



Programme

Danube Democracy Rally 2014



Stops:

Vienna April 1 – April 3

Bratislava April 4 – April 6

Budapest April 7 – April 9

Welcome to the 2014 Danube Democracy Rally

Dear Participants of the Danube Democracy Rally,

Democracy International was founded in order to pursue the following goals in the field of direct democracy and citizen participation.

We want to learn and exchange

The best we can say about democracy is that it gives us the opportunity to develop and improve democracy. This means to think and to explore. There are so many ideas, conceptions and different cultural traditions and developments around the world.

We want to help and encourage

Sometimes people feel very lonely in their struggle for more participation. Local hierarchies seem to be invulnerable. It always helps to get backing from abroad.

We want to evolve and develop

By following the first two goals we somehow naturally come to our noblest task: to evolve and develop our own

democratic constituencies and, last but not least, democratise the transnational level of government.

The Danube Democracy Rally is a unique chance for all of this. The three member states of the EU, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary, all have some forms of direct democracy within their constitutions. Interestingly enough, it is especially the two new members - Slovakia and Hungary - that have much stronger direct-democratic instruments at their disposal than Austria. They belong to the small number of EU states (six), which have constitutionally regulated and binding citizen's initiatives that lead to binding referendums. After the communist era people decided to go beyond purely representative democracy in their constitutional design. But does the legal design of direct democracy really work? If not, what are the reasons? How is the culture of a democratic society connected to its democratic procedural law?

We have put much effort into the preparation of the tour. Many people are already involved and are keeping their fingers crossed for the success of the Danube Democracy Rally. We will visit three important capitals, known for their beauty and cultural heritage. The Democracy International crew wishes you a wonderful tour!

Best wishes,

Daniel Schily

Contacts

If you have questions about the programme, the entire tour or any other needs, please contact our Democracy International Info-Desk.

The desk will be open every morning for two hours.

If you have urgent problems or questions, please contact

a) Andreas Müller

Telephone number: 0049 171 2969081

b) Ronald Pabst

Telephone number: 0049 179 9123972

Further numbers:

Vienna: Mr. Erwin Leitner – 0043 664 8011724250

Bratislava: Mr. Paul Pirovits – 00421 903413416

Budapest: Mr. Csaba Madarász – 0036 703643482

Agenda - Vienna

Tuesday, April 1

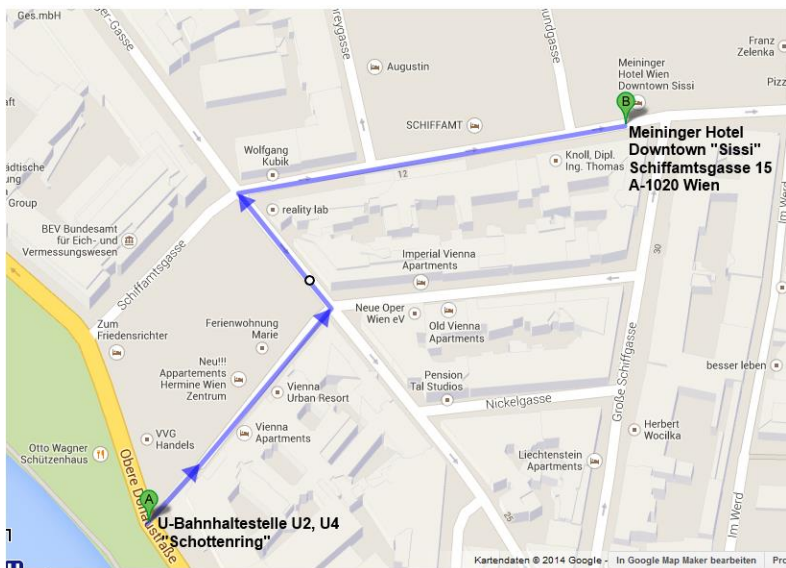
Arrivals

We will be accommodated in the Meininger Hotel
“Downtown Sissi” in Vienna

Address: Schiffamtsgasse 15, 1020 Vienna

Arrival with metro:

You can take the metros “U2” and “U4” to the hotel. The station is “Schottenring”. You just walk approx. 5 minutes to the hotel.



10 am: OPENING INFO-DESK

Every morning we will open our Democracy International Info-Desk for 2 hours.

