

**The 8th Annual Forum
of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region
- EUSDR -**

**26 - 28 June 2019
Bucharest, Romania**



romania2019.eu



GENERAL INFORMATION

The 8th Annual Forum of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR), jointly organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania, the DG Regio/European Commission and the Danube Transnational Programme, will take place on 27 and 28 June 2019 in Bucharest, Romania. The Forum will be preceded by a Meeting of Ministers in Charge of Economic Affairs from the EUSDR countries.

Side-events organized back-to-back to the 8th Annual Forum will start on 26 of June 2019.

On the 26th and on 27th of June the registration will start at 8:00. A registration desk will be arranged close to the security area (entrance C1 of the Palace of the Parliament). C1 is the main entrance for the venue of all participants.

Please allow for an additional 30 minutes of security checks upon your arrival. There will be a guarded cloakroom in the entrance hall of the building for the duration of the event. However, to speed up security checks, we advise you to avoid bringing your luggage to the event if possible.

Up-to-date information about Annual Forum, including updated agenda, Practical Information Note (PIN) and invited experts can be found at: www.suerd.gov.ro/en

For side events please visit: <http://suerd.gov.ro/en/events/category/forum-side-events/>

Accreditation

The registration is open until 18 of June 2019 through the online registration system on the event website: <https://accreditation.romania2019.eu/events/conference/kE0mxAjVPYvbpJd7K1L6Dqa9yqj9B3Wk24ewlRN8yoznMOQ5gZ>

The access to the event will be allowed only to the registered participants wearing a valid badge.

We highly recommend to collect your badges both for the Annual Forum and side-events as early as possible, in order to avoid any inconveniences during the following days. You may pick up your badge either at the Romanian presidency welcome desk at the airport or from the dedicated desks at the recommended hotels, on 26th of June. The badges can also be collected during first day of the event from entrance C1 of the Palace of Parliament, after the security check. However, due to the large number of participants expected, we strongly recommend to collect your badge on arrival at the airport.

Please indicate your choice of pick-up point in the registration form. Please have your proof of registration and ID card or passport ready when picking up your badge! Registration is personal and non-transferable and the participant can attend the forum only after receiving a confirmation e-mail.

Please be aware that once the maximum number of participants is reached, registration will be closed.

VENUE

The Palace of the Parliament is situated in the heart of Bucharest and is within walking distance to all central places of the capital and is easily accessible by Metro and other public transport. Located on “Dealul Arsenalului” in the central part of the national capital city of Bucharest (Sector 5), The Palace of the Parliament is the biggest administrative building in Europe and the second largest administrative building in the world after the United States' Pentagon. The building has a surface of 365.000 sqm and holds the 1st position in the Guinness World Records for the largest administrative building (for civil use), and the 3rd place worldwide from the volume point of view of; it is the heaviest and most expensive building in the world. The other dimensions of the building are: length – 270 m, width – 245 m, height – 84 m (over 0 level), depth 16 m (under ground level), building footprint area – 73,615 sqm.

Although the initial project had 80,000 sqm, People's House had a surface 5 times bigger. The building was built with construction materials produced in Romania, amongst which: 1,000,000 cbm of marble, 550,000 tons of cement, 700,000 tons of steel, 2,000,000 tons of sand, 1,000 tons of basalt, 900,000 cbm rich wood, 3,500 tons of crystal, 200,000 cbm of glass, 2,800 chandeliers, 220,000 sqm carpets, 3,500 sqm leather. The entire construction is the result of over 100,000 workers' effort, more than 20,000 persons working 24 hour three shifts per day, during the peak periods. Moreover, between years 1984 and 1990, 12,000 soldiers took part in the construction works.

More information on the venue, the services it provides and his cultural program can be found at <http://cic.cdep.ro/en>.

