

EN

Welcome to LUXEMBOURGISH SCHOOLS!

Information for newly-arrived parents and pupils



LE GOUVERNEMENT
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG
Ministère de l'Éducation nationale,
de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse

CASNA

Cellule d'accueil scolaire
pour élèves nouveaux arrivants

Welcome to **LUXEMBOURGISH SCHOOLS!**

Information for newly-arrived parents and pupils

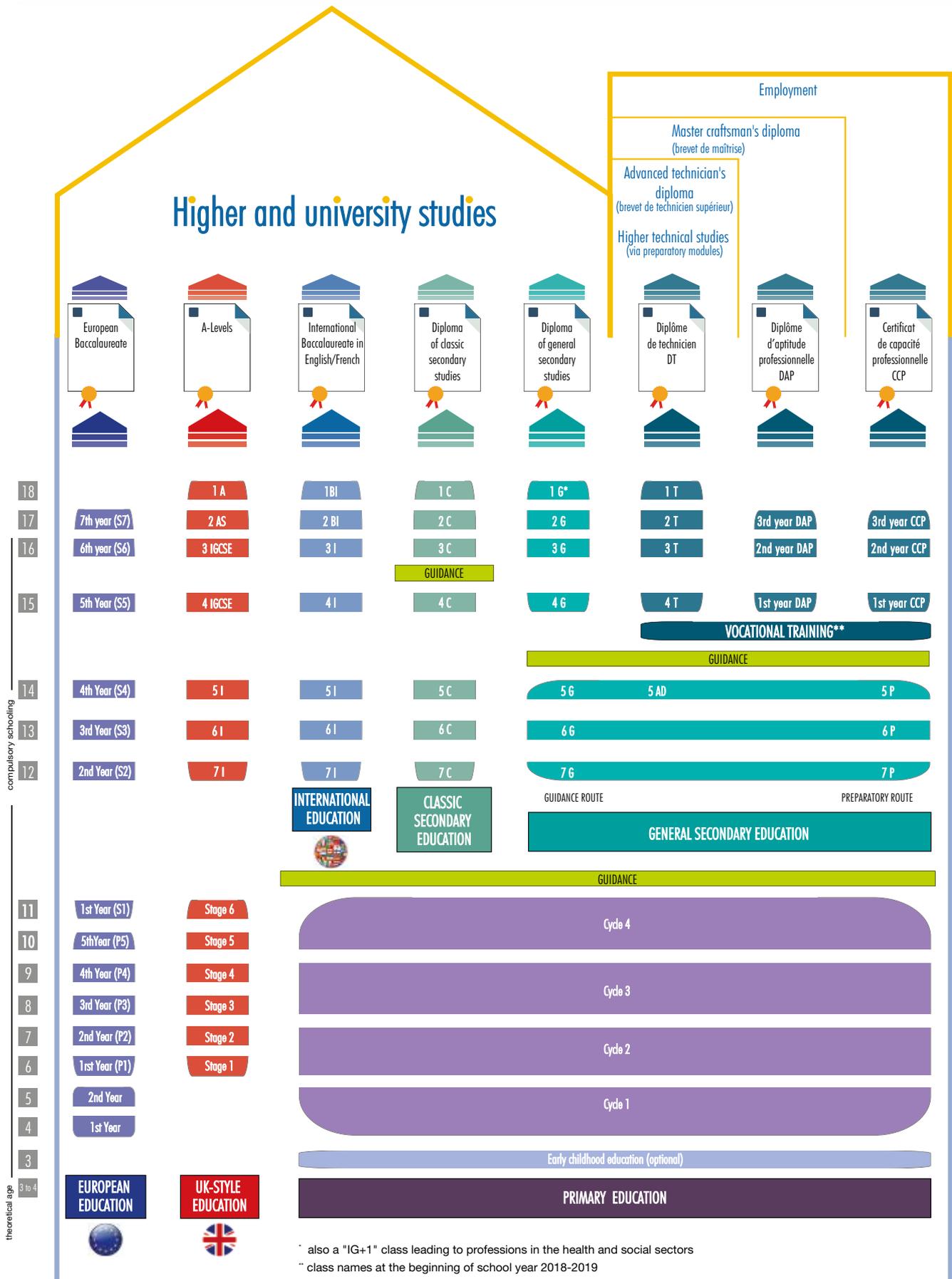
EN

The school system in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

IN THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG, ALL CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 4 AND 16 YEARS MUST ATTEND SCHOOL

The diagram on the next page gives you a general view of the school system in the Grand Duchy. There is also a whole range of alternative offers, depending on the child's background, age, languages spoken, level of mathematical skills, and personal objectives.

