

E-10: Luxembourg

GENERAL INFORMATION

<i>Official Name:</i>	Grand Duche de Luxembourg
<i>Capital:</i>	Luxembourg
<i>Population:</i>	514,862
<i>Major Languages:</i>	Luxembourgish, German, French
<i>Major Religions:</i>	Roman Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Muslim
<i>Regional/Economic Organizational Membership:</i>	ACCT, Australia Group, Benelux, BIS, CD, CE, EAPC, EBRD, ECE, EIB, EMU, ESA, EU, FAO, FATF, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC, ICRM, IDA, IEA, IFAD, IFC, IFRCS, ILO, IMF, IMO, Intelsat, Interpol, IOC, IOM, IPU, ISO, ITSO, ITU, ITUC, MIGA, NATO, NEA, NSG, OAS (observer), OECD, OIF, OPCW, OSCE, PCA, Schengen Convention, UN, UN Security Council, UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNIFIL, UNRWA, UPU, WCO, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO, ZC

GOVERNMENTAL SYSTEM

Luxembourg has a democratic monarchy governmental system. The Prime Minister is the head of the government. It does have a multi-party system as well. There is an executive branch, which consists of the Grand Duke and the cabinet. The cabinet mainly consists of a Prime Minister and other ministers that include the Deputy Prime Minister. The monarch is hereditary therefore the prime minister and deputy prime minister are appointed by the monarch.

The legislative branch consists of the Chamber of Deputies, which has 60 five-year term members. There is also the Council of State which serves as an advisory body. It is composed of 21 citizens who are appointed by the Grand Duke. The Council of State's role is to advise the Chamber of Deputies in the drafting of legislation. The councilor's role ends after a period of fifteen years or when that person reaches the age of seventy-two. The judicial branch has the Superior Court of Justice, whom are appointed by the Grand Duke and can hold it for life, and the Administrative Court.

FOREIGN POLICY

Luxembourg's foreign policy is centered on supporting all European political affairs and economic integration. That policy would lead to Luxembourg cooperating with Belgium and

forming the Belgium-Luxembourg Economic Union in 1921. Its purpose was to create an interchangeable currency and a common customs regime. Luxembourg is also a member of the Benelux Economic Union, which consist of Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg. It is a founding member of the European Union. Majority of Luxembourgers believed that European unity is feasible if the unity works as a transatlantic relationship. With this in mind, Luxembourg is continuously pursuing a pro-NATO/pro-US type of foreign policy.

ISSUES SUMMARY

Luxembourg is a highly stable nation. It has a majority stable economy along with its agricultural system. Luxembourg is dealing with a financial debt that has been recognized by the United Nations. It has developed a plan that will make it debt free by 2017 even though its debt is one of the highest in the world. This is due to par with Luxembourg having an excess of banks and reports of multiple cases of corruption.

RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UN

Luxembourg has become a non-permanent member as of 2014. It is a part of the European Union, NATO, OECD, and Benelux. It is also one of the founding members of the European Economic Community. Its standpoint is based on the political consensus in favor of economic, political, and military integration. Luxembourg contributes about 900 people in its military. (defense and NATO) It is the site of the European Court of Justice.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER UNSC MEMBERS

China and Luxembourg share trade relations. China currently exports materials such as textile, garments, plastic products, and toys. Luxembourg and France share its culture, history, and language with each other. Both are a part of the European Union and NATO. They both have an embassy in each other's nation. Luxembourg has been occupied by the French in past history. Both countries maintain close relations. Luxembourg has an embassy in Moscow and an honorary consulate in Saint Petersburg. Russia has an embassy in the city of Luxembourg. Their cooperation is based on energy and finance. Luxembourg took in many Russian immigrant workers in 1926. As of 2012, they have 1000+ Russians registered in Luxembourg. Luxembourg works and trades with the UK closely. The United States help liberate Luxembourg during World War I and World War II. During the liberation, more than 5,000 American troops were killed but are buried at the Luxembourg American Cemetery and Memorial, which is near the capital city. 42% of Luxembourgers approve of U.S. leadership, with 33% disapproving and 25% uncertain, according to the 2012 U.S. Global Leadership Report.

Pakistan maintains cordial diplomatic relations with Luxembourg and there is also an Honorary Consulate in Luxembourg. Luxembourg and Morocco have not established diplomatic relations with one another. There is both an Australian embassy and an honorary consulate in Luxembourg and vice versa.