Venue: Meininger Hotel "Downtown Sissi",
Schiffamtsgasse 15, 1020 Vienna

12 am: WELCOME EVENT

Introduction to the tour, Programme overview

Venue: Meininger Hotel "Downtown Sissi",
Schiffamtsgasse 15, 1020 Vienna

2 pm: GUIDED CITY TOUR

We offer you 2 guided city tours along the sights in Vienna

Languages: English/German

18 pm: EVENING EVENT

Topic: “direct democracy in European metropolises”

Speakers:

Manfred Brandt

Michael Efler

Andreas Gross

Erwin Leitner

Moderation:

Charles Ritterband

Our experts on the panel will present direct democracy in different European metropolises – Zürich, Berlin, Hamburg, Vienna. We will compare them and discuss developments and deficits of direct democracy in these cities. The key-questions will be: How can direct democracy be implemented in metropolises? What are the current status? And how can metropolises learn from each other?

8 pm: DINNER in Albert-Schweitzer-Haus

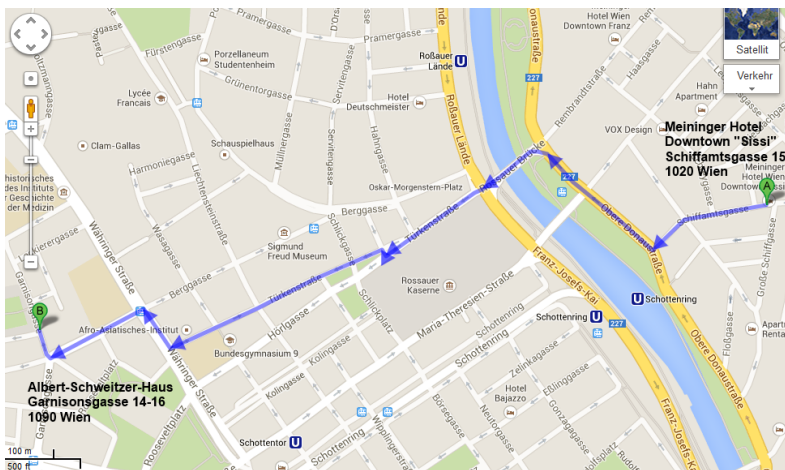
Arrival Albert-Schweitzer-Haus

Metro station: Schottentor

Metro „U2“

Venue: Albert-Schweitzer-Haus

Garnisonsgasse 14-16, 1090 Vienna



Wednesday, April 2

8 am: OPENING INFO-DESK

Open from 8 am to 10 am

Venue: Meininger Hotel "Downtown Sissi",
Schiffamtsgasse 15, 1020 Vienna

9:30 am: GUIDED TOUR through the UNO

Meeting in the Hotellobby at 8:30 am

Venue: UN – Vienna International Centre, Gate 1

Wagramer Strasse 5, 1220 Vienna

11 am: CONFERENCE in cooperation with ACUNS

Topic: "Democratization of the UN"

Venue: UN – Vienna International Centre,

C-Building – Multimediaroom G05/45

Wagramer Strasse 5, 1220 Vienna

Arrival UNO

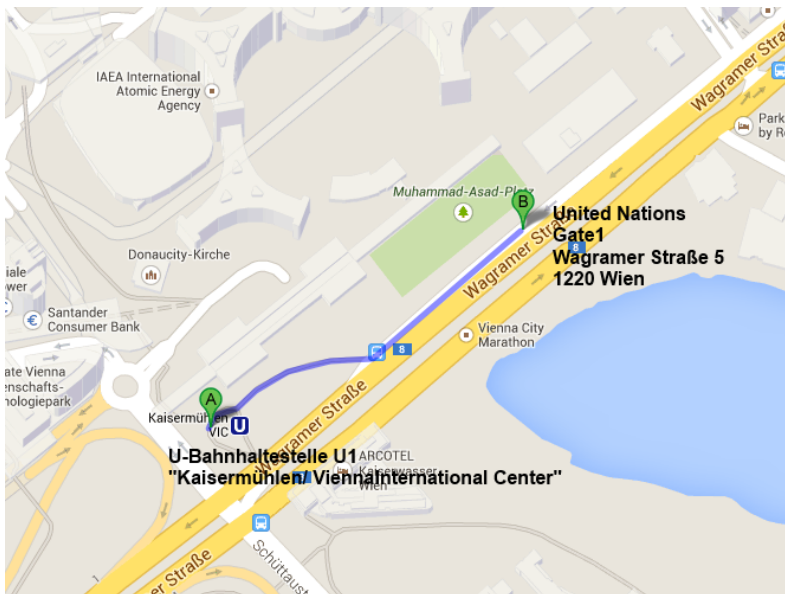
Metro station: "Kaisermühlen/Vienna International Centre"

