

BRUSSELS ECONOMIC SECURITY FORUM

Summit 4-5 June 2026

PROGRAMME

Brussels Economic Security Forum

2026 SUMMIT · 4-5 JUNE

DAY 1 THURSDAY 4 JUNE 2026

CLOSED-DOOR ROUNDTABLES

08:00 – 12:30

BY INVITATION ONLY

08:00-08:50 EARLY BIRD BREAKFAST DISCUSSIONS

- From Diversification to Deal-Making: Europe's New Geo-Industrial Deal
- Can Europe Keep its Critical Technological and Industrial Assets?

09:00-10:30 MORNING ROUNDTABLES — FIRST SESSION

- Breaking Dependencies: Can Europe Build its Own Digital Ecosystems?
- What is Quality FDI? The Automotive Sector as Europe's Test Case
- European Preference across Strategic Sectors: Defining Vulnerabilities and Capabilities in Pharma and Cleantech
- Economic Security and the Arctic

11:00-12:30 MORNING ROUNDTABLES — SECOND SESSION

- From Reliance to Resilience: Rethinking the EU-US Economic Partnership
- Avoiding Friendly Fire: Aligning EU and Indo-Pacific Economic Security Strategies
- Economic Security and China: Where to Draw the Line?

OPEN CONFERENCE

14:00 – 18:00

14:00–14:30 **OPENING KEYNOTE AND CONVERSATION****Mobilizing Economic Strength for Europe's Security**› **Keynote****Kęstutis Budrys**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania› **Conversation****Kęstutis Budrys**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania**Fabian Zuleeg**, Chief Executive, EPC**MODERATOR** *Shona Murray, Europe Correspondent, Euronews***14:30–15:30** **OPENING SESSION****A World in Crisis: Can We Avoid Global Economic Dislocation?**› **Expert Reflections****Richard Baldwin**, Professor, IMD Business School**Julia Friedlander**, CEO, Atlantik-Brücke**Kinga Redłowska**, Head of the Centre for Finance and Security, RUSI Europe› **Policymaker Responses****Richard Baldwin**, Professor, IMD Business School**Kinga Redłowska**, Head of the Centre for Finance and Security, RUSI Europe**V. Anantha Nageswaran**, Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India**Denis Redonnet**, Deputy Director-General, DG Trade and Economic Security, European Commission**Satvinder Singh**, Deputy Secretary-General, ASEAN**MODERATOR** *Paweł Świeboda, Co-Director, Brussels Economic Security Forum; Senior Visiting Fellow, European Policy Centre***16:00–16:45** **GLOBAL IMBALANCES IN FOCUS****China's Export Surge, America's Retrenchment, Europe's Squeeze?****Maria Demertzis**, Professor, European University Institute**Michael Pettis**, Professor, Peking University**Martin Sandbu**, European Economics Commentator, Financial Times**MODERATOR** *Georg Riekeles, Co-Director, Brussels Economic Security Forum; Associate Director, European Policy Centre*

16:45-17:00 **EU POLICY DEEP DIVE**
Europe's Financial Dependencies

Maria Demertzis, Professor, European University Institute

Martin Sandbu, European Economics Commentator, Financial Times

MODERATOR *Georg Riekeles, Co-Director, Brussels Economic Security Forum; Associate Director, European Policy Centre*

17:00-18:00 **UNDERSTANDING TODAY, PREPARING FOR TOMORROW**
The New Geoeconomics of Energy

› **Witness report: Critical Infrastructure Threats — Lessons from Ukraine**

Iryna Skliar, Director, Representative Office in Brussels, Naftogaz

› **Panel Conversation**

Heba Aguib, Member of the Board, BMW Foundation Herbert Quandt

Cristina Lobillo, Director, Energy Security and International Relations, DG Energy, European Commission

Olav Aamlid Syversen, Vice President Political and Public Affairs, Equinor

Tinne Van der Straeten, Chief Executive Officer, WindEurope; former Minister of Energy of Belgium

