



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
The Secretariat**

**Vienna, 23 April 2019**

**27<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum**

**SECOND PREPARATORY MEETING**

**“Promoting economic progress and security in the OSCE area through energy co-operation,  
new technologies, good governance and connectivity in the digital era”**

**Bratislava, 27 - 28 May 2019**

**Hotel Crowne Plaza**

**PRELIMINARY LOGISTICAL MODALITIES**

## **VENUE**

The Forum Meeting will take place at the hotel Crowne Plaza, Hodžovo námestie 2, 816 25 Bratislava, Slovakia. Further information are available in Annex 1 (<https://cpbratislava.sk/>)

## **PARTICIPANTS' INFORMATION**

### PARTICIPANTS' PROFILE

High-level and senior officials from participating States, responsible for shaping international economic and environmental policy in the OSCE area, representatives of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the Partners for Co-operation as well as OSCE Field Operations are invited to participate.

Representatives of international organizations, expert academics and business representatives, non-governmental organizations with relevant experience in the area under discussion will participate in the meeting, according to the Decision of the OSCE Permanent Council (PC.DEC/1303/18).

The OSCE is committed to gender equality. To this end, the OSCE encourages participating States to also identify female experts to participate in the Economic and Environmental Forum.

No fee for participation is requested.

## **WORKING MODUS OF THE MEETING**

**The Second Preparatory Meeting of the 27<sup>th</sup> OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum** is dedicated to issues related to **energy co-operation**. It should stimulate a free-flowing discussion out of which recommendations to the OSCE and its participating States should emerge. The recommendations will be taken into consideration during the deliberations of the Forum's Concluding Meeting, taking place in Prague, 11-13 September 2019 .

The Forum Meeting consists of

- **27 May, 09:30 – 19:15: Plenary Sessions at the hotel Crowne Plaza** (Hodžovo námestie 2, 816 25 Bratislava), which will include presentations of expert speakers followed by discussions. A moderator will facilitate the debates and a rapporteur will summarize the key issues discussed. Sessions will aim on the exchange of experience on energy security.

The Consolidated Summary of the conference will be published after the event on the OSCE Forum Website [http://www.osce.org/event/27th\\_eef\\_prep2](http://www.osce.org/event/27th_eef_prep2).

- **28 May: Field Visit:** participants are invited to attend **the Ministerial Panel on Digital Transformation** at the **Spring ITAPA 2019, ITAPA 2019 International Congress** (Radisson Blu Carlton Hotel, Hviezdoslavovo nam.3, 811 02 Bratislava), followed by a Field trip to Gabčíkovo dam (electricity power station) as well a visit of open-air modern art gallery Danubiana. Further detailed information will be provided in due time.

## DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION

Participants are welcome to submit written contributions reflecting their views on the issues and topics proposed for discussions.

**Please send an electronic copy of the document in advance** to the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (Mr. Gafgaz Adigozalov E-mail: [gafgaz.adigozalov@osce.org](mailto:gafgaz.adigozalov@osce.org), tel. + 43 1 514 36 6688 or to Ms. Brigitte Krech, E-mail: [brigitte.krech@osce.org](mailto:brigitte.krech@osce.org), tel. + 43 1 514 36 6619) to enable a timely distribution to the participants.

**All documents will be published on the Forum Website:** [http://www.osce.org/event/27th\\_eef\\_prep2](http://www.osce.org/event/27th_eef_prep2) and a very limited amount of hard copies of the documents made available at the venue. Further copies can be produced ad hoc at the Meeting Venue upon request at the **Document Distribution Desk**. Documents should be provided to this Desk in electronic format.

The Consolidated Summary of the Meeting will be published on the OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum website ([http://www.osce.org/event/27th\\_eef\\_prep2](http://www.osce.org/event/27th_eef_prep2)) after the event.

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR SPEAKERS

**Speakers** are kindly requested to send a **short bio** (with photo), an **electronic copy of their presentation**, and requests for **technical support, in advance** to the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities **no later than 10 May 2019** (Ms. Brigitte Krech, E-mail: [brigitte.krech@osce.org](mailto:brigitte.krech@osce.org), tel. + 43 1 514 36 6619) and to take an electronic copy of their presentation (on a USB stick) *as back-up* to the Meeting.

The Plenary Hall at the venue is equipped with technical facilities for multi-format presentations, including power point, large screen, projectors, and laptops. Presentations sent in advance will be uploaded to the presentation equipment in the hall. Speakers having their presentations on USB stick are kindly requested to refer to the technician present in the meeting room.

