



## Media release

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Notes	For questions, please contact tel. +423 230 13 23
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### **Bankers Association receives international award for "Villa Wirbelwind"**

**The Liechtenstein Bankers Association has received the European Association Award in the category of "Best Membership Initiative" for the "Villa Wirbelwind" crèche.**

At the end of February, the Bankers Association received the European Association Award (EAA), which was being awarded for the second time, in the category "Best Membership Initiative". The initiative being honoured was "Villa Wirbelwind" – the Bankers Association's crèche for the children of bank employees in the Liechtenstein banking centre. The EAA features 17 categories and rewards outstanding measures and projects by European associations from very different industries.

The "Villa Wirbelwind" crèche was opened in September 2017. It is a joint initiative by the Municipality of Vaduz and the Bankers Association. With approximately 550 m<sup>2</sup> of usable space spread across four floors, "Villa Wirbelwind" is designed for up to three groups of between ten and twelve children each. Around 25 children of employees from different banks are currently being cared for. Parents can choose from different day-care models (full day, half day, with or without lunch). As the banks will be taking over roughly half of the costs of day-care at "Villa Wirbelwind", this is a very cost-effective and attractive offer for parents.

In the Roadmap 2020, Liechtenstein's banks made a clear commitment to the compatibility of family and career. "Villa Wirbelwind" shows that this kind of sustainability is not mere lip service. There is a far greater backdrop to what "Villa Wirbelwind" is realising on a small scale. The UN has formulated several so-called Sustainable Development Goals (or SDGs for short). One is the goal of "gender equality". Through the crèche, Liechtenstein banks are contributing to the achievement of this.

The EAA jury shares this view and commented: "Villa Wirbelwind is an excellent and very innovative project that provides an immediate benefit. It offers a win-win situation for the region, employees, children and the banks."

Representatives of the Liechtenstein Bankers Association were among those present at the award ceremony in Brussels. On behalf of everyone, Director Simon Tribelhorn remarked proudly: "Villa Wirbelwind symbolises in a unique way what the Liechtenstein banking centre stands for: sustainability, quality and public spirit. It likewise shows the banks' clear support for the location of Liechtenstein."



LIECHTENSTEINISCHER  
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**Note for media:**

At <http://europeanassociationawards.com/winners/> you will find photos of all winners and at <http://www.bankenverband.li/villa-wirbelwind/> there is further information about "Villa Wirbelwind", incl. all information on childcare offers, costs and the registration process.

**"Villa Wirbelwind" in brief:**

- Location: in the centre of Vaduz, at Äulestrasse 46, Vaduz
- Floor space: around 550 m<sup>2</sup>
- Total number of supervised children: 25
- Operator of "Villa Wirbelwind": Liechtenstein Bankers Association (LBA)
- Sponsoring organisation: Association of Nurseries in Liechtenstein
- Building owner: municipality of Vaduz
- Total investment and renovation costs: CHF 2.3 Million
- Planning and redevelopment: ArchitekturAtelier
- Building time: 15 months
- Opening: 14 September 2017
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**About the Liechtenstein Bankers Association**

Established in 1969, the Liechtenstein Bankers Association is the domestic and international voice of the banks operating in and out of Liechtenstein. It is one of the country's most significant associations and plays a key role in the successful development of the financial centre. Member interests are pursued in accordance with the principles of sustainability and credibility. As a member of the European Banking Federation (EBF), the European Payments Council (EPC) and the European Parliamentary Financial Services Forum (EPFSF), the Liechtenstein Bankers Association is a member of key committees at the European level and plays an active role in the European legislation process. Since 2017, the LBA has also been a member of the Public Affairs Council (PAC) with offices in Washington and Brussels.

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**Images:**



Caption (from left to right): Claire Wormsley (The Media House UK), Rafik Yezza, Aneka Beccarelli, Simon Tribelhorn (all three from the Liechtenstein Bankers Association) as well as Irish comedian & MTV star Andrew Maxwell



**THE EUROPEAN  
ASSOCIATION  
AWARDS 2018**

**WINNER**

Best Membership  
Initiative by an Association