Media Advisory

Statement by U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg
Robert A. Mandell

Over the past nearly three and half years, it has been my great privilege to serve President Obama as the U.S. Ambassador to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and a distinct honor to represent the United States of America. I have appreciated every moment working together with the Government and the people of Luxembourg to expand on the strong partnership between our two countries.

So it is with sincere regret that I am announcing my resignation as Ambassador effective February 27, 2015. Though it makes me sad to communicate these words, the time has come for me and my wife Julie to return to private life in the United States.

I especially want to express my gratitude to TRH, Grand Duke Henri and Grand Duchess Maria Teresa, and their family, for their warmth and hospitality. Luxembourg has become my second home. I will be forever grateful for the friends I have made and the many experiences we have enjoyed, and I will take those friendships and memories with me back to America.

The significant accomplishments we have achieved during my tenure in Luxembourg make me very proud. The founding of the Luxembourg Forum, which brought the U.S. Supreme Court to Luxembourg to meet with the European Court of Justice, a meeting to reoccur every three years; the extraordinary cooperation between our two governments on the enormous issues faced by the UN Security Council during Luxembourg’s two-year mandate; continuing support of the business community with the launch of a quarterly CEO Forum of U.S. companies to bring the business executives together with the highest-level Luxembourg Government officials; and last but not least, the opportunity to make more than 60 visits to every Lycée (Classique, Technique, and Agricultural) in the country. In addition, the creation of entrepreneurship workshops to teach the young people of Luxembourg the basics of business was especially rewarding.
Finally, I am extremely grateful for the many commemorative events that take place every year – most especially the 70th anniversary commemorations of the liberation and the Battle of the Bulge in 2014 - reminding us about the deep and special relationship between the United States and Luxembourg, forged during WWII and continuing today.

I am grateful for the outstanding Foreign Service officers at Embassy Luxembourg. I leave behind a strong, smart group of professional diplomats and colleagues, to be led by Ms. Alison Shorter-Lawrence as Chargé d’Affaires.

Thank you for all the wonderful memories and cooperation - may the friendship between our two countries continue to grow in the future.

Äddi a villmools Merci! Goodbye and thank you very much!

Sincerely,

Robert A. Mandell

U. S. Ambassador to Luxembourg