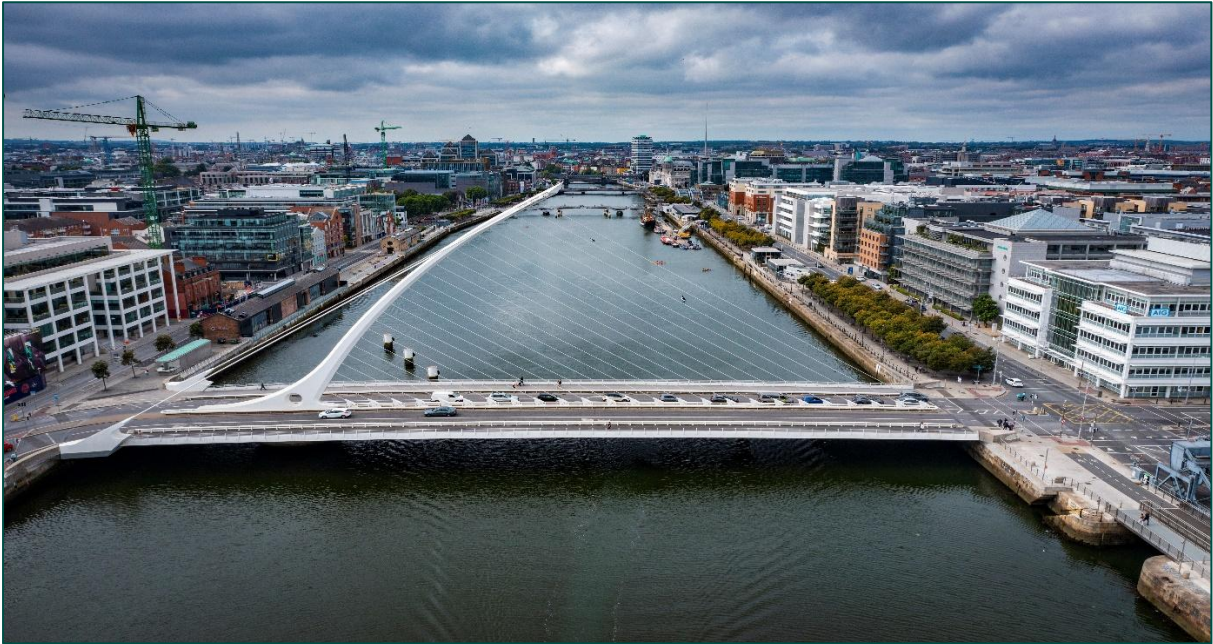




Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Irish Presidency of the
Council of the European Union
2026



Practical Information Note

INFORMAL MEETING OF COMPETITIVENESS MINISTERS (INTERNAL MARKET AND INDUSTRY)

Place

DUBLIN

Dates

9 – 10 July 2026



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Introduction

The Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union looks forward to welcoming you to Dublin for the Informal meeting of Competitiveness Ministers (Internal Market and Industry) on 9 - 10 July 2026. We are pleased to share this Practical Information Note (PIN) to assist delegations in preparing for the meeting.

Please note that the information contained in this PIN may be subject to change. Updated information, including any updates to the meeting programme, practical arrangements or meeting documentation, will be shared through the online Accreditation Platform. Registered delegation members will receive email notifications when updated material is shared on the Accreditation Platform. Additional support will be provided throughout your visit to Ireland by your assigned Delegation Liaison Officer (DLO) who will be in contact no later than three working days before the meeting.

