

# ADMISSION GUIDE



# SUMMER SCHOOL

“Nationalism and Democracy in Post-Communist Europe”

23 July-29 July 2017

Tirana, Albania

Organized by the International Association for Political Science Students

In cooperation with the European University of Tirana



## **Word of Welcome by the Organizing Committee**

Dear Summer School Participant,

We are very glad you are reading this guide and will be joining us in Tirana very soon. As the organizing committee, we had plenty of fun planning this event, starting with the concept, choosing the beautiful destination in Tirana and finally breaking the theme down to topics that are current, contested and interesting for students of the discipline. Although it is impossible to grasp the whole region in a summer school or even a semester at the university, we tried as much as we can to make this school cater to every need you might have. Lectures and Q&A sessions serve to widen your horizons about a certain topic, a workshop gives you tools with which you can put this knowledge to the test while working groups give you autonomy to create your own focus points and develop a small scale project from A to Z with the guidance of both lectures and workshops. To inject a little fun in the program, we have planned a nice day trip so that you have the opportunity to explore and create memories that last with new people you will get the chance to meet. Taking part in an intercultural event is a precious and enlightening experience, and we are happy that you chose our summer school in Tirana to do so. This summer school may even be the start of an interesting research project, a discovery of a hidden passion or a newfound career path. It will also be a great asset for future applications to conferences, workshops and study programs. We hope we can deliver on our part by providing you with the just right balance of academic and fun, and are very excited to be getting to know you all very soon!

Your organizing committee

Kristian Xavier Carrera Kurjenoja  
Tobias Jerzewski  
Serap Aydemir  
Fariha Mirzada

## About IAPSS

The International Association for Political Science Students (IAPSS) is the worldwide representation of undergraduate and graduate students of political science, international relations and related studies. IAPSS strives to deliver a sustainable academic contribution to the education of its members, to foster exchange among young political scientists across the globe and to promote social and scientific responsibility. We do this by offering a multiplicity of events, publications, professionalization and career services as well as lobbying for political science student's interests on the international level. The general aim is to provide a platform for academically strong students and enable them to pursue fast-track career in academia. IAPSS embraces more than 1.500 members from over 100 countries.

The Association was founded in 1998 in Leiden (the Netherlands) and is exclusively student-led, non-profit run and politically independent. The IAPSS Headquarters is currently located in Nijmegen (the Netherlands) and hosted by Radboud University Nijmegen, IAPSS' premium partner and itself a leading institution in the political science arena in Europe.

Our portfolio and annual agenda provided with great dedication to our members is built up around three pillars. In each pillar, we conceptualize and realize activities, projects and services that contribute to the academic, personal and social development of our members. Worldwide. 365 days all year long.

IAPSS' unique international network of individual members and member association enables us to influence debates, initiatives and scientific developments internationally. More than 250,000 individuals are following IAPSS through different social media devices and regular consultations are taking place with all international partners in the field of political science. You want to become actively involved? Feel free to get in contact with the committee on-site to get more information on our work. We will also offer an exclusive session during the winter school, which will present you the association in further detail.

Find out more at: [www.iapss.org](http://www.iapss.org)

## Organizing Committee



Kristian Xavier Carrera Kurjenoja is a student, young scholar and activist. Educated in the areas of Social Anthropology and International Relations at the bachelor level in his native Mexico, he studied a MA in Political Science and South Eastern European Studies jointly granted by University of Belgrade and Graz. Nowadays Xavier is enrolled in the European Regional Master in Democracy and Human Rights, between the University of Bologna and Sarajevo. For the last three years he has lived in the former Yugoslavia and performed fieldwork in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia and Montenegro. His main research interests are diversity management and the political systems of the Western Balkans.

**Kristian Xavier Carrera Kurjenoja**  
Head of Events Department  
Serbo-Croatian

E-mail: [events@iapss.org](mailto:events@iapss.org)  
Languages: English, Spanish,

Tobias has completed a bachelor degree in Political Science at the Free University Berlin and HEC Paris. He has recently started a dual master's degree in European Affairs at Sciences Po Paris and the Free University Berlin. In addition to classic European and Franco-German issues, Tobias developed a sense of curiosity about the Eastern dimension of the European Integration. On one hand, he focused in this context on Poland's role within the EU – for instance, it is an important growth country, which seems to find its role as a regional leader. On the other hand, he examined the neighbourhood policy towards the Albania in the complex network with Russia.



