

Recharge Europe

EFA25: 16 - 29 August 2025

Version: 02 Nov 2026

16.08.2025 13:00 - 16.08.2025 16:30 | Stage | CCA – Liechtenstein-Saal

Euregio Young Researchers’ Award

Hosted by: Wirtschaftskammer Tirol & Handelskammer Bozen & Handelskammer Trient
Young researchers under the age of 35 present their scientific work on the topic of competitiveness. The aim is to showcase regional research and foster intergenerational dialogue with decision makers from academia and politics. The most outstanding contributions are honoured during a formal award ceremony.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Tappeiner, Ulrike: Professor (Free University of Bozen-Bolzano)

16.08.2025 13:00 - 16.08.2025 16:30 | Stage | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Euregio Innovation Award

Hosted by: Wirtschaftskammer Tirol & Handelskammer Bozen & Handelskammer Trient
The Euregio Innovation Award recognises creative products, technologies, and services that strengthen the competitive position of the Euregio Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino. Companies from all three regions present their projects. A distinguished jury selects the winners, who are honoured during the evening ceremony.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Hofer, Marcus: Managing Director (Standortagentur Tirol)

16.08.2025 16:30 - 16.08.2025 17:30 | | CCA – Square

EUREGIO – Europe direct Ape

Hosted by: Euregio

16.08.2025 17:30 - 16.08.2025 19:30 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Award Ceremony: Euregio Awards

Hosted by: Wirtschaftskammer Tirol & Handelskammer Bozen & Handelskammer Trient & Standortagentur Tirol & IDM Südtirol & Trentino Sviluppo
In a festive setting, the winners of the Euregio Innovation Award and the Euregio Young Researchers’ Award are honoured. Afterwards, a get-together invites guests to connect and celebrate.

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16.08.2025 18:00 - 16.08.2025 19:30 | Happening | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Kcħψånt: A Play About Alpbach

Track: Arts & Culture
Kcħψånt, a play about Alpbach: A writer and a linguist dive deep into the heart of their hometown with a wild mixture of punk, dialect and quantum physics. The performance embraces the valley and the stories of its native and newer inhabitants, from Vivienne Westwood to Erwin Schrödinger.

Gschösser, David: Artist (kchwant)
Prosser, Robert: Artist (Kchwant)
Faltin, Fabian: Artist (Kchwant)

16.08.2025 20:00 - 16.08.2025 22:00 | Happening | Church

Concert: Ernst Molden and Aliosha Biz

Track: Arts & Culture
Ernst Molden, 'the most extraordinary Austrian songwriter currently working' according to the newspaper Oberösterreichische Nachrichten, presents a highly entertaining musical evening; accompanied by Aliosha Biz, 'a Paganini of the courtyards, a pyromaniac violinist, a balancing act between musical styles and the Moscow branch manager of Viennese charm', according to author Richard Schuberth.

Doors: 20:00
Begin: 20:30

Biz, Aliosha: Artist (Medienmanufaktur Wien)
Molden, Ernst: Artist (Medienmanufaktur Wien)

17.08.2025 09:00 - 17.08.2025 10:00 | Ritual | Church

Holy Mass

Hosted by: Euregio
Join the traditional christian Mass to mark the opening of the Tyrol Day.

17.08.2025 10:00 - 17.08.2025 11:00 | Happening | CCA – Square

Ceremonial Welcome and Official Addresses by Political Representatives

Hosted by: Euregio
Official reception with welcome addresses by political representatives of the European Region Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino.

17.08.2025 11:00 - 17.08.2025 12:30 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Euregio Summit

Hosted by: Euregio
At the Euregio Summit, political decision makers and experts discuss competitiveness, regional development, and the role of the Euregio Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino in Europe. Municipalities take centre stage as key actors in cross-border cooperation. Their experiences and perspectives actively contribute to the dialogue, helping to anchor European solutions effectively at the local level.

Felbermayr, Gabriel: Director (Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO))
Juncker, Jean-Claude:

17.08.2025 12:30 - 17.08.2025 14:30 | Open Network | CCA – Otto Molden Foyer

Get-together

Hosted by: Euregio
Following the Euregio Summit, the get-together offers an informal opportunity to connect with decision makers, experts, and other participants.

17.08.2025 15:00 - 17.08.2025 18:30 | Hike | Hike Start 1 | CCA Square

Euregio Academy Hike

Hosted by: Euregio
The hike to the Bischofer-Käsalm leads into a mountain dialogue on the topic of “Climate Change in Agriculture”. In collaboration with Euregio Inntal and the three Alpbach Clubs of Tyrol, South Tyrol, and Trentino, experts discuss the challenges and opportunities for sustainable agriculture.

17.08.2025 15:00 - 17.08.2025 16:15 | Work | CCA – Liechtenstein-Saal

Municipal Cooperation

Hosted by: Euregio
Municipalities as key actors in competitiveness take centre stage in two parallel workshops focusing on digitalisation and inter-municipal cooperation. The goal is to develop concrete ideas and action steps to enhance competitiveness through exchange among municipal representatives and with experts. //INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Bussjäger, Peter: University Professor (University of Innsbruck (UIBK))

17.08.2025 15:00 - 17.08.2025 16:30 | Work | CCA – Hayek-Saal

Municipalities and Digitalisation

Hosted by: Euregio
Municipalities as key actors in competitiveness take centre stage in two parallel workshops focusing on digitalisation and inter-municipal cooperation. The goal is to develop concrete ideas and action steps to enhance competitiveness through exchange among municipal representatives and with experts. //INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Gasslitter, Stefan: CEO (Südtiroler Informatik AG)

17.08.2025 16:30 - 17.08.2025 17:30 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

European Municipal Networks

Hosted by: Euregio
The European Union offers a broad range of instruments that boost competitiveness and support regional development. Key topics include European cooperation, the work of the Committee of the Regions, and strategies to better connect municipalities across national borders. //INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Blizkovsky, Petr: Secretary-General (Europäischer Ausschuss der Regionen)

17.08.2025 16:30 - 17.08.2025 18:00 | Chat | Schulhäusl

Echoes of EFA: Personal Stories from 80 Years of Change

Celebrating 80 years of EFA, this session brings history to life. Time witnesses and long-time companions share personal stories, encounters, and turning points that shaped the Forum. Explore a journey through eight decades of ideas, change, and inspiration – complemented by a look into the European Forum Alpbach's archive.

//INFO: Session will be held in German.

Mendoza, Philipp: Post-Doctoral Researcher (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (VU))
Karas, Othmar: President (European Forum Alpbach)
Mitterer, Josef: Professor (University Klagenfurt)
Zanol, Irene: Senior Scientist (Forschungsinstitut Brenner-Archiv, Universität Innsbruck)
Tanzer, Ulrike: Professor, Head of the Research Institute Brenner-Archiv (Research Institute Brenner-Archiv, University of Innsbruck)
Duftner, Karin: Alt- und Landwirtin, Böglerhof - pure nature spa resort
Wirth, Maria: Historian (Universität Wien)
Molden, Hanna: Austrian Journalist and Author

17.08.2025 18:00 - 17.08.2025 19:30 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Welcome of Scholarship Holders

The European Forum Alpbach 2025 kick-off for scholarship holders and participants of the Alpbach Seminars: Meet your peers, see an art performance and inform yourself about everything you need to know to successfully navigate through the days ahead.

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17.08.2025 19:30 - 17.08.2025 23:00 | Open Network | Sportanlage Alpbach – Football Field

EFA25 Welcoming Party

Your first evening at the EFA25, will be celebrated with an Opening Party at the local soccer ground with Food and Drinks.

//INFO: In case of bad weather, the session is going to take place at Congress Centrum Alpbach until 9 p.m.

18.08.2025 09:00 - 18.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Hike Start 1 | CCA Square

Hike I The Alps in a Changing Climate: Navigating Impacts and Adaptation

Track: Climate
The Second Austrian Assessment Report on Climate Change (AAR2) highlights the Alps' ecological, economic, and social significance — and their acute vulnerability to a warming climate. This session examines the complex climate challenges facing the Alpine region within the Euregio context, exploring cross-sectoral impacts and key opportunities to strengthen resilience and foster sustainable development in these vital mountain landscapes.
//INFO: This hike will be held in German //INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Liechtenstein Saal, Congress Centrum Alpbach

Fritz, Oliver: Senior Economist (Austrian Institut of Economic Research (WIFO))
Gems, Bernhard: Associate Professor (University of Innsbruck - Unit of Hydraulic Engineering)
Omann, Ines: Independent Researcher and Facilitator (Dr. Ines Omann: Nachhaltige Lebensqualität - Forschung und Prozessbegleitung)
Rohrer, Madeleine: Member of Parliament (Council of South Tyrol)
Branke, Deniz: Climate Coordinator (Österreichischer Alpenverein)

18.08.2025 09:00 - 18.08.2025 10:00 | Stage | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

The EU Compass for Competitiveness

Hosted by: Euregio
The Compass for Competitiveness is the EU's new roadmap for sustainable growth. It outlines ways to better leverage Europe's economic strengths, remove barriers, and enhance competitiveness – aiming to boost dynamism and prosperity within the European internal market.

//INFO: This session will be held in German.

Gentner Vavrova, Zuzana: Policy Coordinator

18.08.2025 09:30 - 18.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 2

Income and Wealth Inequality in Europe

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
This seminar explores the evolution, causes, and consequences of income and wealth inequality in Europe. First, participants examine whether inequality in these dimensions has increased and why such inequalities matter. Next, they analyse the role of socio-economic factors, such as gender, in shaping inequality trends, and investigate the influence of family background on the intergenerational persistence of inequality. Finally, participants evaluate the potential of widely debated tax policies in shaping the distribution of income and wealth.

Trinh, Nhat An: Researcher (University of Oxford)
Disslbacher, Franziska: Assistant Professor (Vienna University of Economics and Business)

18.08.2025 09:30 - 18.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 3

Understanding Climate Change and Managing Energy Transition

Track: Climate, SEM

The scientific basis of climate change is examined, media portrayals are critically assessed, and key insights from the IPCC are highlighted. Climate models are discussed in terms of purpose and limitations. Challenges of the energy transition are explored, and a systems perspective is emphasised as essential for a resilient, fossil-free future.

Peitgen, Heinz-Otto: Professor Emeritus of Mathematics (Fraunhofer MEVIS, University of Bremen, Florida Atlantic University)
Brasseur, Georg: Em.Univ.-Prof. Dr. at Institute of Electrical Measurement & Sensor Systems (Graz University of Technology / Technische Universität Graz)

18.08.2025 09:30 - 18.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 2

Understanding Crypto-Assets: Bitcoin, Values and Vulnerabilities

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM

In this seminar we will explain how crypto-assets work, for whom and for what purposes. The seminar starts with Bitcoin, describing how it functions both technically as well as socio-economically. We then question the ‘revolutionary’, world-changing nature of crypto-assets, by inquiring into whose values they represent and which vulnerabilities arise as they become increasingly integrated into a rapidly changing global political economy.

