

# National orientation day destined to signers of the welcome and integration contract

8<sup>th</sup> may 2021

## GETTING INVOLVED IN LUXEMBOURG'S POLITICAL LIFE



LE GOUVERNEMENT  
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG  
Ministère de la Famille, de l'Intégration  
et à la Grande Région

Département de l'intégration

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# Luxembourg's political system

## Two decision making levels in Luxembourg

- 1) State (Grand-Duke, government, Ministries, public administrations, etc.)
- 2) Municipalities: 102. Only decentralized institution

# Luxembourg's political system

## 3 election levels :

- **Legislative (national) elections : 60 deputies forming the national Parliament**
  - Only Luxembourgish nationals allowed to vote
- **Municipal elections : 1.120 local representatives**
  - Luxembourgish nationals electing as well as non-Luxembourgish nationals registered on the electoral register
- **European elections : 6 Luxembourgish deputies representing the Grand-Duchy at the European level**
  - Luxembourgish nationals as well as residents from an EU state registered on the electoral register

# Electoral system

## Some general considerations

### **Mandatory Vote**

For all registered voters on the electoral list  
(Article 89 of the Electoral Law)

### **Some exceptions**

- The voters who are 75 years of age or more
- The voters who live in a municipality other than the one where they are called upon to vote

### **In case of incapacity**

- Excuse: mail to the Attorney General/state prosecutor (Procureur d'Etat) specifying the reasons for non-participation and providing the justifications
- Before the elections, postal vote

# Electoral system

## Postal vote/ballot by mail

### Law of 8th March 2018

#### Extending the right of postal vote :

Postal vote is now open to everyone who has addressed the request before a certain date. From now on people can decide if they whether want to vote in an office on the day of elections or if they prefer postal vote.

Possibility to register online on electoral list by filling out a document on the website [MyGuichet.lu](http://MyGuichet.lu). The document has to contain the electronic signature

#### Deadline for postal vote

The request for postal vote has to be addressed to the town hall by mail or by post

- At the earliest 12 weeks before and at the latest 25 days before election day if the letter is send to a Luxemburgish address
- At the earliest 12 weeks before and at the latest 40 days before election day if the letter has to be send abroad

# The political system in the Luxembourg

## 8 political parties for national elections in 2018 :

- **Kommunistisch Partei (KPL)**
- **Déi Lénk**
- **Déi Gréng**
- **Lëtzebuenger Sozialistesche Aarbechterpartei - LSAP**
- **Demokratesch Partei – DP**
- **Chrëschtlech-Sozial Vollekspartei – CSV**
- **Alternativ Demokratesch Reformpartei – ADR**
- **Piraten**

## Municipal elections

- 102 municipalities are concerned by local elections
- Everyone has the right to vote. Luxembourgish nationals have the obligation to vote, non-Luxembourgish residents can vote under certain circumstances

# To be a voter in the municipal elections

## **Non-Luxembourgish residents**

- Must have resided in Luxembourg for at least 5 years before the date of the registration on the electoral register
- Only the last year of residence has to be continuous, without interruption
- Must make a registration application for the electoral register at the municipality of residence

## **For all the residents**

- Must be 18 years old the day of the election



# To be a voter in the municipal elections

## Steps for foreign residents :

- The voter must go personally to the municipal administration to register on the electoral register with a valid identity document
- Complete a pre-printed form, a formal declaration stating your nationality, your address and that you are not deprived of the right to vote in your country of origin
- Possibility to register online on electoral list by filling out an document on the website [MyGuichet.lu](http://MyGuichet.lu). The document has to contain the electronic signature
  - Registration can be done throughout the year
  - Once registered on the list, the vote is mandatory
  - Possibility to be struck off the lists on request
  - You are not deprived of the right to vote in your country of origin

# To be a candidate in the municipal elections

## **Non-Luxembourgish residents :**

- Must reside in Luxembourg since 5 years on the day of the filing of the list of candidates
- Only the last year of residence has to be continuous, without interruption
- Foreign candidates, have access to the posts of mayor and alderman

## **For all the residents :**

- Must live at least 6 months in the municipality
- Must be 18 years of age on election day

# To be a voter in the European elections

## **Foreigners from an EU Member State**

- Must reside in Luxembourg
- Must make a registration application for the electoral register at the municipality

## **Residents :**

- Must be 18 years old the day of the election

# To be a voter in the European elections

## Steps for foreigners from an EU Member State:

- The voter must go personally to the municipal administration to register on the electoral register with a valid identity document
- Complete a pre-printed form, a formal declaration stating your nationality, your address and that you are not deprived of the right to vote in your country of origin
- Possibility to register online on electoral list by filling out a document on the website [MyGuichet.lu](http://MyGuichet.lu). The document has to contain the electronic signature
  - Registration can be done throughout the year
  - Once registered on the list, the vote is mandatory
  - Possibility to be struck off the lists on request
  - Registering in Luxemburg doesn't give you the permission to vote in your country of origin for the European elections

# To be a candidate in the European elections

6 deputies have to be elected for Luxembourg.