These are described for you in this booklet.



Newly arrived pupils in the Grand Duchy – where to find information

FOR 3 TO 11-YEAR-OLDS

You should contact directly the municipal offices of your place of residence to enrol your child at school (*see page 10*).

FOR 12-YEAR-OLDS AND OVER

You should make an appointment with the school reception unit for newly-arrived pupils (Cellule d'accueil scolaire pour élèves nouveaux arrivants – CASNA). The unit provides information on the Luxembourg school system and on the schooling available for pupils who speak foreign languages. Children's educational level and knowledge of languages is tested so that they can be guided towards the most appropriate class or training (*see page 12*).

FOR ADULTS

There are special training courses either for learning the languages of the Grand Duchy* or for preparing to take up vocational training or getting a job (*see page 16*).

Documents you will need to provide at a CASNA interview (12 to 24-year-olds):

- ▶ identity card or passport;
- ▶ social security card;
- ▶ academic records for the previous two years;
- ▶ copy of residence certificate (obtained from the municipal offices of the place of residence)
or attestation of having lodged a request for international protection.

*German, French, Luxembourgish



Contact

CASNA – CELLULE D'ACCUEIL SCOLAIRE POUR ÉLÈVES NOUVEAUX ARRIVANTS

Department of schooling for foreign children
Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse
58, boulevard Grande-Duchesse Charlotte
L-1330 Luxembourg

Tél. (+ 352) 247 - 75274 / 85277 / 75277

E-mail : casna@men.lu

OPENING HOURS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Monday to Friday, from 8.30 am to 11.30 am and from 2 pm to 5 pm

Reception in Luxembourgish, French, German, English and Portuguese
(other languages on request).

FURTHER INFORMATION

Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse

www.men.lu › under [Système éducatif](#) › [Scolarisation des élèves étrangers](#)

Help available when communicating in the school environment

INTERCULTURAL MEDIATION

Parents and pupils may request the assistance free of charge of an intercultural mediator speaking Albanian, Arabic, Bosnian-Croatian-Macedonian-Serbian, Bulgarian, Cape Verdean creole, Chinese, Czech, Dutch, Filipino, Greek, Guinean creole, Hungarian, Italian, Korean, Kurdish, Nepalese, Persian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Slovakian, Spanish, Turkish, Ukrainian or Vietnamese in addition to the languages usually spoken in the Grand Duchy (other languages on request).

The intercultural mediator serves to facilitate communication and understanding between pupils and parents on the one hand and education professionals on the other.

Their work includes, for example:

- ▶ providing assistance at individual interviews between teachers, pupils and parents;
- ▶ providing assistance at school report interviews;
- ▶ providing translations of school documents;
- ▶ providing assistance in class;
- ▶ transmitting messages between the various stakeholders by phone or e-mail.



Contact **INTERCULTURAL MEDIATOR**

All requests for intercultural mediation, including translations of school documents, must be made online at:

<https://portal.education.lu/secam/Médiateurs>

In case of difficulty, you may contact a mediator directly if you know one, or contact the Department of schooling for foreign children (Service de la scolarisation des enfants étrangers):

Tel. (+ 352) 24785909

mediateurs@men.lu

The list of mediators is available online at:

www.men.lu › under [Système éducatif › Scolarisation des élèves étrangers](#)

Schooling for children aged 3 to 11

EDUCATION CYCLE 1 (CHILDREN FROM 3 TO 5 YEARS OLD)

Enrolment

Parents should enrol their children directly with the education department or secretariat of the municipal offices of their place of residence.

Cycle 1 comprises one year of early childhood education (optional) and two years of pre-school education (compulsory). The children learn to understand and express themselves in Luxembourgish, which is the main language of communication in the classroom. The languages spoken at home are valued while the children are also introduced to spoken French.

