

Programme

(Subject to change)

Partnerships in a Geopolitical Age

Day 1 | Thursday
9 October 2025

08:00 – 09:00	<i>Registrations</i>
08:00 – 08:45	<i>Welcome Breakfast</i>
09:00 – 09:15	KEYNOTE SPEECH Ursula von der Leyen , President of the European Commission
09:15 – 12:30	Statements by Heads of State and Government
12:30 – 13:50	<i>Lunch</i>
13:50 – 14:00	REMARKS Kaja Kallas , High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission
14:00 – 15:30	PANEL State of the World moderated by Bruno Maçães , author and former Secretary of State for European Affairs, Portugal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jozef Síkela, European Commissioner for International Partnerships • Naana Jane Opoku-Agyemang, Vice-President, Ghana • Bùi Thanh Sơn, Deputy Prime Minister, Vietnam • Diana Marcela Morales Rojas, Minister of Trade, Industry, and Tourism, Colombia Concluding remarks: Nadia Calviño , President, European Investment Bank
15:30 – 16:00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16:00 – 17:30	PANEL Looking at Connectivity through a Geostrategic Lens moderated by Monika Sie Dhian Ho , General Director, Clingendael Institute <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrico Bagnasco, Chief Executive Officer, Sparkle • Laure Blanchard-Brunac, Senior Adviser, InvestEU • Peter Frankopan, Professor of Global History, Oxford University • Luuk van Middelaar, Director, Brussels Institute of Geopolitics
17:45 – 19:00	<i>Networking Reception at the Square</i>
As of 19:00	<i>High-level dinner hosted by Commissioner Jozef Síkela (by invitation only)</i>

Programme

Partnerships in a Geopolitical Age

Day 2 | Friday
10 October 2025

08:30 – 09:00

Welcome Coffee

09:00 – 10:30

PANEL

Strategising Partnerships Global

Moderated by

Rosie Birchard, Europe
Correspondent, Deutsche Welle

SPEAKERS

- **Jozef Síkela**, European Commissioner for International Partnerships
- **Sok Chenda Sophea**, Deputy Prime Minister, Cambodia
- **Jorge Moreira da Silva**, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, UNOPS
- **Audrey Marks**, Minister of Efficiency, Innovation and Digital Transformation in the Office of the Prime Minister, Jamaica
- **Barry Andrews**, Chair of the Committee on Development, Member of the European Parliament

PANEL

Strategising Partnerships Mediterranean

Moderated by

Rim Filali Meknassi, Head of
Department, European Institute
of the Mediterranean

SPEAKERS

- **Dubravka Šuica**, European Commissioner for the Mediterranean
- **Rania Al-Mashat**, Minister of Planning, Economic Development, and International Cooperation, Egypt
- **Jordi Hereu Boher**, Minister of Industry and Tourism, Spain
- **Ioannis Tsakiris**, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank
- **Ahlem Friga-Noy**, Deputy Senior Vice-President, European Public Affairs, TotalEnergies

PANEL

Strategising Partnerships Black Sea

Moderated by

Gert-Jan Koopman, Director-
General, Directorate General
for Neighbourhood and
Enlargement Negotiations,
European Commission

SPEAKERS

- **Marta Kos**, European Commissioner for Enlargement
- **Vladimir Bolea**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Infrastructure and Regional Development, Moldova
- **Odile Renaud-Basso**, President of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- **Rashad Nabiyeu**, Minister of Digital Development and Transport, Azerbaijan
- **Alfonso García Mora**, Vice-President for Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, International Finance Corporation
- **Jens H. Lund**, Group Chief Executive Officer, DSV

10:30 – 11:00

Coffee Break

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11:00 – 12:30

Getting to Work: Thematic Sessions

THEMATIC SESSION 1

Driving Sustainable and Strategic Transport Connectivity

Moderated by
Isabelle Ryckbost, Secretary General, European Sea Ports Organisation

