



## Regional Case Study

A study into the physical and human characteristics of Gutland, the region in which EIMAB is situated using a range of maps and sources (Relief; climate; vegetation; population and economic activities)



Figure One

Luxembourg, one of Europe's smallest nations, has an area of only 2,586 sq. km. It is a landlocked country and is highly interconnected politically, economically and socio-culturally with its neighbours: Germany; Belgium and France.

### Physical Geography

As can be observed on the physical map of Luxembourg, the country is divided into two regions, Oesling and Gotland.

#### Relief

The southern two-thirds of Luxembourg is known as the Bon Pays, or Gutland (French and German: "Good Land"). This region has rolling, lowlying hills with an average elevation of about 245 metres.

#### Soil

Gotland is blessed with fertile, silty, loam soil and nourishing rivers.

#### Climate

Gotland has a transition climate (maritime/continental). The mean temperatures in Luxembourg city ranges from the about 0.7 °C in January to about 17 °C in July. There is regular, plentiful precipitation all year round. The greatest amount of precipitation, about 1,000 mm, and the least, about 685 mm, fall in the southwest and southeast, respectively.

#### Flora

Luxembourg's natural vegetation is deciduous woodland. Beech and oak trees are plentiful.

## Political Landscape

Luxembourg is a **parliamentary democracy** in the form of a **constitutional monarchy**. The **crown** of the Grand Duchy is **hereditary**. Luxembourg is the **only** Grand Duchy in the world.

<https://gouvernement.lu/en/systeme-politique.html>

## Socio-Cultural Geography

With a population of **673,036** people (approximately 0.1% of the EU total population), Luxembourg is one of the least populated countries in Europe.

HDI value for 2022 is **0.927**— which put the country in the **Very High** human development category.

**Three languages** are regularly employed in the grand duchy itself: **Luxembourgish, German, and French**.

The great majority of Luxembourg's native citizens are Roman Catholic, with a small number of Protestants (mainly Lutherans), Jews, and Muslims.

Luxembourg has a **high proportion of foreigners living within its borders**. This is chiefly the result of an extremely **low birth rate** among native Luxembourgers, which has led to a chronic labour shortage. **Nearly half of the total population is of foreign birth and consists mainly of Portuguese, French, Italians, Belgians, and Germans**.

## Economy

GDP: **\$71.10 Billion**

GDP per Capita: **\$114,704.59**

**Luxembourg** is currently the **richest country in the world based on its GDP per capita (PPP)** of **\$143,742** according to the 2024 IMF report.

The grand duchy was an **original member of the Benelux Economic Union (1944)**, which linked its economic life with that of the Netherlands and of Belgium and would subsequently form the **core** of the European Economic Community (EEC; ultimately succeeded by the European Union).

## The Currency

Euro- part of the Eurozone. All coins contain the profile of the Grand Duke Henri of Luxembourg.

## Economy

Luxembourg's economy is notable for its **close connections with the rest of Europe**. Luxembourg's **prosperity** was originally based on the iron and steel industry, which in the 1960s represented as much as 80 percent of the total value of exports. By the late 20th century, however, the country's economic vigour stemmed chiefly from its involvement in **international banking and financial services**, **information technology** and **electronic commerce** also became important components of Luxembourg's economy.

About three-quarters of Luxembourg's workforce is engaged in trade, government, and other service occupations, while about one-fifth of the workforce is employed in industry and construction, and the small remainder works in agriculture and other pursuits.

Since the end of the 20th century, Luxembourg's economy has been increasingly dependent on foreign-owned factories and other multinational companies operating in the country. These factories primarily produce motor-vehicle tyres, chemicals, and fabricated metals.

Most farming is mixed and includes both animal raising and gardening. Wheat, barley, and other cereal grains are the next most important products, followed by root vegetables. About one-half of the country's farms are smaller than 200 acres. The vineyards along the Moselle River produce some excellent wines.

Most of the grand duchy's merchandise trade takes place with EU countries, especially with its three neighbours—Germany, Belgium, and France, which together receive more than half of Luxembourg's exports and provide some three-quarters of its imports.

### Transportation

Luxembourg's internal road system is well maintained, and several highways link the country with its neighbours. A port at Mertert on the canalized Moselle River connects the grand duchy with the Rhine waterway system and provides it with an avenue for the international movement of goods. The government has operated the nation's railroads since World War II. They are modern, electrified, and mostly double-tracked. Findel Airport outside Luxembourg city has become a major European air terminal.

