Commission de Surveillance
du Secteur Financier

# CSSF Regulation No 26-03

# CSSF Regulation No 26-03 of 30 September 2026

## on the setting of the countercyclical buffer rate for the fourth quarter of 2026

**(Mém. A 2026, No 482)**

*The Executive Board of the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier,*

Having regard to Article 129(2) of the Constitution;

Having regard to the Law of 23 December 1998 establishing a financial sector supervisory commission ("Commission de surveillance du secteur financier"), and in particular Article 9(2) thereof;

Having regard to the Law of 5 April 1993 on the financial sector, and in particular Article 59-7 thereof, pursuant to which the CSSF as the designated authority shall, after consulting with the Banque centrale du Luxembourg and by taking into account the recommendations of the Systemic Risk Committee (Comité du risque systémique), be responsible for setting the countercyclical buffer rate applicable in Luxembourg;

Having regard to the Recommendation of the Systemic Risk Committee (CRS/2026/003) of 8 June 2026 on the setting of a countercyclical buffer rate for the third quarter of 2026;

Having regard to the decision of the ECB, adopted pursuant to Article 5 of Council Regulation (EU) No 1024/2013 of 15 October 2013 conferring specific tasks on the European Central Bank concerning policies relating to the prudential supervision of credit institutions ("SSM Regulation"), not to object to the CSSF's intention to take the macroprudential measures set out in this regulation;

Having regard to the opinion of the Consultative Committee for Prudential Regulation;

*Decides:*

### Article 1
### Applicable countercyclical buffer rate

The countercyclical buffer rate applicable to the relevant exposures located in Luxembourg shall remain at 0.50% for the fourth quarter of 2026.

### Article 2
### Entry into force

This regulation shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the Journal officiel du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg.

**Article 3**
**Publication**

This regulation shall be published in the Journal officiel du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg and on the website of the Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier.

Luxembourg, 30 September 2026

**Commission de Surveillance du Secteur Financier**

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|---|---|---|
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| **Jean-Pierre FABER**<br>Director | **Claude MARX**<br>Director General | |

Annex: Recommendation of the Systemic Risk Committee of 7 September 2026 on the setting of a countercyclical buffer rate for the fourth quarter of 2026 (CRS/2026/005)

**Annex:**

**RECOMMENDATION OF THE SYSTEMIC RISK COMMITTEE**
**of 7 September 2026**
**on the setting of a countercyclical buffer rate for the fourth quarter of 2026**
**(CRS/2026/005)**

THE SYSTEMIC RISK COMMITTEE,

Having regard to Directive 2013/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 on access to the activity of credit institutions and the prudential supervision of credit institutions, amending Directive 2002/87/EC and repealing Directives 2006/48/EC and 2006/49/EC, and Article 130 thereof on the requirement to maintain an institution-specific countercyclical capital buffer et seq.;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 1024/2013 of 15 October 2013 conferring specific tasks on the European Central Bank concerning policies relating to the prudential supervision of credit institutions, and in particular Article 5 thereof (hereinafter "SSM Regulation");

Having regard to the Law of 5 April 1993 on the financial sector, and in particular Articles 59-1, 59-2, 59-5, 59-6 and 59-7 thereof (hereinafter "Law of 5 April 1993");

Having regard to CSSF Regulation No 15-01 on the calculation of institution-specific countercyclical capital buffer rates;

Having regard to CSSF Regulation No 15-04 on the setting of a countercyclical buffer rate;

Having regard to CSSF Regulation No 15-05 on the exemption of investment firms qualifying as small and medium-sized enterprises from the requirements to maintain a countercyclical capital buffer and a capital conservation buffer;

Having regard to the Law of 1 April 2015 establishing a Systemic Risk Committee and amending the Law of 23 December 1998 concerning the monetary status and the Banque centrale du Luxembourg, as amended, and in particular Article 2(e) and Article 7 thereof;

Having regard to the internal rules of the Systemic Risk Committee of 16 November 2015, and in particular Articles 9, 11 and 12 thereof;

Having regard to the Recommendation of the European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB) of 18 June 2014 on guidance for setting countercyclical buffer rates;

Having regard to the Recommendation of the European Systemic Risk Board of 4 April 2013 on intermediate objectives and instruments of macro-prudential policy;

Whereas the Systemic Risk Committee assesses the appropriate countercyclical buffer rate for Luxembourg in accordance with Article 59-7(3) of the Law of 5 April 1993;

HAS ADOPTED THIS RECOMMENDATION:

## Part 1 Recommendation on the setting of the countercyclical buffer rate

### Recommendation A: Calibration of the countercyclical buffer rate

In accordance with Article 59-7(3) of the Law of 5 April 1993, the Systemic Risk Committee recommends that the designated authority maintain the countercyclical capital buffer rate at 0.5% of Luxembourg risk-weighted assets. In line with Recommendation CRS/2019/008, this rate applies since 1 January 2021.

### Recommendation B: Notifications

The Systemic Risk Committee invites the designated authority to make, where applicable, the notifications under Article 59-7(7) of the Law of 5 April 1993, as well as Article 5(1) of the SSM Regulation.

## Part 2 Implementation of the recommendation

**1. Interpretation**

(a) The terms used in this recommendation have the same meaning as in the Law of 5 April 1993.

(b) The Annex is an integral part of this recommendation.

**2. Follow-up**

1) The Systemic Risk Committee invites the CSSF as addressee of this recommendation to communicate, as soon as possible, its follow-up to this recommendation to the Systemic Risk Committee via the secretariat.

