

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GENDER AND POLITICS

### WOMEN AND POLITICS IN AN AGE OF UNCERTAINTY:

### THE ROAD TO SUSTAINABLE DEMOCRACY AND DEMOCRATIZATION

October 24-26, 2017

Kenzi Azghor Hotel, Ouarzazate, Morocco

#### LOGISTICAL NOTE

Dear Colleague,

We are delighted you are able to attend the ICGP'17 conference entitled "Women and Politics in an Age of Uncertainty: The Road to Sustainable Democracy and Democratization."

The following details will help you find your way to and around the city. If you have a co-author travelling to Ouarzazate, please make sure they have received this email, as we did not receive emails of all co-authors.

#### CONFERENCE TIME AND FORMAT

When making your travel arrangements, please note that the conference starts on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>, October promptly at 9:00 am and closes on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October at around 12:30 pm.

With a packed program of presentations, expert-led roundtable discussions, Q&As, networking lunches and coffee breaks and a post-conference tour, this event isn't one to miss. ICGP'17 presents expert-led presentations, insightful keynote speakers and 16 panel sessions with oral presentations.

On the evening of the 24<sup>th</sup> October at 19:30, all registered participants are invited to a conference dinner in *Dar Alforsan*. This event offers unrivalled networking opportunities, while enjoying Moroccan cuisine and entertainment in a restaurant with Berber tents. On the 26<sup>th</sup> October at 14:00, registered participants are invited to visit and discover the studios and Kasbah of *Ait Benhadou*, a UNESCO classified heritage. More information on the tour will be provided by September.

#### TRAVEL TO OUARZAZATE

There are three options to get to Ouarzazate from Casablanca Mohamed V International Airport:

**The 1<sup>st</sup> option by Air** (*recommended for participants coming from abroad*): Most International flights land in Casablanca Airport. There is one international flight per week linking Ouarzazate with Paris (3h:10m duration). If you arrive to Casablanca Mohamed V Airport, the plane is the best and fastest way to get to Ouarzazate (1h:15 m duration against 9 hours of road trip). There are five, sometimes six, weekly flights between Casablanca and Ouarzazate. For domestic flight schedules and booking information, consult the website of Royal Air Maroc: [www.royalairmaroc.com](http://www.royalairmaroc.com). Ouarzazate Airport is located within the city about 5 min from the city center. Taxis are available at the airport costing no more than 50 MAD (~6 \$) to almost anywhere within the city of Ouarzazate.

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> option by Bus**: If you arrive in Casablanca, you can take the bus to Ouarzazate. It depends how you like driving on mountain roads (good ones) as you have to cross the high Atlas

Mountains. There is a train that leaves from the airport which takes you to the city of Casablanca almost every hour. For 43MAD (~5\$) you can take the train to the station of Casa Port (visit [www.oncf.ma](http://www.oncf.ma) for the train schedule). Take a taxi from the Casa Port train station to the CTM bus station. There are four daily buses that link Casablanca and Ouarzazate. The trip from Casablanca to Ouarzazate will take between 6-7 hours. Please refer to the company's website [www.ctm.ma](http://www.ctm.ma). Upon arrival to Ouarzazate, there are taxis available at the bus station. For 5 MAD during the day or 6 MAD at night (~0.5 \$) you can take a taxi to any destination within the city range.

If you arrive in another city (e.g. Marrakech or Rabat) you can take a taxi from the airport to the CTM bus station and get the next bus that leaves to Ouarzazate. Refer to [www.ctm.ma](http://www.ctm.ma) for details about buses' schedules and destinations.

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Option by Arranged Airport Transfers:** Airport transfers will be arranged at your own cost according to the flight details provided by the speakers coming from abroad. The participants willing to benefit from this service are advised to let me know by communicating information about their flights departure and arrival time. The pick-up schedule of Airport transfers will be sent to you nearer the conference time. The rates of arranged transportation from Casablanca Airport to Ouarzazate or Marrakech Airport to Ouarzazate are as follows:

*Pick up from Casablanca Airport to Ouarzazate (a trip of 7/8 hours)*

For one person:	\$180 or 1800 MAD
Small group (3 min. to 6 max. persons):	\$75 or 750 MAD per person
Large group (11 min. to 17 max. persons):	\$42 or 420 MAD per person

*Pick up from Marrakech Airport to Ouarzazate (a trip of 4 hours)*

For one person:	\$180 or 1800 MAD
Small group (3 min. to 6 max. persons):	\$75 or 750 MAD per person
Large group (11 min. to 17 max. persons):	\$21 or 210 MAD per person

## SIGHTSEEING

Ouarzazate is located near many sights you may wish to combine with your visit. Marrakesh and Essaouria are always popular tourist locations as are Rabat, Chefchaouen, Fez, Tangiers, and Casablanca. But closer to Ouarzazate, you may wish to take a driven tour of the region and go on a camel ride, visit the many Kasbahs, the Cinema Museum, and cinema studios, where internationally acclaimed movies have been made. There are many travel companies that can be found through such sites as Tripadvisor. Here is one local tour operator based in Ouarzazate with extensive experience as a guide:

