PUBLIC HEALTH INFORMATION

The Austrian Parliament, in close cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the United Nations (UN), will take all necessary measures to guarantee a **safe and comfortable stay in Austria** during the Conferences in September. Therefore, we have included comprehensive security and health approaches in our planning in order to meet the necessary requirements. Nevertheless, we will need the **support of all participants** in our joint endeavour for safe and successful Conferences, including early and reliable registration, respect for the COVID safety measures in force, including limited size of delegations (1+3 for unicameral and 2+4 for bicameral parliaments) and the implementation of our regulations as follows.

SUMMARY

GENERAL RULES IN AUSTRIA

- Proof of a low epidemiological risk (negative coronavirus test [in Vienna, since 1 September: antigen test valid for 24 hours, PCR test valid for 48 hours], proof of vaccination or certificate of past COVID-19 disease in accordance with Austrian regulations) must be presented to access certain areas of public life, including hotels, restaurants, sightseeing etc.
- Face masks are required in certain closed rooms and buildings, public transport and supermarkets.

RULES AT THE CONFERENCE VENUE, SOCIAL EVENTS AND CULTURAL PROGRAMME

- <u>Taking a COVID test at the testing services provided by the Austrian Parliament will be</u> <u>compulsory for everyone</u> in order to get access to the Conferences, social events and the cultural programme.
- Proof of vaccinations, recovery or tests performed at different testing sites will not be accepted.
- In order to avoid waiting times and have a smooth start of the Conference, <u>we urgently call upon all</u> <u>delegations to do the test already on the day before their respective start of the Conference.</u>
- The opening hours of our testing services at the Austria Center Vienna (ACV) and at the representational building of the Austrian Parliament (Palais Epstein) in the city centre will allow a timely performance of the tests. Accompanying persons participating in the cultural programme or social events will have to do a COVID test at Palais Epstein.
- All participants will be required to pre-register online in advance for the tests..

COVID ENTRY REGULATIONS FOR AUSTRIA

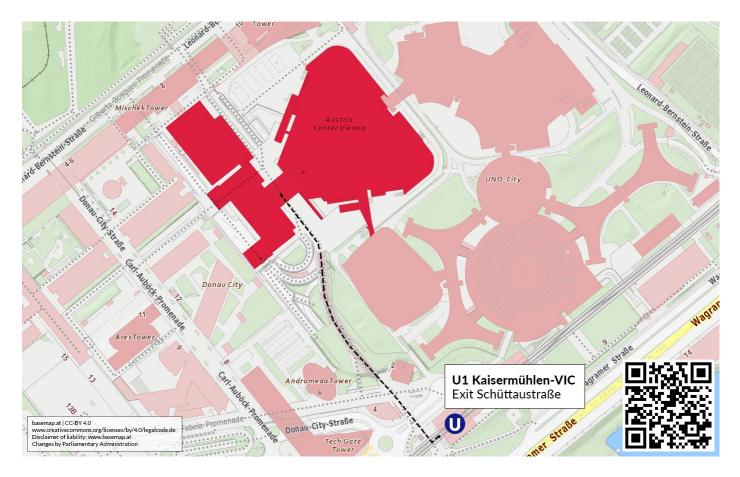
- Speakers of Parliament and their registered delegation (1+3 or 2+4) will be permitted to travel to and enter into Austria for the purpose of the Conferences. Please **carry a printed version of your Conference registration with you when travelling**.
- For further accompanying persons and if your travel to Austria involves transit through other countries, we advise contacting your respective embassies in advance to prepare necessary entry/transit requirements.
- We strongly advise all delegations to make a correctly performed and recognised PCR test before the journey in the interest of public health and security among the international community.

Please look into more detailed information on the following pages:

TESTING SERVICE AT THE AUSTRIA CENTER VIENNA (CONFERENCE VENUE)

for registered members of delegations only

Address of the Testing Station: Bruno-Kreisky-Platz 1, 1220 Vienna Public Transport: U1 Kaisermühlen-VIC (Exit: Schüttaustraße)



OPENING HOURS:

05.09.2021	13:00 - 21:00 (CEST) – Hall G
06.09.2021	07:30 - 21:00 (CEST) – Hall C and G
07.09.2021*	07:30 - 12:00 (CEST) – Hall B
	07:30 - 20:00 (CEST) – Hall C
08.09.2021	07:30 - 18:00 (CEST) – Hall C
09.09.2021	07:30 - 12:00 (CEST) – Hall G

