



# INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF WOMEN ALLIANCE INTERNATIONALE DES FEMMES

## **International Alliance of Women International Meeting September 5-9 2024 Bankja, Bulgaria**

### **Finally!**

Finally, the in-person meeting we have all been longing for since 2020 is on the horizon. After five long years, we will have a meeting at which, instead of staring at a cold screen, we will be able to reach across the table and take the hand of the woman we are speaking with.

### **What is the International Meeting?**

- Focus of Congress 2025

The International Meeting is the IAW forum where the heads of Affiliates and Associates meet with the Board to discuss the future trajectory of the Alliance from the point of view of organizational members. This forum's most specific purpose is to decide on the focus of the 2025 Triennial Congress.

### **Annual Board Meeting**

The annual IAW Board Meeting will take place immediately after the International Meeting to implement the decisions and suggestions of the presidents and directors of our member organisations.

Of course, as with all IAW meetings, individual members are more than welcome to attend and contribute to the discussions.

### **Venue**

Our venue will be

Hotel Bankya Palace

<https://bankyapalace.com/en/>

The hotel is situated at the spa resort [Bankya](#), some 17 km outside of Bulgaria's capital, Sofia. It has all modern facilities and every conceivable comfort, including mineral water, a swimming pool, and a variety of wellness services.

### **Who is hosting?**

Usually, we are hosted by a member organisation, but we are on our own for this one. However, our Treasurer Antonia Lavine is a native of Bulgaria, and she will serve as our connection to the local partners to make sure that this meeting is a success.

We look forward to meeting new friends and members of IAW.

At the meeting we will also welcome a new member, the [Bulgarian Platform of the European Women's Lobby](#)

### **Prices**

The room prices arranged with the hotel for our conference are amazingly reasonable:

Single rooms at just € 65, double at € 80 and triple at € 95. If you plan to share, you will pay € 40 or € 31.66 per night for bed and breakfast!

Each room has cable TV, a telephone, free Wi-Fi, a minibar and a bathroom with a bath and mineral water coming from the tap.

## **Registration and Booking**

**Deadline January 31, 2024.**

**Registration Fee: 180 €**

We ask all International Meeting Participants to register by **January 31<sup>th</sup>**. To register, please complete the following three steps:

### **Step 1**

Pay your registration fee via the IAW website [HERE](#).

The fee covers luncheons, coffee/tea breaks, conference rooms and technical assistance. In the event the International Meeting is canceled, the registration fee will be refunded by IAW.

### **Step 2**

Fill out this [Google Form](#).

Based on your information, we will reserve in advance as many rooms as needed to accommodate all of you. Once this is done, each International Meeting participant will be expected to pay her own room directly before a deadline expiring two months before the meeting. Rooms booked after that date will be charged at the hotel rate at that time.

### **Step 3**

After you register, you will receive information about how to reserve and pay for your hotel room.

## **How to get to the hotel/travel information**

You can get from Sofia Airport to the hotel by car, train or bus. If there is enough interest, we can arrange for taxis to meet arriving members at the airport and transport them in groups to the hotel.

## **Cultural events and sightseeing**

We are trying to offer cultural events and sightseeing before or after the Meetings so that those of you who are interested can enjoy the historic and natural sights of Sofia and Vitosha, Lyulin and Rila Mountains. Information about offers and costs to follow!

## **Program Highlights**

The International Meeting program will include:

- Report from President, Secretary General and Treasurer
- Presentation of Annual Reports, which will include reports from international representatives, commission conveners etc.
- Preparing the next Action Programme
- Discussions on the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of IAW
- Items proposed by Presidents of Affiliates and Associates

Discussions on **IAW's 120 years and its future** will be on-going in the mornings in our conference room and evenings in the lounge and around the pool – **this is often where the best ideas come to us and where we forge friendships for life.**

**Alison Brown**  
**President**