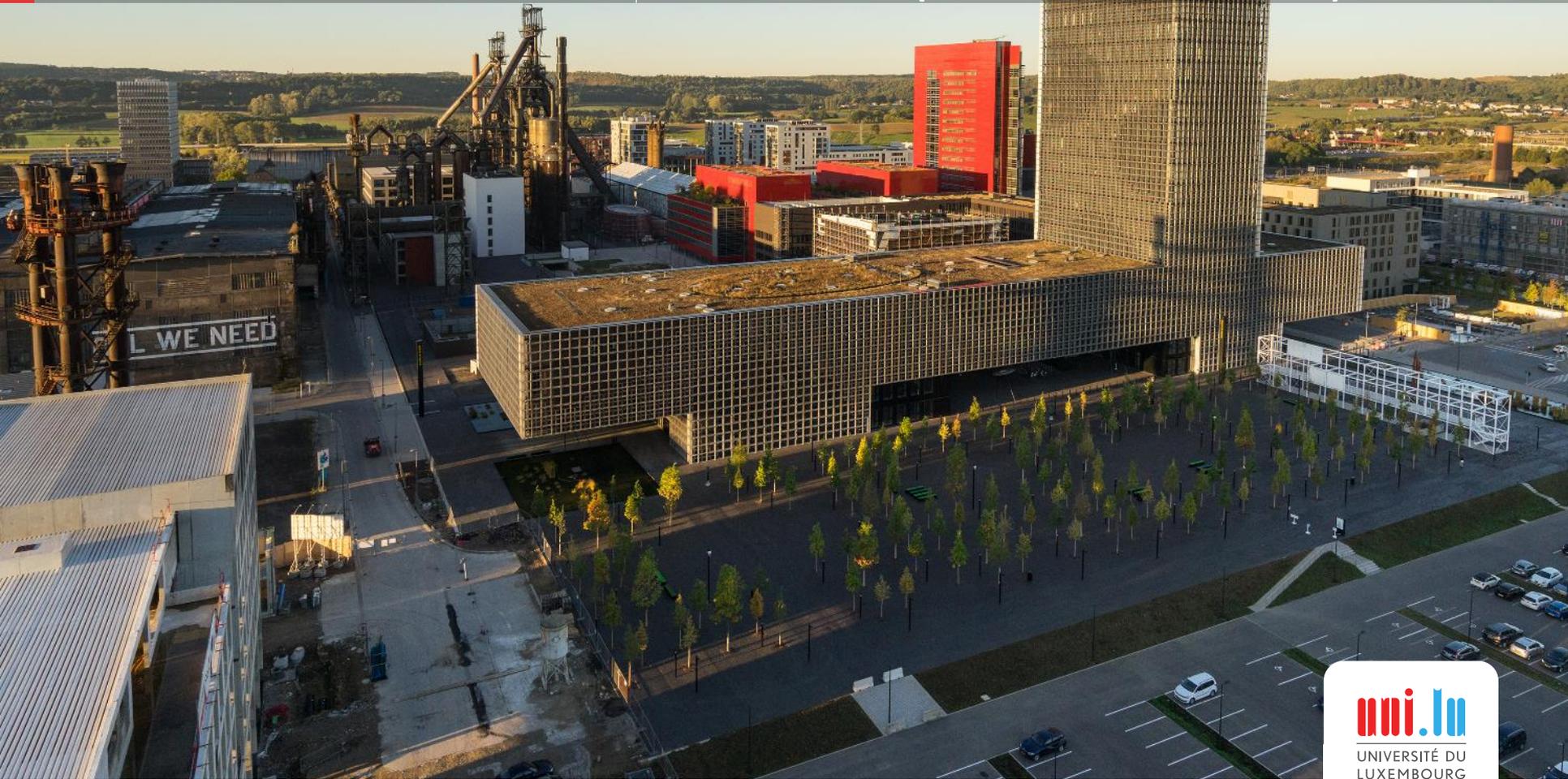


University of Luxembourg

Multilingual. Personalised. Connected.

ROMANIA AND LUXEMBOURG  
CONNECTING MEMORY, SHARING HISTORY  
Dr Elena Danescu, Research Scientist C<sup>2</sup>DH  
(elena.danescu@uni.lu)



## **I. Public international law , international relations and diplomacy: a brief overview**

- I.1. Public international law - definition and content
- I.2. Sources
- I.3. International relations - definition
- I.4. Diplomacy – definition, aim and history
- I.5. Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961)

## **II. Romania and Luxembourg – Actors in international relations**

- II. 1 Romania at a glance
- II.2. Luxembourg at a glance

## **III. The relationship between Romania and Luxembourg – a centuries-long tradition**

## **IV. Diplomatic relations between Romania and Luxembourg: timeline and highlights**

## **V. Treasures from the Romanian Archives**

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## **VI. Selective bibliography and sources**