SPEAKERS

- **Alexis Vafeades**, Minister of Transport, Communication and Works, Cyprus
- **Rania Al-Mashat**, Minister of Planning, Economic Development, and International Cooperation, Egypt
- **Harry Boyd-Carpenter**, Managing Director, Sustainable Infrastructure Group, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- **Petr Novotny**, Chief Executive Officer, Škoda Group
- **Kristof Waterschoot**, Managing Director, Port of Antwerp-Bruges International

THEMATIC SESSION 2

Two Sides of the Same Coin: Energy Security and Industrial Competitiveness in the EU's Global Gateway Strategy

Moderated by
San Bilal, Director, ECDPM

SPEAKERS

- **Teresa Ribera**, Executive Vice-President for Clean, Just and Competitive Transition, European Commission
- **Kerryne James**, Minister of Climate Resilience, Environment and Renewable Energy, Grenada
- **Mohamed Ould Khaled**, Minister of Energy and Petroleum, Mauritania
- **Michael Jongeneel**, Chief Executive Officer, FMO - Dutch entrepreneurial development bank

THEMATIC SESSION 3

Geopolitics of digital connectivity: A shared quest for sovereignty

Moderated by
Justin Vaïsse, Director-General of the Paris Peace Forum

SPEAKERS

- **Carina Murcia**, Minister of information and communications technology, Colombia
- **Bosun Tijani**, Minister of Communications, Innovation and Digital Economy, Nigeria
- **Scott Morris**, Vice-President, Asian Development Bank
- **Lacina Koné**, Director General and Chief Executive Officer, Smart Africa
- **Chat Garcia Ramilo**, Executive Director, Association for Progressive Communications

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch

Programme

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10 October 2025

14:00 – 15:30

SCALE UP SESSIONS

Global Gateway Flagship Projects *(by invitation only)*

- ASEAN Power Grid
- Scaling up the hydropower potential in Central Asia
- Lobito Corridor
- The EU Sustainable Cocoa Initiative
- IMEC digital connectivity: Blue Raman
- MAV+ : Investing in Africa's health sovereignty through Strategic Partnerships
- Regional electricity integration in Latin America and the Caribbean
- High Performance Computing: Establishing an EU-LAC Supercomputing Network for AI
- Global Gateway Green Shipping Corridors
- Medusa Submarine Cable System
- Expanding connectivity between the EU, Türkiye and the Eastern Partnership towards Central Asia
- Powering renewable energy in Africa

Connectivity Interrupted – The Security Dimension

Moderated by
Giulia Tercovich, Deputy
Director, Centre for Security,
Diplomacy and Strategy, Vrije
Universiteit Brussels

SPEAKERS

- **Américo Muchanga**, Minister of Communications and Digital Transformation, Mozambique
- **Elisabeth Braw**, Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council
- **Tuesday Reitano**, Managing Director, Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime

Getting to business with Global Gateway

Moderated by
Tamsin Rose, Senior Fellow,
Friends of Europe

SPEAKERS

- **Koen Doens**, Director-General, Directorate General for International Partnerships, European Commission
- **Andrew McDowell**, Director-General, European Investment Bank
- **Benoît Chervalier**, Vice-President for Africa, Medef International
- **Gianluca Grandi**, Global Gateway coordinator, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italy
- **Stephan Koehne**, Chief Executive Officer, Hylron
- **Ana Lafuente**, Global Networks Director, Iberdrola

15:30 – 16:00

CONCLUDING REMARKS

Jozef Síkela, European Commissioner for International Partnerships

Programme

Partnerships in a Geopolitical Age

Side events in the margins of the Global Gateway Forum

8 October 2025

European Commission
building

India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor Steering Meeting

(by invitation only – for IMEC signatory states)

8 October 2025

SQUARE Brussels
Meeting Centre

3rd EU-Caribbean Global Gateway Conference on Sargassum will bring partners from the EU and the Caribbean at ministerial and CEO level to discuss practical approaches to the Sargassum value chain.