



**ORGANIC LAW OF THE CENTRAL BANK OF LUXEMBOURG  
(CONSOLIDATED VERSION AS OF 30 JULY 2021)<sup>1</sup>**

Law of 23 December 1998 concerning the monetary status of the Central Bank of Luxembourg (published in the Luxembourg official gazette [Mémorial A - N° 112 of 24 December 1998, p. 2980](#); doc. parl. [4468](#)), as modified by:

- the law of 13 July 2007 on markets in financial instruments (published in the Luxembourg official gazette [Mémorial A - N° 116 du 16 July 2007, p. 2076](#); doc. parl. [5627](#)),
- the law of 24 October 2008 on the improvement of the legal framework of the Luxembourg financial place (published in the Luxembourg official gazette [Mémorial A - N° 161 du 29 October 2008, p. 2250](#); doc. parl. [5842](#)),
- the law of 19 December 2008 amending in particular the amended law of 28 July 2000 whose object was to coordinate the legal pension regimes (published in the Luxembourg official gazette [Mémorial A - N° 212 du 24 December 2008, p. 3178](#); doc. parl. [5839](#)),
- the law of 10 November 2009 on payment services, on the activity of electronic money institution and settlement finality in payment and securities settlement systems (published in the Luxembourg official gazette [Mémorial A - N° 215 of 11 November 2009, p. 3698](#); doc. parl. [6015](#)),
- the law of 18 December 2009 concerning the audit profession (published in the Luxembourg official gazette [Mémorial A - N° 22 of 19 February 2010, p. 296](#); doc. parl. [5872](#)),
- the law of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 establishing the *Comité du risque systémique* (Systemic Risk Board) (published in the Luxembourg official gazette [Mémorial A - N° 64 of 3 April 2015, p. 1294](#); doc. parl. [6653](#)), and
- the law of 21 July 2021 on the protection of the euro against counterfeiting (published in the Luxembourg official gazette [Mémorial A – N°563 of 26 July 2021](#); doc. parl. [7464](#)).

<sup>1</sup> Consolidated version as of 30 July 2021 established by the Banque centrale du Luxembourg. The official authentic texts are published in the Official gazette of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg (*Journal officiel du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg - Mémorial A*).

## **ORGANIC LAW OF THE CENTRAL BANK OF LUXEMBOURG (CONSOLIDATED VERSION AS OF 30 JULY 2021)**

**LAW OF 23 DECEMBER 1998 CONCERNING THE MONETARY STATUS AND THE CENTRAL BANK OF LUXEMBOURG AS MODIFIED BY THE LAW OF 13 JULY 2007, THE LAW OF 24 OCTOBER 2008, THE LAW OF 19 DECEMBER 2008,<sup>2</sup> THE LAW OF 10 NOVEMBER 2009, THE LAW OF 18 DECEMBER 2009, THE LAW OF 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2015 AND THE LAW OF 21 JULY 2021**

### **The monetary status of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg**

**Art. 1.** The monetary status of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg is that of a Member State of the European “Union”<sup>3</sup> which has adopted the single currency, the euro.

### **Tasks and legal status of the Central Bank of Luxembourg**

**Art. 2. (1)** The Central Bank of Luxembourg, referred to in the following provisions as the “Central Bank”, forms an integral part of the European System of Central Banks, hereinafter referred to as “ESCB”. It acts in compliance with the guidelines and instructions of the European Central Bank, hereinafter referred to as the “ECB”.

**(2)** The main task of the Central Bank shall be to participate in the execution of the tasks of the ESCB with a view to achieving its objectives.

**(3)** Subject to their compatibility with its main task and in accordance with the “Treaty on European Union (TEU) and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU)”<sup>4</sup> and with the Statute of the ESCB and of the ECB, the Central Bank shall perform such duties falling outside the functions of the ESCB as are assigned to it by this law or by other legislative, regulatory or conventional texts.

*(Law of 24 October 2008)*

**“(4)** The Central Bank shall be responsible for supervising the general liquidity situation on the markets as well as evaluating market operators for this purpose. The coordination and cooperation procedure for performing this task shall be subject to agreements between the Central Bank and the *Commission de surveillance du secteur financier* [Commission for the

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<sup>2</sup> The changes provided for in the Law of 19 December 2008 have already been made under the Law of 24 October 2008.

