**Practical meeting information**

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**1. Meeting Venue**

The Study Group 13 meeting will be held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan at the IT Park Business Center territory Address: 4, Ibrohim Muminov str., Tashkent, 100164, Republic of Uzbekistan.

**2. Accommodation Options**

Delegates are kindly requested to make their own hotel bookings.

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| **HOTEL** | **STATUS** | **ACCOMODATION RATE** | **Distance to IT Park Business Center** | **Contact and website** |
| **Hilton Tashkent City** | 5 | Suite – 410 $Junior Suite – 276 $Standard – 224 $ |  | Tel: +998 71 210 88 88<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/tastchi-hilton-tashkent-city/> |
| **Panarams Tashkent Hotel** | 4 | Suite – 136,99 $Junior Suite – 123,73 $Standard – 90,58 $ | 4,7 | Tel: +998 78 113 33 31<https://www.radissonhotels.com/ru-ru/hotels/radisson-individuals-panarams-tashkent> |
| **Wellness Hotel and Spa** | 4 | Suite – 228 $Junior Suite – 123,5 $Standard – 90,25 $ | 3,5 | Tel: +998 71 203 1717<https://wellnesshotel.uz/> |
| **Frankfort Hotel** | 4 | Suite – 130 $Junior Suite – 110 $Standard– 90 $ | 0,8 | Tel: +998 55 501‑7000 / +998 55 502‑0808<https://frankfort.uz/en/>  |
| **Crowne Plaza** | 5 | Suite – 275,1 $Junior Suite – 146,2 $Standard – 117,9 $ | 6,6 | Tel: +998 55 511 5555 <https://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/ru/ru/tashkent/tastm/hoteldetail> |

**3. Visa**

There are two ways to obtain a visa to Uzbekistan:

1. E-VISA. To obtain an electronic visa, use the link https://e-visa.gov.uz/

2. If your country is not on the list of countries for obtaining an E-VISA, to obtain an “up on arrival” visa, you must fill out an application form on the website: http://visa.mfa.uz/

When filling out the application form, you must indicate the place where you will receive your visa; if your country is not on the list of countries where you can obtain a visa, you should indicate Tashkent to obtain an “up on arrival/visa on arrival” visa.

After filling out the application form, you must download and send a scanned copy of the signed application form by email to the following addresses: r.dautova@digital.uz, u.musayeva@digital.uz.

**4. Climate**

The weather in Uzbekistan is mostly sunny or partly cloudy, with little wind. The air remains quite warm during the day, but it can get chilly in the evenings. Temperatures range from 12°C to 22°C.

**5. Time zone**

Time zone in Uzbekistan — UTC+5 (permanent, no daylight-saving time).

**6. Currency**

The currency in Uzbekistan is the Uzbekistani som (UZS). It is the official means of payment throughout the country.

**7. Banking Business Hours**

Bank working hours in Uzbekistan are usually as follows: Monday to Friday: from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Lunch break: approximately from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM. Saturday and Sunday are days off (weekend).

**8. Airport Departure Tax**

In Uzbekistan, the airport fee is a mandatory charge included in the price of the airline ticket. It applies to all passenger flights, regardless of the airline. The fee is collected at the time of ticket purchase and is not paid separately at the airport. Thus, the airport fee in Uzbekistan is part of the ticket price and does not require separate payment by passengers at the airport.

**9. Electrical Appliances**

In Uzbekistan, the voltage for household electrical appliances is 220 volts, and the frequency is 50 Hz.
European-type sockets with two round pins (type C) or with grounding (type F) are used for connection.

**10. Security**

Uzbekistan is considered as one of the safest countries in Central Asia. The locals are known for their friendliness and hospitality. However, it is recommended to be careful with your personal belongings and not leave them unattended. Photography: it is not recommended to take photos in airports, train stations, the metro, and religious sites without permission.

Emergency numbers:
Ambulance: 103
Police: 102
Fire service: 101

By following these recommendations, your trip to Uzbekistan will be safe and enjoyable.

