



## Courses

Introduction courses

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Paying tax in Norway? Introduction to the tax system in Norway

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## Tips

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[Thelocal.no](#)

[Newsinenglish.no](#)

## Other activities and offers

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[Language café at the public library](#)

[Red Cross' language training](#)

[UiBdoc](#) – Independent group for connecting PhDs and postdocs at UiB

[UiB Speak Up!](#) – Speak up!

## Welfare

[Cabin hire](#)

[Discount at Bergen Cinema](#)

[Training and physical activities at UiB](#)

[Other welfare offers](#)

## International Centre

E-mail: [euraxess@uib.no](mailto:euraxess@uib.no)

Book an appointment with us through our [calendar](#).

[Unsubscribe](#) from the newsletter.



Photo: Sara Johannessen / VG

## NEWS FROM INTERNATIONAL HR

December 2023

This time of year is special and often filled with the joy of traditions, the spirit of giving and the magic of Christmas celebration in Norway. For some, the holiday season means visiting family and friends outside Norway, for others this might be the first Christmas or holiday in Norway without your closest family.

We hope you will find time to focus on things other than work and maybe enjoy some of the traditional Norwegian Christmas food.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a joyous holiday season

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# Upcoming events at the International Centre

## Holiday gathering

**December 18<sup>th</sup>**, we invite to our holiday event at 15:00 at the International Centre. We will talk about Christmas traditions in Norway and serve Norwegian Christmas porridge and julekaker (Christmas cookies). [Registration and more information here.](#)

## Introduction course for new employees

This course is step 2 of our introductory seminars for new international employees. The course will take place on **December 11<sup>th</sup> from 12:15 to 15:15**. We will be in the room in advance, so you have the chance to have a coffee and snacks and get to know each other before we start. You can read more and register [here](#).

Read more about the **tax system** in Norway in [our webpages](#).

You will also find important information for you who are **new in Norway!**

## Travelling for the holidays?

If you are planning to work for UiB while you are in another country, this must be in agreement with a leader. If you will be working abroad for more than one week, you need a written agreement. This is because most of your rights in Norway is based on that you are physically in Norway. When you are not in Norway, we need an agreement that you still maintain your rights while abroad. This only applies when working from abroad (not taking time off for holidays).

## Working hours during the holiday

25th and 26th December is considered as a holiday. In addition, you are given one day off in the week between Christmas Eve and New years Eve. If you are registering hours in the self-service portal, you register this as normal working hours.

## Transfer holiday and flexi time

If you still have unused holiday in your time overview in the self-service portal, you must send in application to transfer them to next year.

## New year, new batteries in your smoke detector

Batteries degrade over time, diminishing the reliability of your smoke detectors. A non-functioning smoke detector is as good as having no detector at all. Don't wait for the familiar, chirping sound signaling a low battery. Take the initiative to replace them promptly now.

## Vaccinations

Everyone living in Norway can get the seasonal influenza vaccine. It is especially recommended for people with an increased risk of complications from influenza, but it is available to all. If you wish to take it, book an appointment at a pharmacy or contact your GP. If you don't know who your GP is, log into HelseNorge.no (or call them if you are not able to log in).

Your GP can also give you the COVID-19 vaccine if requested.

## Events in Bergen

“[Pepperkakebyen](#)” (Gingerbread Town), November 18 – December 31 at Kode – Permanenten. The world's largest gingerbread town with mini houses, cars, trains, and other constructions. Everyone can contribute and it is especially common for schools and kindergartens to contribute.

[Bergen Christmas Market](#), December 1 – 22 at Festplassen. The Bergen Christmas Market offers handmade-, homemade-, and edible gifts for all needs. The markets' many food-stalls are offering the very best of Christmas food, bakes, and seasonal flavors. Free entrance.

### [Fireworks New Years Eve](#)

Are you planning to launch fireworks at New Years Eve? The use of fireworks is highly regulated in Norway. It is only available to buy between 29th and 31st December. It is only legal to launch between 18.00 and 02.00 on New Years Eve. Stay safe, use googles!



## Event calendars

There are many interesting events, courses, and seminars at UiB throughout the semester. We suggest subscribing to the [UiB main calendar](#) and the [International Centre calendar](#).

## Join our WhatsApp group!

We have made a WhatsApp group for you, so you can plan spontaneous meetings and we will also invite you to our planned events and remind you of them there. You can [join here](#).

## Suggestions?

Do you have any suggestions about what you would like to find in our newsletters or activities, please send us an email: [euraxess@uib.no](mailto:euraxess@uib.no).