



Parliamentary Conference **Elections in times of crisis**
Conférence parlementaire **Les élections en temps de crise**
Parlamentarische Konferenz **Wahlen in Krisenzeiten**
Bern/Berne 9-10.05.2023



14 February 2023

Parliamentary Conference

Elections in times of crisis: challenges and opportunities

organised by the

Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)

in co-operation with the

Swiss Parliament

*in the framework of the 60th anniversary of the accession of Switzerland
to the Council of Europe*

9 – 10 May 2023

Assembly Hall of the National Council, Swiss Parliament, Bern

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

INVITATIONS

The Conference is an invitation only event. Invitations will be sent by email and participants must register through:

- PACE delegation members : [PACE Applications / Applications de l'APCE \(coe.int\)](#)
- Other participants (hyperlink)

Please register at your earliest convenience as seats are limited, at the latest by **11 April 2023**.

HOW TO GET THERE

Bern is accessible by plane, train and bus.

There are two international airports near Bern with a direct rail link:

- **Zürich-Kloten** (located 1 hour and 20 minutes by train): www.zurich-airport.com
A train runs between Zurich Airport and Bern Central Station. The SBB travel centre is located on level 01 of the Airport Center in the Check-in 3 area.
- **Geneva-Cointrin** (about 2 hours by train): www.gva.ch/
Geneva Airport station is directly accessible from the Geneva Airport Check-in and Arrival levels.

Another possibility would be Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg Airport (20 minutes by bus to Basel SBB train station and then 1 hour by train): www.euroairport.com

Participants are asked to make their own arrangements for transportation from airport/station and their place of accommodation, and also upon departure.

TRANSPORTATION TO FEDERAL PALACE

Participants are asked to go to the meeting venue **by their own means** – hotels are located within a few minutes' walk.

ACCOMMODATION

Pre-bookings at negotiated rates have been made at the hotels listed below. **Participants are asked to book their rooms through the link below Indicating the hotel of their choice by the date mentioned in the list :**

<https://bern.e-vent.online/web/F8C5D8CC8E264355BF9A1E0718D90155/FR>
<https://bern.e-vent.online/web/F8C5D8CC8E264355BF9A1E0718D90155/EN>

Please note that any booking requests made after the deadlines are subject to availability and that the negotiated rate cannot be guaranteed beyond these dates and is not applicable for online bookings. Reservations must be guaranteed by a valid credit card.

For information, hotels offer tickets for public transport in the city of Bern: for arrival at the hotel from the station, the booking confirmation serves as a transfer ticket.

The hotels are in walking distance from the train station and from the conference venue.

LIST OF HOTELS

HOTEL	TARIF / NIGHT
Hôtel Bellevue Palace***** Kochergasse 3-5 3011 Bern T: +41 31 320 45 45 info@bellevue-palace.ch	Double room – Single occupancy (minimum 2 nights) : CHF 369 – €370/night Single room : CHF 340 – € 341/night Double room : CHF 447 – € 448/night <i>breakfast is <u>not</u> included</i> <i>breakfast = 44 CHF</i>
Swissôtel Kursaal Bern**** Kornhausstrasse 3 3000 Bern T: +41 31 339 55 00 reservation@kursaal-bern.ch	Double premier – Single occupancy (minimum 2 nights): CHF 320 – € 321/night Single classic (minimum 2 nights): CHF 290 – € 291/night Double premier: CHF 345 – € 346/night <i>breakfast is included</i>
Hôtel The Bristol**** Schauplatzgasse 10, 3011 Bern T: +41 31 311 01 01 welcome@thebristol-bern.ch	Single room (minimum 2 nights): CHF 255 – €256/night <i>breakfast is included</i>
Hotel Bären**** Schauplatzgasse 4, 3011 Bern T: +41 31 311 33 67 reception@baerenbern.ch	Double room: CHF 235 – €236/night Double room – Single occupancy (minimum 2 nights) : CHF 225 – €226/night Single room (minimum 2 nights) : CHF 205 – €206/night <i>breakfast is <u>included</u></i>
Best Western Plus Hotel Bern **** Zeughausgasse 9 3011 Bern T: +41 res@bwhhotelgroup.de	Double room – Single occupancy (minimum 2 nights) : CHF 215 – €216/night Double room: CHF 235 – € 236/night <i>breakfast is <u>included</u></i>
Hotel City am Bahnhof**** Bubenberplatz 7, 3011 Bern, T: +41 31 311 53 77 city@fhotels.ch	Double – Single occupancy (minimum 2 nights) : CHF 180 – €181/night Single (minimum 2 nights): CHF 170 – € 171/night Double room – (minimum 2 nights) : CHF 190 – €191/night <i>breakfast is <u>included</u></i>
Hôtel Kreuz*** Zeughausgasse 41, 3011 Bern, T: +41 31 329 95 95 info@kreuzbern.ch	Double – Single occupancy (minimum 2 nights) : CHF 204 – €205/night Single (minimum 2 nights): CHF 182 – € 183/night Double room – (minimum 2 nights) : CHF 247 – €248/night <i>breakfast is <u>included</u></i>