<sup>3</sup> Law of 21 July 2021.

<sup>4</sup> Law of 21 July 2021.

Supervision of the Financial Sector] as well as the *Commissariat aux assurances* in accordance with the parties' legal powers.”

*(Law of 10 November 2009)*

“(5) In view of its tasks relating to the promotion of the smooth operation of payment systems, the Central Bank shall ensure the efficiency and safety of payment systems and securities settlement systems, as well as the safety of payment instruments.

The means of coordination and cooperation employed for the performance of these tasks shall be the subject of agreements between the Central Bank and the *Commission de Surveillance du secteur financier*, complying with the legal competences of the parties.”

*(Law of 24 October 2008)*

“(6)”<sup>5</sup> In view of its tasks relating to monetary policy and to the promotion of the smooth operation of payment systems, as well as contributing to the smooth conduct of policies pursued by the competent authorities relating to the prudential supervision of credit institutions and the stability of the financial system, while respecting its independence and the parties' legal powers, the Central Bank shall cooperate with the Government and with prudential supervision authorities at national level, as well as with the other central banks at “Union”<sup>6</sup> and international level, to contribute to ensuring financial stability, notably within committees set up for this purpose.”

**Art. 3. (1)** The Central Bank is a public institution, endowed with legal personality and financial autonomy.

**(2)** The seat of the Central Bank is in Luxembourg.

**(3)** The Central Bank is exempt from all charges, levies and taxes payable to the State and local authorities, with the exception of value added tax.

### Capital base

**Art. 4. (1)** The State is the sole holder of the capital of the Central Bank, which is fixed at twenty-five million euro<sup>7</sup>. *(Law of 24 October 2008)* “A Grand Ducal regulation may increase

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<sup>5</sup> The new numbering was introduced by the law of 10 November 2009.

<sup>6</sup> Law of 21 July 2021.

<sup>7</sup> Following a grand-ducal regulation dated 22 May 2009, the capital of the Banque centrale du Luxembourg was increased to 175,000,000 Euros by the capitalisation of reserves up to the amount of 150,000,000.- Euros (published in the Luxembourg official gazette - *Mémorial A* - N° 115 of 27 May 2009, p. 1667).

the capital by incorporating reserves, on a proposal from the Central Bank.”

**(2)** The Central Bank shall hold all the assets and liabilities of Luxembourg in respect of the International Monetary Fund by virtue of the general account and the special drawing rights account.

**(3)** Capital appreciation in respect of the book value which the Central Bank realizes in disposing of gold-denominated assets shall be paid directly to its reserve fund.

**(4)** (...) *(deleted by the Law of 13 July 2007)*

### Central Bank bodies

**Art. 5. (1)** The bodies of the Central Bank shall be the Council and the Executive Board.

**(2)** When exercising the powers and carrying out the tasks and duties conferred within the domain of the functions of the ESCB, neither the Central Bank nor any member of its bodies shall seek or take instructions from institutions or bodies of the European Union, from governments of Member States or from any other body.<sup>8</sup>

### The Council

**Art. 6.** The competences of the Council of the Central Bank shall be:

**(a)** To discuss the implications of monetary policy, without prejudice to its Governor’s independence *vis-à-vis* any instruction in his/her capacity as member of the Governing Council of the ECB and without prejudice to the provisions relating to professional secrecy applicable to the ESCB.

**(b)** To determine the business policy of the Central Bank and establish guidelines relating to its financial situation.

**(c)** To approve, annually, the budget, the financial accounts and the report of the Executive Board.

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<sup>8</sup> Law of 21 July 2021.

(d) To provide its consent, which is necessary, before the use of the Central Bank's reserve fund.

(e) To contribute to the establishment of the Central Bank's business reports as referred to in Article 11.

(f) To propose to the Government the appointment of the Central Bank's auditor.

(g) To approve the rules of procedure of the Executive Board.

(h) To deliver its opinion prior to any decision to dismiss a member of the Executive Board.

(i) To deliver an opinion on any draft Grand Ducal regulation adopted pursuant to Article 14 of this law concerning the staff members of the Central Bank.

(j) To provide its consent prior to the application of any disciplinary action against a staff member of the Central Bank, for which the preliminary opinion of the Civil Service Disciplinary Board has been requested.