All presentations will be published on the Forum Website: [http://www.osce.org/event/27th\\_eef\\_prep2](http://www.osce.org/event/27th_eef_prep2)

## INTERPRETATION

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and Russian during the plenary sessions. Please note that side events will be conducted in English only.

## REGISTRATION & ACCREDITATION

### **DEADLINE: MONDAY, 10 MAY 2019**

An online registration will be made available and information on the access link provided in due time.

**REGISTRATIONS:** *only registered participants will be granted access to the venue.*

Each participant is requested to **register online** before the **deadline of 10 May 2019** through a link and access code which will be provided very soon.

As registrations are subject to approval, participants have to provide a minimum of compulsory information when they submit their on-line registration, including an email address. A personal password is required as well. One single person may register different participants, with the use of the same password and email address.

Upon registration, participants will receive a first communication at the given email address, but the actual confirmation of their registration will only follow after its approval.

Until or after the registration deadline (**10 May 2019**), registered participants may use their password for a second access (or more accesses) to their on-line registration form, in view of updating a number of ‘non-compulsory’, additional fields (i.e. date of arrival, accommodation, participation to reception), until and at latest by May 15th 2019.

In addition to the online registration, Delegations should notify the ranking and the title of their members by sending an e-mail to [andrea.gredler@osce.org](mailto:andrea.gredler@osce.org).

**ACCREDITATION** will take place at the Conference Venue at the accreditation counter on: Monday, 27 May 2019, as of 8.00 am until the end of the meeting. Upon presentation of a valid ID, a badge will be obtained, which is required to access the conference hall. Advanced registration is kindly requested in order to avoid delays in issuing ad hoc badges.

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

### **PC WORKING STATIONS & INTERNET ACCES (Wifi)**

The Delegates will have at their disposal a working area with a few PC stations, as well as WiFi access at the conference venue. International phone calls can be made at the business lounge of the hotel.

**COFFEE/ TEA BREAKS AND BUFFET LUNCH** will be provided next to the Plenary Hall on Monday, 27 May 2019.

### **SOCIAL EVENT**

Participants are invited to a buffet reception hosted by the 2019 OSCE Slovak Chairmanship at the Forum venue, after the last session on Monday, 27 May 2019.

### **VISA**

Participants, if stipulated under the Slovak law, are asked to make their own arrangements for securing a Schengen visa for entry into Slovakia. Further details can be found in Annex 2.

In case assistance is required, please fill in the visa application form and send it together with a passport copy, information on who will be funding travel and accommodation as well as the date when the visa interview at the Embassy has been arranged not later than 28 April 2019 to [michal.homza@mzv.sk](mailto:michal.homza@mzv.sk).

In case an invitation letter is required, please contact the Office of the Co-ordinator for OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities by e-mail ([andrea.gredler@osce.org](mailto:andrea.gredler@osce.org)).

### **HOTELS IN BRATISLAVA**

Participants are kindly requested to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements, which will not be paid for by the OSCE. Some suggestions for hotels can be found in annex 3.

A limited number of rooms are available at the Hotel Crowne Plaza (Forum venue) for the overnight 27/28 May 2019. Please refer to the OSCE Forum Meeting when booking.

Address: Hodžovo námestie 2, 816 25 Bratislava, Slovakia. (<https://cpbratislava.sk/>)

### **REACHING BRATISLAVA**

- 1. From Bratislava Airport to Bratislava city centre** by public transports:  
The easiest way to reach the centre is to take bus No. 61 (Direction “Hlavná stanica” – Main Station).

- 2. Connections between Vienna and Bratislava:**

Due to the short distance between Vienna and Bratislava (rd. 70 km), there are excellent connections with public transports *between both cities*. Further information is available in **Annex 1**.

## **BY BUS:**

**2.1. From Vienna International Airport to Bratislava city centre** (AS Mlynské Nivy central train station): the arrival at Vienna International Airport is often used while travelling to Bratislava. There are direct bus or train connections between the Vienna airport and Bratislava city centre. Further details can be found below.

**2.2. From Vienna city centre to Bratislava city centre** (AS Mlynské Nivy central train station): The below named bus companies provide transfers between Vienna and Bratislava city centre. The bus stops are at the main railway station (Hauptbahnhof, ) or from the bus station Erdberg (reachable by underground line U3).

**Three private bus companies** (RejioJet, FlixBus, Slovak Lines,) mainly provide transfers from Vienna airport or Vienna city centre (main railway station “Hauptbahnhof” or Busstation Erdberg) to Bratislava's central train station (AS Mlynské Nivy).

Regular ticket costs range between 5 - 10 € and the journey takes approximately an hour, with departures app. every 30 minutes.

