



EUA 2006 AUTUMN CONFERENCE
BRNO, 19 – 21 OCTOBER

***EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES
AS CATALYSTS IN PROMOTING
REGIONAL INNOVATION***

Programme

**HOSTED BY
THE BRNO UNIVERSITIES
CZECH REPUBLIC**

EUA CONFERENCE

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CONTENTS

	Page
1. Theme	4
2. Welcome to Brno	5
3. Programme (as at 9 October 2006)	7
4. Registration	12
5. Accommodation	13
6. Travel	16
7. Social Programme	18
8. Venue	20
9. General Information	21
10. Contacts	22

1. THEME

Increasing attention is being paid to the local and regional dimensions of innovation as being crucial to the creation of a European knowledge society. Not only Ministers of Education and Science but mayors of cities, company directors and university leaders are being challenged by the globalizing knowledge economy and their own capacity to improve their competitive position in new and rapidly changing knowledge markets. After decades of focusing first on comparative advantage (e.g. in natural resources) and then on competitive advantage (acknowledging the role of distributed supply chains and large domestic markets), more emphasis is now being placed on the role of knowledge sectors, in general, and technological change, in particular, as endogenous to economic growth.

Universities, as the main producers of qualified knowledge workers as well as of new knowledge and innovation, are regarded as key actors in these knowledge regions. Universities themselves are becoming more aware of the importance of being sufficiently responsive to social and economic needs, while policy makers at national and regional levels are increasingly underlining the important role of universities in providing relevant knowledge skills and products. Most university leaders and researchers agree that regional cooperation around common scientific, technological and social interests and infrastructures is helping all partners face global competition, in addition to helping to use resources more efficiently. In an age of global knowledge competition, geographical proximity is re-emerging as an important factor contributing to a rapid flow of tacit knowledge and ideas for innovation. These issues will be the subject of discussion at EUA's Autumn Conference. On the basis of several case study examples from across Europe of how universities are contributing to building creative environments and functional networks at regional level, the goal of the conference will be to:

- Enable exchange of good practice drawn from different regional examples including exchange of experience between different public and private partners
- Identify instruments and action universities themselves can adopt and implement to enhance their contribution to regional development
- Develop strategies for ensuring both local/regional focus and global outreach as components of institutional mission
- Clarify the role of European policies and actions in promoting universities as key partners in regional development

2. WELCOME TO BRNO AND SOUTH MORAVIA

Brno, the historic centre of Moravia and capital of the South Moravia Region, is the second largest city in the Czech Republic, with a population of almost 400,000. Thanks to its location and size, its dynamic economic development, the high concentration of educational institutions found here and the city's status as the seat of the country's highest legal bodies, Brno has become the driving force for the development of the entire region.

Though much older, the official existence of Brno begins with its foundation by royal charter in 1243. The city derived its importance from being at a cultural and commercial crossroads linking it with many of Europe's important cities. Over the centuries, open, multi-ethnic Brno flourished, becoming a major industrial and commercial centre in the Austro-Hungarian Empire and, following World War I, the most dynamic and forward-looking city in the newly established Czechoslovakia. Names like Gregor Mendel and Leoš Janáček, Kurt Gödel, Robert Musil, Adolf Loos, Karel Čapek and Milan Kundera all recall the rich cultural and scientific milieu in Brno in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Now, following the hiatus of the Communist years, Brno is again taking its place as a great Central European city, international in flavour yet rooted in its local Moravian heritage.

Brno – City of Universities

Higher education in Brno goes back to the nineteenth century, when the city had both a German-language and a Czech-language technical university. Significant changes came after 1918, and today there are six major higher education institutions in the city:

- Brno University of Technology (1899)
- University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno (1918)
- Masaryk University (1919)
- Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry Brno (1919)
- Janáček Academy of Music and Performing Arts in Brno (1947)
- Defence University in Brno (2004)

The life of the city is deeply influenced by its higher education institutions. Their more than 60,000 students – the highest concentration of students in any city in the Czech Republic – contribute greatly to the vibrancy of the city and help make it one of the country's most attractive places to study. The intellectual potential represented by these institutions, their teachers, researchers and students is also one of the main reasons why increasing numbers of international students and foreign firms are looking to Brno – a reality recognized by the city in its official “Brno – City of Universities” programme, which also enjoys the full support of the South Moravia Region. Through the combined efforts of all interested parties, a strong foundation has been created for advanced research and development of international standards.

