

ESPON OPEN SEMINAR
 within the framework of the Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2011
Future of Cohesion policy
 Gödöllő, Hungary
 21-22 June 2011

PRACTICAL INFORMATION NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Hungary time zone: GMT +1 hour (Central European Time)

The currency in Hungary is Forint (HUF). 1 EURO=274 HUF

Electrical system: Local voltage is 220 to 240 volts

For emergency assistance (ambulance, police, fire fighters) call 112.

For the latest weather forecast please visit <http://www.weather.com/weather/today/Budapest+Hungary>

Working hours in Hungary: Monday to Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Shopping hours:

- Monday to Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Shopping malls are open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

2. GÖDÖLLŐ & BUDAPEST

Gödöllő is a town situated in Pest county 30 km Northeast of Budapest. It lies on the banks of Rákos stream, in the valley of Gödöllő downs. It has direct access to M3 motorway and the brand new M31 relief road. Gödöllő lies in a clean, green and panoramic area surrounded by forests. Due to its natural gifts and the favorable geographical position Gödöllő is one of the most attractive settlements among those surrounding Budapest, the capital of Hungary. The forests in Gödöllő's downs have always offered kings and governors excellent grounds for wild game hunting. A decisive turn in the life of Gödöllő was brought about by Antal Grassalkovich I. (1694-1771) who was a baroque nobleman with a phenomenal career who chose Gödöllő to be the centre of his estates and thus offered a grand possibility for development in Gödöllő. He was a generous patron of art with a good taste in many ways. Following the Reconciliation of 1867 the Hungarian Government bought the castle and its auxiliary lands back and gave them to Francis Joseph I. and Queen Elisabeth as a coronation present. At the beginning of the 20th century Gödöllő became a fashionable holiday resort and tourist attraction. The healthy air, beautiful sights, big parks, good public transportation, the nearness of Budapest and the presence of the royal family made Gödöllő attractive to the bourgeoisie in the capital. A number of actors, writers and journalists rented a villa or had a new one built in Gödöllő. Following World War II the development of the town took a turn. Part of the Grassalkovich castle became the barracks of the Soviet Army soldiers, and the other was transformed into a home of the social welfare services of the City Council of Budapest. New plans for urban development were to change the profile of the town. Its holiday resort profile was soon overshadowed by the incoming industries such as Ganz (Hungarian Electricity Company) in 1950 which was followed by other representatives of the industries in consecutive years. The other decisive turn in the life of Gödöllő was the relocation of the Agrarian University to Gödöllő in 1950. With this move the dream plans which had started forming at the beginning of the century came true and complete: Gödöllő became the country's agrarian centre.



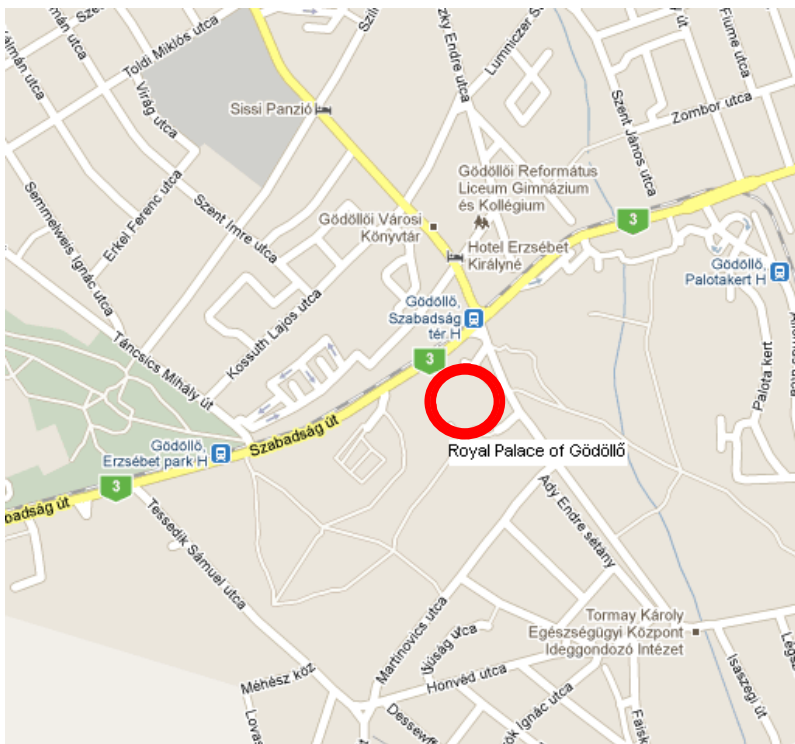
Budapest is the political, administrative, economic, scientific, and cultural centre of the Hungary. Budapest is often called as Paris of Middle and Eastern Europe. Budapest, with a population of 2.5 million people, is located on both sides of the river Danube. Pest is flat, while Buda is hilly. Pest is the more vibrant, pulsating urban half with it's smart shops in the inner city and Andrásy Avenue. The major attractions of the city are on the Pest side, such as the Parliament Building, the Basilica, the Opera House, the Great Market Hall and the eight bridges which connect Buda to Pest. Buda is a green belt, the classier half of the city, where the 18th century baroque Castle District dominates. Óbuda (Old Buda) and the ruins of the Roman settlement of Aquincum lie to the north of the city.

