Ministry of Education and Research
Republic of Moldova

EHEA IAȘI-CHIȘINĂU 2027

Ministry of Education and Research
Romania

EUROPEAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE AND GLOBAL POLICY FORUM

Iași, Romania – Chișinău, Republic of Moldova

26–27 May 2027

Draft Practical Information Note

(short version)

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1. General Information

The Ministry of Education and Research of Romania and the Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Moldova (hereinafter "the Organisers") have the honour to host the 2027 Ministerial Conference of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and the Global Policy Forum (GPF).

The two events will be held jointly over two days and in two countries: in Iași, Romania, on 26 May, and in Chișinău, the Republic of Moldova, on 27 May 2027.

The draft Practical Information Note (short version) sets out the essential information that participants require at this stage in order to plan their stay: dates and venues, the arrangements covered by the organisers, entry requirements, airports and travel, accommodation and the registration timeline. It does not replace the full Practical Information Note, which will address all organisational, protocol and security matters and will be issued in due course.

> **Participants are kindly advised** to plan their arrival in Iași on 24 or 25 May 2027 and their departure from Chișinău on 28 or 29 May 2027, and to arrange their flights and accommodation at an early stage. The programme set out below is tentative and remains subject to change.
> Both Iași and Chișinău airports can be used either for arrival or departure. If arriving in Chisinau, transport to Iasi can be covered by organisers upon request.

2. Structure of the Events and Tentative Programme

The Ministerial Conference and the Global Policy Forum will take place on 26 May 2027 in Iași and on 27 May 2027 in Chișinău. A social programme will be organised before and after the official sessions, in Iași on 25 May and in Chișinău on 28 May.

The table below summarises the tentative programme, as discussed at the CI BFUG meeting in Dublin.

Date	City	Programme
Monday 24 May	Iași	Early arrivals.
Tuesday 25 May (Day 0)	Iași	• Arrivals, airport reception and registration at the official hotels • Side events at the public higher education institutions of Iași (details below, list and timing to be confirmed) • Optional full-day cultural tour of the Iași region, designed for early arrivals. • Guided tour of Iași • Welcome reception and dinner, around Iași city centre
Wednesday 26 May	Iași	• Meeting of the BFUG (closed), Senate Room, "Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University • Ministerial Conference and Global Policy Forum, Agora Events Centre • Cultural event, "Vasile Alecsandri" National Theatre • Official gala dinner, Palace of Culture
Thursday 27 May	Chișinău	• Departure from Iași by dedicated coaches and cars, with a facilitated border crossing • Arrival in Chișinău; registration at the event venue • Ministerial Conference and Global Policy Forum, Chișinău Arena • Check in at the hotels in Chișinău • Official gala dinner and cultural programme, Palace of the Republic

Date	City	Programme
Friday 28 May	Chișinău	• Side events at the public higher education institutions of Chișinău (details below, list and timing to be confirmed) • Guided tours at Moldovan wineries • Departures from late afternoon.
Saturday 29 May	Chișinău	• Late departures

Side events. On 25 and 28 May 2027, side events organised by EHEA members and consultative members are foreseen to take place at the public higher education institutions of Iași and Chișinău. The events will be open to the delegates attending the Ministerial Conference and Global Policy Forum and the academic community of Iași and Chișinău.

The side events will allow for a more in-depth exploration of the topics to be discussed at the Ministerial Conference, the presentation of the outcomes of the working structures and supporting projects, and enhanced engagement with stakeholders of the Bologna Process.

The summary of the proposals received can be found annexed to the PIN. The list of side events, their timing and their venues remain to be confirmed and will be communicated in due course.

3. Arrangements Covered by the Organisers

In order to allow participants to plan their travel and budget, the arrangements provided by the Organisers and those that remain the responsibility of participants are set out below.

