

## 6-MONTH BADGE FOR EUROPEAN SUMMITS *FOR JOURNALISTS RESIDENT IN BELGIUM*

6-month badges for journalists (covering the period from 1 January to 30 June or 1 July to 31 December) are valid for summits and high-level meetings organised by the General Secretariat of the Council.

To obtain a 6-month badge, you must apply online within a three-to-four week period towards the end of the preceding half-year. A notice is published at the start of the accreditation period. All applications for accreditation must be submitted within that period. Late applications will be rejected.

Meetings you can access with the 6-month badge include:

- European Council meetings;
- Euro Summits;
- EU Summits with third countries (if a special badge is required).

Journalists holding a 6-month badge do not need to register and collect a new badge for each event.

Please note that the 6-month badge does not replace the inter-institutional badge (yellow press pass issued by the Commission) which grants access to the Press Centre on a day-to-day basis and during Council meetings.

### 1. Who is eligible to apply for a 6-month badge?

You must be a journalist (you will be requested to upload a copy of your press card OR an assignment letter from your chief editor confirming your professional status) and resident in Belgium. You must have a national registration number, which is shown on your Belgian identity document. You must be an EU citizen or, if you are a national of a non-EU country, you must have been living in Belgium for at least 5 years.

You can check your eligibility by using the [flow chart](#) below .

### 2. How do I apply for my first 6-month badge or for renewal?

During the accreditation period, you can renew your 6-month badge, or apply for the first time, using the standard application form available on this website:

<https://eventaccreditationjour.consilium.europa.eu>. Sign in using your e-mail address and password, confirm your personal information, then select the '6-month badge' option and follow the on-screen instructions.

If you are registering for the first time, you will have to complete your profile and select the '6-month badge' option. Then follow the on-screen instructions to complete the procedure.

#### Important:

- If you apply for the first time, please make sure to upload valid documents at the moment of the request.
- If you apply for the renewal of an existing badge, please check the validity of the documents attached to your profile, and upload new ones if needed.

Failing to comply with the above could slow down the verification process and eventually result in a refusal to issue the badge

### **3. How do I know if my request for a 6-month badge has been accepted?**

After you have filled in the online application form, you will receive an e-mail confirming that your request has been received. The departments responsible at the Council will then process your application. If your application is rejected or if you need to provide further information, the press department will contact you.

### **4. When and where can I pick up my 6-month badge?**

The notice published at the start of the accreditation period will state the location and date for collecting badges.

You will also be able to pick up your badge at the LEX building whenever the badge collection desk is open for a high-level event.

### **5. Can 6-month badges for several people be collected at the same time?**

To collect badges for other people, you must currently hold a 6-month badge. **If you are collecting your first ever 6-month badge, you must come in person.**

If you are responsible for collecting several badges, you should choose the 'group' option and follow the instructions on the screen. When you collect the badges, you must bring the original security clearance documents printed out and signed by each applicant during the registration process, as security staff will only give out the badges on receipt of those documents.

### **6. What happens if I lose my 6-month badge?**

If you lose your 6-month badge, you must inform the Council Press Office immediately and sign an official document declaring that it is lost. A new badge will be issued and your old 6-month badge will be automatically deactivated.

### **7. What happens if I forget my 6-month badge at a specific event?**

If you forget to bring your 6-month badge, it will be automatically deactivated and a you will be provided with a new one at the accreditation center at the LEX building.

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## Am I eligible?

