

European Green Academy | 24-25 April 2026

Practical Information Pack for Participants

We are happy to welcome you to the European Green Academy in Brussels! This information pack contains all the essential information you need for your stay in Brussels during the Academy.

Event Details

- **Dates:** Friday 24 April 2026 (13:00-22:00) and Saturday 25 April 2026 (09:30-22:00)
- **Location:** [BIP Meeting Center](#) (BIP), Rue Royale 2-4 Koningsstraat, 1000 Brussels
- **Language:** English
- **Programme:** The programme is available [here](#).
- **Contact:** For any practical information queries, please write to events@gef.eu.

Programme

The full programme is available on [our website](#). The Academy starts on Friday 24 April with a networking lunch at 13:00, while the official opening will be at 14:00. Regular updates will be made on our channels to inform you of upcoming sessions during the Academy.

We ask you to please be on time for each of the sessions out of respect for our wonderful speakers and as to not delay the Academy programme.

On Saturday 25 April from 19:45, there will also be a performance by [Mahour Gigs](#), an Iranian singer and songwriter, accompanied by dancers and musicians. For more information, please visit the [European Green Academy event](#) page on our website.

Transportation

From Brussels Central Station to BIP Meeting Center (event venue)

- **By bus:** take bus 71 (direction Delta) or 38 (direction Hero), from stop Gare Centrale to stop Royal (1 stop). Total time 3 minutes.
- **Walking:** walk 7 minutes via Rue Baron Horta/Baron Hortastraat and Koningsstraat/Rue Royale.

From Brussels Midi/South Station to BIP Meeting Center (event venue)

- **By transport:** take the metro lines 2 (direction Elisabeth) or 6 (direction Elisabeth) from Gare du Midi/Zuidstation to Trone. Exit the metro station Trone, then walk 7 minutes toward BIP Meeting Center (event venue). Metros run every 3 minutes normally.

- **By bike:** 12 minutes. Use the Villo bike-sharing system. There are bike stations near both the city center and the venue.
- **Walking:** walk 30 minutes via Nieuwland/Rue Terre-Neuve.

Payments in public transport: you can either buy a (multi-day) ticket on a vending machine in one of the stations or pay contactless with your bank card.

From the airport to BIP Meeting Center (event venue)

From Brussels Zaventem airport:

- **By train:** Trains run every 15 minutes from Brussels Airport-Zaventem to Brussels-Central Station. It takes 15-20 minutes for a cost of 10,80 €. The train station is located directly under the Departures Hall at level -1. From Brussels Central, walk 7 minutes to BIP Meeting Center (event venue).
- **By bus:** STIB operates buses from Brussels Airport to Trone (Line 12, direction). It takes approx. 30 minutes, and costs 7 €. The bus stop is located just below the Arrivals Hall on level 0. From Trone, walk 7 minutes toward BIP Meeting Center (event venue).
- **By taxi:** It takes approx. 25 minutes for a cost of around 50-60 €. Taxis are available 24/7 outside the airport terminal.

From Brussels Charleroi airport:

- **By shuttle bus:** Flibco operates shuttle buses from Charleroi Airport to Brussels Midi station every 30 minutes. It takes approx. 1 hour and costs around 20 €. From Brussels midi, take the metro lines 2 (direction Elisabeth) or 6 (direction Elisabeth) from Gare du Midi/Zuidstation to Trone. Exit the metro station Trone, then walk 7 minutes toward BIP Meeting Center (event venue). Metros run every 3 minutes normally.
- **By train:** Take the TEC bus from Charleroi Airport to Charleroi-Sud train station, then a train to Brussels Central. It takes approx. 1 hour and 30min and costs 17,40 €. From Brussels Central, walk 7 minutes to BIP Meeting Center (event venue).
- **By taxi:** It takes approx. one hour and costs around 140-160 €. Taxis are available outside the terminal.

BIP Meeting Center (event venue)

Located on Place Royale in the heart of the historic center of Brussels, the BIP Meeting Center is housed in a neoclassical complex dating from 1788, carefully restored and adapted for contemporary use. It also serves as the seat of the Brussels-Capital Region.

Entrance: address is [Rue Royale 2-4 Koningsstraat, 1000 Brussels](#). The general entrance to BIP Meeting Center is located on Rue Royale, in front of the Royal Parc and Royal Palace of Brussels. There are two accessible entrances for people with reduced mobility, one located in Rue Royale 6 (right side of the main building), and one located in Rue Royale 11 (left side of the building).



Picture of the main entrance of BIP Meeting Center (event venue). Registration, plenaries and catering moments will take place in this building.



Picture of the two entrances for people of reduced mobility of BIP Meeting Center (event venue). On the left picture, entrance from Rue Royal 11; on the right picture, entrance from Rue Royale 6.

Buildings: You can access the venue map [via this link](#). The European Green Academy will take place across two buildings within the BIP venue. Registrations, plenary sessions, and catering moments (coffee breaks, lunches, dinners) will take place in the main building. Parallel sessions will be held in a separate

building, accessible via a short walk across the courtyard. Rooms in this building are spread across three floors. We kindly ask participants with reduced mobility to prioritise using the lift in this building. If you need any assistance, staff and volunteers will be available to support you.



Picture of the entrance of the second building of BIP Meeting Centre, accessible via the courtyard. Parallel sessions will take place in this building.

Dedicated rooms:

- Iris – Quiet room, a space for anyone who may need to rest, decompress, or take a break. We encourage all participants to make use of this room as needed.
- Horta – Staff room
- Agora – Staff & volunteers room

Smoking: smoking is forbidden inside any of the rooms of BIP Meeting Center. Ashtrays are provided outside and in the Cour d'Honneur (courtyard).

