



Grassroots Sport as a tool for Integration and bridge between tradition and innovation

**Sofia, Republic of Bulgaria
12-13.06.2018**

PRACTICAL NOTE

The Conference '**Grassroots Sport as a tool for Integration and bridge between tradition and innovation**' is going to be held under the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU, co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union, and will take place on 12-13 June 2018 in Sofia, Bulgaria. The Conference will be held back-to-back with the Meeting of EU Sport Directors, 11-12 June 2018.

Delegation Format

Each governmental and/or non-governmental organisation is entitled to two representatives, at least one at decision-making level.

Venue



Hotel Marinela Sofia was designed by the legendary Japanese architect Kisho Kurokawa. It is among the iconic buildings of Sofia. The five star hotel is located in the green zone of the capital, the hotel has a view from which you can enjoy both the night lights of Sofia and the beauty of Vitosha mountain. The interior combines tradition and comfort with innovation and modern design. Marinela hotel offers the largest conference facilities in the country, suitable for any type of event and number of guests.

More information on the venue, the services it provides and its leisure activities could be found at <http://www.hotel-marinela.com/lang-en.htm>

Registration

For registration, please follow the link below:

<https://goo.gl/forms/Otj7rHNnYKXHjITb2>

If you have any questions concerning the registration, please contact the organisers through sport2018@mpes.government.bg.



Accommodation

The Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union will cover the accommodation for two nights of one expert per NGO/Sport federation on 11th and 12th June 2018 or on 12th and 13th of June 2018, for up to 60 participants on the first come, first served basis.

Extra accommodation is not covered.

All other delegates, including governmental representatives, are kindly asked to cover the costs of their own accommodation.

The official hotel of the event **Hotel Marinela Sofia** has pre-booked rooms at following special rates for the Presidency (BB, per room, per night):

- Standard room - 133 € (single occupancy).

For those participants, not covered by the Presidency, please book directly with the hotel at <https://reservations.travelclick.com/99911?groupID=2250083>.

Please note that any individual expenses such as telephone, bar drinks, room minibar, laundry, extra paid TV, etc. are not included in the room rate. Therefore, you are kindly asked to make sure such bills are settled before departure.

Hotels near the Meeting Venue

1. Hill Hotel – <https://www.hillhotel-sofia.com/>
2. Central Park – <http://www.centralparkhotel.bg/>
3. Best Western Lozenetz Hotel – <http://www.lozenetzhotel.com/en/>
4. Hemus Hotel – <http://www.hemushotels.com/lang-en.htm>
5. Meg-Lozenetz – <http://www.meg-lozenetz.com/>
6. Magic Castle Hotel – <http://www.magiccastle.bg/index.html>

Travelling and Transfers

The Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union will cover transport costs to/from Sofia Airport for one participant of up to 50 NGOs/Sport Organisations on the first come, first served basis.

Other participant (including government representatives) are kindly requested to cover their own travel costs to Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union will provide transportation from Sofia International Airport to Hotel Marinela Sofia and back for all participants.

Information for the public transport can be found on the website:

<https://www.sofia-airport.bg/en/passengers/and-airport/public-transport>

<https://www.sofiatraffic.bg/en/common>, <http://www.metropolitan.bg/en/>



Taxis are available directly outside the Arrivals Hall at Sofia International Airport 24 hours a day. A taxi service booth is situated in the Arrivals Hall. Make sure that you check the prices of a particular taxi BEFORE you enter the car to [avoid taxi scams](#).

Approximate taxi fee in Sofia:

- Initial Charge: 0.60 – 0.90 lv. (0.30 – 0.45 EUR)
- Daytime rate per km (6am – 10pm): 0.79 – 0.90 lv. (0.35–0.45 EUR per km)
- Nighttime rate per km (10pm – 6am): 0.70 – 0.99 lv. (0.35–0.50 EUR per km)
- Waiting rate: 0.24 lv. per minute (0.12 EUR / min.)
- Call-out charge: 0.90 lv. (0.25 – 0.45 EUR)

Further information: https://www.oktaxi.net/onlineorder_en.php.

Facilities and Services at the Meeting Venue

The Conference will take place at EFE Hall, hotel Marinela Sofia. Free Wi-Fi, computers, monochrome photocopying and scanning facilities will be available at the meeting venue.

Meals

A Buffet Dinner will be provided for early arrivals on 11th June 2018.

A Welcome dinner for all participants will take place on 12th June 2018. The dinner will be hosted by the Minister of Youth and Sports Mr. Krasen Krlev.

Lunches will be provided on 12th and 13th June 2018 at the Hotel.

Languages

The working languages of the Conference will be English and Bulgarian.

Other Practical Information

Important Numbers

Emergency calls 112.

Time Zone

GMT/UTC + 02:00

Currency

The currency in Bulgaria is the Lev (1 BGN = 1.95583 Euro). Money can be exchanged in banks and change bureaus (bureauX).





Country Code

In order to make an outgoing international call to Bulgaria, the country code is +359.

Power Supply

220V \pm 10% electrical supply. Supply frequency is 50Hz.

Plug socket in use is the two-pinned Type F, also known as "Schuko".

Climate

Bulgaria is located in Southeast Europe, in the northeast part of the Balkan Peninsula. The average day temperature in June is 22°C, rains and storms might occur.

Tourism

Bulgaria is proud of its pristine nature and amazing biodiversity, which is preserved in the mountains, parks and nature reserves. The country occupies only 2% of Europe's territory but with more than 40 000 cultural monuments and artefacts, it is in third place in Europe. Seven of them are included in the UNESCO List of World Cultural Heritage Sites. This includes prehistoric artefacts, Thracian and Roman heritage, historical monuments from the First and the Second Bulgarian Kingdoms, and architectural landmarks from the Age of Bulgarian Renaissance. As a recognition of its ancient cultural heritage, Plovdiv was selected as 2019 European Capital of Culture.

Traditionally known for its sun, sand and sea, the Bulgarian seaside also offers hiking, biking, golf, yachting and visits to natural, cultural and archaeological sites. The country is one of the most popular skiing destinations in the Balkans with its major ski resorts Bansko, Borovets and Pamporovo.

The healing power of mineral springs has been used since the time of the Thracians and the Romans. With more than 600 healing mineral thermal spas, healing climate and curative mud, Bulgaria is a competitive and medical spa destination. Mineral springs located in the southern part of the country are influenced by the Mediterranean climate, other springs are also found in mountain regions and along the Black Sea coast.

You are welcome to discover and share Bulgaria as a four-season tourist destination.

www.tourism.government.bg, <http://bulgariatravel.org>, <https://ilovebulgaria.eu>

Contacts:

For all matters concerning the Conference, please contact us at:

sport2018@mpes.government.bg

