



MINISTERS' MEETING ON GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

4-6 OCTOBER 2024
Matera

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ABOUT THE G7

The Group of Seven (G7) is an informal forum that brings together Italy, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. The European Union also participates in the Group and is represented at the summits by the President of the European Council and the President of the European Commission.

The Group was established as a platform for economic and financial cooperation in response to the 1973 energy crisis. The first Summit of Heads of State and Government was held in 1975 in Rambouillet, France.

Over the years G7 has progressively expanded its focus. From an *ad-hoc* gathering to discuss financial challenges, it has become a more formal, prominent venue to address major global issues. This evolution became even more evident at the beginning of the new millennium, as the G7 recognized the need for more technical and detailed discussions on these complex issues. Consequently, it initiated the first thematic Ministerial Meetings, to delve deeper into specific topics and bring more nuanced insights into the G7's deliberations.

Compared to an international organization, the G7 does not have a permanent administrative structure. Each year, starting from the 1st of January, one of the Member States takes over the leadership of the Group on a rotating basis. The Nation holding the Presidency serves as a temporary secretariat and hosts the Group work and the Leaders' Summit. Most importantly, the Presidency plays a key role in setting the agenda and identifying key priorities.

The Summit, the G7 Presidency's centerpiece, is attended by the Heads of State and Government of the seven Member States, representatives of the European Union, as well as States and International Organizations invited by the Presidency.

ITALIAN G7 PRESIDENCY 2024

On the 1st of January 2024, Italy assumed, for the seventh time, the Presidency of the G7: the group that brings together Italy, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. The G7, in which the European Union also participates, is united by common values and principles and plays an invaluable role in defending freedom and democracy and addressing global challenges.

The Italian Presidency will last until 31 December 2024 and will feature a dense programme of technical meetings and institutional events throughout the country.

A key focus of the Italian Presidency will be the defence of the rules-based international system. Russia's war of aggression on Ukraine has undermined its principles and triggered growing instability, with multiple crises unfolding worldwide. The G7 will give equal importance to the conflict in the Middle East, with its consequences for the global agenda.

The relationship with developing Nations and emerging economies will be central. The engagement with Africa will be a key priority. We will work to build a cooperation model based on mutually beneficial partnerships, away from paternalistic or predatory logics. Particular attention will also be paid to the Indo-Pacific region.

Italy will ensure great attention to migration, together with some of the greatest challenges of our time, including the climate-energy nexus and food security. The G7 has the responsibility and duty to identify, together with its global partners, innovative solutions.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) will also feature in the Italian programme. This technology can generate great opportunities but also enormous risks, affecting geopolitical balances. It is necessary to develop governance mechanisms and ensure that AI remains human-centered and human-controlled, giving concrete applications to the concept of algoethics

The G7 Summit

The Summit of G7 Heads of State and Government under the Italian Presidency was held in Borgo Egnazia, in Apulia, on June 13-15, 2024.

With its natural and artistic beauties and an innate vocation for hospitality, Apulia is a highly representative place of Italian culture and attractiveness. Moreover, it historically plays a bridging role between the East and the West of the world and over the centuries has welcomed different peoples, cultures and religions, which have left a profound legacy, still visible today on its territory and in the habits of its people.

MINISTERS' MEETINGS

In addition to the Apulia Summit, during 2024 Italy will host 23 Ministerial Meetings. The meetings will take place in various Italian cities, as part of a logistical effort that includes a leading role of the local institutions.

Dates and details of the events may be subject to possible changes.

THEME	DATE	CITY
INDUSTRY, TECH AND DIGITAL	13-14-15 March	Verona and Trento
TRANSPORT	11-12-13 April	Milano
FOREIGN AFFAIRS	17-18-19 April	Capri
CLIMATE, ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT	28-29-30 April	Torino
JUSTICE	9-10 May	Venezia
FINANCE	23-24-25 May	Stresa
EDUCATION	27-28-29 June	Trieste
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	9-10-11 July	Bologna and Forlì
TRADE	16-17 July	Villa S. Giovanni e Reggio Calabria
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT	11-12-13 September	Cagliari
CULTURE	19-20-21 September	Napoli
AGRICULTURE	26-27-28 September	Siracusa
INTERIOR	2-3-4 October	Mirabella Eclano (AV)
GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT	4-5-6 October	Matera
HEALTH	9-10-11 October	Ancona
INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION	10 October	Roma
INCLUSION AND DISABILITY	14-15-16 October	Assisi and Solfagnano
TECHNOLOGY AND DIGITAL	15 October	Cernobbio (Como)
DEFENCE	18-19-20 October	Napoli
DEVELOPMENT	22-23-24 October	Pescara
URBAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT	3-4-5 November	Roma
TOURISM	13-14-15 November	Firenze
FOREIGN AFFAIRS	25-26 November	Fiuggi