PRIMARY EDUCATION CYCLES 2, 3 AND 4 (CHILDREN FROM 6 TO 11 YEARS OLD)

Enrolment

Parents should enrol their children directly with the education department or secretariat of the municipal offices of their place of residence. Each cycle takes two years.

Languages

The children first learn to read and write in German, which is the teaching language for all subjects apart from French. The learning of spoken French continues; from Cycle 3 onwards (children 8 to 9 years old), the children begin learning written French.

Your child will attend school in a standard class (also called a 'home class' – classe d'attache). Intensive language classes (also called 'welcome classes' – cours d'accueil) are organised from the second year of Cycle 2 (about age 7) onwards.

Your child will attend these classes in German and/or French. The number of hours of intensive language lessons varies according to the child's age and language skills. The aim is for your child to be able to spend as much time as possible in the home class without needing intensive language lessons.



TRANSITION TO SECONDARY EDUCATION

Depending on your child's results and interests, there are several possible routes once primary education has been completed. Therefore, pupils undergo a guidance procedure during Cycle 4 before embarking on secondary education. More information on this is available online at www.men.lu under [Système éducatif > Enseignement fondamental > Passage de l'enseignement fondamental à l'enseignement secondaire](#)

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLING

European Baccalaureate

Luxembourg has currently public and free schools, which offer French, English and German-speaking sections from primary education on, up to the European Baccalaureate. In Luxembourg, the following schools lead to the European Baccalaureate:

The École internationale de Differdange & Esch-sur-Alzette (EIDE) offers English, French and German-speaking sections, from primary until secondary level.

Further information available at www.eide.lu

The Lënster Lycée in Junglinster (LLJ) offers English and German-speaking sections from primary on, up to secondary level.

Further information available at www.llj.lu

The École internationale de Mondorf-les-Bains (EIMLB) offers English and French-speaking sections from primary until secondary level.

Further information available at www.eimlb.lu

The Lycée Edward Steichen in Clervaux (LESC) offers French and German-speaking sections from primary until secondary level.

Further information available at www.lesc.lu

International School Michel Lucius

This free, public school offers classes taught in English at primary and secondary levels. The primary school follows the Cambridge syllabus for basic subjects. For information on the secondary classes, see page 15. More information is available online at www.lml.lu

Schooling available for young people aged 12 years and upwards

GENERAL SECONDARY EDUCATION (ENSEIGNEMENT SECONDAIRE GÉNÉRAL - ESG)

The first three years of general secondary education (7G, 6G and 5G classes)* are organised in two streams:

- ▶ the guidance (orientation) stream for pupils who have acquired the necessary skills at primary school;
- ▶ the preparation (préparation) stream for pupils who have not been able to acquire sufficient skills at primary school; they are prepared for joining the guidance stream or going on to vocational training.

In the lower classes, all subjects are taught in German, except for maths, which is taught in French. English is taught from the 6G class onwards.

On completion of these lower classes, pupils continue according to their abilities, interests and profile:

- ▶ either to a higher ESG class (4G, 3G, 2G, 1G), leading to a diploma marking the successful completion of general secondary studies, which gives access to university studies;
- ▶ or to vocational training.

There are three types of vocational training:

- training leading to the technician's diploma (*Diplôme de technicien - DT*), which gives access to higher technical studies in that particular specialisation, subject to successful completion of the preparatory modules;
- training leading to the vocational aptitude diploma (*Diplôme d'aptitude professionnelle - DAP*), providing access to the employment market as a qualified employee; by following preparatory modules, pupils may consider higher technical studies in the specialisation corresponding to their diploma;
- training leading to the certificate of vocational ability (*Certificat de capacité professionnelle - CCP*), during which pupils acquire the basic vocational and social skills that are essential for getting a job.

These classes are usually taught in German, although some subjects are taught in French.

There are classes for newly arrived pupils preparing them to join one of these streams or classes using other teaching languages.

* These first three years are also referred to as "the lower classes" (*classes inférieures*)



Classes for newly-arrived pupils between 12 and 17 years of age

Children between **12 and 15 years** of age arriving in the Grand Duchy with no knowledge of either German or French may be admitted to a **welcome class** (*classe d'accueil* – ACCU), where they are taught French intensively and introduced to Luxembourgish.

