

Internet Governance Forum 2021

Parliamentary track: Legislative approaches for a user-centric digital space

Practical information for the parliamentary track

The 16th annual IGF meeting will be hosted by the Government of Poland in Katowice on 6–10 December 2021, under the overarching theme *Internet United*.

Hybrid IGF

The 16th annual IGF will be hosted in a hybrid format. The meeting will aim at accommodating the participation of stakeholders present onsite in Katowice or participating online, in the same way as much as possible.

If you cannot travel to Katowice, you will be able to participate in sessions within the parliamentary track and the overall IGF meeting via an online platform. More details will be made available on the IGF website at <https://www.intgovforum.org>.

IGF 2021 schedule

The overall IGF 2021 schedule will be made available on the IGF website at <https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2021-schedule>

Registration for IGF 2021 in Katowice, Poland (including the parliamentary track on 7–8 December)

All participants – whether they plan to join the IGF in Katowice or online – are required to register for IGF 2021 via the IGF website:

<https://www.intgovforum.org/multilingual/content/igf-2021-registration>

Please note that this **registration is necessary for members of parliaments** as well.

The deadline for registration is **20 November 2021**.

Registration for the online preparatory sessions

Between September and November, a series of online preparatory sessions will be held in the lead up to the parliamentary track at IGF 2021 (details about these sessions are available in the separate concept note).

Parliamentarians can already register for the preparatory sessions by completing this online form:

<https://survey.alchemer.eu/s3/90340264/IGF2021>

One week before each session, an e-mail with details of how to access the session will be sent to IPU groups in national parliaments.

Travel support for parliamentarians

Limited funds are available to support the participation of several parliamentarians from developing countries in IGF 2021 in Katowice.

Travel support is managed by the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs.

Requests for travel support **must be submitted 30 September 2021**.

Parliamentarians that meet the below eligibility criteria are invited to **submit their request via email, to Mr. Pascal Garde, at pascal.garde@un.org, with a copy to parliamentarytrack@intgovforum.org**. The following information should be provided:

- Name
- Title (e.g. Member of parliament, Senator)
- Email address
- Country and city
- Parliament represented
- URL of the parliament
- Role within the parliament
- Term of office (start and end year of your mandate as member of parliament)
- The type of support requested
 - Partial travel support (only DSA)
 - Full travel support (DSA and travel costs)

You can request full travel support or partial travel support (only the Daily Subsistence Allowance - DSA). Please note that candidates requesting partial travel support (DSA only) may be given preference. The DSA is intended to account for lodging, meals, gratuities and other similar expenses.

For all questions about travel support, please contact Mr. Garde at pascal.garde@un.org, with a copy to parliamentarytrack@intgovforum.org.

Eligibility criteria

To be considered for financial support, parliamentarians must:

- Be from a Least Developed Country, Landlocked Developing Country, Small Island Developing State or a Transitional Economy.
- Be member of an official delegation of a parliament of a UN member state.
- Commit to participate in the IGF 2021 parliamentary track, including the preparatory sessions that will be held online between September and November 2021 and the parliamentary sessions in Katowice on 7–8 December.

Applicants should be aware of and be able to comply with Polish entry regulations available on the following URLs:

[Visas - IGF2021 - Gov.pl website \(www.gov.pl\)](http://www.gov.pl)

[Travel - Coronavirus: information and recommendations - Gov.pl website \(www.gov.pl\)](http://www.gov.pl)

Dedicated mailing list

A mailing list has been set up to facilitate communication with and among members of parliaments interested in participating in the IGF 2021 parliamentary track.

Please subscribe via

http://intgovforum.org/mailman/listinfo/parliamentarians_intgovforum.org

Interpretation

For the online preparatory sessions between September and November 2021, interpretation will be provided in English, French and Spanish.

For the parliamentary sessions in Katowice on 7–8 December, interpretation will be provided in English and French, with the exception of the Parliamentary roundtable on 7 December at 16:15, where interpretation will be provided in English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Russian and Chinese.

Not to miss at IGF 2021

- Ceremonial music concert & Cocktail reception: 6 December, 19:00 – 20:00 & 20:00 – 21:30 (Venue: [Polish National Radio Symphony Orchestra](#))
- IGF 2021 Opening Ceremony: 7 December, 10:00 – 11:30
- IGF 2021 parliamentary track: 7–8 December (details in the attached concept note)
- Parliamentary reception: 7 December 2021 (time and location tbc)

IGF 2021 venue

IGF 2021 will be held at the International Congress Center in Katowice.

For more information, please visit <https://www.gov.pl/web/igf2021-en/the-mck-international-congress-centre>

Travel and accommodation

Participants are responsible for making their own arrangements for travel and accommodation.

Detailed information on travelling to Katowice and on accommodation options in the city are available on the Host Country website: <https://www.gov.pl/web/igf2021-en/getting-to-the-2021-igf2>

Visa

Relevant information on visa requirements are available at <https://www.gov.pl/web/igf2021-en/visas>

Participants are requested to make sure to apply for a visa in good time. All questions about visas should be directed to the Government of the Republic of Poland. Contact details are available at <https://www.gov.pl/web/igf2021-en/visas>

COVID-19 information and recommendations

Participants are kindly invited to periodically check the Host Country website for updated information and recommendations related to COVID-19 (entering and leaving Poland, rules and restrictions, protection measures, etc.).

<https://www.gov.pl/web/coronavirus>

Additional information

For any additional information, please visit the IGF website and the IGF 2021 Host Country website:

<https://www.intgovforum.org>

<https://www.gov.pl/web/igf2021-en>

Contact

For any further questions or information regarding the parliamentary track at IGF 2021, please contact Ms. Sorina Teleanu at parliamentarytrack@intgovforum.org.