South Moravia and innovation

Thanks to long-term, close cooperation between the municipal and regional governments and the Brno universities, South Moravia has become the most innovative region in the Czech Republic. This has been reflected in rapid and sustained economic

growth (averaging more than 9% a year for the past decade), with Brno gaining a reputation as the country's top location in such fields as IT and telecommunications, medical and research equipment and biotechnology.

The earliest example of cooperation between the universities, government and the private sector was the Czech Technology Park Brno, founded in 1995 as the first high-tech park in the Czech Republic. Currently it is home to companies such as Siemens, IBM, FEI, Silicon Graphics and Honeywell. More recently (2003), the South Moravian Centre for Innovation was founded through the cooperation of the region and city and four of the Brno universities, with the aim of fostering an environment and creating the infrastructure to attract innovative companies to Brno. The key role of universities can be seen in the two of the most recent developments in this area. One is the Brno University of Technology's Technological Incubator, be followed at a later stage by a second incubator in a planned university complex. The other is the Incubator for Biomedical Technologies (INBIT), currently being built as part of Masaryk University's new campus, itself the most ambitious university project in the whole of Central Europe. These and other projects being carried out and planned by the Brno universities, with full support from the city of Brno and the South Moravia Region, are rapidly helping to transform a city formerly known for its traditional industries into one recently voted by *fDi* magazine as the "European city of the future" for countries of the Visegrad region (Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary).

3. PROGRAMME

Thursday 19 October 2006

PRE-CONFERENCE MEETINGS

The pre-conference meetings are by invitation only to EUA Board, EUA Council Members and Secretaries General of National Rectors' Conferences.

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|----------------------|---|
| 09.00 – 10.30 | Meeting of the Secretaries General
<i>Venue: Faculty of Medicine, Board Room</i> |
| 10.30 – 11.00 | Coffee break
<i>Venue: Social Sciences Building, outside Aula</i> |
| 11.00 – 13.00 | Council meeting (I)
<i>Venue: Social Sciences Building, Aula</i> |
| 13.00 – 14.00 | Lunch
<i>Venue: Social Sciences Building, Quadrangle</i> |
| 14.00 – 16.00 | Council Meeting (II)
<i>Venue: Social Sciences Building, Aula</i> |
| 16.00 – 17.00 | Meeting of representatives from Czech universities with Georg Winckler, EUA President
<i>Venue: New Town Hall, Room next to cloister basement</i> |
| 16.00 – 17.00 | Preparatory Meeting for Work Group Keyplayers
(Chairs, Presenters, Rapporteurs)
<i>Venue: New Town Hall, City Board Room</i> |

All Plenary Sessions during the Conference take place in the New Town Hall, Main Hall
Address: Dominikanske nam. 1, 60167 Brno

CONFERENCE

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|----------------------|--|
| 17.30 – 19.00 | Opening Ceremony

<i>Welcome Addresses:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Georg Winckler, EUA President; Rector, University of Vienna, Austriao Stanislav Juránek, Governor of South Moravia Region, Czech Republico Richard Svoboda, Mayor of the City of Brno, Czech Republico Petr Fiala, Rector, Masaryk University, Czech Republico Janez Potočnik, Commissioner for Science and Research, European Commission (video) |
| 19.00 – 21.00 | Welcome Buffet Reception and Concert
<i>Venue: New Town Hall, Ground floor level</i> |

Friday 20 October 2006

09.00 – 09.15

Introduction to the conference theme

Georg Winckler, EUA President; Rector, University of Vienna, Austria

09.15 – 10.30

Plenary Session I

• **Missions and Strategies of Universities in their Regional Contexts**

Chair: Christina Ullenius, EUA Board member; Rector, Karlstad University, Sweden

Speeches:

- Frans Van Vught, EUA Board Member; former Rector and President, Twente University, The Netherlands
“The Regional Impact of Universities”
- Dieter Lenzen, Rector, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
“Impact of Universities on Regional Cultural Development”

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee Break

Venue: New Town Hall, Main halls and Cloister area

11.00 – 12.30

Plenary Session II

• **Linking Policy Frameworks for the “Regions of Knowledge”- Education, Research and Regional Development**

Chair: Ilkka Niiniluoto, EUA Council member; President, Finnish Council of University Rectors; Rector, University of Helsinki, Finland

Speeches:

- John Goddard, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of Newcastle, United Kingdom
“The Role of Higher Education Institutions in Linking Innovation and Territorial Development”
- Marta Aymerich, Director, Catalan Agency for Health Technology Assessment and Research, Generalitat de Catalunya, Spain
“The Critical Factors for a Knowledge-based Economy Initiative. The Case of Catalonia BioRegion”
- Bengt Streijffert, Head of Secretariat, Øresund University; CEO, Øresund Science Region, Denmark
“A Triple-Helix Tool for Developing a Unique Growth Region in Scandinavia”
- Christine Mason, Directorate-General for Regional Policy, European Commission
“From Knowledge to Growth: the Role of EU Regional Policy”

12.30 – 14.00

Lunch

Venue: Hotel International Brno

13.00 – 14.00

Session open to all EUA members

**The EUA Institutional Evaluation Programme: How to benefit from it?
The examples of Brno Universities**

Venue: Hotel International Brno, reserved lounge room

14.00 – 15.30

Plenary Session III

- **Enhancing Research and Innovation: Regional Focus and Global Reach**

Chair: Tatjana Volkova, EUA Council member; President, Latvian Rectors' Council; Rector, Banking Institution of Higher Education, Latvia

Speeches:

- James Drummond Bone Board Member, North West Universities Association; President, Universities UK; Vice-Chancellor, The University of Liverpool, United Kingdom
"The Contribution of Universities to Economic and Social Regeneration in England's North West"
- Maria Cristina Pedicchio, President, Cluster in Molecular Biomedicine – CBM, AREA Science Park, Trieste; Professor, University of Trieste, Italy
"Private-public Networking: the Friuli Venezia Giulia Experience"
- Michal Klimeš, Managing Director, Silicon Graphics Brno, Czech Republic
"Working in distributed, multi-lingual and multi-cultural teams"
- Maria Getsiou, Project Officer, Directorate General for Enterprise and Industry, European Commission
"Innovation Policy and Europe's regions"

15.30 – 16.00

Coffee Break

Venue: New Town Hall, Main halls and Cloister area

16.00 – 17.30

Work Group Session I

Venue: Social science building. Room Numbers: 31, 21, 24, 52

WG1 Specific Instruments and Actions of Universities in Contributing to Regional Innovation

Chair: Milan Dado, Vice-Rector Zilina University, Slovakia

Rapporteur: Howard Davies, EUA

Speeches:

- Anne Gro Veia Salvanes, Prorector, University of Bergen, Norway
"The University of Bergen and Regional Joint Effort in Focusing on Recruitment and Research in Marine and Petroleum Science and Technology"
- Maria Helena Vaz de Carvalho Nazaré, Rector, University of Aveiro, Portugal
"Aveiro University as a Catalyst in Promoting Regional Innovation. Instruments and Actions"

WG2 Good Practices in Regional "Clustering": Networks of Universities

Chair: John Smith, EUA Deputy Secretary General

Rapporteur: Alexandra Bitušíková, EUA

Speeches:

- Keith Burnley, Executive Director, North West Universities Association (NWUA), United Kingdom
"The North West Universities Association – A Case Study"
- Regina Oertel, Director, Technology and Innovation Transfer RWTH Aachen University, Germany

WG3 Regional Policy Initiatives Involving Universities as Stakeholders

Chair: Tadeusz Luty, President, Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland; Rector, Wroclaw University of Technology, Poland

Rapporteur: Lidia Borrell-Damián, EUA

Speeches:

- Vladimír Gašpar, Director, Regional Development Agency South Moravia, Czech Republic
“Regional Strategy between Czech Republic/Moravia and the Brno Universities”
- Antonio Aracil García, Director, Fundación Universidad-Empresa, University of Valencia, Spain
“The RUISNET project - Regional University Industry Strategies Network” (INTERREG IIIC-South programme)

WG4 Professional Skill Development in Higher Education for Knowledge-Based Regions

Chair: Andreas Muhar, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Austria

Rapporteur: David Crosier, EUA

Speeches:

- Marian Gheorghe, Vice-Rector for international relations and partnerships, Polytechnic University of Bucharest, Romania
“Competences - Skills - Knowledge Synergy in Higher Education”
- Joop Vianen, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Tilburg University, The Netherlands
“Regional Entrepreneurship Development and the University: Experiences from Tilburg University, the Netherlands”

17.45 – 18.45

Session open to all EUA members
Latest information on EUA projects and activities
(Lesley Wilson, EUA Secretary General)
Venue: New Town Hall, Main Hall

20.00 – 23.00

Dinner at Slavkov Chateau

Saturday 21 October 2006

09.00 – 10.30

Work Group Session II
Venue: Social science building. Room Numbers: 31, 21, 24, 52