Karen Young, Senior Research Scholar, Centre on Global Energy Policy, Columbia SIPA

MODERATOR *Wojciech Przybylski, Editor-in-chief, Visegrad Insight*

18:00-19:00 **SUMMIT RECEPTION**

DAY 2 FRIDAY 5 JUNE 2026**OPEN CONFERENCE**

08:45 – 13:20

08:45-09:00 INTRODUCTION TO DAY TWO**Navigating in an Era of Disruption****Joakim Reiter**, Chief External and Corporate Affairs Officer, Vodafone Group**Fabian Zuleeg**, Chief Executive, European Policy Centre**09:00-09:55** MORNING KEYNOTE AND CONVERSATIONS**Winning the Long Game of Frontier Innovation****› Session Keynote****Nadia Calviño**, President, European Investment Bank**› Building Champions: Europe's Scale-up Moment****Per Franzén**, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Partner, EQT**MODERATOR** **Shona Murray**, *Europe Correspondent, Euronews***› Crafting Europe's Innovation Mindset****Joakim Reiter**, Chief External and Corporate Affairs Officer, Vodafone Group**Stefan Rouenhoff**, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy of Germany**MODERATOR** **Elizabeth Kuiper**, *Associate Director, European Policy Centre***10:00-10:20** ZOOMING IN ON THE FUTURE**BESF 2026 Tech Deep Dives****› Looking Up and Out: Europe's Race for Satellite Connectivity****Hermann Ludwig Moeller**, Director, European Space Policy Institute**› Update on "The Lion Cage Project": What Are Connected Vehicles?****Arild Tjomsland**, Special Adviser, University of South-Eastern Norway

10:45-11:40

MAIN SESSION

Tech, Power and Security: What is Truly Critical?› **Trusted Trade and Technology in a Fragmented World**

James Appathurai, Deputy Assistant Secretary General, Strategy and Policy for Cyber and Digital Transformation, NATO

Sebastian Reyn, Head of Geopolitics and Global Advocacy, ASML

Andrew Puzder, Ambassador of the United States to the EU

MODERATOR *Shona Murray, Europe Correspondent, Euronews*

› **Europe's Digital Ecosystem Challenge**

Camille Boullenois, Associate Director, Rhodium Group

Ignacio M. Llorente, Managing Director, OpenNebula Systems

Sebastian Reyn, Head of Geopolitics and Global Advocacy, ASML

Ben Wreschner, Chief Economist and Head of Public Affairs, Vodafone Group

MODERATOR *Georg Riekeles, Co-Director, Brussels Economic Security Forum; Associate Director, European Policy Centre*

11:40-12:00

FIRESIDE CHAT

Challenges and Cooperation in a Fragmenting World

Peter Kyle, Secretary of State for Business and Trade of the United Kingdom

MODERATOR *Shona Murray, Europe Correspondent, Euronews*

12:00-12:20

POLICY DEEP DIVE

The Future of the Car

Sigrid de Vries, Director General, European Automobile Manufacturers' Association (ACEA)

MODERATOR *Paweł Świeboda, Co-Director, Brussels Economic Security Forum*

12:20-13:20 **GLOBAL PARTNERS — CLOSING SESSION****From Fracture to Framework: Rebuilding the International Economic Architecture****› Senior Officials and Executives' Conversation**

Kevin Buckley, Vice-President Global Government Affairs, Johnson & Johnson

Cathy Raper, First Assistant Secretary, Foreign Affairs and Trade Department of Australia

Satvinder Singh, Deputy Secretary-General, ASEAN

MODERATOR **Georg Riekeles**, *Co-Director, Brussels Economic Security Forum; Associate Director, European Policy Centre*

› Ministerial Keynote and Conversation

Airlangga Hartarto, Coordinating Minister for Economic Affairs of Indonesia

MODERATOR **Almut Möller**, *Director for European and Global Affairs, European Policy Centre*

13:00-13:20 **DISTINGUISHED CLOSING KEYNOTE AND CONVERSATION**

Maroš Šefčovič, European Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security

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