Metro "U1"

Venue: United Nations

Wagramer Strasse 5

1220 Vienna



3 pm: GUIDED TOUR through parliament

Languages: English/German

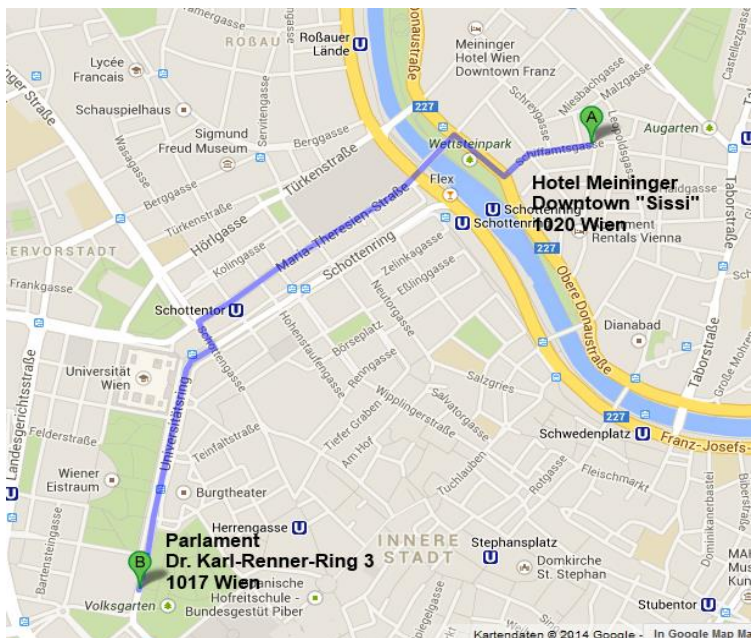
Arrival parliament

Metro station: Volkstheater (Exit "Ring") or Rathaus

Metro "U2"

Venue: Parlament

Dr. Karl Renner Ring 3, 1017 Vienna



6 pm: EVENING EVENT

Topic: "direct democracy on national level"

Participants panel:

Michael Efler

Claudine Nierth

Daniela Musiol (GRÜNE)

Gernot Blümel (ÖVP)

Karl-Arthur Arlamovsky (NEOS)

Waltraud Dietrich (Team STRONACH)

Monika Mühlwerth (FPÖ)

Parteivertreter SPÖ (tbc)

Moderation: Erwin Mayer

We will present the current legislative proposal of mehr demokratie! Austria to implement direct democracy on the national level. Afterwards we will discuss with members of all Austrian parties the proposal and their views on direct democracy on national level.

