

## Preliminary information about the Iași – Chișinău Ministerial Conference and Global Policy Forum in 2027

### Introduction

According to the European Higher Education Area Rules of Procedure, *the Ministerial Conference is the highest decision-making authority of the EHEA. It is composed of Ministers responsible for higher education of the State members of the EHEA or their representatives, and of representatives of the highest possible rank with competence in higher education policy of the European Commission and of the consultative members. Delegations representing countries/education systems, also include a leader of a higher education institution and a democratically elected student representative.* Alongside the national delegations and the delegations of consultative members, EHEA partners and other organisations are also invited to attend the Ministerial Conference.

The Iași-Chișinău Ministerial Conference will be the 13th Ministerial Conference organised within the framework of the Bologna Process, and the second Ministerial Conference to take place in two separate countries after the Budapest-Vienna Ministerial Conference in 2010.

Since 2009, alongside the Ministerial Conference the hosts hold a forum gathering international government representatives and organisations across the world to discuss common cooperation efforts and synergies between EHEA and other macro-regions and their countries. The forum, initially called Bologna Policy Forum, has been renamed Global Policy Forum starting with the Tirana Global Policy Forum in 2024. The Iași-Chișinău Global Policy Forum will be the 7<sup>th</sup> forum organised within the EHEA framework.

The 2027 Ministerial Conference and Global Policy Forum will be organised by the Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Moldova and Romania, with the support of the EHEA Secretariat. Pending approval, the organisation of the conference and forum will be supported also through Erasmus+ Programme funds, within the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and National Academic Recognition Information Centres (NARIC) (ERASMUS-EDU-2024-EHEA-NARIC).

For the Global Policy Forum, the event will be organised with the involvement of the Coordination Group on Global Policy Dialogue, in line with their Terms of Reference and previous successful practices.

**Tentative dates:** 26 – 27 May 2027

### Overall tentative planning

- 25th of May 2027: Social programme around Iași + Informal dinner provided by the Romanian authorities;
- 26th of May 2027: Ministerial Conference in Iași, Romania followed by Gala Dinner provided by the Romanian authorities and cultural programme;

- 27th of May 2027: transport from Iași to Chișinău provided by the Moldovan-Romanian hosts (early morning), Global Policy Forum and Gala Dinner provided by the Moldovan authorities and cultural programme;
- 28th of May 2027: Post-Ministerial Conference social programme in the Republic of Moldova.

## Venues

[“AGORA” Events Centre Iași](#)

[Palace of the Republic Chișinău](#)

## Preliminary practical information

Transportation from Iași to Chișinău will be provided by the Moldovan-Romanian hosts to all participants. The hosts aim to facilitate the border formalities, thus estimating 135 min transportation time between Iași and Chișinău.

Further information about the cities can be found on the tourism websites of [Iași](#) and [Chișinău](#).

There is plenty of accommodation options for both Iași and Chișinău – information will be provided well in advance and reservations made for hotels in both cities.

## Roadmap

Information regarding the next steps for planning the Ministerial Conference and Global Policy Forum can be found in the [Schedule of topics for BFUG meetings](#) (hyperlink) and are listed below:

- BFUG XCVII meeting (December 2025, Denmark): Sending the save-the-dates to the national authorities
- BFUG XCIX meeting (Spring 2026, Cyprus): Sending the invitation and the draft agenda (only with timings)
- BFUG CI meeting (Autumn 2026, Ireland): Sending the Practical Information Note with the draft agenda
- BFUG CIII meeting (early Spring 2027, Lithuania): final agenda