



Résidence Palace, a rich history

The Résidence Palace was Brussel's first luxury apartment block. The sumptuous Art Deco building was designed by Swiss architect Michel Polak in the 1920s for the city's bourgeoisie and aristocracy.

The complex was conceived on a grand scale. It had chambermaids and butlers for the benefit of its occupants, as well as, among other things, its own restaurants, theatre, swimming pool, hairdressing salon, bank, post office, garages, grocers, florist's shop, chocolate shop, newsagent, gymnastics hall and a terrace on the 11th floor. However, this success was to be short-lived.

In 1941, the building was requisitioned by the occupying German forces. After the war, the complex could not be restored to its original use and it was bought by the Belgian State to house various government departments. In 2000, the federal government decided to set up an International Press Centre at the Résidence Palace, taking advantage of its prime location in the heart of the European quarter.

Today, the Résidence Palace – International Press Centre successfully combines authentic Brussels heritage with state-of-the-art technological infrastructure. It ensures a typically Belgian professionalism and high standard hospitality.