8 pm: DINNER in Albert-Schweitzer-Haus

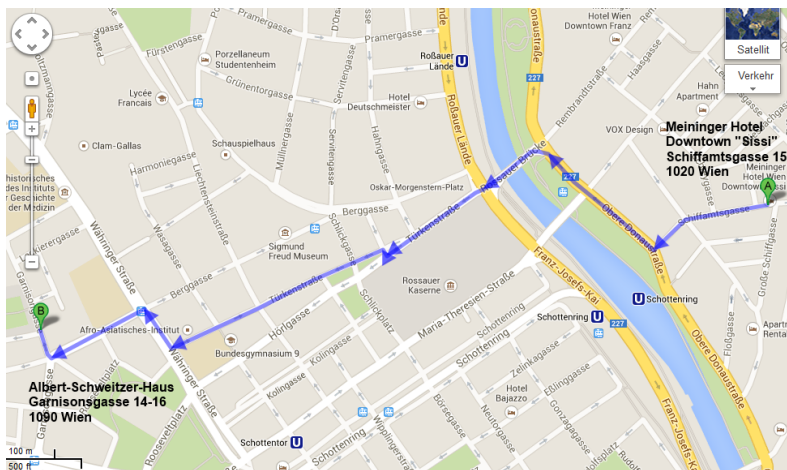
Arrival Albert-Schweitzer-Haus

Metro station: Schottentor

Metro „U2“

Venue: Albert-Schweitzer-Haus

Garnisonsgasse 14-16, 1090 Vienna



Thursday, April 3

9 am: OPENING INFO-DESK

Open from 9 am to 11 am

Venue: Meininger Hotel "Downtown Sissi",
Schiffamtsgasse 15, 1020 Vienna

10 am: ACTION DAY VIENNA

We will organise a referendum on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) in front of the Austrian parliament. We will prepare a vote brochure with the pro and con arguments for TTIP and invite citizens to cast their vote.

Afterwards we would like to invite initiatives and citizens to discuss the TTIP with us. Therefore we will meet in the Meininger Hotel "Downtown Sissi".

Arrival Action day

Metro station: Volkstheater (Exit "Ring") or Rathaus

Metro "U2"

Venue: Parliament

Dr. Karl Renner Ring 3, 1017 Vienna

3 pm: TRANSFER to Bratislava by Bus

Stopover in Hainburg a.d. Donau

Meeting point: Meininger Hotel "Downtown Sissi"

Time: 2:45 pm

Venue: Meininger Hotel "Downtown Sissi"

Schiffamtsgasse 15, 1020 Vienna

6:30 pm: DINNER in Hotel „Sorea Regia“, Bratislava

Agenda - Bratislava

Friday, April 4

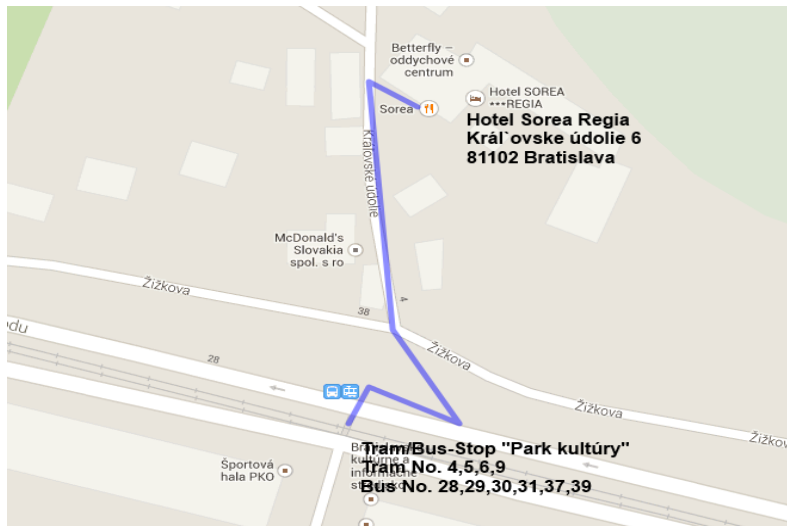
Arrivals

We will be accommodated in the Hotel "Sorea Regia" in Bratislava

Address: Kráľovské údolie 6, 81102 Bratislava - Slovakia

Arrival with metro:

You can take the trams no. 4, 5, 6, 9 or buses no. 28, 29, 30, 31, 37 and 39. The tram and the bus stop is called "Park kultúry". Then you just walk approx. 7 minutes to the Hotel.



8 am: OPENING INFO-DESK

Open from 8 am to 11 am

Venue: Hotel "Sorea Regia"

Kráľovské údolie 6, 81102 Bratislava – Slovakia

9 am: GUIDED TOUR through parliament

Meeting in the Hotellobby at 8:20 am

Venue: Parliament

Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, 812 80 Bratislava

10 am: CONFERENCE in parliament

The conference in Bratislava will be held by the Slovak party OL'ANO and Democracy International.

Our experts will speak about forms of direct democracy in different European countries – Switzerland, Germany and the European Union. Members of different slovak parties will get the opportunity to present their views and ideas on direct democracy in Slovakia. Afterwards we will discuss openly.

