

Practical information note

The European way of growth

A growth policy for a secure, resilient and globally competitive European Union

Ice Kraków Congress Center, January 30-31, 2025



We would like to welcome you to Kraków for the conference "**The European way of growth: A growth policy for a secure, resilient and globally competitive European Union**" - on 30 and 31 of January 2025.

This Practical Information Note (PIN) contains logistical and technical information. Any changes to this information will be communicated. We hope, it will help you make the most of your time in Kraków and fully engage in the rich discussions and networking opportunities offered during the event.

Please note that all updated information regarding the agenda, session descriptions, workshop details, and speaker biographies will be available on the official conference website (<https://polish-presidency.consilium.europa.eu/en/events/the-european-way-of-growth/>). We encourage you to visit the site regularly and stay informed about the latest updates.

Host City

Kraków is a city known for its rich history, vibrant culture, and unique charm. Being one of Poland's oldest and most beautiful cities, it offers something for everyone - whether you are passionate about history, art, nature, or simply enjoy the dynamic urban environment.

As the capital of Poland until 1596, Kraków has long been at the heart of the country's political and cultural life. The Wawel Castle, located on a hill overlooking the city, is one of Poland's most iconic architectural landmarks. For centuries, it served as the residence of Polish kings and now houses several museums, including the Royal Chambers and Wawel Cathedral, and the State Rooms. The city's name is derived from the legendary King Krak, who, according to local tales, have killed a mythical dragon and founded the city.



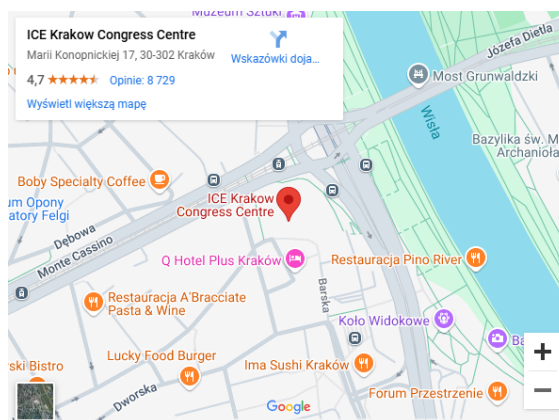
The heart of Kraków is in its Old Town (Stare Miasto), a UNESCO World Heritage site, with the Main Market Square (Rynek Główny) at its core. Dating back to the 13th century, it is one of the largest medieval town squares in Europe. The square features the Cloth Hall (The Sukiennice), a Renaissance gem of architecture that once served as a trade hub, now a lively gathering spot, filled with cafés, street performers, and markets that energize the square throughout the year.

Kraków's mix of history and culture with modernity, makes it the perfect host city for the conference, where past achievements and challenges will be discussed in order to shape the future of the European Union.

Venue

The ICE Kraków Congress Centre (ul. Marii Konopnickiej 17, 30-302 Kraków)

<https://icekrakow.pl/en>



The ICE Kraków Congress Centre, located, at the heart of the city, has been a dynamic hub for business and cultural meetings since 2014.

It hosts a wide range of events, from international congresses and conferences to cultural performances, including concerts, operas, ballet, and theater shows.

Its glazed three-story foyer provides panoramic views of the Wawel Castle, the Vistula River, and the Kazimierz district.

It is also accessible for persons with reduced mobility and vision impairments. The more detailed information about its accessibility can be found [here](#).

The importance of ICE Kraków on the international stage is evidenced by a number of awards, including the Meetings Star Award (2015, 2016, 2021, 2022), the A'Design Award (2015), The Plan Award (2015), and Gold Meetings Star (2019, 2020, 2021). Notable events hosted at ICE Kraków include the Global Clean Air Summit and the 61st ICCA Congress.

Registration

All participants must register and obtain accreditation individually using the link:

[REGISTRATION](#)

Please, Go to the link: delegate.poland25.eu/account/create, create Your individual account and then register using the individual code required to register for this meeting:

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We kindly request that you complete the registration process at your earliest convenience.

Registration platform will allow for registration until **the 15th of January 2025**.

On-site or late registration will not be available.

The registration form will include a request for you to declare which sessions and side events you intend to join.

Please make sure that your personal details are correctly submitted as certain information (e.g. your name) will appear on your identification badge.

Please note that only registered delegates will have access to the official meetings and the Presidency venues.