WG5 Specific Instruments and Actions of Universities in Contributing to Regional Innovation

Chair: Maria Helena Vaz de Carvalho Nazaré, Rector, University of Aveiro, Portugal

Rapporteur: Howard Davies, EUA

Speeches:

- Milan Dado, Vice-Rector Zilina University, Slovakia
“Tools, Instruments and Activities of Universities for Innovation and Regional Innovation”

- Christian Saublens, Secretary General, EURADA
"Strengthening Partnership between Universities and Regional Development Agencies"

WG6 Good Practices in Regional "Clustering": Networks of Universities

Chair: Keith Burnley, Executive Director, North West Universities Association, United Kingdom

Rapporteur: Alexandra Bitušíková, EUA

Speeches:

- Daniel O'Mahony, Director, Technology Transfer Office, National University of Ireland, Ireland
"Universities in Ireland: Clustering, Partnerships and Regional development"
- Laurence Gareaux, Director, Réseau des Universités de l'Ouest Atlantique (RUOA), France
"Interregional Universities cooperation in Bretagne (Brittany), Pays de la Loire and Poitou-Charentes: an original initiative in France"

WG7 Regional Policy Initiatives Involving Universities as Stakeholders

Chair: Vladimír Gašpar, Director, Regional Development Agency South Moravia, Czech Republic

Rapporteur: Lidia Borrell-Damián, EUA

Speeches:

- Tadeusz Luty, President, Conference of Rectors of Academic Schools in Poland; Rector, Wrocław University of Technology, Poland and
- Rafał Dutkiewicz, Mayor of Wrocław, Poland
"Development of the City of Wrocław and the Region through Extensive Cooperation between Universities and Local Authorities – A Double Perspective"

WG8 Professional Skill Development in Higher Education for Knowledge-Based Regions

Chair: Joop Vianen, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Tilburg University, The Netherlands

Rapporteur: David Crosier, EUA

Speeches:

- Andreas Muhar, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Austria
"Transdisciplinary Cooperation between Universities and Regions for Sustainable Development - Models for Different Academic Levels"
- Artur Serra, Deputy Director, Fundació i2cat/Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain and University of Masaryk, Czech Republic
"TV Channels Over IP for Educational and Research Purposes"

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee Break

Venue: New Town Hall, Main halls and Cloister area

11.00 – 12.30

Plenary Session IV/Round Table

• **Building Partnerships for Regional Innovation**

Chair: Roderick Floud, EUA Board member

Speech:

- Sybille Reichert, Reichert Consulting, Switzerland
Presentation of the study “*The Rise of Knowledge Regions*”

Respondents:

- Vladimir Bales, President, Slovak Rectors' Conference; Rector, Slovak University of Technology, Slovakia
- Jens Oddershede, President, Danish Rectors' Conference; Rector, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark
- Jiří Hudeček, CEO, South Moravian Innovation Centre, Czech Republic
- David Uhlir, Directorate-General for Research, European Commission
- Christine Scholz, member of ESIB - The National Unions of Students in Europe

12.30 – 13.00

Closing ceremony

Chair: Georg Winckler, EUA President; Rector, University of Vienna, Austria

Speakers:

- Jyrki Myllyvirta, President, Commission for Education, Culture and Research, EU Committee of Regions; Mayor, City of Mikkeli, Finland
- Maria Amélia Botelho de Paulo Martins Campos, Vice-Rector, University of Lisbon, Portugal and Tomás Patrocínio, Head of International Relations University of Lisbon, Portugal
Invitation to the 4th EUA Convention of European Higher Education Institutions in Lisbon 2007

13.00 – 14.30

Lunch

Venue: New Town Hall, Main halls and Cloister area

4. REGISTRATION

Who should come to the Brno Conference?

The conference is of particular interest to Rectors, Vice-Rectors and heads of research and international relations.

How to register

The above-mentioned persons, as well as partner organisations, have been invited to register on the EUA website from 1 June 2006. The registration form is linked to the EUA website members' homepage, which can be accessed with your username and password (under "Invitations" "Brno Conference"). You can register until **8 September 2006** with the early-bird registration fee. Others interested in attending who have not received an invitation to register should send a request to the following e-mail address: autumn-conference@eua.be

SNIP & CO, the conference agency, will handle the bookings and payments for the registration fee, hotels, social programme and excursions. SNIP & CO will send you a confirmation of registration e-mail with a fax-back payment form when you have registered. Please note that the agency is unable to guarantee your registration or any bookings without your payment details. SNIP & CO will continue to send you further practical information in the period leading up to the conference.