Programme Conference

Topic: **"More citizen participation as a means for common identities? Examples from the EU (ECI) and European countries."**

Moderator: Cora Pfafferott – spokesperson Democracy International

10:15 am – Welcome speech and opening Igor Matovič

10:25 am – Welcome speech Democracy International from Gerald Häfner (Democracy International)

10:40 am – speeches from experts

- 1) 10:40 – 10:50 am – Andreas Gross: direct democracy in Switzerland
- 2) 10:50 – 11:00 am – Manfred Brandt: direct democracy in Germany
- 3) 11:00 – 11:10 am – Bruno Kaufmann: ECI
- 4) 11:10 – 11:20 am – Martin Klus: direct democracy in Slovakia

11:20 am – statements from parties

- 1) 11:20 – 11:25 am - Igor Matovič for OĽaNO (Superreferendum)

2) 11:25 – 11:30 am – other Slovak parties

3) 11:30 – 11:35 am - other Slovak parties

4) 11:35 – 11:40 am - other Slovak parties

11:40 am – discussion with audience

12:15 am – End conference

Arrival parliament

Trolley-bus station: Hrad (The Castle)

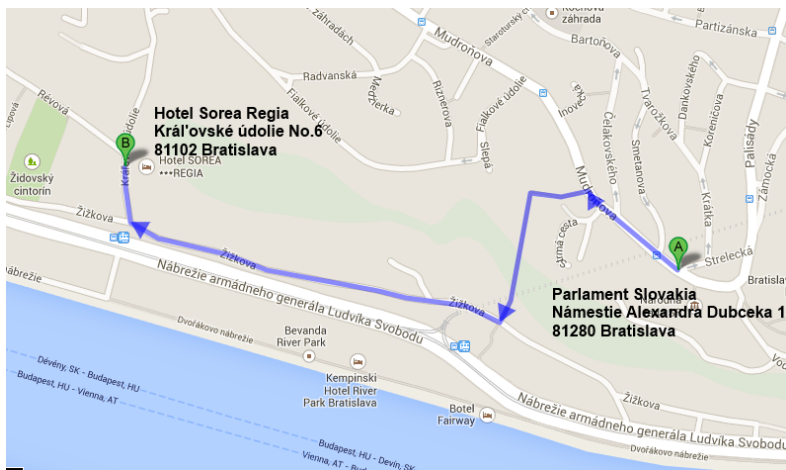
Arrival with trolley-bus: You can take the bus no. 31 or 39 from "Park kultúry" to "Hodžovo nám." (Hodžovo Square) and then take the trolley-bus no. 203 or 207. You get off at the trolley-bus stop called "Hrad" (The Castle) and the Parliament is near here.

Arrival with bus and on foot: Another possibility is to take the bus no. 31 or 39 from "Park kultúry" to "Zochova" Street. Then you can go on foot uphill by Zámocká Street to Bratislava Castle and the Parliament.

Arrival with bus and on foot: The third possibility is to take the bus no. 37 from "Park kultúry" to "Most SNP" (SNP Bridge) and then walk up to the Castle and the Parliament premises.

Venue: Parliament

Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, 812 80 Bratislava



12:30 pm: GUIDED CITY TOUR

Guided City tour along the sights in Bratislava

Meeting point: Parliament

Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, 812 80 Bratislava

Language: English

3 pm: Welcome Event

Address of welcome from major of Bratislava

Venue: Primacialny Palác (Primatialpalais/-palast)

Primaciálne námestie 1, 811 01 Bratislava

Arrival Primacialny Palác

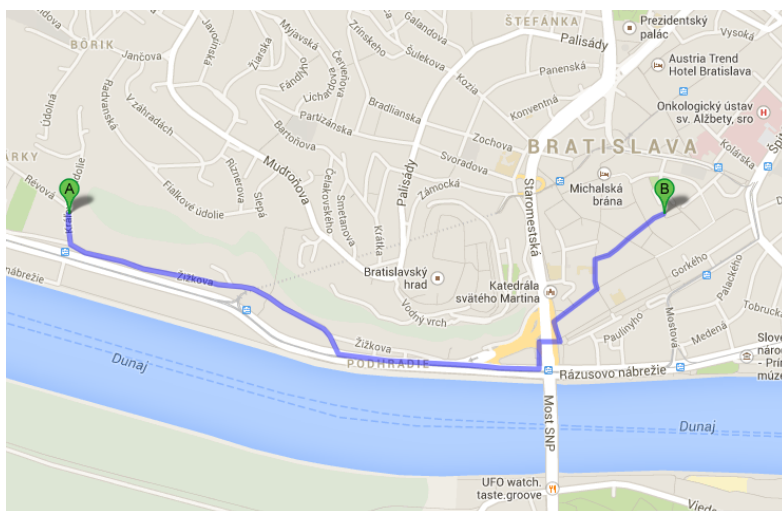
How to get there: The best way to get to the Primatialpalace is to go from the Parliament walking through the Old Town. It is a nice 15-20 minutes walk.

