

Annual General Meeting 2026 in Luxembourg

Action required:

- Information of EC
- The EC is asked to discuss the overall topic considering the proposal by the BNL

Program outline for CENL AGM 2026, 14 – 16 June

Draft as of 12 September 2025 – Work in progress -

Overall topic: to be discussed by the EC

When?	What?	Who?	Where?
14 June 2026, Sunday	Cultural programme		
11:00 – 12:00	Europe as seen through its forestry – Walking through the Arboretum on Kirchberg		
12:00 – 14:00	Registration and lunch		BNL
14:00 – 16:00	Europe as seen through its history – Guided tours		
16:00 – 17:30	Time at free disposal		
17:30 – 18:30	European Identities – 500 Years of the Fortress of Luxembourg: Visit of the Dräi Eechelen Museum		
19:00 – 22:00	Barbecue in front of the Dräi Eechelen Museum		

Venue: National Library of Luxembourg			
15 June 2026, Monday	Session 1, Business meeting		
9:00 – 9:10	Welcome from Chair and Host	Chair: Frank Scholze Host: Claude Conter	
9:10 – 9:30	Introduction round	All delegates	
9:30 – 9:40	Approval of the minutes of Edinburgh AGM VOTE	Chair: Frank Scholze	
9:40 – 9:45	Matters arising from minutes	Chair: Frank Scholze	
9:45 – 9:50	Agreement on new member VOTE	Chair: Frank Scholze	
9:50 – 10:10	CENL Annual report 2025/2026	Chair: Frank Scholze	
10:10 – 10:20	Treasurer's report including 2027 budget VOTE	Treasurer: Karin Grönvall	
10:20 – 10:25	CENL Action Plan and Communications	Secretary: Susanne Oehlschläger	
10:25 – 10:30	Any other business		
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break		
	Session 2: Conference		
11:00 – 12:00	Key Note 1 Topic to be determined by the EC Followed by conversation with Chair or EC member and by Q&A	Alain Berset, Secretary General of the Council of Europe (tbc)	
12:00 – 12:15	Group photo	All delegates	
12:15 – 13:30	Lunch Break		

	Session 3		
13:30 – 15:30	Voices from National Libraries	Call	
15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break		
16:00 – 16:45	Key note 2	Proposal BNL	
16:45 – 17:00	Closing remarks day 1	Frank Scholze	
18:30 -19:00	Drinks reception		Cercle Cité
19:00-22:00	Gala Dinner		Cercle Cité
16 June 2023, Tuesday	Session 4		
9:00 – 10:00	40 years CENL – the story of a successful network in Europe	To be discussed	
10:00 – 11:00	Key note about storytelling	Proposal BNL: Andreas Fickers (Director of the Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History)	
11:00 – 11:20	Coffee Break		
11:20 – 11:40	Presentation/Report		
11:40 – 12:00	Presentation/Report		
12:00 – 12:15	Presentation/Report		
12:15 – 12:30	Update on the situation in Ukraine		
12:30 – 12:45	Presentation by the 2027 host (Royal Library of Sweden)	Karin Grönvall Date: 6 – 8 June, 13-15 June, 20 – 22 June 2027 (tbc)	
12:45 – 13:00	Closing remarks Farewell	Frank Scholze	
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch		
14:30 – 15:30	Tour of the National Library	Optional	

Business meeting	Topic related
Socializing	Other

1. Accommodation

Similar to Edinburgh, the hotels in Luxembourg are pretty expensive. Not least because during the week will meet also Luckily, our hosts have an agreement with the hotel **Mélia** (<https://www.melia.com/de/hotels/luxemburg/luxemburg/melia-luxembourg>). Their room rate will be 160,- Euros per night.

Thus we hope that also those members who were not able to travel to Edinburgh due to the high costs, will be able to join us in Luxembourg.

