



UNITED NATIONS
INTER-AGENCY GAMES



RENNES 2025

INVITATION LETTER

to the 50th United Nations Inter-Agency Games
in Rennes, France
from 14 to 18 May 2025

Hosted and organised by



unesco



INVITATION LETTER

50th United Nations Inter-Agency Games

Rennes, France - 14 to 18 May 2025

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	2
Our Destination – Rennes, Bretagne, France	3
Arrivals and Departures	4
Pricing	6
Accommodation	6
Ceremonies	7
I - Opening Ceremony	7
II - Closing Ceremony	7
Sports and venues	8
I - Teams and Athletes	8
II - Disciplines	8
III - Venues.....	10
Registrations	11
I - Organizational matters	11
II - Eligibility to participate	11
III - Participation for people with disabilities	11
IV - Medical certificates.....	11
V - Entry visas	12
VI - Deadlines for Registration and Cancellation.....	12
VII - Payment	12
VIII - Official ID and photo.....	12
Options.....	13
I - Special 50th Edition.....	13
II - Optional Activities	13
UN Code of Conduct	14
Contact Information	15
Closing remarks	15



50th United Nations Inter-Agency Games
RENNES - FRANCE 2025



Dear friends and colleagues,

This year is a milestone for the IAG, as we will be celebrating its **50th Edition!**

The [United Nations Inter-Agency Games \(UNIAG\)](#) over the years have been a symbol of solidarity, cooperation and unity. Each year it gathered colleagues, sports enthusiasts, from around the world around friendly competitions with the same dream to win the Gold or sometimes just to participate in a one-of-a-kind event along with peers.

The UNIAG are organized each year by a group of – we might say courageous and reckless - volunteers from across the UN System. This year, it's UNESCO's turn to prepare this exceptional event. We, as the organizing Committee, are thus very proud to take over this task on such an important year.

For this Edition, we had at heart to create an event that would put the emphasis on proximity and local partnerships, and we also wanted to create an event that you would all remember.

As customary the Event will start on Wednesday (day of arrival), which will be filled with the handing out of badges and welcome packages, the discipline captains' meetings, the first meeting of the Control Commission, as well as the Opening ceremony. The competitions will commence on Thursday and go on until Saturday morning for some of the disciplines, followed by some extra activities that you may wish to register for. On Saturday evening you will finally be able to partake in a grandiose Closing ceremony interspersed with prize giving ceremonies, before the usual departure on Sunday.

As previously announced, the 50th UN Inter-agency Games will be held from 14-18 May 2025 in Rennes, France.



DEGEMER MAT E ROAZHON ! *

BIENVENUE A RENNES ! **



**In Breton language*

***In French*

Why Rennes?

- A City of character

Rennes is the capital of the Brittany region. It is filled with Art, Culture, History, and is of course infused with the Breton culture that can be seen at every corner of the city. To honor this heritage, we have chosen to have the Opening Ceremony at the heart of the city, in the ‘Couvent des Jacobins’, an ancient 14th century convent turned into a Congress center.

- A small and friendly City

Rennes is nicknamed, rightfully, the « fifteen minutes » city, as everything is accessible on foot or by public transport in this time frame. As such, competitions will mostly be accessible by public transportation, with the exception of a few disciplines, for which shuttles will be organized (details in the Sports and Venues section). But, no worry, these are located at a maximum of 20 min from the city center.

- A sports' City

Rennes has 395 sports facilities accessible to everyone and regularly hosts major sports events and competitions. Its inhabitants show strong enthusiasm for football games, and its Stade Rennais (Roazhon Park) is the place to be whenever a match is organized. Another major place for sports gatherings is the Glaz Arena, where we have decided to host you for the Closing ceremony.

- A green and sustainable City

Rennes is the second greenest city in France. The Breton capital is also one of the five French cities labeled Innovative and Sustainable Destination by Bureau Veritas, a national standard managed by the ‘France Congress and Event network’.

