



CITY OF
ZAGREB



ZAGREB B40 SUMMIT 2026

“Cities as Drivers of Sustainable Development”

Sunday, 25 January 2026

19:00 – 21:00 Welcome Reception, Westin Hotel, 17th Floor

Monday, 26 January 2026

SUMMIT SCHEDULE

8:50 – 9:00 Family Photo (in the main Summit room)

Opening Session

Moderator: Mr. Gordan Bosanac, Member of the European Parliament (Green/EFA)

9:00 – 9:05 Welcome address and presentation of the host City of Zagreb video

Mr. Gordan Bosanac, Member of the European Parliament (Green/EFA)

9:05 – 9:15 Address on behalf of the Founding President

Mr. Nuri Aslan, Acting Mayor of Istanbul

9:15 – 9:25 Annual Report

Mr. Vassil Terziev, Mayor of Sofia

9:25 – 9:35 Announcement of New Members and Signing Ceremony

Mr. Barbaros Buyuksagnak, B40 Permanent Secretary

Introductions and short remarks from the new member cities:

- Mr. Zijad Lugavić, Mayor of Tuzla
- Mrs. Snezhana Apostolova, Deputy Mayor of Varna

9:35 – 9:45 Presidency Transfer Ceremony

9:45 – 9:55 Address by the New B40 President

Mr. Tomislav Tomašević, Mayor of Zagreb

10:00 – 11:15

Panel 1: Green Transition, Resilient and Smart Cities: Urban Leadership in Climate, Energy Transformation, and Digital Innovation

Moderator: Julije Domac, Director, Regional Energy Agency of North Western Croatia

Introductory interventions (after which the floor is open to all the participating cities and organisations):

- *Tomislav Tomašević, Mayor, City of Zagreb*
- *Stelios Angeloudis, Mayor, City of Thessaloniki*
- *Vassil Terziev, Mayor, City of Sofia*

11:15 – 11:45 Coffee Break

11:45 – 13:00

Panel 2: Culture, Creative Industries and Tourism as Drivers of Urban Development, Integration and Inter-City Cooperation

Moderator: Emina Višnić, City Minister for Culture and Civil Society, Zagreb

Introductory interventions (after which the floor is open to all the participating cities and organisations):

- *Luka Korlaet, Deputy Mayor, City of Zagreb*
- *Snezhana Apostolova, Deputy Mayor, City of Varna*
- *Cemil Tugay, Mayor, City of Izmir*
- *Ivo Bilić, Deputy Mayor, City of Split*

13:00 – 13:15 Closing remarks for the panels

Mr. Gordan Bosanac, Member of the European Parliament (Green/EFA)

B40 Balkan Cities Network - Zagreb Declaration will be set up for signing by the heads of the city delegations in front of the main Summit room from 13:00 till the end of the Summit.

13:15 - 15:00 **Buffet lunch** (Westin Hotel Restaurant, ground floor)

13:15 - 15:00 **Executive Committee Meeting** (Ouvertira Room; 17th floor)
(For the Executive Committee members only)

15:00 – 16:30 **Roundtable on Local Democracy**

Moderator: *Ms. Danijela Dolenec, Deputy Mayor, Zagreb*

Political representatives of EUROCITIES Member Cities will discuss some of the crucial challenges faced by cities today and explore strategies for coping with them. After several rounds of questions made to the round table participants, the floor will be open to questions and comments from all the B40 participating cities.

Participants:

- Mr. Tomislav Tomašević, Mayor, City of Zagreb
- Mr. André Sobczak, Secretary General, EUROCITIES
- Mr. Vassil Terziev, Mayor, City of Sofia
- Mr. Dominic Fritz, Mayor, City of Timisoara
- Ms. Sharon Dijksma, Mayor, City of Utrecht
- Mr. Dejan Crnek, Deputy Mayor, Ljubljana (TBC)
- Ms. Eider Inunciaga Serna, City Councillor, Bilbao
- Mr. Denis Šakić, Member of City Council, Vienna

16:30 – 18:00 **Bilateral meetings** (rooms adjacent to the main Summit room)

18:00 – 19:00 **Free time**

19:30 **Departure for the Gala Dinner** (Meeting point: Westin Hotel lobby)
The transfer to the restaurant will be organised by buses of the City of Zagreb.

20:00 – 22:00 **Gala Dinner (Hotel Esplanade)**

After the Gala Dinner, the transfer back to the Westin Hotel will be organised by the buses of the City of Zagreb.

Tuesday, 27 January 2026:

Site Visits (Meeting point for both tours: Westin Hotel lobby)

Option 1: Traditional walk through the historical city centre of Zagreb

Option 2: Regional Centre of Excellence for Robotic Technology Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture, University of Zagreb