For the EC to discuss and decide

1. Overall topic of the meeting?

- 40. anniversary of CENL
- Europe and multilinguality
- Strategic planning in national libraries, strategies, development of strategies
- Impact of Artificial intelligence on organisational development of national libraries
- Pioneering role of national libraries in various fields
- National libraries and democracy
- New work
- Other topics

2. Break-out groups? Other formats?

3. Shall we proceed with video reports of Network Groups and Grant holders instead of reports on site or by Zoom?

CENL 14th-16th of June 2026

Europe's Multilingual Cultural Heritage: A Historical Legacy and a Contemporary Mission for National Libraries

Europe's cultural heritage is deeply multilingual, shaped by centuries of linguistic diversity and cross-cultural exchange. This richness continues today, reflected in the European Union's commitment to language inclusion. National libraries play a vital role in preserving this heritage by collecting materials in all languages, digitizing collections for global access, supporting minority languages, and promoting intercultural dialogue. Their mission is not only to safeguard the past but to foster a more inclusive and culturally connected future.

Europe has long been a mosaic of languages, cultures, and identities. From the Latin of the Roman Empire to the vernaculars of medieval kingdoms, and from the multilingual courts of the Habsburgs to today's European Union with its 24 official languages, linguistic diversity has shaped the continent's cultural heritage in profound ways.

Historically, multilingualism in Europe was both a reflection of political complexity and a driver of cultural exchange. Manuscripts, books, and oral traditions circulated across borders, often translated and adapted into local languages. This rich tapestry of linguistic interaction fostered intellectual movements such as the Renaissance and the Enlightenment, which relied on the transmission of ideas across linguistic boundaries.

In the present day, multilingualism remains a cornerstone of European identity. It is enshrined in the EU's motto, "*United in diversity*," and supported by policies that promote language learning, translation, and access to cultural content in multiple languages. Yet, this diversity also presents challenges: how can we ensure that minority languages are preserved? How do we make cultural heritage accessible to all, regardless of language?

This is where national libraries play a crucial role. As custodians of a nation's memory, they are tasked with collecting, preserving, and providing access to materials in all languages spoken within their borders—and often beyond. Their mission includes:

- **Preservation of linguistic diversity:** By archiving texts in regional and minority languages, national libraries safeguard voices that might otherwise be lost.
- **Digitization and accessibility:** Through digital platforms, libraries make multilingual collections available to global audiences, breaking down linguistic and geographic barriers.
- **Promotion of intercultural dialogue:** Libraries host exhibitions, events, and research initiatives that highlight the interconnectedness of European cultures and languages.
- **Support for scholarship and education:** By providing resources in multiple languages, they empower researchers, students, and the public to engage with Europe's cultural heritage in its full linguistic richness.

In an era of globalization and digital transformation, national libraries are evolving into dynamic cultural hubs. Their commitment to multilingualism is not just about preserving the past—it is about shaping a more inclusive and culturally aware future.

This topic could be the guideline for the AGM.

Sunday, 14th June 2026

11.00-12.00 Europe as seen through its forestry – Walking through the Arboretum on Kirchberg (optional)

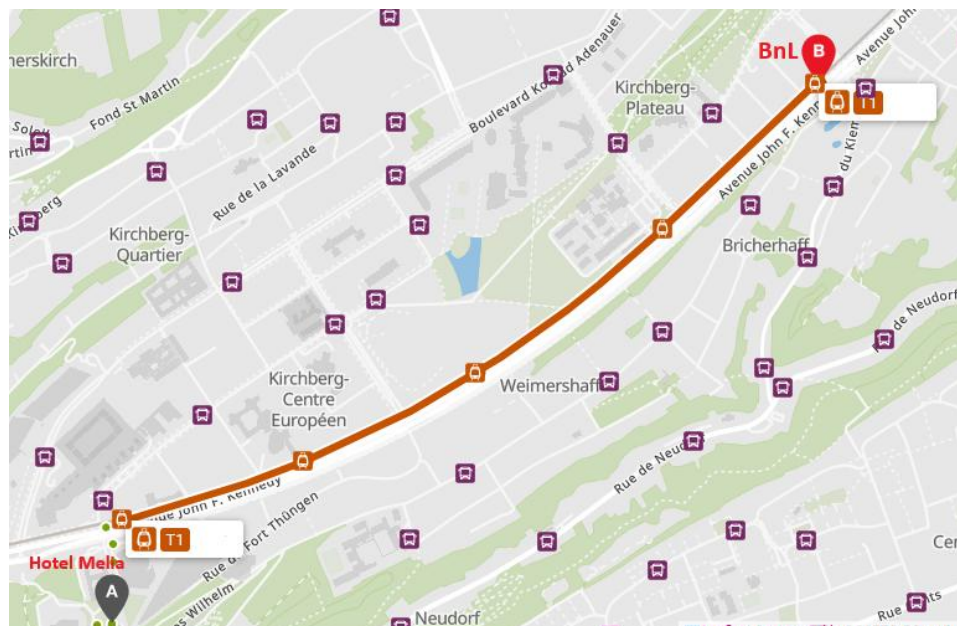
Meeting point for those interested in this short walk at 10:45 a.m. in the hotel lobby.