**Tobias Jerzewski**  
Seasonal School Coordinator

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Languages: English, French, Spanish





Serap Aydemir is currently a Joint MA Candidate in South-Eastern European Studies at the Universities of Belgrade and Graz. During her master's studies, she worked as a student research assistant at the Centre for Southeast European Studies in Graz for a semester. Prior to her graduate studies, she did European Voluntary Service (EVS) at an NGO, where she worked with migrant and refugee youth, for a year. She holds a BA in Business Administration from Marmara University. Her research interests include ethnic and religious conflict management, everyday nationalism, gender roles, genocide and mass violence, minority mobilisation, and nation state building.

**Serap Aydemir**

Seasonal School Coordinator

e-mail: [summerschool3@iapss.org](mailto:summerschool3@iapss.org)

Languages: English, French, Russian

Farieha Mirzada is currently studying Middle Eastern Studies and Political Science at Leiden University (Netherlands). Her main interests are migration and integration, radicalization (its causes and consequences) and the politics in the Middle East. She also spent her summers in Iran (Imam Khomeini International University) and France (Sorbonne) to expand her knowledge of the culture and politics of these countries. Furthermore, she has been active as a student assistant for the Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam and Society. After her time at Leiden, she switched to Hilversum where she worked for a public broadcast corporation (BNN-VARA) on a documentary about the Dutch Mission in Afghanistan (Onze Missie in Afghanistan). Currently, she is an active member of a Dutch think tank (JASON Institute) an intern on media strategy for the journalism platform De Correspondent.



**Farieha Mirzada**

Seasonal School Coordinator

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Languages: Persian, English, French

## This year's summer school theme

There is a complex relationship between **nationalism** and **democracy**. While democracy appears to be based on the principle of inclusivity, nationalism seems to be predicated on exclusivity. For this reason, it is usually considered that nationalism and democracy constitute competing logics, and in that vein, as nationalism endangers democracy, the two cannot exist together.

**After the fall of communism**, many countries in Eastern Europe embarked upon establishing democracies in divided societies. The taming of ethnic nationalism has been one of the major tasks of democratization. In the process of democratization, most of Eastern European countries have faced various challenges. The IAPSS summer school 2017 aims to explore some of these challenges by taking a closer look at some of the post-communist countries such as Russia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Georgia.

## Venue

On the first day (23 July) of the summer school we will meet at a venue that will be announced soon (keep an eye on your mailbox!). Here we will formally introduce our organisation and all practicalities concerning the summer school. From the 24th on till the 29th of July, all our activities will be held at the European University of Tirana (UET) located at Bulevardi Gjergj Fishta Nd. 70 (see below).



## Program components

The summer school will feature highly interactive teaching formats and joint sessions, which aim in their variety to enable excellent conditions for collective and individual learning progress. Most sessions will feature problem-based approaches and case studies, while others deal with theoretical and methodological content. Our general aim is to provide you with seven full-days of input and let you experience the addressed topic from multiple angle.

### *Obligatory Program Components*

All program components, except the reading circles and research surgeries, are obligatory. There will be general sessions at the beginning and end of the program. These sessions will provide you with general knowledge on the concept of the program. We will also use it to present you our organization. For those who want to become active within IAPSS, we will offer an optional IAPSS talk. We will start with a kick-off, group interviews to break the ice and will end with a wrap-up session.

### *Reading Circles*

These student-run seminars are an optional part of the program. They mainly feature theoretical and methodological basics for the respective program days. Attendance is not mandatory, these classes could help you understand the sub-topics on a more abstract level. There are required readings for the session.

### *Lectures*

The core of our program are the lectures and the Q&A sessions after. We invited seven speakers who will each deliver a presentation of each subtopic. These lectures are mainly based on case studied and research the speakers are conducting. All lectures should last for 30-45 minutes and be followed by a discussion and Q&A to leave room for interaction.

### *Research Surgeries*

The surgeries leave space for those, who are currently working on a term paper or a dissertation (proposal). We take time for one-on-one meetings with our faculty to give you individual consulting for your progress. The past experiences for our seasonal schools has shown the positive impact of the individual performance of the students, who requested such a research surgery. Please request your “surgery” in advance and provide us with a proposal or paper draft before the school. This



part is also optional and depends on your research needs.

