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EPC Summit Venue

The second European Political Community (EPC) Summit will take place at Mimi Castle in Moldova. Mimi Castle is located in Bulboaca village, Anenii Noi district, 30 km away from Chişinău International Airport. The approximate duration of the trip from the airport to Mimi Castle is about 25-30 minutes and from Chişinău to Mimi Castle about 45-50 minutes.

Organized transportation from Chişinău to and from the Summit venue will be provided to accredited journalists on the day of the Summit. Please refer to the section “Reaching the Summit Venue on 1 June” below.



Media accreditation

Media accreditation is open until **18 May 2023** on the Summit website www.epcsummit2023.md. Please click on REGISTRATION AND ACCREDITATION to proceed to the registration form. You can also access the media accreditation page directly at <https://accreditation.epcsummit2023.md/media>.

Please note that the accreditation period closes on 18 May 2023 at 23:59, two weeks prior to the Summit. Applications for accreditation will only be accepted during the accreditation period.

Late accreditation CANNOT be granted due to security reasons.

Once you have submitted your application, you will receive an email to validate the email address you provided in the form, followed by a confirmation of your accreditation request submission.

You will receive a response to your accreditation request **within 10 calendar days**.

We strongly recommend that you apply for accreditation as early as possible.

You will need the following documents to complete your application:

- A scan of a valid passport* with an expiration date exceeding the date of the Summit by at least 90 days
- Your recent photo
- Your CV (in English or Romanian)
- A valid press card and a letter, in English, French or Romanian, signed and stamped by the editor-in-chief of your media organization that confirms your status as a journalist and states which event you are covering. Please merge the two documents and upload them as one. ([e.g. of a Confirmation Letter](#))

*Moldovan media outlets can apply for accreditation using their national ID (buletin de identitate). Nationals of EU member states and Türkiye can also apply using a valid national ID of the ID1/ID2 format, including biometric ID. Nationals of all other countries should apply using a valid foreign passport. Before applying, please ensure that you are able to enter the Republic of Moldova with the travel document you have chosen.

If you are a foreign national, please check the [visa requirements](#) for traveling to the Republic of Moldova before your trip.

Media access to the EPC Summit is possible only with accreditation on a per-event basis. Media accreditation for the EPC Summit will be granted for a period **not exceeding 25 May-6 June 2023**. When filling out the accreditation form, kindly specify your arrival and departure dates within this period.

If you require media accreditation for a period that extends beyond 25 May-6 June 2023, please refer to the accreditation procedure outlined on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova by clicking on the following link:

<https://mfa.gov.md/en/content/accreditation-foreign-journalists>

Badge collection

Media badge is required to enter the premises of the Summit on 31 May and 1 June.

Mediacor is the main point for badge collection. All journalists can collect their badges during 26-31 May at the entrance hall of Mediacor. Local media is highly encouraged to collect their badges during 26-28 May to fluidify the process.

Mediacor is the Production and Technology Centre for Film and Media Industries hosted by the Moldova State University (USM). Mediacor provides rooms for cooperation, production, shootings and post-production, allowing students, professionals and production studios to carry out media productions at the standards of the media industry, applying new technologies, in line with the global tendencies in the digital media.

Mediacor is located on str. Alexei Mateevici 60, Chişinău (on the campus of Moldova State University). Please note that access to Mediacor is from str. Puşkin (across the street from Uptown café). Please also note that str. Puşkin is a one way street. Please refer to Annex 1 for a detailed plan of accessing Mediacor.

Badge collection hours at Mediacor:

26 - 31 May

for all media

26 - 28 May

highly
encouraged for
local press

10:00 – 16:00

hours

Journalists that arrive late in the Republic of Moldova on 31 May and do not manage to collect their badge during the opening hours at Mediacor will have the opportunity to collect their badge on 1 June at the Railway Station (Gara Feroviară) before departure. Journalists are encouraged to arrive earlier to the train station.

