

LIST

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MÉI NO. MÉI MIERSCH.

ELECTION MANIFESTO

2023 - 2029



MIERSCH

Our candidates



Nelson
COSTA

Reckange

42 years

Warehouse manager - CFL

Vice-President of Syprolux

Staff delegate



Michael
ENGBORK

Rollingen

60 years

Solution Delivery Manager

President of the Integration Commission

Board Member of the Luxembourg Rugby Federation

Member of the Rugby Club Luxembourg



Heng
FRIEDERICH

Beringen

54 years

Married to Marianne SCHINTGEN, 1 child

Postman

Kiwanis Uelzechtdall Mersch



Pascal
GEISEN

Beringen

62 years

Married to Wolfgang FRANK

Retired history teacher



Luana
GENGLER

Rollingen

21 years

Student in art

Member FNEL Mersch *Les Loutres*

Member Karate Walferdange



Fränk
KRAUS

Mersch

29 years

Married to Nadine MEYER

Assetmanager



Linda
LAMRI

Mersch

45 years

In a partnership with Frédéric SIFFER, 2 children

Bank employee



Michèle
LORANG

Rollingen

56 years

married, 3 children

Special education teacher

President of the Information Commission

Member of the School Commission

Member of the Festival Committee



Claudine
MENDES
ép. PORTELADA

Mersch

45 years

Married to Paulo PORTELADA, 2 children

Executive Assistant

Member of Table Tennis Reckange



Letizia
MENEI

Rollingen

57 years

Married to Marc GENGLER, 1 child

Retired bank employee

Member of the Sports and Equal Opportunities Committees

Committee member and treasurer of the Karaté Club Walferdange



Romain
MINY

Mersch

67 years

Married, 2 children

Retired civil servant

Councillor

President of CSV Mersch

President of the Social and Senior Citizens Commission

Committee Member of ZAMID

Member of the „Fairtrade group“



Tim
REDING

Mersch

24 years

Law Student

Member of the Youth Commission



Michel
REILAND

Mersch

60 years

Married to Sylvie SCHOOS, 2 children

Physical education teacher

1st Alderman

Vice-President of the inter-municipal association for the preservation of nature SICONA

Committee member du of inter-municipal association SIDEC

Member of the Integration Commission



Abby
TOUSSAINT

Mersch

46 years

Married to Laurence ZEIEEN

Real estate agent

Councillor, alderman from 2017 - 2019

President of the SIDERO wastewater association

Co-President of the Festival Committee

President of the Youth Commission

Member of the CSV Center Committee and of the CSV National Council

Member of the work groups subsidies and sports campus



Henri
WAGENER

Beringen

40 years

Political advisor CSV

Méi no. Méi beweegen. Méi Miersch.

Dear fellow citizens,

The CSV Mersch always knew how to convince through consistency, internal cohesion, closeness to the citizens, reliability in the coalition and driving force in the implementation of the coalition agreement. All major and many other files were already tackled in the first two years with a CSV majority in the Council of Aldermen, thus setting the course for the development of our municipality.

The almost magical figure of 10,000 inhabitants was exceeded in 2022, so that the number of seats in the municipal council will also increase from 13 to 15 and a third Alderman will complete the council. In view of the growing tasks and the multitude of projects, this is certainly an important step, but it also requires a different internal organisation. The CSV Mersch is ready to face all challenges with its competent and motivated team and to continue to assume great political responsibility.

You will not find empty phrases and unrealistic promises in our programme, nor attacks on political opponents. In the past years, the Mersch municipal council has always treated each other with respect and cooperation, and the CSV Mersch will continue to do so in the years to come.
The CSV Mersch stand for less conversation and more action.

We will not list in this programme all the initiatives, syndicates, agreements, projects, financial aid or commitments that are now part of the vita of our community. All this will be continued, adapted where necessary and improved where possible for the benefit of the citizens or the common good. We have also abstained from the much-discussed „gendering“ in this programme, meaning all people who live in our community, regardless of their gender. **Because for the CSV everybody matters.**

For all that is already planned or that we would like to implement, we naturally need the financial means. The low debt burden of the municipality and the prudent planning of the past years allow us to now tackle these projects with determination. **With your support we are shaping the municipality of tomorrow.**

For a socially just commune. Together we are all Mersch.

