

AS (24) G I E  
26-02-24



## **General Information**

OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY 31<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL SESSION

*“The Role of the OSCE in the current Security Architecture:  
a Parliamentary Perspective”*

Bucharest - Romania  
June 29 – July 3, 2024

## **VENUE**

The Parliament of Romania  
Palace of Parliament  
2-4 Izvor Str., Sector 5, Bucharest

Click [here](#) for a map of the area.

Access for all delegates is through the official entrance (C1) facing Constitution Square. All badges and documents should be collected from the OSCE PA Registration desk located in the foyer on Level P (ground level). Once delegates have collected their badge, they can access the session areas.

## **CONTACTS**

### **Chamber of Deputies**

Ms. Irina STUPAR, Head of Directorate, Directorate for relations with international organizations and the EU

Tel: +4 021.414.1875; e-mail: [oscepa@cdep.ro](mailto:oscepa@cdep.ro)

### **Senate**

Ms. Cristina DUMITRESCU, Head of Directorate, Directorate for External Multilateral Relations

Tel: +4 021. 311.21.56; e-mail: [oscepa@senat.ro](mailto:oscepa@senat.ro)

### **International Secretariat of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:**

Ms. Odile LELARGE, Head of Conference Services

Tel.: +45 33 37 80 40 ; e-mail: [conference.coordination@oscepa.dk](mailto:conference.coordination@oscepa.dk)

## **DRAFT PROGRAMME<sup>1</sup>**

<u>Friday, 28 June</u>	Arrival of participants - Registration (in the afternoon)
<u>Saturday, 29 June</u>	Meeting of the Standing Committee (morning) Opening Plenary Session (afternoon)
<u>Sunday, 30 June</u>	General Committee Meetings (morning) Thematic activities (afternoon)
<u>Monday, 1 July</u>	General Committee Meetings (morning and afternoon) Evening reserved for embassies and consulates
<u>Tuesday, 2 July</u>	General Committee Meetings (morning) Plenary Session (afternoon)
<u>Wednesday, 3 July</u>	Plenary Session (morning) Departure of participants
<u>Thursday, 4 July</u>	Departure of participants

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that this draft programme is subject to change.

## **HOTELS AND ACCOMMODATION**

Block reservations have been made by the Romanian Parliament in several hotels (Official hotels of the Annual Session) from 28 June to 3 July 2024.

Participants are kindly requested to make **their own room reservations** as soon as possible in one of the official hotels of the Session. Requests for hotel reservations will be treated on a ***first-come-first-served basis***.

Please note that cancellation policies may vary for each hotel. The prices include accommodation per night, breakfast, city tax and VAT. All hotels have free Wi-Fi or internet connection.

Please consult the official websites of the hotels for details about their amenities.

## **REGISTRATION**

Secretaries of the Parliamentary Delegations to the OSCE PA should register participants via the OSCE PA [Registration Website](#) by **Saturday 25 May 2024**. Kindly note that the online registration system will be activated on 15 March 2024. Please indicate the preliminary travel information and the name of the hotel when you register your delegation.

The specific links for registration of Parliamentary Delegations of Partners for Co-operation and Official Observers will be sent to the Points of Contact of those delegations on 15 March 2024.

The Registration and Information desk, located in the foyer of the Palace of Parliament on Level P (ground level), C1 entrance, will be open starting with **Friday 28 June 2024 from 14:00 to 20:00**. For the following days of the Annual Session, registration will be open at the Palace of Parliament from 7:45 until the end of official meetings.

All participants, including accompanying persons, are kindly requested to register as soon as possible after their arrival. They will be required to show photographic identification when registering (passport or identity card). All participants and accompanying persons will be able to collect their badges, conference bags and documents after their registration.

A provisional List of Participants will be made available. In order to enable the OSCE PA International Secretariat to issue the final list and to ensure the accuracy of its content, national delegations are kindly requested to indicate any corrections to the provisional list at the Registration desk.

## **PASSPORTS AND VISAS**

All participants must check beforehand if they need a Visa to enter Romania, by visiting the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs official [website](#).

Delegates who require an entry visa should contact the Romania's Embassy or Consulate in their country of residence to check the formalities necessary for obtaining a visa for the Annual Session, or visit the following website to [apply on-line for a visa](#). Please be advised that visas are not issued in electronic form!

Applicants must hold a valid passport with three months' validity from the date of entry.

**It is recommended to apply for a visa no more than three months and at least three weeks before travel. Letters of invitation for visa purposes can be provided to officially registered participants if needed.**

## **IDENTIFICATION AND SECURITY**

For security purposes, all participants, including accompanying persons, observers, delegation staff and members of the press, are requested to wear their identity badges at **all** meetings and social events. Identity badges will be needed to access all conference events, including social events. Loss of identity badges should be reported immediately to the conference staff at the Registration desk.

For security reasons, all participants, observers, delegation staff and members of the press must also be able to show their identity card or passport upon request.

## **DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS**

The list of the diplomatic missions in Romania is available on the official [website](#) of the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Please inform your diplomatic representations about your stay in Bucharest.

The evening of Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July will be reserved for embassies and consulates.

## **DOCUMENTATION AND COPYING SERVICES**

The OSCE PA International Secretariat will send electronic documentation folders in PDF format to all delegations. Most of the documents related to the Annual Session will be uploaded on the OSCE PA event APP and can also be downloaded from the [OSCE PA website](#).

