

# STARS EU ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*Transformative Education  
for Europe's Future*



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**Silesian University in Opava  
25–27 March 2026**

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# ABOUT UPAVA

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# OPAVA

Opava is a medium-sized city with a population of approximately 56,000. Historically, it was one of the centres of Silesia and was first documented in the 12th century. It later became the capital of the then Austrian Silesia, one of the provinces of the Habsburg Monarchy. Opava's medieval roots are evident in its well-preserved Old Town. The Opava Town Hall, with its 60-metre-high Hláška Tower, offers a glimpse of the historic centre. The Co-Cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary and the Church of the Holy Spirit are iconic symbols of the city's heritage.

The Silesian Museum, a cultural gem and the oldest museum in Czechia, invites visitors to dive into the region's past through its diverse exhibits and collections. Nature lovers can explore the scenic banks of the Opava River, adding a touch of tranquillity to the city's charm. The Silesian Theatre, a cultural centre, hosts various performances, adding a touch of artistic flair to the city's atmosphere.

Opava is not only a historical and cultural centre. It also offers many opportunities for sports enthusiasts. There are many facilities for football, hockey, tennis, volleyball, inline skating and indoor swimming.





# SILESIAN UNIVERSITY IN OPAVA



The Silesian University in Opava is a public institution of higher education established in 1991. It was founded shortly after the fall of the communist regime in the former Czechoslovakia with the aim of extending liberal higher education to the regions. With more than 5,000 students, the university offers about 80 accredited study programmes at the bachelor, master and doctoral levels. The University also offers lifelong learning courses.

With a team of almost 300 academic and research staff, the Silesian University in Opava teaches and conducts research in a wide range of fields such as economics, business and management, finance, social sciences, humanities, history, languages, health sciences, physics, mathematics, informatics, multimedia and art. The diversity of disciplines is structured into five constituent parts of the university - three faculties and two institutes.

# KNOW YOUR VENUES

## » Silesian Theatre in Opava «

The Silesian Theatre has two ensembles: a drama ensemble and an opera ensemble and also offers ballet and concert performances.

The theatre building is listed as a cultural monument by the National Heritage Institute.

The venue will host the official opening ceremony in the morning of Wednesday 25 March.



## » Cultural Centre Na Rybníčku «

The Na Rybníčku Cultural Center building was constructed in Renaissance style in 1895. It was originally a small theatre with a restaurant, library, lodgings, and offices.

Today, the Na Rybníčku Cultural Center is owned by the Statutory City of Opava.

The venue will host a networking dinner on Wednesday 25 March as well as a gala dinner on Thursday 26 March.





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# KNOW YOUR VENUES

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## » Faculty of Public Policies «

The Faculty of Public Policies in Opava began operating on the 1st October 2008, when four study programmes were separated from the existing Faculty of Philosophy and Science in Opava.

The faculty primarily offers professional study programmes, providing graduates with a strong foundation for their future careers owing to the substantial practical training incorporated into the curriculum.