## **III. The relationship between Romania and Luxembourg – a centuries-long tradition**

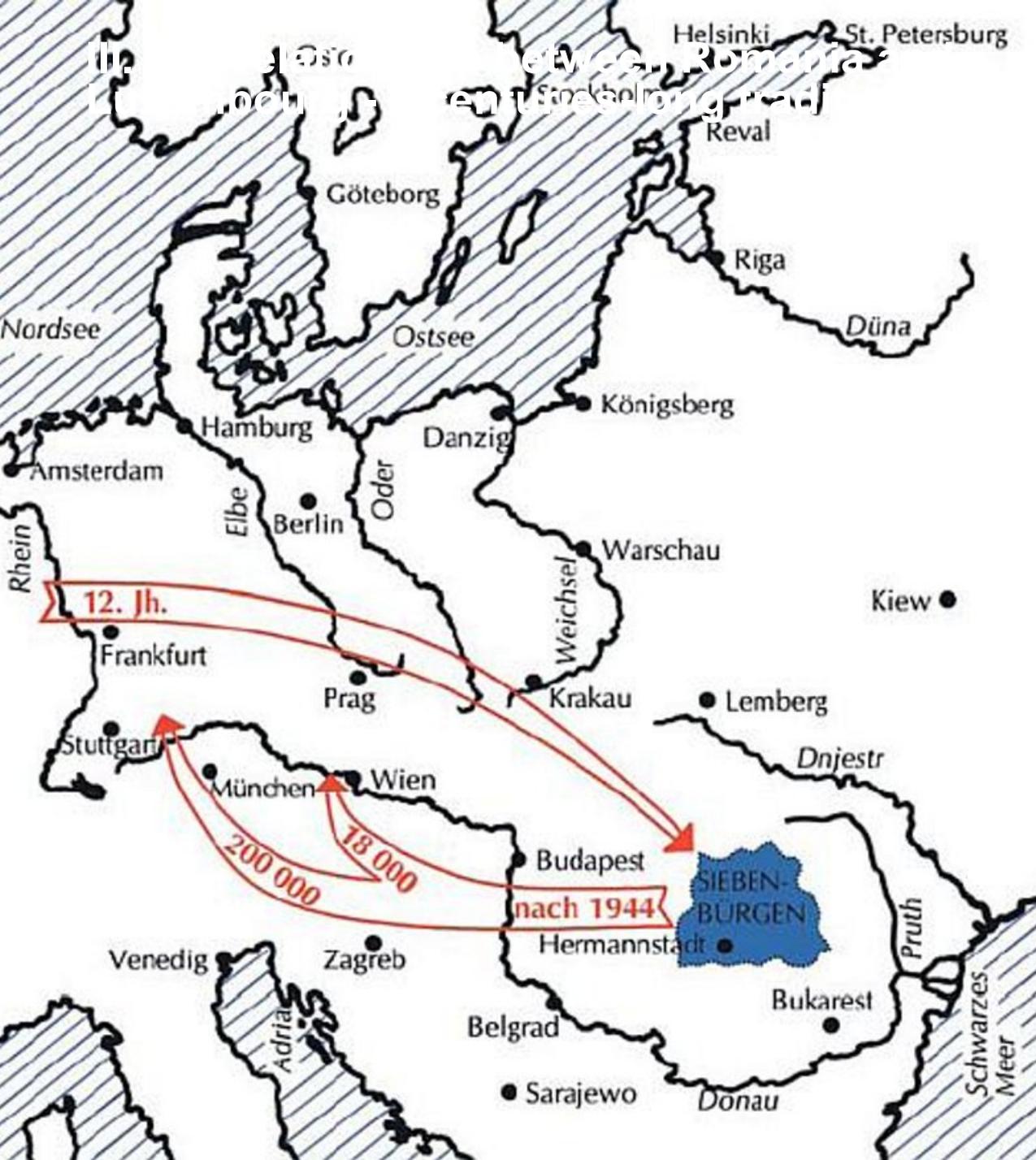
### III. The relationship between Romania and Luxembourg - a centuries-long tradition

- In the 12th century, a number of ethnic Germans migrate eastwards in trying to escape poverty in their homeland. Modern-day Romania belonged at that time to the Kingdom of Hungary and King Geza the 2<sup>nd</sup> (1141-1162) aimed to populate the area in order to defend the south-eastern border against Tartars and Cumans. These ethnic German were attributed free land. In German this ethnic group is called the *Siebenbürger Sachsen*.
- The Transylvanian Saxons began calling themselves the *Siebenbürger Sachsen*, because they built seven fortresses, including then-Hermannstadt (Sibiu), in the area they were given by the Hungarian King.

“They settled in areas they called Weinland and Altland, which surrounded Hermannstadt/Sibiu and Mediasch/Mediasş. Not only are the Transylvanian Saxons the largest German ethnic group in Romania, they are the oldest group too, having settled in Transylvania for nearly a millennium”.

Source: <https://www.rtl.lu/your-luxembourg/knowledge-bites/a/1411526.html>

Source: Fehlen, Fernand (2007). La colonisation de la Transylvanie par les Luxembourgeois, L'invention d'un passé commun. Transilvania 8-9(2007), pp.25-29.



