

Dear friends,

Young police officers with families often have difficulties finding affordable holiday accommodation on internet booking platforms, but for around 20 Euros per night, it is possible to book a fully-equipped apartment for the entire family in the centre of Paris, Timișoara or Berlin. It is not a secret: all you need to do is look on the IPA website at www.ipa-international.org/IPA-Houses and click on the latest edition of the IPA Hosting Book.

History in IPA Hosting – the first Hosting Sections’ Meeting

How to promote IPA Houses? How to find new hosting options? How to provide our members with the best possible service?

These are some of the issues we deal with during Hosting Sections’ Meetings (HSM). HSM are the new-format biennial meetings involving all IPA sections; and the first HSM was held in Bucharest, Romania, from 4-7 October 2018. Perfectly hosted by the Romanian section, it was professional, friendly, and organised in an extremely efficient manner.



The participants of the first IPA Hosting Sections’ Meeting in Bucharest

Vossie Vos, member of the IPA Socio-Cultural Commission (SCC), is the leader of the IPA hosting project. Over the years, there have been a few problems concerning IPA Houses: questions relating to ownership, budget restraints for maintenance, and ensuring we have enough people willing to act as house managers. A few of our IPA Houses unfortunately closed. Looking into how we could offer a broad spectrum of accommodation to our members, we therefore decided to develop ‘other

accommodation' options further: properties that are owned and managed by private persons or IPA members, which offer discounted rates for our members.

The SCC introduced new rules during the IEC 2013 in Copenhagen to regulate what the IPA offers to its members in terms of accommodation, which in turn led to the development of a new Travel Form and Procedure and the new Hosting Book, gathering all relevant hosting data in one place. It is updated regularly and ready to be uploaded onto all IPA websites.

Thank you to all sections who contribute: the success of the Hosting Book, which showcases our 49 IPA Houses and countless other accommodation options, relies entirely on the continuous input of each IPA section.

Effective management requires continued development, which is why we initiated the Hosting Sections' Meetings. The aim is not to praise our activities, but to discuss how to advance our project further.



Participants of our first HSM in Bucharest came from Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Moldova, Portugal, Romania and Sri Lanka. Each section was able to present the accommodation offers in their country, as well as share ideas for future development with all other participants.

The Hosting Sections' Meeting will be held every 2 years, and Section Sri Lanka have expressed an interest in hosting the event in 2020. The topics discussed in the HSM concern all IPA sections: use of the Travel Form, electronic reservation of IPA Houses, and the verification of IPA membership internationally, to name but a few.

Our main aim is to offer a large variety of affordable hosting options to young IPA members worldwide.

An exciting project for the IPA!

Servo per Amikeco,

Gal Sharon, IPA Vice President and Chairperson of the SCC