### *Working Group Meetings*

Another core of our school features extensive group work. These sessions are mandatory, while they can also be expanded beyond the school setting. These meetings will primarily use the diverse academic background of the participants and enable space for exchange and discussion while working on a joint project to be presented in the end of the summer school. More details are provided in the respective WG section of this guide.

### *Documentary Screenings*

A fruitful combination of socializing and food for thoughts: A documentary screening. We will watch one selected documentary and use the possibility to discuss it with each other and our facilitator.

## Working Groups

Submitting your applications, all of you were asked to mark your working group preferences. Each subtopic is assigned to a working group made up of 7 participants. The aim of the working group is to gather people with the same interests in the same topic. The coordinators on-site will help you find a project idea, which you can follow throughout the week. Our coordinators, lectures and workshops conductors will provide you with guidance.

The working group is the third pillar of the summer school next to the lectures and the workshop. In the lectures, you will mainly be getting information from the speaker with a chance to ask questions and engage in discussions. The workshop will serve to use the input of the lectures in order to provide you with academic tools with which you can put that knowledge into practice by creating a project, a research paper, or simply a presentation for your working groups.

The working group will use both the lectures and the workshops to give you complete autonomy in developing an idea from A to Z and coming up with an end product on the last day of the summer school. As mentioned, the product can be a short research paper on the specific topic you chose that you can carry on after the school, whether individually or with the same group of people, and which can be published in IAPSS flagship journal POLITIKON. It can also be a project idea that you can also carry on after the program, maybe at your university or institution, or it can be a presentation by your group on a certain topic.

***The dress code for the summer school is smart casual. No need for suits and ties.***

## History of Tirana and basic information

Sulejman Pasha Bargjini, a native feudal lord from Mullet, established the city in 1614. His first constructions were a mosque, a bakery and a hamam (Turkish bath). On February 8, 1920 Tirana was made the temporary capital by the Congress of Lushnje, and it was proclaimed the permanent capital on December 31, 1925.

Albania spent the majority of the last 60 years under a strict and isolationist Dictator, Enver Hoxha. Upon his death, the country moved towards a free market economic model, with mixed results. Presently, Tirana is where the old and new Albania meet. Unpaved streets host brand new Land Rovers, iPhone-toting youngsters rub shoulders with street vendors peddling all manners of items, and gleaming glass towers look down on abandoned construction projects.

Tourists usually find Tirana a beautiful and charming city, where cosmopolitan and small town feelings are intertwined with a lively night life. However, Tirana suffers from pollution problems mainly due to the rapid increase in cars in the city and continuous construction. Long gone are the days when Tirana used to be subject to power outages almost daily and this made Tirana a noisy city as the lack of power and lack of traffic lights had cars navigating by honking their horns.

Today the situation has dramatically improved regarding power outages. Tirana is undergoing a major renovation from its communist days. Many of the ugly dull buildings have been repainted, but a lot of work still needs to be done. English is rapidly gaining steam as the second language of the city with the youth but many older residents also speak Italian.

Albanians are very hospitable towards foreigners, despite media frequently portraying them as thieves and mobsters. Tirana itself is very approachable if you're the adventurous type - crime is rare, if ever directed towards foreigners and the costs are very low by regional standards. The worst experience you may have is with erratic driving style of Albanians.

The main business and entertainment area (not by coincidence) has become "The Block" (Blloku) which is the area where in the past, the communist leaders used to live under strict protection. Locals prefer to hang out at the many cafes and main parks. Tirana is a youthful and lively town resonating constant energy. A popular retreat is by cable car to Mount Dajti where one can get a panoramic view of the city from above.

## Necessary information:

<b>Police :</b>	112
<b>Fire Department:</b>	128
<b>Ambulance:</b>	127
<b>The Universal Hospital Tirana :</b>	(355)42290000 (Consultation: US\$20)
<b>Official City-website:</b>	<a href="https://goo.gl/xck7PD">https://goo.gl/xck7PD</a>
<b>Tourist information:</b>	<a href="http://wikitravel.org/en/Tirana">http://wikitravel.org/en/Tirana</a>

A [new tourist information office](#) has recently opened on Rruga Ded Gjo Luli, just north of Skanderbeg Square (behind the National Historic Museum). The English-speaking staff are very helpful and can provide maps and directions to hostels/hotels etc. Also free copies of "Tirana in your pocket" guide, which includes vital information about bus and furgon schedules.