© Siebenbürger.de

### III. The relationship between Romania and Luxembourg - a centuries-long tradition

The dialect sounds rather similar to Luxembourgish and shares many lexical similarities. (The names of some of the historically German settlements in Transylvania also sound somewhat similar to Luxembourgish):

- *“Schäßburg in German or Sighișoara in Romanian is Schäsbrich in Transylvanian Saxon, with two other examples also seeming familiar to Luxembourgish speakers: Mühlbach - Sebes - Melnbach and Michelsberg - Cîsnădioara - Mächelsbärch. The last one is the Transylvanian Saxon name for the towns and these sound like they wouldn't be especially amiss on a Luxembourgish map.”*

These similarities have been acknowledged officially.

### III. The relationship between Romania and Luxembourg - a centuries-long tradition

Both Luxembourg City and **Sibiu** shared the title of European Capital of Culture in 2007. The city forged a close relationship with Sibiu during this year given their historical and linguistic links.

In 2003, the 'Casa Luxembourg' was inaugurated in Sibiu, funded by Luxembourg's National Sites and Monuments Service. Casa Luxembourg now houses the Council of Europe's Institute of Cultural Routes, a tourist office, and a languages institute. The emphasis on the connections with Transylvania comes amid a renewed drive in maintaining and highlighting the importance of the Luxembourgish language.

# III. The relationship between Romania and Luxembourg - a centuries-long tradition



### III. The relationship between Romania and Luxembourg - a centuries-long tradition

- During the 18th century, inhabitants of the then Duchy of Luxembourg set off towards the Danubian plains. Between 1764 and 1786, more than 5,000 people – representing 2.5% of the Luxembourg population at the time – emigrated to the **Banat of Timisoara**, establishing themselves as settlers on this land previously conquered by the Habsburgs from the Turks and today part of Romania.

Source: [https://sip.gouvernement.lu/de/publications/minist-etat/sip/brochure/a-propos/A\\_propos\\_Union\\_europenne.html](https://sip.gouvernement.lu/de/publications/minist-etat/sip/brochure/a-propos/A_propos_Union_europenne.html)

## IV. Diplomatic relations between Romania and Luxembourg: timeline and highlights

# IV. Diplomatic relations between Romania and Luxembourg: timeline and highlights

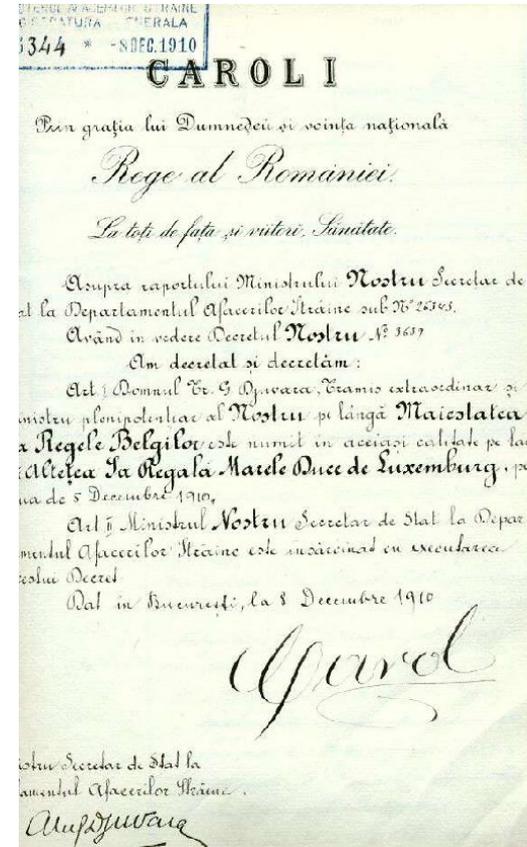
- 1902 – Establishment of the diplomatic relations between Romania and Luxembourg  
The count of Ansembourg (chargé d’Affaires of Luxembourg to Bruxelles) was mandated to start the negotiations with the Romanian authorities.

- 08.12.1910 – The King Carol I of Romania (1839-1914) appointed the first Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Representative to the Grand Duke Guillaume IV of Luxembourg.

- The first Romanian Representative appointed in Luxembourg is Trandafir D. Djuvara (1856-1935)

Diplomatic activities:

Belgrad-Sofia-Constantinopol-  
Galați-Bruxelles-Le Havre-  
Luxemburg-Atena (1887-1925)