Registration fees

Registration fees will be invoiced by SNIP & CO.

	Registration fee UNTIL 8 September 2006	Registration fee AFTER 8 September 2006
EUA members <small>(includes participation in the conference and social programme, see page 14-15)</small>	420 euros	480 euros
Non-members <small>(includes participation in the conference and social programme, see page 14-15)</small>	460 euros	520 euros
Companions <small>(includes participation in the social programme and companions only social programme, see page 14-15)</small>	160 euros	180 euros

Payment

All payments must be made in euros by credit card or bank transfer. It is unfortunately not possible to pay by bank cheques or euro cheques. Once you have registered, SNIP & CO will e-mail a payment form to be returned by fax. By doing so, you will:

- enable SNIP & CO to process the payment of your registration fee;
- guarantee your accommodation booking (thanks to the valid credit card number you provide; for this purpose your card will not be debited).

All bank charges incurred must be covered by the delegate.

Cancellation policy

Any cancellations or changes must be sent in writing to SNIP & CO by
e-mail: eua2006@snip-brno.cz or fax: +420 543 210 631

Cancellation of the registration fee

Cancellations must be sent in writing to SNIP & CO. If a cancellation is received by **8 September 2006**, the registration fee minus an administration charge of **50 euros** will be refunded after the conference. If a cancellation is received after **8 September 2006** and/or the participant fails to attend, the entire registration fee must be paid. Substitutes will be accepted at any time provided that SNIP & CO is informed of the change.

Cancellation of accommodation booking

Cancellation of hotel reservations, or changes of arrival/departure dates, must be made 48 hours prior to the booked arrival date at the latest, to SNIP & CO. If you cancel your hotel booking after this time, or do not arrive for the first night of your booking, the hotel reserves the right to charge you the first night of your booking with the credit card you used to guarantee the room.

5. ACCOMMODATION

SNIP & CO, the conference agency in Brno, is handling all registration and accommodation bookings. You will be able to book a hotel room at specially reduced rates when you register online via the EUA website. The conference hotels (with the exception of the Voroněž) are situated within walking distance of the conference venue. Bus transport will be arranged for delegates staying at the Voroněž Hotel.

Prices are stated per room per night with breakfast included. Accommodation can only be guaranteed if you have stated a valid credit card number on the payment form that you will receive when you have registered. All accommodation must be paid for upon departure from the hotel, using any of the means accepted by the hotel in question.

Hotel International Brno****

The Hotel International is situated in the heart of the city between the ancient Cathedral of Sts Peter and Paul and the Špilberk fortress. The hotel's most distinguished guest was Queen Elizabeth II, who came here during her visit to Brno in 1996. All Standard en-suite rooms include satellite TV, telephone, Internet access, mini bar and safety deposit box. The newly refurbished Executive rooms also offer air-conditioning.

Facilities available to all guests include an extensive fitness area with salt-water swimming pool, saunas, solariums, massage and hairdressing services as well as two restaurants and a bar offering international cuisine and charcoal-grilled specialties.

Single room Standard: € 70

Single room Executive: € 90

Double room Standard: € 80

Double room Executive: € 95

Address: Husova 16, 659 21 Brno

www.hotelinternational.cz

Distance to the conference venue: 5 minutes on foot

Hotel Royal Ricc ****

Located in the historical centre of Brno, Hotel Royal Ricc is situated in a Renaissance building dating from 1596. The hotel was completely renovated in 1998, blending modern comforts with the hotel's antique furniture, functioning tile stoves and period paintings. All en-suite rooms include satellite TV, telephone, Internet access, mini bar and safety deposit box.

Facilities available to all guests include two restaurants with excellent cuisine based on Italian and French specialities, a summer terrace, lobby bar and "vinotheque", as well as business and laundry services and underground parking.

Double room: € 135

Address: Starobrněnská 10, 602 00 Brno

www.romantichotels.cz

Distance to the conference venue: 5 minutes on foot

Hotel Continental Brno***

The three-star Hotel Continental is located just off the historic circular boulevard, adjacent to the city centre. All standard, superior and business rooms are en-suite and include satellite TV, a telephone and a mini bar. In addition, superior and business rooms are equipped with a safety deposit box, radio/alarm clock and trouser press. Facilities available to all guests include two restaurants and a café offering Czech and international cuisine.

