

NISPAcee Call for Local Organizers to Host Annual Conferences in 2022 and after

Introduction: NISPAcee (Network of Institutes and Schools of Public Administration in Central and Eastern Europe) is an international professional association, founded in 1994 to facilitate the quality of **public administration and policy** research, education and training for democratic and effective governance **in the region** of Central and Eastern Europe and Western Balkan countries, the countries of the former Soviet Union and Turkey, and beyond. To this end, NISPAcee acts as a meeting point, with its conferences being the primary hub for **scholars and practitioners** working or interested in the region.

The NISPAcee conference organizers and their benefits: The annual conferences are organized by **NISPAcee and the local organizer as equal partners** as settled by a special agreement. **The local organizer** gains a unique opportunity to promote its role in the region as one of the most established academic institutions in the field. The local organizer has several **benefits** such as a reduced fee for its representatives and a special option for the participation of its scholars and students. By organizing the conference, the local organizer can strengthen its connections with local/national policy makers (e.g. ministries, agencies, local governments) and bring the latest international knowledge to the country. Moreover, additional academic activities (e.g. publishing journals and books) based on the local organizer's selection can be marketed.

Requirements for the local organizers: In order to realize NISPAcee's vision and the conferences' quality, the candidates are **required to provide and fulfil the following:**

- local organizer is an established and recognized academic institution, usually a university, active in the field of public administration and governance, embedded in the region, preferably a NISPAcee member;
- offer good international travel connections to enable participants' accessibility;
- able to offer suitable experts, facilities and other resources required for the pre/conference events (e.g. attracting 2-3 high-level international academic keynote speakers, and the main theme coordinators, local organizing staff of app. 15 members, venues for app. 250-300 participants and app. 15-20 parallel groups/panels/seminars sessions, auxiliary rooms, and assist with the booking of accommodation for participants);
- guarantee strong inputs regarding marketing.

In addition, **it is most welcomed** when the local organizer:

- contacts national and local authorities to participate and/or support the event;
- cooperates with local institutes as co-organizers with a clear division of responsibilities;
- offers and co-finances social events, such as the gala dinner and reception;
- expresses a willingness and ability to offer an open stand for the publishers and field scientific journals; and/or poster sessions for them and/or PhD students' theses;
- offers an opportunity to participate actively to all institutional partners of NISPAcee;
- collaborates with NISPAcee to publish the participants' papers' publication;
- attracts additional sponsorship, and similar.

Interested candidates for local organizers are welcome **to apply for 2022, 2023 and 2024** conferences based on this call **by September 15, 2020**.

For more information, please contact the NISPAcee Headquarters (gajdosova@nispa.org).