



High-Level Cross-Regional Meeting on "Protection of Children from Sexual Violence"

Strasbourg, 18-19 June 2015

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

<u>Organisers</u>

- Council of Europe
- Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Violence against Children

Webpage of the Conference

• Accessible via the web portal: <u>www.coe.int/children</u>

<u>Venue</u>

Council of Europe Palais de l'Europe Meeting Room 9 Avenue de l'Europe 67075 STRASBOURG Cedex France

Registration of participants

Participants are requested to complete the registration form and return it by e-mail or fax to the Council of Europe secretariat (Children's Rights Division) (e-mail: <u>children@coe.int</u> / fax: +33.3.890.21.52.85).

The deadline to register is 20 April 2015.

Cinema evening/debate (17 June 2015, evening)

Participants are invited to the screening of the play "To Kill a Kelpie" by and in the presence of Matthew McVarish (author/actor), a film about two grown-up twin brothers defending the children they once were and the rare and precious moment when they speak about what has never been spoken before.

Matthew McVarish is a survivor of sexual violence suffered during his childhood. In May 2013 he began his own personal campaign trail called the "Road to Change", to walk 10,000 miles visiting 24 European capitals to meet many important "people who matter" in order to shed light on child sexual abuse, to share knowledge and to help build networks. His walk brought him to Strasbourg in October 2014, where he met the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. It ended in February 2015 in Edinburgh (Scotland, UK).

The screening will be followed by an exchange with Matthew on his play and walking initiative and any other issue related to sexual abuse of children that the public might wish to raise with him.

The film will be screened on the evening of 17 June at the Palais de l'Europe. Participants wishing to attend the screening are invited to sign up via the registration form.

<u>Hotels</u>

Participants are requested to make their own hotel bookings. Information on accommodation is available from Strasbourg Tourist Office:

Strasbourg Tourist Office 17 place de la Cathédrale 67082 STRASBOURG CEDEX +33 3 88 52 28 28 info@otstrasbourg.fr http://www.otstrasbourg.fr/en/your-stay/accomodation.html

Getting to Strasbourg

Participants are requested to make their own travel arrangements.

By Air

Strasbourg-Entzheim International Airport is just 10 km from Strasbourg city centre via the motorway. Train shuttles connect the airport to Strasbourg railway station and run up to 4 times per hour, with a journey time of 9 minutes.

For info: Tel. 0800 77 98 67 (free phone within France) - <u>www.ter-sncf.com/alsace</u>. Airport website: <u>www.strasbourg.aeroport.fr/index.php/accueil?lang=E</u>

Strasbourg can easily be reached from other nearby international airports such as:

Karlsruhe/Baden-Baden airport (Distance: 58 km from Strasbourg) Alsace Navette operates navettes from the airport to Strasbourg (to be booked in advance at: <u>http://alsace-navette.com/aeroport/index.html</u>) Airport website: <u>https://www.baden-airpark.de/startseite.html?&L=1</u> Basel-Mulhouse airport (Distance: 130 km from Strasbourg)

There are regular direct trains from Saint-Louis railway station to Strasbourg. A regular shuttle bus connects the airport to Saint-Louis railway station.

Airport website: <u>http://www.euroairport.com/en/</u>

Frankfurt airport (Distance: 210 km from Strasbourg).

Lufthansa operates a regular shuttle bus to Strasbourg, which stops at Strasbourg railway station and the Hilton Hotel.

Airport website: <u>http://www.frankfurt-airport.com/content/frankfurt_airport/en.html</u>

By train

Strasbourg is connected to Paris by a high-speed train called TGV (train à grande vitesse). Paris-Strasbourg is 2.20 hrs with 16 daily returns services.

By car

Strasbourg can be reached from various directions:

From the west (Paris, Benelux) taking the A4 motorway. About 4 hours from Paris;

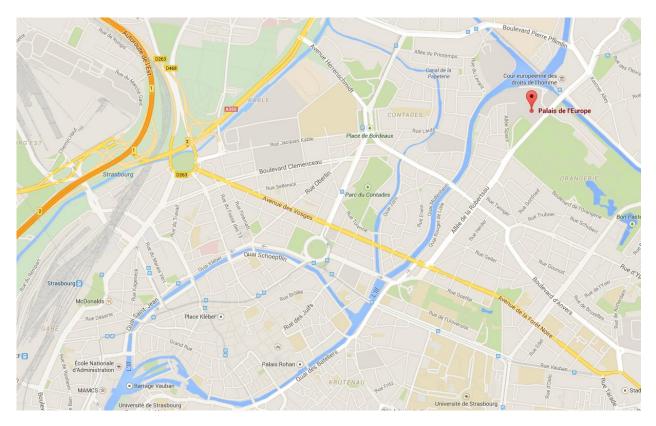
From the south (Switzerland, Lyon), taking the A35 motorway. About 5 hours from Lyon;

From the north and east (Germany), taking the A5 motorway.

Visas

Participants requiring a visa to enter France must make their own visa applications. The Council of Europe Protocol department can assist by issuing a "note verbale" to support their application. Participants requiring this assistance are requested to complete the relevant part of the registration form as soon as possible.

Getting to the Council of Europe



From the airport

Taxis are available at the airport until 11 p.m. (the arrival time of the last flight).

Train shuttles connect the airport to Strasbourg railway station and run up to 4 times per hour, with a journey time of 9 minutes.

For info: Tel. 0800 77 98 67 (free phone within France) - www.ter-sncf.com/alsace.

From Strasbourg railway station

Take Tram C from outside the train station, direction 'Neuhof Rodolphe Reuss' and get off at 'République' from where you can take a Tram E direction 'Robertsau-Boecklin' directly to the 'Human Rights' stop (you are in front of the European Court of Human Rights). Then walk to the Council of Europe entrance (Palais de l'Europe building).

By taxi

There is a taxi rank at the airport, at the railway station and by the main entrance to the Council of Europe.

By car

From the motorway, take the 'Wacken' exit, then follow the signposts 'Institutions européennes' (European Institutions). Go along Avenue Herrenschmidt, through Place de Bordeaux, along Boulevard Ohmacht and Boulevard Jacques Preiss, and on your left up Allée de la Robertsau to the Council of Europe.

There is an all day free car park near the Council of Europe but public transport is strongly recommended as the number of places are limited in the vicinity.

Access to the Palais de l'Europe

Participants will be issued with a badge at the main entrance of the Palais de l'Europe allowing them access to the building, on presentation of an identity document and the invitation letter for the meeting.