The Arboretum, a green belt of boulevards and avenues, parks and semi-public gardens, was created on the plateau by landscape architect Peter Latz following the urban redevelopment of the Kirchberg district. The Arboretum features tree species and rock formations from the EU Member States, creating a diverse range of habitats and experiences.

12.00-14.00 Registration and lunch
National Library of Luxembourg

Adress: 37D, avenue John F. Kennedy L-1855 Luxembourg

Tram stop: *Nationalbibliothék / Bibliothèque nationale*; 4 tram stops away from the hotel Melia Luxembourg (trams run every 8 to 10 minutes on Sundays)



Possibility to discover the small exhibition *European Heritage in the collections of the National Library of Luxembourg* (Special Reading Room)

The exhibition displays documents relating to the countries of the CENL in order to highlight the European aspect of the National Library's heritage collection.

14.00-16.00 Europe as seen through its history – Guided tours through the City of Luxembourg

Choice of guided tours: (<https://www.luxembourg-city.com/en/tours>)

- City Promenade
The City Promenade is the perfect way to discover the former fortress city's top attractions and hidden gems.
- Promenade UNESCO
On this tour, the impressive remains of the former fortified city and the old town quarters, which were added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 1994, can be explored, and more can be learned about Luxembourg's important role in European history.
- Architecture and art in the public space: Kirchberg Plateau
This walking tour on the Kirchberg plateau, a futuristic district that was still an agricultural area just 60 years ago, allows exploring modern sculptures and contemporary architecture from award-winning star architects.
- Luxembourg, European capital
The tour takes to historic locations where it all began more than half a century ago: e.g. the Council of the European Union, the European Parliament, the European Commission, the Court of Justice of the European Communities, ... (all visits from outside).
- The life and legends of women in Luxembourg
Workers and nobles, witches and saints: discover the fascinating history and outstanding role of legendary women in Luxembourg, from the Middle Ages to the present.
- Mansfeld Circular Walk
In the footsteps of Governor Mansfeld through the suburb of Clausen, who in 1564 began with the construction of his new residence, "La Fontaine", in the valley outside the city's walls. Dive into the past on this walking tour using augmented reality.
- Shoah Memorial Trail in Luxembourg City
The Memorial Trail in Luxembourg City remembers the fate of the approximately 4000 Jews who lived here on the day of the German invasion and offers an insight into the wiping out of Jewish life in Luxembourg by Nazi Germany.

16.00-17.30 Time at free disposal

17.30

European Identities – 500 Years of the Fortress of Luxembourg: Visit of the Dräi Eechelen Museum



<https://m3e.public.lu/en.html>

Adress: 5, Park Dräi Eechelen L-1499 Luxembourg
(250m walk away from the hotel Melia Luxembourg)

19.00-22.00 Barbecue in front of the Dräi Eechelen Museum

Monday, 15th June 2026

- 08.50-10.15 AGM 1: Business Meeting
- 10.15-10.45 Coffee Break
- 10.45-12.00 AGM 2: Europe's Multilingual Cultural Heritage
Keynote: Alain Berset, Secretary General of the Council of Europe (not confirmed)
- 12.00-12.15 Group Photo
- 12.15-13.30 Lunch Break
- 13.30-15.30 AGM 3: Europe's Multilingual Cultural Heritage
Case Studies – Voices from National Libraries
- 15.30-16.00 Coffee Break
- 16.00-17.00 Keynote: ??? Glenn Micallef, European Commissioner for Culture (not yet contacted, our proposal)
- 18.30-19.00 Drinks Reception at Cercle Cité
- 19.00-22.00 Gala Diner at Cercle Cité



Adress: Place d'Armes L-2012 Luxembourg

Tuesday, 16th June 2026

9.00-11.00 AGM 4: Europe's Multilingual Cultural Heritage
Keynote: Andreas Fickers (Director of the Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History)
Keynote about storytelling, European history and the expectations of heritage institutions on the part of research
(not yet contacted, our proposal)