Take bus No. 31 or 39 from "Park kultúry" and get off at "Zochova" Street and then walk through the Old Town. You can also take the tram No. 4 or 6 from "Park kultúry" to "Jesenského" Street and walk 5 minutes. You can also

take tram No. 5 or 9 from “Park kultúry” to “Kapucínska” and then walk towards the Palace.

Venue: Primacialny Palác (Primatialpalais/-palast)

Primaciálne námestie 1, 811 01 Bratislava



6:30 pm: DINNER in Hotel „Sorea Regia“, Bratislava

7:30 pm: EVENING EVENT

Evening speeches to different topics

Topics:

- Presentation of OZ PD
- Erwin Mayer together with Member of the European Parliament Jörg Leichtfried (tbc.) and Minister of the Bavarian Government Markus Söder (tbc.) – “Referendum on the European Union level”

With Member of the European Parliament Jörg Leichtfried (tbc.) and Minister of the Bavarian Government Markus Söder (tbc.)

Venue: Hotel “Sorea Regia”

Kráľ'ovske údolie 6, 81102 Bratislava – Slovakia

Saturday, April 5

9 am: OPENING INFO-DESK

Open from 9 am to 11 am

Venue: Hotel "Sorea Regia"

Kráľ'ovske údolie 6, 81102 Bratislava – Slovakia

10 am: General Assembly Democracy International

Beginn: 10 am

End: 7 pm

Agenda General Assembly

10:00 Welcome

10:15 Board's Report and questions by members

10:45 Report of the Cash Audit

11:00 Board's Exoneration

Short Coffee break

11:15 Presentation of new Democracy Groups

11:30 Reports from all around the world, Motion of the Members

Lunch Break

14:45 World-Café on the future of Democracy International and on the European campaign

16:15 Plenary Debate and sum up.

17:15 Presentation by the Candidates for the next board

18:15 Election of new board

Site programme

Initiatives get the opportunity to present themselves in the hotel lobby

Venue: Hotel "Sorea Regia"

Kráľovské údolie 6, 81102 Bratislava – Slovakia

7 pm: DINNER in Hotel „Sorea Regia“, Bratislava

8 pm: EVENING EVENT

Restful evening in Bratislava

Meeting point: Hotel "Sorea Regia"

Kráľovské údolie 6, 81102 Bratislava – Slovakia

Sunday, April 6

9 am: OPENING INFO-DESK

Open from 9 am to 11 am

Venue: Hotel "Sorea Regia"

Kráľ'ovske údolie 6, 81102 Bratislava – Slovakia

10 am: General Assembly Initiative and Referendum Institute Europe

10 am: ACTION DAY BRATISLAVA

Our partner organisation OZ PD in Slovakia will get the opportunity to organize a political action and demonstrate with us for their aims in Slovakia.

We will shoot a group photo with all participants of our Danube Democracy Tour in front of the historical castle of Bratislava .

3 pm: TRANSFER to Budapest by Bus

Meeting point: Hotel "Sorea Regia"

Time: 2:45 pm

Venue: Hotel "Sorea Regia"