- The Albanian lek (plural: lekë) is the currency of Albania. Sign: **L** and code: **ALL**. Everyone in Albania knows the value of €1 in lek (it's between 130 to 140), and will gladly offer prices in euros – typically, and understandably, at a rate advantageous to them. So you might prefer to change euros (or dollars, pounds, etc) at one of the prominent exchange bureaux or bank ATMs. Change only small amounts of cash because it is pointless leaving Albania with local currency unless you intend to return.
- The main language is Albanian but English is rapidly gaining steam as the second language of the city with the youth and many older residents also speak Italian.
- Like in many tourist destinations, faux guides and unsolicited company are frequent. Don't be embarrassed to decline offers and consult maps.
- ATMs are known as 'bankomat' and can be found in lots of places. All major credit cards and debit cards can be used at some ATMs throughout Albania, but do not work in many.

## Transportation to Tirana

### By plane

Tirana is served by Tirana International Airport Nënë Tereza (Rinas International Airport) (IATA: TIA) 17 km from the centre of town.

*The following airlines offer service to/from Tirana:*

Adria Airways (Ljubljana), Air Serbia (Belgrade), Austrian Airways (Vienna), Cuneo, Florence, Forli, Genoa, Heraklion, Milan-Malpensa, Milan-Orio al Serio, Parma, Perugia, Pisa, Pristina, Rhodes, Rimini, Rome-Fiumicino, Trieste, Venice-Treviso, Verona, Zurich), British Airways (London-Gatwick), Lufthansa (Munich), Olympic Air (Athens, Thessaloniki), Turkish Airlines (Istanbul-Atatürk)

Rinas Express operates an hourly bus between 6:00am and 6:00pm from the airport to Skanderbeg Square and vice versa - though the 6.00am service was not operating in October 2015. It costs 250 lek each way and leaves every hour on the hour from both the airport and from a small fork from Rruga Durrës, a couple of minutes walk west of Skanderbeg Square. The trip takes around 25-30 minutes. From the airport exit doors, walk towards the parking lot past the taxi touts to find the bus stop. At Skanderbeg Square, the bus stop is located around the northwest corner, near other bus stops. The bus is not only punctual but sometimes even early, so plan to be there a few minutes in advance. Do not be intimidated by the signs not mentioning "airport" or any variation of it at the Skanderbeg Square stop, just look for the "Rinas" sign. Merr Tax], 0800 55 55 (toll free) offers transportation to and from Rinas International Airport. Roundtrip made within 7 days costs only 18€.

### By train

There is no rail connection to Tirana as of September 2013, due to planned relocation of the city's only railroad station and redevelopment of the existing site. This makes Kashar, about 10 kilometers from central Tirana, the closest railroad station to the capital. It was completely renovated together with some rolling stock and opened in May 2015. From there, you can reach Durrës, Shkodra, Elbasan, Vlorë (twice daily in the summer), and Librazhd (line to Pogradec discontinued since 2012 due to mud slides along Ohrid Lake track). Even though train services are very poor, when compared to West Balkan standards, they may be more frequent, cheaper, and more scenic than taking the bus. Taking the train to Elbasan is not recommended: the four hour trip makes a large detour via Durrës (not very scenic) while Elbasan is only 35 km away from Tirana.

### By bus & van

Furgons, buses, and taxis near Skanderbeg Square

Tirana does not have a central bus station, so you may be dropped at various locations in the city. Buses can be used to reach Tirana from other cities in Albania and internationally. There is daily bus service from Skopje, Republic of Macedonia,



Serbia, Greece (Patras, Athens) and Turkey and multiple services per day to Pristina, Kosovo and other cities in Albania. Buses with international destinations leave from under the trees behind the National Museum on Skenderberg Square. Schedules change frequently so check the latest info in your place of departure.

From Montenegro, take a bus or taxi to Ulcinj, then take a bus or taxi to Shkodra in Albania, crossing the border at Muriqan. Buses leave Shkodra frequently for Tirana. The viability of this journey is confirmed as recently as summer 2014. Alternatively, the Old Town Hostel in Kotor has a minivan transfer to Tirana for €30 - pretty good value considering the inconvenience of numerous bus changes.

