



Federal Ministry
of Justice

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

28th COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF PRISON AND PROBATION SERVICES

“Management of Prisons and Probation: New Challenges and Innovative Responses”

Berlin (Germany), 6-7 June 2023



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

1- The Conference

- **DATE AND VENUE:** The 28th Council of Europe Conference of Directors of Prison and Probation Services will take place at Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (<https://www.bbaw.de/>) in Berlin, Germany, starting at 8.00 a.m. on Tuesday 6 June, and closing at 12.00 p.m. on Wednesday 7 June. The Welcome reception will be held on the preceding evening, starting at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 5 June 2023 at the same location.
- **WORKING LANGUAGES:** The working languages of the Conference will be English, French and German with simultaneous interpretation during the plenary sessions and in one of the three parallel workshops. The workshops will be repeated in order to allow for simultaneous interpretation to be provided during most of them.
- **REGISTRATION:** The Conference is open to invited participants only. Each participant in the Conference has to register using the online registration form available on the Conference website (www.coe.int/cdpps2023) **before 15 May 2023.**
- **WORKING DOCUMENTS:** All working documents for the Conference will be posted on the Conference website which will be regularly updated. Please note that no working documents will be printed out and distributed during the Conference.

2- General Information

- **Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities** is a Conference and Event Centre in the city centre of Berlin, on the Gendarmenmarkt located at:

Jägerstraße 22/23, 10117 Berlin
Telephone: +49 30-20 370 0

- **OFFICIAL INFORMATION RELATED TO COVID-19:** Since 11 June 2022 entries to Germany are permitted for all travel purposes. For entry into Germany, proof of vaccination, proof of convalescence or

proof of testing is no longer required. As of 13 February 2023, there are no more Covid-19 measures specific to Berlin. The Berlin Corona Ordinance is no longer required. Corona protective measures expired on 7 April 2023.

- **WEATHER:** The weather in Berlin in June: the low temperature is around 13°C and the high temperature is around of 23°C. The weather is pleasantly warm but can be a bit on the wet side, so keep that in mind as you pack.
- **ACCESSIBILITY:** Berlin Brandenburg Airport Willy Brandt is the only commercial airport in Berlin and in the surrounding State of Brandenburg. It is located in Schönefeld, just south of the capital in the state of Brandenburg.

There are several ways to get from Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER) to the city centre: FEX, S-Bahn, Regional trains, taxi. The railway station is located in Terminal 1 on level U2.

Airport Express (FEX) and regional trains run several times an hour between Berlin Central Station and the station "Flughafen BER - Terminal 1-2". BER Airport is located in the C Zone of Berlin's transport system, so you have to buy an ABC ticket. (<https://www.bvg.de/en/service-and-support/tourists/arrival-and-departure/berlin-brandenburg-airport>)

- **FEX** - 30 min; Cost: 3,80 € (ABC ticket)
 - **S-Bahn S9** - 50 min; Cost: 3,80 € (ABC ticket)
 - **Regional trains RE7 and RB14** - 30 min; Cost: 3,80 € (ABC ticket)
 - **Taxi** - Take a taxi from Berlin Brandenburg Airport (BER) - 45 min; Cost: 50 €
- **CURRENCY:** As a member of the European Monetary System since the 1 January 1999, the currency used in Germany is the Euro.
 - **DRIVING:** If you hold a valid domestic driving licence or International Driving Permit, you may drive all categories of vehicles indicated on your licence in the Federal Republic of Germany. If there are any conditions or restrictions on your driving licence, you must also comply with them when driving in Germany. However, your driving licence is not valid if you have not yet reached the minimum age required for the appropriate category in the Federal Republic of Germany and your driving licence was not issued by another Member State of the European Union or another state party to the Agreement on the European Economic Area. You must carry your driving licence with you when driving or riding a motor vehicle.
 - **ELECTRIC CURRENT:** The nominal voltage of electricity in Germany is 230 volts, comparable to most of the countries of the European Union.

Voltage: 230V

Frequency: 50 Hz

Plugs: Type F

- **EXCHANGE:** All commonly used credit cards, i.e. MasterCard, Visa and American Express, are accepted in Germany. Cash dispensing machines linked to international networks are widely available.
- **MEDICAL CARE:** In the case of a serious medical emergency, phone 112 for an ambulance. At the hospital, the emergency department is known as the Notaufnahme. Temporary visitors from the EU, EEA, or Switzerland can use their EHIC card to access emergency medical treatment in Germany. However, legal residents must have German health insurance. The EHIC is part of the health insurance card for all residents in Germany, allowing them to benefit from emergency medical treatment and care when temporarily elsewhere in the EEA.
- **PASSPORTS AND VISAS:** A valid passport (or identity card for European Community nationals) is required. Visas are not necessary for citizens of EU countries, the U.S.A., Canada and the majority of countries. Please contact your local German Embassy/Consulate or your Travel Agency for further information.
- **PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:** Berlin's public transport system (BVG) is among some of the best in the world. The extensive and well-developed network comprises U-Bahn Trains, S-Bahn, and buses, which take both locals and travellers to all corners of the city and beyond. Aside from covering the entire German capital,

Berlin's extensive network of public transport is comfortable, safe, and punctual, making it fairly easy to navigate around the city.

- **RECREATION:** Berlin is rich with history and culture. Badly fractured during World War II and the cold war, the city has recreated itself into an international city with diverse cultures and architecture.
- **MUSEUMS:** As a cultural metropolis, the German capital offers a top-class range of over 170 museums. Most of the museums in Berlin open from Tuesday to Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (approximately). Some museums open on Mondays, so it is advisable to plan in advance the places you want to visit.
- **SALES / TAX:** Sales tax (VAT) is included in prices quoted. For non E.U. residents, tax free shopping schemes are available in many shops, which give substantial savings to visitors.
- **SECURITY:** Germany is a safe country. Berlin is the largest and most populous city in Germany, but is generally not dangerous for visitors.
- **SHOPPING:** Most of the shops, department stores, malls and supermarkets in Berlin are usually open between 8, 9 or 10 a.m. and 8, 9 or 10 p.m. Some supermarkets already open their doors at 7 a.m. Except for a few select supermarkets in large train stations, shops in Berlin generally remain closed on Sundays.
- **SMOKING:** Smoking is forbidden by law in public transportation, including taxis, and at all public transport stations (except in designated smoking rooms). Smoking inside private offices and public areas, buildings and institutions is generally prohibited, although there are exceptions. People may smoke in restaurants and bars in a designated smoking area.