

LSF class of 2010

The 2010 graduation class of the Luxembourg School of Finance's (LSF) MSc in Banking and Finance programme, added 34 new graduates to the 250 students who have completed the programme since its inception in 2003. The graduates were addressed by Professor Rolf Tarrach, the president of the University of Luxembourg, as well as by Professor Christian Wolff, Director of the LSF.



The LSF degrees were handed out by Professor André Prüm, dean of the Faculty of Economics, Law and Finance, and Professor Antonio Cosma, academic director of the LSF MSc programme

Photo: Steve Eastwood

Unions popular here

Union affiliation is fairly high in Luxembourg, at 41% of workers, and unions benefit from a generation of Luxembourg-born residents who were highly involved, according to a recent STATEC report. Cross-border workers are less well-represented in unions. While 53% of Luxembourg-born residents are unionised, only 35% of Portuguese origin workers are, along with only 28% of Belgian-born workers, 23% of German-born workers and only 19% of those born in France. Involvement with unions goes up with age. Fewer than 25% of people under 25 are unionised. The figure for those aged 45 and up is 53%. The heaviest rates of unionisation are in the public service and education sectors, at over 60%. The Grand Duchy has the second highest unionisation rate outside Scandinavia; Iceland reaches 86%, with Sweden, Denmark and Finland at 68%, with Norway at 53%. Belgium has 52% unionisation.

Tourism recovers

The number of tourists visiting the capital, as recorded by the Luxembourg City Tourism Office, rose 4% in 2010 over 2009, reaching nearly 520,000. Despite disruptions of air traffic due to the Icelandic volcano, guided tours still rose 3.8% to just over 210,000 participants. The LCTO director, Roland Pinnel said that business conference organisers are big potential clients. While the number of events organised by the Luxembourg Convention Bureau had gone down, its consulting role has continually expanded.

Visual Online celebrates 15 years

Internet services company Visual Online has celebrated its 15th anniversary, a period when the concept has grown from near obscurity to ubiquity. Visual Online sells ADSL internet services, Voice over IP, complete IP telephony systems and also offers domain name reservation and management through its DNS-Stock service, product groupware (unified messaging), very wide bandwidth through FiberConnect and also operates three datacentres, including both low cost Tier II and top of the line Tier IV. "This anniversary evening reminds us all of the road we've taken," said Christian Gatti, one of the four founders.



The principals of Visual Online celebrate 15 years of connectivity

Photo: Steve Eastwood