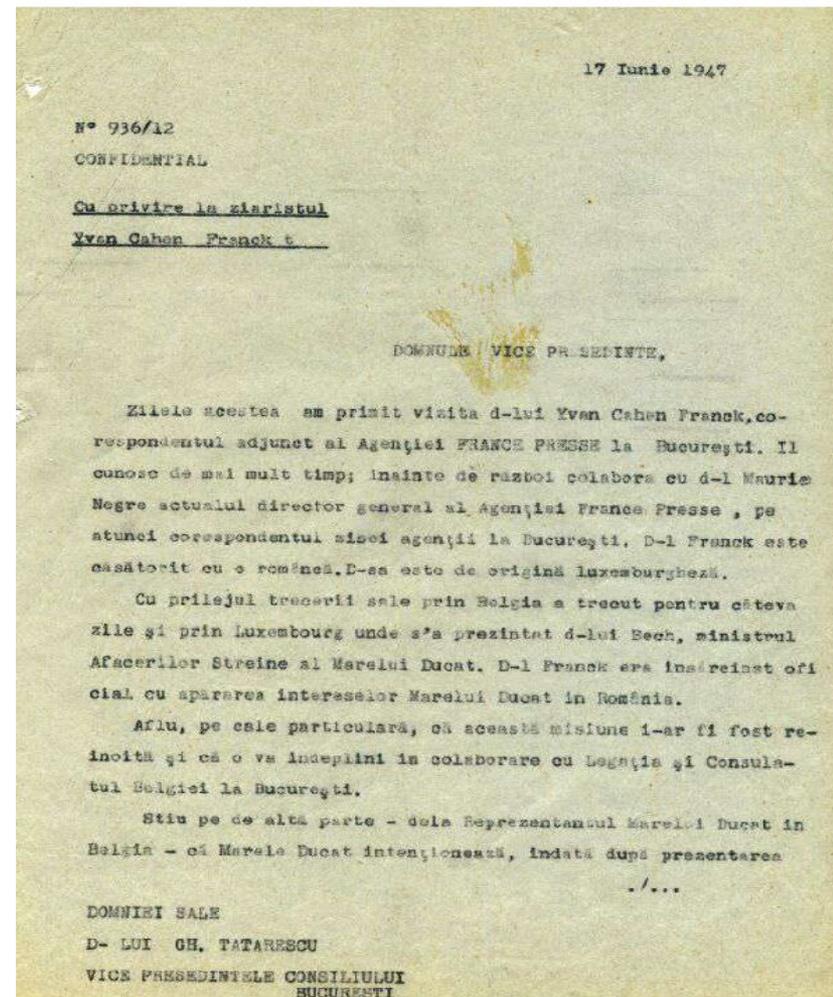


# IV. Diplomatic relations between Romania and Luxembourg: timeline and highlights

- **1921** – The Grand Duchess Charlotte of Luxembourg appointed her first Representative in Romania, to Bucharest - François Nothumb, Consul .
- **1947** – The Luxembourg Government gives mandate to Yvan Cahen Franck (a Luxembourg citizen working as France Presse journalist to Bucharest) To represent its interests after the Second World War.

## Report No.93\_12 to Ghe.Tatarescu\_Vice-President of the Council of Ministers of Romania\_resumption of diplomatic relations after the Second World War (17 June 1947)

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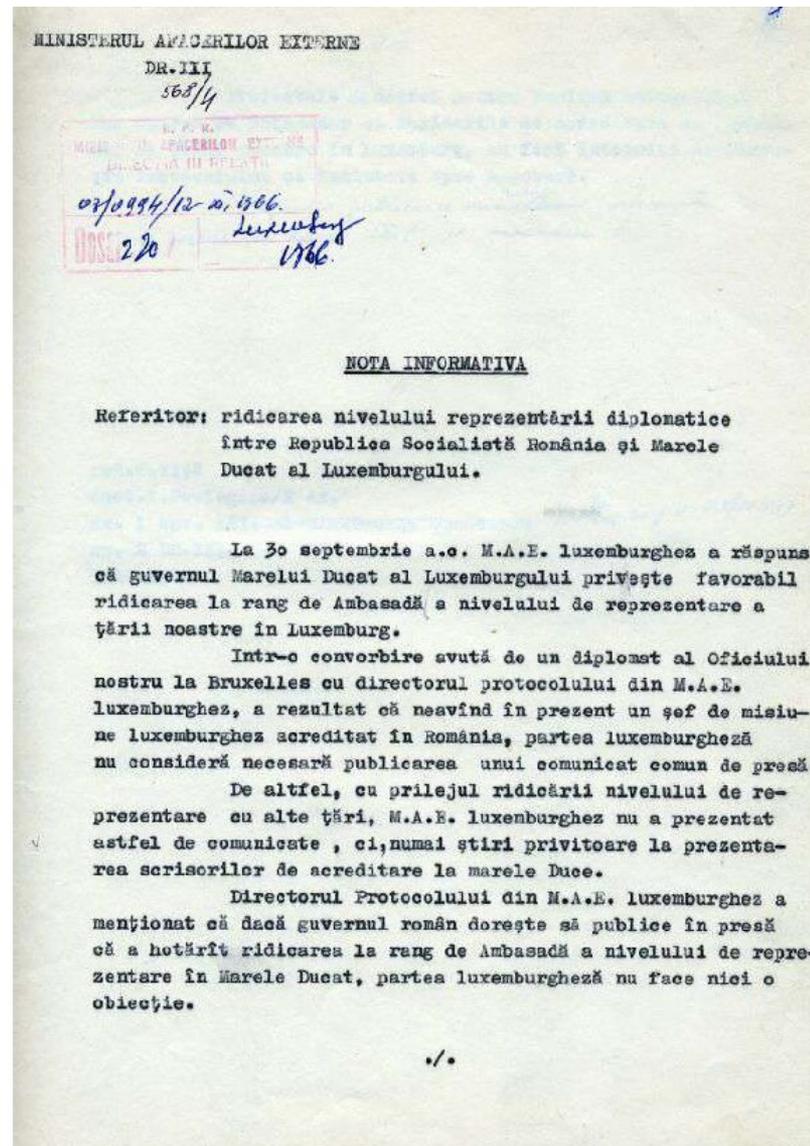