A limited number of documents will be printed. Secretaries of Delegations are advised to make arrangements to print documents needed in advance.

Printers and photocopying machines will be at the disposal of the Secretaries of Delegations at the Palace of Parliament in the designated areas.

## **INTERPRETATION**

During the various official meetings of the Annual Session, simultaneous interpretation will be provided in all six official languages of the OSCE: English, French, German, Italian, Russian, Spanish and in Romanian.

It will not be possible to accommodate requests for organizing simultaneous interpretation in any additional languages during the official meetings of the Annual Session.

Organizers of side events will have to make their own arrangements for interpretation if needed.

## **SPONSORSHIP FOR ACCESS OF NON-PARLIAMENTARY PARTICIPANTS AND SIDE EVENTS**

As in most parliaments in the OSCE region, access for non-parliamentary participants to the premises for OSCE Parliamentary Assembly meetings is granted upon request by Members of Parliament.

Only Members of Parliament who are official delegates in the Annual Session of the OSCE PA will be able to register and organize side events in the premises of the Palace of Parliament. Delegates hosting a meeting or an event are fully responsible for the costs, programme and participants invited.

The OSCE PA International Secretariat declines any responsibility for these events.

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly meetings are streamed on the internet, and open to the public through other means including coverage of meetings by journalists. Meetings are intended to facilitate dialogue among parliamentarians, but access by non-parliamentarians is welcome - space allowing - upon request by Members of the OSCE PA officially registered for the Annual Session 2024. **Sponsoring Members take full responsibility for the sponsored participants and are requested to clarify the duration of their access to the OSCE PA meeting.** Access to certain parts of the premises and programme may be restricted to parliamentarians and their staff.

Those sponsoring access of non-parliamentary participants are asked to use the form Annex A (available upon request). The registration deadline for non-parliamentary participants is Monday 3 June 2024.

Proposals to organize side meetings need to be communicated to the International Secretariat of the OSCE PA from Monday 6 May 2024 to Monday 3 June 2024, by filling out and returning the application form (Annex B – available upon request), clearly indicating the purpose of the event and names/titles/functions of the registered organizers.

Due to necessary security checks and planning constraints, it will not be possible to organize side-events at the last minute.

All participants must be accredited by the OSCE PA and in possession of an OSCE PA badge. They will be subject to security checks upon entering the building.

Due to the limited number of rooms available, bilateral discussions and meetings between delegations or between OSCE PA bodies will be given priority. To the extent possible, the International Secretariat will allocate meeting rooms for side events on a first-come, first-served basis.

Events involving third parties should preferably be planned outside the premises of the Palace of Parliament. Most official hotels have meeting spaces available for hire and there are many other meeting spaces in central Bucharest. Early booking is recommended.

## **CATERING**

Catering will be provided exclusively by the Parliament of Romania. Side event organizers will be responsible for catering orders and for covering the costs.

Details including deadlines will be provided to organizers of side events upon request.

Lunch facilities will be available for the participants in the Palace of Parliament.

In accordance with the Palace of Parliament's regulations, please note that food and/or beverages are not allowed in any of the meeting rooms.

## **INSURANCE**

Personal and medical insurance is the responsibility of individual participants. The host Parliament will not be responsible for any lost luggage, currency or personal effects, or any medical costs.

## **MEDICAL FACILITIES**

Medical assistance will be available throughout the meetings. A medical office will be located in the Palace of Parliament. However, illness/condition requiring medical treatment or hospitalization is the responsibility of the individual. Participants under treatment should bring enough medicine to cover their needs.

Please note that the general telephone number in case of emergency (medical, fire or security) is 112.

## **CLIMATE AND TIME ZONE**

Bucharest is part of the Central European time zone (UTC/GMT + 2 hours). The average temperature in Bucharest in June and July is around 25°C.

Weather forecasts and other information about climate in Bucharest can be found at <https://www.accuweather.com>.

## **CURRENCY**

The official currency in Romania is RON (1 EUR = approx. 5 RON). Most types of cards are accepted by merchants. Cash can be withdrawn at any time from ATMs in the city, as well as from ATMs located in the building of the Palace of Parliament.

## **ELECTRICITY**

The voltage in Romania is 220V and European style two-pin sockets (types C and F) are used.

## **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

The international code for Romania is 0040/+40, followed by a phone number. Access to Wi-Fi will be available at the Palace of Parliament. Many public places in Bucharest offer free wireless internet, including restaurants and bars.

## **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

Secretaries of Delegation should inform the Secretariat of the Chamber of Deputies at [oscepa@cdep.ro](mailto:oscepa@cdep.ro) about delegates with mobility limitations in order to make the necessary arrangements in advance. Moreover, Secretaries will need to fill in information regarding dietary restrictions through the online registration system.

## **SMOKING**

Smoking is prohibited in all public buildings in Romania. The Palace of Parliament has a designated smoking area, and this area will be clearly signposted.

## **INFORMATION ABOUT BUCHAREST**

Bucharest is the capital and the largest city in Romania, documented in 1459. Besides being an administrative and economic centre, it is also the starting point for tourist destinations in Romania. Bucharest has an important number of tourist attractions and monuments, such as the Palace of Parliament, the Arch of Triumph, the Romanian Athenaeum, the Romanian Peasant Museum, the National Museum of Art or the National Museum of History. For more practical information please visit <https://visitbucharest.today/> .