Children who are **16 or 17 years** old may join an **insertion class for young adults** (*classe d'insertion pour jeunes adultes* – CLIJA), where they are taught French intensively and receive basic training to prepare them for general secondary education, vocational training, or for getting a job.

Children between **12 and 14 years** of age who already have a very good academic level but little or no mastery of the languages taught in the Grand Duchy may join an **insertion class** in general secondary education, where they are taught French or German intensively. Admission is dependent on passing an entrance test.

There are two types of insertion classes:

- ▶ **intensive French language classes**, intended for pupils who have a good level in maths but very little or no knowledge of French: they receive intensive language training in French;
- ▶ **intensive German language classes**, intended for pupils who have very little or no knowledge of German but have a good level in French and maths: they receive intensive language training in German.

Alternatively, your child may be admitted to an **insertion class in the preparatory stream** (*classe d'insertion de la voie de préparation*) if he/she has a good knowledge of French but an unsatisfactory general academic level.

Special French-language education classes

If your child is **15 years old or more** and masters French but has little or no knowledge of German, he/she may attend a specific language education class (classe à régime linguistique spécifique - RLS class) after the "5e" year.

The subjects are taught in **French**, and the learning of German as a foreign language continues (or begins). For other subjects, the syllabus is the same as that of the other classes.

Vocational training courses in English

The Lycée technique privé Émile Metz offers classes after the "5e" class taught in English providing training for future technicians in electronics, mechanics and IT. This secondary school also offers a training course taught in English leading to the aircraft maintenance licence.

More information is available online at www.ltpem.lu

Classes for newly-arrived young adults

If you or your child is between **18 and 24 years old** and you have just arrived in the Grand Duchy but have no knowledge of either German or French, you may join an **insertion class for young adults plus** (classe d'insertion pour jeunes adultes plus - CLIJA +).

These classes provide intensive **French** or **German** lessons and basic training, preparing students for undertaking training or getting a job.

CLASSIC SECONDARY EDUCATION

To be admitted to a regular class in classic secondary education, your child must have an excellent level of German and French from the first year on.

However, if your child does not have a satisfactory level of French and German but already has a very good academic level, classic secondary education includes other options that may be suitable. These are presented below.

The International Baccalaureate (IB)

This is for children between **12 and 19 years old** with an excellent academic level who would like to attend secondary school classes taught either in **French** or in **English**.

They may opt for International Baccalaureate classes in French at the Lycée Technique du Centre or in English at the Athénée de Luxembourg.

The International Baccalaureate certificate (IB) is a classic baccalaureate available at 2,500 secondary schools in 140 countries throughout the world.



English-speaking classes at the Lycée Michel Lucius

If English is your child's first or second language, or if he/she is extremely motivated to learn it during the first year of secondary school, these classes may be of interest.

All classes are taught in English; pupils choose French and/or German as their second and/or third language.

These classes prepare pupils to take the examinations for the following qualifications:

- ▶ International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) when pupils are about 16 years old;
- ▶ Advanced Subsidiary level (AS-level);
- ▶ Advanced level (A-level) when pupils are about 18 years old;

Courses leading to A-levels are available in more than 125 countries worldwide. A-levels certify that your child has successfully completed his/her secondary studies.

European offer

In addition to the École internationale de Differdange & Esch-sur-Alzette, the Lënster Lycée and the Lycée in Mondorf-les-Bains (see page 11), the new Lycée Edward Steichen in Clervaux will be offering French- and German-speaking classes in the first year of secondary education (S1) from the start of the 2018-2019 school year. More information is available online at www.lesc.lu

For more information on secondary education, and for enrolments, please contact the CASNA (see page 18).

Training available for adults

Have you recently arrived in the Grand Duchy and are you at least 18 years old?

Do you want to be able to communicate in everyday situations? Or obtain a diploma or recognised qualification? Or get a job?

Do you want to be able to talk to your child's teachers and to other parents?

Adult training courses are there to help you.

A wide range of classes and training courses are provided by the Ministry, municipalities and approved associations. Some are free of charge; others are available at a reduced rate or at a reasonable price.

The catalogue of courses available may be viewed online at www.men.lu under [Actualités > Publications > Formations des adultes](#), ordered online at sfa@men.lu, or collected from the Ministry (address on page 18).