From Serbia, as of January 2012, take the 20:40 train from Belgrade to Bar, arrive 07:11 (2.400RSD, 21€, 30U\$), walk a few meters to the bus station, and take the 08:00 or the 08:40 bus to Ulcinj (2,50€, 35mins), and the 12:30 bus to Shkodër (only that service confirmed every day, ticket: 6€, 1h45). Everyone must stay in the bus at the border control in Muriqan. You'll arrive to Shkodër at 14:15 and you have plenty of furgon to Tirana. Try to get Leks in advance. Furgon to Tirana costs 500Leks or 5€ (but: 500Leks are only 3€). Trip takes about 1h30. So, you'll get to Tirana Train Station in the Furgon at around 18:30, almost 22h after leaving Belgrade! But, only with 30€.

Buses to and from Kosovo depart from downtown (behind museum where one also can find buses to Rinas airport). Although everyone says it takes 12 hours, the trip actually takes just 5. Buy the ticket on a travel agency (costs 15€, or 20.000Leks). Busses (no more than 4 a day) leaves from UFO University, near Skenderberg Place, at noon.

Hak Bus runs two buses a day from Tetovo in Macedonia to Tirana, at 10:00 and 22:00, taking around seven hours and arriving near the train station on Zogu I Boulevard. A connecting shuttle bus runs from Skopje to Tetovo at 09:00 and 21:00, and a single through-ticket can be bought at the International Bus Terminal in Skopje (MKD1330). In addition, there is a 06:00 bus that leaves Skopje for Tirana.

Buses and furgons (minibuses) are generally the best method for traveling within Albania, but they are not in the best of shape. There are few bus companies; many are operated by individual drivers. Bus lines have schedules, but are often delayed until the coaches are full or at the whim of the driver. Buses and furgons to destinations in the south of the country leave from the west of the city - take the first left after the big yellow police HQ on Rruga Kavajes, about a mile and a half west of Skanderberg Square. There is a coach park on the right a couple of hundred yards along. The earlier you turn up the better.

Some international bus stations are far from the centre so it may be worth taking a taxi to the bus stop to save time and energy and avoid getting lost. Also, note that

drivers of Furgons and Vans drive exceptionally erratically - if you are prone to motion sickness (car sickness) you should take measures to remedy that beforehand.

### **By boat**

Tirana is not a port, so you can't get there directly by boat. There are, however, reasonable sea routes from Italy (from the ports in Bari, Trieste, and Ancona) to Durrës, the nearest port to Tirana from where you can take the train (which comes approximately every two hours) or a bus to Tirana. You could also rent a car and be in Tirana in about 20 minutes.

## **Transportation in Tirana**

### **By bus**

Public transportation in Tirana consists of a number of intra-city bus lines, which are not very fast, but cheap (40 Lek for one ride). Buses marked 'Unaze' are for the ring road and travel in a loop around the city centre. There are also lines serving suburban shopping centers and Tirana Airport.

A useful web and Android application regarding Tirana's Public Transportation such as lines, directions, times and costs can be found at Tirana Bus Stations. An Android application is also available for download at GetJar or at the Developer's Website

### **On foot**

The city center is small enough to be explored by walking. Walking is a rewarding experience, but beware that there is \*no\* continuity in sidewalk width, construction material or condition. Sidewalks frequently end abruptly, have large holes or are very narrow. Pay attention while walking or you may end up spraining your ankle or falling in a hole. Street names are subject to change, so locals rarely know them. It is advised to learn a to navigate via landmarks instead of addresses or street names. You can orient yourself using the Lana River and "Dëshmorët e Kombit" street, which roughly bisects the central part of Tirana into four sections. At this intersection of the Lana River and Dëshmorët e Kombit is very recognizable "Pyramid" and "Taiwan Center".

### **By bicycle**

Tirana is not known as a bicycle-friendly city, but the current Mayor has stated that he is committed to improving the cycling infrastructure and bicycle lanes are beginning to appear on some streets. The Ecovolis Bicycle Sharing Program launched in 2011] with a number of rental locations, including Rinia Park (near the Taiwan Center) and along Deshmoret e Kombit Boulevard. A full day ride costs 100 lek (approx. \$1USD as of 2012). Bicycles should be returned to the station of

origin. Ecovolis also offers bikes for longer 24/7 rents at the shop. For all other bike equipment or repair, Rruga Qemal Stafa is Tirana's unofficial "bike street" with lots of little, inexpensive bike shops.