Political groups/parties have to compose a list of candidates.

## **To be eligible :**

- Must be a Luxembourgish citizen or a foreign citizen from an EU member state
- Must be 18 years of age on election day

# The day of elections

5 days prior the elections, the municipal administration sends a convening letter to the voters. The letter contains information on polling station's opening hours, the address of the polling office, instructions for the voter as well as the list of candidates.

## The day of elections:

**Polling stations opening hours : 8.00 to 14.00**

**Voters have to bring an identity document**

- 1. Identity is verified**
- 2. Voter receives ballot**
- 3. Voter votes inside voting booth**
- 4. Deposit of ballot**

# Municipal elections

## Two types of voting system : Majority and proportional voting

### Majority voting

7 members	municipalities < 999 inhabitants
9 members	municipalities with 1.000 to 2.999 inhabitants

### Proportional voting

11 members	municipalities with 3.000 to 5.999 inhabitants
13 members	municipalities with 6.000 to 9.999 inhabitants
15 members	municipalities with 10.000 to 14.999 inhabitants
17 members	municipalities with 15.000 to 19.999 inhabitants
19 members	municipalities with 20.000 inhabitants or more
27 members	municipal council of Luxembourg-City

# Some points on the electoral system

## Majority voting :

- 56 municipalities use majority voting (> 3 000 inhabitants)
- Individual candidatures
- The voter has as many votes as there are counsellors to be elected to the municipal council

**Example :**

**7 counsellors to be elected**

<i>Dehaene</i>	X
<i>Hoffmann</i>	
<i>Käyser</i>	X
<i>Lang</i>	
<i>Michel</i>	
<i>Nelles</i>	X
<i>Thiry</i>	X
<i>Welter</i>	
<i>Bertrand</i>	X
<i>Lohr</i>	X
<i>Peters</i>	X
<i>Welter</i>	



# Some points on the electoral system

## Proportional voting

- 46 municipalities use proportional voting (< 3 000 inhabitants)
- List of political parties
- Special note: vote by multiple sections.

To vote, the elector has three possibilities:

- Vote for a list
- Vote intra-list (several candidates on the same list)
- Vote inter-list (candidates on different lists)

# Some points on the electoral system

## Vote for a list of candidates

X		
<i>Debaux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>		
<i>Käyser</i>		
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lohr</i>		
<i>Peters</i>		
<i>Wolter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>		
<i>Adam</i>		

□		
<i>Debaux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>		
<i>Käyser</i>		
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lohr</i>		
<i>Peters</i>		
<i>Wolter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>		
<i>Adam</i>		

□		
<i>Debaux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>		
<i>Käyser</i>		
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lohr</i>		
<i>Peters</i>		
<i>Wolter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>		
<i>Adam</i>		

□		
<i>Debaux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>		
<i>Käyser</i>		
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lohr</i>		
<i>Peters</i>		
<i>Wolter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>		
<i>Adam</i>		

□		
<i>Debaux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>		
<i>Käyser</i>		
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lohr</i>		
<i>Peters</i>		
<i>Wolter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>		
<i>Adam</i>		

Example : 15 counsellors to be elected

# Some points on the electoral system

## Vote for candidates on one list

<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debaux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>		
<i>Kaiser</i>		
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lehr</i>		
<i>Peters</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>		
<i>Adam</i>		

<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debaux</i>	X	X
<i>Hoffmann</i>		
<i>Kaiser</i>	X	X
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>	X	X
<i>Nelles</i>	X	X
<i>Thiry</i>	X	
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lehr</i>	X	X
<i>Peters</i>		
<i>Welter</i>	X	X
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>	X	
<i>Adam</i>	X	

<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debaux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>		
<i>Kaiser</i>		
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lehr</i>		
<i>Peters</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>		
<i>Adam</i>		

<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debaux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>		
<i>Kaiser</i>		
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lehr</i>		
<i>Peters</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>		
<i>Adam</i>		

