



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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Regional Seminar on the Sustainable Development Goals for the Parliaments of Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia



Parliamentary cooperation for sustainable development: Investing in climate change and water cooperation opportunities

Seminar for Parliaments from Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia
organized jointly by the Hungarian National Assembly and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

**23–24 February 2017, Budapest (Hungary)
Parliament Building**

GENERAL INFORMATION

SEMINAR VENUE AND DATE

The seminar will be held from 23 to 24 February 2017 at the National Assembly of Hungary (Parliament). All delegates may access the venue through Gate XII of the Parliament, located on Kossuth Lajos tér. Badges and seminar documents should be collected at the conference desk near the gate; delegates will then be able to access the seminar areas.

Address of the National Assembly:

Országgyűlés (National Assembly)
Kossuth Lajos tér 1-3., 1055 Budapest, Magyarország (Hungary)

PARTICIPATION

The seminar is open to the following parliaments of Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

Those parliaments are invited to send a delegation of up to four members. Delegations should be gender-balanced and reflect the political representation in parliament. It is recommended that delegates should be those working directly on development or climate issues in their parliaments.

ORGANIZATION OF PROCEEDINGS

In keeping with IPU practice, all participants will have equal speaking rights. To make the discussions as fruitful and enriching as possible, the following rules will apply:

- (a) There will be no list of speakers on any agenda item. After the resource persons have introduced an agenda item, the floor will be open to participants for questions and comments.
- (b) Experience has shown that this kind of meeting does not lend itself to the reading out of prepared statements. Subject to arrangements that the Chair may make to suit the circumstances, oral contributions may not exceed three minutes. Participants may speak several times on each item, particularly to respond to other statements.

DOCUMENTS

Participants will receive hard copies of the resource persons' presentations as they become available. As far as possible, the IPU Secretariat will make available for participants any background documentation on the topics discussed.

Participants wishing to distribute relevant documentation to their colleagues will be required to provide it in sufficient quantities and place it on a designated table.

WORKING LANGUAGE

The working languages will be **English, French, Hungarian and Russian**.

Delegations that wish to use interpretation facilities should inform the organizers no later than 13 January 2017. Only four additional interpretation booths are available and will be distributed to those who apply first.

REGISTRATION

Participants should complete and submit the enclosed registration forms as soon as possible, and **no later than 1 February 2017**, to:

<p>Hungarian National Assembly 1055 Budapest, Kossuth Lajos tér 1-3. Hungary</p> <p>Secretariat of the Seminar: Mrs. Katalin ÁDÁM Secretary of the Hungarian IPU Group Tel: +36 1 441 5068 Fax: +36 1 441 5972 E-mail: ipu@parlament.hu</p> <p>Mr. Zoltán SOMFAI Head of Protocol Department Directorate for Foreign Relations Tel: +36 1 441 4693 Fax: +36 1 441 5972 E-mail: zoltan.somfai@parlament.hu</p>	<p>With copy to: Inter-Parliamentary Union Chemin du Pommier 5, C.P. 330, 1218 Le Grand-Saconnex Geneva, Switzerland</p> <p>Tel: +41 22 919 4150 Fax: +41 22 919 4160 E-mail: postbox@ipu.org</p>
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TRAVEL, ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

All participants should arrange their transport upon arrival and departure between Budapest Ferenc Liszt International Airport (<http://www.bud.hu/english>) and their hotels.

Budapest airport is about 16 km from Budapest city centre and the National Assembly.

Transport to and from Budapest airport

Travelling by taxi from the airport to the city centre takes approximately 45 minutes and costs around HUF 7,000 (±EUR 25), depending on traffic and hotel location. Participants are advised to order a taxi at the official desk and avoid unofficial taxi drivers in the arrivals hall.

ACCOMMODATION

Participants should meet their own hotel expenses. The Hungarian National Assembly has made a block booking at the following three hotels. Participants should complete and return the Hotel Registration Form as soon as possible, and **no later than 31 January 2017**.

1. **SOFITEL Budapest Chain Bridge (****)**

www.sofitel-budapest.com

Booking deadline: 31 January 2017

Special Hotel rates:

Type of Room	Single	Double
	Superior: 115 € Deluxe: 150 €	Superior: 130 € Deluxe: 170 €

Prices include breakfast, VAT and city tax.

2. **PRESIDENT Hotel Budapest (****)**

www.hotelpresident.hu

Booking deadline: 20 January 2017

Special Hotel rates:

Type of Room	Single	Double
	Superior: 75 €	Superior: 85 €

Prices include breakfast, VAT and city tax.

3. **DHRS HELIA Conference Hotel (****)**

www.danubiushotels.com/helia

Booking deadline: 31 January 2017

Special Hotel rates:

Type of Room	Single	Double
	Superior: 68 €	Superior: 78 €

Prices include breakfast, VAT and city tax.

Please note: As room facilities are limited, reservations are on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Hotel Reservation Forms should be returned directly to the selected hotel as soon as possible, and no later than 13 January 2017. The hotels cannot guarantee prices or room availability after that date.

VISAS

A valid passport is required to enter Hungary, except for nationals of EU countries, who may enter with a valid national ID card. More information can be obtained from the Hungarian government website: <http://konzuliszolgalat.kormany.hu/en>. To obtain visas or further information on customs regulations, delegation secretaries and participants should contact the Embassy of Hungary in their countries.

CURRENCY REGULATIONS

The official currency in Hungary is the Hungarian Forint (HUF). The exchange rate is about 1 Euro to 310 HUF.

Major international currencies can be exchanged at banks, exchange offices and hotels. Most major credit cards are widely accepted.

TRANSPORT

Transport will be provided by bus between the Parliament and all conference hotels for the official meetings and the social event during the seminar.

OTHER SERVICES

There is a medical service, cloakroom, wifi, cafeteria (on the mezzanine floor) and cash machine in the National Assembly. There will also be an outside area for smokers on the ground-floor level outside Gate XII.

WEATHER IN BUDAPEST

Please visit: www.accuweather.com/en/hu/budapest/187423/weather-forecast/187423