Destination Rennes, its Tourist Office, is labeled ISO 20121. This international norm is a reference in terms of responsible management of events activities and recognizes the exemplary nature of the actions undertaken to welcome tourists and participants in professional events.

It is thanks to the precious help from the Rennes municipality, the Sports Directorate of Rennes City and Metropole, and Destination Rennes (Tourist Office) that we are thrilled to be able to welcome you there for this 50th Edition.

You will have several options to come to Rennes:

By plane (directly to Rennes):



Rennes has its own [airport](#) which offers several international connections with direct flights from:

- Amsterdam
- Dublin
- London
- Manchester
- Marrakech

and direct flights from several French cities:

- Paris
- Lyon
- Nice
- Marseille
- Toulouse

On your arrival, you will then have to take a direct bus to the city center that leaves every 10 minutes until 11pm (included in the 5-day transportation card, see pricing details).

This year, we also negotiated a special partnership with Air France that will make you benefit of a 10% discount on the price of your flight if you book via [this dedicated webpage](#).

**Once on the page kindly enter the code 50393AF, as indicated below in yellow, and you will then be redirected to a normal booking page.
(Find here → [guidelines on registration process](#))**

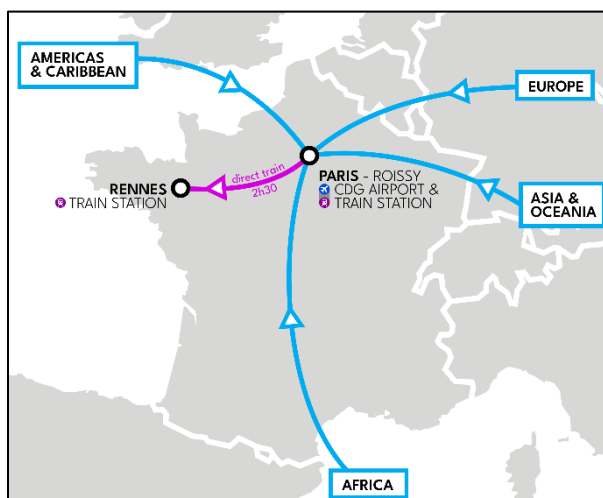
Conventions, conferences and seminars

AIR FRANCE KLM Global Meetings & Events is your essential convention, conference and seminar partner, whether you are the event organizer or an attendee.

<p>Are you an organizer? ↗</p> <p>Your benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An attractive rewards scheme • Exclusive fares for your participants • A simple and practical booking tool • A personalized online communications kit <p style="text-align: center;">REGISTER YOUR EVENT ON AIR FRANCE KLM GLOBAL MEETINGS & EVENTS</p>	<p>Are you attending an event?</p> <p>Your benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to the AIR FRANCE, KLM and partner airline network • Ticket fares at reduced rates* • Miles earned with the Flying Blue program • Exclusive fares available 7 days before and after the event <p><small>* From 5% to 10% on international flights.</small></p> <p>Enter your event code</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; margin-top: 10px;"> <div style="background-color: yellow; width: 100px; height: 20px; margin-right: 10px;"></div> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 5px 10px; border-radius: 3px;">Global Meetings & Events website ↗</div> </div>
--	--

By plane + direct train – By train – By car. Please see next page .../.

By plane + direct train (from Paris - Roissy CDG airport):



From Paris - Roissy Charles de Gaulle (CDG) airport, the biggest airport in continental Europe with connections to the entire world, you will be able to take a direct train to Rennes.

The train departs directly from the train station inside the CDG airport (located in Terminal T2).

