institute" and the study programme Bachelor in International Hospitality and Tourism Management, published in Memorial B-2370 of 27 August 2018. See URL: <http://legilux.public.lu/eli/etat/adm/amin/2018/07/20/b2370/jo> (last accessed on 8 November 2018).
- See also Ministerial decree of 25 July 2018 amending the amended Ministerial decree of 22 July 2016 on the approval of the institution "Institut supérieur de l'Économie - Akademie der Wirtschaft (ISEC-AdW)" as a specialised higher education institution, published in Memorial B-2028 of 2 August 2018. See URL: <http://legilux.public.lu/eli/etat/adm/amin/2018/07/25/b2028/jo> (last accessed on 8 November 2018).
- lxxi Information provided by the Ministry for Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- lxxii Article 56 (1) 1 of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- lxxiii Article 56 (1) in accordance with article 39 of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- lxxiv See [guichet.public.lu](http://guichet.public.lu): [Conditions for residence in Luxembourg for students from third countries](#) (last accessed on 20 September 2018).
- lxxv As of 1 August 2018, the guaranteed minimum income corresponds to 1.436,20€ per month.
- The guaranteed minimum income is adapted regularly and can be consulted at any given moment on the website of the Ministry of Social Security under the following link:  
[http://www.mss.public.lu/publications/parametres\\_sociaux/index.html](http://www.mss.public.lu/publications/parametres_sociaux/index.html) (last accessed on 12 November 2018).
- lxxvi LU EMN NCP answer to SI EMN NCP ad-hoc query on verification of the reliability of potential students, launched on 25 October 2016.
- See also URL:  
[https://wwwfr.uni.lu/etudiants/demandes\\_d\\_admission\\_reinscriptions/conditions\\_d\\_eligibilite\\_pour\\_etudiants\\_non\\_ue](https://wwwfr.uni.lu/etudiants/demandes_d_admission_reinscriptions/conditions_d_eligibilite_pour_etudiants_non_ue) (last accessed on 16 November 2018).
- lxxvii See [guichet.public.lu](http://guichet.public.lu): [Conditions for residence in Luxembourg for students from third countries](#) (last accessed on 20 September 2018).
- lxxviii See [guichet.public.lu](http://guichet.public.lu): [Conditions for residence in Luxembourg for students from third countries](#) (last accessed on 20 September 2018).