MINISTERS' MEETING ON GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

One of the most important challenges at the global level continues to be the full achievement of gender equality and the enjoyment of fundamental rights by all women and girls. Indeed, despite significant progress over the last decades, women and girls around the world still face systemic discrimination, unequal opportunities, and pervasive violence.

The Italian G7 Presidency has placed gender equality and the protection and promotion of women's rights at the core of its political agenda. Capitalizing on former G7 outcomes, the Presidency is organizing the G7 Ministers' Meeting on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, which will take place on 4-6 October 2024, in Matera. The Ministerial Meeting will represent a paramount opportunity to advance the dialogue and reaffirm the G7 leadership in shaping concrete solutions for the advancement of gender equality and the protection of the rights of all women and girls, including the most vulnerable groups, as well as the rights of LGBTQIA+ persons.

Effective strategies need to be developed and agreed upon among the G7 to promote the empowerment of women, their full participation in all employment sectors, business and public life, with a view to building a more inclusive and cohesive society. Furthermore, the declining birth rate affecting all G7 members, while threatening social stability and long-term development prospects, indicates how urgent and necessary it is to work on work-life balance policies that do not penalize parental choices, thus shaping a future in which personal, family and professional fulfillment can coexist.

Against this backdrop, two areas will be prioritized by the Presidency for the Ministerial discussions:

- ending gender-based violence and strengthening support for victims;
- empowering women, empowering Nations: a collective effort to promote gender equality.

The Italian G7 Presidency is committed to promoting gender equality through outreach initiatives and will continue to foster partnerships with African countries on gender equality and women's empowerment.

HOST CITY: MATERA



Matera, one of the oldest cities in the world, has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1993, recognised for the Sassi and the Park of the Rupestrian Churches. In 2019, it was awarded the title of European Capital of Culture.

The extraordinary beauty and charm that distinguish it have made it renowned both in Italy and abroad, to the extent that it has been chosen as a filming location for famous movies. The city has also attracted great masters of sculpture, showcased in the Museum of Contemporary Sculpture, as well as renowned photographers such as Henri Cartier-Bresson, Mario Cresci, and Franco Pinna.

In Matera, nature and humanity are the absolute protagonists of history, landscape, and traditions, accompanied by significant testimonies of the sacred, including over 150 rock churches and the Crypt of the Original Sin, often referred to as the "Sistine Chapel" of rock wall painting.

Alongside the historical legacy of a city that symbolises Mediterranean culture, Matera today renews its commitment to defending social achievements, promoting self-entrepreneurship, preventing violence, and fostering public initiatives to enhance the role of women in modern society. The Municipality of Matera has joined the 'Pact of Municipalities for Equality and Against Gender Violence,' a document developed by the National Association of Italian Municipalities, committing to the development, implementation, and sharing of concrete measures to promote equal opportunities, combat violence, eliminate gender disparities, and dismantle stereotypes. All these themes will be central to the upcoming G7 Meeting.

MEDIA AGENDA

4-5-6 OCTOBER 2024

1° DAY

3:00 pm

Side Event “G7 Stakeholders Conference - Bridging gaps and Building Futures: Women, Youth and Talent for Inclusive Growth” organized by B7

Introductory speech by Minister Eugenia Roccella

Teatro Guerrieri – Tour de table

Host Broadcaster + Official photographers and videomakers

2° DAY

9:30 am

Welcome Ceremony

Palazzo Lanfranchi – Official Handshake

Host Broadcaster + Official photographers and videomakers + Photographers/Cameramen

9:45 am

Opening Session

Palazzo Lanfranchi – Tour de table

Host Broadcaster + Official photographers and videomakers

10:45 am

Family Photo

Palazzo Lanfranchi

Host Broadcaster + Official photographers and videomakers + Photographers/Cameramen

4:45 pm

Italian G7 Presidency Press Conference

Palazzo Ridola

Open to all accredited press

MEDIA AGENDA

4-5-6 OCTOBER 2024

3° DAY

9:15 am

Side event “G7 Gender Equality Ministers and Civil Society Dialogue” organized by W7

Introductory speech by Minister Eugenia Roccella

Auditorium R. Gervasio

Host Broadcaster + Official photographers and videomakers

MEDIA PROGRAMME: INFORMATION

Journalists, photographers and TV crews interested in attending the media programme, the Italian final Press Conference, and accessing the Media Centre, may request **accreditation** by **30 September 2024 at 12 am** (local time) through the accreditation section of [G7-24 \(g7-2024.it\)](https://g7-24.g7-2024.it).