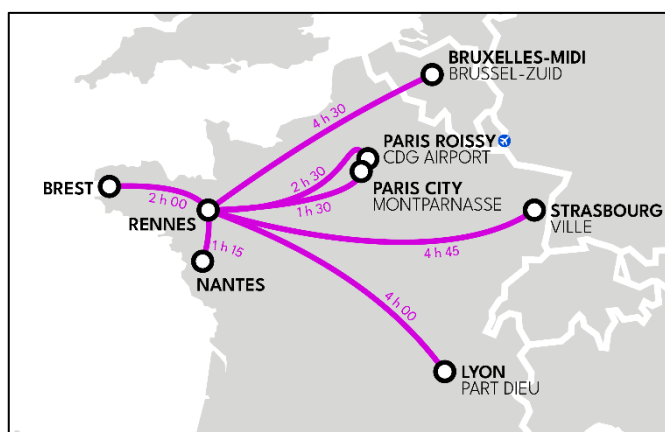
The train is 2h30 only and bring you directly to Rennes city center.

By train:

You can also take a 1h30 train from the Montparnasse train station in Paris.

Other trains from other cities with major or international airports are available with a direct connection to Rennes:

- Brest
- Brussels (Belgium)
- Lyon
- Nantes
- Paris Roissy CDG (direct airport)
- Paris City
- Strasbourg



The train station in Rennes is in the city center, so you won't be too far away from your hotel when you arrive.

By car:

For the most courageous, you can also undertake a 4-hour- drive from Paris to Rennes.

Participants are individually responsible for their travel costs, and to ensure that they are duly registered, and that their participation fees are transferred to their focal point within the set deadline.

Please find in **ANNEX 1** the different registration fees available for participants and supporters who wish to participate in the Inter-Agency Games 2025.

The registration fee also includes the cost of a 5-day travel pass, from 14 to 18 May, with unlimited access to the public transport network.

ACCOMMODATION

This year again, we are following the principle of flexibility. We are thus proposing to you a new way of registering and booking accommodation which will allow everyone to choose how they want to enjoy their stay. So, we invite you to please read carefully the information below.

Kindly note that the price of accommodation won't be included in the package. Accommodation will have to be paid separately on your own but:

Rennes' Tourist Office selected a wide range of hotels from 2 to 4 stars and pre-booked many rooms (single, twin, double and triple) with negotiated rates for the participants. The final booking of your accommodation, however, will have to be done through an online platform managed by our event agency, La Fonderie (this information will be shared with you very soon). You will be asked to pay for your accommodation directly to the agency.

To help us evaluate the number of participants interested, we added in our pre-registration form online the details of all the hotel and room categories available, with their related prices. These rates are the highest rates proposed for each category, as of today, and they will be confirmed by the agency. In the form, you will be able to indicate if you are planning to book one of them, and all the practical information on booking confirmation and payment will then be sent to you afterwards.

The number of rooms available in each category is limited. We are thus advising you to pre-book rapidly to ensure the availability of rooms in your chosen category.

Please find in **ANNEX 2** the practical information regarding the hotels selected with negotiated rates for the participants.

We wanted to put an emphasis on proximity to make these Games more enjoyable and friendly for everyone. That is the reason why we tried to ensure that most accommodation is located in the city center. As Rennes is not a very large city, around 70 to 80 % of the participants will be in the city center, while some of you will have to be located nearer to the sports facilities (at a maximum of 30 minutes from the city center).

Of course, you are also free to search for accommodation on your own.

I - Opening Ceremony

The official Opening Ceremony will take place on Wednesday 14 May 2025 from 19:00 to 22:00 at the [Couvent des Jacobins](#) in the center of Rennes, located 2 minutes away from the metro station and on the very lively Sainte-Anne square.

We look forward to a friendly ceremony that will celebrate the 50th Edition of the UNIAG with a retrospective exhibition on the previous Games. The Ceremony will also be punctuated by a moment of Breton culture, followed by a nice cocktail and grand opening.

The opening ceremony itself will start around 19:30.

The participants' registration will be held also in the Couvent des Jacobins on Wednesday 14 May.

Captains' Meeting: The Captains' Meeting will be held on Wednesday 14 May 2025 afternoon in the Couvent des Jacobins (time to be defined). You will receive more information soon, provided you register as a Team Captain.

You will be informed of any potential change in the above schedule if any arises.

II - Closing Ceremony

The Closing Ceremony will take place at the [Glaz Arena](#) from 19:00, on Saturday 17 May 2025. The venue is accessible by local bus (+2 minutes' walk) or local train (+10 minutes' walk).