If you have any queries about the accreditation process, please contact EU26ETE001.logistics@dfa.ie

For queries about the content of the meeting, please contact COMPET26@enterprise.gov.ie

Deadlines

Date	What you need to do	Where to go
From 3 to 9 June	Appoint a Delegation Accreditation Officer (DAO) to gain access to the Accreditation Portal	Send the DAO's details to EU26ETE001.logistics@dfa.ie
From 9 June to 25 June	Register your delegation members	Via the Accreditation Portal
26 June	Deadline for registration of delegation	Via the Accreditation Portal
9 – 10 July	Informal meeting of Competitiveness Ministers (Internal Market and Industry)	Dublin Castle, Dublin

Location

The Informal Meeting of Competitiveness Ministers (Internal Market and Industry) will take place in Dublin. Located on the east coast of Ireland, the history of Ireland's capital city dates back over 1,000 years when the first known settlement was built in what is now the city centre. Dublin's streets reflect the many changes it has gone through since then, from the cobbled medieval streets of Temple Bar, to the Georgian townhouses and Victorian parks dotted throughout the city, and the modern architecture in the Docklands district. The iconic River Liffey flows through the heart of the city and connects it to the bustling Dublin Port.



Printworks Conference Centre, Dublin Castle

The working sessions will be hosted in the [Printworks Conference Centre](#) in Dublin Castle. Constructed in the early 13th century on the site of a Viking settlement, Dublin Castle lies at the heart of the city centre and is now the setting for some of Ireland's most important state events. The Printworks is the largest and newest venue in Dublin Castle, originally opened for Ireland's hosting of the Presidency of the Council of the European Union in 2013. It is located in the lower courtyard of Dublin Castle with unrivalled views of Dublin's last intact medieval tower.



The meeting venue includes:

- A plenary room (format Head of Delegation and a maximum of two delegates)
- A delegates' lounge
- Five bilateral meeting rooms. To reserve a bilateral meeting room in advance, please email EUPresidency.bilaterals@dfa.ie. To reserve a bilateral meeting room on the day of the meeting, please inform your Delegation Liaison Officer.



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- A media centre (located in the General Labour Office on Werburgh Street, adjacent to Dublin Castle)
- A press conference facility