Cycling in the street can be somewhat intimidating to riders unfamiliar with Balkan traffic but combined bus and bike lanes have been opened recently on some main streets. Bicycle-only lanes are located on Skanderbeg Square, Deshmoret e Kombit Main Boulevard and on sidewalks along Lana River and Kavaja Street.

## **By taxi**

We suggest you to use taxi as a transportation vehicle, due to the fact that in Tirana the bus transport system has no specific schedule. So in this case you can use taxi such as: SPEED TAXI, by paying about €5 across the city. Speed taxi has also introduced the new app accessible at <http://speedtaxi.al/en/meet-the-speed-taxi-app>.

Furthermore, new taxis that use a meter (generally more cheaper) can be found around town:

MerrTaxi offers online and authorized taxi reservation phone: 0800 5555 (toll free).  
SpeedTaxi

Official taxis have a list with fare prices inside the vehicle. During the day flag-fall starts at 250 Lek (as for MerrTaxi) and 300 Lek during the night or holidays.

Most informal taxis or irregular ones do not use the taximeter. You can negotiate the price before entering the cab, or ask them to use the taximeter and save money.

To calculate your fare in advance you can use the online taxi fare calculator for Tirana.

## **By car**

*Keep in mind that the word car' sounds identical to the Albanian word for penis, so do not be surprised if you get stared at if you say it. Auto or the Albanian word, makinë are suitable stand-ins.*

Driving in Tirana is an adventure. Parking is a major problem in most of the city and you will frequently find cars double and triple-parked in lanes of traffic or parked on sidewalks. Many spaces or lots are actually a business and you may be approached before, during, or after parking by a plain-clothed person asking for a parking fee. Costs range from 100lek (~1USD) to 200lek (~2USD) depending on location and duration of stay.

Albanians are fond of honking the car horn, which can mean anything from "I'm here" to "Hurry up!" Road conditions vary - a few are built to more modern

standards but you may run into roads that are badly damaged or not paved at all. Traffic lights are hit or miss - some work, some don't. Many Albanians do not abide by them anyways - a red light is simply an opportunity to skip to the front of the queue. EBRD is lending the Albanian government €14.6 million to work and fix roads in Tirana. Part of the loan will be used to upgrade the Tirana ring road.

**PAY ATTENTION WHILE DRIVING** because the roads are cheaply built and they deteriorate quickly. Damage (even on highways) is rarely marked by anything more than a pile of rocks - impossible to see more than 100 meters away. Serious vehicle damage can occur if you are not vigilant.

Driving with your headlights on at all times is required and police will stop you (if they feel like it) for not turning them on. Police are generally corrupt and will ask for bribes, but if they discover you are a foreigner they are likely to let you go without a problem.

That said, driving offers a unique experience in Tirana for those willing to brave it. Driving aggressively and seizing opportunities will help you get around at normal pace. Timid and passive drivers should avoid driving in Tirana as they will likely be frustrated.

Car rentals in Albania are available from multi-national firms and can be booked online: Hertz, Avis, Europcar, etc. Local rentals are often cheaper: Noshi Rent-a-Car, Albarent, etc.

## Accommodation

We don't cover accommodation but we did make the following pre-reservations (meaning you have to book and pay them by yourself) with discount for you:

*For a luxurious stay:*

We pre-reserved Single Standard Rooms at the [Diplomat Fashion Hotel](#) for €40 per person per night including breakfast, Wi-Fi, SPA (sauna & turkish bath, by appointment) and taxes. Use the code: **summer school** when you book your room here, so you will get the discount. This hotel is located about a 5-8 minutes walk away from the summer school venue (the European University of Tirana).



### Contact Information

Address: Blv. Bajram Curri, nd 36 h1, Tirana, Albania  
Telephone number: +355 4 22 35 090  
E-mail: [info@diplomathotels.al](mailto:info@diplomathotels.al)

*For a less expensive but no less comfortable stay:*

We pre-reserved Double Rooms at the [Oda Boutique Hotel](#) for €20 per person per night including breakfast, free WiFi and taxes. Be sure to use the code: **IAPSS Summer School** to get your discount when booking a room at this hotel. The Oda Hotel is located just 8-10 minutes from our summer school venue.