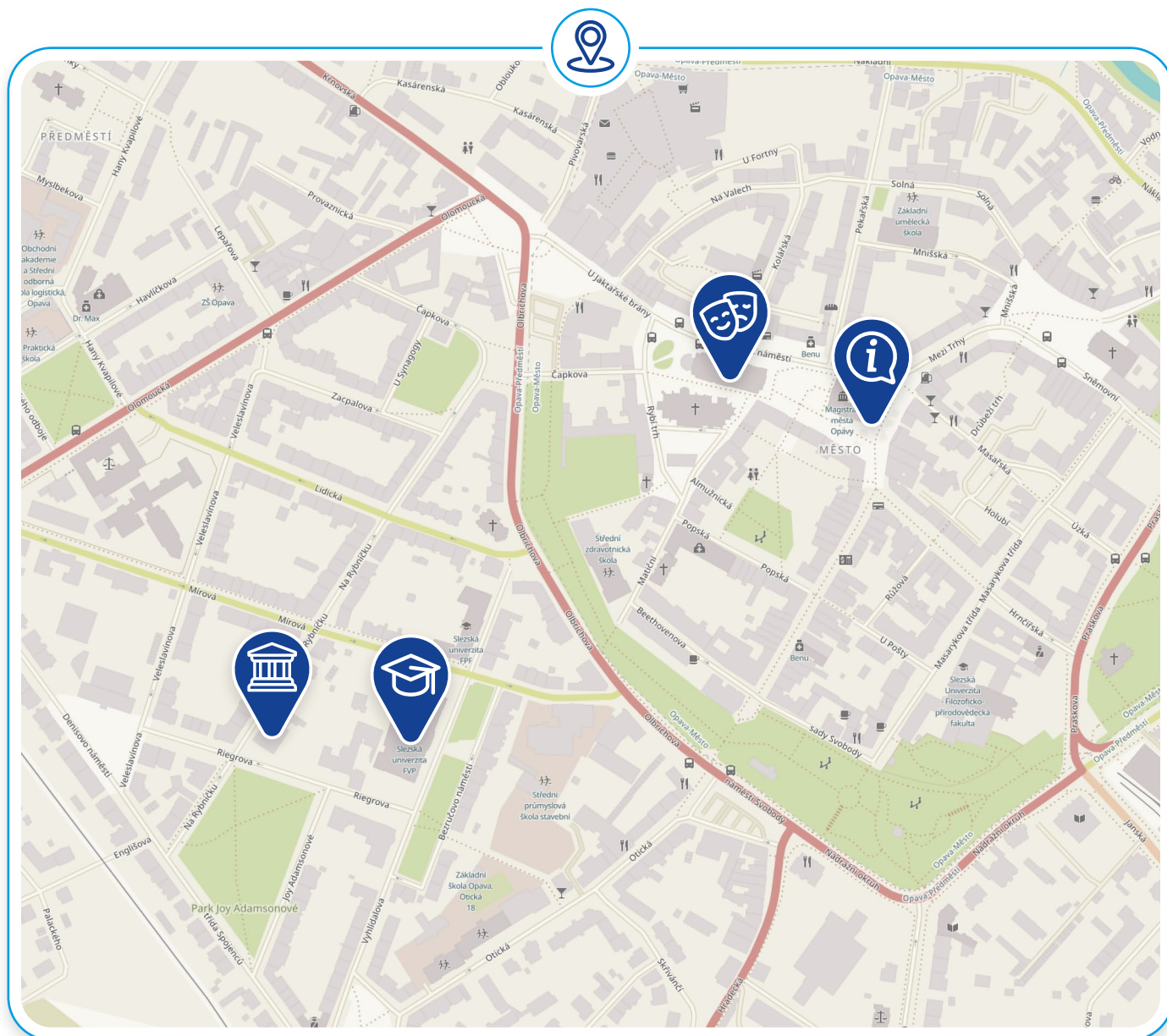
The faculty is located on Bezručovo náměstí in Opava, in a newly renovated, early 20th-century neo-baroque palace. The historical charm is complemented by modern facilities that provide all the necessary comforts for teaching and scientific research.

The venue will accommodate the primary programme of the conference.





# KNOW YOUR VENUES



## Silesian Theatre in Opava

Horní nám. 13, 746 01 Opava 1



## Faculty of Public Policies

Bezručovo nám. 14, 746 01 Opava 1



## Cultural Centre Na Rybníčku

Na Rybníčku 380/43, 746 01 Opava 1



## Tourist Information Centre

Horní náměstí 67, 746 01 Opava 1

# HOW TO GET TO OPAVA

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## Arriving to Czechia

There are several options how to get to Opava. The closest airports with high flight frequency you can use for arrival are: Prague (PRG), Katowice (KTW), Kraków (KRK) or Vienna (VIE).

## From Václav Havel Airport Prague

### By train/bus

If you are arriving at Prague Airport, we recommend using the **Airport Express** (AE) bus operated by the **Czech Railways** (České dráhy – ČD). The AE bus service runs daily at 30-minute intervals, and the journey takes around 45 minutes. To reach Prague's main train station (*Praha hlavní nádraží* or *Praha hl.n.*), the bus is available from 5:30 a.m. to 8:53 p.m. Most buses on this route have low floors, providing easy access and ample luggage storage space. If you are not taking the direct train to Opava, which leaves daily at 3:47 p.m., you can transfer at *Ostrava-Svinov* train/bus station. Buses and trains to Opava operate frequently from here all day.

If your flight arrives in Prague after 6 p.m., we recommend booking a hotel for the night and taking a train to Opava (*Opava východ* train station) the following day.

### By car

If you decide to rent a car, the ride is approx. four hours.



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# HOW TO GET TO OPAVA

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## From Katowice Airport

### By train/bus

If you are arriving at Katowice Airport, we recommend taking the direct bus *RegioJet 209*, operated by **RegioJet**, to *Ostrava-Svinov* train/bus station. The recommended journey times are between 8:40 a.m. and 7:40 p.m. From *Ostrava-Svinov* train/bus station, you can take a bus or train to Opava which operate frequently all day.

If your flight to Katowice arrives after 8 p.m., we recommend booking a hotel for the night and taking a bus to Opava (*Opava východ* train station) the following day.

### By car

If you decide to rent a car, the ride is approx. two hours.