Double room: € 45

Address: Kounicova 6, 602 00 Brno

www.continentalbrno.cz

Distance to the conference venue: 10 -12 minutes on foot

Hotel Slavia Brno ****

Situated in the city's historical centre, close to Špilberk Castle, the Hotel Slavia boasts a tradition going back more than one hundred years. Each of its 81 comfortable guestrooms and three suites is equipped with en-suite bathroom (bath or shower), hairdryer, satellite TV, mini bar, wireless Internet, direct-dial telephone and safety deposit box. Czech and international dishes are offered in the pleasant ambience of the hotel restaurant. Other facilities include a café, outdoor terrace, wine bar with dance music, exchange office and souvenir shop.

Double room: € 55

Address: Solniční 15/17, 662 16 Brno

www.slaviabrno.cz

Distance to the conference venue: 6 minutes on foot

Hotel Pod špilberkem ***

This three-star hotel, as its name indicates, is situated beneath Špilberk Castle, adjacent to the cultural and social centre of the city and with convenient access to the Main Railway Station. Within close walking distance are the castle itself, the Cathedral of Sts Peter and Paul, the New Town Hall and other historical sights. The newly furnished rooms are all en-suite.

Double room: € 55

Address: Pekařská 10, 602 00 Brno
www.hotelpodspilberkem.cz
Distance to the conference venue: 6 minutes on foot

Grandhotel Brno ****

The Grandhotel Brno, located near Brno's Main Railway Station, is a traditional nineteenth-century four-star hotel only a few steps away from the city's historic sights. The hotel has 110 rooms and suites with bath/shower, radio, mini bar, satellite TV and direct-dial telephone. Some of the rooms include a hairdryer, electronic safety deposit box and trouser press. Other facilities include an elegant garden restaurant, bar, casino, music club, café, sauna and fitness room.

Single room: € 70
Double room: € 90
www.worldhotels.com/czech_republic/brno/hotel_brqgra.html
Distance to the conference venue: 10 minutes on foot

Hotel Voroněž ****

The Hotel Voroněž is situated alongside the Brno Exhibition Centre. High-standard accommodation is offered in 369 en-suite rooms and suites as well as superior class rooms which include air conditioning and special services. Services available to all guests include restaurants, a bar, grill-bar and whisky club, sauna, massage and hair dressing services and Internet access.

Double room: € 70
Address: Křížkovského 47, 603 73 Brno
www.voronez.cz
Distance to the conference venue: 20 minutes on foot; bus transportation will be provided.

6. TRAVEL

Travelling to Brno

The most central of Central European cities, Brno is within easy reach of Vienna (110 km), Bratislava (120 km), Prague (200 km), Wroclaw (280 km), Budapest and Krakow (320 km). Several flights a day link the city's international airport with London, Munich and Prague. Situated as it is on the Berlin-Budapest rapid rail corridor, Brno is only a short EC train journey from Vienna (1 hr 40 min) and Prague (2 hr 30 min).

Czech Airlines (CSA) was appointed Official Carrier for the EUA Autumn Conference 2006 in Brno, 19-21 October 2006. Participants and companions are therefore invited to take advantage of the Official Carrier Agreement.

The fare reduction is up to
15% on Economy Class fares
and
25% reduction on Business Class fares

To benefit from this offer, call the CSA Call Centre + 420 239 007 007 or find a CSA office nearest to you to make your reservation www.czechairlines.com.

Terms and conditions: a copy of the participant's confirmation of registration email from the hosts congress agency eua2006@snip-brno.cz will be required. Discounts are valid for journeys in the period of one week before the event and one week after the event. Tickets can be booked and issued through CSA offices only.

Brno Airport

A welcome desk will be situated in Brno Airport to help you with the conference shuttle bus service to Brno city centre and the conference hotels. The service will operate for all arriving flights on Wednesday 18 and Thursday 19 October and departing flights on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 October. The travel time from the airport to Brno city centre is approximately 20 minutes. Further information is available on www.airport-brno.cz.

Taxis at the Brno Airport are available in front of the main hall. The taxi trip to the city centre takes about 20 minutes; the fare is approximately 300 CZK (10 €).

Prague and Vienna Airports

Prague and Vienna are the nearest airports offering a wide selection of international flights. **Delegates are encouraged to travel to Vienna, where shuttle buses to Brno will be provided by the conference organisers.** A welcome desk will be situated in the international flight arrivals hall at Vienna Airport to help you with this service, which will operate for arriving flights on Wednesday 18 and Thursday 19 October and departing flights on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 October. Journey time: 2 hours 30 minutes.