Breakout Groups

11.00-11.20 Coffee Break

11.20 AGM 5: Business Meeting

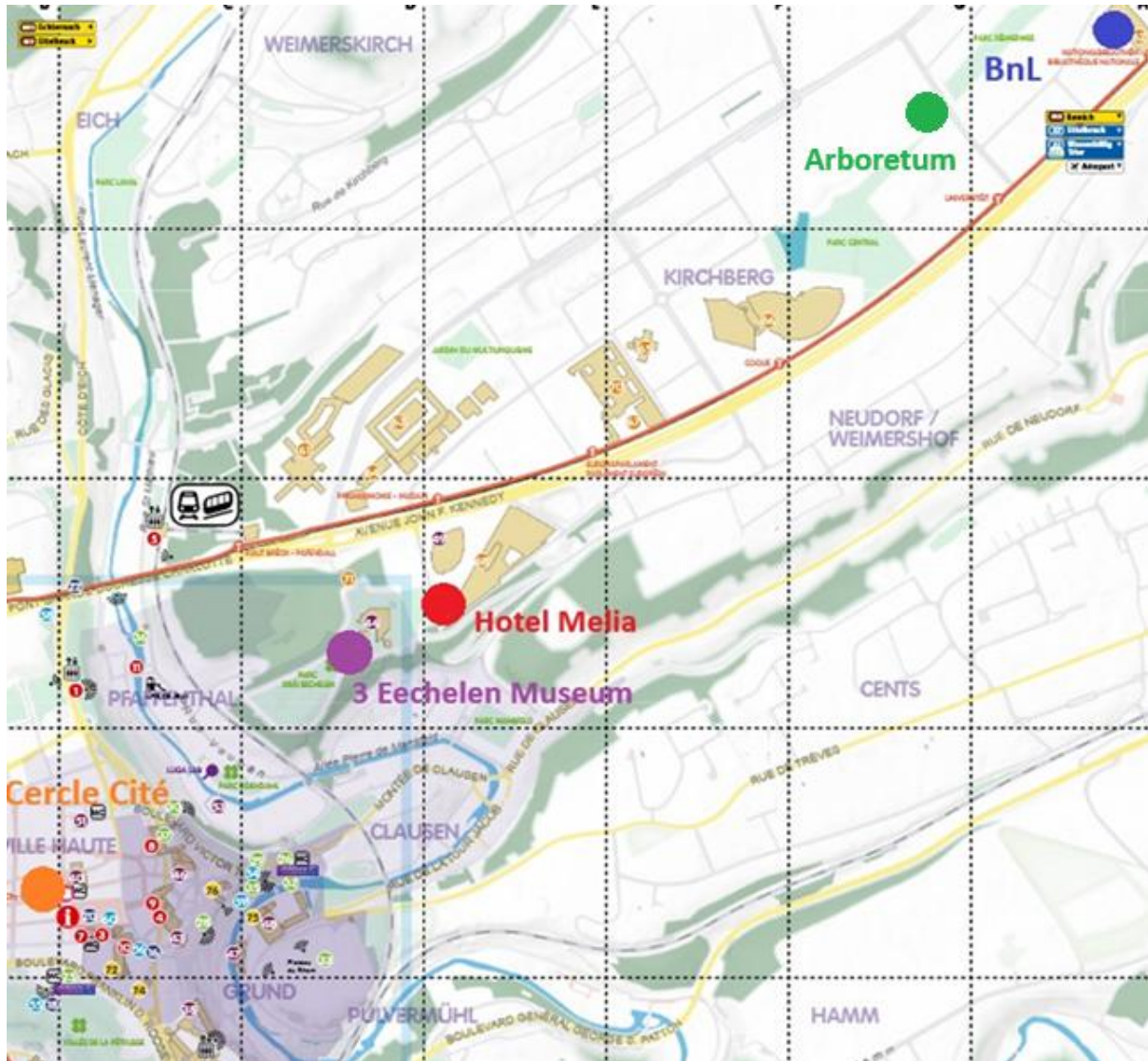
Update Ukraine / Presentation by the host 2027

Closing Remarks

13.00-14.00 Lunch

14.30-15.30 Tour of the National Library (Optional)

MAP OF THE VENUES



National Library of Luxembourg

37D, avenue John F. Kennedy L-1855 Luxembourg

Hotel Melia Luxembourg

1, Park Dräi Eechelen L-1499 Luxembourg

3 Echelen Museum: Venue for the Barbecue on Sunday evening

5, Park Dräi Eechelen L-1499 Luxembourg

Cercle Cité: Venue for the Gala Diner on Monday evening

Place d'Armes L-2012 Luxembourg

Arboretum

Optional walking tour on Sunday morning

TRANSPORT

Fares: Luxembourg is the first country in the world to offer nationwide free public transport for everyone.