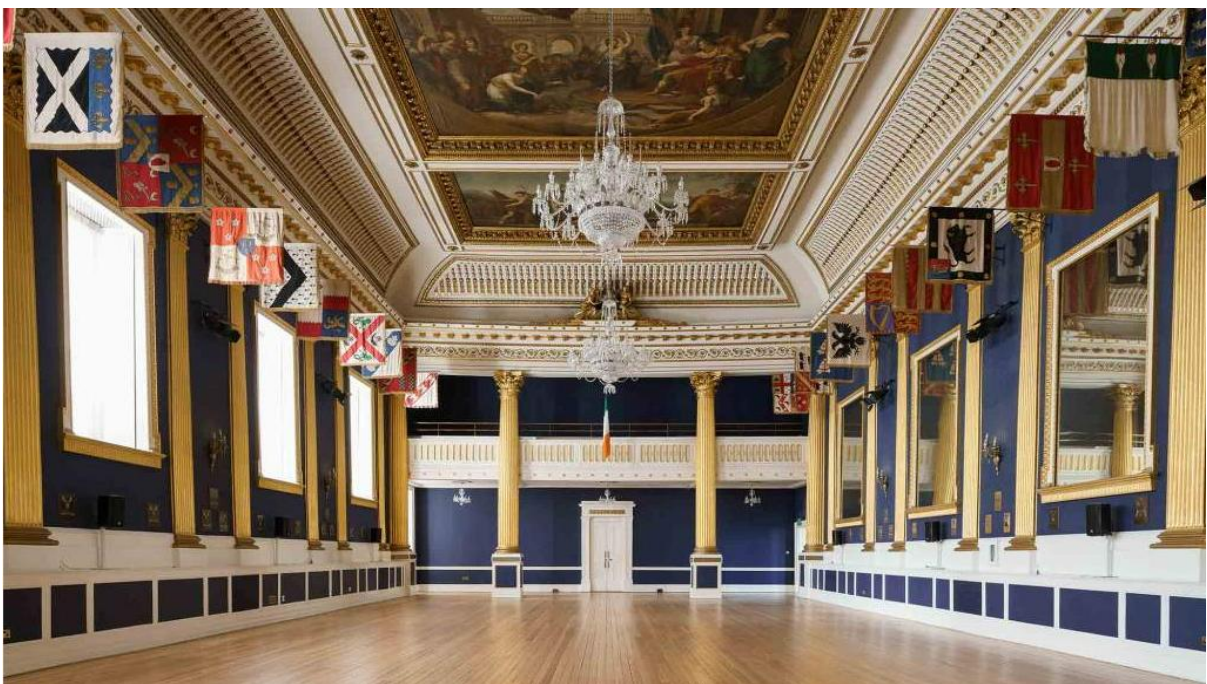
Guinness Storehouse

On the afternoon of 9 July the delegation will visit the [Guinness Storehouse](#) site located at St. James's Gate on the south quays of the River Liffey since the company began making its iconic beer in 1759. Delegates will be taken on a guided walk through the site followed by a presentation on single market, competitiveness and decarbonisation related topics as well as Diageo's experience doing business in the EU.



St Patrick's Hall, Dublin Castle

The welcome reception and official dinner will be hosted in St. Patrick's Hall in Dublin Castle. St. Patrick's Hall is one of the most significant and prestigious venues in Ireland. The room is an important feature of Irish political and historical life and is used for the inauguration ceremonies of Irish Presidents.





Programme

This preliminary programme is subject to change. The final programme will be shared with registered delegation members via the Accreditation Platform in advance of the meeting.

Thursday 9 July

Thursday 9 July	A.M. / P.M.	Arrivals via Dublin Airport
	15:00	Departure from hotels to Guinness Storehouse
	15:30 – 17:00	Site visit at Guinness Storehouse
	17:00 – 17:30	Transfer to hotel
	18:30	Departure from hotels to Dublin Castle
	19:00 – 21:30	Welcome reception and official dinner at St. Patrick's Hall, Dublin Castle
	21:30	Transfer to hotel

Friday 10 July

Friday, 10 July	08:00 – 08:45	Transfers from hotel
	08:30 – 09:15	Arrival and handshake
	09:30 – 11:15	Working Session (1a)
	11:15 – 11:45	Coffee Break Family photograph
	11:45 – 13:15	Working Session (1b)
	13:30 – 14:30	Working Lunch for HoDs and buffet lunch for accompanying delegates
	14:30 – 15:00	Press Conference
	P.M.	Departures and transfers to Dublin Airport

Interpretation

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Interpretation, DG SCIC, will provide simultaneous interpretation via interpretation booths.

The language regime for the Informal Meeting will be 5/5, **English, French, German, Spanish and Italian into English, French, German, Spanish and Italian** in the plenary session and during the working lunch. Simultaneous interpretation will not be provided at the welcome reception and dinner, during the site visit, or during the official press conference, which will be conducted through English.

Please note that interpretation will not be provided during breaks, between sessions, for bilateral meetings, or for individual Heads of Delegations' media opportunities.

To facilitate interpretation of interventions, you are welcome to send any relevant meeting documentation such as speeches or speaking points to EUPresidency.interpretation@dfa.ie one week before the date of the meeting, including "Informal Meeting of Competitiveness Ministers (Internal Market and Industry)" and your country's name in the title of your email.



Please note that should your Head of Delegation be accompanied by a personal interpreter, they must be registered as part of the official delegation in order to have access to the meeting venue.

If a delegation indicates its intention to make an intervention in a language which is not available in the language regime provided, and a member of that delegation in the room repeats the comments made in a language which is covered, interpretation will be provided.

If a delegation chooses to make an intervention in a language which is not provided by the language regime and which is not known to members of the interpretation team, but provides a written translation, it is possible to read the text out in the booth. This does not constitute simultaneous interpreting, and does not guarantee accuracy regarding what is said in the room.

Delegation

Delegation size and format

Delegations will be limited to the **1 + 2 + 1** format (Head of Delegation plus two accompanying delegates, plus a protection officer if required). These formats are fixed and no exceptions can be made.

Personal interpreters, official photographers, press officers and other categories of participant requiring access to the meeting venue must be accredited as members of the delegation. Please email EU26ETE001.logistics@dfa.ie to request that a position on your delegation be designated for these roles, if required.