The CSV Mersch is committed to **all the people** in our community. Nationality, origin, skin colour, age, gender, and sexual orientation play just as little a role as religious affiliation or the rejection of any religious belief. We stand by the values that make good coexistence possible and strictly reject any discrimination.



Successful integration can be recognised by the fact that people of other origins find their place in the existing social, cultural, and political structures. **A common language** often lays the foundation for such integration. For this reason, in addition to the existing range of Luxembourgish courses and other initiatives, a cultural interaction based on the model of the **Sprooche Café** (Café for languages) will be created, where people can meet and discuss informally and make new contacts. Events with board games and a regular **repair café** are also to take place here. This will be built in a central location and thus become a natural meeting place for everyone and contribute to the further revitalisation of the town centre.

This project should also become **the nucleus of intercultural and intergenerational understanding**, offering workshops, discussion fora and game evenings, while being managed in a non-profit-oriented manner.



People with special needs rightly expect their community to provide them with **barrier-free access** to all public buildings and walkways. We will also push for the redesign of all pedestrian crossings according to the requirements for **people with limited mobility as well as visual impairments**. When redesigning and rebuilding public space, those affected, or their interest groups must be involved in the **project planning** at an early stage; the acquired knowledge of architects or planners can never make up for the everyday experiences of people with limited mobility or with visual impairments.



The **Mierscher Kulturhaus** will celebrate its 20th anniversary next year. The diverse cultural programme should be regularly adapted to today's needs and wishes, in consultation with Mersch's cultural workers and interested citizens. We see culture as a link in society and we will continue to support the **socially inclusive programme**.



Security - Act now before it's too late.

As a small town, Mersch is increasingly confronted with problems such as crime and drug trafficking. Since the creation of the service de proximité (proximity service) with our municipal agents, not only has the **parking situation** in the centre of Mersch been improved, but also several environmental offences such as the **illegal disposal of rubbish** have been punished or reported to the public prosecutor's office. Through their regular presence, even after dark at known meeting points, our officers were often able to successfully disrupt **illegal activities** or report them to the police.

We will continue our efforts of the last few years to show petty criminals, drug dealers and vandals their limits, and we will lobby at the highest level to ensure that there are **enough police officers** on duty in Mersch day and night to enforce **law and order**. As a municipality, we will exhaust all necessary personnel, structural and technical possibilities to ensure the greatest possible **security** for the residents.

Homelessness, beggary, and **growing social needs** are a reality to which we must not close our eyes, and which requires **help from the municipality**.





This also includes **social support** for people who are on the margins of society and young people who have not yet discovered the right path for themselves. Social workers, street workers, youth centres, meaningful leisure activities, **contact points for people in need** and **affordable housing** for low-income earners but also for young people who cannot stay in their parents' home are of enormous importance to us. They need a municipal coordination office and the necessary financial resources.

The good life in Mersch.

And the afterlife?

A lot has happened in Mersch in the last few years, and we are **proud to be part** of this development. However, we also see **the great challenges for the future**, which we face positively together with our experience but also with the knowledge of the stakeholders concerned for the benefit of all people living and working in Mersch.



The **municipal administration** is a **service provider** that must be organised taking into account the citizens' needs. The manifold and constantly growing tasks also require a corresponding **growth in the number of employees**. All departments should be staffed in such a way that in the event of the prolonged or sudden absence of an employee, normal operations can be guaranteed without a hitch. We will consult the citizens about their requirements and, in consultation with the staff, adjust the **opening hours of the City Hall** but also the **digital availability of information** or the offer of electronic procedures if necessary.

The municipality of Mersch offers a variety of **financial aid and subsidies**. We will summarise these clearly and make this information more easily accessible digitally.



To guarantee **medical care** for our citizens, we see the need for a project such as the municipality-owned *centre médical* (medical centre) in Mersch, which is rented to several medical practitioners, also at another location. We will also accompany corresponding private-sector initiatives sympathetically.



