Truth in numbers

The role of data in a world of fact, fiction and everything in between

Organised under the auspices of the PARIS21 Annual Meetings

4-5 April 2018
Kursaal Bern Conference Centre
### Meeting Hours

Please consult the [draft agenda online](#).  
Wednesday 4 April: 09:00 – 17:30 in Sopra Grande  
Thursday 5 April: 10:00 – 18:00 in Sopra Grande (*closed meeting for Board members only)*

### Registration

In order to prepare the list of participants and organise meeting badges, please register directly on the PARIS21 [website](#).

### Venue

The meeting will take place at the [Kursaal Bern Conference Centre](#).

The Kursaal Bern is an all-in-one enterprise comprising a state-of-the-art congress centre, the 4-star superior Hotel Allegro, top quality catering services (including in-house restaurants and bars, exhibitions, trade fairs, external events) and casinos in Bern.

The Kursaal Bern enjoys a scenic but central location within easy walking distance of Bern's historic old town, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Attractions include the 16th century Clock Tower (Zytglogge), Bear Park, Swiss Houses of Parliament and city shopping. The Kursaal offers fine views of the distant snow-capped Alps.
Getting to Kursaal Bern Conference Centre

Transportation  
By public transport  
Bern is located in the heart of Switzerland and easily accessible by public transport.

Train timetable to Bern.

From Bern main railway station the No. 9 tram departs at approximately 10-minute intervals in the direction of 'Wankdorf Bahnhof '. Travel time to the 'Kursaal' stop is approximately 5 minutes.

*Please note that hotel reservations can be used for FREE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION for the duration of stay in Bern. On your day of arrival, hotel confirmation can be used as a transfer ticket from the station or the airport of Bern to your accommodation. A Bern Ticket will be issued upon check in to your accommodation.
By car
Motorway exit Bern-Wankdorf – straight ahead direction "Zentrum" – in Papiermühlestrasse take the right lane – at the third crossroads turn right into Viktoriastrasse – at Viktoriaplatz turn left into Kornhausstrasse. The Kursaal is located 100 metres further on the right (under the bridge). (GPS : 46.9527915 °N / 7.4481958 °E)

By air
Bern Airport is served by direct flights from several European cities (Bern Airport flights). On landing in Bern, take a taxi; or the S-Bahn train to Bern main railway station. Then change to tram No. 9 in the direction of 'Wankdorf Bahnhof' to the 'Kursaal' stop.

By train
There are multiple trains per hour connecting Geneva to Bern in approximately two hours.

There are trains a least every 30 minutes connecting Zurich to Bern in approximately one hour.

Click here for tickets and more information (in German).

Location map (PDF, 583 KB)

More information about public transportation in Bern can be found here.

Security
On arrival, participants must register at the Welcome desk located in the Foyer Sopra of Kursaal Bern Conference Centre to obtain a meeting badge. Photo identification is needed to receive badges.

Participants are encouraged to arrive from 8:30 am for welcome tea and coffee.

Language
English

Please note that this meeting and its corresponding documents will be available in English only. No translation will be provided.
**Accommodation**

Participants are responsible for booking their own accommodation. It is recommended that participants stay in close proximity to the meeting venue.

**Closest Option:**

Accommodation is available at the meeting venue, **Hotel Allegro, Kursaal Bern**

Reservations can be made by email or by phone: +41313395050. Mention keyword PARIS21 while making the reservation.

**Other Options:**

**For the options below, please make your booking here**

**Hotel Savoy**** Neuengasse 26, 3011 Bern**

Double room CHF 215.—per night, City Tax, per person / night CHF 5.30
**Hotel Kreuz***  Zeughausegasse 41, CH-3000 Bern

Double room CHF 201.—per night, City Tax, per person / night CHF 5.30
Single room CHF 178.—per night, City Tax, per person / night CHF 5.30

**Hotel Alpenblick***  Kasernenstrasse 29, CH-3013 Bern

Double room CHF 190.—per night, City Tax, per person / night CHF 4.30
Single room CHF 160.—per night, City Tax, per person / night CHF 4.30

**Hotel National**  Hischengraben 24, CH-3011 Bern

Double room CHF 160.—per night, City Tax, per person / night CHF 5.30
About Bern

A selection of popular attractions, restaurants and bars in Bern can be found [here](#).

**Weather**

The weather in April will reach an average temperature of maximum 13.5 °C and a minimum temperature of 5 °C.

**Time Zone**

Bern operates under Central European Summer Time (CEST) +2h in April.

**Currency**

Switzerland uses the Swiss franc (CHF). Swiss Francs can be ordered in banks or exchanged directly upon arrival in Switzerland.

Current rates can be found online at [XE](#).
Electricity

The voltage in Switzerland, as in most of Europe, is 230V/50 Hz.

Switzerland uses type C (2-pin) and Type J (3-pin) plugs. (Type C 2-pin plugs also fit J sockets.) Adaptors are available in most hotels.

Visas

Prior to departure, participants are requested to make their own arrangements for Schengen visa or travel permits that may be required for the entire travel (including countries in transit) to Switzerland. Participants from outside the European Union (EU) should check in advance whether or not a visa is required.

FSO is not authorised to issue visas, but can provide a supporting document (Verbal Note) to obtain the visa. If assistance is needed, participants must provide the following information to FSO:

1. A copy of the national passport;
2. Intended length of stay;

Please contact the International affairs of FSO (e-mail: international@bfs.admin.ch) if this supporting document is needed to obtain the visa.

The process to send the request is relatively short but the visa issuance process in local consular offices may be lengthy. FSO has no influence on how long it takes for the consular services to issue the visa. Therefore, participants are strongly recommended to apply for visa well in advance.
If you have any questions regarding the Annual Meetings, do not hesitate to contact the team at PARIS21@oecd.org.

If you have any questions about Bern, please contact:

**Aida Duric**  
Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA  
Federal Statistical Office FSO  
Espace de l'Europe 10  
CH-2010 Neuchâtel  
Switzerland  
Phone: +41 58 466 09 00  
E-mail: international@bfs.admin.ch