Luxembourg, 27 July 2026

PRESS RELEASE

Financial abuse: BGL BNP Paribas helps to give victims long-term financial independence

Financial abuse, which consists of controlling, limiting or removing an individual's financial resources so as to exert control over them, can be the first sign of other forms of abuse.

In Luxembourg, known incidents have increased 27.5 times in 10 years, rising from 16 reported cases in 2015 to 440 in 2025[1]. This shows the importance not only of preventing and detecting situations that may be inconspicuous and overlooked, but of providing support when they arise.

Often on the front line, bank advisers have a key role in identifying vulnerability and directing those affected towards appropriate solutions.

BGL BNP Paribas believes that the bank has a part to play in this process and has deployed a series of measures to raise awareness, train staff and help victims rediscover the financial autonomy they need to break the cycle of dependence.

This initiative is part of a broader approach that BGL BNP Paribas has been taking for several years to promote inclusion, equality and protection for vulnerable individuals.

A key role for bank advisers: identifying and guiding

In order to offer support that is adapted to the reality faced by victims, BGL BNP Paribas has developed a wide set of measures in collaboration with several Luxembourg charities, confirming the importance of a collective response to financial abuse.

In 2025, the bank launched an awareness and training programme for its staff – especially advisers across its network of branches. The aim is to provide them with a better understanding of how financial abuse works, teach them how to spot the warning signs, and explain the stance to be taken when meeting, listening to and guiding those concerned.

BGL BNP Paribas took a further step in 2026: not only are advisers trained in the matter, but they now have access to a network of internal ambassadors tasked with sharing best practice among teams.

Several hundred employees have already received such training.

The bank is also continuing its work with Luxembourg charities to develop its approach and ensure ever-more-appropriate support for the victims of financial abuse.

[1] Source: Gender Equality Observatory, Ministry for Gender Equality and Diversity

Practical solutions to promote financial independence

Beyond raising awareness, BGL BNP Paribas is introducing practical measures to help victims regain their financial independence. This means facilitating access to the bank and removing barriers that could discourage or demoralise individuals who want to end their financial dependence.

The bank offers a simplified opening process for an account that is free for one year, issues a debit card, provides access to all online services, offers a reduced-rate overdraft facility and guarantees all rental payments. This helps victims of financial abuse to quickly regain access to a bank account, means of payment and housing so that they can overcome financial dependence and start rebuilding their lives more comfortably. Terms of eligibility are available on request from an adviser or on the bank's website.

The bank also posts information resources on its website to explain how financial abuse works, help identify cases, and direct those affected towards the relevant support structures.

A trusted partner, even during difficult times

This initiative reflects BGL BNP Paribas's commitment to being a trusted partner at every stage of its clients' lives. The goal is to end the silence around financial abuse, raise public awareness and facilitate access to existing forms of support, in collaboration with charitable and institutional partners.

> *"Financial abuse, which is often invisible, needs everyone to get involved. As a responsible bank, we want to work alongside victims, charities and institutions. By developing these measures, we are providing a firm response while changing the perspective of a reality that is often overlooked. This approach is part of our bank's ethos: to be a trusted partner, even during the worst hardships",* **Nicolas Otton, Chair of the BGL BNP Paribas Executive Committee and Head of the BNP Paribas Group in Luxembourg.**

A long-term commitment

These measures targeting financial abuse are part of a wider approach that BGL BNP Paribas has been taking for several years to promote gender equality and combat violence against women.

At Orange Week 2025, the bank joined forces with Stand Speak Rise UP! and Opera for Peace at several awareness-raising events, including a screening of the film *Muganga*, a Simply Survivors exhibition and an evening hearing about the experiences and resilience of victims of sexual violence as a weapon of war.

These initiatives reflect the same determination: inform, alert and act on gender-based violence.

By expanding its action against financial abuse, BGL BNP Paribas furthers this commitment and reaffirms its desire to work alongside charities and institutions in fostering independence for victims and contributing towards a more inclusive society.

Need help?

Individuals who are the victims of abuse or witnesses to scenes of abuse, or who want to support a loved one, can find information, details of specialist charities, and emergency numbers on the following web portal: https://violence.lu/en
BGL BNP Paribas also provides information resources on its website to give a better understanding, and to increase prevention of financial abuse: https://www.bgl.lu/en/individuals/blog/life-plans.html

About BGL BNP Paribas

BGL BNP Paribas (www.bgl.lu) is one of the largest banks in Luxembourg and part of the BNP Paribas Group. It offers an especially wide range of financial products and bancassurance solutions to individuals, professionals, businesses, and private banking clients. At end 2025, BGL BNP Paribas employed 2,083 people in Luxembourg.
In 2025, BGL BNP Paribas was named Best Bank in Luxembourg by Euromoney.

About BNP Paribas

Leader in banking and financial services in Europe, BNP Paribas operates in 64 countries and territories with more than 180,000 employees, including more than 146,000 in Europe. The Group's activities are structured by three operating divisions: Commercial, Personal Banking & Services covering commercial & personal banking entities and specialised businesses; Investment & Protection Services for savings, investment and protection solutions; and Corporate & Institutional Banking, a bridge between corporate and institutional clients. Based on its strong diversified and integrated model, the Group accompanies all its clients (individuals, entrepreneurs, SMEs, corporates and institutional clients) through solutions spanning financing, investment, savings and insurance. The Group has a historic footprint in four eurozone markets: France, Italy, Belgium and Luxembourg. As a key player in international banking, the Group has leading platforms and business lines in Europe, a strong presence in the Americas as well as a solid and fast-growing business in Asia-Pacific. BNP Paribas implements a Social and Environmental Responsibility approach across all its activities, enabling it to contribute to building a sustainable future while ensuring the Group's performance and stability.

Press contacts:

Emmanuelle Humann	+352 42 42-26 41	emmanuelle.humann@bgl.lu
Cyrielle Piezanowski	+352 42 42-28 48	cyrielle.piezanowski@bgl.lu