

**The Duke of Edinburgh's  
International Award Foundation**  
Award House  
7–11 St Matthew Street  
London SW1P 2JT  
United Kingdom

T +44 (0)20 7222 4242  
info@intaward.org  
www.intaward.org



Thursday 9 September 2021

Dear National Director,

### **Update | The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Forum 2022 – Cluj, Romania**

We are delighted to be writing to let you know that we have confirmed new dates for the postponed Forum 2021, hosted by The Duke of Edinburgh's International Award Romania. The programme will run from **Tuesday 11 – Friday 14 October 2022** inclusive and take place at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Cluj-Napoca.

Forum always represents a significant moment in the development of the Award and Forum 2022 will be no exception. As we look towards a post-pandemic future, this particular Forum provides a critical moment for the Award family to reflect on what has been learned over the last period, plan for recovery and growth, and share solutions that will inspire and support young people in their Award journeys in the years to come.

Below we have set out some key information which we hope will help inform your budgeting and preparation for attendance:

#### **What is Forum?**

The purpose of the Forum is to provide a means for consultation, discussion and mutual cooperation between all the constituents of the Association. In essence, it is the general assembly which keeps everyone informed and aware of the key issues and operational developments. It provides the opportunity for sharing responsibility for matters in which the Association has a vested interest by considering and, if necessary, offering advice and guidance to the Foundation and the Trustees.

Typically, the Forum agenda is made up of a series of plenary (whole group) sessions and smaller workshops focused on particular topics. A full programme for Forum 2022 will be available in due course.

Forum usually takes place every three years but as you are aware the decision was made to postpone Forum 2021 due to the ongoing pandemic, and we wanted to ensure that as many people as possible could gather in person after the survey we conducted indicated this was the preference.

#### **Why should I attend?**

Forum is an opportunity to help shape the way the Award is governed, managed and implemented around the world. It is a once-in-three-year opportunity to meet other leaders from the Association and Foundation to share best practice, troubleshoot issues and celebrate success together. During the Forum delegates will get the opportunity to discuss the global development of the Award, understand the context in which we are all working and to have their say on new policies and plans.

Practical sessions will focus on how we can improve the Access, Reach and Impact of the Award globally and include a mixture of speakers from within the Association and external experts across a range of topics.

**Founder** HRH The Late Duke of Edinburgh **Chair of Trustees** HRH The Earl of Wessex and Forfar KG GCMG **Trustees** Allie Barot, Paul Bell, The Rt Hon The Lord Boateng PC DL, Rock Chen SBS JP, Adebayo Olowale Edun, Muna Issa, Andrew Smith, Garth Weston, Dr Howard Williamson CVO CBE, **Secretary General** John May OBE DL

Registered charity in England and Wales number 1072453. Company limited by guarantee number 3666389. Registered office as above.

### **Who can attend?**

We encourage every National Award Operator (NAO) to send a delegate from each of the following groups to Forum 2022.

- 1) The governing body of the NAO, ideally the Chair of Trustees or equivalent
- 2) The National Director or equivalent
- 3) An Emerging Leader (a young person, possibly someone who has completed the Award, who has a good understanding of the challenges faced by the Award at a national level)

### **How to register?**

As with Forum 2018, delegates will be able to register via an online platform. This will be open in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2022 – further detail to follow in due course.

### **Fees to attend**

Pricing is still being refined at this point, but we are pleased to announce that due to the hard work of the Romanian NAO the maximum fee (for each band) is less than that for the last Forum. For budgeting purposes, please refer to the following:

- Band 1A and 1B – 600 Euros
- Band 2 – 500 Euros
- Band 3 – 450 Euros
- Band 4 – 400 Euros

The fee will cover attendance at the opening and closing ceremonies, workshops, meetings and meals (within the planned activities) throughout Forum. All delegates are responsible for covering their own travel to and from Cluj, visa applications, insurance and accommodation throughout their stay.

### **Accommodation**

The main accommodation for Forum 2022 is the Radisson Blu Hotel, Cluj-Napoca. The following special rates (breakfast included) have been agreed for delegates attending the Forum:

Standard room single use:	120 euro/night
Executive double:	135 euro/night
Suite:	150 euro/night
Junior Suite single or double use:	250 euro/night
Executive Suite single or double use:	350 euro/night

Details on how to book accommodation at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Cluj-Napoca will be circulated in January 2022. There are many other hotel options within Cluj, at varying price points, should you wish to stay in alternative accommodation.

### Travel and arrival/departure dates

All delegates are responsible for arranging their own travel to and from Cluj, Romania. Delegates requiring a visa for Romania, will be able to specify this when registering and will be issued an invitation letter once they register. It is the responsibility of each delegate to ensure they have the correct visa – please allow for the appropriate amount of time for it to be processed. Guidance can be found at <http://evisa.mae.ro/> and letters of invitation can be provided where necessary. Please contact Carmen Dragomir [carmen.dragomir@dofe.ro](mailto:carmen.dragomir@dofe.ro) to request this.

Avram Iancu International Airport Cluj is the best airport to fly in to – code CLJ. Carriers such as Austrian Airlines, Emirates, Lufthansa, Turkish Airlines, Tarom, Wiz Air, Blue Air and Ryanair all fly into Cluj daily.

The programme for Forum 2022 will be held from **Tuesday 11 – Friday 14 October 2022** inclusive. However, please note your arrival and departure time may need to vary depending on any additional responsibilities you hold within the governance of the Association. The programme is being developed and we will advise further in due course.

### COVID-19 and travel restrictions

We hope and trust that the national and international regulations in force in 2022 will allow us all to meet in person. We are striving to produce a hybrid programme in 2022 which will allow for virtual attendance in some capacity for those that, for whatever reason, are unable to travel.

We strongly recommend that delegates arrange appropriate travel insurance to ensure that, if they are unable to travel, they can claim back their travel, hotel and conference fees. Neither the Foundation nor the host NAO will be able to refund conference fees in the event of non-attendance.

NB/ at the time this letter is being sent, all visitors to Romania **MUST have been fully vaccinated otherwise they will not be permitted entry**. We will send an update if the rules around this change.

### Next steps

We will let you know more as the planning progresses and further information is available. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to your Account Manager.

After a long period of not being able to come together in the usual ways, we are very much looking forward to gathering at Forum 2022 and making plans for the years ahead.

We look forward to working with you in Cluj. Mulțumesc!

Regards,



John May OBE DL  
Secretary General of the International Award Association



Shajjad Rizvi MBE  
Chair of Host Committee