Informal meeting of EU foreign affairs ministers (Gymnich)

MEDIA ADVISORY

31 January – 1 February 2019
Palace of the National Bank of Romania
Bucharest
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1. MEDIA EVENTS

Wednesday, 30 January 2019

09:00 – 19:00 Opening hours of the Media Center
Venue: The Palace of the National Bank of Romania (access via Str. Doamnei, nr. 8)

Thursday, 31 January 2019

08:00 – 20:00 Opening hours of the Media Center
Venue: The Palace of the National Bank of Romania (access via Str. Doamnei, nr. 8)

13:30 – 14:00 **Pool 1: Arrival** of foreign affairs ministers (EU 28)

**PHOTO AND VIDEO OPPORTUNITIES – Doorstep**
Venue: The Palace of the National Bank of Romania, Str. Lipscani nr. 25

*Meeting point: 12:30, Information Desk (access via Str. Doamnei, nr. 8)*

13:30 – 14:00 **Welcome** of foreign affairs ministers (EU 28) by Foreign Affairs Minister, Teodor Meleşcanu, and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the Commission, Federica Mogherini

*Access only for host broadcaster and host photographer*

15.15 – 15.30 **Pool 2: Family Photo** (EU 28)

**PHOTO AND VIDEO OPPORTUNITIES** (access only for photographers and camera crews)
Venue: The Palace of the National Bank of Romania, 1st floor Foyer

*Meeting point: 14:45, Information Desk (access via Str. Doamnei, nr. 8)*

15.30 **Pool 3: Tour-de-table**

**PHOTO AND VIDEO OPPORTUNITIES** (access only for photographers and camera crews)

*Meeting point: 15:00, Information Desk (access via Str. Doamnei nr. 8)*

(Followed by **working session** of foreign affairs ministers)
Friday, 1 February 2019

07:30 – 19:00  Opening hours of the Media Center

Venue: The Palace of the National Bank of Romania (access via Str. Doamnei nr. 8)

09:00 – 09.30  **Pool 1:** Arrival of foreign affairs ministers (EU 28)

**PHOTO AND VIDEO OPPORTUNITIES – Doorstep**

Venue: The Palace of the National Bank of Romania, Str. Lipscani nr. 25

*Meeting point: 08:30, Information Desk (access via Str. Doamnei nr. 8)*

11:00 – 11:15  **Pool 2:** Arrival of foreign affairs ministers from EU candidate countries

**PHOTO AND VIDEO OPPORTUNITIES – Doorstep**

Venue: The Palace of the National Bank of Romania, Str. Lipscani nr. 25

*Meeting point: 10:30, Information Desk (access via Str. Doamnei nr. 8)*

11:00 – 11:15  **Welcome** of the foreign affairs ministers from EU candidate countries by Foreign Affairs Minister Teodor Meleşcanu, and High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the Commission, Federica Mogherini

**Access only for host broadcaster and host photographer**

11:15 – 11:30  **Pool 3:** Family photo (EU 28 and candidate countries)

**PHOTO AND VIDEO OPPORTUNITIES** (access only for photographers and camera crews)

Venue: The Palace of the National Bank of Romania, 1st floor Foyer

*Meeting point: 10:45, Information Desk (access via Str. Doamnei, nr. 8)*

11:30  **Pool 4:** Tour-de-table

**PHOTO AND VIDEO OPPORTUNITIES** (access only for photographers and camera crews)

*Meeting point: 11:05, Information Desk (access via Str. Doamnei nr. 8)*

(Followed by **working session** with foreign affairs ministers from candidate countries)
13:00 – 13:30 **PRESS CONFERENCE** with

- Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the Commission
- Teodor Meleşcanu, Foreign Affairs Minister

Simultaneous translation: Romanian, English, French

Venue: The Palace of the National Bank of Romania, *Mitiță Constantinescu* Hall

2. **PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

2.1. **Accreditation**

Access of the media representatives is done **exclusively based on the press accreditation**.