After successful registration, you will receive a message with a personal code sent to your phone number. This code will be used to obtain the electronic version of the ID badge, which must be shown to the registration staff on-site in order to receive the plastic ID badge granting access to the event.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at:

accreditation.poland25eu@kprm.gov.pl

Photo

During the registration, you will need to upload a photo that will be printed on your ID badge. You can also use your device's webcam to make a photo during registration.

The photo will be used for identification purposes, so it should be recent and show only your face, similar to a passport photo.

The photo must be in .jpg, .png, or .gif format, with a maximum size of 5 MB. The recommended resolution is 640x640 pixels. Files that are too large or have insufficient resolution may be rejected.

Badges

All participants will receive a personalized badge at the beginning of the event.

Participants will receive **only one badge for the whole event.**

Please be careful to **wear your badge in an interrupted manner, during the conference and make sure that it is visible to others.**

Please note that all participants are required to have their ID cards or passports to confirm their identity, at the venue.

In case of loss of your badge, please report it immediately to the Presidency staff.

The validity of the lost badge will immediately be terminated and a new badge will be issued.

Side Events

1. Workshops

Please note: Participation in the workshops is only possible after online registration.

On January 29th (one day before the conference begins), we will be hosting a series of expert workshops as part of the side events.

These sessions will provide an opportunity for discussions on key topics, where participants will be able to share insights, exchange knowledge, and engage with specialists in the field.

- **Gen AI** in your research team (only in Polish, limited to 30 participants)
- **Service Design workshop** - a practical approach to public service design (only in Polish, limited to 30 participants)
- **Territorial Impact Assessment** – strengthening cohesion, resilience, and competitiveness! (only in English, limited to 40 participants).

2. Dinner in Stara Zajezdnia

The official dinner on 30 of January will take place at the Old Tram Depot restaurant (Stara Zajezdnia). The depot was established in 1913, together with the launch of the broad-gauge tram line in Kraków. With the expansion of the tram network, it was decided to build a new depot in a new location, and the current depot gradually lost its importance, falling into ruin. In the years 2010-2012, the facility was renovated to house the restaurant and the brewery.



The hall is an example of wooden frame architecture with brick filling, popularly known as Prussian wall, rare in Kraków. The Main Hall belongs to an architectural and construction complex under legal protection, entered into the register of monuments in 1985 and on the UNESCO World Cultural and Natural Heritage List and recognized as a historical monument.

Participation in the dinner is available only to individuals who have indicated their attendance, during the online registration process.

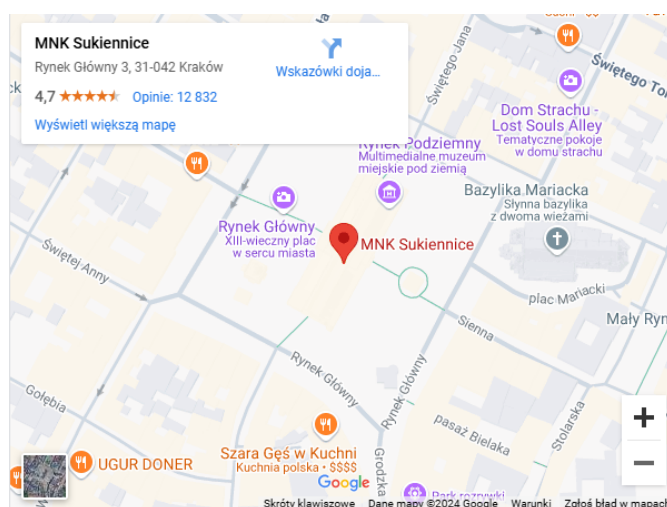
3. Guided tours

Please note: Participation in the guided tours is only possible after online registration. We encourage you to register quickly as spots are limited.

- "Tracing the European Identity of Kraków" Exhibition Tour at *Rynek Podziemny* ([Main Market Square Underground Museum](#))

This exhibition offers a unique exploration of the city's medieval past and highlights the European identity of Kraków and its place in European history.

- **Group 1: 5:00-6:00 PM (Polish, limited to 30 participants)**
- **Group 2: 5:30-6:30 PM (English, limited to 30 participants)**



Meeting point: 4:45 PM and 5:15 PM respectively at the main entrance of the Rynek Underground Museum by Sukiennice (Cloth Hall).

The exhibition tour will cover approximately 1 hour. After the tour the group will be guided to Stara Zajezdnia for dinner.

- **Guided Tour of the Old Town (*Stare Miasto*)**

Kraków's Old Town is a UNESCO World Heritage site, known for its medieval layout and stunning architecture.