Campbell-Verduyn, Malcolm: Senior Lecturer (University of Groningen)
Lafourcade, Pascal: Professor (University Clermont Auvergne)

18.08.2025 09:30 - 18.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 1

Work of the Past, Work of the Future

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM

This seminar is about the patterns and drivers of economic growth, creative destruction and the future of work. The concepts of “product space” and “economic complexity” will help to understand growth as a process of learning, diversification, and complexification. You’ll learn how technology (robots, AI) is changing our jobs and tasks, and analyse which jobs are more affected by the digital and the green transition. We’ll end with a perspective on the Future of Work.

Nedelkoska, Ljubica: Resident Scientist (Complexity Science Hub)
Neffke, Frank M. H.: Group leader (Complexity Science Hub)

18.08.2025 09:30 - 18.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 1

Unveiling Modern Crime: Tackling Cybercrime in a Globalised World

Track: Security, SEM

As our societies have evolved, how has crime too? This seminar explores the evolving world of cybercrime, ranging from ransomware and phishing to trafficking and dark web markets. Learn data-driven, network-oriented strategies from experts, analyse real cases, and participate in practical exercises. Discover the tools, techniques, and global partnerships essential for combating digital threats in today's interconnected world.

Goger, Thomas: Chief Public Prosecutor and Deputy Director (Bavarian Central Office for the Prosecution of Cybercrime (ZCB))
Haslhofer, Bernhard: Faculty and Group Leader (Complexity Science Hub)

18.08.2025 09:30 - 18.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Rogger-Saal

The New in the Making – A Philosophy of Change

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM

What is (scientific) "progress" and how does it come to pass? Participants are invited to explore the "Spirit of Alpbach" by critically examining scientific change and the forces that drive or hinder it. Through discussions on paradigms, discovery, and the dynamics of new ideas, a creative environment to question the status quo in science and society is framed. The seminar aims to explain the making of the new through a philosophy of change.

Neges, Katharina: Senior Scientist (Graz University of Technology)
Mitterer, Josef: Professor (University Klagenfurt)

18.08.2025 09:30 - 18.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Flora-Saal

Beyond the Hype: Re-situating AI, Power, and Democracy

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM

This seminar explores how artificial intelligence is shaping power – and vice versa. We will discuss key challenges such as disinformation, power imbalances, declining trust in institutions, and the economic, environmental, and security risks of AI as a global socio-technical system. Using creative methods like mapping or data walks, participants will strengthen their AI literacy and imagine what a more democratic AI future could look like.

Milan, Stefania: Professor of Critical Data Studies (University of Amsterdam)
Mayer, Katja: Elise Richter Fellow (University of Vienna)

18.08.2025 09:30 - 18.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Europe’s Role in a Changing World

Track: Security, SEM
As the global order fractures under the weight of great power rivalry, can Europe remain a shaper – or will it become a bystander? This seminar explores Europe’s positioning amid shifting power dynamics, strategic rivalry, and global fragmentation. Participants examine key areas, such as security, trade, human rights, and multilateral cooperation in an increasingly complex world.

McInerney-Lankford, Siobhán: Head of Unit for Equality, Roma and Social Rights (EU Fundamental Rights Agency)
Leonard, Mark: Director (European Council on Foreign Relations)

18.08.2025 09:30 - 18.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Gym

Is Geoeconomics the New Balance of Power?

Track: Security, SEM
In an era of global economic disruption, states and non-state actors increasingly use economic tools to advance security interests. This seminar examines whether the shift toward geoeconomics signals the end of the global economic order or a transition into a new phase. Participants will critically discuss scenarios including the risk of an “economic World War III” and its possible ramifications.

Rashish, Peter: Vice President and Director, Geoeconomics Program (American-German Institute - Johns Hopkins University)
Wickett, Xenia: Director (Wickett Advisory)

18.08.2025 09:30 - 18.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Heiss-Saal

Valuing the Oceans: Challenges and Opportunities

Track: Climate, SEM
The oceans are getting increasingly overused, economised and exploited for their resources at all depths and scales. One of the many key challenges is how ocean diversity is compromised by industrial fishing. How to better care for, value and govern the oceans and their natural riches? Which role do governments, civil society and science play, and what are the means by which they engage? This seminar will present and discuss these challenges and the rich opportunities oceans still offer.

Asdal, Kristin: Professor (TIK Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture, University of Oslo)
Pauly, Daniel: Killam Professor and Principal Investigator (Sea Around Us initiative at the University of British Columbia)

18.08.2025 09:30 - 18.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 4

Security in times of change and contestation – the role of the Global South and the EU’s Response

Track: Security, SEM
As the pax americana falters, the sorrow about the post WWII order is not shared equally. Many developing countries are uneasy about Western led liberal international order, marked by military interventions and double standards and are welcoming disruption as the US upends the order it upheld for decades. The seminar explores how different parts of the Global South position themselves in the contested future and how the EU should respond.

Yeo, Lay Hwee: Senior Fellow (Singapore Institute of International Affairs)
Reiterer, Michael: Distinguished Professor, Guest Professor in Japan and New Zealand, EU-Ambassador ret. (Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy, Brussels School of Governance, VUB)

18.08.2025 09:30 - 18.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – Classroom 5

Global Politics and Influence: Africa at the Crossroad of Geopolitics and Climate Crisis

Track: Climate, SEM
As global power competition intensifies, its impact on climate, institutions, and conflict grows. Africa, historically contributing the least to global emissions, faces disproportionate climate risks and heightened external interest in its resources. This seminar explores strategies for African agency, including defending national interests and influencing global commitments on climate justice, such as loss and damage.

Jeng, Fatou: Founder / International Empowerment Manager (Clean Earth Gambia / Plant-for-the-Planet)
Gebrewold, Belachew: Professor (Management Center Innsbruck (MCI))

18.08.2025 09:30 - 18.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – EDV Room

Power, Activism, and How to Create Change (in Europe and Beyond)

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
This seminar explores how individuals and movements can gain the power to drive change in moments of crisis and transformation. Drawing on past and present examples of activism, participants will learn about theories of change, effective strategies, and associated risks. Participants will develop their own campaign concepts and action plans to address challenges such as democratic backsliding and climate collapse.

Cahen-Salvador, Colombe: Co-Founder (Atlas Movement)
Alemanno, Alberto: Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law (HEC Paris)

18.08.2025 10:30 - 18.08.2025 12:00 | Stage | CCA – Hayek-Saal

Strengthening Competitiveness in the EU

Hosted by: Euregio
The interactive exchange addresses key questions: how to foster innovation, combine decarbonisation with competitiveness, and reduce strategic dependencies – all with the goal of building a more resilient and future-ready European economy.

//INFO: This session will be held in German.

Wirtenberger, Franz: Deputy Permanent Representative
Gruber, Severin: Secretary General (Wirtschaftsministerium)

18.08.2025 12:30 - 18.08.2025 13:30 | Chat | CCA – Loggia

Brown Bag Lunch: Alpine Hotspot – Climate Change in Tyrol

Climate change is transforming the Alpine region and affecting ecosystems, tourism, and safety in Tyrol. This discussion highlights how it is changing Tyrol’s living environment and what that means for our sensitive mountain region.

Be quick - the first participants get a free brown bag lunch!

//INFO: This session will be held in German.

Witting, Marco: editor-in-chief (Tiroler Tageszeitung)
Krapf, Matthias: editor-in-chief (Tiroler Tageszeitung)
Sailer, Karin: Managing Director (Tirol Werbung)
Geisler, Josef: Deputy Governor of Tyrol
Walter, Gebhard: Head (Tiroler Wildbach- und Lawinenverbauung)

18.08.2025 13:30 - 18.08.2025 14:30 | Chat |

Food for Thought

Food for Thought Day 1
Monday, 18th August 1330-1430

Sven SIMON - My journey in politics and life. Room - CCA Rogger

Monica VACLAVKOVA, Jakob HUTTER & Patrick BEN
From code to companions: Is AI making us lonely?
CCA Flora

Moana GREGORI & Laetitia SKALLA
Tools for Recovery: self-care and stress management at EFA
CCA Heiss

Clemens SCHWARENTHORER
An intro to Improv Comedy
Volkschule Upper Floor Classroom 1

Howard WILLIAMSON & Tamara HÖFER - The Milltown Boys: a longitudinal ethnography of (not so young any more!) offenders, over 50+ years. What do we do about youth crime and justice? Room - Schulhausl

18.08.2025 13:30 - 18.08.2025 14:30 | Ritual | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Becoming a Co-Author of the EFA Seminar Book

In this session, scholarship holders are invited to collaborate on a book about the topics and themes of EFA25. They will be guided through writing their stories about the Alpbach Seminars, energising encounters, and other reflections. For more information, click here.

Giesswein, Martin: Author & Advisor (WU Executive Academy)

18.08.2025 14:00 - 18.08.2025 15:30 | Work | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Competitiveness and Regional Development in Austria, Germany, and Italy

Hosted by: Euregio
This interactive panel explores selected measures to strengthen competitiveness in Austria, Italy, and Germany. Together with the participants, it offers a space to share approaches and experiences, discuss challenges, and identify key success factors for sustainable growth in the three countries.

//INFO: This session will be held in German.

Aichner, Thomas: Scientific Director (Südtirol Business School)
Nippa, Michael: Professor (Free University of Bozen-Bolzano)
Weyerstraß, Klaus: (IHS Institut für Höhere Studien)
Peneder, Michael: Deputy Director (WIFO)

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 2

Courage Muscle Training with Radikale Töchter (Radical Daughters)

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

Climate crisis, racism, rising right-wing populism: In light of such challenges, the world needs radical ideas and new impulses for action to tackle the current political climate. Above all, new visions and practices are needed in times of vulnerable democracies. This seminar offers an introduction to tools and tactics of artistic activism (Aktionskunst), which support fundamental democratic values such as liberty, equality, equity and solidarity.

Gahren, Isabel: Co-CEO betterplace lab, Facilitator (Radikale Töchter)
Leonard, Cesy: Founding Director (Radikale Töchter)

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 2

Creative Writing: Recharge. Refresh. Renew.

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

As perpetual crisis management narrows our focus and our minds, how can one rethink the future through the power of imagination and creative writing? Participants experiment with language, develop confidence, explore verbal expression and learn to write with greater authenticity and fluidity. Understand the value of creativity in all fields of work and how creative language is essential in building new pathways to and for our world.

Amanulla, Naajia: Art Scholar (Bath Spa University)
Martins, Christine: Art Scholar (Bath Spa University)
English, Lucy: Professor in Creative Enterprise and The Spoken Word (Bath Spa University)

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Money Matters: Take Charge of Your Financial Future

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM

The pension system is broken – it is time to take control. This hands-on seminar teaches you the basics of investing, helps you understand markets, and challenges you to rethink money through expert talks, a stock market simulation, and new ideas for building long-term financial freedom.

Konradsheim, Matthäus: Entrepreneur (Stealth Mode)
Bayer, Daniel: CEO (Fingu GmbH)

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Schulhäusl

Rethinking Masculinity: A Playful Exploration Through Art

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
What is masculinity and how do gender stereotypes affect our societies? Through voice, dance, and creative expression, we delve into different facets of masculinity, discuss them and develop a collective performance. No fixed answers, just shared exploration – all genders welcome! Be ready to take your curiosity and step forward into the unknown.

