

FAQ

ABOUT THE CONGRESS

What is the Nevsky International Ecological Congress?

The Nevsky International Ecological Congress has been a regular fixture since 2008.

Mission of the Congress: Promotion of international environmental security framework.

Status: Nevsky International Ecological Congress is held once every two years.

When and where will the Congress take place?

10th Nevsky International Ecological Congress will take place on 25–26 May 2023 in St. Petersburg's historical Tavrishesky Palace complex.

Address: [47, Shpalernaya Ulitsa, St. Petersburg](#)

The Tavrisheskiy Palace is located in St. Petersburg's historic centre. The journey from the airport to the Congress venue takes about 60 minutes (depending on the traffic).

More information can be found in the [Congress venue](#) section.

Who is organizing the Congress?

The Congress is being organized by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russian Federation under the auspices of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation and the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

More information is available in the [Organizers](#) section.

The preparation and running of the Congress is being overseen by the [Roscongress Foundation](#).

Where can I see the list of the Organizing Committee members?

For a full list, please see the [Organizing Committee](#) section.

BUSINESS PROGRAMME

What events will be included in the Congress business programme?

The Congress 2023 will be held under the main theme '**The Environment as a Right and not a Privilege**'. The Congress will provide an international platform for an open and equitable dialogue on the most topical issues affecting the environment, as well as will foster interparliamentary collaboration to promote environmental safety and harmonization of environmental legislation.

The programme architecture is published on the website in the [Programme](#) section.

How to participate in sessions?

Attendance at the sessions of the Congress business program is upon prior confirmation in the Roscongress personal account. You can choose the sessions that you are planning to visit during registration or in the 'My Events – NIEC – Business programme' section in the Roscongress personal account.

Please note that the number of seats in the halls is limited. The organizers will try to take into account your wishes, but in case of increased interest in individual sessions, they reserve the right to limit the number of participants. In this case, you will be offered other sessions to choose from.

How to participate in the plenary session?

Participation in the plenary session is free for all participants.

PARTICIPATION IN THE CONGRESS

How can I take part in the Congress?

If you wish to submit an application to attend the 10th Nevsky International Ecological Congress, please sign up for a [Roscongress personal account](https://roscongress.org) on the foundation website (roscongress.org).

Once you have completed the registration process, an email will be sent to the address you specified, containing your login and password for your [Roscongress personal account](https://roscongress.org).

You already have your Roscongress personal account if you attended a Roscongress Foundation event in 2020, 2021 or 2022 (St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, St. Petersburg International Legal Forum, Eastern Economic Forum, Russian Energy Week).

If you have a [Roscongress personal account](https://roscongress.org), you can apply to participate in the Congress in the 'Upcoming' section of your personal account. The details from your account profile will be added to your application automatically.

What should I do if I forgot my login or password for the Roscongress personal account?

If you have forgotten your login and password, you can use the login and password recovery function on the Roscongress personal account login page or contact us by email: weboffice@roscongress.org.

What is the deadline for submitting participation applications?

Participation applications will be accepted until 18:00 on 15 May (GMT+3). The length of the review period varies by participant.

How can I check the status of my application?

Your application status will be visible in the 'My events' section of the [Roscongress personal account](https://roscongress.org). Participation applications will be reviewed by the Organizing Committee.

If your application is approved, you will be sent an invitation to the Congress, and your application status will be updated in real time in your account. The exact time of the review process varies for each applicant.

To participate in the Congress, you must be in receipt of a written invitation issued by the Organizing Committee.

Can an application to participate be denied?

The Organizing Committee reserves the right to refuse an invitation to an applicant without explanation.

How do I confirm attendance?

Once you have received your invitation, please confirm your participation in the Congress in the 'My events – NIEC – Event dashboard' section of your account.

If you no longer plan to attend the event, please also inform us of your decision via your [Roscongress personal account](#).

What is included in participation in the Congress?

For a description of a participation package, please visit the [Conditions for participation](#) section of the website.

How much is the participation fee?

Participation in the 10th Nevsky International Ecological Congress is **free of charge**.

How do I decline to participate in the Congress?