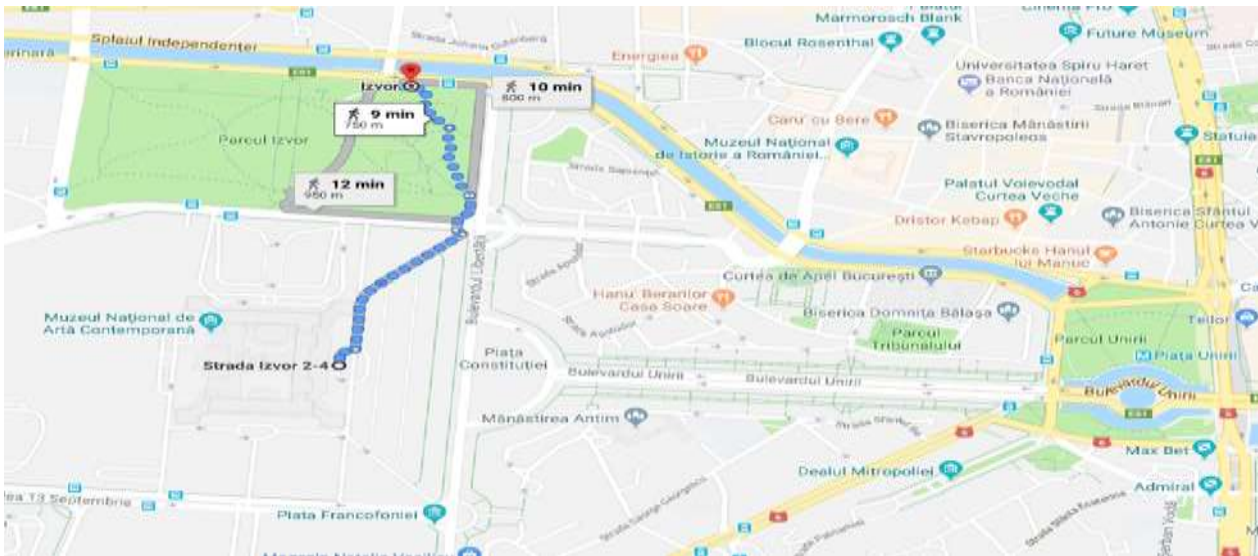


Palace of Parliament - Venue for the 8th Annual Forum

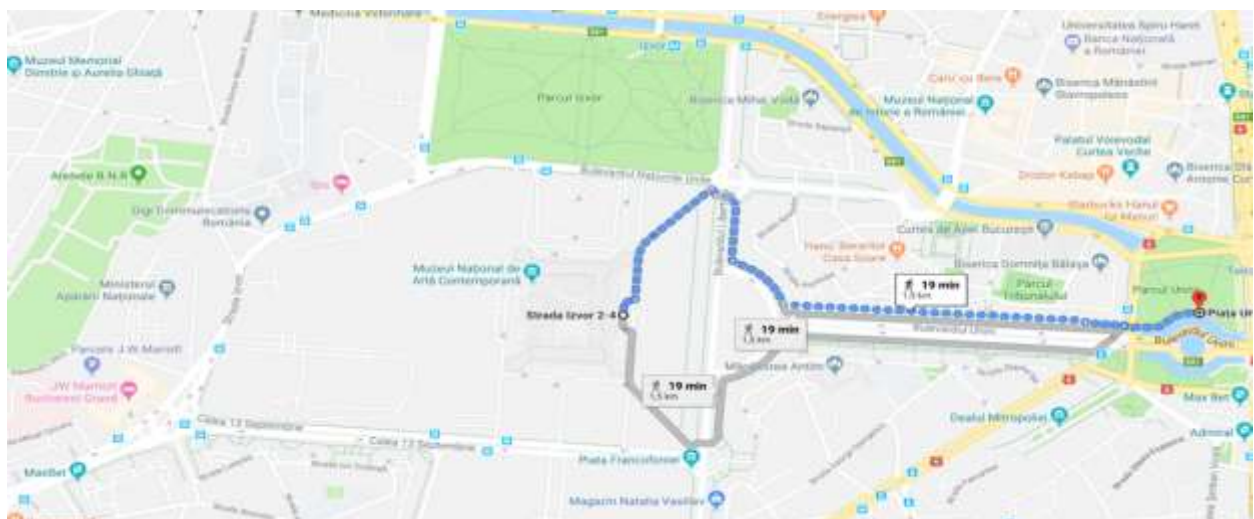
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Public Transportation (nearest stations to venue): Metro station Izvor (10 min walk to C1 entrance):



- Metro station Piata Unirii (20 min walk to C1 entrance):



- Buses 783, 784 from the airport (HENRI COANDA- INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT) to the city center (PIAȚA UNIRII): station is 20 min walk to the venue

In case of questions you may contact: suerd@mae.ro and office@eusdr-dsp.eu



ACCOMMODATION

All participants are responsible for booking and covering the costs of their accommodation.

Due to high time and overlapping events taking place during Romanian EU Council Presidency, organizers recommend that you book your accommodation in due time after your registration is accepted.