# IV. Diplomatic relations between Romania and Luxembourg: timeline and highlights

- **1966** – Upgrading of bilateral relations at the Ambassadorial level

## Draft Decree of 12 November 1966 concerning the upgrading of bilateral relations at the Ambassadorial level

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## IV. Diplomatic relations between Romania and Luxembourg: timeline and highlights

- **1972** – State visit in Luxembourg of the President of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu
- **1976** – State visit in Romania of the Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg
  - Signature of several bilateral conventions, including a Cultural Agreement
- **1990** – Opening of the Romanian Embassy in Luxembourg and the appointment of a resident Ambassador in Luxembourg
- **1998 – 2003** – Luxembourg’s participation in the UNESCO international programme aiming to restaure the historical architectural heritage of Sibiu

# IV. Diplomatic relations between Romania and Luxembourg: timeline and highlights



« Casa Luxembourg », Sibiu © Daniel Plier/ Source: <https://www.c2dh.uni.lu/fr/news/pierre-werner-and-luxembourg-vision-europe>

# IV. Diplomatic relations between Romania and Luxembourg: timeline and highlights

**2003** – Official inauguration of the « Casa Luxembourg » Sibiu Casa  
Luxembourg © Daniel Plier/ Source: <https://www.c2dh.uni.lu/fr/news/pierre-werner-and-luxembourg-vision->

## CASA LUXEMBURG

Această casă a fost construită pe prima incintă de fortificație a satului "villa Hermani", Sibiuul de mai târziu.

Detaliile descoperite în timpul lucrărilor de restaurare includează o fază gotică și una din timpul Renașterii. Fațada barocă datează din timpul secolului al XVII-lea.

Preotul Johann Georg Schaser a devenit proprietarul casei în secolul al XIX-lea.

Între anii 1999-2003, Ministerul Culturii și Serviciul de Situri și Monumente Naționale al Marelui Ducat de Luxemburg a finanțat restaurarea imobilului, care a fost transformat în centru cultural.

Inaugurarea a avut loc în data de 30 martie 2004 în prezența Altețelor Sale, Marele Duce Henri și Marea Ducesă Maria Tereza de Luxemburg, precum și a reprezentanților guvernului român și luxemburghez.

*Proiectare: ABF Birou de Arhitectură Fabini,  
execuție: firma Kirschbaum.*

## LUXEMBURG HAUS

Dieses Haus wurde auf der ersten Befestigungsmauer, der "villa Hermani", dem späteren Hermannstadt, gebaut.

Während der Restaurierungsarbeiten wurden gotische und Renaissance-Elemente freigelegt. Sein heutiges barockes Aussehen erhielt das Haus im 18. Jahrhundert.

Im 19. Jahrhundert war das Gebäude im Besitz des Thalheimer Pfarrers Johann Georg Schaser.

Zwischen 1999 und 2003 wurde der Bau restauriert und als Kulturzentrum eingerichtet. Diese Arbeiten wurden finanziert vom Kulturministerium und dem Nationalen Denkmalamt des Grossherzogtums Luxemburg.

Die Einweihung am 30. März 2004 fand statt im Beisein Ihrer Königlichen Hoheiten, Grossherzog Henri und Grossherzogin Maria Teresa von Luxemburg sowie von rumänischen und luxemburgischen Regierungsvertretern.

*Planung: ABF Architekturbüro Fabini,  
Ausführung: Baufirma Kirschbaum.*

## MAISON DU LUXEMBOURG

Cette maison fut construite sur l'enceinte de la "villa Hermani" connue plus tard sous le nom de Hermannstadt.

Les détails mis au jour par les travaux de restauration témoignent de phases gothique et renaissance, tandis que la façade baroque date du 18<sup>e</sup> siècle.

Au 19<sup>e</sup> siècle, cette demeure était la propriété du curé Johann Georg Schaser de Thalheim.

Entre 1999 et 2003, le Ministère de la Culture, Service des Sites et Monuments nationaux du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg finança la restauration de cette maison qui, depuis, abrite un centre culturel.

Le 30 mars 2004, l'inauguration a eu lieu en présence de Leurs Altesses Royales, le Grand-Duc Henri et la Grande-Duchesse Maria Teresa de Luxembourg, ainsi que de représentants des Gouvernements roumain et luxembourgeois.

*Plans: ABF Bureau d'architecture Fabini,  
Exécution: entreprise Kirschbaum.*

## IV. Diplomatic relations between Romania and Luxembourg: timeline and highlights

- ❑ **1998** – Pierre Werner (1913-2002) became Docor Honoris Causa of the Sibiu University (In 1993 he was the first Luxembourg key figure elected as a Honorary Member of the Romanian Academy)
- ❑ **In 2003** Luxembourg invited Sibiu to be joined in « European Capital of Culture, 2007 »
- ❑ **2004** – State visit in Romania of the Grand Duke Henri of Luxembourg
  - Signature of several bilateral agreements
- ❑ **2007** – Official visit in Romania of the Grand Duke Henri of Luxembourg accompanied by the Grand Duchess Maria Teresa
  - The Grand Duke and the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg became Honorary Citizens of Sibiu.