**Art. 7. (1)** In addition to the Directors, who are ex officio members, the Council shall comprise six members appointed by the Government in Cabinet.

(2) Appointments shall be made for a six-year period and shall be renewable.

(3) No person shall be appointed as or remain a member of the Council while holding any office outside the Central Bank in conflict with the requirements of Article 5 (2) or with the professional secrecy provisions applicable to the ESCB.

(4) For deliberations relating to Article 6 (h), members of the Council who are also Directors shall not take part in any vote.

**Art. 8. (1)** The Council shall be chaired by the Director-General of the Central Bank or, in his/her absence, by the oldest member of the Executive Board present.

(2) The Government in Cabinet shall determine the emoluments payable to Council members, which shall be paid by the Central Bank.

**Art. 9. (1)** Meetings of the Council shall be convened by its President or, should he/she be unavailable, by the oldest member of the Executive Board available. A meeting may also be convened at the request of the Executive Board or four or more members of the Council.

**(2)** Meetings of the Council require a quorum which is achieved when the majority of its members are present.

**(3)** The Council shall adopt its rules of procedure by a majority of two thirds of its members.

**(4)** The Council shall designate a secretary from among the staff members of the Central Bank.

**(5)** The Minister responsible for relations with the Central Bank or his/her representative shall be invited to attend Council meetings and he/she may participate without having the right to vote.

**Art. 10.** Apart from official communications issued by the Council, members of the Council shall not disclose its deliberations.

### **The Executive Board**

**Art. 11. (1)** The Executive Board is the highest executive authority of the Central Bank.

**(2)** It shall prepare the measures and take the decisions required for the fulfillment of the tasks of the Central Bank. The Central Bank shall submit an annual report to the Government and to the Chamber of Deputies on its activities and on the monetary policy of the previous year and the current year.

**(3)** It shall recruit and appoint and, subject to the provisions of Article 6 (j), may dismiss the staff members of the Central Bank.

**Art 12. (1)** The Executive Board shall comprise a Director-General and two Directors.

**(2)** Board members shall be appointed by the Grand Duke on a proposal by the Government in Cabinet for a six-year period. Appointments are renewable.

**(3)** The Government may propose to the Grand Duke, after consultation with the Council of the Central Bank, the dismissal of Board members who no longer satisfy the conditions of their employment or are guilty of serious misconduct.

(4) Board members rank as state officials in terms of their status, salary and pension scheme.

(5) Prior to taking up duties, Board members shall take the following oath before the Minister responsible for relations with the Central Bank: "I swear loyalty to the Grand Duke, obedience to the Constitution and to the laws of the State. I promise to fulfill my duties with integrity, thoroughness and impartiality and to preserve the secrecy of professional deliberations."

(6) The functions of Director-General and of Director shall be classified respectively in Grade S1 of Heading VI "fixed index functions" and Grade 18 of Heading I "General Administration" of appendix A "classification of functions" of the law of 22 June 1983 as amended, establishing civil service salary scales. The Government in Cabinet may grant Board members a special allowance for entertainment expenses.

Salaries and pensions of Board members and, where applicable, of general advisers referred to in the following paragraph, shall be paid by the Central Bank.

(7) A Board member whose appointment is not renewed or who is dismissed shall become general adviser to the Central Bank, keeping the status and basic remuneration, with the exception of entertainment allowances applicable to his/her previous function. A Board member may be transferred to another administration or public institution pursuant to Article 6 of the law of 16 April 1979 as amended establishing general service regulations for civil servants.

**Art. 13.** Without prejudice to the independence of its Director-General vis-à-vis any instruction in his/her capacity as member of the Governing Council of the ECB and without prejudice to provisions relating to professional secrecy applicable to the ESCB, the decisions of the Board of Directors shall be taken collectively.

The Executive Board shall adopt its rules of procedure by unanimity.

The rules of procedure shall be approved by the Council before entering into force.

### **Staff members of the Central Bank**

**Art. 14. (1)** The Central Bank's Executive Board shall be assisted in its task by staff members recruited and appointed by the Board and placed under its authority.

**(2)** Prior to taking up their duties, each Central Bank staff member shall swear the following oath before a member of the Executive Board: "I swear loyalty to the Grand Duke, obedience to the Constitution and to the laws of the State. I promise to fulfill my duties with integrity, thoroughness and impartiality and not to disclose information which comes to my knowledge in the course of my duties."