2) The Systemic Risk Committee invites the secretariat of the Committee to publish this recommendation on the website of the Systemic Risk Committee.

**3. Monitoring and assessment**

1) The secretariat of the Systemic Risk Committee:

(a) assists the CSSF in order to facilitate the implementation of the recommendation; and

(b) prepares a report on the follow-up to this recommendation and informs the Systemic Risk Committee thereof.

2) The Systemic Risk Committee assesses and follows up on the responses of the CSSF to this recommendation.

Done in Luxembourg, 7 September 2026.

*For the Systemic Risk Committee*

Gilles Roth

*Chairman*

**Annex - Setting of the countercyclical buffer rate**

The purpose of the countercyclical capital buffer is to counteract the pro-cyclical developments in credit markets. By reinforcing the requirements of own funds during periods of excessive credit growth, associated with an escalation of system-wide risks, the countercyclical capital buffer contributes to absorb losses in times of stress while allowing credit institutions to continue granting credit to the economy.

In accordance with Recommendation ESRB/2014/1, the setting of the countercyclical buffer rate by macroprudential authorities follows the principle of "guided discretion". According to this principle, authorities responsible for setting the buffer rate combine a rules-based approach with the exercise of their discretionary powers when deciding on the appropriate buffer rate.

- Recommendation ESRB/2014/1 specifies the methodological base for the assessment of the countercyclical buffer rate to be associated with the degree of financial intermediation in the economy, measured by the credit-to-GDP ratio.
- The above-mentioned recommendation also lays down that, given the dynamic nature of financial systems and the specificities of national economies, the macroprudential authorities should take into account, in their decision-making, additional indicators that signal the build-up of system-wide risk associated with periods of excessive credit growth.

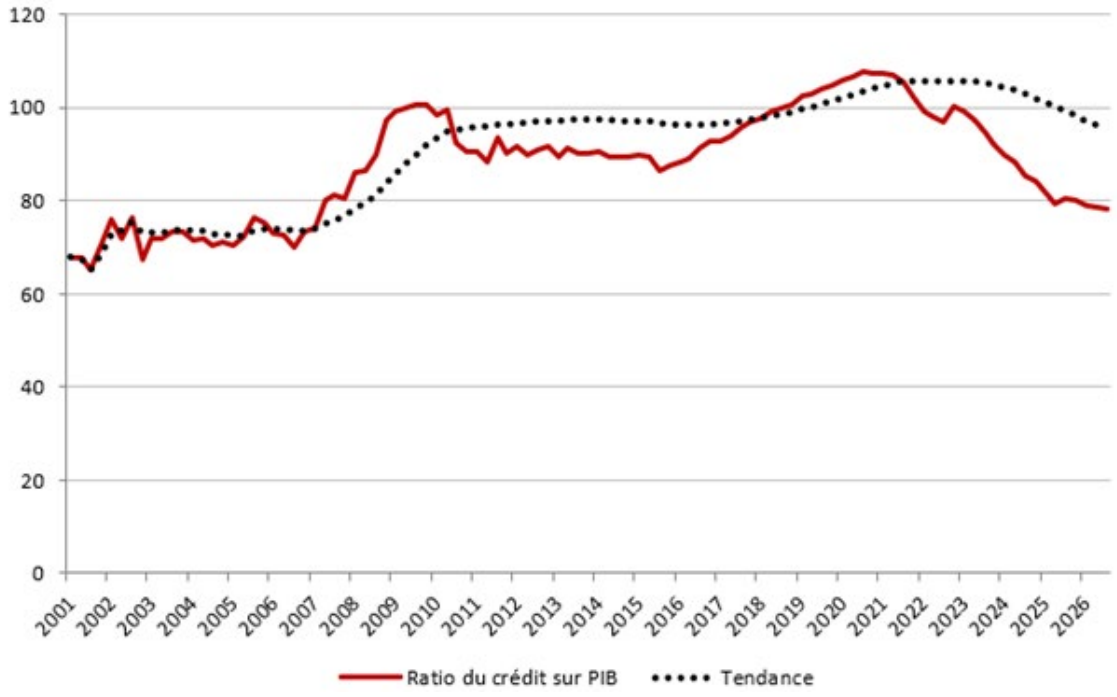
Following the application of the above-mentioned methodology to the most recent quarterly data, the credit-to-GDP ratio, based on banking loans granted to households and non-financial undertakings in Luxembourg, is estimated at 78.1% in the second quarter of 2026 (Graph 1). The deviation of the credit-to-GDP ratio from its long-term trend is negative and is estimated at -17.2% (Graph 2), below the 2% activation threshold. The countercyclical buffer guide calculated according to Recommendation ESRB/2014/1 is thus set at 0% (Graph 2).

However, additional analyses of cyclical risk assessments carried out by the BCL and the CSSF, based notably on early warning measures and indicators provided for in Recommendation ESRB/2014/1 of 18 June 2014, indicate the need to keep the CCyB rate unchanged.

In a context of economic and geopolitical uncertainty, it is important to have sufficient capital buffer to absorb possible adverse shocks that could be amplified, particularly if they impacted the income available to households or the borrowers' repayment capacity.

Consequently, maintaining the CCyB rate at 0.5% of Luxembourg risk-weighted assets helps to preserve the credit institutions' own funds and to strengthen their resilience against a possible materialisation of risks.

**Graph 1: Banking credit-to-GDP ratio (%) and its HP filter trend (only in French)**




**Graph 2: Credit-to-GDP gap and countercyclical buffer guide (only in French)**