Find out more about our unique capital city, Budapest at <http://www.budapest-tourist.info/>



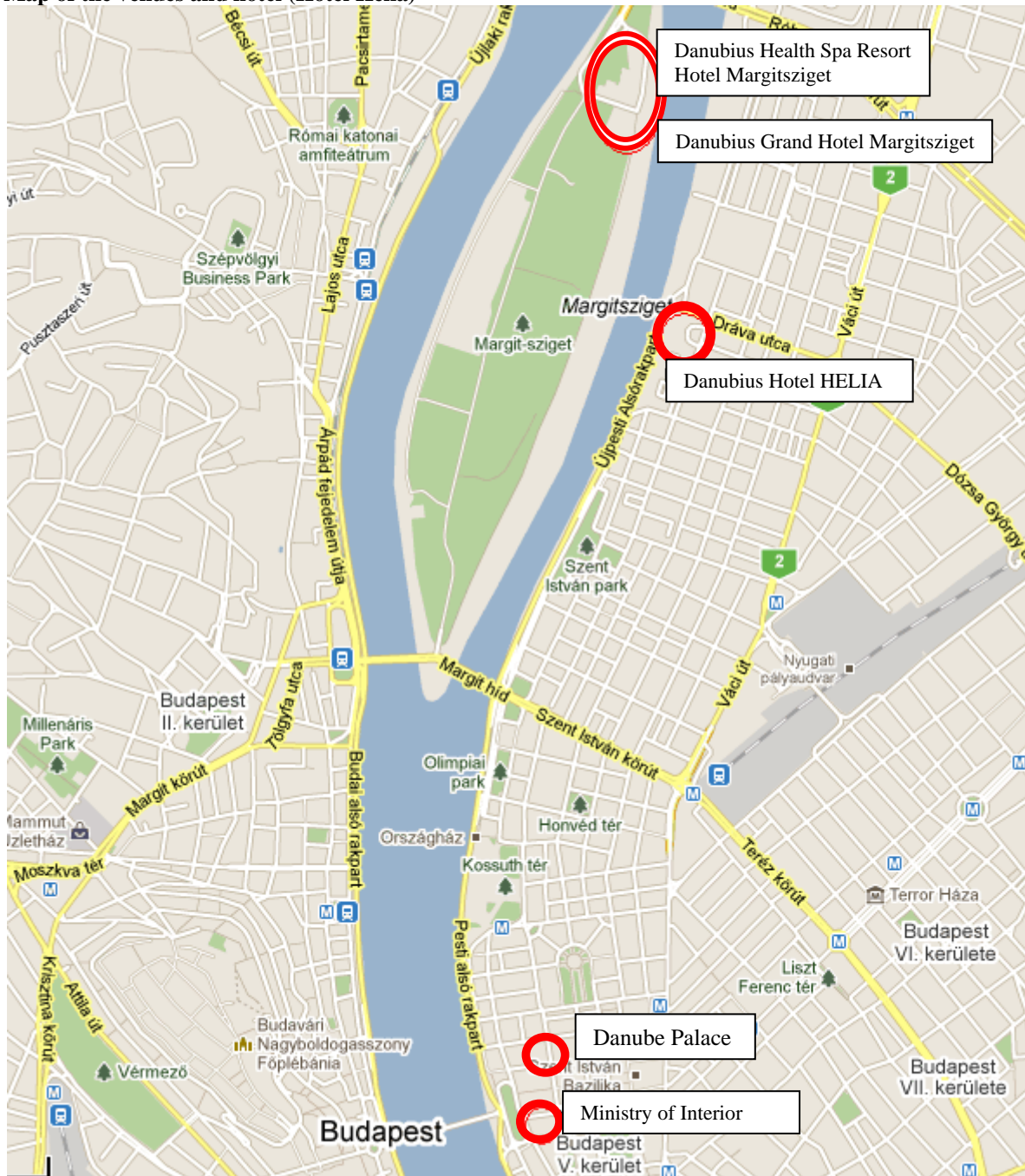
3. VENUES OF THE CONFERENCE

- **Conference Venue:** Royal Castle Gödöllő, Riding Arena (point on the map 1)
Address: Grassalkovich Castle Gödöllő, 2100-Hungary
Website: <http://www.kiralykastely.hu/index.php?l=english>



- **MC Meeting Venue:** Ministry of Interior
Address: Budapest, József Attila str. 2-4., 1051-Hungary
Website: <http://www.kormany.hu/en/ministry-of-interior>
- **Welcome drink Venue:** Grand Hotel Margitsziget or Danubius Health Spa Resort Hotel Margitsziget
Address: Margitsziget (Margaret Island), 1138 Budapest, Hungary
Website: see by Accomodation
- **Galadinner Venue: Zsofia dinner cruises** (departures from Margaret Island,)
Website: <http://www.zsofiahajo.com/>

Map of the venues and hotel (Hotel Helia)



4. PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE

The programme of the Seminar can be downloaded on the ESPON website. The final, detailed version of the Seminar programme will be communicated to the participants in due time.

5. ACCOMMODATION

5.1 Seminar Participants

Participants are required to arrange and pay their own accommodation costs. Budapest is a very popular touristic destination, and it is very hard to book good quality hotel rooms in the summertime. However, to facilitate seminar participants, the Hungarian Presidency has pre-booked rooms for a preferential price. We recommend you to book your rooms as soon as possible.