The accreditation can be done on the official website of the Romanian Presidency of the European Union Council at [https://accreditation.romania2019.eu/](https://accreditation.romania2019.eu/)

Accreditation must be requested no later than 10 days prior to the event.

Upon accreditation, the badges can be collected exclusively from the Palace of Parliament, S2 entrance, ground level (Str. Izvor nr. 2-4) – Accreditation Center of the Romanian Presidency of the European Union Council, opening hours 07.30 – 19.00. In order to collect the accreditation badge, you will need to present the accreditation approval and the identity card or passport.

2.2. **Pool sessions with media access**

Media representatives who want to attend pool sessions are required to send their option indicating the pool number and the day to the e-mail address gymnich@mae.ro

Pool sessions are limited in terms of available places, thus access will be given on a first-come first-served basis.

When choosing the pool sessions, media representatives are kindly asked to keep in mind the short timeframe between the press moments, as well as the distance between the media locations.

For the press moments where access is allowed exclusively for photographers and camera crews (family photo and tour de table), media representatives are kindly asked to:

- Make sure that the camera microphones are properly set up to record only the background noise, and not the conversations;
- Comply with the indications established for that security area;
- Leave the meeting room when indicated by the organizers.
2.3. Transfer from the Palace of Parliament - The Palace of the National Bank of Romania

On the 31 January, the media representatives who are at the Palace of Parliament for the Informal meeting of the defense ministers, there are 2 buses at their disposal for the transfer to the Palace of the National Bank of Romania. Additional details about the buses schedule can be available at the Accreditation Center of the Romanian Presidency of the European Union Council at the Palace of Parliament (entrance S2, ground level, Str. Izvor, nr. 2-4).

3. MEDIA CENTER

During the event, the Media Center will be located on the ground floor of the Palace of the National Bank of Romania, Str. Doamnei, nr. 8.

3.1. Media Entrance

Access for the media representatives in the building will be made exclusively via the entrance from Str. Doamnei, nr. 8.

3.2. Opening hours of the Media Center

- Wednesday, 30 January: 09:00 – 19:00
- Thursday, 31 January: 08:00 – 20:00
- Friday, 1 February: 07:30 – 19:00

3.3. Parking

You are kindly asked to use the public parking places nearby the location. In the vicinity of the Palace of the National Bank of Romania, no parking spaces have been reserved for media representatives.

3.4. Information Desk

During the event, an Information Desk for media representatives is set up at the ground floor of the Palace of the National Bank of Romania, the entrance from Str. Doamnei, nr. 8. General information and updates of the agenda are available at the Information Desk.

The Information Desk is open during the opening hours of the Media Center and it is also the meeting point for access to media events. In order to attend a media event, media representatives are kindly asked to follow the hours from the media program.
3.5. Equipment

The Media Center has 200 workstations for media representatives and offers the following equipment:

- desks and chairs
- 220V power supplies
- WI-FI
- limited number of LAN connection
- limited number of laptops that can be used in the Media Center
- color multifunction printers (printer, copy machine, scanner)

3.6. Stand-up positions

There are five stand-positions available in the Palace of the National Bank of Romania.

3.7. Catering

There is a catering area in the Media Center, where coffee, tea and water will be available the whole day in the period 30 January – 1 February. On 31 January and 1 February lunch will be served. On 31 January a dinner will be served.

3.8. Smoking area

The Romanian legislation prohibits smoking in closed public spaces. Therefore, smoking is prohibited in the Palace of the National Bank of Romania. A specially designed place for smokers is provided outside the building at the entrance via Str. Doamnei nr. 8.

3.9. Additional Information

During the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, video recordings, audio recordings or photos with the participants can be taken. These materials can be published by the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, including on websites or social media platforms. By taking part at events, participants agree to these materials being published.

Workstations in the Media Center are assigned on first-come first served basis. Organizers cannot reserve workstations for media representatives. An hour after the start of the event, the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union team will remove from unoccupied workstations any reserved signs placed by media representatives.

Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union does not assume any responsibility for loss or damage to property.

