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Luxembourg Centre for Contemporary and Digital History (C²DH)

EU- PAIR Conference 2022

**Luxembourg – navigating the transition to the
knowledge economy. A historical perspective**

Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Iasi, 13 May 2022



Luxembourg – navigating the transition to the knowledge economy. A historical perspective

Summary

- I. Luxembourg and Europe after the Second World War**
- II. From an agrarian-economy to a data driven-economy – several major transitions**
- III. The transition to the knowledge economy – challenges and issues**

II. From an agrarian-economy to a data driven-economy – several major transitions

Beginning in the 20th century, Luxembourg experienced several periods of transition.

1st major transition - The largely agriculture-based economy became industrialized, driven by a powerful steel industry which remained the dominant sector from the immediate post-Second World War years to the mid-1970s.

II. From an agrarian-economy to a data driven-economy – several major transitions

- 2nd major transition, from an industrial economy to a service economy based on the financial sector.

This was reflected by fundamental changes in the structure of the country's economic value added. Between 1970 and 2016 the share of industry contracted sharply, from 47% to 7.3%, while the share of the steel industry shrank from 28% to 2%.

II. From an agrarian-economy to a data driven-economy – several major transitions

3rd major transition – from a service economy to a data driven economy

* The «smart nation concept»

* «The third Industrial Revolution» – Jeremy Rifkin

III. The transition to the knowledge economy – challenges and issues

- Innovative and sustainable finance
- Space mining
- A world leader in the digital economy
- E-Governance
- E- Public services
- Digital Diplomacy

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