EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT

TURKU 2025 102<sup>nd</sup> INTERNATIONAL SESSION

**TRAVEL BOOKLET** 



### **WELCOME TEXT**

Most amazing Delegates,

Welcome to the one and only IS Turku 2025! The Participant Support Department proudly presents you with our travel booklet, which contains all the necessary information about travel to and from the session, a packing list, and other valuable details about Turku and Finland. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact the individuals listed at the end of this booklet.

We are overjoyed to have you and look forward to meeting all of you!



# **INFORMATION ABOUT FINLAND**

#### Currency

Finland uses Euros (€) and widely accepts credit and debit cards. ATMs should be readily available, should you wish to retrieve cash.

#### Time Zone

During Summer, Finland uses Eastern European Summer Time (EEST).

#### **Data and Roaming**

Finland is part of the EU Roaming area. For non-EU or other types of data plans, we recommend buying either a prepaid sim or an <u>eSIM</u>. However, there is usually free WiFi available at various public spots and in the venues.

#### Plugs

Finland uses Type C and Type F plugs. If your electronic devices are not compatible, you will have to bring an adapter.

#### **Visa Requirements**

Finland is part of the Schengen Area, which allows for freedom of movement between countries within the Schengen Area. You can find the visa requirements for traveling to and from Finland <u>here</u>. Please check them as soon as possible to avoid any last-minute problems. If you have any questions about your visa, please don't hesitate to contact us.

#### **Public Transport**

We recommend downloading the App "Föli":

- On the <u>App Store</u>
- On Google Play Store

If you are planning to spend time in Tampere, you can download the App "Nysse". If you are planning to spend time in Helsinki, you can download the App "HSL".

#### Passport/ID

Before booking your tickets to travel to the session, please check the validity of your passport and further travel documents, as well as any required travel requirements if you are <u>underage</u>. For minors, requirements may vary depending on the mode of travel and accommodations (apart from the session), so we recommend bringing a letter of consent signed by your parents. Please bring your ID (if traveling from within the EU) or your Passport (if traveling from within or outside the EU) to the session.

#### Language

The official languages of Finland are Finnish and Swedish, with Finnish being the most widely spoken. English is also widely understood and spoken, and many signs, websites, and services are available in English.

# **PLANNING YOUR TRIP**

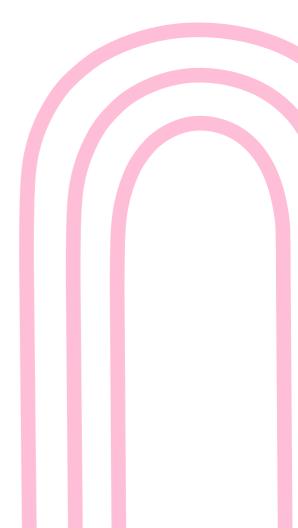
# Travel reimbursement will provisionally not be provided by the Session for all participants.

#### **Packing List**

A valid identity document (Passport /ID) Health insurance or European health card Session materials: Computer and/or notebook Writing material Weather appropriate and personal hygiene Casual, smart casual, and formal clothing Casual and dressy footwear Toiletries (toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, hairdryer etc.) Towel

#### **Miscellaneous**

Umbrella or waterproof jacket Powerbank Chargers for phone, laptop, power bank Adapter for finnish plugs Ear Plugs (if needed) Reusable water bottle Personal medication Sunscreen Some snacks for your travels Pocket money for possible purchase of goodies/outings



# **INTRODUCTION TO TURKU**

Welcome to Turku, Finland's oldest city. But don't let that fool you, Turku is full of youthful energy, a little gem on the southwest coast. Colourful riverside cafes and restaurants, cozy shops, and a historic castle give it a story-like vibe.