In addition to the preferential rate there are other reasons to recommend you choosing one of these hotels. Bus transfers to Seminar venue will start from these hotels; b) the Welcome drink is going to be organised in Grand Hotel Margitsziget, nearby and the River Cruise will also dock nearby Margaret Island's hotels.

The hotels are the following:

➤ **Grand Hotel Margitsziget (DGHM)**

Address : Margitsziget (Margaret Island), 1138 Budapest, Hungary

Phone: +36/1 889-4700

Reservation phone : +36 1 889 4752

Reservation fax: +36-1 889-4988,

E-mail: msz.reservation@danubiushotels.com

Website: http://www.danubiushotels.com/en/our_hotels/hungary/budapest/danubius_grand_hotel_margitsziget

Digital Map: http://www.danubiushotels.com/en/our_hotels/hungary/budapest/danubius_grand_hotel_margitsziget/map

➤ **Danubius Health Spa Resort Hotel Margitsziget (DHSRM)**

Address : Margitsziget (Margaret Island), 1138 Budapest, Hungary

Phone: +36/1 889-4700

Reservation phone : +36 1 889 4752

Reservation fax: +36-1 889-4988,

E-mail: msz.reservation@danubiushotels.com

Website: http://www.danubiushotels.hu/hu/szallodak/magyarorszag/budapest/danubius_health_spa_resort_margitsziget

Digital Map:

http://www.danubiushotels.hu/hu/szallodak/magyarorszag/budapest/danubius_health_spa_resort_margitsziget/terkep

The price per night in the hotels will range between be **84** and **119 EUR** including breakfast per single room in each mentioned hotels under the registration term.

Participants have the possibility to reserve the hotel room for more nights between 19-26 June for this price.