## From Kraków John Paul II International Airport

### By train/bus

If arriving at Kraków Airport, we recommend taking one of the direct bus connections to *Ostrava-Svinov* train/bus station. Either **Flixbus**, the recommended rides are from 7:45 a.m. until 6:10 p.m. or **RegioJet** (*RegioJet 209*) with the most ideal connection from 9:30 a.m. until 6:30 p.m. From *Ostrava-Svinov* train/bus station, you can take a bus/train to Opava, the connection is operated all day with high frequency.

If your flight arrives in Kraków after 6 p.m., we recommend booking a hotel for the night and taking a train to Opava (*Opava východ* train station) the following day.

### By car

If you decide to rent a car, the ride is approx. two and a half hours.

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# HOW TO GET TO OPAVA

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## From Vienna International Airport

### By train/bus

If arriving at Vienna Airport, we recommend taking a train to *Vienna entral Station*, from where you can take either direct or a transfer train to *Ostrava-Svinov*. The recommended times for the trains from Vienna are from 7:33 a.m. until 5:33 p.m. From *Ostrava-Svinov* train/bus station, you can take a bus/train to Opava, the connection is operated all day with high frequency.

If your flight arrives in Vienna after 5 p.m., we recommend booking a hotel for the night and taking a train to Opava (*Opava východ* train station) the following day.

### By car

If you decide to rent a car, the ride is approx. two and a half hours.

## Train and bus connections

When searching for train and bus connections to Opava, whether it is from Prague or one of our neighbouring countries, use the **IDOS** timetables. We recommend downloading **IDOS app** to your phone, as you will use it on daily bases. In IDOS, you can search for long-distance trains, buses and even public city transport connections. It is also possible to buy train tickets inside the app.

## Getting around Opava

From Opava's main train station, which also serves as a bus station (*Východní nádraží*), the city centre is just about 1 km away, which is a 10–15 minute walk or a 6-minute bus ride. A single bus ticket costs ZK 30. Tickets can be purchased from the driver, ideally by card.

Alternatively, you can take a taxi for around ZK 60–150. Taxis usually wait outside the train station.



# **ACCOMMODATION SUGGESTIONS**



# ACCOMMODATION SUGGESTIONS

Due to limited accommodation capacity in Opava, the conference organisers have booked most of the city centre hotels to ensure there are enough rooms available during the conference dates.

**To book a room in one of the recommended hotels below:**

- 1. Contact the establishment via the provided email address*
- 2. Remember to mention that you are a guest of Silesian University of Opava*
- 3. All further communication will then be between you, as a conference participant, and the hotel*

## Hotel Koruna

- Contact: [recepce@hotelkoruna.cz](mailto:recepce@hotelkoruna.cz)
- Pre-booked until 31 January 2026
- [hotelkoruna.cz/en](https://hotelkoruna.cz/en)

## Hotel Kramer

- Contact: [info@hotelkramer.cz](mailto:info@hotelkramer.cz)
- Pre-booked until 31 January 2026
- [hotelkramer.cz/en](https://hotelkramer.cz/en)

## Hotel Iberia

- Contact: [info@hoteliberia.cz](mailto:info@hoteliberia.cz)
- Pre-booked until 31 January 2026
- [hoteliberia.cz](https://hoteliberia.cz)

## Katerain hotel

- Contact: [katerain@katerain.cz](mailto:katerain@katerain.cz)
- Pre-booked until 31 January 2026
- [katerain.cz/hotel](https://katerain.cz/hotel)

## Lidový dům Opava


- Contact: [info@lidovydum-opava.cz](mailto:info@lidovydum-opava.cz)
- Pre-booked until 15 January 2026
- [lidovydum-opava.cz/ubytovani](https://lidovydum-opava.cz/ubytovani)

## Hotel Opava


- Contact: [info@hotel-opava.cz](mailto:info@hotel-opava.cz)
- Pre-booked until 31 January 2026
- [hotel-opava.cz](https://hotel-opava.cz)

## Hotel Belaria Resort

- Contact: [recepce@belaria.cz](mailto:recepce@belaria.cz)
- Pre-booked until 15 January 2026
- This hotel is located in the town of Hradec nad Moravicí; transport will be arranged for all conference participants staying at the Belaria Resort
- [belariaresort.cz](https://belariaresort.cz)



# **PRACTICAL INFORMATION**



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# PRACTICAL INFORMATION

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## Currency

The Czech currency is Czech koruna, but it is advised to generally pay by card. Please note that euros are not accepted in the majority of services.

The current CZK to EUR rate can be found at [European Central Bank website](#)

## Emergency information

In case of any emergency, please call **112**



# CONTACTS



[starseu@slu.cz](mailto:starseu@slu.cz)



[starseu2026.slu.cz](http://starseu2026.slu.cz)