Tickets can be purchased online beforehand or at the ticket booth at some stations (in Vienna at the busstation Erdberg only), or on the bus (in cash only. Please note that tickets might be more expensive).

- As seats in the busses might be booked out, moreover the purchase of tickets in the bus more expensive, **the organizers highly recommend to purchase the ticket online and well in advance of your travel!**

For more information, please consult the following websites:

RegioJet: <https://www.regiojet.com/>

Flixbus: <https://www.flixbus.co.uk/bus-timetable-stop/bratislava>

Other bus companies

Slovaklines: [https://www.slovaklines.sk/fileadmin/user\\_upload/pdf/wien.pdf](https://www.slovaklines.sk/fileadmin/user_upload/pdf/wien.pdf)

Blaguss : <http://www.blaguss.sk/pages/en/home.php>

Eurobus : [https://www.bts.aero/downloads/90/709805\\_po\\_wien\\_od\\_01\\_07\\_2018\\_1.pdf](https://www.bts.aero/downloads/90/709805_po_wien_od_01_07_2018_1.pdf)

## **BY TRAIN**

Train connections are available as well between both cities, from Vienna airport or Vienna main railway station “Hauptbahnhof” and from the central train station “AS Mlynské Nivy” in Bratislava. Tickets can be purchased online e.g. from the Austrian Railways: <https://www.oebb.at/en/> or directly at the respective railway station.

## **Transports in Bratislava:**

Public transports In Bratislava: buses, trolley buses and trams ( 4am-12pm). Tickets must be purchased prior to boarding the vehicle at the ticket vending machines available at most of the stops, newspapers kiosks or public transport operator's sales points. Upon boarding the vehicle, you need to validate your ticket in a special machine which is built in each bus, trolley bus and tram.

More information can be found on: <https://imhd.sk/ba/public-transport>

## **Taxi in Bratislava**

A taxi can be booked in advance, or taken from a taxi rank or hailed on the street. The prices, terms and conditions depend on the company. We recommend you to book a taxi via phone, as it may reduce the price up to 50%.

Taxi companies:

Easy Taxi +421 918 555 555

Expres Taxi +421 902 222 333

VB Taxi +421 2 17 158

Taxi Trend +421 903 216 302, +421 905 716 302

Tourist office in Bratislava: <https://www.visitbratislava.com/your-visit/information-centre/>

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Currency:** Euro

**Electric current:** Standard voltage 220V.

**Time:** Bratislava time differs from Greenwich time UTC by + 1 hour.

**Average temperatures** in Slovakia for May are expected to be in between 23 and 25°C (74 and 78°F).

## **IMPORTANT NOTICE:**

### **Liability - insurance:**

To the full extent permitted under applicable law, neither the OSCE or any of its officials, employees or other representatives shall be liable for loss or damage, however caused, arising out of or in connection with the participation in this conference. This is a comprehensive limitation of liability that applies to damages of any kind, including, without limitation, personal injury, loss of, or damage to, property and claims of third parties.