City tax: **CHF 5.30 / 5,30 euros per person and night**

Cancellation policy for individual bookings:

The cancellation policy for booked rooms is **24h before the event**. Later cancellation: **100%** charge in case of no-show.

FINANCIAL TERMS

In a limited number of cases, specified in the invitation letter, the organisers may cover the cost of transport to and from Bern and accommodation during conference.

In the event of needing a **visa**, this expense will also be reimbursed to the above category upon presentation of a copy of the visa and documentary evidence of payment.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

Participants should ensure that they are in possession of a valid passport for entry into Switzerland and are requested to consult their consulate in order to verify whether they require a visa and, if necessary, to take the necessary steps.

<https://www.eda.admin.ch/countries/usa/en/home/visa/entry-ch.html>

MEETING VENUE

The conference will be held at **Palais du Parlement, Bundesplatz 3, 3003 Bern**, National Council Assembly Hall.

Participants are asked to come with their badge and ID to access to the Parliament building.

REGISTRATION DESK

The registration desk opens at 9 AM on Tuesday. Those who stay in the conference hotels will receive the badges at their hotel on Monday evening. For those who stay elsewhere or arrive on Tuesday morning, we kindly ask you to collect your badge at the main entrance (address) at your earliest convenience to avoid queuing.

If needed be, you can leave your luggage in the cloakroom on the ground floor.

Our colleagues at the registration desk will be at your disposal from early morning to late evening during the conference and will be happy to help you with any questions or inquiries you might have.

PROCEEDINGS

The conference languages are English, French and German. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in these three working languages of the conference. All documents will be available in English and French.

Participants are free to use the information provided in the public panels.

SECURITY

Security of guests is of paramount importance to us. Therefore, we kindly ask you to wear your badge at all times when attending the conference. Access to the conference will be only permitted to those wearing their badge provided by the organisers.

Please note that the badge is non-transferable, and any violation of this policy may result in expulsion from the conference. We also ask for your patience and understanding if and when subjected to a security check upon your arrival to the conference. In case of an emergency please inform the nearest organising team member.

MEALS AND REFRESHMENTS

Working lunches will be offered on Tuesday and Wednesday on the first and on the second day of the meeting, which will be served in the restaurant of the Swiss Parliament (ground floor). The coffee-breaks, at hours mentioned on the programme, will also be served in the same place as well as in the Cafeteria "Vallotton" (1st floor).

Reception on Tuesday evening will take place at the Casino Bern (Casinoplatz 1) and is by invitation only. It is in a short walking distance from the Swiss Parliament. If for any reasons you might need transportation from the conference venue to the respective venue, please notify the organising team.

SOCIAL EVENTS

For those who arrive on Monday, 8 May, a guided walking tour in the Old Town of Bern in English and French will be organised. Please be at 5.00 pm at the meeting point: Bundesplatz (in front of the Parliament Building) Registration necessary.

Guides will be available throughout the conference at the Federal Palace if you wish to know more about the historic building.

At the end of the conference, a visit will be organised to the Museum of Communication, which won the 2019 Council of Europe Museum Prize.

TOURISM INFORMATION

<https://www.myswitzerland.com/en/>