**(3) (a)** Central Bank staff members who occupy the posts specified in the organisation chart referred to in Article 29 (2), and involving, either directly or indirectly, the exercise of public power and tasks safeguarding the general interests of the State or other public authorities, have a public law status consisting in the application, if necessary by analogy, of the provisions relating to officials and probationer officials, save as otherwise provided in a Grand Ducal regulation to be adopted in the interests of the proper functioning of the Central Bank.

**(b)** For posts other than those specified in Paragraph 3 (a), Central Bank staff members may include, within the framework of the organisation chart referred to in Article 29 (2):

- employees who satisfy all the conditions required to be employed by the State and whose status is treated as equivalent to the arrangements for state employees pursuant to Article 13 of the law of 27 January 1972 establishing rules for state employees; also applicable to them, if necessary by analogy, are the provisions of Article 1, paragraph 5, of the law of 16 April 1979 as amended, together with the laws and regulations establishing rules governing state employees;
- employees who fail to satisfy all the conditions for state employment and whose situation is governed by the law of 24 May 1989 on contracts of employment;
- workers whose situation is governed by the collective agreement in force for state workers.

**(c)** Statutory staff members and those equivalent to probationers employed at the Central Bank at the time of the entry into force of this law, and until such time as the Grand Ducal regulation referred to in (a) above comes into force, shall, whatever post they occupy, be subject to the status defined in subparagraph (3) (a) above and shall continue to benefit from the application of the Grand Ducal regulation of 21 June 1984 establishing service regulations for staff members of the Luxembourg Monetary Institute. The new Grand Ducal regulation shall not make their situation less favourable. Staff members of the Central Bank who satisfy the requisite conditions at the time of the entry into force of this law shall have the status of state employees.



**(4) (a)** The remuneration of Central Bank staff members shall be paid by the Central Bank. The Executive Board may grant non-pensionable additional remuneration to staff members referred to in paragraph (3) (a) and the first indent of paragraph 3 (b) above, by virtue of their duties or qualifications.

**(b)** The statutory pension rights of each Central Bank staff member are those corresponding to his/her legal status, according to the categories defined in paragraph (3). The pensions of the Central Bank's staff members shall be paid by the Bank. This charge shall be financed by a Central Bank pension fund. The pension fund shall be financed on the one hand by statutory deductions from staff members' salaries in accordance with the rules governing the pension scheme corresponding to their status, and on the other hand by contributions made by the Central Bank itself. *(Law of 24 October 2008)* "The Central Bank may have recourse to the decision-making bodies and services of the pension agencies following the pension regime of the agent in question."

### Auditing of the Central Bank

*(Law of 10 November 2009)*

**Art. 15.** The Council of the Central Bank shall propose an auditor to the Governing Council of the ECB in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Statute of the ESCB and of the ECB. At the end of the approval procedure at European level, the auditor shall be appointed by the Government in Cabinet. "The auditor must meet the conditions for exercising the profession of certified auditor."<sup>9</sup> The auditor shall be appointed for five financial years. The auditor's fees shall be paid by the Central Bank."

**Art. 16.** The auditor shall establish and certify that the accounts of the Central Bank are accurate and complete. The auditor shall draw up, for submission to the Council, Government and Chamber of Deputies, a detailed report on the Central Bank accounts at the end of the financial year. The auditor may be ordered by the Council to carry out specific investigations.

### The issue of banknotes and coins

**Art. 17.** The Central Bank shall issue banknotes in compliance with the guidelines, "decisions"<sup>10</sup> and instructions of the ECB.

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<sup>9</sup> Law of 18 December 2009.

<sup>10</sup> Law of 21 July 2021.

**Art. 18.** “(1) The Central Bank shall put into circulation coinage in the form of metal coins issued for and on behalf of the Treasury, in compliance with the provisions deriving from the Treaty on European Union. It shall bear all the costs relating to the issue of these coins.

(2) The Central Bank is the competent authority to ensure compliance with the provisions of Council Regulation (EC) No 1338/2001 of 28 June 2001 laying down measures necessary for the protection of the euro against counterfeiting, as amended, Regulation (EU) No 1210/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2010 concerning authentication of euro coins and handling of euro coins unfit for circulation and the measures taken for their implementation, including Decision ECB/2010/14 of the European Central Bank of 16 September 2010 on the authenticity and fitness checking and recirculation of euro banknotes.