## IV. Diplomatic relations between Romania and Luxembourg: timeline and highlights



**25.04.2005** – During the Luxembourg Presidency of the Council of the European Union (first half 2005), representatives of the EU Member States, of the Council, of the European Commission and of the European Parliament are photographed alongside the Bulgarian and Romanian representatives during the ceremony held in Luxembourg to mark the signing of the Treaties of Accession of Bulgaria and Romania to the European Union.

## IV. Diplomatic relations between Romania and Luxembourg: timeline and highlights

- **6-7.06.2016** – State visit in Luxembourg of the President of Romania, Klaus Johannis.
  - Signature of several bilateral agreements

Source:

[https://wwwfr.uni.lu/universite/actualites/diaporama/le\\_president\\_de\\_la\\_roumanie\\_klaus\\_iohannis\\_en\\_visite\\_a\\_l\\_universite](https://wwwfr.uni.lu/universite/actualites/diaporama/le_president_de_la_roumanie_klaus_iohannis_en_visite_a_l_universite)

© SIP / Charles Caratini



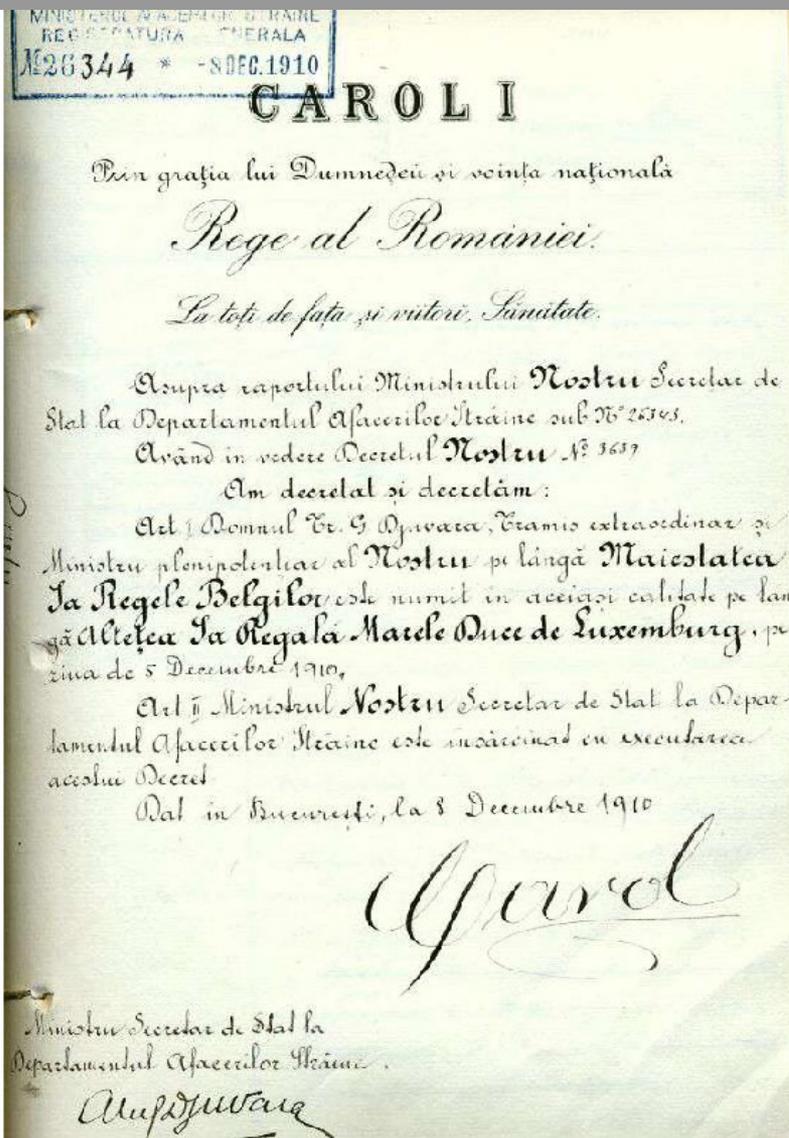
## V. Treasures from the Romanian Archives

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# V. Treasures from the Archives

## Undisclosed documents

(by courtesy of Diplomatic Archives of Romania)



