

Budapest Pride Freedom Celebration

Programme for cities

Friday, 27 June

18:00-19:00 Arrive to the Budapest City Hall (1052 Budapest, Városház u. 9-11.)
Registration at Gate I
Wristbands will be provided for accreditation. You are kindly requested to wear these wristbands on Saturday as well.

19:00-21:00 BUDAPEST PRIDE DIPLOMATIC RECEPTION

Venue: Budapest City Hall Courtyard (open-air)

Participants: High-level representative of the European Commission and the European Parliament, MEPs, national MPs, partner city representatives, members of the Diplomatic Corps, members of Hungarian civil society

- The moderator welcomes the guests in English
- Speech by Viktória Radványi, President of Budapest Pride
- Speech by Femke Halsema, Mayor of Amsterdam
- Speech by Marielle Paul, State Secretary for Primary and Secondary Education and Equal Opportunity of the Netherlands
- Speech by Hadja Lahbib, European Commissioner for Crisis Management and Humanitarian Aid
- Speech by Nicolae Șefănuță, Vice-President of the European Parliament
- Speech by Gergely Karácsony, Mayor of Budapest
- Standing Reception

Saturday, 28 June

13:00-13:15 Arrive to the Budapest City Hall (1052 Budapest, Városház u. 9-11.)
Entrance at Gate I – colleagues will accompany you to the Assembly Hall

13:15-14:00 City representatives' joint meeting with Mayor Gergely Karácsony
Venue: Budapest City Hall, Assembly Hall

Program Schedule

13:15–13:30 Closed-Door Meeting

- The Mayor of Budapest welcomes city representatives

13:30–13:45 Cities Roundtable for the Press

(With invited members of the national and international media)

- Short welcome by the Mayor of Budapest
- Brief remarks from representatives of participating cities

Please note: No questions will be taken from the press during this session.

13:50 Family Photo

A group photo will be taken with all participants.

From 14:00 Press Interviews (Optional)

Participants may give individual interviews to the press, based on interest and availability.

from 14:00 Gathering in Budapest City Hall Courtyard (*Delegations only*)
Please bring your wristbands with you

15:00 Expected begin of the March from Budapest City Hall
Route and practical information available at the official [Budapest Pride site](#).

approx.

17:00/17:30 BUDAPEST PRIDE FREEDOM CELEBRATION

Speeches by Viktória Radványi, President of Budapest Pride, Nicolae Șefănuță, Vice-President of the European Parliament, Mayor Gergely Karácsony

Cities on stage:

ALL cities will be invited on stage one by one to convey a short greeting from their own city, eg. „**HELLO BUDAPEST, GREETINGS from [CITY]**”

Budapest Pride Freedom Celebration

Legal background:

- On May 8, 2001, the National Assembly of Hungary adopted Act XVII of 2001 on the significance of regaining the country's freedom and on the Day of Hungarian Freedom, declaring June 19 a national day of remembrance and the last Saturday of June the Day of Hungarian Freedom. Therefore, June 28, 2025, is designated by law as the Day of Hungarian Freedom.
- On the occasion of the Day of Hungarian Freedom, the Budapest City Hall is holding an event, reviving a tradition of several years when the Capital held a municipal celebration of freedom under the name *Budapest Búcsú* (Búcsú in Hungarian both means farewell and fair).
- This year's celebration of freedom has been named *Budapest Búszkeség* by the decision of the Mayor, and due to the expected high number of foreign participants, it is appropriate to use the English name as well: *Budapest Pride*.
- The municipal event does not fall under the scope of the right of assembly law, meaning that organizing such an event does not require any permit from the police or other authorities. The relevant standpoint is that of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights: <https://www.ajbh.hu/-/a-rendori-intezkedesekrol-2009-marcius-15>. To quote: "It is conceptually excluded that an event held in the name of the state or a municipality could fall under the scope of the right of assembly."
- Plans involving special use of public spaces, as well as traffic-related tasks, will be carried out by BKK and Budapest Közút.
- Thus, Budapest Pride Freedom Celebration is a municipal event; the tasks of organizing the event and the associated costs are undertaken by the Rainbow Mission Foundation through a declaration of commitment made for a public interest purpose.