Provided by the Organisers	Not covered by the Organisers
• **Transport from Iași to Chișinău** on 27 May 2027, by dedicated coaches with a facilitated border crossing. • **Transport from airports to the official hotels and from the official hotels to the airport** • **Transfers between the official hotels and the event venues**, as indicated in the programme. • **The social programme**: the guided tour of Iași and the optional cultural tour (25 May), the cultural event at the National Theatre (26 May) and the guided tours at Moldovan wineries (28 May). • **The welcome reception** on 25 May. • **All meals and refreshments during the official programme on 26 and 27 May**, including the **official gala dinners** in Iași (26 May) and in Chișinău (27 May).	• **Accommodation** in Iași and in Chișinău. • **Arrival to Iași** • **Departure from Chișinău** • Meals outside the official programme, and any other cost not listed as provided by the Organisers.

Participants book and pay for their accommodation directly with the hotels (see Section 6). Breakfast is included in the room rates quoted by the hotels and is therefore paid by participants as part of their accommodation.

4. Entry Requirements in Romania and the Republic of Moldova

Romania and the Republic of Moldova apply separate entry regimes. Participants are therefore responsible for verifying, well in advance of travel, the requirements that apply to their nationality and type of travel document for **each** of the two countries. The information below is provided for guidance only, as the competent national authorities remain the authoritative source. The liaison officers

attributed to each delegation will support the members in obtaining the necessary entry/exit and transfer documents, if needed.

4.1 Romania (Iași)

- **Schengen Area.** Romania is a member of the Schengen Area. Citizens of the European Union, the European Economic Area and Switzerland may enter with a valid passport or national identity card.
- **Other nationalities.** Nationals of countries exempt from the short-stay visa requirement under Regulation (EU) 2018/1806 may stay for up to 90 days in any 180-day period; nationals of all other countries require a short-stay (Schengen) visa.
- Applications are initiated through the e-visa portal of the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (evisa.mae.ro) and lodged with a Romanian diplomatic mission or consular post.
- **Travel documents.** Under the Schengen Borders Code (Regulation (EU) 2016/399, Article 6(1)(a)), the travel document of a third-country national must have been issued within the previous ten years and must remain valid for at least three months after the intended date of departure from the Schengen Area.
- **Entry/Exit System (EES).** The EU Entry/Exit System has been fully operational since 10 April 2026. Non-EU nationals travelling for a short stay are registered at the external borders on entry and exit, including by biometric data (fingerprints and facial image). Participants are advised to allow additional time at border control.
- **ETIAS.** Participants from visa-exempt countries are advised to verify, on the official EU website, whether a European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS) travel authorisation is required at the time of travel.

4.2 Republic of Moldova (Chișinău)

- **Applicable regime.** The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova publishes the lists of countries whose nationals are exempt from the visa requirement, require a visa, or require a visa and an invitation: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, visa regime.
- **Visa-exempt nationalities.** Nationals of the countries on the exemption list may enter and stay for short periods without a visa.
- **Visas.** Nationals of countries requiring a visa may request it through the Moldovan electronic visa portal (evisa.gov.md) or at a Moldovan diplomatic mission or consular post. For certain nationalities, a valid visa or residence permit issued by a Schengen State, the United Kingdom, the United States or Canada replaces the Moldovan visa; the applicable lists are published on the same page of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- **Conditions of entry and stay.** The validity of travel documents, the permitted length of stay and the other conditions of entry are published by the Border Police of the Republic of Moldova: Travel conditions for foreign citizens.

4.3 Transit

Holders of a single-entry Schengen visa are reminded that travel from Romania to the Republic of Moldova constitutes an exit from the Schengen Area, and that any subsequent return to the Schengen Area, including by road to Iași, requires a further entry.

4.4 Visa procedures, invitation letters and assistance

- **Timeframe.** Participants who require a visa for either country are advised to initiate the procedure as soon as possible.

- **Invitation letters.** The official invitation letters may be used in support of visa applications. If separate individual letters are required for visa purposes, please contact the Organisers at least two months before the event:

Country	Contact
Romania	Ministry of Education and Research of Romania: ehea27@edu.gov.ro
Republic of Moldova	Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Moldova: Olga Tretiacov, olga.tretiacov@mec.gov.md Alina Turturean, alina.turturean@mec.gov.md Maria-Victoria Prepeleac, maria-victoria.prepeleac@mec.gov.md

5. Airports and Travel

Participants are strongly encouraged to arrange their international travel at an early stage. The Organisers recommend arriving at Iași International Airport (IAS) and departing from Chișinău International Airport "Eugen Doga" (RMO), although both airports can be used for arrivals in any of the 2 cities.