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- <sup>lxxix</sup> See guichet.public.lu: [Conditions for residence in Luxembourg for students from third countries](#) (last accessed on 20 September 2018).
- <sup>lxxx</sup> See guichet.public.lu: [Conditions for residence in Luxembourg for students from third countries](#) (last accessed on 20 September 2018).
- <sup>lxxxi</sup> See guichet.public.lu: [Conditions for residence in Luxembourg for students from third countries](#) (last accessed on 20 September 2018).
- <sup>lxxxii</sup> Article 56 (1) 1 of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- <sup>lxxxiii</sup> Article 69 (3) point 4 of the study regulations of the University of Luxembourg, as approved the ministerial degree of 13 September 2018.
- <sup>lxxxiv</sup> Article 2 of the amended Grand ducal regulation of 27 October 2006 making operational article 4 of the modified Law of 18 June 1969 on higher education and the approval of higher education foreign qualifications and grades, published in Memorial [A-195 of 15 November 2006](#). See URL: <http://data.legilux.public.lu/file/eli-etat-leg-memorial-2006-195-fr-pdf.pdf> (last accessed on 24 October 2018).
- <sup>lxxxv</sup> See Luxembourg.public.lu, [Recognition of diplomas](#) (last accessed on 13 November 2018).
- <sup>lxxxvi</sup> See guichet.public.lu, [Applying for recognition of diplomas \(baccalauréat/maturité\)](#) (last accessed on 13 November 2018).
- <sup>lxxxvii</sup> See also LU EMN NCP, Immigration of international students to the EU, Luxembourg 2013, p. 49, URL: [https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/networks/european\\_migration\\_network/reports/docs/emn-studies/immigration-students/17\\_luxembourg\\_national\\_report\\_internationalstudents\\_march2013\\_final\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/reports/docs/emn-studies/immigration-students/17_luxembourg_national_report_internationalstudents_march2013_final_en.pdf) (last accessed on 5 November 2018).
- <sup>lxxxviii</sup> Amended Law of 18 June 1969 on higher education and the accreditation of higher education foreign qualifications and grades, JO, *Mémorial A*, No. 27 of 21 June 1969, pp. 796-800, <http://www.legilux.public.lu/leg/a/archives/1969/0027/a027.pdf#page=4>, art. 4, made operational by the Grand-Ducal regulation of 27 October 2006, JO, *Mémorial A*, No. 195 of 15 November 2006. pp. 3383, 3384, <http://www.legilux.public.lu/leg/a/archives/2006/0195/2006A3383A.html> - see, in particular, arts. 1 and 4.  
See also guichet.public.lu, [Applying for recognition of diplomas \(baccalauréat/maturité\)](#) (last accessed on 13 November 2018).
- <sup>lxxxix</sup> Article 4 (2) of the Grand ducal regulation of 27 October 2006 as amended by Grand ducal regulation of 22 January 2015, published in [Memorial A, n° 17 of 5 February 2015](#).
- <sup>xc</sup> Information provided by the Student Admission Office on 4 October 2018.  
For more information, see also URL: <http://www.enad.lu/> (last accessed on 13 November 2018).
- <sup>xci</sup> See guichet.public.lu: [Registering a higher education diploma obtained abroad in the register of certificates](#) (last accessed on 13 November 2018).
- <sup>xcii</sup> A complete and detailed overview of the enrolment fees of the various programmes of the University of Luxembourg can be consulted under the following link: [https://www.en.uni.lu/students/useful\\_information\\_from\\_a\\_to\\_z/enrolment\\_fees](https://www.en.uni.lu/students/useful_information_from_a_to_z/enrolment_fees) (last accessed on 12 November 2018).
- <sup>xciii</sup> See URL: University of Luxembourg, [Enrolment fees](#) (last accessed on 12 November 2018).
- <sup>xciv</sup> For more information, see URL: [https://www.en.uni.lu/studies/fdef/master\\_in\\_logistics\\_and\\_supply\\_chain\\_management](https://www.en.uni.lu/studies/fdef/master_in_logistics_and_supply_chain_management) (last accessed on 12 November 2018).
- <sup>xcv</sup> For more information, see URL: [https://www.en.uni.lu/studies/doctoral\\_education](https://www.en.uni.lu/studies/doctoral_education) (last accessed on 12 November 2018).

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- <sup>xcvi</sup> Article 3 of the amended Grand ducal regulation of 23 February 2010 on the organisation of studies and the graduation of students from courses leading to the obtaining of the advanced technician's certificate, published in Memorial A n°30 de 2010. See URL: <http://data.legilux.public.lu/file/eli-etat-leg-memorial-2010-30-fr-pdf.pdf> (last accessed on 23 October 2018).
- <sup>xcvii</sup> Information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- <sup>xcviii</sup> See URL: <https://www.lunex-university.net/fr/programmes-detudes/physiotherapy/> (last accessed on 20 November 2018).
- <sup>xcix</sup> See URL: <https://www.bbi-edu.eu/en/admission/hotel-school-brussels-wiltz-annual-school-fees> (last accessed on 20 November 2018).
- <sup>c</sup> Information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- <sup>ci</sup> Article 5 (1) 5) of the Law of 27 June 2018.
- <sup>cii</sup> Information provided by the Student Department of the University of Luxembourg on 3 August 2018.
- <sup>ciii</sup> Information provided by the Student Department of the University of Luxembourg on 3 August 2018.
- <sup>civ</sup> Article 12 (1) and Article 13 (1) of the study regulations of the University of Luxembourg, as approved the ministerial degree of 13 September 2018.
- <sup>cv</sup> Article 12 (2) of the study regulations of the University of Luxembourg, as approved the ministerial degree of 13 September 2018.
- <sup>cvi</sup> Article 14 (1) of the study regulations of the University of Luxembourg, as approved the ministerial degree of 13 September 2018.
- <sup>cvii</sup> Article 3 of the amended Grand ducal regulation of 23 February 2010.
- <sup>cviii</sup> Information provided by the Student Department of the University of Luxembourg on 3 August 2018.
- <sup>ciix</sup> Information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- <sup>cx</sup> Article 5 (2) of the amended Law of 27 June 2018.
- <sup>cxii</sup> Article 3 of the amended Grand-Ducal Regulation of 23 February 2010.
- <sup>cxiii</sup> Information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018, Information provided by the Student Department of the University of Luxembourg on 3 August 2018.  
Regarding the University of Luxembourg, see also URL: [https://www.en.uni.lu/university/about\\_the\\_university/5\\_good\\_reasons](https://www.en.uni.lu/university/about_the_university/5_good_reasons) (last accessed on 20 November 2018).
- <sup>cxiv</sup> See URL: <https://www.bbi-edu.eu/en/admission/hotel-school-brussels-wiltz-annual-school-fees> (last accessed on 20 November 2018).
- <sup>cxv</sup> Information provided by the Student Admission Office of the University of Luxembourg.  
However, applicants and beneficiaries of international protection can register as guest students without paying any fees at the University of Luxembourg. This status does not allow them to pass an exam nor to collect any ECTS credits. This provision takes place within the frame of a wider policy that aims to facilitate the integration of Refugees and asylum seekers within the University of Luxembourg.  
See URL: [https://cedies.public.lu/fr/etudier-luxembourg/welcome\\_refugees/guest\\_student.html](https://cedies.public.lu/fr/etudier-luxembourg/welcome_refugees/guest_student.html) (last accessed on 20 November 2018).  
See also URL: <https://www.en.uni.lu/students/refugees> (last accessed on 20 November 2018).  
See also: Answer of the Deputy Minister of Higher Education and Research to parliamentary question n°2786 of 21 February 2017 on the participation of applicants for international protection as a guest student at courses of the University of Luxembourg.

