

[:Istanbul:]

SPRING 2027 WG21 MEETING

Where Europe and Asia meet across the Bosphorus.

15-20 MARCH 2027

Orientation: Sunday evening, 14 March

Bahçeşehir University

Beşiktaş South Campus

SPONSORED BY

MATRAXS



BAU BAHÇEŞEHİR
UNIVERSITY

Meeting and venue

BEŞİKTAŞ SOUTH CAMPUS

AT A GLANCE

Item	Information
Orientation	Sunday evening, 14 March 2027
WG21 meeting	Monday, 15 March through Saturday, 20 March 2027
Venue	Bahçeşehir University - Beşiktaş South Campus
Address	Çırağan Street, Osmanpaşa Mektebi Street No. 4-6, 34353 Beşiktaş, İstanbul, Türkiye
Map	Bahçeşehir University Beşiktaş South Campus on Apple Maps
Format	In person and remote
Time zone	Türkiye Time (TRT), UTC+3

PARTICIPATION

Please register your participation - in person or virtual - through [ISO Meetings](#). If you are not already registered in the ISO Global Directory, contact your national body or liaison organization.

Convenor invited guests are welcome; see [WG21 Meetings and Participation](#).

Remote participation will be supported, with connection details shared through the usual WG21 channels closer to the meeting.

VENUE

The meeting will take place at Bahçeşehir University - [Beşiktaş South Campus](#):

**Çırağan Street, Osmanpaşa Mektebi Street No. 4-6
34353 Beşiktaş, İstanbul, Türkiye**

The campus is on the Bosphorus in central Beşiktaş, about two minutes on foot from the Beşiktaş ferry piers. Waterfront bus stops are nearby; Yıldız M7 station is uphill from the campus. İstanbul is hilly, and even short walks away from the waterfront can involve a steep climb.

The welcome orientation for new attendees will be held on Sunday evening, 14 March. Wi-Fi will be available, and connection details will be shared at the venue.

Coffee, tea, other ordinary refreshments, pastries and snacks will be served during meeting breaks. *Lunch and dinner will not be provided by the venue; food discovery is delegated to ADL.* There are many restaurants, cafés and bakeries nearby.

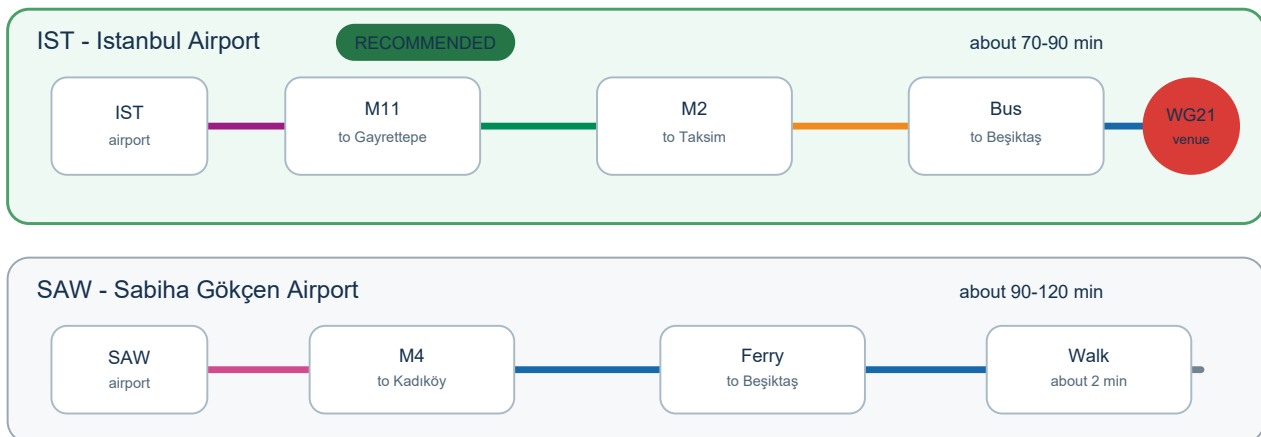


Getting there

There is more than one viable execution path. Choose **Istanbul Airport (IST)** where possible. It is on the European side and is considerably more convenient for Beşiktaş.