Delegates who choose not to use the conference shuttle bus service in Vienna can make use of the coach service from **Vienna to Brno** operated by *Student Agency* four times a day. Journey time: 2 hours 30 minutes. Ticket reservations: tel: +420 542 424

242, fax: +420 542 424 240, www.studentagency.cz (in Czech). EuroCity trains also operate from Vienna's Südbahnhof station to the Main Railway Station in Brno. Journey time: 1 hour 45 minutes. Ticket reservations: www.bahn.de.

Student Agency operates a similar coach service from **Prague Airport** in Ruzyně to **Brno**. Journey time: 3 hours 30 minutes. It is also possible to take a Czech Airlines coach from Prague Airport to Brno – this can be arranged along with the flight ticket – or to go by train from Prague's Main Railway Station or the station at Prague Holešovice to the main station in Brno. Journey time: 2 hours 30 minutes. Ticket reservations: www.idos.cz.

Taxis are available in Brno outside the main railway station and coach stations on Benešova street, opposite the Grandhotel Brno, where the Czech Airlines and Student Agency coaches terminate. The fares to the conference hotels are approximately 120 CZK (4 €); for the Hotel Voroněž, 150 CZK (5 €). City Taxi: +420 542 321 321, Taxi Brno: +420 602 584 843

7. SOCIAL PROGRAMME

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

(included in the delegates' and companions' registration fee)

Welcome buffet reception and concert – New Town Hall, Thursday, 19 October (19.00 – 21.00)

The Mayor of Brno, Richard Svoboda, will welcome delegates and companions to Brno with a buffet reception in the cloister of the New Town Hall, a former Dominican monastery dating from the fifteenth century and the venue for the EUA 2006 Autumn Conference.

The building has recently been renovated by master craftsmen, revealing its full splendour as one of Moravia's historical and architectural treasures (see "Venue", below, for more details).

The reception will be followed by a concert given by students of the Janáček Academy of Music and the Performing Arts.

Lunch – Hotel International Brno, Friday 20 October (12.30 – 14.00)

Delegates and companions are invited to a lunch reception in the Hotel International Brno, which is 5 minutes' walk from the New Town Hall.

An evening of fine food and folklore at the Slavkov Chateau, Friday 20 October (20.00 – 23.00)

The venue for this unique event is the chateau in the nearby town of Slavkov, better known internationally by its German name, Austerlitz. It was here that Napoleon Bonaparte defeated the allied Russian and Austrian armies at the famous Battle of the Three Emperors on 2 December 1805. The final armistice was signed on December 6 in the Slavkov Chateau, where the victorious Napoleon stayed for several days.

From the seventeenth century the chateau at Slavkov belonged to the Kounic (Kaunitz) family, who took what was originally a medieval castle and transformed it in the French Baroque style. Its current appearance dates to 1767. The chateau is surrounded by a large park with a maze, terraces, fountains, lawns and alleys of old trees, all of which you can explore before dinner.

Inside the chateau, you will have the opportunity to enjoy the beautifully furnished rooms that surrounded Napoleon during his stay, as well as fine Czech cuisine, all to the sound of Moravian folk music. Outside on the terrace will be a traditional spit roast, and ample room for dancing.

Guided tour of Brno, Saturday 21 October (15.00 – 18.00)

This walking tour will introduce you to the buildings, monuments and personalities of the city of Brno through the ages. The tour starts just off Brno's main commercial arteries, Masarykova street and náměstí Svobody (Freedom Square), with a visit to the **Zelný trh**, an open-air fruit and vegetable market sited on a sloping cobbled square that boasts an elaborate seventeenth-century fountain as its centrepiece. The next stop is the seventeenth century **Capuchin Monastery**, notable for the extraordinary mummies in its **Crypt**, and from there the **Old Town Hall**, where you will learn the stories behind the famous Brno Dragon and Wheel. The tour concludes on nearby Petrov Hill, with a visit to the **Cathedral of Sts Peter and Paul**.

SOCIAL PROGRAMME (for companions only)

(included in the companions' registration fee)

Guided tour of Špilberk Castle – Thursday 19 October (14.00 – 16.00)

Špilberk Castle dominates the city of Brno. Over the centuries the structure has undergone many transformations. From its original functions as a major royal castle, established around the middle of the thirteenth century, and subsequently the seat of the Moravian margraves, it was gradually transformed into a huge Baroque fortress, the most dreaded prison in the Austrian monarchy and finally a barracks. In 1962 it was named a national heritage monument. Today, Špilberk houses the Brno City Museum and is one of the liveliest cultural centres in the city.