(3) The Central Bank shall be reimbursed and remunerated for all tasks related to the coins referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 in accordance with an agreement between the Central Bank and the Treasury.”<sup>11</sup>

**Art. 19.** The legal status of banknotes and coins denominated in euro and which are legal tender in the European “Union”<sup>12</sup> is determined by the “European Union”<sup>13</sup> rules applicable to those banknotes and coins

**Art. 20.** Without prejudice to compliance with the rules referred to in Articles 17 and 18, the legal status of banknotes and coins denominated in francs and which are legal tender in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg is subject to the following provisions:

**(a)** Banknotes issued by the Central Bank and denominated in francs are legal tender without limitation.

**(b)** Coins circulated by the Central Bank and denominated in francs are for each denomination legal tender for up to one hundred times their face value.

**(c)** The Central Bank is not obliged to replace or exchange banknotes and coins denominated in francs which have been destroyed, lost, counterfeited or falsified. The Central Bank shall replace its damaged banknotes denominated in francs, if the bearer is able to present part or

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<sup>11</sup> Law of 21 July 2021.

<sup>12</sup> Law of 21 July 2021.

<sup>13</sup> Law of 21 July 2021.

parts of the note accounting for more than one half of the note or can prove that the rest of the note, of which less than half is presented, has been destroyed.

**(d)** A Grand Ducal regulation may set the date, between 1 January 2002 and 1 July 2002, with effect from which the banknotes and coins denominated in francs will cease to be legal tender, draw up rules on the use of banknotes and coins denominated in francs between 1 January 2002 and that date and determine measures necessary to facilitate their withdrawal from circulation.

**(e)** A Grand Ducal regulation may set dates with effect from which the Central Bank and the Treasury will no longer be obliged to exchange banknotes and coins respectively denominated in francs and demonetarized in accordance with the previous subparagraph.

*(Law of 21 July 2021)*

**“Art. 20-1. (1)** For the purpose of carrying out the task set out in Article 18(2), the Central Bank may:

**(a)** carry out announced or unannounced surveys, inspections and expert opinions at institutions, whether on site or not;

**(b)** test machines, if necessary with the assistance of one or more agents, employees or representatives of the manufacturer or seller of the machines;

**(c)** take samples of processed euro banknotes and coins for testing on its own premises against reimbursement

**(d)** examine the procedures for the use and control of banknote and coin processing equipment, the handling of verified banknotes and coins and the manual verification of authenticity and quality;

**(e)** inspect on site and make a copy of any document, file or record;

**(f)** have access to any computer system;

**(g)** verify the ability of institutions to authenticate euro banknotes and coins;

**(h)** with a view to ensuring compliance with the provisions of Council Regulation (EC) No 1338/2001 of 28 June 2001 laying down measures necessary for the protection of the euro

against counterfeiting, as amended, Regulation (EU) No 1210/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 December 2010 concerning authentication of euro coins and handling of euro coins unfit for circulation and the measures taken for their implementation, including Decision ECB/2010/14 of the European Central Bank of 16 September 2010 on the verification of quality and recirculation of euro banknotes, issue an injunction ordering the natural or legal person concerned to cease the conduct in question and to refrain from repeating it. If the injunction is not complied with, the Central Bank may impose a penalty payment. The amount of the periodic penalty payment per day in respect of the breach may not exceed EUR 1,250, but the total amount imposed in respect of the breach may not exceed EUR 25,000.

Measures taken by the Central Bank pursuant to Article 20-1, paragraph 1, subparagraph 1, point (h), may be appealed for reversal (*recours en réformation*) before the Administrative tribunal (*Tribunal administratif*).

**(2)** The Central Bank shall lay down in a regulation the details of the controls it carries out pursuant to paragraph 1. The institutions and their employees shall be obliged to cooperate fully in such inspections.

**(3)** Institutions shall inform the Central Bank in writing before the installation of any type of equipment for processing euro banknotes or coins is brought into service.

**(4)** Institutions shall transmit to the Central Bank the data and statistics required by the regulations of the European Union, the European Central Bank and the Central Bank concerning the recycling of currency signs in the form of banknotes and coins within the time limits set by the latter. The Central Bank may also impose a penalty payment in accordance with paragraph 1(h).”