Main hotels (nearby the Palace of Parliament) for your accommodation are listed here (*for orientation purpose*):

Five stars hotels:

- **JW Marriott Bucharest Grand Hotel**, București, www.marriott.com
- **Grand Hotel Continental**, www.continentalhotels.ro

Four stars hotels:

- **Hilton Garden Inn Bucharest Old Town**, https://www.hiltonhotels.com/ro_RO/romania/hilton-garden-inn-bucharest-old-town/
- **Ramada Bucharest Majestic**, <https://www.ramadamajestic.ro/en/en-home/>
- **Europa Royale Hotel**, www.europaroyalebucharest.com
- **Hotel Cișmigiu**, www.hotelcismigiu.ro
- **Park Inn by Radisson Bucharest Hotel & Residence**, <https://www.parkinn.com/hotel-bucharest>

Three stars hotels:

- **Ibis**, <https://www.accorhotels.com/gb/hotel-5938-ibis-bucharest-palatul-parlamentului-city-centre/index.shtml>
- **Ibis Bucharest Gare De Nord Hotel**, <https://ibishotels.ro/ibis-gara-de-nord/>



AIRPORT

Arrivals and Departures

The participants are kindly asked to organize their own transport to and from the Otopeni Airport. The airport is located around 19 km from the city center making the airport easily accessible. The airport has good public transport connections and offers sufficient access for taxis.

How to get from Otopeni Airport to the Bucharest city center:

by bus: bus lines no 783, 784

Bus line 783 connects Otopeni Airport to the city center. The journey time from Airport to the city center is approximately 45 min. The bus routes operate under an all-day and night timetable on weekdays and weekends/holidays. The journey time from the first to the final stops is approximately 45 min. on weekdays, and 35 min. at weekends/holidays.

Bus line 784 connects Otopeni Airport to the main hotels recommended by the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the EU and operates daily between 5.30 and 21.30.

In case you want to use public bus transport from Airport Arrival Terminal, the floor marking in red in the public area will show you the way to the bus stops.

****tickets**

At the Otopeni Airport you can buy tickets for both train and buses. A one way ticket for bus lines 783 and 784 is approximately EUR 1.

- by taxi:

There are several licensed private taxi companies Bucharest. For your comfort and safety, the services of several taxi operators are recommended and orders can be placed via the Info-Desk located in the airport lobby, on the right and on the left of the exit from the baggage claim area.

More information about Bucharest public transport can be found at: <http://www.bucharestairports.ro/en/>

<https://www.expat.com/en/guide/europe/romania/1951-public-transportation-in-bucharest.html>

The distance between the city center and Otopeni Airport is about 19 km and the price for a journey from Otopeni Airport to the city center is around 50-70 RON (approximately EUR 12-15).



INTERNET AND TECHNICAL FACILITIES

High-quality wireless internet will be available throughout the meeting venue free of charge, the network will give unlimited access to the internet. The password to the wireless network will be provided at the venue.

- Webstreaming. All plenary and thematic sessions will be available on webstreaming (tba)
- App for smartphones and interactive tools

In addition an audience interaction tool (sli.do) will be used to crowd-source the questions from the audience and actively engage the participants in steering the discussions. Participants will be encouraged to vote on the most relevant questions and topics, which will generate real-time insights on key issues through live polling of the audience.

DISCUSSION AREAS AND EXHIBITIONS

Specially dedicated meeting corners for the EUSDR Priority Areas as well as for several institutions (DG REGIO, DTP, JRC, DSP, etc.) will be arranged in the foyer/halls of the venue to allow gathering together interested participants to discuss issues related to the respective Priority Areas and presenting different projects.

OTHER PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Local Time

Romania uses Eastern European Time (EET), which is UTC/GMT +2 hours.

Weather

Climate in Romania is temperate continental in transition. The forecast for March is between a high of 10-15 degrees Celsius during the day and a low of 6-7 Celsius degrees during the night, but delegates should be prepared for lower temperatures.

Currency

Romania's currency is Leu (plural "Lei" - pronunciation: lay), abbreviated RON. Please be advised that shops do not accept Euros. Foreign currencies may be exchanged at banks or authorized exchange offices. Major credit and debit cards are widely accepted.

1 Euro = ~4.74 RON

Country code

In order to make an outgoing international call to Romania, the country code is +40.



Electricity

Romania's electricity is 230 V and sockets take the standard continental European dual round-pronged plugs.

Traffic

Vehicles in Bucharest drive on the right side of the road. The speed limit is 50 km/h in urban areas, 90 km/h outside populated areas and 130 km/h on motorways. For more detailed information go to Road safety rules at the EU Commission website.

Smoking

Smoking is prohibited in indoor public areas.

Important Telephone Numbers

General emergency number: 112

Foreign diplomatic/consular representations in Romania: <http://www.mae.ro/en/foreign-missions>