Getting to Beşiktaş

Schematic routes - check live timetables before travel



After midnight, metro service continues only on selected lines on Friday and Saturday nights; M11 is not included.

RECOMMENDED

Istanbul Airport (IST)

Metro: Take M11 to Gayrettepe, change to M2 for Taksim, then take a bus to Beşiktaş. Allow roughly 70-90 minutes. The [Metro İstanbul network map](#) and Google Maps are useful for the final connection.

After midnight, [Night Metro](#) runs only on selected lines on Friday and Saturday nights; M11 is not included.

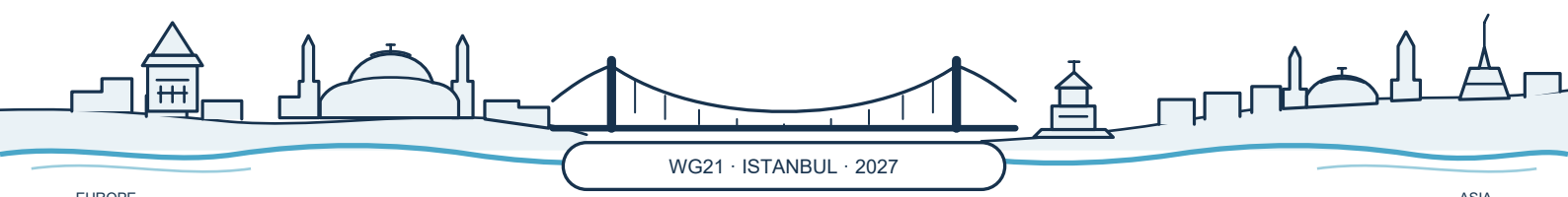
Havaist: [Havaist airport coaches](#) carry luggage and run between IST and central stops including Taksim. From Taksim, continue to Beşiktaş by local bus. The complete journey commonly takes 75-120 minutes, with longer trips in heavy traffic. Check the live stop and timetable before travelling.

Sabiha Gökçen (SAW)

SAW is on the Asian side and is not recommended for this meeting. If your flight uses it, take M4 from the airport to Kadıköy, then the [direct ferry to Beşiktaş](#). M4 takes about 52 minutes and the ferry about 25 minutes; the campus is two minutes from the Beşiktaş pier. Allow around 90-120 minutes including the transfer.

[HAVABÜS](#) to Taksim is a luggage-friendly alternative; continue from Taksim by local bus. Check the live timetable and departure point.

For taxi journeys, use [BiTaksi](#) rather than hailing a taxi on the street. The app dispatches licensed taxis and provides app-based booking and payment.



Getting around Istanbul

METRO · TRAM · FERRY · BUS

Metro, tram and ferries are usually the easiest way around Istanbul. The Beşiktaş ferry piers are two minutes from the campus; buses run along Çırağan Street. Kabataş, a short bus ride south, connects with T1 for Karaköy, Eminönü and Sultanahmet and F1 for Taksim. Yıldız M7 is the nearest metro station but is uphill from the waterfront.

An **Istanbulkart is not required**. Visitors can tap a contactless credit or debit card directly on metro, tram, buses and ferries. This is simplest for occasional journeys; an Istanbulkart is usually cheaper for a week of repeated or connecting trips.

Buy an anonymous Istanbulkart from the yellow **Biletmatik/BELBİM** machines at airport metro stations and major metro, tram and ferry stops, including the Beşiktaş piers. The same machines top up the card in Turkish lira. See the [Istanbul visitor transport-card guide](#), [Metro İstanbul map](#), [İETT](#) and [Şehir Hatları ferry timetables](#). Google Maps works well for routing and displays useful transit and fare information.