## **CONTACTS AT THE OSCE SECRETARIAT**

### **Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities**

Wallnerstrasse, 6, 1010 Vienna

Fax. + 43 1 514 36 62 51

*For substantial issues:*

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Ms. Brigitte Krech

Economic and Environmental Affairs Adviser

Economic and Environmental Forum Unit

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Tel: +43 1 51436 6619

*For logistical queries:*

Ms. Andrea Gredler

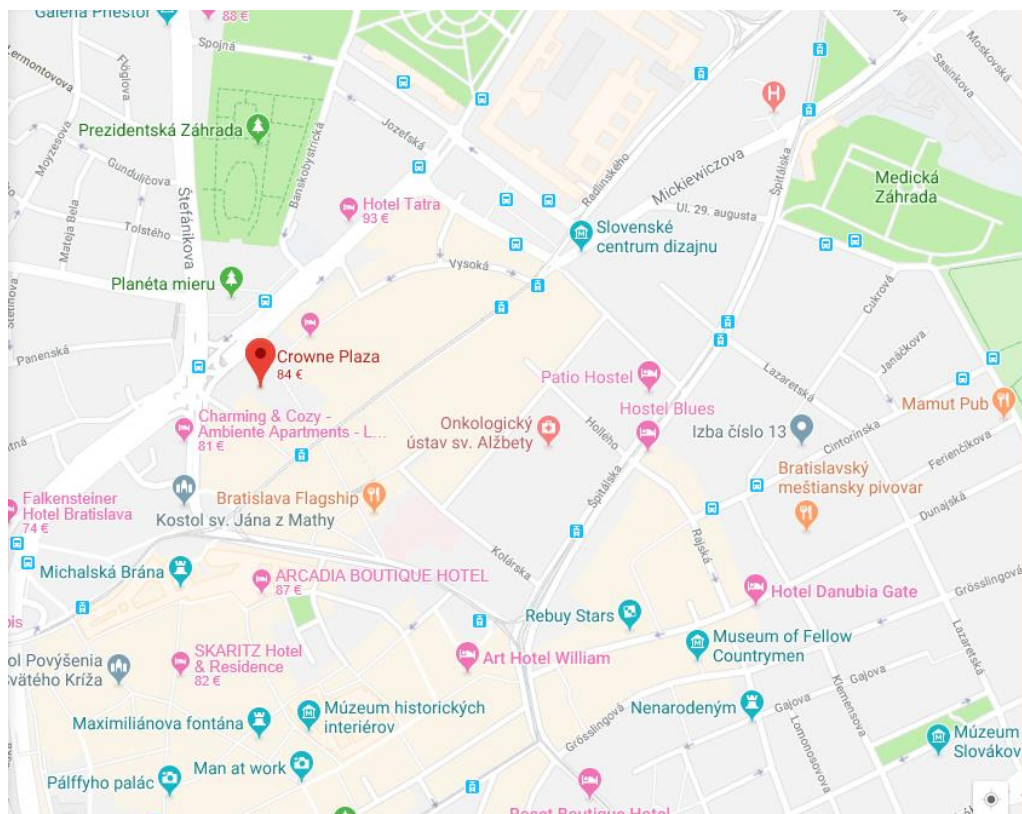
Economic and Environmental Forum Unit

E-mail: [andrea.gredler@osce.org](mailto:andrea.gredler@osce.org)

Tel: +43 1 514 36 6675

## Reaching the Forum venue: Crowne Plaza Hotel Bratislava \*\*\*\*

Location of the „Crowne Plaza Bratislava“ in the city centre



### From Bratislava Airport to the city center, near the hotel Crown Plaza:

The Bratislava Airport is connected with Bratislava City Centre by public transportation.

At the airport take the **bus No. 61** (Direction “Hlavná stanica” – Main Station).

A *change of bus* is required after 13 bus stops, at the stop: “**Zimný štadión**” (“**Ice Hockey stadium**”).

Please get off and change at that bus stop to **bus No. 207** (Direction “Železná studienka”). After 6 stops, you can get off at the **stop „Hodzovo namestie“**, which is situated just in front of the Hotel Crowne Plaza Bratislava.



## **Bus connection from Vienna International Airport to Bratislava city centre:**

Due to excellent connection possibility and convenient distance, Vienna International Airport is often used as landing airport when travelling to Bratislava. Bus connections from Bratislava to Vienna city centre or Vienna airport are available as well.

There excellent direct bus connections from the Vienna airport to Bratislava city centre:

- Departures app. every 30 minutes,
- from the bus stop situated right in front of arrivals hall in Vienna airport.
- The journey depending on traffic takes app. one hour and the costs vary according to time and company from 1 to 10 €. Tickets can be purchased on the bus, but it is highly recommended to purchase the tickets online well ahead of the travel dates.

### **Options:**

1) **Bus RegioJet** (Highly recommended by the organizer): <https://www.regiojet.com/>

The travel takes 45 minutes and cost you 5€. There are 3 stops in Bratislave, the last one is at the Bratislava main bus station (“Mlynské Nivy”),

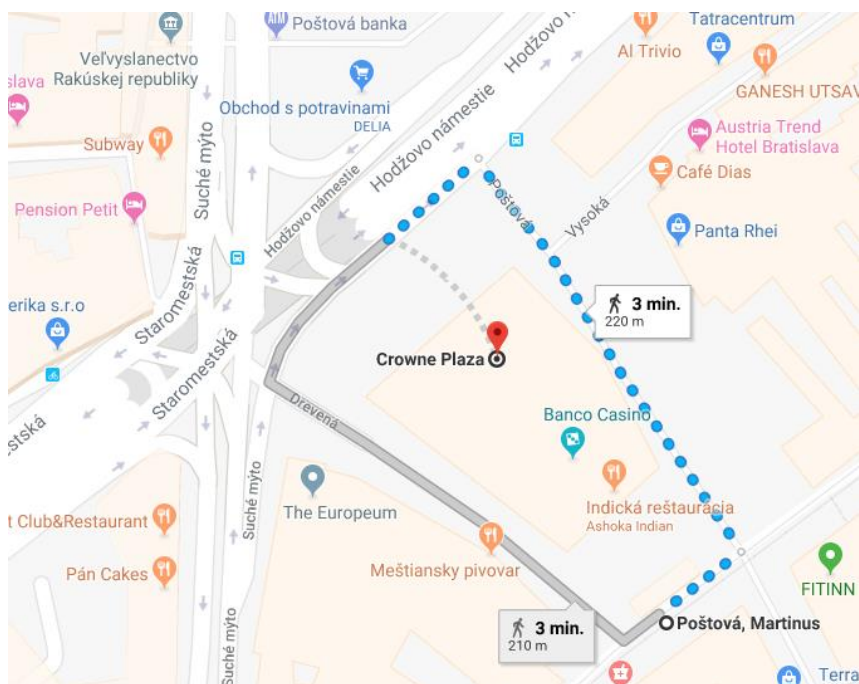
At your arrival in Bratislava, the organizers recommend to;