You can plan your trip on the website: <https://www.mobiliteit.lu/en/plan-a-trip/>

Airport

It is easy to get from Luxembourg Airport to the city by tram. There is a tram from the airport at least every 8 to 10 minutes depending on the time of your arrival (tram stop *Findel – Luxembourg Airport* just in front of the Airport towards *Stadion* or *Lycée Bouneweg*)

To get to the hotel Melia Luxembourg, you must get off at the *Philharmonie – Mudam* station (8 stops) and then walk about 400m to the hotel.



Train

If you are arriving by train, you can also continue your journey by tram. There is a tram from the central station at least every 5 to 10 minutes depending on the time of your arrival (tram stop *Gare centrale* just in front of the train station towards *Findel – Luxembourg Airport* or *Luxexpo*).

To get to the hotel Melia Luxembourg, you must get off at the *Philharmonie – Mudam* station (8 stops) and then walk about 400m to the hotel.

Tram

The tram is the easiest way to reach all venues and the hotel. There is only one line. Tram stops that are important for you during your stay might be *Nationalbibliothéik / Bibliothèque nationale* (to get to the National Library), *Hamilius* (if you want to visit the City center), *Philharmonie – Mudam* (to get to the hotel).



Tram timetable:

LUNDI-VENDREDI

Time	Findel - Luxembourg Airport	Luxexpo	Lycée Bouneweg	Stadion
04:20 - 04:40			10'	
04:48 - 05:28		8'		
05:35 - 19:54	8'	4'	8'	
19:57 - 20:21		8'		
20:31 - 22:51		10'		
23:06 - 00:06		15'		

SAMEDI

Time	Findel - Luxembourg Airport	Luxexpo	Lycée Bouneweg	Stadion
04:20 - 05:00			15'	
05:07 - 07:37		15'		
07:52 - 09:51		10'		
10:01 - 11:27		8'		
11:40 - 19:57	10'	5'	10'	
19:57 - 20:32		8'		
20:32 - 22:52		10'		
23:07 - 00:06		15'		

DIMANCHE + JOURS FÉRIÉS

Time	Findel - Luxembourg Airport	Luxexpo	Lycée Bouneweg	Stadion
04:20 - 05:00			15'	
05:07 - 08:37		15'		
08:52 - 11:52		10'		
12:00 - 18:40		8'		
18:48 - 21:05		10'		
21:20 - 00:06		15'		

LUNDI-VENDREDI

Time	Stadion	Lycée Bouneweg	Luxexpo	Findel - Luxembourg Airport
04:00 - 05:15		20'		
05:15 - 05:57		8'		
06:12 - 20:27	8'	4'	8'	
20:27 - 21:07		8'		
21:17 - 23:17(*)		10'		
23:27 - 00:27		15'		

SAMEDI

Time	Stadion	Lycée Bouneweg	Luxexpo	Findel - Luxembourg Airport
04:00 - 04:40		20'		
04:57 - 8:42		15'		
08:52 - 10:52		10'		
11:00 - 11:57		8'		
12:13 - 20:37	10'	5'	10'	
20:43 - 21:17		8'		
21:27 - 23:17(*)		10'		
23:27 - 00:27		15'		

DIMANCHE + JOURS FÉRIÉS

Time	Stadion	Lycée Bouneweg	Luxexpo	Findel - Luxembourg Airport
04:00 - 04:40		20'		
04:57 - 09:57		15'		
10:07 - 12:37		10'		
12:46 - 19:34		8'		
19:42 - 21:41		10'		
21:56 - 00:27(*)		15'		

(*) dernier départ pour Findel

(*) dernier départ pour Findel

(*) 23:12 dernier départ pour Findel