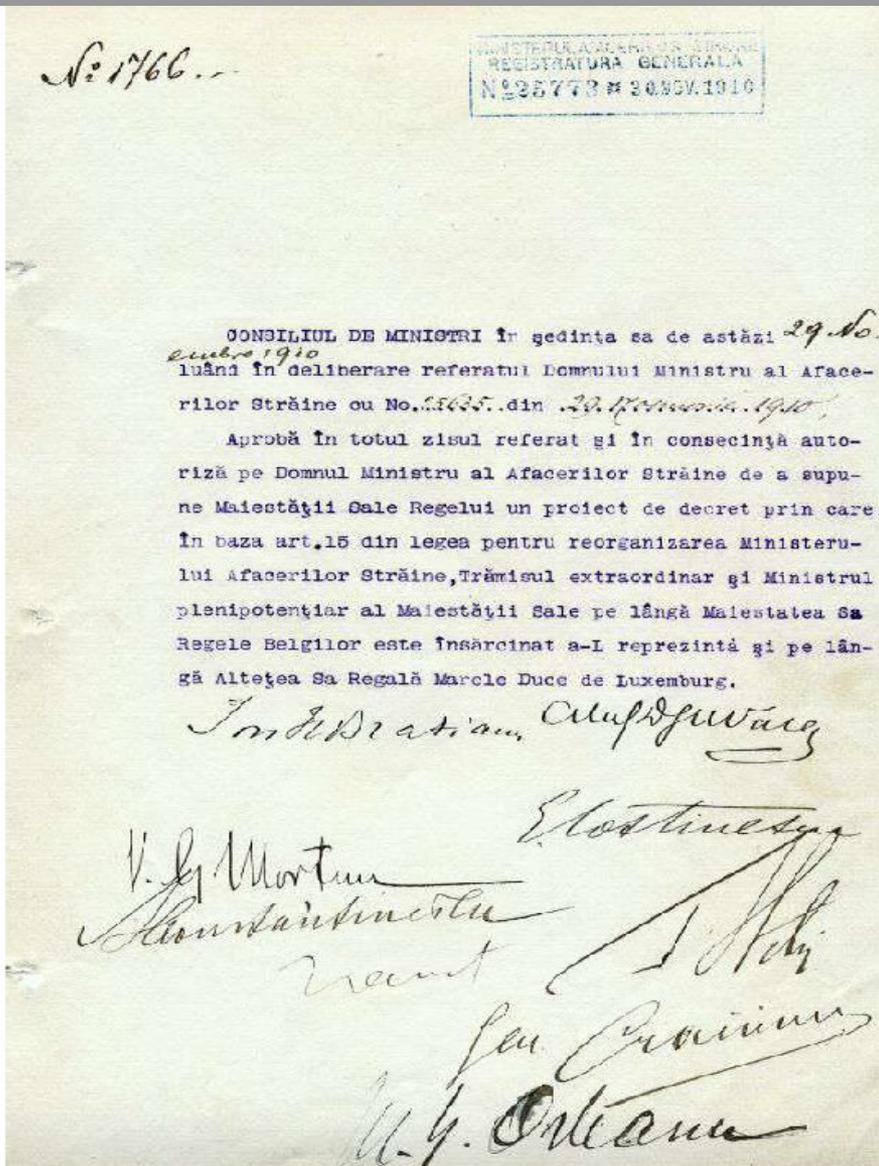
## Royal Decree of 08 December 1910 Establishment of the Diplomatic Relations Romania\_Luxembourg

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des Affaires étrangères de la  
Roumanie (by courtesy of the  
Romanian Embassy in Luxembourg)

# V. Treasures from the Archives

## Undisclosed documents

(by courtesy of Diplomatic Archives of Romania)



## Council of Ministers of Romania - Appointment of Neagu D. Djuvara (29 November – 12 December 1910)

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Romanian Embassy in Luxembourg)

# V. Treasures from the Archives

## Undisclosed documents

(by courtesy of Diplomatic Archives of Romania)



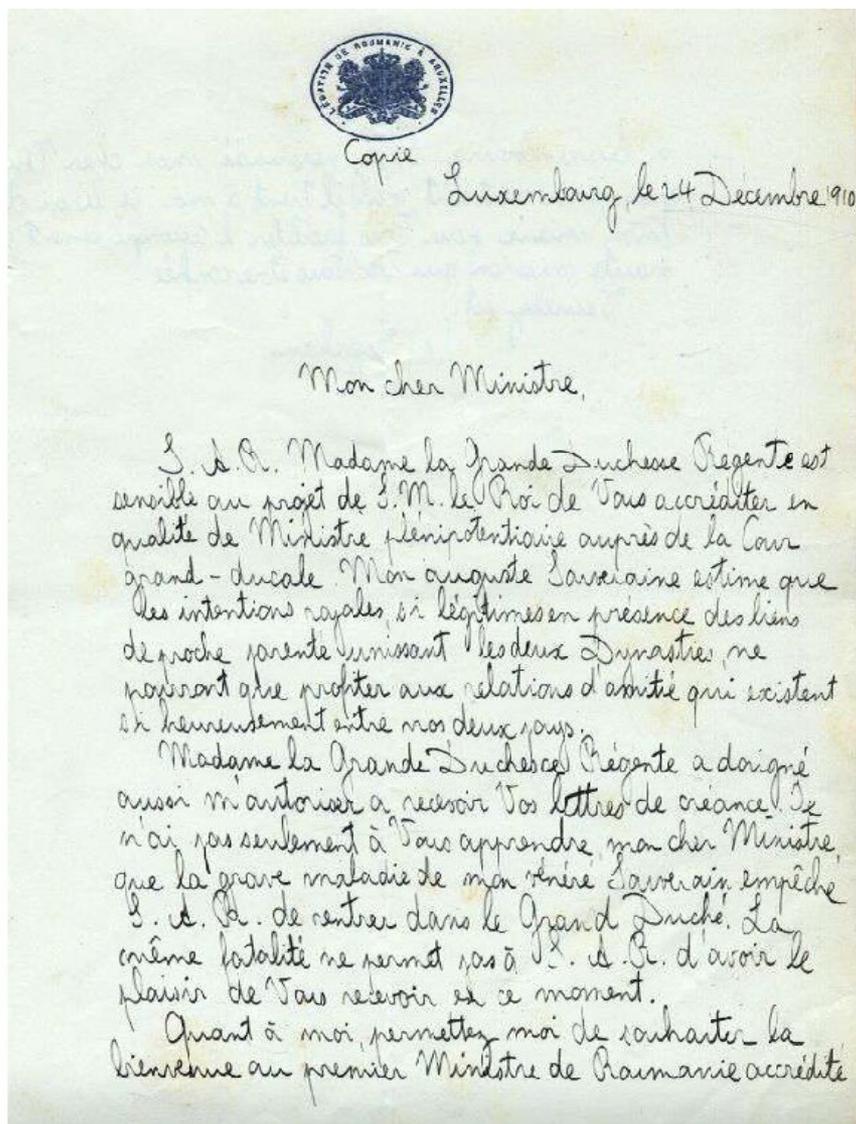
**Picture of Trandafir D.Djuvara, the first Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Romanian Representative appointed in Luxembourg (wearing uniform and decorations) (8 December 1910 )**

