



PROGRAMME —

Europe Asserting its Role
in a Changing World

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Brussels 2025

European Ideas Forum

Day 1 9 Dec 2025

* CET Time Zone. * IN-PERSON Event.
Broadcasted online, Livestream

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Europe Asserting its Role in a Changing World

REGISTRATION & NETWORKING LUNCH

12:30-14:15

OPENING REMARKS

14:15-14:30



Mikuláš Dzurinda

President,
Martens Centre

PANEL 1 14:30-15:45

THE EU RESPONSE TO THE CHALLENGES OF DEMOCRACY, RISING EXTREMISM AND POLARISATION



Siegfried Mureşan

Vice Chair, EPP Group



Suzanne Schneider

Deputy Director and core faculty, Brooklyn Institute for Social Research & Visiting Fellow at Kellogg College, University of Oxford



Eszter Lakos

MEP, EPP Group



Klaus Welle

Academic Council Chairman, Martens Centre



Moderator
Angelos Chrysogelos

Research Associate, Martens Centre

POLICY DISCUSSION 17:30-18:00

CHARTING THE EU'S MEDITERRANEAN STRATEGY



Tena Misetic

Head of Cabinet of the Commissioner for the Mediterranean
Dubravka Suica



Kawa Hassan

Nonresident Fellow with Stimson's Middle East and North Africa (MENA) Program, Founder of Shrova Strategies



Moderator
Peter Hefe

Policy Director, Martens Centre

INTERVIEWS 16:30-17:00

BEYOND CONNECTIVITY: EUROPE'S OPPORTUNITY IN THE 6G & AI ERA



Audrey Scozzaro Ferrazzini

Vice-President Government Affairs, Qualcomm

In co-operation with
Qualcomm

DIGITAL SOVEREIGNTY IN EUROPE: FROM VISION TO PRACTICE



Nanna-Louise Linde

Vice-President, European Government Affairs, Microsoft

In co-operation with
Microsoft

MEDIA PARTNERSHIP PANEL 18:00-19:00

In Media partnership with
euronews

GEOPOLITICS, FOREIGN RELATIONS AND TRANSATLANTIC AFFAIRS: SHAPING A DISTINCT EUROPEAN ROLE



Janusz Lewandowski

MEP, EPP, Vice-Chair Committee on Budgets



Željana Zovko

MEP EPP, Vice-Chair of the EPP Group, Member of AFET and of the Delegation for relations with the US



Bruno Lété

Defence Policy Director & Diplomatic Advisor, Cabinet of the Minister of Defence of Belgium



Ian Lesser

Brussels Office Head and Distinguished Fellow, German Marshall Fund



Moderator
Méabh Mc Mahon

European Affairs Correspondent, Euronews

INTERVIEW 19:00-19:30

UNLOCKING EUROPE'S DEFENCE CAPABILITIES



Andrius Kubilius

EU Commissioner for Defence and Space



Moderator

Klaus Welle

Academic Council Chairman, Martens Centre

COFFEE BREAK 15:45-16:30 & 17:00-17:30
WALKING COCKTAIL & DINNER 19:30

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Day 2 10 Dec 2025

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REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST ————— 09:15-10:00

PANEL 3 ————— 10:00-11:00

THE FUTURE OF CLIMATE POLICIES



Dolors Montserrat

MEP, EPP Group
(Member of ENVI) and
EPP Secretary General



Miguel Garcia Jones

Cabinet Member of the
Commissioner for
Climate, Net Zero and
Clean Growth Wopke
Hoekstra



Ann Mettler

Member of the
Academic Council,
Martens Centre



Moderator
Peter Hefe

Policy Director,
Martens Centre

INTERVIEW ————— 11:30-12:00

EUROPE'S FUTURE AMID CRISES



Roberta Metsola

President,
European Parliament



Moderator
Tomi Huhtanen

Executive Director,
Martens Centre

PANEL 4 ————— 14:00-15:00

EUROPE'S COMPETITIVENESS CONUNDRUM: BALANCING GROWTH AND POLITICS



Daniel Gros

Director of the Institute for
European Policymaking,
Bocconi University of
Milan



Peter Versterbacka

Entrepreneur, founder
of FinEst Bay Area and
Slush



Žaneta Vegnere

Deputy Head of Cabinet of the
Commissioner for Economy and
Productivity, Implementation
and Simplification Valdis
Dombrovskis



Dirk Gotink

MEP, EPP Group



Moderator
Eoin Drea

Senior Research Officer,
Martens Centre

INTERVIEW ————— 12:30-13:00

AI, SECURITY, AND SOVEREIGNTY: EUROPE'S DIGITAL CHALLENGE



Henna Virkkunen

European Commission Executive
Vice President and Commissioner
for Tech Sovereignty, Security and
Democracy, European Commission



Moderator
Dimitar Lilkov

Senior Research Officer,
Martens Centre

INTERVIEWS ————— 15:00-15:30

PUTTING CONSUMERS AT THE CENTRE OF EUROPEAN TECH



Matt Browne

Head of European
Government Affairs, Apple

In co-operation with



NEW TECHNOLOGICAL FRONTIERS IN PERSONALISED HEALTHCARE AND ADVANCED PHARMACEUTICALS



Richard Robinson

Vice President,
European Policy & Government Affairs,
Bristol Myers Squibb

In co-operation with



Moderator
Dimitar Lilkov

Senior Research Officer,
Martens Centre

CLOSING REMARKS ————— 15:30-16:00



Antonio López-Istúriz White

MEP, AFET Committee Member,
EPP Group, Martens Centre
Secretary-Treasurer



Alicia Montes de Oca López

Project Assistant

MASTERS OF CEREMONIES

COFFEE BREAK 11:00-11:30 & 12:00-12:30
CLOSING COCKTAIL 16:00

WALKING LUNCH 13:00-14:00

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