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- cxv See [guichet.public.lu](http://guichet.public.lu), [Conditions of residence for students from third countries](#) (last accessed on 19 October 2018).
- cxvi See [guichet.public.lu](http://guichet.public.lu), [Luxembourg Entry Visa](#) (last accessed on 19 October 2018).
- cxvii See [guichet.public.lu](http://guichet.public.lu), [Conditions of residence for students from third countries](#) (last accessed on 19 October 2018).
- cxviii See [guichet.public.lu](http://guichet.public.lu), [Registering a higher education diploma obtained abroad in the register of certificates](#) (last accessed on 20 November 2018).
- cxix See URL: [https://www.uni.lu/university/about\\_the\\_university](https://www.uni.lu/university/about_the_university) (last accessed on 8 November 2018).
- cxx University of Luxembourg, '*Charte Pédagogique*' – Educational Mission Statement of the University of Luxembourg, 2018. See URL: [https://www.uni.lu/content/download/112590/1326264/file/UL\\_chartep%C3%A9dagogique\\_v1\\_appr\\_en.pdf](https://www.uni.lu/content/download/112590/1326264/file/UL_chartep%C3%A9dagogique_v1_appr_en.pdf) (last accessed on 8 November 2018).
- cxxi University of Luxembourg, Key Performance Indicators 2017, p. 10, see URL: [https://www.uni.lu/content/download/112266/1323021/file/Key%20Performance%20Indicators%20\(Report%202017\).pdf](https://www.uni.lu/content/download/112266/1323021/file/Key%20Performance%20Indicators%20(Report%202017).pdf) (last accessed on 8 November 2018).
- cxvii Article 35 (3) point 6 a) of amended Law of 27 June 2018.
- cxviii Information provided by the Student Department of the University of Luxembourg on 3 August 2018.
- cxviiii Information provided by the Student Department of the University of Luxembourg on 3 August 2018.
- cxviiii Information provided by the Student Department of the University of Luxembourg on 3 August 2018.
- cxviiii Information provided by the Student Department of the University of Luxembourg on 3 August 2018.
- cxviiii For more information on the conditions for the different 'BTS' programmes, see URL: <https://www.bts.lu/> (last accessed on 23 November 2018).
- cxviiii For more information, see URL: <https://www.lunex-university.net/fr/application/> (last accessed on 23 November 2018).
- cxviiii Information provided by the Student Admission Office on 4 October 2018.
- cxviiii Article 2 of the of the amended Grand ducal regulation of 23 February 2010.
- cxviiii Article 56 (1) 4 of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- cxviiii Article 32 (5) of the amended Law of 27 June 2018.
- cxviiii See URL: [https://www.uni.lu/students/useful\\_information\\_from\\_a\\_to\\_z/affiliation\\_to\\_the\\_health\\_insurance](https://www.uni.lu/students/useful_information_from_a_to_z/affiliation_to_the_health_insurance) (last accessed on 23 November 2018).
- cxviiii Article 4 (1) of the amended Grand ducal regulation of 5 September 2008 establishing the criteria of resources and accommodation in accordance Article 56 (1) 3 of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.  
See also judgment of the Administrative Court, n° 33047C of 19 December 2013.
- cxviiii Article 4 (1) of the amended Grand ducal regulation of 5 September 2008.  
As of 1 August 2018, the guaranteed minimum income corresponds to 1.436,20€ per month. The guaranteed minimum income is adapted regularly and can be consulted at any given moment on the website of the Ministry of Social Security under the following link: [http://www.mss.public.lu/publications/parametres\\_sociaux/index.html](http://www.mss.public.lu/publications/parametres_sociaux/index.html) (last accessed on 12 November 2018).
- cxviiii Article 4 (2) b) of the amended Grand ducal regulation of 5 September 2008.
- cxviiii Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- cxviiii Article 4 (2) c) of the amended Grand ducal regulation of 5 September 2008 in accordance with article 4 of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.