### Operations of the Central Bank

**Art. 21.** In order to conduct its operations, the Central Bank may open accounts for credit institutions, public entities and other market participants and accept assets, including book entry securities, as collateral.**Art. 22.** In order to achieve its objective and to carry out its tasks, the Central Bank may:

- operate in the financial markets by buying and selling outright (spot and forward) or under repurchase agreement and by lending or borrowing claims and marketable instruments denominated in all monetary units, as well as precious metals;
- conduct credit operations with credit institutions and other market participants, with lending being based on adequate collateral.

*(Law of 13 July 2007)*

**“Art. 22-1. (1)** The Central Bank shall define the conditions which claims must satisfy in order to serve as security for its loans.

**(2)** The Central Bank shall keep a register of contracts for pledges of claims which it accepts. It shall lay down both the operational rules and rules for the coverage of expenses. The register shall be accessible to third parties who envisage having recourse to the pledging of claims under the conditions laid down by the Central Bank.

**(3)** Pledges of claims in favour of the Central Bank shall be enforceable vis-à-vis third parties as soon as the pledge is entered in the register referred to in the foregoing paragraph.

**(4)** A guarantee in the form of a pledge in favour of the Central Bank shall have priority over any subsequent guarantee concerning the pledged claims, regardless of the conditions for notification to the debtor or acceptance by the latter. If a third party who has become the beneficiary of a guarantee covering these claims receives a payment relating thereto, including a payment in the context of insolvency proceedings of the debtor, the third party shall be required to transfer it to the Central Bank. The Central Bank may claim such payment ex officio, without prejudice to its right to be indemnified. No set-off may have the effect of invalidating the guarantee granted in favour of the Central Bank in respect of such claims.

**(5)** This article applies also when the Central Bank acts on behalf of the ECB or other national central banks forming an integral part of the ESCB for the cross-border creation of guarantees within the context of the credit operations by these central banks and in favour of them.”

*(Law of 24 October 2008)*

**“Art. 23.** The Central Bank is the depositary for amounts that credit institutions are obliged to maintain in deposit by monetary control measures based on Article 19 of the Statute of the European System of Central Banks and of the European Central Bank.”

**Art. 24. (1)** Overdrafts or any other type of credit facility with the central bank in favour of European “Union”<sup>14</sup> institutions or bodies, central governments, regional, local or other public authorities, other bodies governed by public law, or public undertakings of Member States of the European “Union”<sup>15</sup> shall be prohibited, as shall the purchase directly from them by the Central Bank of debt instruments.

**(2)** The Central Bank may act as fiscal agent for the entities referred to in the previous paragraph.

**(3)** The provision of this Article shall not apply to publicly owned credit institutions which, in the context of the supply of reserves by central banks, shall be given the same treatment as private credit institutions.

**Art. 25.** The Central Bank may provide facilities to ensure efficient and sound clearing and payment systems.

**Art. 26.** The Central Bank may:

- establish relations with central banks and financial institutions in non-member countries of the European “Union”<sup>16</sup> and, where appropriate, with international organisations;
- acquire and sell spot and forward all types of foreign exchange assets and precious metals. The term “foreign exchange asset” shall include securities and all other assets in the currency of any third country or units of account and in whatever form held;
- hold and manage the assets referred to in this Article;
- conduct all types of banking transactions in relations with third countries and international organisations, including borrowing and lending operations.

*(Law of 24 October 2008)*

**“Art. 26-1.** Within its powers and tasks, the Central Bank may take and dispose of participations in public institutions, undertakings or public or private associations.”

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<sup>14</sup> Law of 21 July 2021.

<sup>15</sup> Law of 21 July 2021.

<sup>16</sup> Law of 21 July 2021.

**Art. 27.** In addition to operations arising from its tasks, the Central Bank may enter into operations for its administrative purposes or for its staff.

*(Law of 13 July 2007)*

**“Art. 27-1. (1)** The claims of the Central Bank as well as of the ECB or of another national central bank forming an integral part of the ESCB, deriving from operations in the context of common monetary or exchange policies, shall be secured by a lien on all the assets held by the debtor either with the Central Bank or within a system for the settlement of securities transactions or with another counterparty in Luxembourg. Such lien shall have the same rank as the charge of the pledgee.