The Ceremony will take place as follows:

- 19:00 to 20:00 – Welcoming participants
- 20:00 to 22:30 – Gala dinner, during which the traditional medal ceremony for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places will be held
- 21:30 – Official ceremony to hand over the UNIAG flag to the 2026 organizers
- 22:30 to 02:00 – Dancing party with bar – the drinks will be at your own expense.

Throughout the night, a shuttle service will be provided to take you back to the city center.

You will be informed of any potential change in the above schedule if any arises.

In accordance with the UNIAG competition schedule, competitions will be held between Thursday and Saturday, 15-17 May 2025.

I - Teams and Athletes

Participants are invited to form teams but individuals wishing to participate will also be accommodated. The organizer reserves the right to limit team numbers if hosting limitations arise. In accordance with the [General Rules](#) of the Games, mixed teams are permitted but they should not be created to form a “stronger” team. Individuals not registered in a team will also be placed in such mixed teams. We highly encourage organizations to form complete teams and compete under their own flag.

Please remember that participants can compete in one discipline only and as part of a team.

In cases where there are less than four teams in any discipline, the host reserves the right to cancel it from the 50th UNIAG.

II - Disciplines

Participating organizations are requested to form teams or send athletes to compete in the disciplines listed below (required team numbers included).

You can find the Rules of each discipline by clicking on its name.

ATHLETICS	<p>Women's competition: minimum 4 – maximum 6</p> <p>Men's competition: minimum 4 – maximum 6</p> <p>The relay will be held on a 400m athletics track. The 10k will be held on a natural field track.</p>
BADMINTON	<p>Team compositions: minimum 3 men and 1 woman, or 2 men and 2 women, maximum of 5 men and 3 women.</p> <p>Players are expected to bring their own rackets</p>
BASKETBALL	<p>Team composition: maximum 12 players.</p> <p>Women are encouraged to participate. Mixed teams are permissible.</p>
BEACH VOLLEYBALL	<p>Team composition: teams are composed exclusively of 2 players, either men, women, or mixed couples.</p>
CHESS	<p>Team composition: maximum 6 players.</p> <p>Participants are expected to have a basic knowledge and standard of chess play corresponding to a minimum Elo rating of 1400 (Class C) and some tournament experience, including use of the chess clocks and recording of moves.</p>

<u>CRICKET</u>	Team composition: The format is 6-a-side. Teams can register up to 8 players (6+2 reserves). Individual players will be placed in joint teams. Players are expected to bring a full equipment set. Only balls will be provided.
<u>DARTS</u>	Team composition: minimum 6 – maximum 8 players Players are expected to bring their own darts. Steel tips are required to play on standard ‘bristle’ type boards.
FOOTBALL	<u>Women’s competition:</u> minimum 7 – maximum 12 per team <u>Men’s competition:</u> minimum 7 – maximum 12 per team Individual players will be assigned to joint teams. Female players are particularly encouraged to register to form enough teams to hold a complete tournament.
<u>GOLF</u>	Team composition: minimum 4 – maximum 6 A thorough understanding of competitive Golf as well as a certified tournament license are required to participate. Maximum handicaps apply. However, higher handicap players can participate but will be adjusted to the maximum. Being familiar with the IAG rules as well as the R&A Golf rules is a requirement to be eligible to play.
<u>PADEL TENNIS</u>	Team composition: Teams of 2 (men, women, or mixed). Players are expected to bring their own rackets.
<u>PÉTANQUE</u>	Team composition: 3 per triplet plus maximum 2 reserves. Players are expected to have their own set of competition certified boules. A thorough understanding of the sport, tournament format, and rules is recommended.
<u>POOL BILLIARDS</u>	Team composition: Teams of 2 men, women, or mixed. Players are expected to have good knowledge and understanding of the General Rules & Eight Ball Rules.
SWIMMING	<u>Women’s competition:</u> minimum 4 – maximum 5, per team <u>Men’s competition:</u> minimum 4 – maximum 5, per team Competition is based on 6 individual races (two individual races maximum per athlete) and 2 relays.
TABLE TENNIS	<u>Women’s competition:</u> minimum 2 – maximum 3 <u>Men’s competition:</u> minimum 3 – maximum 5 Players are required to bring their own rackets. Equipment must conform with the standards set out in the rules.
<u>TENNIS</u>	Team composition: 10 per team (5 men and 5 women)
<u>VOLLEYBALL</u>	Men’s competition: max. 10 players per team Women’s Competition: max. 10 players per team



