

MINISTERS' MEETING ON TRANSPORT

11-13 APRIL 2024 **Milano**

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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 algorethics.

The Apulia Summit

The Summit of G7 Heads of State and Government under the Italian Presidency will be held in Borgo Egnazia, in Apulia, on 13-15 June 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 21 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 e 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 e Forlì
TRADE	16-17 July	Villa S. Giovanni e Reggio Calabria
URBAN DEVELOPMENT	24-25-26 July	Genova
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 (tbc)	Avellino
GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT	4-5-6 October	Matera
HEALTH	9-10-11 October	Ancona
INCLUSION AND DISABILITY	14-15-16 October	Assisi e Perugia
DEFENCE	18-19-20 October	Napoli
TOURISM	13-14-15 November	Firenze
FOREIGN AFFAIRS	(date tbc)	Fiuggi
DEVELOPMENT	24-25 October	Pescara

MINISTERS' MEETING ON TRANSPORT

The Ministerial Meeting in Milan will be an opportunity to take stock of how the G7 countries intend to face the challenges of the future of mobility in an era of increasing instability.

It will do so by looking at both sides of the same coin. On the one hand, by drawing attention to the need **to strengthen the preparedness of transport systems** against future shocks: from artificial intelligence to growing geopolitical tensions, passing through the challenges of climate change or cyberattacks. On the other hand, by envisaging initiatives and solutions to **promote more modern**, **efficient and sustainable infrastructure**.

Infrastructures and transport are the **backbone of global connectivity**, ensuring the free movement of people, goods and services, and generating positive spillovers through societies and economic development. Transport Ministers are increasingly called upon to give **immediate and concrete** answers to quest for mobility in a scenario characterized by **growing instability** and **exogenous shocks** that put global connectivity at risk. Geopolitical tensions, climate change and the transformations produced by digitalisation and artificial intelligence require **a new commitment from G7 Transport Ministers**, in light of the impact on economy and society, in particular for the most vulnerable, and in the relationship with the so-called "Global South".

These and other challenges for mobility and connectivity will be the focus of the discussion between Ministers. The aim is to enhance coordination and increase the level of preparedness and response in the event of extreme and unforeseen events, ensuring the continuity of transport systems and the right to individual and collective mobility, a pillar of democratic and liberal societies.

HOST CITY MILANO



With a population of **1.5 million** inhabitants (**3 million** including the metropolitan area), Milano is the second largest city of the country. Since the industrial miracle of the 1950s, it has been the economic engine and financial center of Italy. Milano lies at the intersection of the EU's north-south and east-west corridor, and its three international airports transport millions of business and tourist visitors every year, while its three main train stations ensure high-speed rail connections with the main European capitals.

Milano is easy to cross on foot, bike or public transport, thanks to advanced **mobility sharing** services and above all to its very efficient municipal transportation system, based on trams (a symbol of the city), electric and hybrid buses, and 5 subway metro lines, including the brand new M4 blue line which takes you straight from Linate airport (LIN) to the city center in 12 minutes.

Since the last decade, the city has undergone a deep urban and cultural transformation, becoming one of the favorite destinations for international visitors, thanks to its modern combination of innovation and style, cosmopolitan skyline and quality of life and services. 2023 was a record year for arrivals in the city: around **8.5 million** people came to visit, +14% compared to the previous record set in 2019. The next milestone is 2026, when the city will host the **Milano Cortina 2026** Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games.

With a rich cultural offer of exhibits and festivals and a lively program of seasonal events - such as thematic weeks, industrial fairs and trade shows - Milano offers an international destination where the worlds of art, fashion, design and architecture, and the institutions of science, knowledge and innovation, collaborate to give this European metropolis its distinctive civic and multicultural identity.

It is this unique synergy that makes the Milanese style increasingly recognizable across the world: a combination of tradition and experimentation, capable of attracting a young and/or sophisticated public, and anybody else who is oriented towards the search for innovative and dynamic experiences, fascinated by what lies at the convergence between high culture, urban landscape, social creativity and the good life.

AGENDA 11 – 13 April 2024

1° DAY

04:00 pm – Arrival of the Heads of Delegations and Welcome by

04:30 pm Minister Matteo Salvini

Palazzo Reale - Handshake

Host Broadcaster + Official photographers and videomakers + Photographers/Cameramen

2° DAY

09:15 am – Family Photo

09:30 am Piazza Duomo

Host Broadcaster + Official photographers and videomakers +

Photographers/Cameramen

09:45 am – Opening remarks by the Italian G7 Presidency and Session I

09:50 am Speech by Minister Matteo Salvini

Palazzo Reale - Tour de table

Host Broadcaster + Official photographers and videomakers

3° DAY

12:00 am – Press Conference of the Italian Presidency

12:30 am Conference room of Palazzo Reale

 $Host\ Broadcaster+Official\ photographers\ and\ videomakers+$

Photographers/Cameramen+ journalists

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 4 April 2024 at 6:00 pm via the following link: https://www.g7-2024.it/ or through the accreditation section of https://www.g7-2024.it/

For first-time registration (if not already registered for G7 events) 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. Journalists 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 <u>II</u> 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 Made by Idea Corso Venezia, 8, 20121 Milano MI 4th floor (there are two elevators) according to the following schedule:

- 9 April from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
- 10 April from 9:00 am to 8:00 pm
- 11 April from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
- 12 April from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm
- 13 April from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

The **Media Centre** is located at Palazzo Reale and it will open:

- 11 April from 14:00 am to 8:00 pm
- 12 April from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm
- 13 April from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

The **Press Conference** for the Ministers' Meeting on Transport will take place at the conference room of Palazzo Reale at 12:00 am on 13 April 2024.

It will be held in Italian, with simultaneous translation provided in English, and it will be broadcasted live in English on the <u>YouTube channel</u> of the Italian G7 Presidency and in Italian on the YouTube channel of the Ministry.

A selection of the photos and videos produced by the official operators, including the family photo, will be available on the Ministry 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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