**Marrakech Dream**, Oubaha Mohamed, an English Tour Guide

Email: [Marrakech\\_dream\\_tours@yahoo.co.jp](mailto:Marrakech_dream_tours@yahoo.co.jp); [Oubaha.mohamed@yahoo.com](mailto:Oubaha.mohamed@yahoo.com)

Phone: 00212 (0) 634065936 - 00212 (0) 689980732

## VENUE DETAILS & LODGING

The ICGP'17 conference will take place at the conference room in Kenzi Azghor Hotel Ouarzazate. The hotel is situated just a 9-minute drive from Ouarzazate Airport and features traditional Moroccan décor. The hotel is 6 minutes drive from the Kasbah of Tourirt.

A block of rooms has been set aside for the use of our conference participants at Kenzi Azghor Hotel. The hotel offers special rates to the participants starting from \$54 per night. Contact them directly at [onlineazghor@kenzi-hotels.com](mailto:onlineazghor@kenzi-hotels.com) to make your own reservation, please mention

the "ICGP'17 conference" to receive the special rate. Lodging must be reserved before the 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 2017. After that date rooms **may still be** available to you on a first-come first-serve basis at their regular rate.

**Conference venue:** Hôtel Kenzi Azghor Ouarzazate  
**Address:** AV, Moulay Rachid 45 000, Ouarzazate Maroc  
**Phone:** 00 212 (0) 524 88 65 01/02/03  
**E-mail:** [onlineazghor@kenzi-hotels.com](mailto:onlineazghor@kenzi-hotels.com)  
**Website:** <http://hotel-karam-palace.business.site/>

Ouarzazate has a number of hotels, ranging from cheap to expensive. In case you wish to book in another hotel, we propose the following hotels:

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Name	Price in USD Single room	Contact Information
<b>Berber Palace</b>	\$223	(+212) -524-883105
<b>Le Temple Des Arts</b>	\$163	(+212) -524-888831
<b>Ibis Ouarzazate</b>	\$57	(+212) -525-072528
<b>Hotel Bab Sahara</b>	\$41	(+212) -524-884722
<b>Hotel La Perle Du Sud</b>	\$39	(+212) -542-888643
<b>Hotel Marmar</b>	\$17	(+212) -524-888887
<b>Hotel Atlas</b>	\$10	(+212)-522-887745

For more information, visit [www.booking.com](http://www.booking.com).

#### MEALS AND COFFEE BREAKS

All meals except breakfast will be provided during the conference. Meals will include vegetarian options. Coffee will be served with some treats during scheduled coffee breaks.

#### CLIMATE AND TIME

Ouarzazate is a small city situated in the south east of Morocco with a population of ~70.000 inhabitants. The city is known for its Kasbahs (old castles), its film making industry and for its sunny weather. Shining 300 days a year, the sun of Ouarzazate empowers now the biggest solar plant project in the world.

The sunny weather of the city decreases humidity and rainfall frequency resulting in hot dry summers and cold dry winters. The average temperature during late October ranges from ~12C° min to 25C° max.

Morocco is aligned with the Greenwich Main Time (GMT) and advances into daylight saving time (DST) GMT+1 on the last Sunday of March until the last Sunday of October.

#### ELECTRICITY AND WATER

The electric supply in Morocco is 220/240 volts at 50 Hz; operating with type E plug (two-pin sockets/grounded). American electric shavers, hair dryers, and electric toothbrushes are known to break with the higher voltage and it is therefore advisable to use a converter. Computers, cell

phones, and Blackberries all have voltage converters built into them, but you may need to use physical plug adapters, which are available at grocery and electronics stores.

Tap water in Ouarzazate is of low quality and may not be generally recommended to drink. Bottled water, on the other hand, is recommended, and is readily available at grocery stores.

### CURRENCY AND CREDIT CARDS

The currency of Morocco is dirham (abbreviated to DH or MAD). The exchange rates are roughly 10 MAD to 1 USD. Not every foreign currency is available for exchange in the city of Ouarzazate, however. It is therefore advised to exchange local currencies to dollars or Euros prior to departure. ATMs are available and one can obtain Moroccan currency with a credit card. Credit cards, such as Visa and MasterCard, are commonly accepted in hotels and super markets as well as some restaurants. Certain fees might apply for using credit cards outside of country of origin. Visitors may want to check such conditions with their banks.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information will be provided in due course, including contact Airport Transfers, conference program, etc. If you have any queries about accommodations or conference program please contact:

**Hanane DARHOUR**, ICGP'17 Conference Convenor

Email: [icgp.fpo@gmail.com](mailto:icgp.fpo@gmail.com)

In case of emergencies, please contact:

**Mariam JOUBAY**, ICGP'17 Assistant

Email: [mariame.joubbay@gmail.com](mailto:mariame.joubbay@gmail.com)

Phone: 00212 (0) 628587354

**Asmaa SABBAHI**, ICGP'17 Assistant

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Phone : 00212 (0) 699169024

**We wish you a safe journey and a successful conference!**