26 May Mediacor: 10:00 – 16:00

27 May Mediacor: 10:00 – 16:00

28 May Mediacor: 10:00 – 16:00

29 May Mediacor: 10:00 – 16:00

30 May Mediacor: 10:00 – 16:00

31 May Mediacor: 10:00 – 16:00

1 June Railway Station: Before train departure. Exact hours will be announced closer to the event.

Summit Venue: Badges will only be issued to accredited journalists with lost badges.

Lost badges

- Journalists that lose their badge before the Summit or have identified mistakes in their badges should report it immediately to epc.media@mfa.gov.md with the message title „Lost badge for EPC Summit – (First Name, Last Name)”
- In case the badge loss was reported in advance, journalists can collect the new badge at the Train Station before departure on 1 June. The hours for badge collection at the Train Station will be announced closer to the event.
- In case badge loss was reported the night before or on the day of the Summit, the accredited journalist will be allowed to board the train and collect the new badge at the venue.

Media arriving with the official delegation

■ Before the Summit

Journalists reaching Chişinău International Airport onboard with the official delegation before 1 June, will undergo separate passport control and security check at the airport. Journalists will have to arrange their own transportation to reach the hotel.

Journalists will pick their badge at Mediacor. Please consult the “Badge collection” section for more details. They can visit the Press Center on 31 May.

On 1 June, journalists will meet at the Chişinău Railway Station and take a pre-arranged train to the venue. Please note that journalists will not be allowed to join the Summit venue by any other means than the train (ie. by taxi or self-driven car) due to restricted circulation. Please consult “Reaching and leaving the Summit venue on 1 June” for more details.



On the day of the Summit (1 June)

Journalists arriving on 1 June with the official delegation, but not as part of it, should be informed of and ensure the following:

- **Journalists will have to secure accredited transportation with the help of the Embassy of the respective country in Moldova ahead of time. This transportation will be part of the official motorcade.**
- Journalists traveling with the official delegation on the day of the Summit **should not seek alternative transportation options** to the one stated above as they will not be allowed to leave the airport. Furthermore, for security purposes, journalists will not be allowed to join the Summit venue by any other means to reach the venue before the delegations.
- **Journalists traveling with the official delegation on the day of the Summit will collect their badges at the entrance to the venue.**

Opening of the Press Center at the venue ahead of the Summit

The Press Center at the venue of the Summit opens one day before the event on 31 May. Journalists will have access to the premises of the Press Center to familiarize with the space and leave heavy equipment. No lockers to store the equipment will be provided. However, the Press Center is located at the Summit venue, which is highly secure and surveilled.

The Press Center is located at the venue of the Summit - Mimi Castle in Bulboacă. The opening hours of the Press Center on 31 May and 1 June will be announced closer to the event.

Please note that besides the Press Center at Mimi Castle, workstations will be provided to journalists at Mediacor in Chişinău throughout May 26 - June 5, including on 31 May. Therefore, journalists without heavy equipment should consider working at Mediacor.

Access to the Press Center is permitted only with the badge. Badges must be collected in advance at Mediacor. Please consult the section on „Badge collection” for the opening hours for badge collection at Mediacor.

The transportation options for reaching the Press Center on 31 May will be communicated closer to the event.

No options to reserve a working station at the Press Center on 31 May and 1 June will be available.

Press Center on 1 June

The official broadcasters of the Summit are Teleradio Moldova and Televiziunea Română, TVR, supported by the European Broadcasting Union (EBU). The footage from the host-broadcaster will be available for free to all media on the EBU platform NewsDirect.

Media opportunities and details regarding media attendance for each event of the Summit will be provided in the Media Advisory. This advisory will be published on the official website of the Summit, where you can find comprehensive information about media coverage.

For the convenience of journalists, the Press Center will offer amenities such as water, coffee, snacks, and lunch boxes. However, it's important to note that there will be no restaurant services available at the Summit venue or in its surrounding area. If you have specific dietary restrictions or preferences, it is advisable to bring your own food to ensure your needs are met during the Summit.