Mersch will receive a **forest cemetery**, at least that was the wish when the purchase of a plot of land was approved by the municipal council. Until now, environmental regulations had always prevented such a project, so hopefully our municipality will soon be able to offer its citizens this possibility. We will discuss with the citizens in a **workshop** how the design of the forest cemetery but also of the other cemeteries in our municipality can best meet their ideas. **Adequate scattering meadows**, special places for **angel babies**, **alternative burial sites**, non-denominational or cross-denominational burial options should also be addressed here.

Keeping dogs in a species-appropriate manner also means letting them run free. In order to avoid conflicts between walkers, cyclists, free-roaming dogs and their humans, we will therefore create extensive **fenced-in exercise areas outside** the Merscher Park in all villages, if possible.



Various municipalities are currently examining the possibility of setting up a **pet cemetery**, and we do not want to close ourselves off to this discussion if necessary.

Environmental protection in concrete terms.

Light pollution has been an issue for many years, as it has been proven to have a negative impact on people and nature. The **switch to LED**, partial night-time lowering, and many other technical solutions make it possible to come closer to the reduction target without compromising the comfort or sense of safety of citizens. We are committed to continuing to reduce light pollution, this with the help of an external or, if necessary, internal consultant.



We will make better **use of rainwater or grey water**, especially in industrial, commercial school and other large-scale projects, while for private developers, **financial support** will be substantially increased to provide the necessary incentive not to waste **precious drinking water** on flushing toilets or watering gardens.

With the expansion of the industrial zone and the emergence of the sports campus on Merscherberg, a **shuttle bus** will become indispensable to establish the necessary connection with the Mersch railway station and other points of interest and thus reduce private transport.

The European development to the detriment of the combustion engine will increase the number of **electric cars** within a very short period of time. With the current charging stations and charging times of several hours, it is not possible to meet the growing demand, which is why the municipality will also invest in **Superchargers** at strategic locations and a variety of other charging options.

The municipality's own **vehicle fleet** will be adapted more quickly to the new reality.



The Environment Day for primary school children, once introduced under the CSV majority in the Council of Aldermen, will be organised again and extended, in consultation with all school partners. The purpose of the Environment Day is not so much to teach the children as to create incentives for self-reflection and the development of ideas about the environment and to promote their ecological conscience.



The great popularity of the **community garden** shows the need to expand the offer and to give due attention to initiatives such as **urban gardening**. Locally or regionally produced fruit and vegetables are not only a benefit for biodiversity, but also secure the supply of food to the citizens.



Increased use is being made of **flower meadows**, near-natural pathway landscaping with native flowering plants and late mowing on communal properties to restore habitats for biodiversity and insects.



In the *rue des Romains* and the *rue du Comte d'Autel* in Mersch, the project of **tree sponsorship** is being implemented on a large scale for the first time in the municipality. We will extend this to all the streets in question to give the citizens the opportunity to design and maintain the tree islands in front of their front door or in their street with care and closeness to nature.

Climate change concerns all of us.

Nous allons tout d'abord confier au **service écologique** de la commune l'élaboration d'un **concept de changement climatique** et la mise en œuvre des tâches et des actions nécessaires qui en découlent. Vu l'importance des tâches de ce service, il jouera **un rôle encore plus central** dans l'élaboration de tous les projets et dans la conception de l'avenir. Si nécessaire, il sera encore renforcé afin de pouvoir faire face aux missions actuelles et futures.



In addition to the constant fight against **climate change**, we must also devote more attention to **adapting** to its consequences, such as the increased occurrence of extreme weather conditions, for example through **greening of public spaces**, sun protection and **roofing** on playgrounds, schoolyards and bus stops, as well as making the building regulations more flexible in order to make it easier for citizens and businesses to cover their terraces, build pergolas or other weather protection on their property.