**(2)** No account with the Central Bank intended to be used in the context of common monetary or exchange policies or in the context of the management of foreign reserve assets held for foreign central banks or foreign States may be subjected to any seizure, sequestration or blocking order.”

*(Law of 24 October 2008)*

**“Art. 27-2.** The Central Bank may, in exceptional circumstances, grant short-term loans to its counterparts while respecting its independence and the provisions prohibiting monetary financing. It shall grant loans on the basis of adequate collateral which may consist of a State guarantee under the conditions previously agreed between the State and the Central Bank. The Central Bank’s privilege in Article 27-1(1) shall apply to these loans.”

*(Law of 10 November 2009)*

#### **“Payment systems, securities settlement systems and payment instructions**

**Article 27-3.** For the purpose of performing the tasks set out in Article 2(5), the Central Bank may ask payment systems and securities settlement systems to provide any information relating to the operation of those systems which is necessary in order to assess their efficiency and safety and may also ask issuers of payment instruments to provide any information relating to those payment instruments which is necessary in order to assess their safety.

The Central Bank shall be authorised to undertake on-site visits in order to collect the information referred to in paragraph 1. It shall coordinate with the *Commission de surveillance du secteur financier* to this end.”

## Rendering of accounts

**Art. 28.** The financial year of the Central Bank shall be the calendar year.

**Art. 29. (1)** No later than 31 March of each year the Executive Board shall submit to the Council for approval the balance sheet and profit-and-loss account closed on 31 December of the previous year, together with the Board's report and the auditor's report.

**(2)** No later than the end of each financial year the Executive Board shall submit to the Council for approval the income and expenditure budget for the forthcoming year. An opinion of the staff representatives shall be appended to the budget and form an integral part of it together with the organisation chart including tables showing the number of staff both current and as planned, according to the categories defined in Article 14 (3), and, also, guidelines, where appropriate, on remuneration supplements pursuant to Article 14 (4) (a).

**Art. 30.** The budget, annual accounts and reports approved by the Council shall be sent to the Government and the Chamber of Deputies. The Government in Cabinet shall decide whether the Central Bank bodies be granted discharge. Such a decision is taken without prejudice to the provisions of Article 5 (2) and without calling into question the obligations of the Central Bank within the framework of the ESCB. The decision granting discharge to the bodies of the Central Bank shall be published together with the Central Bank's annual accounts in the *Mémorial* (Official Gazette).

**Art. 31.** The profits of the Central Bank, as shown in the accounts approved at the end of the financial year, and after deduction of any loss carried forward from previous accounts, shall be paid to the Treasury. The Government in Cabinet may, when it is called on to grant discharge to the Central Bank bodies, decide on the basis of a reasoned proposal by the Central Bank to allocate all or part of the profits to the Central Bank's reserve fund. However, the allocation of the profit to the Central Bank's reserve fund shall be compulsory so long as the total of the capital and the reserve fund falls short of the total of the Central Bank's assets which do not yield freely-available income, after deduction of liabilities which form the direct counterpart of such assets.



## Compilation of statistics

**Art. 32. (1)** In order to undertake its tasks, the Central Bank shall be empowered to collect the necessary statistical information, either from the competent national authorities or directly from economic agents. It may likewise perform spot checks of the information from these authorities and economic agents, in accordance with relevant “Union”<sup>17</sup> law provisions and within the competences of the ESCB and the ECB.

**(2)** Individual information thus collected are subject to professional secrecy on the part of Central Bank bodies and staff members, as defined in Article 33 of this law.

**(3)** The Central Bank is, however, authorised to publish the statistics that it has compiled provided that the publication neither contains nor permits the inference of individual information and that it complies with the provisions of professional secrecy applicable to the ESCB.

## Professional secrecy

**Art. 33. (1)** Members of the bodies of the Central Bank, its auditor and staff members who, even after their duties have ceased, disclose information acquired in the course of those duties, shall be liable to the penalties provided for in Article 458 of the Criminal Code.