III - Venues

The competitions are the true reason we embark on this journey every year. That is why we have not compromised on the quality of any of the facilities of any discipline. All competitions will be held at the highest amateur level, and the most appropriate facility available at the host location. We expect players to bring the same level of commitment and knowledge to the competitions.

Details of competition venues can be [found here](#) .

All sports venues are accessible by public transport, except for the locations below for which shuttles will be set up:

- Gayeulles sports center (Athletics - 10km, Padel tennis, Cricket)
- Golf Bluegreen Rennes Saint-Jacques

I - Organizational matters

This year, the number of participants will be limited to 1500, with a maximum of 25% supporters. As the UNIAG are not a touristic event and in order to encourage athletes to register, with the sole purpose of ensuring a great sporting event, only the athlete's spouse and children will be allowed as supporters this year.

Please also note that the organizers of the individual organizations must ensure that the lists of participants are signed by the HR department of the organization in which the participant holds a contract. The above-mentioned list shall be submitted electronically to the IAG secretariat 10 days before the start of the Games.

II - Eligibility to participate

In accordance with General Rule 14, any person of a participating organization or agency who has served under contract, including supernumeraries (consultants and other contractors that are verified by your respective HR department), for at least three months or who holds a contract of at least three months duration and, in either case, holds a contract effective at least one month before the IAG open and during their entire duration, is eligible for selection as a member of a team. Any person who has retired from any participating organization or agency is also eligible to participate in the UNIAG. Participating organizations/agencies must normally be listed on the United Nations System document www.unsystem.org or if not listed therein then have the approval of the Secretariat to participate. Such approval shall depend on any such organization having joint missions with the UN (see General Rule 6).

If you are unsure whether you or your organization is eligible, please direct your inquiries to secretariat@interagencygames.org.

III - Participation for people with disabilities

Following UNESCO's mandate and its work on inclusion, we are committed to organizing the most inclusive event possible, within the limits of our capacities.

As such, if you have a disability and would like to take part in this year's Games, kindly contact us directly by email (see contact information page 15). We will discuss together how we can welcome you and in which discipline you could participate.

IV - Medical certificates

It is recommended that, for their own safety, participants consult with their general practitioner before engaging in any sporting activity. Please be mindful that competitions are held at the amateur level and span multiple days. Participants and supporters are responsible for their own medical insurance. The host organizations will not be held liable.



V - Entry visas

Kindly ensure that you have the necessary visas for France (and any countries you might need to travel through) and that they apply as early as possible to ensure that the visa is available on time. We would recommend immediate action to ensure visa availability. Invitation letters can be provided to facilitate visa requests. Full details of all travelers will be required, therefore please send us a copy of your passport and all the data we require.

We are negotiating a smooth process with the French authorities, but the issuance of a Schengen Type C- Visa cannot be guaranteed.

Colleagues with a valid UNLP may use this to travel to the Games. Central guidance on this provision can be shared upon request. Participation to the Games does not qualify as a reason to request a UNLP.

Kindly also note that there will be no reimbursement for no-show due to visa-related issues.

To request a personalized visa letter invitation, please visit: www.interagencygames.org/visa . Please make sure you have registered through your focal point before requesting a visa letter. Only duly registered participants may avail themselves of this service.

VI - Deadlines for Registration and Cancellation

This year, participants will have to fill in the online pre-registration form themselves, and Focal Points will have to validate each request directly on the website.