Ohlsen, Simeon: Art Scholar (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna)
Benoît, Olivier: Art Scholar (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna)
Rademacher, Wiebke: University professor of Music/Arts Education (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna (MUK))

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 3

Stronger Together: The Power of the Ensemble

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
Students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London will share the parts of their actor training that deal with ensembles. Creating an effective and dynamic piece of theatre requires every individual actor to function as part of the company. Whether they have a large or a small part does not matter – each actor is equally important. This seminar explores the routes, strategies and compromises we might employ to help us work together effectively.

Schiller, Ingrid: Acting Tutor, Audition Panellist, Director, Writer (RADA Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Shepphard, Nona: Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA))

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 1

Smart Decisions in Uncertain Times: Lead with Courage and Curiosity

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
In a fast-changing world, complexity and uncertainty are constant companions. This seminar equips participants with key decision-making frameworks, mental well-being strategies, and strategic trade-off exercises to move beyond black-and-white thinking. Through dynamic activities, participants will strengthen the clarity and courage needed to make effective decisions in uncertain times.

Herbst, Natalia: Director for Latin America Strategy (Better Politics Foundation)
Ison, Rebekah: Head of Partnerships and Content (Better Politics Foundation)

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 4

Theatre as a Sanctuary: How Theatre Builds Confidence and Connection

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

Many actors are introduced to theatre when their parents send them to theatre workshops to overcome their shyness and gain confidence; they end up going on stage in front of hundreds of people. The stage is their place of safety. So, what is it about working together to create a piece of theatre that produces this feeling? This seminar, led by students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, will explore this question.

Schiller, Ingrid: Acting Tutor, Audition Panellist, Director, Writer (RADA Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Shepphard, Nona: Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA))

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – EDV Room

From Anxiety to Mastery: Thriving in Change and Uncertainty

Track: SEM

Participants build confidence, resilience, and courage to engage with change. Through experiential exercises, systemic tools, and dialogue, they learn to manage stress and anxiety, navigate conflict, and communicate across perspectives — turning uncertainty into opportunity.

Kreh, Alexander: Clinical Psychologist (Universität Innsbruck)
von Hellberg, Philipp: Facilitator & Social Entrepreneur (blufink)

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Gym

Voices Without Boundaries

Track: SEM

Participants are invited to explore their voices in playful and creative ways. Working as an ensemble, they will engage in speech and song activities designed to build technical skills and expressive capacity. Fundamentals of healthy voice practice will be established, and reflective exercises will help participants strengthen their ability to communicate confidently in any public forum.

Garvey, Deborah: Voice and Singing Coach (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Windley, Joe: Freelance Voice and Speech Coach (UK & International); Honorary Ambassador (The Meeting of European Theatre Academies)

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 1

Let’s Build a Global Museum of Migration. Documenting – Telling – Exhibiting Migration Histories

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
Museums of Migration remain rare across the world. This seminar explores how migration histories can be documented and exhibited as integral parts of global cultural memory. Through interactive formats, participants will develop scenarios and visions for establishing a global Museum of Migration and embedding migration histories into transnational narratives.

Messner, Elena: Postdoctoral Researcher (University of Vienna)
Seidel, Anna: Director and Chairwoman / Slavic Literary Scholar (MUSMIG - Museum of Migration / Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
Ristic, Savo: Director (MUSMIG Museum of Migration)

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Heiss-Saal

Accelerating Entrepreneurship with Generative AI

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
This seminar is designed for aspiring entrepreneurs and innovators eager to explore how generative AI can accelerate the journey from idea to startup. Participants will work in small teams to identify real-world challenges, co-create solutions, and use state-of-the-art AI tools to ideate, prototype, and pitch their startup ideas.

Burger, Bastian: Director Software & AI (TUM Venture Labs)
Faems, Dries: Full Professor of Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Technological Transformation (WHU Otto Beisheim School of Management)

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Sportanlage Alpbach – Football Field

Centre of Gravity: Finding Your Leadership Focus

Track: SEM
This leadership seminar, conducted by cadets of the Theresian Military Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces, takes place in an outdoor setting and draws inspiration from Clausewitz‘s concept of the “Center of Gravity“. Participants will face physical and mental challenges designed to test their decision-making, teamwork and resilience. Through reflection and experience-based learning, they will uncover what truly drives effective leadership — in themselves and others.

//INFO: If the weather allows it, the seminar will take place outdoors. Please bring sportswear and steady footwear.

Oberaigner, Michael: Executive Officer (Austrian Armed Forces / Austrian Air Force)
Gstrein, Alexander: Researcher (Ministry of Defence of Austria)

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Rogger-Saal

Journalism’s Role in Strengthening European Sovereignty

Track: SEM
This seminar invites participants to step into the role of journalists to explore how independent media can strengthen European sovereignty. Guided by an experienced editor and an international reporter, participants will examine media landscapes, media ethics, and media sustainability. Practical exercises will develop critical thinking, writing, and interviewing skills to contribute to Europe’s shared narrative.

Grillmeier, Franziska: Journalist
Munk, Veronika: Director of Innovation and New Markets (Denník N)

18.08.2025 15:00 - 18.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Flora-Saal

Futures of a Liveable Planet

Track: Climate, SEM
This seminar invites participants to explore assumptions about the future of our shared habitat. Using the UNESCO methodology “Futures Literacy”, participants will travel back and forth between imagined futures and present-day policy choices. The interactive setting challenges conventional thinking and empowers participants to rethink the boundaries of what makes our planet liveable.

Saheb, Yamina: Researcher & Lecturer / Co-Founder (Sciences Po / World Sufficiency Lab)
Damhof, Loes: UNESCO Chair for Futures Literacy in Higher Education (Hanze University of Applied Sciences)

18.08.2025 16:00 - 18.08.2025 17:30 | Work | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Education for Future-Oriented Competencies and High-Quality Jobs

Hosted by: Euregio
This interactive panel focuses on key levers for Europe’s future: affordable, secure, and sustainable energy; forward-looking education for quality jobs; and targeted support for innovation. Together participants will explore how these approaches can strengthen competitiveness and resilience.

//INFO: This session will be held in German

Weiss, Dietmar:
Terlizzi, Stefania: General Director (Labor Agency of the Autonomous Province of Trento)
Luther, Stefan:

18.08.2025 16:00 - 18.08.2025 17:30 | Hike | CCA – Liechtenstein-Saal

Hike | Fostering Innovation

Hosted by: Euregio
This interactive panel focuses on key levers for Europe’s future: affordable, secure, and sustainable energy; forward-looking education for quality jobs; and targeted support for innovation. Together participants will explore how these approaches can strengthen competitiveness and resilience. //INFO: This session will be held in German.

Hollaus, Bernhard: (MCI Management Center Innsbruck)
Formentini, Marco: Associate Professor (University of Trento)
Tappeiner, Ulrike: Professor (Free University of Bozen-Bolzano)
Weihs, Gregor: Vice-Rector for Research (University of Innsbruck)

18.08.2025 18:15 - 18.08.2025 18:45 | Ritual | Church

Into the Silence

A place of calm: Spiritual impulses from various religious and philosophical backgrounds invite you to contemplate and reflect. Inspiring initiators tell their stories, take you on a journey of the mind and initiate moments of genuine stillness.

Leonard, Cesy: Founding Director (Radikale Töchter)

18.08.2025 21:00 - 18.08.2025 22:30 | Happening | Village Square

EuregioDramaLab on Tour: Crossing Borders, Common Grounds, and The Question of What Lies Beneath

Track: Arts & Culture
The three artists of EuregioDramaLab invite the participants of EFA 2025 to an open performative and participative gathering in Alpbach – featuring Strauss’ opera Salome as well as a reflection about omnipresent borders, exploring and experiencing the soil as a communing ground and the practice of weightlifting.

Venturini, Laura: Artist, dramaturg, performer (Freelance artist)
Posch, Thomas: Participant and head of potatoe with the Euregio project "DramaLab" for dramaturgy (Europaregion Tirol with Tiroler Landestheater, Vereinigte Bühnen Bozen and Centrale Fies)
Hilber, Maria Christina: writer/artist featured by Marion Feichter, jazz singer & music educator (Eu)

19.08.2025 08:00 - 19.08.2025 08:30 | Happening | Church

Into the Silence

A place of calm: Spiritual impulses from various religious and philosophical backgrounds invite you to contemplate and reflect. Inspiring initiators tell their stories, take you on a journey of the mind and initiate moments of genuine stillness.

//INFO: This session will be held in German.

Karas, Othmar: President (European Forum Alpbach)

19.08.2025 08:30 - 19.08.2025 10:00 | Open Network | Hotel Alphof – Right Dining Hall

Practice Breakfast

Hosted by: Standortagentur Tirol & Plattform Industrie 4.0
Industry experts will demonstrate what is already possible today and where developments are heading in the near future. You'll gain valuable insights into expected trends in the short and medium term and discover practical solutions designed to simplify your daily work and make production processes more efficient.

//INFO: This session will be held in German.

19.08.2025 09:00 - 19.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | CCA – Liechtenstein-Saal

Hike I Rethinking OneHealth as a Future Innovation Ecosystem

Track: Finance & Economy
During this hike, we will take an inspirational “innovation walk” where we will think together about possible OneHealth approaches in the context of innovation ecosystems. We will challenge and expand our understanding of the OneHealth concept as well as develop novel perspectives by a guided innovation process of “learning from the future as it emerges”. Through short inspirational talks, tasks and exercises, reflection, exposing ourselves to the silence and the beauty of nature, as well as intense interdisciplinary conversations, we will co-create novel future-oriented concepts of the OneHealth approach.

The session begins with a discussion in the Liechtenstein Hall, followed by a group hike, and concludes with a reflection session back in the Liechtenstein Hall.

//INFO: This hike will be held in German.
//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

Schuler, Hannes: Associate Professor of Agricultural and Forest Entomology (Free University of Bozen-Bolzano)
Weiss, Günter: Director, Univ. Clinic for Internal Med. II; expert in internal med., infectiology, immunology (Medical University of Innsbruck)
Selberherr, Evelyne: Tenured Associate Professor of Microbiome Research (University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna)
Peschl, Franz-Markus: Professor of cognitive science and innovation (University of Vienna & Vienna Cognitive Science Hub)
Schober, Caroline: Chief Strategy Development and Communications Officer (RCPE - Research Center Pharmaceutical Engineering)
Hochenegger-Stoirer, Birgit: Vice Rector (Medical University of Innsbruck and University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna)
Fundneider, Thomas: Founder and Expert of Innovation Ecosystems (theLivingCore - enabling desired futures)

19.08.2025 09:30 - 19.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 3

Understanding Climate Change and Managing Energy Transition

Track: Climate, SEM
The scientific basis of climate change is examined, media portrayals are critically assessed, and key insights from the IPCC are highlighted. Climate models are discussed in terms of purpose and limitations. Challenges of the energy transition are explored, and a systems perspective is emphasised as essential for a resilient, fossil-free future.