*A picture and information of the hotel can be found in the following page.*





### Contact Information

Address: Bulevardi Bajram Curri 56, Tirana, Albania  
Telephone number: +355 4 453 2000  
E-mail: info@odahotel.al

*For a cheap and comfortable stay:*

We pre-reserved beds at the [Propaganda Hostel](#) for 11 to 13 euro per person per night including breakfast, WiFi and taxes. This hostel is located in the heart of Tirana's nightlife and is about a 10-13 minutes walk to the summer school venue. Please use the code: **IAPSS Student** when booking your stay at this hostel.



### Contact Information

Address: Rruga Pjeter Bogdani, Tirana, Albania  
Telephone number: +355 689042744  
E-mail: info@propagandahostel.com

**Would you rather find yourself another place to stay?** There are plenty of hotels and hostels in Tirana. Please make sure you find a place near the summer school venue.

Some tips for you if you want to find an alternative stay to a hotel:

### *Couchsurfing*

*Make sure to start soon (at least two weeks before) with finding a stay via Couchsurfing.*

We know student budget is limited. Couchsurfing is exactly what it sounds like: moving from house to house, staying for free. With Couchsurfing, hosts will graciously invite you to stay in their homes, and accommodations vary from sleeping on a couch to having your own room and bathroom. On Couchsurfing's website, you will create an account, search for the city you will travel to, and then ask hosts if they would be willing to let you stay at their house for a couple of nights. They will respond and say yes or no, depending if it works for them and if they feel comfortable hosting you. You are more likely to be invited to stay, if you have an account and other Couchsurfing users have left you positive reviews. If you don't have any reviews, you can buy a verified account that let's hosts know you are who you say you are and you are much more likely to be accepted to stay. Couchsurfing is an incredible way to save money and meet new people at the same time. If you are looking for your own private stay, this is not the route for you, but if you are looking to meet new friends in new places, Couchsurfing provides a great opportunity to meet locals and have a free place to stay. If you do use Couchsurfing, make sure to be a gracious guest. Make sure to stay tidy, leave when you say you'll leave, and even treat your host to a dinner or give a small thank you gift. Your hosts will appreciate it if you do, and you'll get a great review as a guest. Many people are concerned about their safety when they use Couchsurfing, but for the most part, you will be safe if you are smart about how you approach using Couchsurfing. Many hosts are verified through a paid membership and reviews, which helps give you an insight into which people you should stay with. Make sure to read and do your reviews to ensure your own personal safety.

### *Airbnb*

*Make sure to start soon (at least a few days before) with booking a room via Airbnb.*

If Couchsurfing sounds a little too unsettling for you, you can always book your stay through its cousin, Airbnb. Airbnb is similar to Couchsurfing in that you are staying in somebody else's house, only this time, you are paying for it. Airbnb has gone out of the way to try their best to verify and make sure every house you rent from is safe and has reviews from past vacationers. Airbnb offers you safe homes in neighbourhoods of cities that will give you a local experience you wouldn't get

from staying in a hotel. Unlike Couchsurfing, Airbnb doesn't make you feel obligated to hang out with or buy a nice gift for your host because you are doing a business transaction with them. If you still feel like leaving a little thank you gift, you are more than welcome to, but it isn't as necessary since they are receiving compensation for your stay. If you want the option of hanging out and talking to your host, you are more than welcome to, and often times, hosts are glad to talk to you, give you advice of things you should see and do, and are even willing to go along with you if you feel like inviting them. The cost of Airbnb can vary from very affordable accommodations to pricier luxury villas depending on what you are renting. Scroll through and see what is right for you. With so many houses on Airbnb, you are sure to find a place to stay that is just right for you.

### *Hostels*

Looking at traveling internationally? Hostels are easily the most affordable accommodations, as they tend to be competing with each other for the most guests, and there are plenty of them to be found. Hostel World makes finding a hostel anywhere in the world very simple, from Madrid and Lima to Sydney and Tokyo. Prices vary in each location, but Hostel World claims that they have over 2000 hostels on their site that rent beds out for 1 Euro a night. Hostel World has one of the largest databases of hostels online, so you are able to find and book cheap hostels far in advance, saving you money. Hostels are generally built for younger travellers, meaning that most of the people staying in hostels will be somewhere between 18 and 30 years old. Most, if not all beds, are a single bed, so if you travel with a partner, you will have to purchase two beds instead of one since you pay per bed, not per room. At hostels, you will often share rooms and bathrooms with strangers, so it is always wise to bring a lock with you so that you can make sure your travel bags stay safe inside the trunks they leave in each room, one per each bed. Hostels are the most affordable way to make a reservation on a trip. Hostels are a great way to meet and hang out with other travelers in the city you are visiting. Many hostels have a main front room that other travelers hang out in, and if you are looking for ideas of things you need to see or do in the city you are visiting, you can get good advice from your fellow tourists. If you are looking for a private room and bath, hostels may not be suited for you, but if saving money is your top priority, you cannot go wrong with staying in a hostel.