A picture (passport like) will have to be uploaded while registering, as it is requested by the host country for security measures. It will appear on the participant's badge for identification.

[IAG PRE-REGISTER LINK](#) 

The deadline for registrations and final payments is **Friday 21 March 2025**.

VII - Payment

Participating organizations are asked to make final payments for their participants by Friday 21 March 2025 to confirm registrations for those participants already registered. Banking information on where to wire the funds will be provided to the registrars.

VIII - Official ID and photo

An official ID photo will be mandatory this year in the registration form, due to the safety rules and regulations in France (reinforced 'plan vigipirate').

I - Special 50th Edition

To help us organize a **retrospective exhibition** on all the past Editions of the UNIAG, we are looking for some archive materials: pictures, videos and contacts with participants of previous editions.

If you happen to have some of these, kindly contact us at iag2025@unesco.org.

II - Optional Activities

This year, we also wanted to offer some extracurricular activities to enhance your experience of the Games:

A concert

We would like first to announce that a concert will be held on Friday 16 May in the evening, with our fellow musicians. More details will be sent to you after registration.

If you are interested in taking part as a musician, please contact us as soon as your registration is finalized.

Other activities and excursions

ON SATURDAY 17 MAY

- **Guided tours of Rennes**
You will be able to register for guided tours of Rennes (time to be defined).
- **Pickleball**
In the morning, you will have the possibility of attending a demonstration and training session of Pickleball.
- **Open water kayaking**
And in the afternoon, a session of open water kayaking will be waiting for you.

ON SUNDAY 18 MAY

- **Excursion to Mont Saint-Michel**
An excursion to Mont Saint-Michel, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, will await you! All details on prices and modalities of registration will be shared later on, in due course.

- **Para-sports**

Demonstrations of wheelchair tennis, wheelchair basketball and blind pétanque will also be offered, although the date and time are still to be confirmed.

*Kindly note that all the above activities are not mandatory and will be at your own expense.
Pre-registration for those activities will be available soon.*

The organizations of the United Nations system are committed to enabling events at which everyone can participate in an inclusive, respectful and safe environment. UN system events are guided by the highest ethical and professional standards, and all participants are expected to behave with integrity and respect towards all participants attending or involved with any UN system event.

<https://www.un.org/en/content/codeofconduct/>

Please be assured that the UNIAG Control Committee will take any report of misconduct seriously and deal with the incident in line with established UN principles and procedures. By registering, you agree to abide by the UN code of conduct.

Kindly also note that the UNIAG are organized by a very small group of colleagues who volunteered and who are organizing this event in addition to their usual work. We are not paid nor compensated for this, so we are asking for your indulgence if all your wishes for hotels, venues or transportation cannot be fulfilled.

We are doing our best to finalize all logistics in due course, and we can't wait to welcome you soon in Rennes.

Please be aware that our primary goal is to deliver an enjoyable experience to everyone, so let's not forget that this event is first and foremost a moment of conviviality between colleagues and a unique occasion to get together for 4 days every year.

All of you are represented by one of your focal points on the Games' governing body, the "Control Commission". If you have any issue or grievance, please raise it to them and we can discuss it.

We will all do our best to ensure a great event.

Thank you all for your patience and kindness.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have specific questions,
you should contact the 2025 IAG Organizing Committee at:

iag2025@unesco.org

Please also regularly check for news on:



UN-IAG website for news: www.interagencygames.org



UN-IAG Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/UNInterAgencyGames>



UN-IAG Instagram page: [@uninteragencygames](https://www.instagram.com/uninteragencygames)

CLOSING REMARKS

We are honored to invite you to take part in the
50th edition of the United Nations Inter-Agency Games.
It will be our pleasure to welcome you to Rennes.

The UNESCO Organizing Committee,
For the 50th United Nations Inter-Agency Games 2025

*Justine Herbet
Lizet*

Florence Calviac

*Raphaël
Gómez de León*

Cyrille Leroy

*Raphaël
Levy*

*Vincent
Vannette*

Raoul Fenard

