

Fireside Chat with The Honourable Xavier Bettel, Deputy Prime Minister of Luxembourg and Minister for Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade

“Luxembourg as the Gateway to the European Union”

Monday, 8th September 2025 | Ringgit Room 1, The St. Regis Kuala Lumpur



On Monday, 8 September 2025, the Kuala Lumpur Business Club (KLBC) had the distinct honour of hosting The Honourable Xavier Bettel, Deputy Prime Minister of Luxembourg and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade at a Fireside Chat titled “Luxembourg as the Gateway to the European Union”, at the St. Regis Kuala Lumpur. The youngest Luxembourg Prime Minister ever elected, The Honourable Deputy Prime Minister served as Prime Minister of Luxembourg for 10 years before assuming his current role.

The session commenced with a welcome and introduction by KLBC Director, Mr. Sridharan Nair, followed by Special Remarks by Deputy Prime Minister Bettel.

Mr. Nair then moderated an engaging discussion, which touched on the evolving **geopolitical landscape in Europe**, including how the EU – and Luxembourg in particular - has adapted its foreign affairs and trade policies in response to the on-going war in Ukraine, and its impact on energy and economic policy; and Luxembourg’s commitment to multilateralism and open trade amidst rising global protectionism and geopolitical tensions.

Deputy Prime Minister Bettel discussed **Luxembourg-Malaysia economic and trade relations**, identifying high-potential sectors for bilateral trade and investment, the opportunities for Malaysian startups and technology companies to collaborate with Luxembourg’s innovation ecosystem, and the **advantages of Luxembourg as a business hub** for Malaysian businesses looking to expand into the EU.

The KLBC Board was represented by Founder and Board Member, YBhg. Dato’ Rohana Tan Sri Mahmood, and Directors YBhg. Dato’ Dr. Zaha Rina Zahari, YBhg. Dato’ Charon Mokhzani, YBhg. Datuk Sai Men and Mr. Sridharan Nair. The Fireside Chat was attended by 55 KLBC members and guests.