

## Press release

### A national standard providing for a uniform method of calculating the living space of housing (15.3.2016)

In order to harmonise the rules governing the calculation of the living area of housing in Luxembourg, the Luxembourg Institute for Standardisation, Accreditation, Safety and Quality of Products and Services (ILNAS) has established a standard for measuring the surface area of housing, whether individually occupied or located within a building in multiple occupation, and whether new or old.

The new standard is intended to address the issue of the absence of consensus between promoters, purchasers, notaries and other players in the sector regarding the criteria used to determine the "living area". It is limited to residential housing, and provides a means whereby professionals and consumers can speak the same language. Thanks to its easily understood method of calculation, it also facilitates an objective comparison between different buildings.

It constitutes the first national standard drawn up in Luxembourg in the field of construction, and determines the way in which the living area of housing is to be measured and reflected, in particular where the housing in question is an apartment situated in an attic or an apartment with a balcony.

As an administrative body under the supervision of the Minister of the Economy, ILNAS is tasked inter alia with identifying the need for new national standards, and has coordinated, together with the socio-economic actors concerned, the work needed to draw up the standard relating to the living area of housing.

This represents a significant step forward for standardisation in Luxembourg, inasmuch as it is the first time that a Luxembourg standard has been drawn up at national level by ILNAS, in consultation with experts in the field concerned. It does not, therefore, simply involve the transposition of an European standard at national level.

The reference to this Luxembourgish standard has been published in the [Mémorial](#), with a view to its being granted the status of a national standard.

The standard on living areas is known as "ILNAS 101", and is available free of charge via the "Quality" portal (<http://goo.gl/mbySOR>) and from the ILNAS e-shop (<https://goo.gl/zmDLVW>).

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