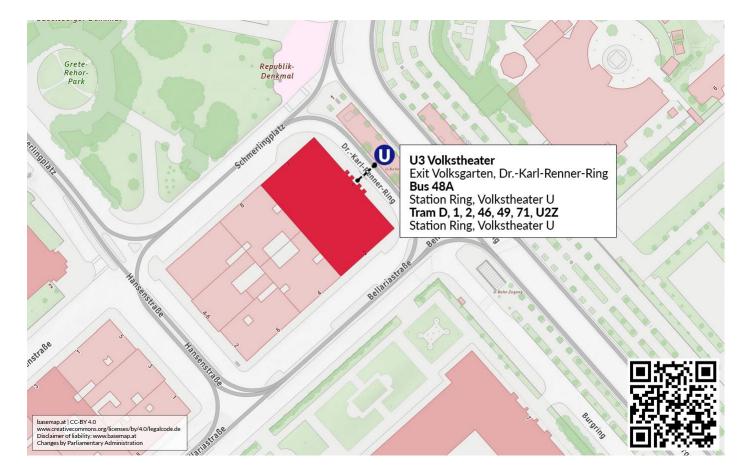
Tests at our testing sites will include an **antigen test** (nasal or throat swab) and a **PCR test** (gargling). The antigen test results will take about 15 minutes and be valid 24 hours; the PCR test result will be valid for 48 hours.

^{*} We urgently call upon all members of delegations to use the testing facilities already on the day before the start of the **Conference** to avoid bottlenecks and waiting time. If for some delegations it is possible to perform the test only in the morning of 7 September, there will be a **priority lane for Speakers of Parliaments + one member of the delegation**, in order to ensure a timely presence of all Speakers in the plenary hall.

TESTING SERVICE AT PALAIS EPSTEIN (CITY CENTRE)

for members of delegations and accompanying persons

Address of the Testing Station: Dr. Karl-Renner-Ring 1, 1010 Vienna Public Transport: U3 Volkstheater (Exit: Volksgarten, Dr. Karl-Renner-Ring) Bus 48 A (Station Ring, Volkstheater U) Tram D, 1, 2, 46, 49, 71, U2Z (Station Ring, Volkstheater U)



OPENING HOURS:

05.09.2021	13:00 - 21:00 (CEST)
06.09.2021	08:00 - 21:00 (CEST)
07.09.2021	08:00 - 18:00 (CEST)
08.09.2021	08:00 - 12:00 (CEST)

Tests at our testing sites will include an **antigen test** (nasal or throat swab) and a **PCR test** (gargling). The antigen test results will take about 15 minutes and be valid 24 hours; the PCR test result will be valid 48 hours.



REGISTRATION

As a service of the health department of the City of Vienna, the registration for the COVID tests at the Conference venues is easily accessible online. All participants are required to pre-register online in advance for the tests in order to avoid waiting times and have a smooth start of the Conferences. **For the COVID tests, please register here.**

The registration will enable you to receive your test results directly on your mobile devices in order to show it to enter the Conference venues, the official reception and/or the cultural programme. Furthermore, you can also use the same test results outside the Conference venues (e.g. in hotels, restaurants or for traveling back to your country).

For assistance with the registration process, please use the **<u>Registration Manual</u>** of the City of Vienna.

CURRENT PUBLIC HEALTH SITUATION IN AUSTRIA

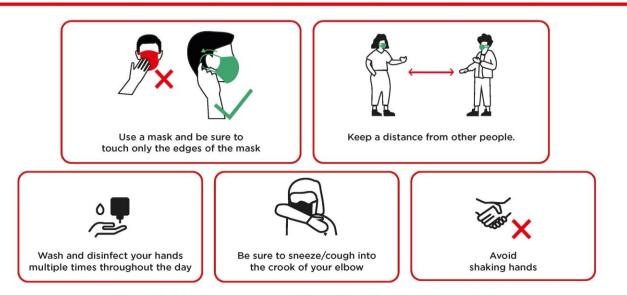
On 01 July and 22 July 2021, the most recent regulations regarding the coronavirus safety measures came into force. Austrian gastronomy, service providers, hotels, cultural institutions, cultural and recreational businesses, sports venues etc. have reopened. **Proof of a low epidemiological risk** (a negative coronavirus test, proof of recognised vaccination or a certificate of past COVID-19 disease) **must**, **however**, **be presented for access to certain areas of public life, including hotels, restaurants or bars as well as leisure facilities through a negative coronavirus test, a proof of vaccination or a certificate of past COVID-19 disease. In Vienna antigen test results will be valid 24 hours; the PCR test result will be valid 48 hours as of 1 September**. Of course, it will be possible to undergo several antigen and PCR tests on site at the ACV or the Palais Epstein during the Conference days and the respective opening hours of the testing services (with the same QR-code from the pre-registration).

In addition, it is **mandatory to wear a face mask** (mouth and nose protection) **in public transport** and its stations **and other public spaces**, including taxis, customer areas at administrative authorities and courts, customer areas of business premises (e.g. supermarkets), etc.

If you need a COVID test outside of the opening hours of the testing service provided by the Austrian Parliament (e.g. for your journey back or if you arrive already days before the Conference), please use the <u>public testing services of the City of Vienna</u>. Please note that those tests **will not be accepted to enter the Conference venue, official reception or cultural programme** and that the **Austrian Parliament is not able to assist** you further on public testing services.