You may also have a look at the offers online at www.lifelong-learning.lu

Competence in one or more of the languages of the Grand Duchy will be particularly useful for you. You may enrol for one of the classes organised by the national language institute (Institut national des langues - www.insl.lu), secondary schools, associations or municipalities. Information online at www.men.lu, under [Système éducatif > Formation des adultes > Cours d'intérêt général](#).

For people who have not had an opportunity to learn the Latin alphabet in their country of origin, or have difficulty with reading, writing or arithmetic, there are basic instruction classes. For more information, please phone (+352) 8002 4488 or visit www.abcd.lu



If you have not been able to achieve the level of studies or diploma required for continuing your studies, the alternative qualification route is for you. It offers training courses tailored to your situation that will enable you to go on to vocational training or university studies.

One possible option is the “5+i” class (5e générale plus intégration), for people with an excellent level of English but not of the Grand Duchy’s languages. Training is personalised, and alongside English and maths, French is taught intensively. Enrolment is free of charge. Other options include the CLIJA+ class (see page 14 of this booklet).

If you are between **17 and 24 years** old, contact the CASNA; if you are **over 24 years** old, get in touch with the SFA (addresses on page 18).

More information is available online at www.men.lu under [Système éducatif > Formation des adultes](#)

Useful addresses

MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉDUCATION NATIONALE, DE L'ENFANCE ET DE LA JEUNESSE

Information on schooling and reception of foreign children

Service de la scolarisation des enfants étrangers (SECAM)

Maison de l'orientation

58, Boulevard Grande-Duchesse Charlotte
L-1330 Luxembourg
Tel. (+352) 247 85207

Cellule d'accueil scolaire pour élèves nouveaux arrivants (CASNA)

Tel. (+352) 247 - 75274 / 85277 / 247 75277
casna@men.lu

www.men.lu

under [Système éducatif > Scolarisation des élèves étrangers](#)

Certification of educational levels and recognition of the following qualifications: baccalaureate, DAP, master craftsman's diploma, qualifications for careers in the social services or in the educational sector, qualifications for careers in the health sector

Service de la reconnaissance des diplômes

18-20, Montée de la Pétrusse
L-2327 Luxembourg
Tel. (+352) 247-85910
reconnaissance@men.lu

www.guichet.lu > Citizens Portal - look for 'Applying for recognition of level of education, a diploma or professional qualifications'.

Support for young people in transition from school to working life

12 local youth support centres (antenne locale pour jeunes - alj)
For contact details, please visit www.alj.lu

Activities for young people outside the school setting

Service national de la jeunesse (SNJ)

138, Boulevard de la Pétrusse
L-2330 Luxembourg
Tel. (+352) 247-86465
Fax (+352) 46 41 86
secretariat@snj.lu
www.snj.lu



Adult training

Service de la formation des adultes

12-14, Avenue Emile Reuter

L-2420 Luxembourg

Tel. (+352) 8002 4488 (freephone number)

sfa@men.lu

www.men.lu under [Système éducatif > Formation des adultes](#)

Language classes for adults

Institut national des langues, Luxembourg

15, Rue Léon Hengen

L-1745 Luxembourg

Tel. (+352) 26 44 30 -1

info@inll.lu

www.inll.lu

Educational guidance

Centre psycho-social et d'accompagnement scolaires (CePAS)

58, Boulevard Grande-Duchesse Charlotte

L - 1330 Luxembourg

Tel. (+352) 247 75910

info@cepas.public.lu

www.cepas.lu

MINISTÈRE DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR ET DE LA RECHERCHE

Information on higher and university education

Centre de documentation et d'information sur l'enseignement supérieur (CEDIES)

18-20, Montée de la Pétrusse

L-2327 Luxembourg

Tel. (+352) 247 88650

info@cedies.public.lu

www.cedies.public.lu

Recognition of foreign higher education degrees and accreditation of degrees in respect of legal professions

18-20, Montée de la Pétrusse

L-2327 Luxembourg

Registre des titres:

Tel. (+352) 247 86639/86640

Commission d'homologation:

Tel. (+352) 247 85135

www.guichet.lu > [Citizens Portal](#) – look for 'Recognition of higher education diplomas'

© Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse
Service de la scolarisation des enfants étrangers

Janvier 2018

ISBN 978-99959-1-114-0