

Fondation Alphonse Weicker

Luxembourg, 16 December 2016

PRESS RELEASE

Lecture by Guy Verhofstadt “Europe’s Disease”

On Thursday 15 December 2016, the Alphonse Weicker Foundation invited to a lecture entitled “Europe’s Disease” and given by Guy Verhofstadt, author of the recent book with the same title.

Guy Verhofstadt served as Prime Minister of Belgium for nine years, from 1999 to 2008. He has been a member of the European Parliament since 2009, leads the parliamentary group “Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe” (ALDE) and has been appointed as the European Parliament’s Brexit negotiator.

Guy Verhofstadt talked to the audience about his vision of Europe, one that does not consist in building a super-European state but instead in taking a decisive step towards a more efficient and democratic Europe. In his analysis of the downward spiral of the European project – once so ambitious and now an institutional quagmire – the author of “Europe’s Disease” takes no prisoners. He champions the heritage of the founding fathers of the Union and proposes a rejuvenation of the forgotten European Constitution, drafted in 1953.

Commenting, Kik Schneider, Chairman of the Alphonse Weicker Foundation, said: “The organisation of specialist conferences on topical themes is a central element in the work of our foundation. We are therefore particularly pleased to once again welcome to Luxembourg an exceptional public speaker in the person of Guy Verhofstadt. In today’s world, marked by latent pessimism on the future of Europe and a tenacious and potentially destructive wave of political populism, opportunism, terrorism and organised crime, Guy Verhofstadt shares with us his point of view on a revitalised, unanimous and more secure European Union.”

The Alphonse Weicker Foundation

Established in 1989 and chaired by Kik Schneider, a member of the Management Board of BGL BNP Paribas, the Alphonse Weicker Foundation promotes scientific research in Luxembourg. It organises specialist conferences and seminars and provides support for research in fields such as biomolecular science, health, information technology, politics, sociology and art history. Named after Alphonse Weicker, one of bank’s founders and later its Chairman, the Foundation is an invaluable resource for BGL BNP Paribas, allowing it to pursue the central role it has played in the economic and social development of Luxembourg since 1919.

Press contacts:

Eliane Thines

+352 42 42-62 64

eliane.thines@bgl.lu

Corinne Thill

+352 42 42-30 85

corinne.thill@bgl.lu