Participants who have received an invitation but have decided not to attend the Nevsky International Ecological Congress, or who have previously confirmed their participation but no longer plan to attend are kindly requested to officially decline their participation via the [Roscongress personal account](#) or by informing the Roscongress Foundation specialist you are in touch with regarding your participation in the Congress.

Your login and password for the Roscongress personal account were emailed to you when you first applied to attend a Roscongress Foundation event. If you have forgotten your login and password, you can use the login and password recovery function on the Roscongress personal account login page or contact us by email: weboffice@roscongress.org.

If a participant cannot attend the Congress, can a colleague from the same organization take their place?

A participant can only be substituted with the approval of the Congress Organizing Committee. If a participant who has confirmed their participation can no longer attend the Congress for any reason, and you wish to arrange a replacement, please contact the Roscongress Foundation specialist you are in touch with regarding your participation in the Congress.

The contact information can be found in the [Roscongress personal account](#) and in your invitation letter.

ROSCONGRESS PERSONAL ACCOUNT

What is the Roscongress personal account?

The [Roscongress personal account](#) is an information space, communication tool, and service platform for participants of all Roscongress Foundation events.

Features:

- submit applications to attend events organized or operated by the Roscongress Foundation;
- browse upcoming events and plan your personal schedule using the business calendar;
- receive updates to your participation status and learn about services offered at various events organized by the Roscongress Foundation;
- access resources and analysis on previous events organized by the Foundation.

How do I register via the Roscongress personal account?

You can register for a Roscongress personal account on the [Roscongress Foundation website](#).

You can register for a Roscongress personal account in five simple steps. Step one is to fill in your personal details. You will then be prompted to provide your passport details, information about your organization and your contact details. The fifth and final step is to select the event.

Once you have completed the registration process, an email will be sent to the address you have provided containing your login and password for your [Roscongress personal account](#).

How do I log in to my Roscongress personal account?

To log in to your [Roscongress personal account](#), please enter the login and password emailed to you when you first registered for your account. If you have forgotten your login and password, you can use the login and password recovery function on the Roscongress personal account login page or contact us by email: weboffice@roscongress.org.

I already have Roscongress personal account, I have forgotten my login and password. What should I do?

If you have forgotten your login and password, you can use the login and password recovery function on the Roscongress personal account login page or contact us by email: weboffice@roscongress.org.

How is the confidentiality of data in the Roscongress personal account protected?

The Roscongress Foundation strictly adheres to legal requirements governing the protection of every participant's personal data.

The [Roscongress personal account](#) has been developed using SSL data encryption technology to ensure the highest levels of security and confidentiality of your personal information.

Do I have to agree to the processing of personal data?

When registering for a Roscongress personal account or applying to attend the Nevsky International Ecological Congress, participants must consent to the processing of their personal data. This consent is a requirement under Russian law, and applications to participate in events cannot be processed without it.

The full terms and conditions for processing personal data can be found on the [Roscongress personal account](#) registration page.

Do I have to agree to have information about my participation in the Congress posted?

If you would like the information about your participation in the Congress to be available to other participants, please confirm your consent to the posting of information (publication) on the roscongress.org website.

How can I make changes to my personal information?

Should you wish to edit your personal information, go to the 'My events' section of the [Roscongress personal account](#) and select the Nevsky International Ecological Congress.

If you need to edit your personal information as it appears in the general settings of your Roscongress personal account, or if you need to make changes to uneditable fields, please contact the Roscongress Foundation specialist you are in touch with regarding your participation in the Congress.

Contact information can be found in your invitation letter. Alternatively, call the Nevsky International Ecological Congress information centre on +7 (812) 406 7472.

There's an error in my personal data in the Roscongress personal account. Do I have to make changes myself?

In order to get your badge prepared for issuance, the information in the Roscongress personal account must completely match the data in your passport. In the 'Event dashboard' section of the Roscongress personal account you should:

- enter your personal information in full in accordance with your passport;
- upload a required photo for your badge;
- upload a scanned copy of your passport (pages 2 and 3). Please note that you can't edit or replace your photo once you've saved the scanned copy of your passport.

Why do I need to provide a scanned copy of my passport?