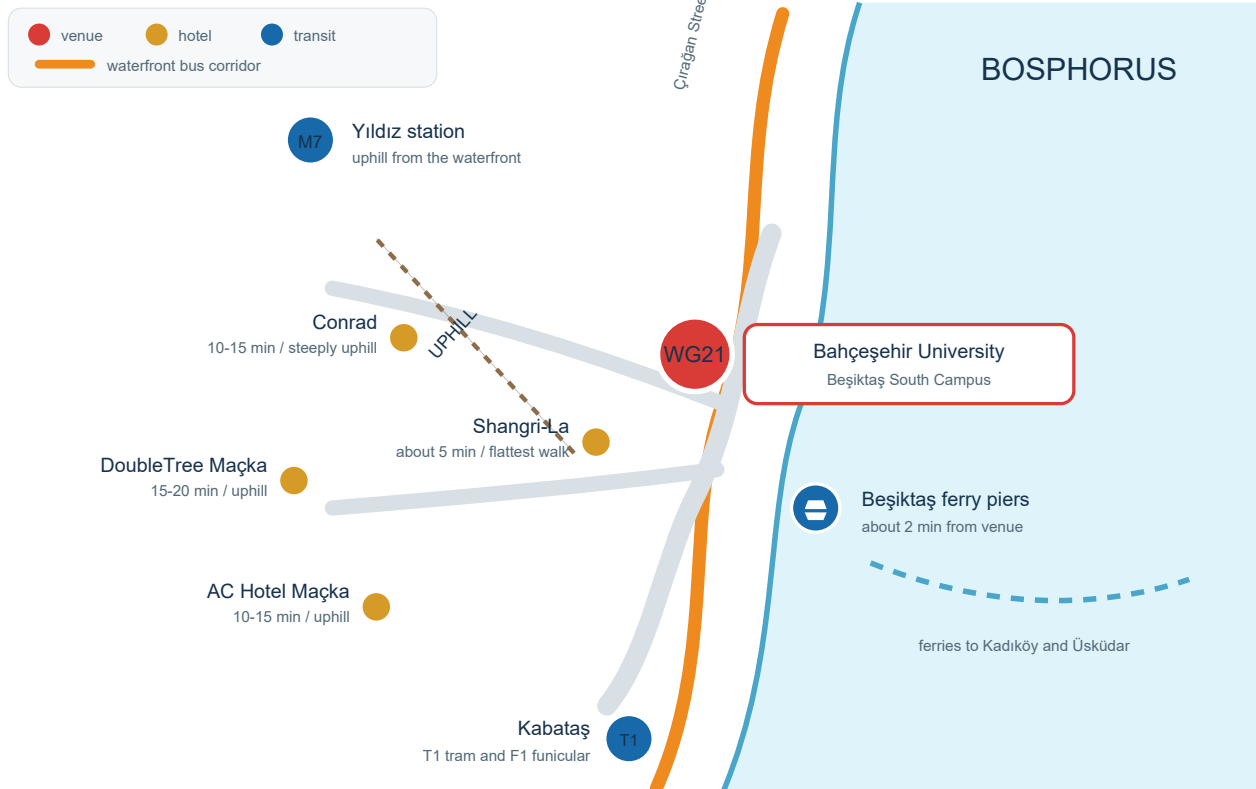
ISTANBULKART

Not required: contactless bank cards work directly across public transport. An Istanbulkart is usually cheaper for repeated or connecting journeys and is sold at BELBİM machines.



Beşiktaş local area

Schematic - not to scale. Use live maps for walking routes.



Suggested lodging

Accommodation is the responsibility of attendees. There is currently no negotiated WG21 hotel rate, room block or discount code. Please book independently.

Hotel recommendations are non-normative.

Beşiktaş and Maçka are hilly: walking times can hide a steep climb, particularly from the waterfront. Attendees who find hills difficult should choose a waterfront hotel or plan to use local transport.