Brasseur, Georg: Em.Univ.-Prof. Dr. at Institute of Electrical Measurement & Sensor Systems (Graz University of Technology / Technische Universität Graz)
Peitgen, Heinz-Otto: Professor Emeritus of Mathematics (Fraunhofer MEVIS, University of Bremen, Florida Atlantic University)

19.08.2025 09:30 - 19.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 2

Income and Wealth Inequality in Europe

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
This seminar explores the evolution, causes, and consequences of income and wealth inequality in Europe. First, participants examine whether inequality in these dimensions has increased and why such inequalities matter. Next, they analyse the role of socio-economic factors, such as gender, in shaping inequality trends, and investigate the influence of family background on the intergenerational persistence of inequality. Finally, participants evaluate the potential of widely debated tax policies in shaping the distribution of income and wealth.

Disslbacher, Franziska: Assistant Professor (Vienna University of Economics and Business)
Trinh, Nhat An: Researcher (University of Oxford)

19.08.2025 09:30 - 19.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Heiss-Saal

Valuing the Oceans: Challenges and Opportunities

Track: Climate, SEM
The oceans are getting increasingly overused, economised and exploited for their resources at all depths and scales. One of the many key challenges is how ocean diversity is compromised by industrial fishing. How to better care for, value and govern the oceans and their natural riches? Which role do governments, civil society and science play, and what are the means by which they engage? This seminar will present and discuss these challenges and the rich opportunities oceans still offer.

Asdal, Kristin: Professor (TIK Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture, University of Oslo)
Pauly, Daniel: Killam Professor and Principal Investigator (Sea Around Us initiative at the University of British Columbia)

19.08.2025 09:30 - 19.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – EDV Room

Power, Activism, and How to Create Change (in Europe and Beyond)

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
This seminar explores how individuals and movements can gain the power to drive change in moments of crisis and transformation. Drawing on past and present examples of activism, participants will learn about theories of change, effective strategies, and associated risks. Participants will develop their own campaign concepts and action plans to address challenges such as democratic backsliding and climate collapse.

Alemanno, Alberto: Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law (HEC Paris)
Cahen-Salvador, Colombe: Co-Founder (Atlas Movement)

19.08.2025 09:30 - 19.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – Classroom 5

Global Politics and Influence: Africa at the Crossroad of Geopolitics and Climate Crisis

Track: Climate, SEM

As global power competition intensifies, its impact on climate, institutions, and conflict grows. Africa, historically contributing the least to global emissions, faces disproportionate climate risks and heightened external interest in its resources. This seminar explores strategies for African agency, including defending national interests and influencing global commitments on climate justice, such as loss and damage.

Gebrewold, Belachew: Professor (Management Center Innsbruck (MCI))
Jeng, Fatou: Founder / International Empowerment Manager (Clean Earth Gambia / Plant-for-the-Planet)

19.08.2025 09:30 - 19.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 4

Security in times of change and contestation – the role of the Global South and the EU’s Response

Track: Security, SEM

As the pax americana falters, the sorrow about the post WWII order is not shared equally. Many developing countries are uneasy about Western led liberal international order, marked by military interventions and double standards and are welcoming disruption as the US upends the order it upheld for decades. The seminar explores how different parts of the Global South position themselves in the contested future and how the EU should respond.

Reiterer, Michael: Distinguished Professor, Guest Professor in Japan and New Zealand, EU-Ambassador ret. (Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy, Brussels School of Governance, VUB)
Yeo, Lay Hwee: Senior Fellow (Singapore Institute of International Affairs)

19.08.2025 09:30 - 19.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 2

Understanding Crypto-Assets: Bitcoin, Values and Vulnerabilities

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM

In this seminar we will explain how crypto-assets work, for whom and for what purposes. The seminar starts with Bitcoin, describing how it functions both technically as well as socio-economically. We then question the ‘revolutionary’, world-changing nature of crypto-assets, by inquiring into whose values they represent and which vulnerabilities arise as they become increasingly integrated into a rapidly changing global political economy.

Lafourcade, Pascal: Professor (University Clermont Auvergne)
Campbell-Verduyn, Malcolm: Senior Lecturer (University of Groningen)

19.08.2025 09:30 - 19.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Rogger-Saal

The New in the Making – A Philosophy of Change

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
What is (scientific) “progress” and how does it come to pass? Participants are invited to explore the “Spirit of Alpbach” by critically examining scientific change and the forces that drive or hinder it. Through discussions on paradigms, discovery, and the dynamics of new ideas, a creative environment to question the status quo in science and society is framed. The seminar aims to explain the making of the new through a philosophy of change.

Neges, Katharina: Senior Scientist (Graz University of Technology)
Mitterer, Josef: Professor (University Klagenfurt)

19.08.2025 09:30 - 19.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Europe’s Role in a Changing World

Track: Security, SEM
As the global order fractures under the weight of great power rivalry, can Europe remain a shaper – or will it become a bystander? This seminar explores Europe’s positioning amid shifting power dynamics, strategic rivalry, and global fragmentation. Participants examine key areas, such as security, trade, human rights, and multilateral cooperation in an increasingly complex world.

McInerney-Lankford, Siobhán: Head of Unit for Equality, Roma and Social Rights (EU Fundamental Rights Agency)
Leonard, Mark: Director (European Council on Foreign Relations)

19.08.2025 09:30 - 19.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Flora-Saal

Beyond the Hype: Re-situating AI, Power, and Democracy

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
This seminar explores how artificial intelligence is shaping power – and vice versa. We will discuss key challenges such as disinformation, power imbalances, declining trust in institutions, and the economic, environmental, and security risks of AI as a global socio-technical system. Using creative methods like mapping or data walks, participants will strengthen their AI literacy and imagine what a more democratic AI future could look like.

Milan, Stefania: Professor of Critical Data Studies (University of Amsterdam)
Mayer, Katja: Elise Richter Fellow (University of Vienna)

19.08.2025 09:30 - 19.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 1

Unveiling Modern Crime: Tackling Cybercrime in a Globalised World

Track: Security, SEM

As our societies have evolved, how has crime too? This seminar explores the evolving world of cybercrime, ranging from ransomware and phishing to trafficking and dark web markets. Learn data-driven, network-oriented strategies from experts, analyse real cases, and participate in practical exercises. Discover the tools, techniques, and global partnerships essential for combating digital threats in today's interconnected world.

Goger, Thomas: Chief Public Prosecutor and Deputy Director (Bavarian Central Office for the Prosecution of Cybercrime (ZCB))
Haslhofer, Bernhard: Faculty and Group Leader (Complexity Science Hub)

19.08.2025 09:30 - 19.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Gym

Is Geoeconomics the New Balance of Power?

Track: Security, SEM

In an era of global economic disruption, states and non-state actors increasingly use economic tools to advance security interests. This seminar examines whether the shift toward geoeconomics signals the end of the global economic order or a transition into a new phase. Participants will critically discuss scenarios including the risk of an "economic World War III" and its possible ramifications.

Simon, Sven: Member of the European Parliament (European Parliament)
Rashish, Peter: Vice President and Director, Geoeconomics Program (American-German Institute - Johns Hopkins University)
Wickett, Xenia: Director (Wickett Advisory)

19.08.2025 09:30 - 19.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 1

Work of the Past, Work of the Future

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM

This seminar is about the patterns and drivers of economic growth, creative destruction and the future of work. The concepts of "product space" and "economic complexity" will help to understand growth as a process of learning, diversification, and complexification. You'll learn how technology (robots, AI) is changing our jobs and tasks, and analyse which jobs are more affected by the digital and the green transition. We'll end with a perspective on the Future of Work.

Nedelkoska, Ljubica: Resident Scientist (Complexity Science Hub)
Neffke, Frank M. H.: Group leader (Complexity Science Hub)

19.08.2025 10:00 - 19.08.2025 13:00 | Open Network | Hotel Alphof – Left Dining Hall

Tyrolean Technology Brunch

Hosted by: Standortagentur Tirol
An exclusive networking event as part of the Euregio Days 2025: Take this opportunity to exchange ideas on technology and digitalisation in Tyrol and across Europe with representatives from business, academia, politics, and regional development.

//INFO: This session will be held in German.

19.08.2025 12:30 - 19.08.2025 14:00 | Open Network | Gasthof Jakober – Dining Hall

WoW* Connects: A Networking Hour for Women*

As part of the EFA World of Women* initiative, EFA is taking extra efforts to encourage female* contributors, both in programming and participation. Every day, from the Europe in the World Days to the Austria in Europe Days, two dedicated hours will be hosted by women* engaged in EFA's broader network, which offers the opportunity to connect, reflect, and act.

// INFO: To ensure a focused and engaging experience, we wont be providing any catering. Participants are, however, free to order lunch and beverages at their own cost. //

Singer, Sabine: CEO & Founder (Sophisticated Simplicity)
Kuhrn, Melanie: Co-President (Initiative Group Alpbach Vienna)

19.08.2025 13:00 - 19.08.2025 17:30 | Work | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Barcamp

Hosted by: Standortagentur Tirol & Euregio
As part of the Euregio Days 2025, this Barcamp offers an open platform where you shape the agenda. Contribute your ideas, discuss pressing topics, and develop new solutions – across sectors and without a fixed programme. The goal: to think collectively about the future, spark innovation, and connect with others in a format free from rigid structures and predetermined content.

//INFO: This session will be held in German

19.08.2025 13:30 - 19.08.2025 14:30 | Chat |

Food for Thought

Food for Thought Day 2

Elena GALEVSKA
Unboxing the problem: Healing the pain of missed deliveries
CCA Heiss

Ivo WALINGA
China and the Energy Transition
CCA Flora

Marina VANNI
The Migrant Journey and Split Identities: Emotionally Navigating Life as a Foreigner
CCA Rogger

Lena RAUTER
Can the EU deliver the 2040 Climate Goals?
CCA Herz-Kremenak

Anna BANDURA
Networking as an introvert
Volkschule Upper Floor Klasse 2

Sepanta SILARI
The role of civil society in Iran’s potential future
Volkschule Upper Floor Klasse 1

Gianni ILKOS
Is EFA elitist?
Schulhäusl

19.08.2025 14:00 - 19.08.2025 15:00 | Chat | CCA – Liechtenstein-Saal

AI, Innovation & Risk: Shaping the Future of Business Locations

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
Advances in AI are transforming innovation and redefining risk. As competition intensifies, the pressure to adapt grows. Explore what it takes to foster a future-ready business location. Ask yourself: Are you or your business ready for what’s next? //INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Fahringer, Fritz: Head of datahub.tirol (Standortagentur Tirol)
Singer, Sabine: CEO & Founder (Sophisticated Simplicity)
Burger, Bastian: Director Software & AI (TUM Venture Labs)
Milan, Stefania: Professor of Critical Data Studies (University of Amsterdam)

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Square

Centre of Gravity: Finding Your Leadership Focus

Track: SEM
This leadership seminar, conducted by cadets of the Theresian Military Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces, takes place in an outdoor setting and draws inspiration from Clausewitz‘s concept of the “Center of Gravity“. Participants will face physical and mental challenges designed to test their decision-making, teamwork and resilience. Through reflection and experience-based learning, they will uncover what truly drives effective leadership — in themselves and others.

//INFO: If the weather allows it, the seminar will take place outdoors. Please bring sportswear and steady footwear.

Gstrein, Alexander: Researcher (Ministry of Defence of Austria)

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Money Matters: Take Charge of Your Financial Future

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
The pension system is broken – it is time to take control. This hands-on seminar teaches you the basics of investing, helps you understand markets, and challenges you to rethink money through expert talks, a stock market simulation, and new ideas for building long-term financial freedom.