To get your badge prepared, you must upload a scanned copy of your passport (pages 2 and 3) to your [Roscongress personal account](#) (My events – NIEC – Event dashboard – Personal information – Edit)

Please make sure that the scanned copy is legible and contains all the information about the data indicated during registration, including the series and number of the document, issuing authority, date of issuance, and the photo.

Formats supported: jpg, jpeg, pdf, png.

What features are available in the 'Event dashboard' section?

Participants who have received an invitation can confirm their participation in Nevsky International Ecological Congress in the 'My events – NIEC – Event dashboard' section of their account.

Participants can also use the 'Event dashboard' to do the following:

- edit their personal data;
- upload badge photograph;
- generate an invitation for foreign visitors (if a visa is required to enter the Russian Federation);
- request services;
- provide information on their COVID-19 immunity status.

Where should I provide information on my COVID-19 immunity status?

Closer to the dates of the event, will become available the COVID-19 section in the [Roscongress personal account](#), in which all participants will be asked to submit information on their COVID-19 immunity status (presence/absence of antibodies and vaccination information).

ACCESS TO THE VENUE

How do I access the Congress venue?

The business programme venue may only be accessed with an **accreditation badge** for the Nevsky International Ecological Congress.

The badge is personalized and may not be transferred to third parties. Participants should keep their badges and identity documents with them at all times while at the Nevsky International Ecological Congress venue.

In order to avoid any inconvenience when accessing the venue, participants are advised to **leave any prohibited items at their accommodation or in their vehicle**. A full list of prohibited items will be published on the website in due course.

What should I check before collecting my badge?

To prepare your badge for collection, you must ensure that the information in the Roscongress personal account is identical to the information in your passport. Before collecting their badges, participants are advised to ensure the following:

- participation in the Congress is confirmed via the Roscongress personal account;
- personal information provided in the Roscongress personal account matches participants' ID exactly;
- a badge photo has been uploaded to the Roscongress personal account;
- a scanned copy of your passport (pages 2 and 3) has been uploaded. Please note that you can't edit or replace your photo once you've saved the scanned copy of your passport.

Why do I need to submit a scanned copy of my passport?

In order to expedite the procedure for issuing a badge, participants may upload a scan of their passport (pages containing photo and ID info) in the 'My Events – Nevsky International Ecological Congress – Event dashboard – Personal information' section of the Roscongress personal account.

Please ensure that scans are legible and contain all the information entered during registration, including passport number and serial number (if applicable), passport issuing authority, date of issue, and photograph.

What are the requirements for the badge photograph?

Photograph requirements:

- colour photograph on a light background;
- 480x640 pixels in size;
- image format – JPG or JPEG;
- front view of the participant's entire face, without head covering;
- subject's face must take up at least 70% of the image.

How can I check that my badge is ready for collection?

All participants will be notified by e-mail when the badge is ready. Also, you can check whether your accreditation badge is ready for collection in the Roscongress personal account, or via the specialist at the Roscongress Foundation, or by calling the Congress information centre at +7 (812) 406 7472.

If there is insufficient data to issue the badge, participants will also receive an email notification asking them to enter the missing data.

What documents are required to collect participant badge?

A participant badge can be collected in person upon presentation of:

- ID (info must match that in the [Roscongress personal account](#));
- the original copy of the personal data processing consent form.

Alternatively, badges may be collected by an authorized representative under power of attorney.

If information contained in the participant's ID has changed in the time since a participation application was submitted, the participant's Roscongress personal account must be updated accordingly. If changes need to be made to uneditable fields, please contact your personal manager at the Roscongress Foundation.

Before issuing a badge, a member of staff at the accreditation point will check that the information in the Roscongress personal account matches that on the document provided. Should there be any discrepancies, it will not be possible to issue a badge on the same day.

Can one organization representative collect the badges of all people participating in the Congress from that organization?

Absolutely. If the badge is being collected by an authorized representative, they must provide the following:

1. Authorized person's passport
2. Original of standard power of attorney*
3. List of participants (attached to the power of attorney)
4. Copies of participants' passports**
5. Originals of personal data consent forms

The power of attorney form and an example of how to complete it will be available for download from the 'Badge collection' section of the website nearer the time of the Congress.