The Aura River runs through the heart of it all. Turku is filled with friendly people and plenty of spots to grab a sweet treat (or two)! Whether you're wandering the medieval cobblestone streets, catching a ferry to the archipelago, or just lounging in the parks, Turku always feels like a warm hug. ♡



### **TRAVEL TO THE SESSION**

For Delegates, the Session will start on July 19th, 2025. Check-in will be between 12:00 and 17:00. Please arrive at the following location for check-in.



Should you need to check in late, please contact us and arrive at the Omena Hotel at the following address:

#### Omena Hotelli Humalistonkatu 7, 20100 Turku

#### **National Travel**

The venue is about a 20 minutes walk from the main train station. In the case of you arriving at this station, there will be organisers accompanying you to the venue at scheduled times.

#### Bus

From Helsinki and Tampere, buses to Turku run multiple times a day with travel times of 2 to 2.5 hours. Direct services are provided by <u>OnniBus, Matkahuolto</u>, and <u>FlixBus</u>.

<u>FlixBus</u> also offers international connections, including a direct bus from Warsaw, Poland to Turku, which takes about 23 hours and passes through Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia and has connections to cities across Europe.

#### Train

Note: Please be aware that connections between Helsinki and Turku are disrupted during the Session dates. Plan your travels accordingly and consult the schedule frequently. For further information about the disruption, please visit this <u>link</u>.

### HELSINKI

Please be aware that connections between Helsinki and Turku are disrupted during the Session dates. Therefore, there will not be any direct trains. Instead, you will have to take the bus from Helsinki to Turku. Alternatively, you can take a combination of a track work bus and a train, namely the bus B04 to Karjaa and then the long-distance train (InterCity or Pendolino) from Karjaa to Turku. The total travel time is approximately 2 hours and 30 minutes.

#### TAMPERE

From Tampere you can take the IC directly to Turku, which takes approximately 1h 40min. You can also take the PEN/IC to Pasila and change to the IC to Turku, travel time being around 3h 30min.

### OULU

There are no direct trains from Oulu to Turku. However, you can take the IC to Tampere and change there (see above). This will take over 5h.

#### **Ferries**

Daily ferries operated by <u>Viking Line</u> and <u>Tallink Silja Line</u> connect Stockholm to Turku, with both daytime and overnight options lasting 10–14 hours. From Germany, <u>Finnlines</u> operates overnight ferries from Travemünde to Helsinki, with a travel time of around 30 hours. From Estonia, ferries run regularly from Tallinn to Helsinki operated by <u>Tallink, Eckerö Line</u>, and <u>Viking Line</u>, taking about 2 hours. Once in Helsinki, continue your journey to Turku by frequent bus or train (approx. 2–2.5 hours).

#### **International Travel**

If you are travelling by plane, we advise you to either fly to Turku Airport (TKU), Tampere-Pirkkala Airport (TMP) or Helsinki-Vantaa Airport (HEL). From there, you can take the train to Turku. For information on how to get to Turku by train, see "National Travel".

# **TRAVEL FROM THE SESSION**

The Session will end on July 27, 2025. The check-out time for the accommodation is latest at 12:00. The Session will officially end at the following address:

Omena Hotelli <u>Humalistonkatu 7, 20100 Turku</u>

Omena Hotelli <u>Kauppiaskatu, Kauppiaskatu 4, 20100 Turku</u>

Pre-/Post-Session Accommodation is not covered nor organised by the event. In case you require accommodation pre- or post-session, feel free to contact the participant support team. Accommodation at one's own cost can be booked at the session hotels Omenahotelli Turku Kauppiaskatu or Omenahotelli Turku Humalistonkatu.



# **RELEVANT INFORMATION**

ToDo's for you <3 Please fill out the following forms:

- <u>Travel Form</u>
- <u>Registration form</u>

Book your travels!

#### **Contact Information**

Participant Support <u>turkuis.participantsupport@eypfinland.org</u>

#### **Event Safe People**

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### **INITIATED BY:**



### **CO-FUNDED BY:**

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The Schwarzkopf Foundation is the international umbrella organisation of the European Youth Parliament (EYP). EYP Finland is a National Committee in the EYP network.