



**9<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL WRITERS IN PRISON COMMITTEE  
CONFERENCE  
Brussels, Belgium**

**24-27 March 2011**

**INFORMATION**

The Belgian (Dutch Speaking) PEN Centre ([www.penvlaanderen.be](http://www.penvlaanderen.be)) and Passa Porta House of Literature ([www.passaporta.be](http://www.passaporta.be)) will be hosting this meeting, which this year will be held jointly with the International Cities of Refuge Network (ICORN) and Halma, a network of literary centres in Europe ([www.halma-network.eu](http://www.halma-network.eu)).

**The Practicalities**

**Invitations**

All Chairs of PEN Centre WiPCs are invited. If the Chair is not able to attend, your Centre may send another delegate. There is no limit to the number of additional delegates that the Centre may wish to send. Some Centres that do not have WiPCs but whose input we feel will be valuable have been invited.

**Venue**

We will be holding our meetings at the KVS theatre in Central Brussels, who have kindly donated their premises free of charge as part of the Passa porta Festival [www.kvs.be](http://www.kvs.be)

**Registration Fees**

This conference is funded mainly by the registration fees paid by delegates to cover the costs of meeting room and equipment hire, meals and refreshments, local travel and administration. Participants are expected to cover their own travel and hotel costs. Prompt payment of fees would be most appreciated.

### Registration fees per person:

<b>Euro €150</b>	<b>UK Sterling - £130</b>	<b>US dollar \$200</b>
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- See registration and hotel booking form attached.

We ask you to fill in and return the form with payment **no later than 19 February.**

### Accommodation

We have reserved a number of rooms at two budget hotels and a more luxurious hotel at reduced rates. We will be collecting payments for the hotels in addition to the registration fee – see form attached. Do also let us know if you do not require accommodation, and will pay registration fee only.

#### 1. Budget - Hotel Ibis

per night	€59 with breakfast	UK sterling: £50
		US dollar: £78

Three nights (Thurs/Fri/Sat)	€177	£150	\$234
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Web site: [Hotel Ibis Brussels](http://Hotel Ibis Brussels)

*(35 rooms available)*

#### 2. Budget - Hotel Max

per night	€63 <u>without</u> breakfast	UK sterling: £53
		US dollar: \$82

Three nights (Thurs/Fri/Sat)	€189	£159	\$246
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Web site: [Hotel Max Brussels](http://Hotel Max Brussels)

*(15 rooms available)*

#### 3. Luxury - Hotel Plaza

per night	€128 with breakfast	UK Sterling: £107
		US dollar: \$168

Three nights (Thurs/Fri/Sat)	€384	£321	\$504
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Web site: [Plaza Hotel](http://Plaza Hotel)

*(10 rooms available)*

### **Airport/Eurostar/Train Transfer**

Delegates are expected to make their own way to the hotels.

Brussels airport is close to the city with easy transport by train shuttle to Brussel Centraal/Bruxelles Central railway station (nearest to Hotel Plaza and Hotel Ibis) as well as Brussel Noord/Bruxelles Nord (nearest to Max Hotel). The Conference venue KVS Theatre is halfway between both railway stations. Eurostar and Thalys trains arrive at Brussel Zuid/Bruxelles Midi - here you can connect to both other stations.

### **Assistance with visas**

It is the responsibility of each participant to check their visa requirements and to make arrangements if necessary

Please check with the Belgian Foreign Affairs visa information website on this link: [Belgian Visas](#)

- If you require a formal letter of invitation to assist your visa or for other purposes, please contact Sara Whyatt as soon as possible and this can be arranged. [Sara.whyatt@internationalpen.org.uk](mailto:Sara.whyatt@internationalpen.org.uk)
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### **Provisional Programme**

- **Thursday 24 March**

Afternoon: Arrival, check in (details of check in venue to follow)

[We are hoping to hold meetings with EU officers on Thursday to which specific Centres will be invited and who will be contacted shortly.]

**19:00** Welcome dinner

**21.00** Forbidden books Passa Porta festival public event

- **Friday 25 March**

**09:30** Official opening event, writer statements and presentations of Halma, WiPC and ICORN

**10:30** Conference session 1

**13:00** Lunch

**14:30** Conference session 2

**17:30** Reception in the Town Hall by invitation of the Lord Mayor of Brussels (with ICORN and Halma)

**20:00** Letters to Europe at the Passa Porta festival event at Theatre de La Monnaie ([www.lamonnaie.be](http://www.lamonnaie.be))

- **Saturday 26 March**

**09:30** Conference Session 4

**12:00** Lunch

**13:30** Workshops

**18:30** Dinner

**20:00** Passa Porta Festival event at the Bozar theatre ([www.bozar.be](http://www.bozar.be))

- **Sunday 27 March**

**9.30-12:30** Conference Session 5

Lunch

**All day:** A literary feast is on! The Passa Porta Festival presents a wide range of high quality literary events in venues spread all over the city.

A great way to discover Brussels!

<http://www.passaporta.be/index.php?q=en/festival2011//language/en>

For more information on tourism visit <http://www.visitbelgium.com/>

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**Contact:**

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