Kráľ'ovske údolie 6, 81102 Bratislava – Slovakia

7 pm: DINNER in Budapest

Agenda - Budapest

Monday, April 7

Arrivals

We will be accommodated in the Hotel "Griff" in Budapest

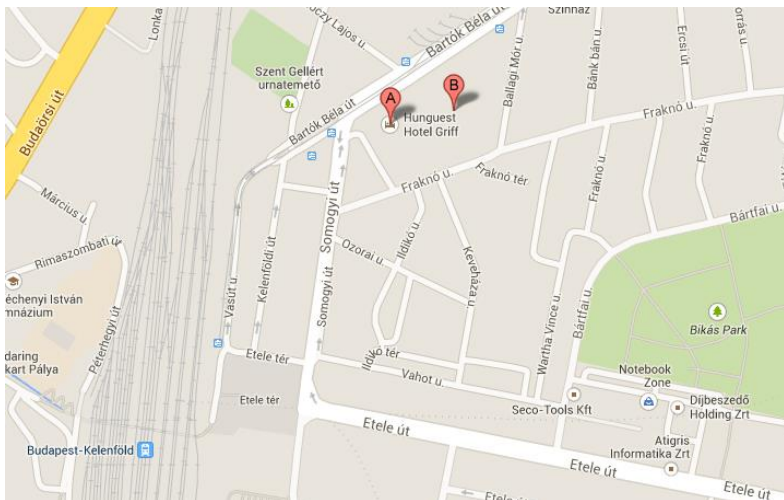
Address: Bartók Béla út 152, 1113 Budapest, Hungary

Arrival with Tram:

Tram station: Szent Gellért Templom

Tram: No. 19, 49

From the Tram station you walk approx. 5 minutes to the hotel.



10 am: OPENING INFO-DESK

Open from 10 am to 13 am

Venue: Hotel "Griff"

Bartók Béla út 152, 1113 Budapest

3:30 pm: GUIDED CITY TOUR

Guided city tour along the sights in Budapest

Language: English

6 pm: DINNER in Budapest

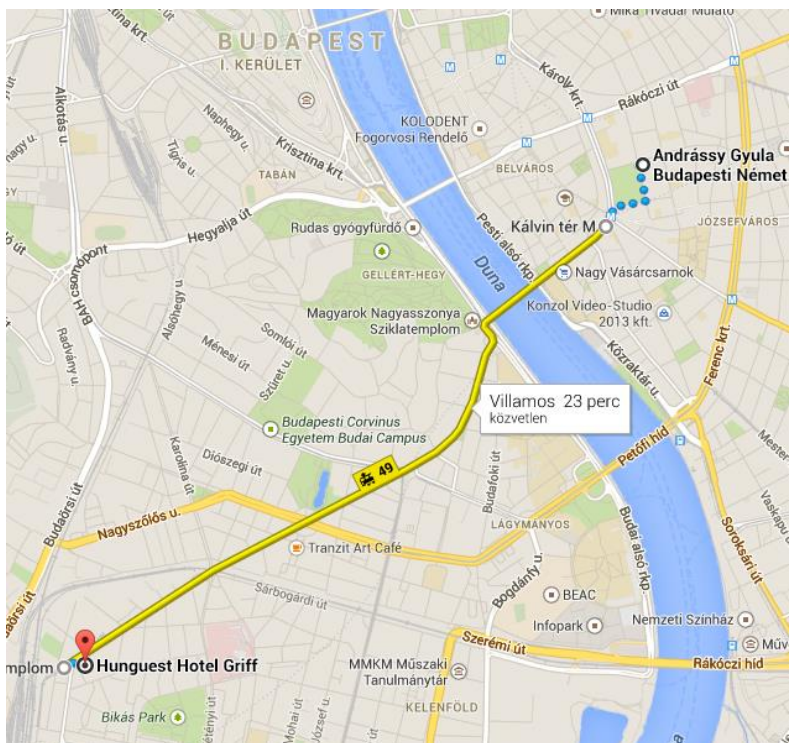
8 pm: EVENING EVENT

Speech from Dr. Zoltán Tibor Pállinger

Topic: "Direct democracy in Hungary"

Venue: Andrassy University

H-1464 Budapest, Pf. 1422



Tuesday, April 8

8:30 am: OPENING INFO-DESK

Open from 8:30 am to 10:30 am

Venue: Hotel "Griff"