Flood protection must be constantly adapted to the structural changes in the affected areas of the municipality. The municipality's own **protection and emergency resources** must be kept in stock in consultation with the CGDIS and adapted to the current conditions and risks as well as the increasing population. We will install **electronic information boards** in the affected areas to alert residents and visitors in several languages to the threat of flooding. We do not trust the reliability of information via text message or other technical solutions touted by the Ministry of the Interior, which will hardly reach citizens in their sleep. In case of acute danger, municipal vehicles equipped with loudspeakers, as well as those of the CGDIS, should warn residents.

We say yes to sustainable energy.

The **energy crisis** has shown us all how important it is to quickly switch to renewable energy. We will increase the pressure on all stakeholders to achieve the following goals:

- **Conversion** of at least 90% of the municipality's lighting **to LED** within the next 5 years.
- **Photovoltaic (PV) systems** on all municipal buildings that allow this statically and make sense in terms of efficiency; in view of the increased energy prices, a renewed examination of all surfaces is urgently needed.
- **Covering** car parks or unused open spaces with PV systems where possible and permitted.
- **Convert** municipal buildings currently heated with gas or oil **to renewable energies**.
- **Sensor-controlled lighting of pedestrian paths**, e.g. from Mersch to Rollingen along the railway.
- **Support private and public initiatives** that invest in or promote renewable energy and energy-saving measures.



Housing must not be a luxury.

The housing crisis is currently **one of the greatest challenges** of our time. Never has the foundation for so much **affordable or social housing** been laid in Mersch as under the CSV majority in the Council of Aldermen in the first two years of the current legislative period. Skilful negotiations, knowledge of housing, perseverance, and courage to take decisions are the foundations for this success. We will continue along this path and, where the legal basis exists, claim or acquire the possible surface for social or affordable housing in all major projects.

As a member of the Gutt Wunnen a.s.b.l. initiative, the creation of **affordable housing** will remain a **priority** for the municipality. As the municipality has already mobilised almost all its **own land reserves** in the last 12 years, we will advocate for the purchase of land that allows for medium- and long-term development for the common good, as well as for the renting and purchase of existing housing to make it available to financially disadvantaged fellow citizens at a lower price.

We are generally positive about alternative forms of housing such as **tiny houses** or the temporary mobilisation of living space.



Manage traffic to prevent asphyxiation.

The Mersch urban area has been declared a CDA (Center for Development and Attraction) by the State, which is tantamount to growth imposed by state planning. The fact that traffic in Mersch, just like in the whole country, has increased considerably in recent years is experienced by all of us on a daily basis. This makes it even more important to take the necessary steps, at least at the municipal level, where this is possible:

- **Introduction of the parking vignette** with free use of the parking spaces in the areas regulated by parking meters for the maximum duration indicated.
- Construction of an above-ground **car park** in the centre of Mersch.
- **Traffic** calming in the villages and residential areas.
- Continuation and improvement of the **Flexibus** service, if necessary, together with interested neighbouring municipalities.
- Expansion and maintenance of **cycle paths and footpaths**.
- Distinguish between functional and recreational cycle paths, where possible with a separate area for pedestrians to ensure the greatest possible **safety**.
- Use of **special buses** during major events in Mersch such as National Day, Christmas Market, Braderie, etc.
- **Monitoring** of the traffic volume by the municipality-owned vehicles and, if necessary, optimisation through technical solutions.



An analysis of the bus stops owned by the municipality regarding safety, comfort and adaptation for people with physical disabilities is absolutely necessary.

We would like to implement speed reduction, electronic warning signs and speed measurement, narrowing of local entrances and many other measures more strongly than has been possible so far.

Let's party like rockstars.

The aim of revitalising **Méchelsplaz** has been achieved through a diverse range of offers, and the opening of the Brasserie has of course also contributed to this.

However, the current layout of *Méchelsplaz* has its limits when it comes to larger events; various adaptations will provide more space and safety without compromising the charm or greenery.