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# V. Treasures from the Archives

## Undisclosed documents

(by courtesy of Diplomatic Archives of Romania)



## Handwritten letter of Paul Eyschen, President of the Government of Luxembourg to Trandafir Djuvara, (23 December 1910)

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# V. Treasures from the Archives

## Undisclosed documents

(by courtesy of Diplomatic Archives of Romania)

ACCORD COMMERCIAL PROVISOIRE

entre

LA ROUMANIE ET L'UNION ECONOMIQUE BELGO-LUXEMBOURGEOISE.

Sa Majesté le Roi de Roumanie d'une part et Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges, agissant tant en Son nom qu'au nom Son Altesse Royale la Grande-Duchesse de Luxembourg, en vertu d'accords existants, d'autre part, animés du même désir de consolider et de développer les rapports économiques entre l'union économique belgo-luxembourgeoise et la Roumanie, ont résolu de conclure un accord commercial provisoire et ont nommé, à cet effet, pour leurs Plénipotentiaires :

SA MAJESTE LE ROI DE ROUMANIE:

Son Excellence, Monsieur le Dr. AL. VALDA-VOEVOD, Ministre des Affaires Etrangères, ad-interim, et

SA MAJESTE LE ROI DES BELGES :

Son Excellence Monsieur le BARON GUILLAUME, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire de Belgique,

lesquels après s'être communiqué leurs pleins pouvoirs respectifs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, sont convenus de ce qui suit :

ARTICLE I.

Les ressortissants et les entreprises ayant personnalité juridique, de chacune des Parties, jouiront, sur le territoire de l'autre, du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée, pour leur personne et leurs biens, pour tout ce qui concerne l'établissement, l'exercice de leur commerce ou de leur industrie, pour l'acquisition et la possession, dans la

## Provisional Commercial Agreement of 28 April 1930 between Romania and BLEU

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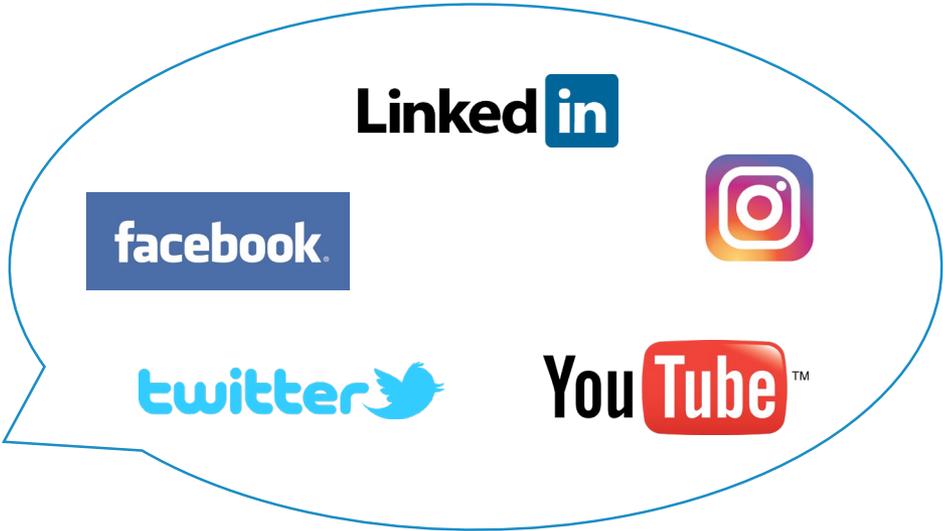
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- <https://statistiques.public.lu/en/index.html> - Statistics Portal\_Luxembourg

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