For first-time registration applicants must fill in the form providing the required details and upload a copy of the following documents (PDF or JPEG format, max 2MB):

- valid passport or ID card (mandatory);
- photo (exclusively JPEG format, max. 2MB);
- letter of assignment on official letterhead (mandatory also for freelance journalist);
- press card.

Early accreditation of journalists, photographers and interested media operators is mandatory. Media already accredited to previous meetings of G7 Ministers, need specific accreditation for this Ministers' Meeting.

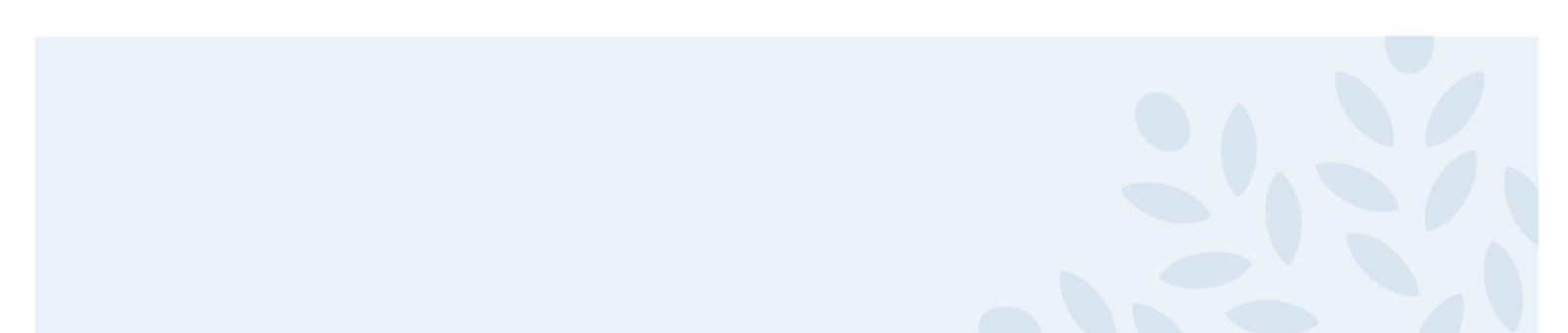
Please note that press representatives from some countries must obtain a visa to enter Italy. Information on visa procedures must be checked in advance by accessing the [visto per l'Italia \(esteri.it\)](https://visto.per.l'Italia(esteri.it)). The visa requirements must be met before arrival in Italy.

Following approval of the registration, accreditation badges will be provided to media representatives at the **accreditation centre** at Alvino Relais Mulino Contemporaneo - Via Guglielmo Marconi 28 - 75100 Matera, which will be open:

- on 4 October, from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm
- on 5 October, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm CET.

The **media centre** is located at Palazzo Ridola, via Duomo, Matera, It will open:

- on 4 October from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm
 - on 5 October from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm
 - on 6 October from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm
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The **press conference** for the gender equality and women's empowerment ministers' meeting will take place in **Palazzo Ridola on 5 October 2024, at 4.45 pm CET**.

The conference will be attended by the Minister for the family, natality and equal opportunities, Eugenia Roccella.

The press conference will be held in Italian, with simultaneous translation provided in English and it will be broadcasted live in English on the [YouTube channel](#) of the Italian G7 Presidency and in Italian on the YouTube channel of the Department for equal opportunities – Presidency of the Council of ministers.

A selection of the photos and videos produced by the official operators, including the family photo, will be available on [the Department website](#) and on the Italian G7 Presidency website.

CONTACTS

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G7 SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

 **X**
<https://twitter.com/G7>

 **Facebook**
<https://www.facebook.com/G7>

 **Instagram**
<https://www.instagram.com/g7>

 **Youtube**
<https://www.youtube.com/@G7Italy2024>

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