Where do I get my badge?

Badges can be collected from one of the Nevsky International Ecological Congress accreditation points. The locations and operating hours of the accreditation points will be published in the [Badge collection](#) section of the website nearer the time of the event.

Can I replace a lost or damaged badge?

If your accreditation badge is lost or damaged, please go to the Help Desk or any accreditation stand immediately. The badge will then be blocked, and a replacement badge will be issued to the holder upon written request.

SERVICES

Does the Congress organizers cover accommodation and travel costs?

Costs for travel to St. Petersburg and back and accommodation **are covered by the participants.**

Will transport services be organized for participants?

Free shuttles will be organized for participants and media representatives during the Nevsky International Ecological Congress. It will be possible to learn more about the latest shuttle schedule in the [Shuttles](#) section on the Congress website nearer the time of the event.

Participants of the 10th Nevsky International Ecological Congress can rent an accredited chauffeur-driven car. More information is available in the [Car rental](#) section.

The Tavrishesky Palace is located in St. Petersburg's historic centre. The journey from the airport to the Congress venue takes about 60 minutes (depending on the traffic).

Will it be possible to come for a personal vehicle?

Yes, you can come with your personal vehicle. Non-accredited vehicles and taxis may pick up and drop off passengers on Shpalernaya Ulitsa.

Please note that additional restrictions may apply.

Where can I find a list of hotels for participants?

Participants of the Nevsky International Ecological Congress will be able to book rooms in St. Petersburg hotels at special rates. Nearer the time of the event Congress participants should go to the [Roscongress personal account](#) for a list of recommended hotels and booking terms, as well as a link to download the application forms.

To place a booking, please go to the 'My events' section of the [Roscongress personal account](#) and select NIEC. Next, go to the 'Event dashboard' section and open the 'Hotel accommodation' tab.

Detailed information will be available on the website in the near future. Please follow updates on the Congress website and email communications.

Is food provided at the Congress venue?

On 25–26 May, during the breaks between the sessions Congress participants can enjoy coffee breaks. Additionally, on 26 May, participants will be offered a hot snack buffet free of charge.

Coffee breaks will be organized for media representatives.

All catering areas for participants and the media will be organized in accordance with Rospotrebnadzor's requirements for the organization and conduct of congress and exhibition events.

VISA SUPPORT

Can Congress participants apply for a Russian visa in a simplified manner?

An invitation for foreign visitors is a special document provided by the Congress organizers for those who require a visa to enter the Russian Federation.

! Please note, that this is a separate document from a Congress invitation.

The document could be generated in the [Roscongress personal account](#) closer to the Congress dates (follow the tabs 'My events – NIEC – Event dashboard – Visa support').

Detailed information is available on the website in the [Entry to Russia](#) section.

CURRENCY AND BANK CARD TRANSACTIONS

What is the best way to pay for goods and services?

We do **recommend having cash with you** for the entire duration of the Nevsky International Ecological Congress due to restricted use of foreign bank cards in Russia.

The use of MIR and UnionPay cards in Russia is not restricted in any currency. We do recommend participants to get a new card/bring an existing card of these systems, if possible. *Please note that UnionPay has started its operations in Russia relatively recently. Therefore, cards of this payment system may occasionally malfunction.*

What are the currency exchange restrictions?

Please note the following currency exchange restrictions:

- **only USD and EUR cash** can be freely exchanged for RUB cash.
- you must present your ID (passport) for transactions over RUB 40,000.
- **there is NO exchanging non-cash currency** for RUB cash using **MasterCard or Visa bank cards issued outside of Russia**. It is also not possible to withdraw RUB cash from these cards.

Follow currency exchange updates on the official website of the Bank of Russia at cbr.ru.

ABOUT ST. PETERSBURG

What is the weather like in St. Petersburg in late May?

The average daytime temperature is + 16 ... + 25 °C.

Due to the city's geographic position and its proximity to the Baltic Sea, the weather can change unexpectedly. The combination of high humidity and wind means that it always feels colder. We advise guests to bring warm clothing and an umbrella.

What time zone is St. Petersburg in?

Local time in St. Petersburg is the same as in Moscow (GMT+3).