Unfortunately, due to strict environmental regulations, the park is not suitable for regular large-scale events, so CSV Mersch is in favour of redesigning the **Schlasspesch car park**, including the football pitch, into an **adaptive space** once it has been removed, allowing it to retain a reasonable number of parking spaces while still having enough space for activities of all kinds. A sports field, partially covered pétanque courts, a bar, tall trees, a permanently installed stage with seating all around and much more should provide for life and quality of living in the centre. After the devastating floods of 2021, we no longer envisage a development such as that envisaged in the concept *E neit Gesiicht fir den Zentrum vu Miersch*. However, we would like to implement all elements that provide for a **direct and harmonious connection to the park** as soon as possible.





Mersch needs a **festival** with music for all ages and musical genres. With *Mir si Miersch* there was a very good approach in 2022, which we will refine and revive together with the organisers, and all interested parties.

The rooms in the *Kulturhaus* that will be freed up after football is moved out will be converted into **rehearsal rooms for local musicians and studios for artists**.



Celebrating or simply enjoying the wonderful outdoors in our community is possible in many places in our community. However, where people spend hours, human needs are also performed. We will ensure better hygiene, more discretion and the protection of flora and fauna through **bio-toilets** or mobile solutions.

Our children and our youth are our future.

Despite the construction of two **Maison Relais**, the rapid growth of our community, the rapid fundamental change in society and national political decisions have not yet allowed us to meet the great demand for children from the **éducation précoce**.

Therefore, another *Maison Relais* is to be built at the same time as the **new primary school** not far from the *Rives de l'Alzette*. However, the CSV Mersch also stands for **decentralised solutions** in the various localities of the municipality, both in existing buildings and on land that the municipality can acquire to build such **small structures**. These should be reserved primarily for the children of the *précoce*.



We also see one or more **nature or forest day-care centres** as good, decentralised solutions to be able to react more quickly to the rapidly growing demand.

We also want to expand the offer of the **Pédibus**, consider the creation of a **Vélobus**, and continue the expansion of the „**séchère Schoulwee**“, thus enabling the children to have an accompanied, safe and resource-saving way to school.

For us, our school's **Forscherhaus** (science house) is an indispensable building block for the practical experience of theoretical learning. We will continue to promote it, if necessary, expand it.



The free music lessons have drastically increased the enrolments so far; if this rush continues, we will find a new, **more central solution for the music school**. The old school in Reckange could then serve as a Maison Relais or day-care center, for example.



We see a **children's and youth community council** as indispensable for political education. More courage and far-sightedness are needed here; the CSV Mersch continues to stand by this demand.



The **youth commission** should be expanded by 2 young people so that they can directly contribute their ideas themselves.

Since the development of the sports campus has been considerably slowed down by more and more new requirements, we will finally build a skate park for the young people in the centre of Mersch; we would like to use the preliminary work done by a young citizen in the context of a school project as a starting point for this and determine the best possible location in dialogue with youth.



Together with **Fit Kanner Miersch** and the interested associations, we would like to offer initiatives such as parents and kids walk, parents and kids bike and parents and kids play in Mersch Park.

In addition to the many existing and planned playgrounds, we advocate for an **adventure playground** that is planned and implemented together with the children.



To give children and young people an understanding of the **valuable role of agriculture** in the production of healthy food and the maintenance of the landscape, we will initiate joint projects with the schools, the *Maison Relais*, the youth centre and the respective advisory commissions.



Senior citizens - we owe them what we have today.

The older generation has enormous **potential in terms of experience and knowledge**, so it is imperative to promote **interaction** with the younger generation at all levels and involve senior citizens in the formulation of projects through the advisory committee and other stakeholders.

By joining the **Uelzechtdall Club** in conjunction with the good work of the local **Amiperas** section, there is a wide range of activities for senior citizens of all ages in our community. The necessary resources and facilities will continue to be made available and adapted to meet demand when necessary.

The great success of the **annual senior citizens' party** is a confirmation that this event contributes to the enjoyment of life of the senior citizens and counteracts loneliness. Together with the aforementioned partners, we will devote more attention to this social aspect.



For years, we have had an agreement with the Forum pour l'Emploi so that senior citizens and people with special needs can benefit from a range of **services at advantageous conditions**. We will adapt this offer where necessary and, above all, regularly update the information about it and send it to all interested parties.



Every important communication from the municipality will be made easily readable in Luxembourgish, German and French, digitally and in print.