Bartók Béla út 152, 1113 Budapest

9:30 am: GUIDED TOUR through the parliament

Meeting in the Hotellobby at 8:30 am

Venue: Parliament

Kossuth tér 1-3, 1055 Budapest – Hungary

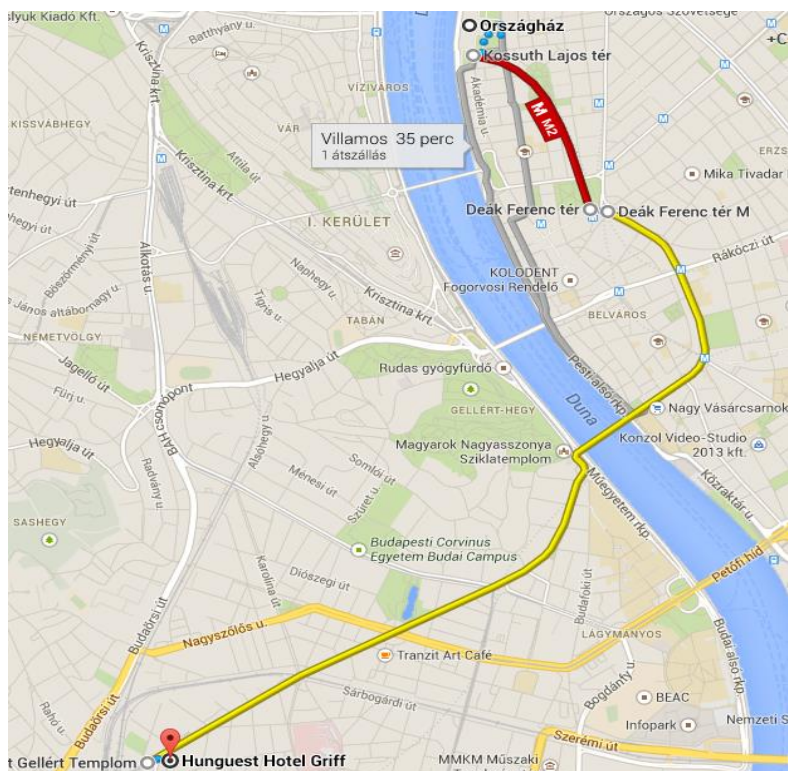
Arrival Parliament

Metro station: Kossuth tér.

Tram/Metro: No. "49"/"M2"

Venue: Parliament

Kossuth tér 1-3, 1055 Budapest – Hungary



11 am: OPEN SPACE CAMP

Together with Hungarian initiatives, political artists and activists we will work on different topics, discuss about democracy developments and citizen participation and prepare together the action day in Budapest.

Venue: Művelődési Szint

Blaha Lujza square 1. 1085 Budapest

7 pm: DINNER in Budapest

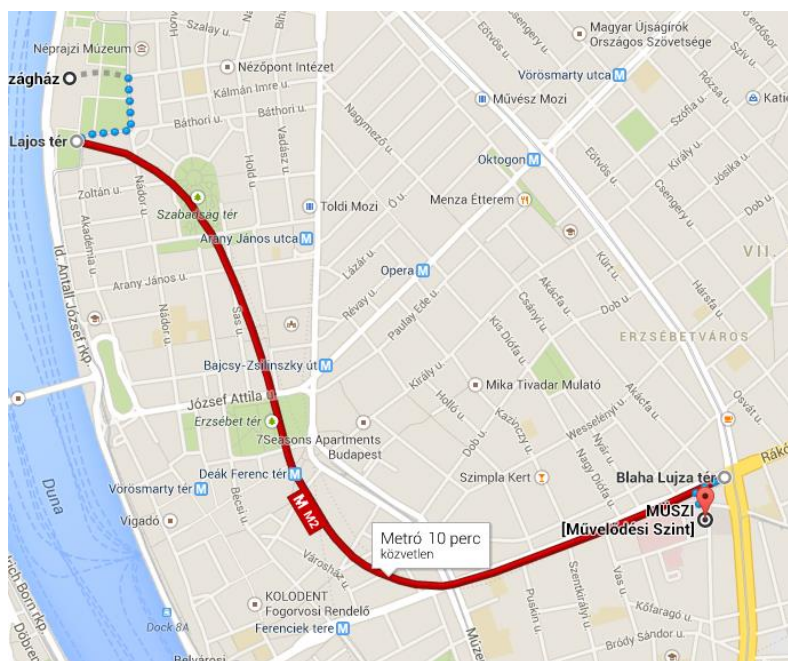
Arrival Open Space Camp

Metro station: Blaha Lujza tér.

Metro: "M2"

Venue: Művelődési Szint

Blaha Lujza square 1. 1085 Budapest



8 pm: EVENING EVENT

Restful evening in Budapest

Meeting point: Művelődési Szint

Blaha Lujza square 1. 1085 Budapest

Wednesday, April 9

9 am: OPENING INFO-DESK

Open from 9 am to 11 am

Venue: Hotel "Griff"

Bartók Béla út 152, 1113 Budapest

10 am: ACTION-DAY BUDAPEST

