



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

General

Will the Conference be recorded or live streamed? No, the Conference will not be live streamed or recorded.

Will there be translation? Translation will be provided for the opening and closing ceremonies. Languages will be updated as the translators are confirmed.

Agenda and Logistics

When can we expect to see the full program? The [UR Balkans agenda](#) is available now. Abstracts for technical sessions will be posted as they become finalized and available.

Where is UR Balkans Conference being held? UR Balkans Conference will be held at the Belgrade City Hall on September 17, and the Yugoslav Film Archive Museum from September 18-19 in Belgrade, Serbia.

When is the opening day? When does the main conference start? The opening day is Monday, September 17. The main conference begins the morning of Tuesday, September 18 at 8:00 am and runs until the closing ceremony on Wednesday, September 19. Technical sessions occur on both days of the main conference. See the [agenda](#).

I see “Ignite Presentations” on the agenda on Monday afternoon. What are they? Ignites are fast-paced presentations designed to keep the audience engaged. Representatives from technical sessions have 5 minutes to “pitch” the audience their session on the opening night to get them to come to their technical session the following days. But 5 minutes goes by quickly because there are 20 slides that auto-rotate every 15 seconds. Ignites are a tradition at UR Conferences and can be best thought of as a performance, rather than a lecture.

Will you provide food? Yes, we will offer breakfast and lunch on Days 2 & 3 (September 18 & 19).

When I arrive to the venue, can you hold my luggage? No luggage will be accepted.

I have never been to the Balkans. What should I expect? September temperatures are pleasant and vary between 13.7 - 23.3°C. In Belgrade and its wide vicinity, the mean precipitation sums will be around 52 mm during September. Make sure you dress keeping local weather conditions in mind. Young people in Belgrade tend to know English very well. You will have no problems at hotels, restaurants and shops.

Will there be space to network? There will be plenty of opportunities to network. Make sure you read the agenda and look at who will be participating. That way you will ensure that you get the most out of the conference.

Registration

When does registration open? Registration is open now. You can register [here](#).

Is there a registration fee? No.

Do I have to bring my printed ticket to the event? Yes, preferably bring your ticket. Most importantly, bring an official photo ID that matches your registration.

Is my registration ticket transferrable? No, your ticket cannot be transferred to anyone. This is because we will make sure that attendees are genuinely interested in disaster risk management and related topics, as well as for security purposes.

Transportation, Accommodation & Visas

Do I need to book my transportation and hotel? Yes, you are responsible for booking your own flight, hotel and other types of transportation. While we will focus on delivering an amazing UR Balkans, we will help speakers.

Do I need a visa for Serbia? It depends. Please take a look at the webpage of Serbia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs' here: <http://www.mfa.gov.rs/en/consular-affairs/entry-serbia/visa-requirements>

How far is the Belgrade City Hall from Belgrade Main railway station? The main railway station is [Bivša Železnička stanica](#). It is about a 12-minute walk.

How far is the Belgrade City Hall from the Nikola Tesla Belgrade international airport? It is a 20-minute ride, depending on the traffic.

How far is the Belgrade City Hall from Mama Shelter Hotel? (Relevant for Day 1) They are not too far from each other: they are at a 15-minute walk distance.

How far is the Yugoslav Film Archive Museum from Mama Shelter Hotel? (Relevant for Days 2 & 3) The walk between these two buildings is only 5 minutes. You can safely go back and forth.

How far is the Yugoslav Film Archive Museum from Belgrade Main railway station? They are an approximately 23-minute walking distance. It is advisable that you get a taxi to get there on time.

How far is the Yugoslav Film Archive Museum from the Nikola Tesla Belgrade international airport? They are a 20-minute ride. Please be advised that for international flights, you need to be at the airport 3 hours before your departure.

I need help booking my hotel. Can you give recommendations? We will be uploading hotel recommendations soon. Please make sure you book well ahead to ensure that you have a hotel room.

How can I get a taxi? You can get a taxi at official spots in the airport and the train station. As a rule of thumb, always be careful with the taxis you take (make sure you write down their plate numbers). For additional questions, please refer to the Logistics Note which will be shared soon.

Technical sessions

How long are the technical sessions? 90 minutes long.

When are the technical sessions? The Technical Sessions will happen on Tuesday, September 18, and Wednesday, September 19. Please see the [agenda here](#).

Will the session be live streamed or recorded? We will not record or live stream any technical sessions.

What equipment can I expect to be provided for my session? We will provide Wi-Fi, projector/screen or LCD TVs, and laptops for presentations. If you require anything further, please ask, but we may not be able to provide.

Can I still participate as a technical session lead? Calls for proposals are closed now. If you have any ideas, please send them to Vica Bogaerts at vbogaerts@worldbank.org.

Ignites

When are the Ignite presentations? Ignite presentations are on the afternoon / evening of Monday, September 17.

Am I required to do an Ignite? All session leads are required to do an Ignite. In total, there will be 12 Ignite presentations.

Is there an Ignite rehearsal? Must the Ignite presenter attend the rehearsal? The main, in-person rehearsal will be the morning of Monday, September 17 in the Belgrade City Hall. It is required that the presenter attend the rehearsal if s/he wants to present on Monday afternoon.

Do you have any helpful hints on delivering a great Ignite? Absolutely! Download the [UR Ignite guide](#). Practice is key!

Content

What are some interactive tools that can be used to poll the audience? We have experience working with [Mentimeter](#) or [PollEverywhere](#).

Deadlines

Action	Timeline
Session Title and Abstract	May 1, 2018
Submit List of Panelists	May 20, 2018
Abstract and Format	June 15, 2018
Lead-Up Preparation	July-August, 2018
Final Abstract, PPTs, and other Session material	September 3, 2018
Ignite Rehearsal	September 17, 2018
Understanding Risk Balkans Conference	September 17-19, 2018
Provide Summary of Session for Proceedings	October 15, 2018

Download the [Guide for Session Leads](#)