Konradsheim, Matthäus: Entrepreneur (Stealth Mode)
Bayer, Daniel: CEO (Fingu GmbH)

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 1

Smart Decisions in Uncertain Times: Lead with Courage and Curiosity

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
In a fast-changing world, complexity and uncertainty are constant companions. This seminar equips participants with key decision-making frameworks, mental well-being strategies, and strategic trade-off exercises to move beyond black-and-white thinking. Through dynamic activities, participants will strengthen the clarity and courage needed to make effective decisions in uncertain times.

Ison, Rebekah: Head of Partnerships and Content (Better Politics Foundation)
Herbst, Natalia: Director for Latin America Strategy (Better Politics Foundation)

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Schulhäusl

Rethinking Masculinity: A Playful Exploration Through Art

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

What is masculinity and how do gender stereotypes affect our societies? Through voice, dance, and creative expression, we delve into different facets of masculinity, discuss them and develop a collective performance. No fixed answers, just shared exploration – all genders welcome! Be ready to take your curiosity and step forward into the unknown.

Benoît, Olivier: Art Scholar (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna)
Ohlsen, Simeon: Art Scholar (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna)
Rademacher, Wiebke: University professor of Music/Arts Education (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna (MUK))

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 2

Courage Muscle Training with Radikale Töchter (Radical Daughters)

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

Climate crisis, racism, rising right-wing populism: In light of such challenges, the world needs radical ideas and new impulses for action to tackle the current political climate. Above all, new visions and practices are needed in times of vulnerable democracies. This seminar offers an introduction to tools and tactics of artistic activism (Aktionskunst), which support fundamental democratic values such as liberty, equality, equity and solidarity.

Gahren, Isabel: Co-CEO betterplace lab, Facilitator (Radikale Töchter)
Leonard, Cesy: Founding Director (Radikale Töchter)
Müller, Anna: Management Assistant (Radikale Töchter)

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 2

Creative Writing: Recharge. Refresh. Renew.

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

As perpetual crisis management narrows our focus and our minds, how can one rethink the future through the power of imagination and creative writing? Participants experiment with language, develop confidence, explore verbal expression and learn to write with greater authenticity and fluidity. Understand the value of creativity in all fields of work and how creative language is essential in building new pathways to and for our world.

Martins, Christine: Art Scholar (Bath Spa University)
English, Lucy: Professor in Creative Enterprise and The Spoken Word (Bath Spa University)
Amanulla, Naajia: Art Scholar (Bath Spa University)

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 3

Stronger Together: The Power of the Ensemble

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
Students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London will share the parts of their actor training that deal with ensembles. Creating an effective and dynamic piece of theatre requires every individual actor to function as part of the company. Whether they have a large or a small part does not matter – each actor is equally important. This seminar explores the routes, strategies and compromises we might employ to help us work together effectively.

Schiller, Ingrid: Acting Tutor, Audition Panellist, Director, Writer (RADA Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Shepphard, Nona: Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA))

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 4

Theatre as a Sanctuary: How Theatre Builds Confidence and Connection

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
Many actors are introduced to theatre when their parents send them to theatre workshops to overcome their shyness and gain confidence; they end up going on stage in front of hundreds of people. The stage is their place of safety. So, what is it about working together to create a piece of theatre that produces this feeling? This seminar, led by students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, will explore this question.

Schiller, Ingrid: Acting Tutor, Audition Panellist, Director, Writer (RADA Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Shepphard, Nona: Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA))

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – EDV Room

From Anxiety to Mastery: Thriving in Change and Uncertainty

Track: SEM
Participants build confidence, resilience, and courage to engage with change. Through experiential exercises, systemic tools, and dialogue, they learn to manage stress and anxiety, navigate conflict, and communicate across perspectives — turning uncertainty into opportunity.

Kreh, Alexander: Clinical Psychologist (Universität Innsbruck)
von Hellberg, Philipp: Facilitator & Social Entrepreneur (blufink)

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Rogger-Saal

Journalism’s Role in Strengthening European Sovereignty

Track: SEM
This seminar invites participants to step into the role of journalists to explore how independent media can strengthen European sovereignty. Guided by an experienced editor and an international reporter, participants will examine media landscapes, media ethics, and media sustainability. Practical exercises will develop critical thinking, writing, and interviewing skills to contribute to Europe’s shared narrative.

Grillmeier, Franziska: Journalist
Munk, Veronika: Director of Innovation and New Markets (Denník N)

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Flora-Saal

Futures of a Liveable Planet

Track: Climate, SEM
This seminar invites participants to explore assumptions about the future of our shared habitat. Using the UNESCO methodology “Futures Literacy”, participants will travel back and forth between imagined futures and present-day policy choices. The interactive setting challenges conventional thinking and empowers participants to rethink the boundaries of what makes our planet liveable.

Damhof, Loes: UNESCO Chair for Futures Literacy in Higher Education (Hanze University of Applied Sciences)
Saheb, Yamina: Researcher & Lecturer / Co-Founder (Sciences Po / World Sufficiency Lab)

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Heiss-Saal

Accelerating Entrepreneurship with Generative AI

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
This seminar is designed for aspiring entrepreneurs and innovators eager to explore how generative AI can accelerate the journey from idea to startup. Participants will work in small teams to identify real-world challenges, co-create solutions, and use state-of-the-art AI tools to ideate, prototype, and pitch their startup ideas.

Burger, Bastian: Director Software & AI (TUM Venture Labs)
Faems, Dries: Full Professor of Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Technological Transformation (WHU Otto Beisheim School of Management)

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Gym

Voices Without Boundaries

Track: SEM
Participants are invited to explore their voices in playful and creative ways. Working as an ensemble, they will engage in speech and song activities designed to build technical skills and expressive capacity. Fundamentals of healthy voice practice will be established, and reflective exercises will help participants strengthen their ability to communicate confidently in any public forum.

Windley, Joe: Freelance Voice and Speech Coach (UK & International); Honorary Ambassador (The Meeting of European Theatre Academies)
Garvey, Deborah: Voice and Singing Coach (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)

19.08.2025 15:00 - 19.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 1

Let’s Build a Global Museum of Migration. Documenting – Telling – Exhibiting Migration Histories

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
Museums of Migration remain rare across the world. This seminar explores how migration histories can be documented and exhibited as integral parts of global cultural memory. Through interactive formats, participants will develop scenarios and visions for establishing a global Museum of Migration and embedding migration histories into transnational narratives.

Seidel, Anna: Director and Chairwoman / Slavic Literary Scholar (MUSMIG - Museum of Migration / Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
Messner, Elena: Postdoctoral Researcher (University of Vienna)
Ristic, Savo: Director (MUSMIG Museum of Migration)

20.08.2025 09:30 - 20.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 4

Security in times of change and contestation – the role of the Global South and the EU’s Response

Track: Security, SEM
As the pax americana falters, the sorrow about the post WWII order is not shared equally. Many developing countries are uneasy about Western led liberal international order, marked by military interventions and double standards and are welcoming disruption as the US upends the order it upheld for decades. The seminar explores how different parts of the Global South position themselves in the contested future and how the EU should respond.

Reiterer, Michael: Distinguished Professor, Guest Professor in Japan and New Zealand, EU-Ambassador ret. (Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy, Brussels School of Governance, VUB)
Yeo, Lay Hwee: Senior Fellow (Singapore Institute of International Affairs)

20.08.2025 09:30 - 20.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – Classroom 5

Global Politics and Influence: Africa at the Crossroad of Geopolitics and Climate Crisis

Track: Climate, SEM

As global power competition intensifies, its impact on climate, institutions, and conflict grows. Africa, historically contributing the least to global emissions, faces disproportionate climate risks and heightened external interest in its resources. This seminar explores strategies for African agency, including defending national interests and influencing global commitments on climate justice, such as loss and damage.

Gebrewold, Belachew: Professor (Management Center Innsbruck (MCI))
Jeng, Fatou: Founder / International Empowerment Manager (Clean Earth Gambia / Plant-for-the-Planet)

20.08.2025 09:30 - 20.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – EDV Room

Power, Activism, and How to Create Change (in Europe and Beyond)

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM

This seminar explores how individuals and movements can gain the power to drive change in moments of crisis and transformation. Drawing on past and present examples of activism, participants will learn about theories of change, effective strategies, and associated risks. Participants will develop their own campaign concepts and action plans to address challenges such as democratic backsliding and climate collapse.

Cahen-Salvador, Colombe: Co-Founder (Atlas Movement)
Alemanno, Alberto: Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law (HEC Paris)

20.08.2025 09:30 - 20.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Heiss-Saal

Valuing the Oceans: Challenges and Opportunities

Track: Climate, SEM

The oceans are getting increasingly overused, economised and exploited for their resources at all depths and scales. One of the many key challenges is how ocean diversity is compromised by industrial fishing. How to better care for, value and govern the oceans and their natural riches? Which role do governments, civil society and science play, and what are the means by which they engage? This seminar will present and discuss these challenges and the rich opportunities oceans still offer.

Asdal, Kristin: Professor (TIK Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture, University of Oslo)
Pauly, Daniel: Killam Professor and Principal Investigator (Sea Around Us initiative at the University of British Columbia)

20.08.2025 09:30 - 20.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Rogger-Saal

The New in the Making – A Philosophy of Change

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
What is (scientific) “progress” and how does it come to pass? Participants are invited to explore the “Spirit of Alpbach” by critically examining scientific change and the forces that drive or hinder it. Through discussions on paradigms, discovery, and the dynamics of new ideas, a creative environment to question the status quo in science and society is framed. The seminar aims to explain the making of the new through a philosophy of change.

Neges, Katharina: Senior Scientist (Graz University of Technology)
Mitterer, Josef: Professor (University Klagenfurt)

20.08.2025 09:30 - 20.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 2

Understanding Crypto-Assets: Bitcoin, Values and Vulnerabilities

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
In this seminar we will explain how crypto-assets work, for whom and for what purposes. The seminar starts with Bitcoin, describing how it functions both technically as well as socio-economically. We then question the ‘revolutionary’, world-changing nature of crypto-assets, by inquiring into whose values they represent and which vulnerabilities arise as they become increasingly integrated into a rapidly changing global political economy.

Campbell-Verduyn, Malcolm: Senior Lecturer (University of Groningen)
Lafourcade, Pascal: Professor (University Clermont Auvergne)

20.08.2025 09:30 - 20.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Europe’s Role in a Changing World

Track: Security, SEM
As the global order fractures under the weight of great power rivalry, can Europe remain a shaper – or will it become a bystander? This seminar explores Europe’s positioning amid shifting power dynamics, strategic rivalry, and global fragmentation. Participants examine key areas, such as security, trade, human rights, and multilateral cooperation in an increasingly complex world.

Leonard, Mark: Director (European Council on Foreign Relations)
McInerney-Lankford, Siobhán: Head of Unit for Equality, Roma and Social Rights (EU Fundamental Rights Agency)

20.08.2025 09:30 - 20.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Flora-Saal

Beyond the Hype: Re-situating AI, Power, and Democracy

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
This seminar explores how artificial intelligence is shaping power – and vice versa. We will discuss key challenges such as disinformation, power imbalances, declining trust in institutions, and the economic, environmental, and security risks of AI as a global socio-technical system. Using creative methods like mapping or data walks, participants will strengthen their AI literacy and imagine what a more democratic AI future could look like.