- get off at the 1st stop “Most SNP” (The SNP bridge), due to easier connection to the hotel Crowne Plaza Bratislava.
- From there take tram No. 4 direction „Zlate Piesky“,
- after 1 tram stop get off and change at the same tram station to tram No. 1 direction „Hlavna stanica“, which takes you close to the Crowne Plaza Bratislava hotel.
- After 2 stops get off at the tram station, „Postova, Martinus“.
- Please see further directions for reaching the Hotel Crown Plaza on the below map.
- Tram tickets must be purchased prior to boarding the vehicle at the ticket vending machines available at most of the stops, newspapers kiosks or public transport operator's sales points.

2) **Flixbus**: <https://www.flixbus.co.uk/bus-timetable-stop/bratislava>

The travel takes 40-55 minutes cost 5€.

At your arrival in Bratislava, the organizers recommend you to proceed as indicated above: to get off at “Most SNP” (The SNP bridge) bus stop and take the above described same tram connections.



## VISA INFORMATION

### LIST of OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation exempted from Visa requirement upon entry to Slovak Republic

Below listed countries are exempted from Visa (V ) *depending of the type of passport.*

The visa free regime applies only to short stays up to 90 days within any 180 day period. Shorter lengths of visa free stay is indicated in the table.

PLEASE NOTE: *Except of the countries belonging to the Schengen area, nationals of the countries not enlisted below need a visa.*

Country	Ordinary passport	Diplomatic passport	Service passport	Special passport
Albania	V (only holders of biometric passports)	V	V	
Andorra	V	V	V	
Armenia	Visa required	V	V	
Azerbaijan	Visa required	V	V	
Belarus	Visa required	V	V	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	V (only holders of biometric passports)	V	V	
Georgia	V (only holders of biometric passports)	V	V	
Canada	V	V	V	
Kazakhstan	Visa required	V	V	
Kyrgyzstan	Visa required	V (for 30 days)		
North Macedonia	V	V	V	
Moldova	V (only holders of biometric passports)	V	V	
Monaco	V	V	V	
Mongolia	Visa required	V	V	
Montenegro	V (only holders of biometric passports)	V	V	
San Marino	V	V	V	
United States of America	V	V	V	
Serbia	V (only holders of biometric passports)	V	V	
Tajikistan	Visa required			
Turkey	Visa required	V	V	V
Turkmenistan	Visa required	V	V	
Ukraine	V (only holders of biometric passports)	V	V	
Uzbekistan	Visa required	V	V	
Algeria	Visa required	V	V	
Australia	V	V	V	
Egypt	Visa required	V	V	V
Israel	V	V	V	
Japan	V	V		
Jordan	Visa required	V		
Republic of Korea	V	V	V	
Morocco	Visa required	V	V	V
Thailand	Visa required	V	V	
Tunisia	Visa required	V	V	V



## HOTEL LIST

**Radisson Blu Carlton Hotel 4\*\*\*\***

<https://www.radissonblu.com/sk/hotel-bratislava>

**Park Inn Radisson Danube**

<https://www.parkinn.sk/hotel-bratislava>

**Austria Trend 4\*\*\*\***

<https://www.austria-trend.at/sk/hoteli/bratislava>

**Crowne Plaza 4\*\*\*\***

<https://cpbratislava.sk/sk/>

**Double Tree by Hilton 4\*\*\*\***

<https://doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/slovakia/doubletree-by-hilton-hotel-bratislava-BTSDIDI/index.html>

**Hotel Falkensteiner 4\*\*\*\***

<https://www.falkensteiner.com/sk/hotel/bratislava>

**Sheraton Bratislava 5\*\*\*\*\***

<https://www.sheratonbratislava.sk/>

**Hotel Tatra\*\*\*\***

<https://hoteltatra.sk/>