Throughout the event, **staff, volunteers, and Safe Spaces contact points** will be present and easily identifiable. Please feel free to approach them at any time if you need support or assistance.

Safe spaces policy

The Green European Foundation is committed to providing an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination, and that is a safe space for all participants, speakers, volunteers, staff and venue personnel. Adherence to this policy is a mandatory criterion for attendance.

Please click [here](#) to read the full safe spaces policy.

Your points of contact for safe spaces are:

Giuseppina Tucci (she/her),

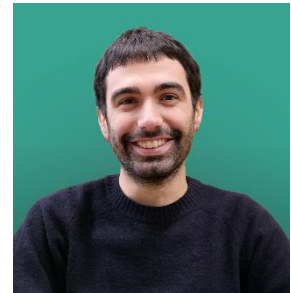
+32 485 177205, giuseppina.tucci@gef.eu

Giovanni Dal Pra' (he/him),

+32 470 818373, giovanni.dalpra@gef.eu



Giuseppina



Giovanni

Accessibility

BIP Meeting Center is **accessible** for people with accessibility needs. Check out the venue's Access-i report [here](#). If you have any specific accessibility needs that you have not yet communicated via your confirmation form, please **inform us by Monday 20 April** at the very latest by sending an email to events@gef.eu.

Catering

Please note that all catering will be **vegetarian and vegan**.

- **Breakfast:** on Saturday 25 April, some viennoiseries will be provided by the venue from 09:30-10:30.
- **Lunch and dinner:** Provided at the venue on both 24 & 25 April.
- **Coffee & snack breaks:** regular coffee breaks will be provided throughout the Academy.
- **Evening drinks:** during dinnertime, alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks will be provided.

Special dietary requirements can be accommodated. If you have not yet communicated your special dietary needs, please inform us by Monday 20 April at the very latest via events@gef.eu.

Sustainability

We are committed to making our event as sustainable as possible. For catering and venue, we have chosen environmentally conscious partners. We also strongly encourage all participants to consider sustainable travel options to reduce our collective carbon footprint.

1. **Catering:** At our event, all food will be vegan and vegetarian, provided by Pop Pot. To learn more about their sustainability practices, you can read [here](#).
2. **Venue:** The event venue has [Green Key certification](#), an internationally recognized certification that highlights companies working towards sustainable development. BIP Meeting Center adheres to a charter of sustainable commitment, you can find more info [here](#).
3. **Travel:** We encourage participants to prioritise sustainable travel options. For additional information, please refer to our [financial conditions and guidelines](#).

Accommodation (for speakers and sponsored participants only)

GEF operates with a limited budget, and accommodation is therefore provided for specific categories of participants only (including EGA speakers, GEF General Assembly members – one per foundation only, GEF Board members, and selected invitees) for whom specific arrangements have been discussed and agreed in advance.

For participants whose accommodation is organised by GEF, rooms have been reserved in [Hotel du Congrès](#) and [Thon Hotel EU](#), located approximately 15–20 minutes from the venue (on foot or by public transport).

You will be informed by email which hotel you are assigned to, and for which nights. All bookings are made directly by GEF and include a single room, breakfast included.

Communications

Please be aware that there will be filming and photography during the event. If you do not wish to be filmed or photographed, kindly inform us by or before Monday 20 April 2026 by sending an email to events@gef.eu. During the event, you can refer to a staff member or one of our volunteers to make sure your request is respected.

If you post about the Academy on social media, make sure to use the **#EGA2026** hashtag and tag us on the following social media networks:

- **Instagram:** @gef_europe
- **LinkedIn:** Green European Foundation
- **Facebook:** Green European Foundation
- **Bluesky:** @gef-europe.bsky.social

Emergency contacts

- **Local emergency number:** 112
- **Nearest hospital:** CHU Saint-Pierre, Rue Haute 322, 1000 Brussels

Useful channels and apps

- [STIB-MIVB](#): For public transport information and tickets.
- [Villo](#): For bike-sharing services.
- [Visit Brussels](#): For tourist information and events.

What to do in Brussels

Brussels is a vibrant and dynamic city. Here are a few things to do in Brussels during your free time outside of the Academy:

- a) **See the sights:** Explore the city center and some of its national landmarks:

- **Grand Place:** The main square of Brussels is known for its historic and beautiful architecture. It's a UNESCO World Heritage site and a must-see.
 - **Manneken Pis:** A small and quirky, but famous statue that has become a symbol of Brussels. It's a fun and iconic spot to visit. Not to forget **Jeanneke Pis**, who is the female counterpart to Manneken Pis, tucked away in a small alley near Rue des Bouchers.
 - **Atomium:** One of Brussels' landmark sights, this iconic structure also houses a museum and offers a great view of the city.
- b) **EU Institutions:** If you are curious to learn more about the EU institutions, you are in the right place:
- **Schuman area:** See the European Commission, the Council, and the EEAS. This area is the heart of the EU's administrative operations.
 - **Place du Luxembourg:** See the European Parliament and visit its museum for free. It's a great way to understand the workings of the EU.
- c) **Other tips:**
- **Museums:** Consider visiting museums like the **Magritte Museum** or the **Royal Museums of Fine Arts** for a dose of culture and history.
 - **Food:** Don't miss out on trying Belgian waffles and fries! We rate the waffles from the yellow vans.
 - **Parks:** We love our green spaces! Here are a few great ones to relax, walk, or picnic: Parc du Cinquantenaire; Bois de la Cambre; Parc Josephat, not to mention Parc de Bruxelles, which is just a stone's throw away from the Academy venue.

Looking forward to seeing you in Brussels soon!