Mayer, Katja: Elise Richter Fellow (University of Vienna)
Milan, Stefania: Professor of Critical Data Studies (University of Amsterdam)

20.08.2025 09:30 - 20.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 1

Unveiling Modern Crime: Tackling Cybercrime in a Globalised World

Track: Security, SEM
As our societies have evolved, how has crime too? This seminar explores the evolving world of cybercrime, ranging from ransomware and phishing to trafficking and dark web markets. Learn data-driven, network-oriented strategies from experts, analyse real cases, and participate in practical exercises. Discover the tools, techniques, and global partnerships essential for combating digital threats in today’s interconnected world.

Goger, Thomas: Chief Public Prosecutor and Deputy Director (Bavarian Central Office for the Prosecution of Cybercrime (ZCB))
Haslhofer, Bernhard: Faculty and Group Leader (Complexity Science Hub)

20.08.2025 09:30 - 20.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Gym

Is Geoeconomics the New Balance of Power?

Track: Security, SEM
In an era of global economic disruption, states and non-state actors increasingly use economic tools to advance security interests. This seminar examines whether the shift toward geoeconomics signals the end of the global economic order or a transition into a new phase. Participants will critically discuss scenarios including the risk of an “economic World War III” and its possible ramifications.

Rashish, Peter: Vice President and Director, Geoeconomics Program (American-German Institute - Johns Hopkins University)
Wickett, Xenia: Director (Wickett Advisory)

20.08.2025 09:30 - 20.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 1

Work of the Past, Work of the Future

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
This seminar is about the patterns and drivers of economic growth, creative destruction and the future of work. The concepts of “product space” and “economic complexity” will help to understand growth as a process of learning, diversification, and complexification. You’ll learn how technology (robots, AI) is changing our jobs and tasks, and analyse which jobs are more affected by the digital and the green transition. We’ll end with a perspective on the Future of Work.

Neffke, Frank M. H.: Group leader (Complexity Science Hub)
Nedelkoska, Ljubica: Resident Scientist (Complexity Science Hub)

20.08.2025 09:30 - 20.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 3

Understanding Climate Change and Managing Energy Transition

Track: Climate, SEM
The scientific basis of climate change is examined, media portrayals are critically assessed, and key insights from the IPCC are highlighted. Climate models are discussed in terms of purpose and limitations. Challenges of the energy transition are explored, and a systems perspective is emphasised as essential for a resilient, fossil-free future.

Peitgen, Heinz-Otto: Professor Emeritus of Mathematics (Fraunhofer MEVIS, University of Bremen, Florida Atlantic University)
Brasseur, Georg: Em.Univ.-Prof. Dr. at Institute of Electrical Measurement & Sensor Systems (Graz University of Technology / Technische Universität Graz)

20.08.2025 09:30 - 20.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 2

Income and Wealth Inequality in Europe

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
This seminar explores the evolution, causes, and consequences of income and wealth inequality in Europe. First, participants examine whether inequality in these dimensions has increased and why such inequalities matter. Next, they analyse the role of socio-economic factors, such as gender, in shaping inequality trends, and investigate the influence of family background on the intergenerational persistence of inequality. Finally, participants evaluate the potential of widely debated tax policies in shaping the distribution of income and wealth.

Disslbacher, Franziska: Assistant Professor (Vienna University of Economics and Business)
Trinh, Nhat An: Researcher (University of Oxford)

20.08.2025 13:30 - 20.08.2025 14:30 | Chat |

Food for Thought

Alex GSTREIN
Recharge yourself first - a trance journey - before you can recharge Europe
CCA Hertz-Kremenak

Patrick BEN
Graduate school admissions and Scholarship applications
CCA Heiss

Martina DE STALIS, Lorenzo DONATELLI, Alexander Johann GROISS & Arno MINASIAN
The raison-être of the European Union
CCA Flora

Benjamin DE WILDE
Race in Medicine
CCA Rogger

Shirley SANTANA HERRERA
The Web of Life: Do life-changing opportunities have to be chased... or do they simply arrive?
CCA Media Room

Alexander NÉMETH
Heffalump at the Gates: Memes, AI, and Securitization in Orbán’s Hungary
CCA Hayek

Simeon RYCKENBUSCH & Florian TOTH
Church and Society. The role of „Christianity“ in the Europe of tomorrow
At the church

Alexandru-Nicolas DUMA
Approaching disinformation at the roots - an Interactive Brainstorming Session
CCA Schrödinger

Melanie KUHRN
Should we talk with/listen to anti-democrats?
Schulhäusl

Max STECENTO
Seventeen Moments of Spring and the Russian Cold War narrative
Volkschule upper floor Klasse 1

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 4

Theatre as a Sanctuary: How Theatre Builds Confidence and Connection

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
Many actors are introduced to theatre when their parents send them to theatre workshops to overcome their shyness and gain confidence; they end up going on stage in front of hundreds of people. The stage is their place of safety. So, what is it about working together to create a piece of theatre that produces this feeling? This seminar, led by students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, will explore this question.

Schiller, Ingrid: Acting Tutor, Audition Panellist, Director, Writer (RADA Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Shepphard, Nona: Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA))

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – EDV Room

From Anxiety to Mastery: Thriving in Change and Uncertainty

Track: SEM
Participants build confidence, resilience, and courage to engage with change. Through experiential exercises, systemic tools, and dialogue, they learn to manage stress and anxiety, navigate conflict, and communicate across perspectives — turning uncertainty into opportunity.

Kreh, Alexander: Clinical Psychologist (Universität Innsbruck)
von Hellberg, Philipp: Facilitator & Social Entrepreneur (blufink)

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 2

Creative Writing: Recharge. Refresh. Renew.

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
As perpetual crisis management narrows our focus and our minds, how can one rethink the future through the power of imagination and creative writing? Participants experiment with language, develop confidence, explore verbal expression and learn to write with greater authenticity and fluidity. Understand the value of creativity in all fields of work and how creative language is essential in building new pathways to and for our world.

English, Lucy: Professor in Creative Enterprise and The Spoken Word (Bath Spa University)
Martins, Christine: Art Scholar (Bath Spa University)
Amanulla, Naajia: Art Scholar (Bath Spa University)

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 1

Smart Decisions in Uncertain Times: Lead with Courage and Curiosity

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
In a fast-changing world, complexity and uncertainty are constant companions. This seminar equips participants with key decision-making frameworks, mental well-being strategies, and strategic trade-off exercises to move beyond black-and-white thinking. Through dynamic activities, participants will strengthen the clarity and courage needed to make effective decisions in uncertain times.

Ison, Rebekah: Head of Partnerships and Content (Better Politics Foundation)
Herbst, Natalia: Director for Latin America Strategy (Better Politics Foundation)

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Schulhäusl

Rethinking Masculinity: A Playful Exploration Through Art

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
What is masculinity and how do gender stereotypes affect our societies? Through voice, dance, and creative expression, we delve into different facets of masculinity, discuss them and develop a collective performance. No fixed answers, just shared exploration – all genders welcome! Be ready to take your curiosity and step forward into the unknown.

Benoît, Olivier: Art Scholar (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna)
Ohlsen, Simeon: Art Scholar (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna)
Rademacher, Wiebke: University professor of Music/Arts Education (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna (MUK))

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Money Matters: Take Charge of Your Financial Future

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
The pension system is broken – it is time to take control. This hands-on seminar teaches you the basics of investing, helps you understand markets, and challenges you to rethink money through expert talks, a stock market simulation, and new ideas for building long-term financial freedom.

Konradsheim, Matthäus: Entrepreneur (Stealth Mode)
Bayer, Daniel: CEO (Fingu GmbH)

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 2

Courage Muscle Training with Radikale Töchter (Radical Daughters)

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

Climate crisis, racism, rising right-wing populism: In light of such challenges, the world needs radical ideas and new impulses for action to tackle the current political climate. Above all, new visions and practices are needed in times of vulnerable democracies. This seminar offers an introduction to tools and tactics of artistic activism (Aktionskunst), which support fundamental democratic values such as liberty, equality, equity and solidarity.

Gahren, Isabel: Co-CEO betterplace lab, Facilitator (Radikale Töchter)
Leonard, Cesy: Founding Director (Radikale Töchter)
Müller, Anna: Management Assistant (Radikale Töchter)

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Gym

Voices Without Boundaries

Track: SEM

Participants are invited to explore their voices in playful and creative ways. Working as an ensemble, they will engage in speech and song activities designed to build technical skills and expressive capacity. Fundamentals of healthy voice practice will be established, and reflective exercises will help participants strengthen their ability to communicate confidently in any public forum.

Windley, Joe: Freelance Voice and Speech Coach (UK & International); Honorary Ambassador (The Meeting of European Theatre Academies)
Garvey, Deborah: Voice and Singing Coach (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 1

Let’s Build a Global Museum of Migration. Documenting – Telling – Exhibiting Migration Histories

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

Museums of Migration remain rare across the world. This seminar explores how migration histories can be documented and exhibited as integral parts of global cultural memory. Through interactive formats, participants will develop scenarios and visions for establishing a global Museum of Migration and embedding migration histories into transnational narratives.

Seidel, Anna: Director and Chairwoman / Slavic Literary Scholar (MUSMIG - Museum of Migration / Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)
Messner, Elena: Postdoctoral Researcher (University of Vienna)
Ristic, Savo: Director (MUSMIG Museum of Migration)

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Flora-Saal

Futures of a Liveable Planet

Track: Climate, SEM
This seminar invites participants to explore assumptions about the future of our shared habitat. Using the UNESCO methodology “Futures Literacy”, participants will travel back and forth between imagined futures and present-day policy choices. The interactive setting challenges conventional thinking and empowers participants to rethink the boundaries of what makes our planet liveable.

Saheb, Yamina: Researcher & Lecturer / Co-Founder (Sciences Po / World Sufficiency Lab)
Damhof, Loes: UNESCO Chair for Futures Literacy in Higher Education (Hanze University of Applied Sciences)

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Rogger-Saal

Journalism’s Role in Strengthening European Sovereignty

Track: SEM
This seminar invites participants to step into the role of journalists to explore how independent media can strengthen European sovereignty. Guided by an experienced editor and an international reporter, participants will examine media landscapes, media ethics, and media sustainability. Practical exercises will develop critical thinking, writing, and interviewing skills to contribute to Europe’s shared narrative.

Grillmeier, Franziska: Journalist
Munk, Veronika: Director of Innovation and New Markets (Denník N)

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Heiss-Saal

Accelerating Entrepreneurship with Generative AI

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
This seminar is designed for aspiring entrepreneurs and innovators eager to explore how generative AI can accelerate the journey from idea to startup. Participants will work in small teams to identify real-world challenges, co-create solutions, and use state-of-the-art AI tools to ideate, prototype, and pitch their startup ideas.

