



GENERAL INFO

Annual Security and Defence Forum of the Defence Committees of the Nordic, Baltic and Polish Parliaments Szczecin, Poland 22-24 April 2018

Registration

Delegations are kindly asked to confirm their attendance by completing the REGISTRATION FORM for each participant and send them by e-mail them to kobn@sejm.gov.pl by 25 March 2018.

Venue

The main venue for the Forum is Dana Hotel Szczecin (aleja Wyzwolenia 50, Szczecin) located 45 km from Solidarity Airport Szczecin-Goleniów (IATA code: SZZ).

The first day, the programme will take place at NATO Multinational Corps Northeast HQ. The delegations will have the opportunity to learn more about the MCNE and its tasks and activities. Furthermore we plan to have a briefing on current situation in the Baltic Sea region and NATO activities there. In preparations for this we are required to present valid **NATO restricted clearances** for all the participants. Therefore please send us scans of those clearances per mail at kobn@sejm.gov.pl not later than till 12th April 2018.

This session will be followed by a light military lunch on spot. Further we plan to move to one of the military units (depending on the location, we will probably **won't come back to hotel** before that), where the delegations could not only see the conditions of the military service in the region, but also would have an opportunity to see and try some of the equipment (we are trying to get approval for some shooting on spot), hence it is advised to wear something rather comfortable (we discourage to wear skirts on this part of the day).

After this part we will come back to hotel before heading for an official dinner (the venue is not confirmed yet. The detailed programme will follow shortly).

The second day, the Forum will take place at the Dana Hotel Szczecin

This facility is situated in the building of former Dana Clothing Mills. The historic building became restored, maintaining original form and historical value of 19th century architecture of Szczecin. Owing to the performed revitalization and artistic vision of the designers, the city received a new hotel with the standard adapted to the requirements of European four-star hotels. The building is located at the very centre of the city, not far from business and trade facilities as well as main communication arteries.

We plan to have think tank representatives as well as military/governmental experts on that day.

As we forecast that vast majority of us would like to leave by plane at 14:55 via Warsaw to hometowns, we plan to have a farewell lunch in the hotel around 12-12:30, so we could take you all to the airport in Szczecin-Goleniów.

Practical information

Accommodation

A block booking has been made at Dana Hotel Szczecin, at a special rate, from Monday 23 - Tuesday 24 April. Some rooms are being held from Sunday 22 April for those arriving early. The price is PLN 270 (approx. EUR 65) per single room/per person/per night, incl. all taxes, breakfast and free WiFi.

For hotel room reservation, please contact the hotel directly by e-mailing the contact person below and using the attached booking form, before. The block booking of rooms will be released after this date and higher prices may apply for bookings made after the deadline. Cancellation of booked rooms after 22 March will be according to the policy of the hotel. For the overlook please put us in copy mail at kobn@sejm.gov.pl

Hotel Dana Business & Conference

Aleja Wyzwolenia 50

71-500 Szczecin, Poland

Contact person: Mr Rafał Zaweracz, tel.: +48 55 23 64 71,

e-mail: r.zaweracz@hoteldana.pl

Transportation

As the airport is quite far from the city, we will try to organize transportation for your delegations. Hence our kind request for the information about your arriving and departing planes, so we could our capacities and plan accordingly.

There will be organised transport during the programme on Monday and Tuesday, and transportation from the hotel to the airport after the programme ends on Tuesday early afternoon.

The official program runs from noon Monday 23 April until Tuesday 24 April early afternoon. Early comers are welcome already on Sunday (no official programme, but we may arrange something if the most of you decide to come).

Official dinner

The official dinner will take place on Monday 23 April. Although we still need to confirm the venue, we do hope it will be a pleasant and fruitful evening. The detailed programme will follow soon.

Language

The Forum will be conducted in English. Delegations are welcome to bring their own interpreter. However there are limited capacities for interpreters booths in the hotel, so if your delegation intends to bring an interpreter, please fill in the necessary information in the REGISTRATION FORM and inform us as soon as it's only possible. Please bear in mind that the interpreters are also required to be in possession of valid NATO restricted clearance.

Attire

The dress code for the visit at NATO MCNE is smart casual. The dress code for the rest of the programme including the official dinner is business suit. Since parts of the programme on Monday will be in a military unit and the plan is also to include the shooting exercise, it is highly recommended to wear a comfortable attire according to the newest weather forecasts. Skirt is not recommended then (but would be fine for the official dinner).

Climate

The temperatures in Szczecin in April normally vary from 5 – 15 degrees Celcius.

Currency

The official currency in Poland is Polish Zloty, PLN. EUR 1 is approximately 4 PLN. Cash machines are easily available and taxis and shops widely accept credit card.

Contact information

For any questions regarding the Forum, please contact the organisers at the Polish Parliament (Sejm):

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Mr Kamil Strzepek (Committee Secretary)

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You can reach all of us at the easiest e-mail: kobn@sejm.gov.pl

Information about Szczecin

Szczecin is the capital and largest city of the West Pomeranian Voivodeship in Poland. Located near the Baltic Sea and the German border, it is a major seaport and Poland's seventh-largest city. The City population exceed 400,000.

Szczecin is located on the Oder, south of the Szczecin Lagoon and the Bay of Pomerania. The city is situated along the southwestern shore of Dąbie Lake, on both sides of the Oder and on several large islands between the western and eastern branches of the river. Szczecin is adjacent to the town of Police and is the urban centre of the Szczecin agglomeration, an extended metropolitan area that includes communities in the German states of Brandenburg and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.

The city's recorded history began in the 8th century as a Slavic Pomeranian stronghold, built at the site of the Ducal castle. In the 12th century, when Szczecin had become one of Pomerania's main urban centres, it lost its independence to Piast Poland, the Duchy of Saxony, the Holy Roman Empire and Denmark. At the same time, the House of Griffins established themselves as local rulers and the population was Christianized. After the Treaty of Stettin in 1630, the town came under the control of the Swedish Empire and became in 1648 the Capital of Swedish Pomerania until 1720,

when it was acquired by the Kingdom of Prussia and then the German Empire. Following World War II, although Potsdam Agreement did not specify that the city was to be given to Poland, Stettin became part of Poland, resulting in a complete exchange of population.

Szczecin is the administrative and industrial centre of West Pomeranian Voivodeship and is the site of the University of Szczecin, Pomeranian Medical University, Maritime University, West Pomeranian University of Technology, Szczecin Art Academy, and the see of the Szczecin-Kamień Catholic Archdiocese. From 1999 onwards, Szczecin has served as the site of the headquarters of NATO's Multinational Corps Northeast.