In order to make your hotel room reservation and to provide rooms and best prices by the organizer please fill in completely the attached **hotel reservation form and return it via fax or e-mail as indicated in the form and **no later than 31st of May 2011.****

5.2 MC and ECP Members

The Hungarian Presidency has arranged pre-booked rooms for a preferential price under the registration term for **MC and ECP** in the Hotel Helia. We recommend you to book your rooms as soon as possible.

➤ **Danubius Health Spa resort Helia**

Address : Kárpát str. 62-64.,1133 Budapest, Hungary

Phone: +36/1 889-5823

Reservation phone : +36 1 889 4752

Reservation fax: +36-1 889-5801,

E-mail: helia.reservation@danubiushotels.com

Website: http://www.danubiushotels.com/en/our_hotels/hungary/budapest/danubius_health_spa_resort_helia

Digital Map: http://www.danubiushotels.com/en/our_hotels/hungary/budapest/danubius_grand_hotel_margitsziget/map

The price per night will be **84-119 EUR** including breakfast per single room in each mentioned hotels under the registration term.

In order to make your hotel room reservation and to provide rooms and best prices by the organizer please fill in completely the attached **hotel reservation form and return it via fax or e-mail as indicated in the form and **no later than 31st of May 2011.****

6. ACCREDITATION

Taking into account that the seminar will take place in the exquisite Royal Palace of Gödöllő, the main official venue of the 2011 Hungarian EU Presidency, a specific procedure of accreditation is required and participants are requested to provide additional personal information.

In order to facilitate this process, the ECPON CU will provide to process the official accreditation with the Hungarian EU Presidency for this event. You are simply requested to complete the registration form available on the ESPON website.

The deadline for registration is the **31 May 2011.**

In accordance with the security regulations of the Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union all participants are requested to wear their name badges during the two days of the Open Seminar.

For seminar participants a Seminar registration desk will be placed at the main reception area of the **Danubius Health Spa Resort Hotel Margitsziget** and will be open from 10.00-20.00 PM on the 20th of June, Monday. Participants are required to register at the hotel conference registration desk in order to receive the name badge and the delegate pack.

For MC member participating at the seminar a registration desk will be placed in the **Danubius Health Spa resort Helia**.

ECP members participating at the seminar will receive their name badge and the delegate pack at the Ministry of the Interior prior the ECP meeting.

In accordance with the security regulations of the Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union all Delegates are requested to wear their name badges during the whole Open Seminar programme.

7. TRAVEL

Participants are required to arrange and pay their own travel costs.

8. TRANSFER

Transfer from and to the airport

The transfer from the Budapest Liszt Ferenc International Airport to the hotel is organised by own. If there is a need, we provide transfer to the airport after end of Seminar (22th June, 16.45). You have to indicate your need by first day's registration.

9. IN CASE OF TRAVELLING INDIVIDUALLY OUR OFFERS FOR OTHER TRANSFER OPPORTUNITIES

Arriving by public transport to the hotel from Liszt Ferenc Airport (former Ferihegy Airport)

- **EU Presidency bus (weekendbus)**

We would like to inform you that from the 1st of January, Airport Express Bus (REA) was initiated in Budapest.

The weekend bus leaves in every 30 minutes from 05.00 to 24.00 and has the following stops:

Liszt Ferenc (Ferihegy) 1,2 Terminal – Népliget – Stadionok - Keleti Pályaudvar (Keleti Railway Station) - Blaha Lujza tér - Erzsébet tér - Roosevelt tér

Take **Weekendbus** until Stadionok station (20 min from Airport 1, 28 min from Airport 2), then take **tram 1** to direction Bécsi út until Árpád híd station. Then you can reach **bus 106** (3 stations, 3 min), and walk to the hotel's ESPON registration desk (700 m), **or bus 26** until "Szállodák (Hotels)" station (4 min) and walk (5 min).

Bus and subway ticket price is HUF 320. (400 HUF when buying on the bus from the driver), weekendbus costs 1400 HUF.

You can find further information on the following website: <http://www.weekendbus.hu/>

- **By Taxi**

On arrival, taxi service will be available from the airport to the hotel – further information will be given at the EU Information Point at the airport. The costs should be covered by the participants. Főtaxi serves passengers at all terminals of Budapest Airport. Their characteristic checkered vehicles are lining up in the taxi ranks at the airport from the early hours. All vehicles of Főtaxi which participate in the airport service are equipped with credit card enabled POS terminals.