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- <sup>cxviii</sup> Article 4 (2) a) of the amended Grand ducal regulation of 5 September 2008.
- <sup>cxvix</sup> Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- <sup>cxl</sup> Article 4 (3) of the amended Grand ducal regulation of 5 September 2008.
- <sup>cxli</sup> Information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- <sup>cxlii</sup> LU EMN NCP, Immigration of international students to the EU, Luxembourg 2013, URL: [https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/networks/european\\_migration\\_network/reports/docs/emn-studies/immigration-students/17\\_luxembourg\\_national\\_report\\_internationalstudents\\_march2013\\_final\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/sites/homeaffairs/files/what-we-do/networks/european_migration_network/reports/docs/emn-studies/immigration-students/17_luxembourg_national_report_internationalstudents_march2013_final_en.pdf) (last accessed on 5 November 2018).
- <sup>cxliii</sup> University of Luxembourg, Fourth Four-Year Plan of the University of Luxembourg, 2018, Luxembourg, see URL: [https://wwen.uni.lu/content/download/106492/1265448/file/Fourth%20Four-Year%20Plan%20of%20the%20University%20of%20Luxembourg,%202018-2021%20\(PDF\).pdf](https://wwen.uni.lu/content/download/106492/1265448/file/Fourth%20Four-Year%20Plan%20of%20the%20University%20of%20Luxembourg,%202018-2021%20(PDF).pdf) (last accessed on 22 November 2018).
- <sup>cxliv</sup> Information provided by the International Relations Office of the University of Luxembourg.
- <sup>cxlv</sup> Information provided by the Faculty of Science, Technology and Communication (FSTC) of the University of Luxembourg.
- <sup>cxlvi</sup> See [guichet.public.lu](http://guichet.public.lu), [Applying for financial aid for students in higher education](#) (last accessed on 19 October 2018).
- <sup>cxlvii</sup> Information provided by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, information provided by the International Relations Office of the University of Luxembourg.
- <sup>cxlviii</sup> Information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018, Information provided by the International Relations Office of the University of Luxembourg on 9 October 2018, Information provided by the Student Admission Office of the University of Luxembourg on 4 October 2018.
- <sup>cxlix</sup> For more information, see URL: [https://wwwfr.uni.lu/fdef/actualites/ferrero\\_fellowships\\_awarded\\_to\\_five\\_students](https://wwwfr.uni.lu/fdef/actualites/ferrero_fellowships_awarded_to_five_students) (last accessed on 15 November 2018).
- <sup>cl</sup> See URL: [https://wwen.uni.lu/studies/fdef/master\\_in\\_logistics\\_and\\_supply\\_chain\\_management/fees\\_funding](https://wwen.uni.lu/studies/fdef/master_in_logistics_and_supply_chain_management/fees_funding) (last accessed on 15 November 2018).
- <sup>cli</sup> For more information, see URL: <https://wwen.uni.lu/international/mobility/scholarships> (last accessed on 15 November 2018).
- <sup>clii</sup> For more information, see URL: [https://wwwfr.uni.lu/universite/soutenir\\_l\\_universite/donations#LuxembourgUniversityFoundation](https://wwwfr.uni.lu/universite/soutenir_l_universite/donations#LuxembourgUniversityFoundation) (last accessed on 15 November 2018).
- <sup>cliii</sup> For more information, see URL: <http://amis-uni.lu/> (last accessed on 15 November 2018).
- <sup>cliv</sup> For more information, see URL: [https://wwwfr.uni.lu/universite/soutenir\\_l\\_universite/donations#LuxembourgUniversityFoundation](https://wwwfr.uni.lu/universite/soutenir_l_universite/donations#LuxembourgUniversityFoundation) (last accessed on 15 November 2018).
- <sup>clv</sup> For more information, see URL: [https://wwwfr.uni.lu/formations/fdef/master\\_in\\_european\\_and\\_international\\_tax\\_law\\_ll\\_m/scholarship](https://wwwfr.uni.lu/formations/fdef/master_in_european_and_international_tax_law_ll_m/scholarship) (last accessed on 15 November 2018).
- <sup>clvi</sup> For more information, see URL: [https://wwwfr.uni.lu/universite/actualites/a\\_la\\_une/luxembourgish\\_philanthropist\\_supports\\_students](https://wwwfr.uni.lu/universite/actualites/a_la_une/luxembourgish_philanthropist_supports_students) (last accessed on 15 November 2018).