Please find useful information about the re-opening steps as well as FAQ regarding the coronavirus and other relevant information on the <u>website of the Austrian Ministry of Health</u>, and be aware that this information **can change due to the development of the pandemic**. Of course, we'll also keep you updated via email and the <u>Conference Website of the Austrian Parliament</u>.

CORONAVIRUS safety measures



More information at: www.integrationsfonds.at/coronainfo

COVID SAFETY MEASURES AT THE CONFERENCE VENUE

Since the 13th Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament and the Fifth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament are the first major parliamentary *in-person* events since the outbreak of the pandemic, it is our first priority to ensure the safety and health of every participant. For this reason, we will arrange a **testing service at the Conference venue** (ACV) from Sunday, 5 September until Thursday, 9 September **as well as in the city centre (Palais Epstein)** from Sunday, 5 September until Wednesday, 8 September.

Taking a COVID test at the testing services provided by the Austrian Parliament will be compulsory for everyone in order to get access to the Conferences, the official reception and the cultural programme. Proof of vaccinations, recovery or tests performed at different testing sites will not be accepted. In this way, we aim to minimise risks to the utmost extent.

Tests at our testing sites will include an **antigen test** (nasal or throat swab) <u>and</u> a PCR test (gargling). The antigen test will allow for immediate entry into the ACV and is valid 24 hours; the PCR test results are valid for 48 hours. Of course, it will be possible to undergo several antigen and PCR tests on site at the ACV or the Palais Epstein during the Conference days and the respective opening hours of the testing services (with the same QR-code from the pre-registration). All tests will be provided **free of charge** the aim is to ensure a safe environment for all delegates. A valid test certificate will also facilitate your stay in Austria, as it guarantees your access to hotels, restaurants, sightseeing or cultural events (see "Current Public Health Situation in Austria").

We assure you that we will do our utmost to make the processes as safe and comfortable as possible, but at the same time we will need your support to contribute to their smooth running. In particular, in order to avoid bottlenecks and waiting time in the morning of the main Conference, we urgently call upon all members of delegations to use the testing facilities already on the day before the start of the Conference.

If for some delegations it is possible to perform the test only in the morning of the respective Conference, there will be a <u>priority lanes for Speakers of Parliaments + one member of the delegation in Hall C</u>, in order to ensure a timely presence of all Speakers in the plenary hall in the morning. Please kindly note that accompanying persons, who plan to participate in the cultural programme, also need to undergo COVID tests. Accompanying persons, who do not have access to the ACV, are required to use our testing site in the city centre (Palais Epstein).

If a test result is positive, our medical staff will immediately take all necessary measures of precaution and ensure a prompt verification of the test. If the positive result is confirmed, **quarantine facilities are available** in the city of Vienna at the Hotel de France and you will receive all necessary support required by our Conference teams. According to current measures, the duration of quarantine would be 10 days. Please ensure that your travel insurance also covers costs for a potential COVID-infection, treatment and quarantine accommodation.

Finally, we ask for your understanding that, according to the regulations in force, **face masks are required** whenever moving through the Conference venue.



COVID ENTRY REGULATIONS FOR AUSTRIA

Due to the ongoing pandemic, Austria has entry and travel regulations in force which stipulate certain restrictions and requirements. However, exceptions to these regulations apply, for example, if there are compelling reasons for the travel in the interest of the Republic of Austria or if the travel is performed for professional/business purposes.

As a result, **Speakers of Parliaments and their delegations (1+3 or 2+4) who are registered to participate** in the 13th Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament and/or the Fifth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament **will be permitted to travel to and enter into Austria for the purpose of the Conferences**. For further accompanying persons, please contact your respective embassies concerning travel and entry requirements.

Please note that it will be necessary to explain and prove the reason for your travel to the authorities when entering the country. We therefore strongly recommend **carrying a printed version of the Conference registration with you when travelling**. In order to facilitate the entry procedure, we will communicate the list of registered delegations to the relevant Austrian authorities in advance and with the agreement of the participants. You will have received the information about the data protection during the registration itself, which is processed by the IPU.

If your travel to Austria involves **transit** through other countries, we advise contacting your respective embassies in advance to prepare necessary entry/transit requirements. Furthermore, it is advisable to contact the relevant airlines in advance to be informed about potential boarding requirements.

In the interest of public health and security among the international community, we also strongly advise delegations to make a correctly performed and recognised PCR test before the journey to Austria and to carry the negative PCR test result in the German or English language.

In any case, **a proof of a low epidemiological risk** (a negative coronavirus test, proof of <u>recognised</u> <u>vaccination</u> or a certificate of past COVID-19 disease) <u>must be presented</u> for access to hotels, **restaurants** and other areas of public life in Austria, on the basis of the current regulations. You will, therefore, need corresponding certifications for your stay in Austria.

SEARCH FOR FOREIGN REPRESENTATIONS IN AUSTRIA