- **By bus and subway**

Bus 200E operates from Terminal 2, bus 93 operates from Terminal 1 to Kőbánya-Kispest Metro Station (Final station, 25 min). By the 'blue' (3) Metro you can reach Árpád híd (Árpád bridge) (15 stations, 25 min). **Then** you can use **same ways** like we recommended by EU Presidency bus.

- **By train and subway**

From Liszt Ferenc Airport (Ferihegy) Terminal 1 you can easily reach the Budapest city centre (Nyugati Railway Station – metro 3). The trip takes less than half an hour. The cost is 365 HUF. You can buy train tickets at Tourinform at Terminal 1 from 08.00 to 22.00 or at platform B at the railway station from the ticket vending machine. The two platforms of the railway station are connected to the Airport Terminal 1 with a pedestrian footbridge equipped with lifts above the clearway. If you arrive at Terminal 2A or 2B you can travel by bus 200E from there. This is a direct bus service from (and between) Terminals 1 and 2.

You can find more details on page <http://www.bud.hu/english/transport>

Also if you need any further information about the transportation, you will find EU Information Points at the airport.

10. TRANSFER DURING THE CONFERENCE

Transfer from the hotel to the venues of the Conference and back to the hotel will be arranged and provided by the organiser during the 21th and 22nd of June:

From the Hotels to the Seminar Venue: 7h30-8h00 transport to Royal Palace, Gödöllő from front of Health Spa Resort and Grand Hotel Margitsziget for Seminar participants and from the Hotel Helia for MC and ECP members.

From the Seminar Venue to the Hotels: 18h00 transport to Health Spa Resort and Grand Hotel Margitsziget, Budapest from front of Royal Palace, Gödöllő for Seminar participants and to the Hotel Helia for MC and ECP members.

On 21st of June:

From the Hotels to the Gala Dinner: 19h45 transport to Danube Palace from front of Health Spa Resort and Grand Hotel Margitsziget for Seminar participants and from the Hotel Helia for MC and ECP members.

On the 22nd of June:

- **16h30** Transport to Health Spa Resort and Grand Hotel Margitsziget and Hotel Helia (or Ferihegy Airport) Budapest from front of Royal Palace, Gödöllő, or
- **16h30** Guided tour in Gödöllő Royal Castle and Park (one Bus, 40-50 people) and **18h00** Transport to Health Spa Resort and Grand Hotel Margitsziget and Helia Hotel, Budapest

11. WELCOME DRINK, CULTURAL EVENT AND GALA DINNER

Participants of the Open Seminar are kindly invited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Interior on the **20th June 2011** (Monday) for a welcome drink in Health Spa Resort Hotel Margitsziget.

Transfer from the hotel to the venue is not needed (for MC and ECP members will be provided from Hotel Helia and back). Dress code: business

Participants of the Open Seminar are kindly invited by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Interior on the **21st June 2011** (Tuesday) to a cultural event and gala dinner at the Danube Palace.

Transfer to Danube Palace from front of Health Spa Resort and Grand Hotel Margitsziget for Seminar participants and from the Hotel Helia for MC and ECP members will start at 19h45.

Dress code: business

12. CONFERENCE SESSIONS

The venue of the sessions of the Open Seminar, the so called Royal Riding Hall is located just beside Royal Palace.

Transfer from the hotel to the venue of the Open Seminar sessions and back to the hotel or to the airport (22nd June afternoon) will be provided.

For ECP and MC meetings reserved parking space will not be provided by the building of the Ministry of Interior.

The conference registration desk will be transferred from the main reception area of Health Spa Resort Hotel Margitsziget to the forefront of Plenary Room of Royal Castle Gödöllő on the 21st of June, Tuesday and it is open from 09.00 AM.

Please not that in accordance with the security regulations of the Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union it is obliged for all Delegates to wear their name badges during all Conference sessions.

13. INTERNET

Free wireless connectivity is available at Royal Castle.

14. LANGUAGE

Please note the official working language of the Conference is English.

15. FOR FURTHER DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT

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AND/OR

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e-mail: tamas.domotor@bm.gov.hu