<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debaux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>		
<i>Kaiser</i>		
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lehr</i>		
<i>Peters</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>		
<i>Adam</i>		

Example : 15 counsellors to be elected

# Some points on the electoral system

## Vote for candidates on different lists

	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debaux</i>			
<i>Hoffmann</i>	<b>X</b>		
<i>Käyser</i>			
<i>Lang</i>			
<i>Michel</i>	<b>X</b>		
<i>Nelles</i>			
<i>Thiry</i>			
<i>Welter</i>			
<i>Bertrand</i>			
<i>Lohr</i>			
<i>Peters</i>			
<i>Welter</i>			
<i>Dubois</i>			
<i>Kremer</i>			
<i>Adam</i>			

	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debaux</i>			
<i>Hoffmann</i>			
<i>Käyser</i>			
<i>Lang</i>			
<i>Michel</i>			
<i>Nelles</i>			
<i>Thiry</i>			
<i>Welter</i>			
<i>Bertrand</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Lohr</i>			
<i>Peters</i>			
<i>Welter</i>			
<i>Dubois</i>			
<i>Kremer</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Adam</i>			

	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debaux</i>			
<i>Hoffmann</i>			
<i>Käyser</i>			
<i>Lang</i>			
<i>Michel</i>			
<i>Nelles</i>	<b>X</b>		
<i>Thiry</i>			
<i>Welter</i>			
<i>Bertrand</i>			
<i>Lohr</i>			
<i>Peters</i>			
<i>Welter</i>			
<i>Dubois</i>	<b>X</b>		
<i>Kremer</i>			
<i>Adam</i>			

	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debaux</i>			
<i>Hoffmann</i>	<b>X</b>		
<i>Käyser</i>			
<i>Lang</i>			
<i>Michel</i>	<b>X</b>		
<i>Nelles</i>			
<i>Thiry</i>			
<i>Welter</i>			
<i>Bertrand</i>			
<i>Lohr</i>			
<i>Peters</i>			
<i>Welter</i>			
<i>Dubois</i>	<b>X</b>		
<i>Kremer</i>			
<i>Adam</i>			

	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debaux</i>			
<i>Hoffmann</i>			
<i>Käyser</i>			
<i>Lang</i>			
<i>Michel</i>			
<i>Nelles</i>			
<i>Thiry</i>			
<i>Welter</i>			
<i>Bertrand</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Lohr</i>			
<i>Peters</i>			
<i>Welter</i>			
<i>Dubois</i>			
<i>Kremer</i>			
<i>Adam</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	

**Example : 15 counsellors to be elected**

# Some points on the electoral system

# WRONG

<b>X</b>		
<i>Debraux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>		
<i>Käyser</i>		
<i>Lang</i>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>		
<i>Welter</i>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lohr</i>		
<i>Peters</i>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Wolter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>		
<i>Adam</i>		

<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debraux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>		
<i>Käyser</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lohr</i>		
<i>Peters</i>		
<i>Wolter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<i>Adam</i>		

<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debraux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>		
<i>Käyser</i>		
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lohr</i>		
<i>Peters</i>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Wolter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>		
<i>Adam</i>		

<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debraux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Käyser</i>		
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>	<b>X</b>	
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<i>Peters</i>		
<i>Wolter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Kremer</i>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Adam</i>		

<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Debraux</i>		
<i>Hoffmann</i>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Käyser</i>		
<i>Lang</i>		
<i>Michel</i>		
<i>Nelles</i>		
<i>Thiry</i>		
<i>Welter</i>		
<i>Bertrand</i>		
<i>Lohr</i>		
<i>Peters</i>		
<i>Wolter</i>		
<i>Dubois</i>		
<i>Kremer</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<i>Adam</i>		

**Example : 15 counsellors to be elected**

# WHY SHOULD YOU VOTE?

There are no provinces and no departments in Luxembourg.

The municipality is the only decentralized authority.

The Constitution grants the municipalities local autonomy that is the power to manage themselves, through their own internal bodies.

- Public transports
- Culture and sports
- Waste management
- Crèches
- Housing
- Spatial urban planning and development
- Primary education
- Taxes et subsides
- Etc.

# Upcoming deadlines

**Municipal elections 2023** (all residents under certain circumstances)

**European elections 2024** (citizens of the E.U.)

- ➔ Possibility to register now and throughout the year
- ➔ Two separated lists: the voter must register on each list if he wants to vote for municipal and European elections
- ➔ Registering on electoral list for municipal elections doesn't deprive you of the right to vote in your country of origin