### Resources and power

Luxembourg meets most of its energy needs with imports. Its only domestic source of power is the hydroelectricity obtained from several dams on its rivers, which meets about one-fifth of the country's energy needs. Nuclear power constitutes a negligible portion of the country's power.



Court of Justice of the European Union  
Headquarters of the Court of Justice of the European Union, Luxembourg

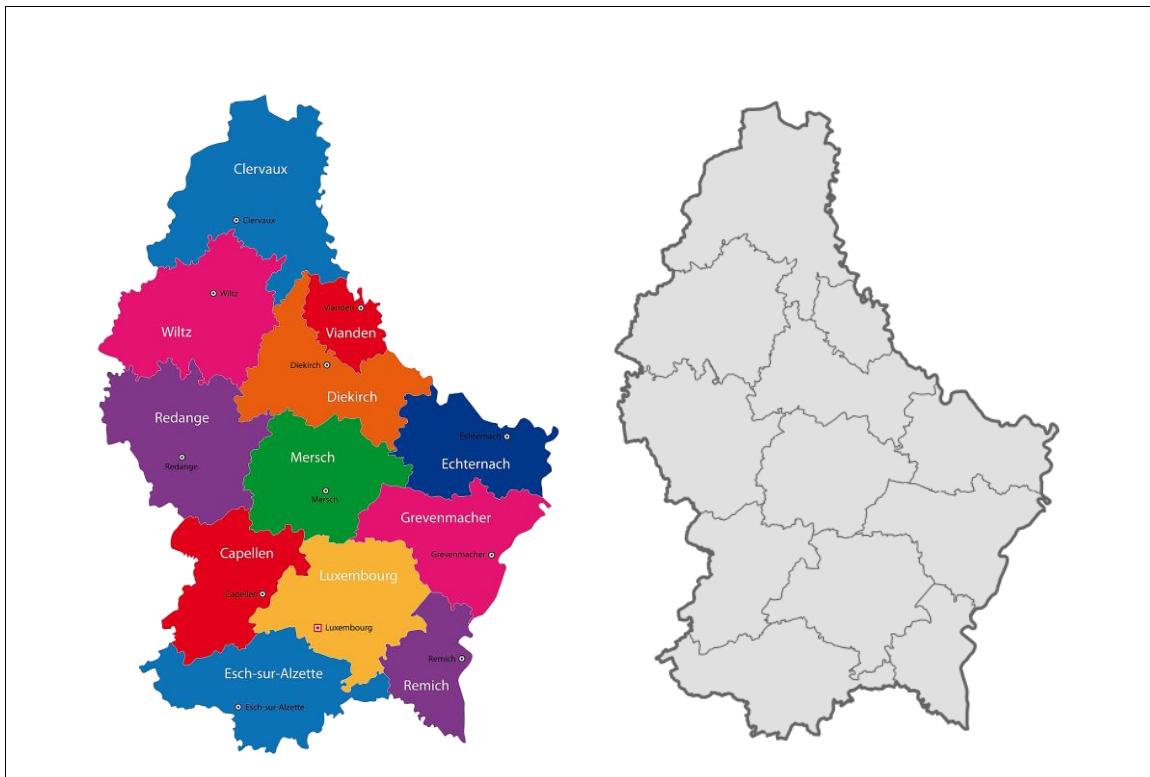
Luxembourg city is home to the European Court of Justice; the European Investment Bank and several major EU administrative offices.

Source:

<https://www.worldatlas.com/maps/luxembourg>

### Task Two: Pairwork.

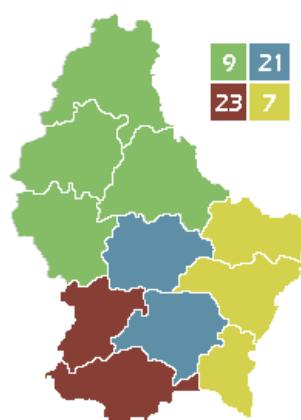
Cantons are the most senior local authorities of Luxembourg. Learn where they are!



Political Map of Luxembourg showing its 12 cantons and the capital Luxembourg City

Source: [worldatlas.com](http://worldatlas.com)

Cantons define boundaries that are important for political organisation and for the division of electoral districts.



The North; South; Centre and East Constituencies and seats of Luxembourg

**Tasks:**

- In which canton is the EIMAB located? Mark the school on the map.
- Which constituency is the most populous?