Please note that the Embassy of an EU Member State in Ireland may apply separately for an EU Presidency accreditation badge, in the name of the Ambassador or another nominated member of diplomatic staff. The holder of this EU Presidency accreditation badge will be permitted access to the meeting venue for all informal Ministerial meetings and, when accompanied by a DFAT Protocol team member and airport personnel, to the airport for the purpose of greeting / bidding farewell to the visiting Head of Delegation. Therefore, EU Member states do not need to accredit their Ambassador/nominated Embassy diplomatic staff member as a member of the delegation. Guest States may request accreditation for their Ambassador to Ireland, or a nominated Embassy diplomatic staff member, for this meeting, as an additional member of the delegation, by emailing EU26ETE001.logistics@dfa.ie.

Registration and accreditation

For security reasons, each delegate must be registered and accredited in order to gain access to the meeting venue, the official welcome reception and dinner, and the site visit.

A **Delegation Accreditation Officer (DAO)** must be appointed by each invited delegation. The DAO must register all members of the delegation on the Accreditation Platform, in line with the instructions below.

To facilitate the smooth running of the programme, DAOs are asked to submit all requested information relating to their delegation, including transport and accommodation details, and dietary and accessibility requirements of delegates, in accordance with deadlines as outlined below.



Types of accreditations

Heads of Delegation will receive a lapel pin. Other delegates will receive an accreditation badge (details below). All delegates must always visibly wear their valid lapel pin or badge, including during the official welcome reception, dinner and site visit.

Heads of Delegation and accompanying delegates will be given their lapel pin and accreditation badges by their Delegation Liaison Officer (DLO) upon arrival at the airport. Delegates arriving separately from the HoD will be given their badges by their DLO at the earliest opportunity.

Delegates will be requested to provide a photo i.d. document when receiving their badge from the DLO. Delegate badges are strictly personal and non-transferable. Floater badges can be transferred as required between delegates.

Badge type	Participant Type	Access
Lapel pin	Head of Delegation	Allows access to all areas
Blue badge	Delegate	Allows access to the plenary room, the delegates' lounge, bilateral meeting rooms and the press area

If you lose your lapel pin or badge, you must immediately notify your DLO. Please also notify the event organisers by sending an email to EU26ETE001.logistics@dfa.ie

Opening and closing dates of the Accreditation Platform

Once the letter of invitation has been received, invited delegations are requested to appoint a DAO as soon as possible. Please send an email to EU26ETE001.logistics@dfa.ie straight away (and no later than **9 June**) containing:

- The delegation your DAO represents (i.e. country or organisation name)
- DAO's full name
- DAO's phone number
- DAO's email address

The Accreditation Platform will be open for registration of your delegation once your DAO has been appointed. The Accreditation Platform will be open until **26 June 2026**.

Instructions for the Delegation Accreditation Officer (DAO)

The DAO is responsible for the accreditation of all members of their delegation. Once appointed by following the instructions above, the DAO will receive a link to the Accreditation Platform to register their delegation. Please note that in compliance with data security requirements, the Accreditation Platform requires Two-Factor Authentication. The DAO will require access to an authenticator application, such as Microsoft Authenticator, Google Authenticator or similar, in order to access the Accreditation Platform.

DAOs are kindly requested to register their delegation as soon as possible, and no later than **26 June** when the Accreditation Platform will close. To facilitate the smooth running of the programme, DAOs are asked to submit all requested information relating to their delegation, including transport and accommodation details, and delegates' dietary and accessibility requirements. Please ensure that all



details are completed correctly before submitting the registration request, as certain information (for example, the delegate’s name) will be printed on their accreditation badge.

All personal information provided for accreditation will be processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Full details can be found in the Privacy Notice on the Accreditation Platform.

If you have any queries about the registration process, please email EU26ETE001.logistics@dfa.ie.