The tour includes the castle gallery, with its permanent exhibition on the history of the castle and the city as well as a temporary exhibition devoted to the Czech kings. You will also go through the atmospheric casemates and learn about their function in Baroque fortification architecture, and climb the observation tower, which offers a spectacular view of Brno.

Day trip to Třebíč and Telč (UNESCO World Heritage towns), Friday 20 October (9.30 – 17.00)

A day trip to the town of Třebíč, with its monuments included in the UNESCO World Cultural Heritage list (St. Procopius' Basilica, the Jewish ghetto and cemetery), and to Telč (also on the UNESCO list), a uniquely preserved Baroque town with arcaded burghers' houses encircled by ancient fortifications and gates. The tour of the town's superb Renaissance chateau will also include a visit to a collection of paintings by Jan Zrzavý, one of the leading Czech Modernist painters.

POST- CONFERENCE EXCURSION

(not included in the delegates' and companions' registration fee)

Cost: € 50 per person (lunch and wine-tasting included)

Day trip to the Lednice-Valtice complex (a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site), Mikulov and a local wine-cellar, Sunday 22 October (10.00 – 17.00)

Between the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries, the ruling princes of the Liechtenstein family transformed their domains in southern Moravia into **one of the largest cultural landscapes in Europe**, covering 200 square kilometres. This unique combination of landscaped countryside and chateaus has led to the Lednice-Valtice complex being declared a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site. The tour begins with a visit to the Neo-Gothic Lednice Chateau, one of the most frequently visited chateaus in the Czech Republic, and the surrounding park, with its ornamental mosque and minaret. It then continues to the Baroque chateau and park at Valtice and on to Mikulov, an urban preservation area with a Baroque chateau, Renaissance and Baroque burghers' houses and countless wine cellars. The trip ends in one of these, where you will have the chance to sample some fine Moravian wines and listen to the music of a local folk group.

Those wishing to depart for the Vienna Airport will be provided with a shuttle bus directly from Mikulov, arriving at the Vienna Airport at approximately 6 pm.

**For more information on any of the UNESCO sites please visit
<http://whc.unesco.org>**

8. VENUE

The New Town Hall

Address: Dominikanske nam. 1, 60167 Brno

The [New Town Hall](#) houses the offices of the Mayor of Brno and serves as the seat of the Town Council of the city. It was built in successive stages, beginning in the 1580s with the transformation of a Dominican monastery into the administrative centre for the Moravian Estates. Here, in the Assembly Hall and Knights' Hall, the Estates held their sessions and tribunals, and from here they governed the whole province of Moravia. The first major modern reconstruction of the buildings took place in 1934-1935, when they were refurbished to serve the local government bodies and provide public rooms suitable for major civic events. Today the New Town Hall is one of Brno's most important historical monuments.

9. GENERAL INFORMATION

Bank

ATMs are available throughout Brno; one is situated quite close to the conference venue.

Buses

See page 13 for information on the shuttle buses available on arrival, during and after the conference.

Cloakroom

A cloakroom located next to the registration desk will be open during the same hours as the registration desk.

Internet access

A lounge near the registration desk will offer Internet access to all conference delegates.

Notice board

During the conference delegates should check the registration desk notice board for any changes to the programme or personal messages.

Passports, visas

Those from countries within the European Union are recommended to travel with a valid passport. In addition, depending on individuals' citizenship, a visa may be required. Any questions regarding entry regulations or visas should be directed to the Czech Embassy or Consulate in your home country: www.embassyworld.com.

Registration desk

The conference registration desk, located in the New Town Hall, will be open from the morning of Thursday 19 October until after lunch on Saturday 21 October.

Precise information on registration desk opening hours, addresses and contact details together with additional practical information will be included in **a final e-mail sent at least two weeks before the event** by the conference agency, SNIP & CO.

Weather

The average daily maximum temperature in October is 14 °C, the average daily minimum temperature 5 °C. It is advisable to bring a warm overcoat and umbrella.

Working language

The working language of the conference will be English. No interpretation will be provided.

Website

Further information and registration instructions can be found on the EUA website at www.eua.be/brno.

Conference Secretariat

eua2006@snip-brno.cz

10. CONTACTS

Coordination at EUA

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Enquiries regarding registration, hotel accommodation, social events, companions' programme, excursions, payments

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