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- clvii For more information, see URL: <https://cedies.public.lu/fr.html> (last accessed on 15 November 2018).
- clviii See URL: <https://cedies.public.lu/fr/publications/aides-financieres/aide-financiere-etat/aide-financiere-etat.html> (last accessed on 15 November 2018).
- clix See URL: [https://wwwen.uni.lu/presse/communiqués\\_de\\_presse/20\\_01\\_2017\\_un\\_nouveau\\_programme\\_européen\\_permet\\_de\\_reporter\\_le\\_paiement\\_des\\_frais\\_d\\_etudes](https://wwwen.uni.lu/presse/communiqués_de_presse/20_01_2017_un_nouveau_programme_européen_permet_de_reporter_le_paiement_des_frais_d_etudes) (last accessed on 15 November 2018).
- clx Article 69 (1) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- clxi See also: LU EMN NCP, Family Reunification of third-country nationals in the EU: national practices, p. 6, Luxembourg 2016, URL: <http://www.emnluxembourg.lu/?p=1919> (last accessed on 4 November 2018).
- clxii Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- clxiii See URL: [https://wwwen.uni.lu/university\\_of\\_luxembourg\\_language\\_centre\\_ullc/course\\_offer](https://wwwen.uni.lu/university_of_luxembourg_language_centre_ullc/course_offer) (last accessed on 7 November 2018).
- clxiv See URL: [https://wwwen.uni.lu/international/confucius\\_institute](https://wwwen.uni.lu/international/confucius_institute) (last accessed on 7 November 2018).
- clxv For more information, see URL: <http://www.inll.lu/en/> (last accessed on 7 November 2018).
- clxvi Information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- clxvii Information provided by the Ministry of Higher Education and Research on 6 November 2018.
- clxviii Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- clxix Information provided by the Student Admission Office on 4 October 2018.
- clxx See URL: [https://wwwen.uni.lu/etudiants/demandes\\_d\\_admission\\_reinscriptions/bachelor\\_non\\_ue\\_semestre\\_1\\_pays\\_d\\_u\\_diplome/examen\\_d\\_entree](https://wwwen.uni.lu/etudiants/demandes_d_admission_reinscriptions/bachelor_non_ue_semestre_1_pays_d_u_diplome/examen_d_entree) (last accessed on 15 November 2018).
- clxxi Information provided by the Student Admission Office on 4 October 2018.
- clxxii Information provided by the Student Admission Office on 4 October 2018.  
See also URL: <http://www.enad.lu/> (last accessed on 15 November 2018).
- clxxiii See [First instance Administrative Court, 1<sup>st</sup> Chamber, n° 28941 of 2 July 2012](#) (last accessed on 17 September 2018).
- clxxiv Article 57 (1) of the amended law of 29 August 2008.
- clxxv With the exception of students who follow a European or multilateral programme that contains mobility measures or a convention between two or more HEIs (see also Q1c).
- clxxvi Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- clxxvii See guichet.public.lu: [Conditions for residence in Luxembourg for students from third countries](#) (last accessed on 18 October 2018).
- clxxviii See guichet.public.lu: [Conditions for residence in Luxembourg for students from third countries](#) (last accessed on 18 October 2018).
- clxxix See guichet.public.lu: [Conditions for residence in Luxembourg for students from third countries](#) (last accessed on 18 October 2018).
- clxxx Article 62ter of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.