Delegation Liaison Officers (DLOs)

A Delegation Liaison Officer (DLO) will be assigned to each delegation to assist and accompany the Head of Delegation and delegates throughout the meeting programme. The DLO will:

- Serve as the principal point of contact between the delegation and the Irish EU Presidency meeting hosts
- Accompany and be available to the delegation, ensuring that their programme runs on time and that the delegation is able to participate in all programme elements
- Provide logistical assistance and administrative support at the airport, accommodation, and event venues
- Distribute accreditation lapel pins and badges on arrival
- Reserve available rooms for bilateral meetings, if requested

DLOs will contact the Delegation Accreditation Officer no later than three working days before the meeting.

If you have any questions about the role of the DLO, or wish to share positive or negative feedback about the performance of your DLO, please email EUPresidencyDLO@dfa.ie

Diplomatic Clearances

Diplomatic clearances are required in a number of cases as set out below. In all cases, the relevant accredited Embassy to Ireland must send a Third Party Note (TPN) to the relevant Department at the email address provided below. DAOs are requested to advise their Embassy to Ireland to submit the diplomatic clearance request at the earliest opportunity, in order to facilitate the timely processing of requests.

Scenario	Required documentation	Timeline	Contact email address
Overflights or landings of military or state aircraft	TPN and a completed diplomatic clearance form (available from diplomaticclearance@dfa.ie)	As early as possible, and no later than 48 hours in advance	diplomaticclearance@dfa.ie
Permission to bring firearm into Ireland (incl. for armed security protection officers)	TPN which includes details of the firearms which will be used, the personnel who will carry them	As early as possible	diplomaticclearance@dfa.ie ; If travelling on a commercial or chartered flight, also: exemptwm@transport.gov.ie



Protection officer requiring radio frequency	TPN which includes details of the radio frequencies proposed	As early as possible	diplomaticclearance@dfa.ie
Requests to wear a military uniform while in Ireland	TPN and a completed Uniform Clearance form (available from diplomaticclearance@dfa.ie)	As early as possible	diplomaticclearance@dfa.ie

If you have questions about the diplomatic clearance process, please email diplomaticclearance@dfa.ie

Delegation Flight Arrivals and Departures

To facilitate arrival and departure procedures for delegations, DAOs are asked to provide all requested information about arrival and departure flights through the Accreditation Platform.

Please note that delegates who travel separately from the Head of Delegation will not be greeted at the point of arrival or provided with Irish EU Presidency transportation to and from the point of arrival or departure.

Handling of luggage

Delegations are strongly advised to travel with **hand luggage only** if possible, to facilitate smooth transfers to and from the airport on arrival and departure.

Please be advised that checked luggage must be collected at the baggage claim by accredited Embassies on arrival, and likewise transported to the airport to be checked in for departure. The delegation should arrange this directly with their Embassy.

Entering Ireland

Please note that Ireland is not part of the Schengen Area. Therefore, **EU citizens must present a valid passport or national identity card to enter Ireland**. Full details are available [here](#).

Citizens of other countries must present a valid passport or recognised travel document to enter Ireland, and may also need a visa. You can find out if you need a visa to enter Ireland [here](#).

Transportation of Delegates

Transportation for Heads of Delegation and accompanying accredited delegates will be organised in close cooperation with An Garda Síochána, Ireland’s national police and security service.

The Irish EU Presidency will provide transport to and from the airport for Heads of Delegation and accompanying accredited delegates arriving on flights landing after 7:00 on Thursday 9 July and departing on flights leaving before 21:00 Friday 10 July only. Delegations arriving or departing outside of this window will be responsible for their own transport to/from the airport.

The Irish EU Presidency will provide transportation between venues for Heads of Delegation and accredited delegates throughout their official programme. Delegations who wish to undertake activities outside of the official meeting programme are expected to make their own transport arrangements and should inform their Delegation Liaison Officer of these plans when known.



To facilitate provision of transport, DAOs are asked to provide full arrival and departure flight details via the accreditation portal, by the registration deadline.

Transportation for Delegates Travelling Separately from their HOD

Delegates travelling separately from their HoD are invited to make their own travel arrangements. Information on public transport and taxi options to and from Dublin Airport are available [here](#).