- **Group 1: 5:30 – 6:45 PM (English, limited to 25 participants)**
- **Group 2: 5:45 – 7:00 PM (English, limited to 25 participants)**
- **Group 3: 6:00 – 7:15 PM (Polish, limited to 25 participants)**



Meeting point: St. Mary's Church.

The walking tour will cover approximately 2-3 km and will end at Stara Zajezdnia for dinner.

- **Guided Tour of Kazimierz (*Kazimierz*)**

Kazimierz, the historic Jewish Quarter of Kraków, offers a rich blend of Jewish heritage and modern cultural life.

- **Group 1: 5:30 – 6:45 PM (English, limited to 25 participants)**
- **Group 2: 5:45 – 7:00 PM (English, limited to 25 participants)**
- **Group 3: 6:00 – 7:15 PM (Polish, limited to 25 participants)**



Meeting point: the main entrance of ICE Kraków. The tour will last approximately 1 hour, and it will end at Stara Zajezdnia for dinner. The walking tour will cover approximately 2-3 km.

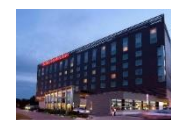
Accommodation

Below, we have listed a selection of recommended hotels located in the vicinity of the ICE Kraków Congress Centre for your convenience.

Participants are kindly asked to make their own hotel reservations themselves.

4-star hotels:

- [Park Inn by Radisson](#), *ul. Monte Cassino 2*,
- [Q Hotel Plus Kraków](#), *ul. Wygrana 6*,
- [Hilton Garden Inn Kraków](#), *ul. Marii Konopnickiej 33*



3-star hotels:

- [Hotel Poleski](#), *ul. Sandomierska 6*,
- [Benefis Boutique Hotel](#), *ul. Barska 2*.



2-star hotels:

- [B&B Hotel Kraków Centrum](#), *ul. Monte Cassino 1*.



Transport to Kraków

Kraków is well-connected by various modes of transport, making it easily accessible from different parts of Poland and Europe. Below are the most common ways to reach the city.

- **By Train:**
Suggested trains [booking link](#)
- **By Air:**
 - [Kraków Airport](#),
 - [Katowice Airport](#)

- Suggested transfer options from Kraków Airport:
 - public bus (300, 209) – Directly from the airport to ICE Kraków (bus stop *Os. Podwawelskie*)
 - train (SKA1) – to Kraków Main Railway Station
 - taxi

Local Transportation in Kraków

The best options to reach the event venue are:

- **Free Public Transport:**

Several bus and tram lines stop by ICE Kraków, including lines 300 and 209 that go directly to the Airport.

Participants with an official conference ID, which will feature a special sticker/hologram, will be able to use public transport in Kraków free of charge during the event days.

- **Taxi**

iCar Taxi (+48 12 653 55 55), Mega Taxi (+48 12 196 25), Radio Taxi Wawel (+48 12 196 66)

Catering

Lunch will be provided on site for all participants as well as refreshments throughout both days of the conference. If you have dietary requirements, please indicate these on the online registration form.

Security

Access to the meeting venue will be restricted. An internal security zone will be established within the conference centre.

For security reasons, badges must be worn visibly during the entire official programme and at all times. Access to the meeting venue will not be possible without a visibly worn badge.

Internet access

A free Wi-Fi service will be available inside the conference centre. Access details will be provided in the conference documentation packages.

Interpretation

The conference will be conducted in two working languages: Polish and English. Interpretation will be available in English during the entire conference.

Accessibility

The ICE Krakow Congress Centre is accessible for people with special needs, particularly those using wheelchairs and persons with other mobility impairments. On-site assistants will be available to assist conference participants.

We will provide an induction loop system and interpretation services in Polish and International Sign Language. Further details about the venue's accessibility can be found [here](#).

Other practical information

Emergency number: 112 (fire brigade, medical assistance, police)

Electricity: The voltage in Poland is 230V, 50 Hz.

Local time: Central European Summer Time Zone (CEST) – GMT +2:00

Country code: Poland +48

Currency: The official currency of Poland is the Polish Złoty (PLN). For official daily exchange rates, please see the website of the National Bank of [Poland](#):

[Weather in Poland](#)

Tap water: Polish tap water is regularly tested for quality and is safe to drink.

Smoking: Smoking is only allowed in the designated areas of the official meeting spaces. Please note that smoking is not permitted within the ICE Kraków Congress Centre.

Contact information

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Accreditation

Organisational issues

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