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- clxxxii Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- clxxxiii Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- clxxxiii Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- See also: Guichet.public.lu, [Conditions for residence in Luxembourg for students from third countries](#) (last accessed on 16 November 2018).
- clxxxiv Article 57 (1) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- clxxxv Information provided by the Student Department on 3 August 2008.
- clxxxvi Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- clxxxvii Article 57 (4) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- clxxxviii Article 36 (3) of the Law of 27 June 2018.
- clxxxix Article 36 (2) of the Law of 27 June 2018.
- cxci Information provided by the Student Department on 3 August 2008.
- cxcl Information provided by the Student Department on 3 August 2008.
- cxcli Information provided by the Directorate of Immigration of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs on 29 October 2018.
- cxclii See URL: [https://wwwfr.uni.lu/international/a\\_la\\_une/meet\\_greet\\_for\\_incoming\\_students2](https://wwwfr.uni.lu/international/a_la_une/meet_greet_for_incoming_students2) (last accessed on 7 November 2018).
- cxcliv See URL: [https://wwwen.uni.lu/students/mobility/incoming\\_exchange\\_students/arrival\\_in\\_luxembourg](https://wwwen.uni.lu/students/mobility/incoming_exchange_students/arrival_in_luxembourg) (last accessed on 7 November 2018).
- cxclv See URL: [https://wwwen.uni.lu/students/useful\\_information\\_from\\_a\\_to\\_z/quichet\\_etudiant](https://wwwen.uni.lu/students/useful_information_from_a_to_z/quichet_etudiant) (last accessed on 7 November 2018).
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- cxclix See URL: [https://wwwen.uni.lu/students/accommodation/university\\_residence\\_hall](https://wwwen.uni.lu/students/accommodation/university_residence_hall) (last accessed on 7 November 2018).
- cc Student accommodation increased significantly these past year due to the new student residences now available on the main Campus at Belval, from 550 units in the academic year 2012/2013 to 1122 units in academic year 2017/2018 (which represents an increase of more than 100 %).
- Source: University of Luxembourg, Key Performance Indicators 2017, p. 22, see URL: [https://wwwen.uni.lu/content/download/112266/1323021/file/Key%20Performance%20Indicators%20\(Report%202017\).pdf](https://wwwen.uni.lu/content/download/112266/1323021/file/Key%20Performance%20Indicators%20(Report%202017).pdf) (last accessed on 29 November 2018).
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- ccxi Article 57 (3) paragraph 2 of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- ccxii Article 57 (3) paragraph 3 of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- ccxiii Article 57 (3) of the amended Law of 29 August 2008.
- See also: Parliamentary document 7188/00 of 29 September 2017, Commentary of Articles, p. 14.
- ccxiv Art. 1 of the Grand ducal regulation of 5 September 2008 on the practice of an employment activity by a student as provided for by Law of 29 August 2008 on the free movement of persons and immigration, published in Memorial A-138 of 10 September 2008. See URL: <http://legilux.public.lu/eli/etat/leg/rqd/2008/09/05/n4/jo> (last accessed on 12 November 2018). Article 1 of the Grand ducal regulation mentions the only document needed is the residence permit.
- See also Committee on Foreign and European Affairs, Defence, Cooperation, and Immigration (2008), '*Report on the Bill on the free movement of persons and immigration*', 03.07.2008, Document No. 5802/17 (in French), Ordinary Session 2007-2008, 10.07.2008, p. 29, see URL: [https://www.chd.lu/wps/PA\\_RoleDesAffaires/FTSByteServletImpl?path=527279F1826917B1F44E791DA1D0A5108F9BF601B4BF7CDBD97B05B899DCFA10FB64CAF250EB96F8F5144A890DA9EF4C5D612E78A76BC7A0557A49A780B58EDCE](https://www.chd.lu/wps/PA_RoleDesAffaires/FTSByteServletImpl?path=527279F1826917B1F44E791DA1D0A5108F9BF601B4BF7CDBD97B05B899DCFA10FB64CAF250EB96F8F5144A890DA9EF4C5D612E78A76BC7A0557A49A780B58EDCE) (accessed 12 November 2018).
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cclxxx Article 4 of Law of 20 July 2017.

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cclxxxii For reasons of efficiency and impact, Luxembourg's development cooperation involves a policy of targeted intervention in a small number of 'partner countries' (Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Mali, Niger and Senegal in Western Africa, as well as Laos and Nicaragua). In addition to these partner countries, Luxembourg also supports projects in seven co-called 'project countries', namely Vietnam, El Salvador, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Mongolia, Myanmar and the occupied Palestinian territories.

Source: Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, '*Development cooperation: government policy and key measures*', see URL: <https://gouvernement.lu/en/dossiers/2018/cooperation.html> (last accessed on 29 November 2018).

See also: Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs, '*Partners*', see URL: <https://cooperation.gouvernement.lu/en/partenaires.html> (last accessed on 29 November 2018).

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In addition, 14 agreements with third countries have been concluded in the framework of Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility.

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