Hotel	Access to the campus
Conrad Istanbul Bosphorus	10-15 minutes on foot, steeply uphill; route
DoubleTree by Hilton Istanbul Maçka	15-20 minutes on foot, uphill; route
AC Hotel Istanbul Maçka	10-15 minutes on foot, uphill; route
Shangri-La Bosphorus	About 5 minutes on foot, with the flattest route; route



ACROSS THE BOSPHORUS

For attendees who would like to stay on the Asian side, the Bosphorus supports bidirectional iteration: hotels near Üsküdar pier are convenient. [Ferries to Beşiktaş](#) run frequently and cross in about ten minutes; the campus is two minutes from the Beşiktaş pier. Kadıköy is another option, with a [direct ferry to Beşiktaş](#) taking about 25 minutes.

[Editor's note: The Bosphorus is an ABI boundary. - end note]

About Istanbul

VISA AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Visitors travelling on ordinary US passports and most European passports can currently enter Türkiye visa-free for a short visit. Requirements depend on nationality and passport type; check the rule for your passport on the [Türkiye Ministry of Foreign Affairs visa page](#).

Many other travellers can apply online through the [official e-Visa system](#). Visa requirements are constrained by nationality. If you need visa support, contact Can Çağrı at cancagri.dev@gmail.com for an official meeting invitation.

WEATHER

Mid-March is cool and changeable, usually around **10-13°C (50-55°F)** by day and **5-7°C (41-45°F)** at night. Rain and Bosphorus wind are common. March weather is implementation-defined; bring layers and check the forecast before travelling.

CURRENCY AND PAYMENTS

The currency is the **Turkish lira (TRY / ₺)**. As of 5 August 2026, **US\$1 is about ₺47.57** and **€1 is about ₺54.96**; click either rate for the current conversion.

Cards and contactless payment are widely accepted. If a terminal or ATM offers a currency choice, pay in TRY rather than accepting conversion into your home currency. A modest amount of cash is useful for small businesses or the occasional machine that rejects a foreign card.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- **Power:** 230 V, 50 Hz, Type C and F sockets. Standard EU plugs are compatible.
- **Emergency number: 112** for ambulance, fire and police.

TOURISM

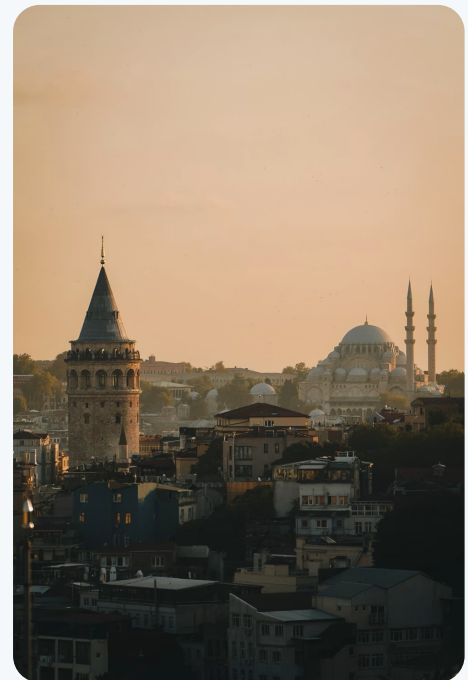
Where Europe and Asia meet across the Bosphorus, Istanbul has almost 16 million residents, [more than 2,000 years of recorded history](#), and major Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman sites across the city.

Near the venue

- **Beşiktaş waterfront and Naval Museum:** a few minutes on foot from the campus.
- **Dolmabahçe Palace:** about 15 minutes on foot along the waterfront.
- **Ortaköy and the Bosphorus:** 20-30 minutes on foot or a short bus ride north.

Farther afield

- **Taksim, İstiklal Street, Galata and Karaköy:** easy by bus or via Kabataş and the F1 funicular.
- **Sultanahmet / Historic Peninsula:** about 35-50 minutes via Kabataş and T1. The area includes the sixth-century Hagia Sophia, the Blue Mosque, Topkapı Palace and the Basilica Cistern.



GALATA AND THE HISTORIC PENINSULA

See you in Istanbul.

15-20 March 2027

Bahçeşehir University - Beşiktaş South Campus

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank Bahçeşehir University and Matriks Finans for their support.

MATRİKS



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