Embassy Vehicles

It will not be possible for Embassy vehicles to join the official motorcade or to go airside at the Airport at any point.

Accommodation

The Irish EU Presidency has reserved rooms for the Heads of Delegation and accompanying accredited delegates, for the night of 9 July 2026, in the hotels indicated below.

The Irish EU Presidency will cover the cost of accommodation and breakfast for the night of 9 July for the Head of Delegation and one delegate (1+1). Any additional expenses arising from use of the hotel's facilities (such as meals, drinks, room service etc.) must be covered by the delegation.

All other delegates are assigned a room, the cost of which must be paid by the delegation, along with any additional expenses arising from use of the hotel's facilities. For logistical and security reasons, delegations are strongly advised to avail of the assigned rooms. Should you opt to stay at a different hotel, the meeting organisers will be unable to provide you with transportation directly to and from that hotel, or other logistical supports.

The DAO must request the delegation's accommodation reservations through the Accreditation Platform when registering the delegates. The DAO must indicate which delegate should be assigned the pre-paid room, along with the Head of Delegation, and which delegates are availing of the other reserved rooms.

The cost of the rooms to be paid by the delegation must be paid in advance using the link provided on the Accreditation Platform. The DAO can make payment on behalf of all of the delegates, or can send an invitation link to each applicable delegate to invite him/her to make the payment for his/her room directly.

If a Head of Delegation or delegate wishes to arrive earlier or extend their stay, they must make the necessary reservations directly with the hotel of their choice. The Irish EU Presidency is not responsible for reserving or paying for hotel stays before or after the night of 09 July 2026.

Hotels

Heads of Delegation plus one accompanying delegate will stay in

- [The Chancery Hotel](#) - this hotel is 600 meters from Dublin Castle.

Additional delegates will stay in

- [Radisson Blu Royal Hotel](#) - this hotel is 180 meters distance from Chancery Hotel and 650 meters from Dublin Castle. Delegates staying in Radisson Blu Royal will make their way on



foot to Hotel Chancery Hotel to join their Head of Delegation's motorcade transfer to Dublin Castle on the morning of 10 July.

The cost of the rooms reserved for additional delegates is €280 per room. Please send any queries about accommodation arrangements to EUPresidency.accommodation@dfa.ie

Security

The Irish Presidency will provide security during the meeting through An Garda Síochána, Ireland's national police and security service. Security zones designated by the Irish authorities will only be accessible to accredited vehicles and accredited individuals wearing a valid pin or badge. For this reason, delegates and other accredited participants must always visibly wear their valid pin or badge.

Heads of Delegation have the option to include a security officer in their delegation. This officer must be registered on the Accreditation Platform. Requests for authorisation to carry a weapon, use a radio frequency, and wear body armour and/or a military uniform while in Ireland must be made in line with the instructions in the [Diplomatic Aircraft / Security Clearances](#) section above. For any questions related to security, including requests to carry out a security visit to Ireland ahead of the meeting, please contact EU26ETE001.logistics@dfa.ie

Media

All media wishing to attend the Informal Meeting of Competitiveness Ministers (Internal Market and Industry) must accredit on the media accreditation platform <https://media.ireland2026.eu>. Once media accreditation has been confirmed, accredited media can register for events they wish to attend through the accreditation platform.

Accredited and registered media will be permitted access to the media centre and to media opportunities, including doorstep interviews and press conferences.

Media representatives intending to accompany an official delegation must apply for accreditation as part of the delegation, not through the general media accreditation process. Official media who accredit through the media accreditation process cannot transfer into the delegation.

Media centre location, opening hours and other media information will be circulated to registered media in the media logistic note.

Video footage and photographs

The host broadcaster of the Irish EU Presidency will record and stream the following material from the meeting: arrivals, initial handshake greeting, doorstep statements, family photo, tour de table before the plenary session, and the official press conference. This material will be available live on screens in the media centre, and via the [European Broadcasting Service \(EBS\)](#).

Photographs and video from the official Irish EU Presidency multimedia team will be available in high-resolution format on the Irish EU Presidency Flickr account. Content from the Flickr account may be used free of charge and should be attributed to the Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union.



