

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE

Sofia 1000, 14 Ekzarh Yossif str., tel.: +359 9359 118, fax: +359 9359 101 E-mail: <u>nij@ nij.bg</u>, <u>www.nij.bg</u>

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

NAME OF THE EVENT:

IV SEMIFINAL THEMIS - TH/2019/04 Judicial Ethics and Professional Conduct, 02-05/07/19, Sofia, Bulgaria

NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE HOSTING INSTITUTION: <u>National Institute of Justice of Bulgaria</u>, 14 Ekzarh Yossif Street, 1000 Sofia, <u>Bulgaria</u>.

VENUE OF THE SEMINAR:

National Institute of Justice of Bulgaria, 14 Ekzarh Yossif Street, 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria.

LIST OF HOTELS:

Please note that it is up to members themselves to proceed to the booking of their hotel wherever they prefer. The suggestions below are optional and subject to room availability. **There are no pre-booked rooms**

The prices for the next two hotels are the highest possible. The interested participants are advised to check the current market price for the period and type of room at www.booking.com and write directly to the manager below with the necessary reference. Then you will receive a personal offer with specific conditions according to the current market situation at a price no higher than the rates below.

Name of the hotel: <u>BEST WESTERN PLUS</u> BRISTOL HOTEL (4*)

Address: <u>Bulgaria, 1303 Sofia, 69 Hristo</u> Botev Blvd.

Rate: € 70.00 SNG room, € 80 Double room (including breakfast, internet and taxes)

Email: sales@bristolhotel.bg

(Contact person: Ms. Yuliana Todorova)

Website: www.bristolhotel.bg

Booking procedure: Reference for booking:

"NIJ Study Visit"

Reservation deadline: 20 June 2019

Name of the hotel: <u>ART HOTEL PLAZA (3*)</u>

Address: Bulgaria, 1000 Sofia, 46 Hristo

Belchev str.

Rate: € 60.00 SNG room, € 70 Double room (including breakfast, internet and taxes)

Email: sales@bristolhotel.bg

(Contact person: Ms. Yuliana Todorova)

Website: http://www.artplazahotel.bg/

Booking procedure: Reference for booking:

"NIJ Study Visit"

Reservation deadline: 20 June 2019

The next hotel is close to the <u>National Institute of Justice</u> and has generally positive reviews. The interested participants are advised to book directly either at the hotel website or at any accommodation web provider such as <u>www.booking.com</u>.



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Name of the hotel: **CENTRAL HOTEL**

SOFIA(4*)

Address: Bulgaria, 1000 Sofia, 52 Hristo

Botev

Website: http://central-hotel.com/en/

TRANSPORT FROM THE AIRPORT:

1. Travel by taxi:

Please <u>do not take</u> a taxi immediately after your exit of the airport building. You should catch a cab via the desk in front of the arrival exit to the right. There is a sign of OK Taxi Company. The clerk will give you a detailed receipt for the car that will wait for you in front of the exit. <u>Do not hand over this receipt to the driver.</u> The price is normal and the trip to the hotel will be no more than 10 Euros. If the bill is much more, please keep the cash receipt and give it to us at first instance.

Most of the cabs may be paid with credit card. Euros are generally acceptable at a rate 1 euro for 2 leva. If you want to pay by a card you should inform the clerk at the desk beforehand so he can arrange a car with a payment device.

You can always download the Yellow Taxi App which provides pretty good service as well.

2. Travel by public transportation:

Ticket Price: 1.60 leva (approximately 0, 80 euro) for all public transport vehicles. **Don't buy** more than one ticket for the subway because it expires after half an hour. Please also bear in mind that you can board a public transportation vehicle with two bags which combined dimensions don't exceed 140 cm each. If an inspector wants to fine you always insist on measuring your bag. They have a meter. If the bag is larger you just have to buy another ticket before you board the vehicle.

You may buy tickets well in advance for the other public transport vehicles (bus, tram and trolleybus). There you should verify the ticket in the machines by inserting and perforating it. You can buy tickets from the driver who may not always have some. Trams and trolleybuses have machines for a one-ride ticket. They operate with coins and don't return change.

Everything else about the public transport you can find in the **provider website**.

Passengers arriving at Terminal 1 of the Sofia Airport should arrange by themselves a free ride to Terminal 2. There they, as well as the participants arriving at Terminal 2, should take the subway to downtown Sofia. The airport is the last stop so the direction is only one and should go to Serdika Station which is the main transport hub of the city.



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People going to **Bristol Hotel** go out from the front exit to **Knyaz Boris Street** to their right and end up in from of the big **Catholic Cathedral "Sveti Yosif/Saint Josef" and Club Sugar**. Then you <u>walk this way</u> mainly on Pirotska Street. Reaching the National Institute of Justice is the easiest by <u>following this route</u>.

People going to **Art Hotel Plaza** go out from the back exit to **Bulbank**; switch the lines without going over and board the train to direction of **James Boucher/Lozenetz**. They go down from the far back exit at the next station NDK and <u>walk this way</u>. They may reach the National Institute of Justice by:

- Taking the back route to Serdika station and go down from the front door. Then exit the subway and **follow this route** or
- Taking this walking route on Vitosha Street which is the main pedestrian heart of the city. It is littered with cafes and shops.

People going to **Central Hotel Sofia** go out from the front exit to **Knyaz Boris Street** to their right and end up in from of the big **Catholic Cathedral "Sveti Yosif/Saint Josef" and Club Sugar**. They <u>walk this way</u> mainly on Todor Aleksandrov boulevard. Reaching the National Institute of Justice is the easiest by <u>following this route</u>

For further reference please check this website and the map of the subway

MEALS AND COFFEE BREAKS:

<u>Coffee breaks</u> and <u>lunches</u> on the duration of the seminar will be served at the venue of the seminar (in the cafeteria). They <u>will be paid by EJTN and deducted from participants' per diem.</u>

Additional information

You may use these websites for any information about Bulgaria and Sofia sightseeing, culture, cuisine and entertainment which are quite rich and useful:

- Programata.bg
- Visitsofia.bg
- Official Bulgarian Tourism Portal

Bulgarian currency is Lev (BGN). It is officially bonded with the euro at a rate 1euro/1,95583 Leva. You can exchange Euros in the banks which are quite many. Most restaurants accept credit and ATM cards. Some may even accept Euros at a 1euro/2 leva rate.