	Iași	Chișinău
Airport	Iași International Airport	Chișinău International Airport "Eugen Doga"
Codes	IATA: IAS · ICAO: LRIA	IATA: RMO · ICAO: LUKK
Address	Strada Moara de Vânt 34, Iași	Bulevardul Dacia 80/3, Chișinău
Distance from the city centre	Approx. 8 km [to be verified with the airport]	12–13 km (20–30 minutes, depending on the means of transport)
Website	aeroport-iasi.ro	airport.md/en
Accessibility services	Assistance for persons with disabilities and persons with reduced mobility is provided free of charge under Regulation (EC) No 1107/2006	Assistance for passengers with limited mobility
Main direct connections (indicative)	Barcelona, Brussels (Charleroi), Bucharest, Dublin, Istanbul, London (Luton), Madrid, Milan (Bergamo), Paris (Beauvais), Prague, Rome, Vienna.	Amsterdam, Athens, Berlin, Brussels, Bucharest, Budapest, Dubai, Frankfurt, Istanbul, London, Madrid, Milan, Paris, Prague, Rome, Vienna, Warsaw.

5.1 Recommendations for booking

1. **Arrival.** Arrive in Iași on 24 or 25 May 2027.
2. **Departure.** Depart from Chișinău on 28 or 29 May 2027.
3. A ticket into Iași and out of Chișinău avoids the road journey back to Iași.
4. **Connections.** Both airports are served by direct flights from several European cities and can be reached by connecting flights through major European and global hubs. The main cities with direct flights are indicated in the table above; routes are seasonal and subject to change. Participants are invited to consult the websites of the two airports and of the airlines for current routes and timetables.

5. **Flight details.** Arrival and departure details will be requested at registration, in order to organise the airport reception and the coaches of 27 May.

6. Accommodation

In Iași and Chișinău, information and registration desks will operate only at the official hotels listed below, and organised transport to the event venues will be provided only from these hotels. Participants may choose other accommodation, but without access to these services. Accommodation is booked and paid for directly by participants.

Participants are advised to plan for the nights of **25 and 26 May in Iași** (24 May in the case of an early arrival) and the night of **27 May in Chișinău** (and 28 May for those who remain).

Student delegates. Student delegates are offered free of charge accommodation by the local higher education institutions in Iași and Chișinău for the period 24-28 May. Information on accommodation options for students, including how to make reservations, will be provided when registration opens.

6.1 Iași

Rates are quoted per room per night. Where the hotels quote rates in Romanian lei, these are shown in euros and are indicative (approximately 5.35 lei per euro).

Hotel	Rates per room per night	Reservations	Deadline and conditions
Hotel Internațional Iași 4★, Str. Palas 5A, 1.6 km from the city centre, 3.7 km from the Agora Events Centre	Double Deluxe: €138 Double Corner Room, city view: €181; Palace view: €198 Junior Suite: €226 One-Bedroom Suite: €269 Breakfast and VAT included; local tax (1.25%) and parking (€10 per day) not included.	Online or by e-mail to rezervari@hotelinternationaliasi.ro, quoting the event code EHEA27.	Preferential rates for bookings made by 24 April 2027. Free cancellation until 24 April 2027; one night charged from 25 April to 16 May; full charge thereafter.
Unirea Hotel & Spa 4★, Piața Unirii 5, less than 1 km from the city centre, 6 km from the Agora Events Centre	Business Room: €89 single; €98 double Business Superior Room: €96 single; €115 double Breakfast, VAT, local tax and parking included.	By e-mail to rezervari@hotelunirea.ro or by telephone, +40 232 205 000, quoting EHEA27.	Rooms held until 31 January 2027. Cancellation conditions to be confirmed by the hotel.
Hotel Bellaria 4★, Șos. Bucium 7, 5 km from the city centre, 4.5 km from the Agora Events Centre	Standard Queen or Twin: €64 single; €77 double Premiere Suite: €77 single; €90 double Breakfast, VAT, local tax, Wi-Fi and parking included.	By e-mail to rezervari@bellaria.ro, quoting EHEA27.	A 50% advance confirms the booking; balance due by 23 May 2027. Free cancellation up to 24 hours before check-in.
Ramada Iași 3★, Str. Grigore Ureche 27, less than 1 km from the city centre, 4.5 km from the Agora Events Centre	Single: €63; double: €76 Breakfast buffet and all taxes included; parking approx. €5 per day.	By e-mail to reservation@ramadaiasi.ro, quoting EHEA27.	Rates for 2027 subject to reconfirmation by the hotel.