General Information

Useful contacts

For queries relating to accreditation or meeting logistics: EU26ETE001.logistics@dfa.ie

For queries relating to accommodation: EUPresidency.accommodation@dfa.ie

For queries relating to the content of the meeting agenda: COMPET26@enterprise.gov.ie

Emergency services (police, ambulance, fire): 112 or 999

Internet/WiFi

Wireless internet access is available throughout the meeting venue. The network name and password will be available on signage in the venue.

Electricity



The standard electricity supply in Ireland is 230V at a frequency of 50Hz (the same as in other EU Member States). Three-pin power plugs and sockets of Type G are used. Delegates travelling from EU Member States will require a power plug adaptor in order to use electronic devices safely in Ireland.

First Aid and Medical Assistance

Each meeting venue will have a medical unit. If you require medical assistance during the meeting, please alert your Delegation Liaison Officer or a member of venue staff, or follow the signage in the venue to locate the medical unit.

Accessibility

At the time of accreditation, the platform will ask for relevant information on allergies, dietary restrictions and dietary preferences of the Heads of Delegation and delegates, and invite sharing of any meeting-related accessibility requirements. It is important that this information is provided so that delegates may receive all appropriate supports.

Assisted Listening

An assisted listening system will be provided in the plenary room. The system used is Auracast™. This system is Bluetooth® capability which enables the transmission of meeting audio to an unlimited number of receivers with no pairing of devices. The Auracast™ logo will be displayed on screens in auditoriums where the system is in use.



For users with hearing aids or cochlear implants, depending on the manufacturer, most will allow users to connect via their designated app. The Auri audio will appear in the Bluetooth® pairing list. The user can select the desired Auracast™ channel to hear the audio. For users with devices that are not



compatible Auracast™, neck loop devices will be made available from the control booth in the plenary room.

Lost and Found

If you have lost or found an item in the meeting venue or in an Irish EU Presidency vehicle, please bring it to the attention of your Delegation Liaison Officer. Please note that the Irish EU Presidency is not liable for personal injuries, losses or damage to the personal property of registered delegates. All delegates should make their own arrangements with respect to personal insurance for their property.

Weather

Temperatures in Dublin in July typically range between 12°C and 20°C, and visitors can expect mixed sunny and rainy spells.

Links of interest

1. 🌐 Tourism Ireland – <https://www.ireland.com>
Official tourism website with destinations, itineraries, and travel inspiration.
2. 🚗 Transport for Ireland – <https://www.transportforireland.ie>
3. 🚆 Iarnród Éireann – <https://www.irishrail.ie>
Train schedules and ticket booking.
4. 🚌 Bus Éireann – <https://www.buseireann.ie>
Regional bus services across the country.
5. 🌤️ Met Éireann – <https://www.met.ie>
Official weather forecasts and alerts.
6. 🏰 Visit Dublin – <https://www.visitdublin.com>
Events, attractions, restaurants, and tours in Dublin
7. 🆘 Tourist SOS Ireland – <https://www.touristsos.ie>
Free assistance service for tourists who lose documents or need support.
8. 🦋 Wild Atlantic Way – <https://www.wildatlanticway.com>
Information on Ireland's famous coastal scenic route.

Irish Presidency Sustainability Policy

The Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union provides a significant opportunity to demonstrate Ireland's commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility. Ireland is committed to embedding sustainable practices across all aspects of planning and delivery of our EU Presidency.

To reaffirm our commitment, Ireland has developed a Sustainability Policy for our EU Presidency, applying it directly to official EU Presidency meetings and events held in Ireland. The objective of the policy is to support the organisation and delivery of EU Presidency meetings as sustainably as possible. We wish to encourage the implementation of initiatives that are environmentally, socially and economically responsible throughout the organisation and delivery stages.

We hope that our efforts will be visible across our meetings and events and that you will be inspired to continue making sustainable and environmentally conscious choices. More information about the



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Sustainability Policy will be available on the official website of the Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union.