Faems, Dries: Full Professor of Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Technological Transformation (WHU Otto Beisheim School of Management)
Burger, Bastian: Director Software & AI (TUM Venture Labs)

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Square

Centre of Gravity: Finding Your Leadership Focus

Track: SEM
This leadership seminar, conducted by cadets of the Theresian Military Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces, takes place in an outdoor setting and draws inspiration from Clausewitz's concept of the "Center of Gravity". Participants will face physical and mental challenges designed to test their decision-making, teamwork and resilience. Through reflection and experience-based learning, they will uncover what truly drives effective leadership — in themselves and others.

//INFO: If the weather allows it, the seminar will take place outdoors. Please bring sportswear and steady footwear.

Schöndorfer, Fabian: Peer2Peer-Trainer (Defence Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces)
Zapfel, Andre: Peer2Peer-Trainer (Defence Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces)
Winter, Ingomar: Peer2Peer-Trainer (Defence Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces)
Gstrein, Alexander: Researcher (Ministry of Defence of Austria)

20.08.2025 15:00 - 20.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 3

Stronger Together: The Power of the Ensemble

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
Students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London will share the parts of their actor training that deal with ensembles. Creating an effective and dynamic piece of theatre requires every individual actor to function as part of the company. Whether they have a large or a small part does not matter – each actor is equally important. This seminar explores the routes, strategies and compromises we might employ to help us work together effectively.

Schiller, Ingrid: Acting Tutor, Audition Panellist, Director, Writer (RADA Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Shepphard, Nona: Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA))

21.08.2025 09:30 - 21.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 2

Income and Wealth Inequality in Europe

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
This seminar explores the evolution, causes, and consequences of income and wealth inequality in Europe. First, participants examine whether inequality in these dimensions has increased and why such inequalities matter. Next, they analyse the role of socio-economic factors, such as gender, in shaping inequality trends, and investigate the influence of family background on the intergenerational persistence of inequality. Finally, participants evaluate the potential of widely debated tax policies in shaping the distribution of income and wealth.

Trinh, Nhat An: Researcher (University of Oxford)
Disslbacher, Franziska: Assistant Professor (Vienna University of Economics and Business)

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Understanding Climate Change and Managing Energy Transition

Track: Climate, SEM

The scientific basis of climate change is examined, media portrayals are critically assessed, and key insights from the IPCC are highlighted. Climate models are discussed in terms of purpose and limitations. Challenges of the energy transition are explored, and a systems perspective is emphasised as essential for a resilient, fossil-free future.

Brasseur, Georg: Em.Univ.-Prof. Dr. at Institute of Electrical Measurement & Sensor Systems (Graz University of Technology / Technische Universität Graz)
Peitgen, Heinz-Otto: Professor Emeritus of Mathematics (Fraunhofer MEVIS, University of Bremen, Florida Atlantic University)

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Pauly, Daniel: Killam Professor and Principal Investigator (Sea Around Us initiative at the University of British Columbia)

21.08.2025 09:30 - 21.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 1

Work of the Past, Work of the Future

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM

This seminar is about the patterns and drivers of economic growth, creative destruction and the future of work. The concepts of “product space” and “economic complexity” will help to understand growth as a process of learning, diversification, and complexification. You’ll learn how technology (robots, AI) is changing our jobs and tasks, and analyse which jobs are more affected by the digital and the green transition. We’ll end with a perspective on the Future of Work.

Nedelkoska, Ljubica: Resident Scientist (Complexity Science Hub)
Neffke, Frank M. H.: Group leader (Complexity Science Hub)

21.08.2025 09:30 - 21.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Gym

Is Geoeconomics the New Balance of Power?

Track: Security, SEM
In an era of global economic disruption, states and non-state actors increasingly use economic tools to advance security interests. This seminar examines whether the shift toward geoeconomics signals the end of the global economic order or a transition into a new phase. Participants will critically discuss scenarios including the risk of an “economic World War III” and its possible ramifications.

Wickett, Xenia: Director (Wickett Advisory)
Rashish, Peter: Vice President and Director, Geoeconomics Program (American-German Institute - Johns Hopkins University)

21.08.2025 09:30 - 21.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 1

Unveiling Modern Crime: Tackling Cybercrime in a Globalised World

Track: Security, SEM
As our societies have evolved, how has crime too? This seminar explores the evolving world of cybercrime, ranging from ransomware and phishing to trafficking and dark web markets. Learn data-driven, network-oriented strategies from experts, analyse real cases, and participate in practical exercises. Discover the tools, techniques, and global partnerships essential for combating digital threats in today’s interconnected world.

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Power, Activism, and How to Create Change (in Europe and Beyond)

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
This seminar explores how individuals and movements can gain the power to drive change in moments of crisis and transformation. Drawing on past and present examples of activism, participants will learn about theories of change, effective strategies, and associated risks. Participants will develop their own campaign concepts and action plans to address challenges such as democratic backsliding and climate collapse.

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Alemanno, Alberto: Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law (HEC Paris)

21.08.2025 09:30 - 21.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – Classroom 5

Global Politics and Influence: Africa at the Crossroad of Geopolitics and Climate Crisis

Track: Climate, SEM

As global power competition intensifies, its impact on climate, institutions, and conflict grows. Africa, historically contributing the least to global emissions, faces disproportionate climate risks and heightened external interest in its resources. This seminar explores strategies for African agency, including defending national interests and influencing global commitments on climate justice, such as loss and damage.

Gebrewold, Belachew: Professor (Management Center Innsbruck (MCI))
Jeng, Fatou: Founder / International Empowerment Manager (Clean Earth Gambia / Plant-for-the-Planet)

21.08.2025 09:30 - 21.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 4

Security in times of change and contestation – the role of the Global South and the EU’s Response

Track: Security, SEM

As the pax americana falters, the sorrow about the post WWII order is not shared equally. Many developing countries are uneasy about Western led liberal international order, marked by military interventions and double standards and are welcoming disruption as the US upends the order it upheld for decades. The seminar explores how different parts of the Global South position themselves in the contested future and how the EU should respond.

Reiterer, Michael: Distinguished Professor, Guest Professor in Japan and New Zealand, EU-Ambassador ret. (Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy, Brussels School of Governance, VUB)
Yeo, Lay Hwee: Senior Fellow (Singapore Institute of International Affairs)

21.08.2025 09:30 - 21.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Rogger-Saal

The New in the Making – A Philosophy of Change

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM

What is (scientific) “progress” and how does it come to pass? Participants are invited to explore the “Spirit of Alpbach” by critically examining scientific change and the forces that drive or hinder it. Through discussions on paradigms, discovery, and the dynamics of new ideas, a creative environment to question the status quo in science and society is framed. The seminar aims to explain the making of the new through a philosophy of change.

Mitterer, Josef: Professor (University Klagenfurt)
Neges, Katharina: Senior Scientist (Graz University of Technology)

21.08.2025 09:30 - 21.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 2

Understanding Crypto-Assets: Bitcoin, Values and Vulnerabilities

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
In this seminar we will explain how crypto-assets work, for whom and for what purposes. The seminar starts with Bitcoin, describing how it functions both technically as well as socio-economically. We then question the ‘revolutionary’, world-changing nature of crypto-assets, by inquiring into whose values they represent and which vulnerabilities arise as they become increasingly integrated into a rapidly changing global political economy.

Lafourcade, Pascal: Professor (University Clermont Auvergne)
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Europe’s Role in a Changing World

Track: Security, SEM
As the global order fractures under the weight of great power rivalry, can Europe remain a shaper – or will it become a bystander? This seminar explores Europe’s positioning amid shifting power dynamics, strategic rivalry, and global fragmentation. Participants examine key areas, such as security, trade, human rights, and multilateral cooperation in an increasingly complex world.

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McInerney-Lankford, Siobhán: Head of Unit for Equality, Roma and Social Rights (EU Fundamental Rights Agency)

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Beyond the Hype: Re-situating AI, Power, and Democracy

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
This seminar explores how artificial intelligence is shaping power – and vice versa. We will discuss key challenges such as disinformation, power imbalances, declining trust in institutions, and the economic, environmental, and security risks of AI as a global socio-technical system. Using creative methods like mapping or data walks, participants will strengthen their AI literacy and imagine what a more democratic AI future could look like.

Milan, Stefania: Professor of Critical Data Studies (University of Amsterdam)
Mayer, Katja: Elise Richter Fellow (University of Vienna)

21.08.2025 13:30 - 21.08.2025 14:30 | Chat |

Food for Thought

Food for Thought Day 4
Thursday, 21st August 13:30-14:30

Luca MORET
Should we establish a wealth limit for the super-rich in Europe?
CCA Herz-Kremenak

Isa ZUHRIĆ (Global Shapers Community)
The power of active global communities: how youth can tackle global challenges locally
CCA Rogger

Jonathan LOPEZ
Why China Matters - A Schwarzman Scholars perspective
CCA Flora

Róbert Roland KOVÁCS
The Roads of the Roma - The Past and Present of the Roma Community
CCA Heiss

Tareq LAYKA
Normalisation or Leverage? Europe’s security choices in Syria’s evolving No War / No Peace reality
Volkschule upper floor Klasse 1

Karolina AIRAPETIAN (KIGA)
“I’m from Ukraine: ask me anything”
Schulhäusl

Maryam HASANOVA
Life after loss: relearning to live while grieving
CCA Schrödinger

Caroline HAMMER
Breath and Stress - a glimpse into the Grinberg Method or how we are in our bodies
CCA Hayek

Cheng-Lin LEE
Tackling workplace discrimination and harassment
Volkschule upper floor Klasse 2

Giorgi PACHUASHVILI
How to preserve a sense of humour during crisis
CCA Liechtenstein

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Square

Centre of Gravity: Finding Your Leadership Focus

Track: SEM
This leadership seminar, conducted by cadets of the Theresian Military Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces, takes place in an outdoor setting and draws inspiration from Clausewitz‘s concept of the “Center of Gravity“. Participants will face physical and mental challenges designed to test their decision-making, teamwork and resilience. Through reflection and experience-based learning, they will uncover what truly drives effective leadership — in themselves and others.

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Winter, Ingomar: Peer2Peer-Trainer (Defence Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces)
Schöndorfer, Fabian: Peer2Peer-Trainer (Defence Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces)
Zapfel, Andre: Peer2Peer-Trainer (Defence Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces)
Gstrein, Alexander: Researcher (Ministry of Defence of Austria)

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 1

Smart Decisions in Uncertain Times: Lead with Courage and Curiosity

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
In a fast-changing world, complexity and uncertainty are constant companions. This seminar equips participants with key decision-making frameworks, mental well-being strategies, and strategic trade-off exercises to move beyond black-and-white thinking. Through dynamic activities, participants will strengthen the clarity and courage needed to make effective decisions in uncertain times.

Ison, Rebekah: Head of Partnerships and Content (Better Politics Foundation)
Herbst, Natalia: Director for Latin America Strategy (Better Politics Foundation)

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Schulhäusl

Rethinking Masculinity: A Playful Exploration Through Art

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
What is masculinity and how do gender stereotypes affect our societies? Through voice, dance, and creative expression, we delve into different facets of masculinity, discuss them and develop a collective performance. No fixed answers, just shared exploration – all genders welcome! Be ready to take your curiosity and step forward into the unknown.