The municipality will continue to invest in the infrastructures of local or regional providers of **rooms in senior structures** so that our citizens can be cared for as quickly as possible when needed.

Clubs and associations are the engine of society.

While it was already difficult for many **associations** to find new members, the situation has become much worse due to the pandemic. Association work is a **service to society** but also an enrichment for one's own life. We stand by our clubs and will give priority to:

- Creating a ***coordonateur sportif*** (sports coordinator).
- Expanding the offer of the ***nuit des sports*** (sports night).
- Creation of a ***journée des associations*** (day for associations).
- Reform of the **Festival Committee** with better integration of all interested associations.
- Free monthly distribution of the new ***Mierscher Veräinsnoriichten*** (Club news in Mersch) by post so that all households are informed at the same time.
- Updating and regular adjustment of the **subsidies**.
- **Free use of the communal infrastructures** by the active associations.
- **Digital reservation** of all community halls and rooms.
- Purchase of a **dishwashing container** and all necessary reusable material for the clubs in view of the national ban on all disposable crockery from 2025.
- Acquisition of one or more **bar trolleys** or drafting of an agreement with a private supplier in order to achieve more favourable prices for clubs in Mersch.

The clubs should have the possibility to update **their information on the website of the municipality** regularly themselves via an interface, if necessary, and thus be visible and easily accessible for potential new members. Interaction with municipality services such as enquiries, **reservations**, subsidy applications, etc. can also be **digitised**.

The expansion of the **digital locking system** of the municipality buildings will be accelerated so that association officers can more easily access the premises that are not permanently assigned to them.



www.sports.public.lu



Working and shopping in Mersch.

Online retailing is making it increasingly difficult for smaller shops to survive, especially in the centre of Mersch, where many establishments have only small sales areas and can therefore hardly operate profitably.

The new attractiveness of the rue Grande-Duchesse Charlotte, which will become a **shared space** in the medium term, should gradually attract other business operators. If the opportunity arises to acquire such commercial space, the municipality should make it available to **pop-up stores, start-ups or artisans at favourable rates** for a limited period of time in order to promote dynamic development.

In the centre of Mersch, we want the newly created **City Management** to move into one of the recently acquired commercial buildings. Here, the marketing of our municipality as a **tourist and business centre** as well as the animation in the community will be coordinated, planned, and implemented. At the same time, the premises will serve as a year-round tourist information centre and sales area for souvenirs, local and regional products as well as a ticketing office.

A digital platform provided by the municipality for all business operators is to clearly present the diverse range of trade, crafts, tourism, bars and restaurants, and service providers in our municipality and attract potential customers.

The adjustment of **the municipal business tax to the level of the capital and its neighbouring municipalities** should continue to make Mersch attractive for medium-sized businesses and thus secure existing jobs in Mersch and create more. Businesses in Mersch must not be at a locational disadvantage.



Why vote for the CSV Mersch ?

This ambitious programme, which was developed by the candidates of the CSV Mersch, together with experts and members, can only be implemented if you strengthen the CSV on 11 June 2023.

We therefore ask you to support the candidates of the CSV with all your votes. In doing so, you are choosing a realistic concept for the development and future of our municipality.

We have proven in the past years that we are willing and able to work for the well-being of our fellow citizens on a daily basis, and with our competence team we are ready to take on political responsibility for shaping the future of our municipality.

Thank you for your trust



Support your community

Become a member of CSV Mersch or encourage our work by a donation.

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LIST
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MÉI NO. **MÉI MIERSCH.**



Election meetings

May 15th in Reckange (old school)

May 23rd in Moesdorf (*Veräinsbau*)

May 25th in Schoenfels (old school)

May 30th in Beringen (old school)

June 2nd in Rollingen
(*Pompjeesbau*)

June 8th in Mersch



(french translation)

(sports hall *Krounebiërg*)

Always at 19h00

Meet our candidates online:



AFTERWORK with Luc FRIEDEN

and our candidates

June 6th from 18h00 to 20h00

at Restaurant *Beim Alen Tuurm*