## Participation Fee and Requirements

IAPSS events are designed to be socially, culturally, religiously and politically inclusive by bringing students of political science and related disciplines from various academic backgrounds, political contexts, level of studies, age and gender together. This aims to create an interactive and multidisciplinary space of social and academic debate and interaction. Taking into account global income disparities, the IAPSS summer school 2017 seeks to offer a student-friendly, low-cost participation fee of **€199** (a special discount of **€50** applies for the students from the host institution, The European University of Tirana).

This participation fee includes access to all lectures, workshops and social events, all summer school materials, a personal IAPSS summer school 2017 participation kit, and an official Certificate of Participation and a Certificate Supplement stating the details of your achievements. The fee has to be transferred in advance in order to confirm your participation, but only after you have been notified on successful selection. The payment can be done via credit card, PayPal and other devices through the IAPSS Webstore (the details for the transfer will be available there upon acceptance).

Please note that IAPSS does not offer any discount or scholarship for this event. We recommend consulting with your university/academic institution for individual financial support for participation and travel costs. Also, a range of foundations and academic institutions offer grants and scholarships for seasonal schools. IAPSS can provide an acceptance letter to support external grant/scholarship applications of the participants.

**IAPSS Membership is required in order to participate in the IAPSS summer school 2017.** IAPSS Membership comes at only €15.00 (for citizens of Europe incl. Russia and Turkey, the United States, Canada, Israel, New Zealand, Australia, Japan, South Korea, Singapore and Malaysia) or 10 EUR (for all other countries) per year (discounted rates for two-year membership are available for 25 and 15 EUR respectively) and offers you a wide range of benefits, including priority access to IAPSS Conferences, and IAPSS Study Trips as well as the opportunity to apply for membership in one of the IAPSS Student Research Committees or the Authorial Board of IAPSS' academic blog A Different View. Also, members receive the biweekly IAPSS News & Opportunities.

Find all information on the services we provide and how to purchase IAPSS membership [here](#). **Or follow the steps summed up in the next page.**

# Payment Manual

You may ask yourself now: How can I do the payment to confirm my participation? Please just follow the following two steps.

## I. SIGN UP FOR IAPSS MEMBERSHIP

- 1) Go to [www.iapss.org/product/individual-membership/](http://www.iapss.org/product/individual-membership/)
- 2) Create a MyIAPSS account by purchasing the membership according to your individual demands. Students residing in Europe, Russia, Turkey, United States, Canada, Australia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore & Israel have pay to €15 for 1 year or 25EUR for 2 years of membership. All others pay €10 for 1 year or €15 for 2 years of membership.
- 3) Decide if you want to include an IPSA student membership. This is optional.
- 4) After you made your selection for your order, go to the bottom of the page and press “Sign up now”
- 5) You will immediately get redirected to the “cart”, where you click on “Proceed to checkout” after confirming your order is correct
- 6) Please fill in all details
- 7) You have to decide, which payment method you will use: credit or debit Card, PayPal, iDEAL, Bancontact/Mister Cash, SOFORT Banking. Enter your details and accept the “terms & conditions” by ticking the box. There is no option to pay in cash.
- 8) Click “Sign up now”
- 9) You are a member now! Welcome to the IAPSS family!

## II. MAKE YOUR SUMMER SCHOOL PAYMENT

- 1) Go to [www.iapss.org](http://www.iapss.org)
- 2) Login in with your username and password
- 3) Go to “MyIAPSS” → “Webstore”
- 4) Select “IAPSS Summer School 2017” – Click “Add to cart” and “Proceed to checkout”
- 5) The rest is the same as above (see I./5)
- 6) Your payment has been made. Thank you and see you soon in Tirana.