The electrical sockets and plugs commonly used are of type C or F. These sockets are compatible with devices that have Europlug (type C) or Schuko (type F) plugs. The standard voltage in Moldova is 220 V, and the frequency is 50 Hz. If you are traveling from a country with different plug types or voltage standards, it is advisable to bring the necessary adapters or voltage converters to ensure compatibility and safe usage of your electrical devices.

Reaching and leaving the Summit venue on 1 June

Organized transportation to and from the Summit venue will be provided to all accredited journalists on 1 June. Two trains will leave from the Chişinău Railway Station to Bulboaca, arriving 100 meters away from the venue of the Summit. Free Wi-Fi will be provided onboard the trains.

Trains will leave at 7:00 am and 7:30 am from the Chişinău Railway Station. The train ride is approximately 45 minutes. The timetable for departure from Bulboaca to Chişinău after the Summit will be announced closer to the event. Shuttle buses from Bulboaca to Chişinău will be provided in the afternoon on 1 June. Detailed schedule and capacity of the shuttle buses will be announced closer to the event.

Reaching the Chişinău Railway Station on 1 June

On the day of the Summit, a significant number of roads in Chişinău will be blocked. Additional information on road closures and ways to reach the Chişinău Railway Station on 1 June will be announced closer to the event.

Workstations for journalists before the Summit

Mediacor, which can accommodate up to 400 people, will not only serve as the badge collection point but also function as a dedicated working station for foreign journalists from 26 May to 5 June 2023. At Mediacor, journalists will have access to well-equipped working stations, high-speed Wi-Fi, printers, as well as refreshments such as water and coffee. There is also an outside terrace available for relaxation or networking opportunities.

While meals will not be provided at Mediacor, there are plenty of cafes and restaurants in close proximity where journalists can find a variety of food options to suit their preferences.

Inside Mediacor



Covering topics beyond the primary focus of the Summit

Accredited journalists can conduct journalistic activities on the territory of the Republic of Moldova outside the Summit without the badge as long as they have the accreditation letter. In the media accreditation form journalists can indicate their topics of interest.

Social media accounts of the event

All the information dedicated to the second EPC Summit can be found on the official website of the event:

 www.epcsummit2023.md

Additional information can be found on the official EPC Summit in Moldova social media accounts:

 EPCMoldova  EPCMoldova  EPCMoldova
 EPCMoldova  EPCMoldova

Official live announcements will be posted in the lead up to the summit date. Usage of content will be allowed based on the copyright norms indicated on the official social media platforms.

Contacts

We highly encourage journalists to familiarize themselves with the Media Guide and Media Advisory provided for the Summit. These resources are designed to address frequently asked questions and provide important information related to media coverage, logistics, and access to various events.

For any media-related enquiries, you can contact **epc.media@mfa.gov.md**.

For accreditation and media logistics enquiries, you can contact Irina Bernal at **i.bernal@prm.md** and **+37369148335**.

Other practical information

■ Key facts

The population of Moldova is around 2.6 million people (2022 estimate).

The official language in Moldova is Romanian. However, many people speak Russian, English, Italian and other foreign languages.

The main religion in Moldova is Orthodox Christian, practiced by around 93% of the population.

The area of the territory of Moldova is 33 846 km².

Climate in Moldova is moderately continental, characterized by relatively mild winters with little snow, long warm summers, and low humidity. In Chişinău, the average temperature in the month of May is 15-17°C and in June is 20-21°C.

■ Currency and money exchange

The currency of Moldova is Moldovan Leu, plural Lei (MDL). You can check the currency exchange rate at www.curs.md/en.

There are many ATMs around Chişinău and across the country. Card payments are widely accepted in major commercial centers, grocery stores, and restaurants. Money can be exchanged in banks or in currency exchange points around Chişinău.