Distances to the other event venues and the shuttle pick-up points will be provided in the full Practical Information Note.

6.2 Chișinău

The Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Moldova recommends the hotels listed below. All recommended hotels are in a walking distance from/to the dinner venue. Negotiated rates, booking codes and deadlines will be communicated in due course.

Hotel	Category	Address	To centre	Website
Gregory Boutique Hotel	5★	str. Alexei Șciusev 83/1	0.7 km	gregoryhotel.md
Savoy Hotel	5★	str. Alexei Mateevici 66	1 km	savoy.md
Thomas Albert Hotel	4★+	str. Mitropolit Bănulescu-Bodoni 17	0.6 km	thomasalbert.md
Mimi Hotel Chișinău	4★+	str. Maria Cibotari 37	0.5 km	–
Regency Hotel	4★+	str. Sfatul Țării 17	0.8 km	regency.md
Zentrum Hotel	4★/4★+	str. 31 August 1989	0.5 km	zentrum.md

Distances are given to the city centre and to the Chișinău Arena.

7. Transfer between Iași and Chișinău

- **Coaches.** Dedicated coaches will be provided to registered participants on 27 May 2027, departing from Iași at 08:00, with a facilitated border crossing. Arrival in Chișinău is scheduled for 10:30. Separate transport arrangements will apply to ministers, who will travel by private cars.
- **Travel documents.** Participants should carry a passport or other travel document valid for both countries (see Section 4).
- **Hotels and luggage.** Participants are requested to consider the time needed to check out of their hotel in Iași before the departure at 08:00. Check-in at the hotels in Chișinău takes place after the sessions, between xxx. Arrangements for luggage deposit at Chișinău arena will be communicated in the full Practical Information Note.

8. Registration and Key Dates

Delegations will register through an online platform provided by the EHEA Secretariat on the basis of nominations made by a Designated Accreditation Officer (DAO) of each delegation. EHEA delegations may comprise up to six members, including a higher education institution leader and a democratically elected student representative; delegations of global partners may comprise up to four members.

Registration will also collect the details required for the arrangements described above: arrival and departure flights, requests for the airport reception and for the coach of 27 May, hotel, participation in the welcome reception, the gala dinners, the side events and the optional tours, and any dietary or accessibility requirements.

The dates below are provisional and subject to change.

Date	Milestone
November 2026	Meeting of the BFUG in Dublin: presentation of the draft Practical information (short version) and of the tentative agenda.
Mid-January 2027	Opening of online registration; nomination of Designated Accreditation Officers.

Date	Milestone
25 February 2027	Registration deadline for participants who require a visa.
15 April 2027	Closing of registration for all participants.

9. Contacts and Official Sources

9.1 Contacts

Detailed contacts, including those of the delegation liaison officers, will be provided in the full Practical Information Note.

In the meantime, enquiries may be addressed as follows:

Subject	Contact
General information and registration enquiries	EHEA Secretariat: secretariat@ehea.info
Visa assistance and local arrangements in Iași	Ministry of Education and Research of Romania: ehea27@edu.gov.ro
Visa assistance and local arrangements in the Republic of Moldova	Ministry of Education and Research of the Republic of Moldova: Visa assistance: Olga Tretiacov, olga.tretiacov@mec.gov.md; Alina Turturean, alina.turturean@mec.gov.md