**11. Customs Concession**

Uzbekistan allows certain personal items to be imported duty-free within specified limits. You can bring in clothing, personal gadgets, and other non-commercial goods. Typically, these items should not exceed a specific value threshold. Please check the latest regulations before travelinghttps://www.uzairways.com/uz/information-customs-regulations-individuals

**12. Communication**

The access code for Uzbekistan is 998, and the country is located in the Central Asian Time zone (UTC+5). There are several fixed-line telephone operators and several major mobile cellular network providers in the country. Internet access is available through internet cafes in cities, as well as in access zones in hotels, business centers, and international airports.

**13. About Uzbekistan**

Uzbekistan is a landlocked country located in Central Asia, with a population of approximately 36 million people. It borders Kazakhstan to the north, Kyrgyzstan to the northeast, Tajikistan to the southeast, Afghanistan to the south, and Turkmenistan to the southwest. The capital city is Tashkent, and other major cities include Samarkand, Bukhara, Nukus, and Andijan.

**14. Tourism**

Uzbekistan is a hospitable, unique, and fascinating tourist country known for its rich historical and cultural heritage. The country is home to famous Silk Road cities such as Samarkand, Bukhara, and Khiva, each of which amazes visitors with the grandeur of ancient architecture, mosques, madrasahs, and bazaars. Uzbekistan is also renowned for its picturesque deserts, fertile valleys, and mountains, offering a diverse range of natural landscapes. Its rich culture, ancient traditions, and the warm friendliness of the local people make Uzbekistan one of the most attractive tourist destinations in Central Asia. These features draw travelers from all over the world who wish to explore the history and culture of the Great Silk Road.

**15. Culture, Religion and Language**

Uzbekistan is a multinational country where people of different ethnic groups live together in peace and mutual respect. In the cities, residents often lead a modern lifestyle, while traditional values and customs are preserved both in urban and rural areas. The predominant religion is Sunni Islam, but there are also followers of Christianity and other religious communities. The official language is Uzbek, spoken by the vast majority of the population. Additionally, Russian and other languages of national minorities, such as Tajik, Karakalpak, and others, are widely spoken.

**16. Traditional Foods**

Hotels, restaurants, and homes in Uzbekistan offer a wide variety of dishes — from European and Oriental cuisine to modern fast food — but the most popular and respected are the local traditional dishes, known for their richness, aroma, and use of natural ingredients. The cornerstone of Uzbek cuisine is *plov*, the national dish made from rice, meat (usually lamb or beef), carrots, and spices. Plov is served both in everyday life and at festive occasions. Other popular dishes include *samsa* (pastry filled with meat or vegetables), *manti* (large steamed dumplings), *lagman* (noodles with meat and vegetables in broth), *shurpa* (hearty soup with meat and vegetables), and *shashlik* (grilled meat skewers). A special place is held by *lepeshka* — traditional Uzbek bread baked in a tandoor oven and served with almost every meal. Dairy products, fresh and dried fruits, and nuts are also widely consumed, while popular beverages include green tea, *ayran* (a yogurt-based drink), and compotes made from dried fruits.

**17. Motor Vehicles**

Private motor vehicles, caravans and trailers may be brought temporarily into Uzbekistan provided they are licensed in their home countries and bear the appropriate registration plates and a nationality plaque. The International Certificate of Motor Vehicles is recognized in Uzbekistan.

Cars with or without chauffeurs can be hired in most tourist areas from international recognized firms. Taxis are available at every airport and hotel in Uzbekistan.

**18. Driving in Uzbekistan**

Foreign citizens are allowed to drive in Uzbekistan with a valid International Driving Permit (IDP) along with their national driving license. These documents must be translated into Uzbek or Russian if they are not originally written in one of these languages. The permitted period for driving with a foreign license is up to 12 months. After this period, a local driving license must be obtained through the Main Directorate of Road Traffic Safety (GUBDD). Driving in Uzbekistan is on the right-hand side of the road. Drivers must yield to vehicles with activated sirens and flashing lights, including ambulances, fire trucks, and police cars. Speed limits:

* 60 km/h – in populated areas
* 90 km/h – outside populated areas
* 100–110 km/h – on certain sections of highways (unless otherwise indicated by signs)

**19. Contact person**

For any further information concerning the meeting and the country please contact:

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