Lost goods will be kept at the Information Desk. If they are not claimed by the end of the event, or if the owner cannot be identified, the uncollected items will be handed over to the Media Center at the Palace of the Parliament.
4. HOST SERVICES

4.1. Host Broadcaster

The official host broadcaster of the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union is the Romanian Television Society (TVR), public television station, member of European Broadcasting Union (EBU). The host broadcaster will provide the media representatives with free of charge, audiovisual material in broadcast quality (HD), from the media events.

The audiovisual material will be broadcast via Europe by Satellite (EbS), the TV information service program of the European Union and can be downloaded in real time.

Host broadcaster will provide the following audiovisual material:

- Foreign affairs ministers arrival and doorstep – version available in original language
- Handshake - version available in original language
- Tour-de-table
- Press conference - version available in original language, Romanian, English and French.

Media representatives have at their disposal 6 TV and radio booths in the Media Center. The standard fitting includes LAN connection to the internal production network for media files of live transmissions, screen/TV HD, 220V power supplies, 1 SDI video input, 1 microphone, 1 landline phone.

The equipment allows receiving of live and audio streaming (in original language and translation) from the media events covered by the host broadcaster. The media booths have HD SDI signal, with embedded audio, and some of them are equipped with ISDN access points.

Booking of the TV and radio booths can be done at the Information Desk located on the ground floor of the Palace of the National Bank of Romania, entrance via Str. Doamnei, nr. 8.

The host broadcaster will provide technical support for media representatives who want to receive the live streaming in the TV and radio booths.

For questions, please contact directly the host broadcaster: hostbroadcaster@tvr.ro

4.2. Parking for SNGs

Due to the limited space at the venue (the Palace of the National Bank of Romania), there is no parking possibility for SNGs.

4.3. Host Photographer

All official photos will be published on the Flickr account of the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union (https://www.flickr.com/photos/161182924@N04/albums)
5. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

5.1. Wi–Fi

Free Wi-Fi is available in the areas designated for media representatives.

5.2. Website and Social Media

The website of the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union encompasses a section of useful information, as well other topics related to the Romanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The cultural program is available in the section Event Calendar.

Hashtag #RO2019EU
#Gymnich

Twitter https://twitter.com/ro2019eu
https://twitter.com/MAERomania

Facebook https://www.facebook.com/ro2019eu/
https://www.facebook.com/mae.romania/

Instagram https://www.instagram.com/ro2019eu/

Web www.romania2019.eu
www.mae.ro/en

Livestream www.tvrplus.ro
www.facebook.com/stiriletvronline
www.youtube.com/user/TVRcanaluloficial

Vimeo/Youtube https://vimeo.com/ro2019eu
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMera3i24EQHm2AP1H-_mgw

5.3. General Information

Local Time

Romania is on the Eastern European Time (EET) time zone: UTC/GMT +2 hours.

Weather

The climate in Romania is temperate continental. The forecast for January and February is between a maximum of -2 Celsius degrees during the day and a minimum of -9 Celsius degrees during the night,
however, delegates should be prepared for lower temperatures. Snow is frequent during this time of the year.

**Currency**

The currency in Romania is "Leu" (plural "Lei"), abbreviated RON.

Please be advised that shops do not accept Euro.

Foreign currencies may be exchanged at the bank or at authorized exchange offices.

Major credit and debit cards are widely accepted.

Exchange rate: [http://www.bnr.ro/Cursul-de-schimb-524.aspx](http://www.bnr.ro/Cursul-de-schimb-524.aspx)

Estimate exchange rate: 1 Euro ~ 4.65 RON

**Country code**

In order to make outgoing international calls to Romania, the country code is +40.

**Electricity**

Electricity in Romania is 220V - 230V, and the outlets used are the standard continental European.

**Important Telephone Numbers**

General emergency number: 112

5.4 Location map

6. CONTACT DETAILS

6.1. Content – Related Information

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Media Advisory

Informal meeting of EU foreign affairs ministers (Gymnich)

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Media Accreditation
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6.3. Host Broadcaster

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