



INFORMATION PACKAGE

4th Governing Board Meeting of JPI Urban Europe
19-20 April 2011
Istanbul, Turkey

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1. MEETING INFORMATION

4th Governing Board (GB) meeting of the JPI Urban Europe will be held in Istanbul on 19-20 April 2011.

Event Outline:

19 April - Full Day Meeting

19 April - Dinner (Information will be sent in the updated versions of this document)

20 April - Half Day Meeting

This document provides some useful information about the logistic issues regarding the participants' trip to Istanbul.

2. VENUE

The GB Meeting will take place in **Taksim Gönen Hotel** which is located in the **Taksim** district in Istanbul.

Address: Aydede Caddesi No:15 34437 Taksim/İstanbul/TURKEY

Tel: +90 212 297 22 00

Website: http://www.taksimgonen.com/index_tr.asp

Please see the detailed information about the transportation from Airport to Hotel in the following pages.

3. ACCOMODATION

Taksim Gönen Hotel has offered a special price (125€-single room including breakfast) for JPI Urban Europe GB members and pre-booked 15 rooms. A standard form will be sent to you for reservations. Please note that there are more than 25 other hotels located in a diameter of 500 m. More hotel alternatives with reservation options will be sent to GB members very soon.

4. TRANSPORTATION

There are two international airports in Istanbul; one in the European side (**Istanbul Atatürk Airport**), and the other one in the Anatolian side (**Sabiha Gökçen Airport**). The distance between the hotel and the **Istanbul Atatürk Airport** is 25 km (13 miles) and it takes approximately 30 minutes. The distance between the hotel and **Sabiha Gökçen Airport** is 50 km (33 miles) and it takes approximately 45 minutes.

Most of the international flights are landing to the Istanbul Atatürk Airport.



Transfer from Atatürk Airport to the Hotel:

Alternative 1: Airport Taxi:

You can take the airport taxi after you exit from the departures hall building of the Istanbul Ataturk Airport international terminal. The airport taxis are in yellow colour and Airport to Hotel transfer costs around 35-40 TL (17-20 Euros).



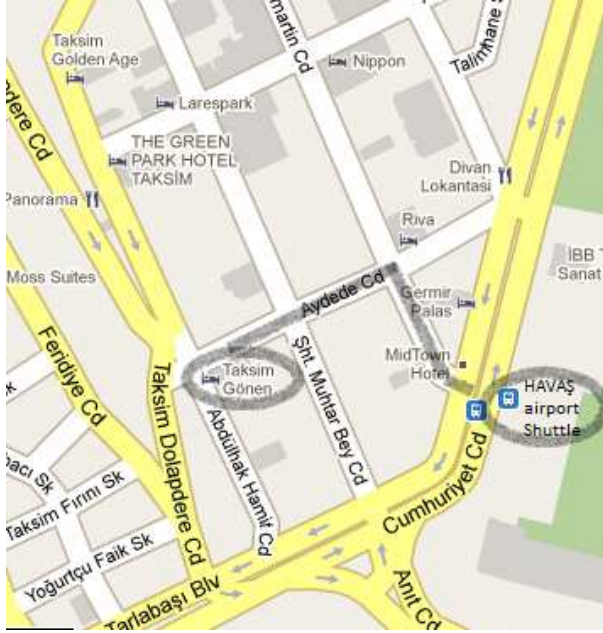
Alternative 2: Airport Shuttle Bus:

The **Havaş** company operates **airport shuttle buses** from Istanbul Ataturk Airport to Taksim and to the Anatolian side. The price of the shuttle bus is around 5 Euros (10 Liras). The participants can take these shuttle buses from the departures hall exit and arrive to the **Havas Bus Stop at the Taksim Square**. This is the last stop of the Havas Buses from Airport to Taksim. Please note that there are several other Havas buses from Airport to other destinations of the city. Therefore, when you exit from the departures hall building, please find the Havas bus stop in



the exit area and ask for the **Taksim bus**. Every half an hour an airport shuttle bus to Taksim will depart from the airport. The hotel is located approximately 300 m. to the Havas bus stop in the Taksim Square. Please cross the street, and walk inside the hotels area through **Lamartin Street** and then turn left to the **Aydede Street** as shown in the map below. The tickets are sold inside the bus.

Taksim Gönen Hotel in Taksim District Map



<http://www.havas.net/en/shuttle-parking/istanbul-ataturk-airport/>

From Airport to Taksim by Havas



Alternative 3: Metro

The airport metro line (M1) has 20 stations, it starts from the airport and the last station is Aksaray (30 Minutes). You have to move out from the Aksaray Station and walk around 400 m. (5 Minutes) to the Zeytinburnu-Kabatas Tram (T1). Please take the tram to the Kabatas direction, and leave the tram in the last stop Kabatas (25 minutes). From Kabatas Tram station, please proceed to the Taksim-Kabatas Finicular (F1) to the Taksim direction and move out the Taksim metro station from the Harbiye direction (5 minutes). The hotel located is very close to the Taksim Metro station Harbiye exit. Please note that the total journey from the hotel to the Airport by metro and tram is around 70 minutes.

5. PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Language

English language is spoken in many touristic places, hotels and touristic restaurants. Most of the airport taxi drivers can speak some English; however the ordinary taxi drivers can speak very little. Please note that the population in Istanbul is more than 15 Million and therefore it is very likely that you will meet with people who cannot speak English.

Currency

The Currency used in Turkey is Turkish Lira (TL). The hotels can accept Euros, but other places will ask for TL. 1 EUR is approximately 2,1 TL. You can exchange money at the airport with a %4 commission rate. There are also many other exchange offices in the city center open till 18.00 which have better rates and no commission.

Visa requirements

Participants are advised to verify whether they require a visa for entry into Republic of Turkey.

<http://www.mfa.gov.tr/visa-information-for-foreigners.en.mfa>

Communication for Urgent Issues:

Please contact **Mr. O. Gurcan OZAN** (GSM: +90 533 734 90 67) or **Mr. Kivanc TOS** (GSM: +90 539 482 63 37) for any urgent issues and questions during your travel to Istanbul.