*(Law of 13 July 2007)*

**(2)** Without prejudice to the rules of professional secrecy applicable to the ESCB, the foregoing paragraph shall not preclude exchanges of information required in the context of the ESCB or prevent the Central Bank from exchanging information, to the extent necessary for the performance of its tasks, with the *Commission de surveillance du secteur financier*, the Commissariat aux assurances (Insurance Commission) and the Service central de la statistique et des études économiques (*Central Service for Statistics and Economic Studies (STATEC)*) (...) <sup>18</sup>.”

**(3)** *(Law of 13 July 2007)* “Paragraph (1) shall not apply where the persons concerned are called upon to give evidence in judicial proceedings or where the law authorizes or requires

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<sup>17</sup> Law of 21 July 2021.

<sup>18</sup> Deleted by the Law of 10 November 2009.

them to disclose certain facts.” Article 23 of the Code of Criminal Procedure shall apply to Board members and Central Bank staff members.

### Enforcement and sanctioning powers

**Art. 34.** *(Law of 24 October 2008)*

“(1) Within the limits imposed on its powers and tasks, the Central Bank may adopt regulations. The Central Bank’s regulations shall be published in the Mémorial.”

“(2)”<sup>19</sup> The Executive Board shall be empowered, within the framework of the tasks of the ESCB, to enforce the decisions of the ECB and to implement the sanctions imposed by the ECB.

*(Law of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015)*

#### “Civil liability

**Art. 34-1.** The Central Bank performs its tasks in the public interest. The civil liability of the Central Bank may be triggered in case it is demonstrated that the damage suffered was caused by gross negligence in the choice and the application of the means implemented to carry out the public service tasks of the Central Bank.”

### Transitional provisions

**Art. 35. (1)** The various reserve headings shown in the balance sheet of the Central Bank when this law comes into force shall be consolidated into a single reserve fund.

**(2)** The difference between the former capital of the Central Bank, totalling one thousand million francs, and the new capital of twenty-five million euro, is offset by a credit or a debit of the Central Bank reserve fund.

**(3)** The balance of the loan by the Central Bank to the State, referred to in Article III (2) of the law of 22 April 1998 amending the laws relating to the Luxembourg Monetary Institute and the monetary status of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, as decided on the date on which this law comes into force, shall be repaid by a revaluation at the appropriate level of the gold assets of the Central Bank. In the event that, between 1 June 1998 and the date on which this law enters

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<sup>19</sup> Paragraph numbering of paragraph (2) was introduced by the Law of 24 October 2008.

into force, the Central Bank should pay to the Treasury the profits drawn from the disposal of gold, the amount of the sums thus paid to the Treasury will be repaid by the Treasury to the Central Bank.

**(4) (a)** Luxembourg pension funds which have received contributions on behalf of persons who are or become staff members of the Central Bank on the day on which this law enters into force, shall pay those contributions to the Central Bank pension fund. The contribution periods of those staff members to these pension funds are validated as of right as contribution periods with the Central Bank.

**(b)** The State is not obliged to reimburse the Central Bank for amounts paid to it in the past with a view to contributing to the share of Central Bank staff pensions for which the State was previously responsible.

**(c)** Having regarded to subparagraphs (a) and (b) above, the Central Bank shall be authorised to bring its pension fund to the requisite size, subsequent to the entry into force of this law, by a single withdrawal from its reserve fund. The auditor shall, in a special report, check and certify the accurate implementation of the present paragraph (Article 35 para. 4).

### Repeal of other provisions

**Art. 36. (1)** The law of 15 March 1979 as amended relating to the monetary status of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the law of 20 May 1983 as amended on the Luxembourg Monetary Institute, together with the regulations adopted for their enforcement are hereby repealed, without prejudice to Article 14 (3) (c) of the present law.

**(2)** All statutory and regulatory provisions conferring the status of legal tender on notes issued by the *Banque Internationale à Luxembourg* and in return subjecting the statutes and activity of that bank to the approval and monitoring of the Government are repealed. Operations resulting from the expiry of the right to issue notes with the status of legal tender, as granted by the State, shall be conducted in compliance with the statutes of the Bank and under the supervision of the Government Commissioner.

**(3)** Art. 1 of the law of 12 July 1895 on the payment of workers' salaries is hereby repealed. At the beginning of Article 2 of the same law, the word "However" is deleted.

### Entry into force

**Art. 37.** The present law enters into force as of 1<sup>st</sup> January 1991, or if it is published at a later date, as of the first day of the month following its publication.