■ Accommodation

Journalists are kindly requested to take care of their own accommodation arrangements. It is advisable to book accommodations in Chişinău or its vicinity. All journalists will convene at the Chişinău Railway Station on the morning of 1 June to travel to the Summit venue. Choosing accommodation near Bulboaca will not offer any advantages in terms of reaching the Summit, as alternative means of transportation to the venue other than the train on 1 June will not be available. Please consult “Reaching and leaving the Summit venue on 1 June” for more details.

Getting around

Reaching Chişinău from the airport. There are several transportation options from Chişinău International Airport to Chişinău City. First, public trolleybus #30 leaves from the airport to the city center (Main square – Piaţa Marii Adunări Naţionale). The frequency of the trolleybuses may be increased to respond to the increase in the number of flights before the Summit and this information will be communicated closer to the Summit. The trolleybus trip costs 6 MDL (~0.3 EUR) and can be paid with a credit/debit card or in cash onboard the trolleybus.

It is important to ensure that you pay the fare indicated on the meter to avoid any discrepancies.

Taxi is also available at the airport. Additionally, you may consider using mobile taxi apps, which will also provide reliable taxi services on 1 June. These apps can be a convenient and efficient way to arrange transportation during your stay.

- **Letz** - download the app at <https://letz.md/> (accepts Visa and MasterCard)
- **iTaxi** - download the app at <https://www.itaxi.md/> (accepts Visa and MasterCard)
- **TaxiClub** - download the app at <http://taxiclub.md/apps> (accepts only cash payments)

Safety and Security

Moldova is a safe country and maintains a safe environment for residents and visitors. It is important to note that a state of emergency has been in effect since Russia's invasion of neighbouring Ukraine.

It is advisable to maintain a high level of personal security awareness, similar to how you would in your own country. Take precautions to ensure the safety of your valuables and always carry your passport with you, especially during the summit period for security reasons.

Exercise caution when approached by individuals, particularly strangers, who may ask for money. While unlikely, pickpocketing incidents may occur in public places, restaurants, public transport, and even places of worship.

If you plan to drive in Moldova, ensure that you possess all the necessary documentation, including a valid driving license, proof of insurance, passport, and proof of vehicle rental. Remember that driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs is illegal, and there is a zero-tolerance policy for drunk driving. Both drugs and prostitution are illegal in Moldova. If someone claiming to be a police officer approaches you without a uniform, ask for their identification and badge to confirm their credentials.

Keep in mind that political protests can occur in Moldova.

Lastly it is worth noting that the Transnistrian region of Moldova is not under the effective control of Moldovan authorities, and travel to the breakaway region is not advisable.

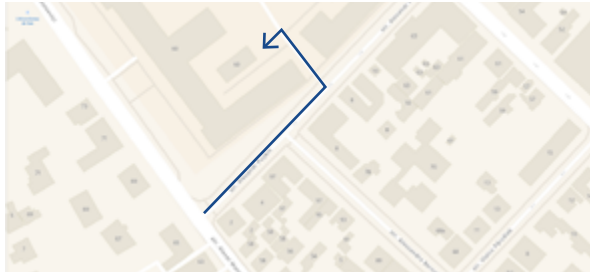
In case of an incident or emergency, it is crucial to **CONTACT THE EMERGENCY SERVICES** immediately. In Moldova, there is a single general emergency number that you can call for all types of assistance. **Dial 112 to reach the police, fire department, or ambulance services.** This number will connect you to the appropriate emergency service based on your situation.

ANNEX 1. Addresses

Addresses of badge collection points:

Mediacor

str. Alexei Mateevici
60, Chişinău
(located on the
campus of Moldova
State University)



Chişinău Railway Station (Gara Feroviară)

str. Piaţa Gării 1,
Chişinău



Address of the Summit venue:



Mimi Castle

Blvd Dacia 1, Bulboaca 6512