Rademacher, Wiebke: University professor of Music/Arts Education (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna (MUK))
Benoît, Olivier: Art Scholar (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna)
Ohlsen, Simeon: Art Scholar (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna)

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Money Matters: Take Charge of Your Financial Future

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
The pension system is broken – it is time to take control. This hands-on seminar teaches you the basics of investing, helps you understand markets, and challenges you to rethink money through expert talks, a stock market simulation, and new ideas for building long-term financial freedom.

Konradsheim, Matthäus: Entrepreneur (Stealth Mode)
Bayer, Daniel: CEO (Fingu GmbH)

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 2

Courage Muscle Training with Radikale Töchter (Radical Daughters)

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
Climate crisis, racism, rising right-wing populism: In light of such challenges, the world needs radical ideas and new impulses for action to tackle the current political climate. Above all, new visions and practices are needed in times of vulnerable democracies. This seminar offers an introduction to tools and tactics of artistic activism (Aktionskunst), which support fundamental democratic values such as liberty, equality, equity and solidarity.

Gahren, Isabel: Co-CEO betterplace lab, Facilitator (Radikale Töchter)
Müller, Anna: Management Assistant (Radikale Töchter)
Leonard, Cesy: Founding Director (Radikale Töchter)

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 3

Stronger Together: The Power of the Ensemble

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
Students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London will share the parts of their actor training that deal with ensembles. Creating an effective and dynamic piece of theatre requires every individual actor to function as part of the company. Whether they have a large or a small part does not matter – each actor is equally important. This seminar explores the routes, strategies and compromises we might employ to help us work together effectively.

Schiller, Ingrid: Acting Tutor, Audition Panellist, Director, Writer (RADA Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Shepphard, Nona: Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA))

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 2

Creative Writing: Recharge. Refresh. Renew.

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

As perpetual crisis management narrows our focus and our minds, how can one rethink the future through the power of imagination and creative writing? Participants experiment with language, develop confidence, explore verbal expression and learn to write with greater authenticity and fluidity. Understand the value of creativity in all fields of work and how creative language is essential in building new pathways to and for our world.

Martins, Christine: Art Scholar (Bath Spa University)
Amanulla, Naajia: Art Scholar (Bath Spa University)
English, Lucy: Professor in Creative Enterprise and The Spoken Word (Bath Spa University)

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 4

Theatre as a Sanctuary: How Theatre Builds Confidence and Connection

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

Many actors are introduced to theatre when their parents send them to theatre workshops to overcome their shyness and gain confidence; they end up going on stage in front of hundreds of people. The stage is their place of safety. So, what is it about working together to create a piece of theatre that produces this feeling? This seminar, led by students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, will explore this question.

Schiller, Ingrid: Acting Tutor, Audition Panellist, Director, Writer (RADA Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Shepphard, Nona: Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA))

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – EDV Room

From Anxiety to Mastery: Thriving in Change and Uncertainty

Track: SEM

Participants build confidence, resilience, and courage to engage with change. Through experiential exercises, systemic tools, and dialogue, they learn to manage stress and anxiety, navigate conflict, and communicate across perspectives — turning uncertainty into opportunity.

Kreh, Alexander: Clinical Psychologist (Universität Innsbruck)
von Hellberg, Philipp: Facilitator & Social Entrepreneur (blufink)

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 1

Let’s Build a Global Museum of Migration. Documenting – Telling – Exhibiting Migration Histories

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
Museums of Migration remain rare across the world. This seminar explores how migration histories can be documented and exhibited as integral parts of global cultural memory. Through interactive formats, participants will develop scenarios and visions for establishing a global Museum of Migration and embedding migration histories into transnational narratives.

Messner, Elena: Postdoctoral Researcher (University of Vienna)
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Seidel, Anna: Director and Chairwoman / Slavic Literary Scholar (MUSMIG - Museum of Migration / Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Gym

Voices Without Boundaries

Track: SEM
Participants are invited to explore their voices in playful and creative ways. Working as an ensemble, they will engage in speech and song activities designed to build technical skills and expressive capacity. Fundamentals of healthy voice practice will be established, and reflective exercises will help participants strengthen their ability to communicate confidently in any public forum.

Garvey, Deborah: Voice and Singing Coach (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Windley, Joe: Freelance Voice and Speech Coach (UK & International); Honorary Ambassador (The Meeting of European Theatre Academies)

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Heiss-Saal

Accelerating Entrepreneurship with Generative AI

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
This seminar is designed for aspiring entrepreneurs and innovators eager to explore how generative AI can accelerate the journey from idea to startup. Participants will work in small teams to identify real-world challenges, co-create solutions, and use state-of-the-art AI tools to ideate, prototype, and pitch their startup ideas.

Faems, Dries: Full Professor of Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Technological Transformation (WHU Otto Beisheim School of Management)
Burger, Bastian: Director Software & AI (TUM Venture Labs)

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Rogger-Saal

Journalism’s Role in Strengthening European Sovereignty

Track: SEM
This seminar invites participants to step into the role of journalists to explore how independent media can strengthen European sovereignty. Guided by an experienced editor and an international reporter, participants will examine media landscapes, media ethics, and media sustainability. Practical exercises will develop critical thinking, writing, and interviewing skills to contribute to Europe’s shared narrative.

Grillmeier, Franziska: Journalist
Munk, Veronika: Director of Innovation and New Markets (Denník N)

21.08.2025 15:00 - 21.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Flora-Saal

Futures of a Liveable Planet

Track: Climate, SEM
This seminar invites participants to explore assumptions about the future of our shared habitat. Using the UNESCO methodology “Futures Literacy”, participants will travel back and forth between imagined futures and present-day policy choices. The interactive setting challenges conventional thinking and empowers participants to rethink the boundaries of what makes our planet liveable.

Damhof, Loes: UNESCO Chair for Futures Literacy in Higher Education (Hanze University of Applied Sciences)
Saheb, Yamina: Researcher & Lecturer / Co-Founder (Sciences Po / World Sufficiency Lab)

21.08.2025 20:15 - 21.08.2025 22:00 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

International Evening

Hosted by: Forum Alpbach Network Committee
The International Evening is a vibrant event showcasing the cultural diversity of the participants from different nationalities. With interactive elements and engaging activities, it creates an immersive experience celebrating global unity and fostering cross-cultural connections.

INFO: Please feel warmly invited to attend the International Evening in your traditional clothing.

The EFA Code of Conduct needs to be respected.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

22.08.2025 09:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Lab |

Labs: Multi-Day Working Sessions

Labs are 1.5-day facilitated working session with a closed and well-selected group of 30 participants that has a joint purpose with the goal that this group, first, becomes a community of action, and second, finds answers to a larger, cross-cutting problem.

Explore the EFA25 Labs.

22.08.2025 09:30 - 22.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 2

Income and Wealth Inequality in Europe

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
This seminar explores the evolution, causes, and consequences of income and wealth inequality in Europe. First, participants examine whether inequality in these dimensions has increased and why such inequalities matter. Next, they analyse the role of socio-economic factors, such as gender, in shaping inequality trends, and investigate the influence of family background on the intergenerational persistence of inequality. Finally, participants evaluate the potential of widely debated tax policies in shaping the distribution of income and wealth.

Disslbacher, Franziska: Assistant Professor (Vienna University of Economics and Business)
Trinh, Nhat An: Researcher (University of Oxford)

22.08.2025 09:30 - 22.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 3

Understanding Climate Change and Managing Energy Transition

Track: Climate, SEM
The scientific basis of climate change is examined, media portrayals are critically assessed, and key insights from the IPCC are highlighted. Climate models are discussed in terms of purpose and limitations. Challenges of the energy transition are explored, and a systems perspective is emphasised as essential for a resilient, fossil-free future.

Brasseur, Georg: Em.Univ.-Prof. Dr. at Institute of Electrical Measurement & Sensor Systems (Graz University of Technology / Technische Universität Graz)
Peitgen, Heinz-Otto: Professor Emeritus of Mathematics (Fraunhofer MEVIS, University of Bremen, Florida Atlantic University)

22.08.2025 09:30 - 22.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – EDV Room

Power, Activism, and How to Create Change (in Europe and Beyond)

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
This seminar explores how individuals and movements can gain the power to drive change in moments of crisis and transformation. Drawing on past and present examples of activism, participants will learn about theories of change, effective strategies, and associated risks. Participants will develop their own campaign concepts and action plans to address challenges such as democratic backsliding and climate collapse.

Cahen-Salvador, Colombe: Co-Founder (Atlas Movement)
Alemanno, Alberto: Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law (HEC Paris)

22.08.2025 09:30 - 22.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – Classroom 5

Global Politics and Influence: Africa at the Crossroad of Geopolitics and Climate Crisis

Track: Climate, SEM

As global power competition intensifies, its impact on climate, institutions, and conflict grows. Africa, historically contributing the least to global emissions, faces disproportionate climate risks and heightened external interest in its resources. This seminar explores strategies for African agency, including defending national interests and influencing global commitments on climate justice, such as loss and damage.

Jeng, Fatou: Founder / International Empowerment Manager (Clean Earth Gambia / Plant-for-the-Planet)
Gebrewold, Belachew: Professor (Management Center Innsbruck (MCI))

22.08.2025 09:30 - 22.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 4

Security in times of change and contestation – the role of the Global South and the EU’s Response

Track: Security, SEM

As the pax americana falters, the sorrow about the post WWII order is not shared equally. Many developing countries are uneasy about Western led liberal international order, marked by military interventions and double standards and are welcoming disruption as the US upends the order it upheld for decades. The seminar explores how different parts of the Global South position themselves in the contested future and how the EU should respond.

Yeo, Lay Hwee: Senior Fellow (Singapore Institute of International Affairs)
Reiterer, Michael: Distinguished Professor, Guest Professor in Japan and New Zealand, EU-Ambassador ret. (Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy, Brussels School of Governance, VUB)

22.08.2025 09:30 - 22.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Hotel Alphof – Seminar Room

The New in the Making – A Philosophy of Change

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM

What is (scientific) “progress” and how does it come to pass? Participants are invited to explore the “Spirit of Alpbach” by critically examining scientific change and the forces that drive or hinder it. Through discussions on paradigms, discovery, and the dynamics of new ideas, a creative environment to question the status quo in science and society is framed. The seminar aims to explain the making of the new through a philosophy of change.

Neges, Katharina: Senior Scientist (Graz University of Technology)
Mitterer, Josef: Professor (University Klagenfurt)

22.08.2025 09:30 - 22.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 1

Work of the Past, Work of the Future

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
This seminar is about the patterns and drivers of economic growth, creative destruction and the future of work. The concepts of “product space” and “economic complexity” will help to understand growth as a process of learning, diversification, and complexification. You’ll learn how technology (robots, AI) is changing our jobs and tasks, and analyse which jobs are more affected by the digital and the green transition. We’ll end with a perspective on the Future of Work.

Nedelkoska, Ljubica: Resident Scientist (Complexity Science Hub)
Neffke, Frank M. H.: Group leader (Complexity Science Hub)

22.08.2025 09:30 - 22.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Gym

Is Geoeconomics the New Balance of Power?

Track: Security, SEM
In an era of global economic disruption, states and non-state actors increasingly use economic tools to advance security interests. This seminar examines whether the shift toward geoeconomics signals the end of the global economic order or a transition into a new phase. Participants will critically discuss scenarios including the risk of an “economic World War III” and its possible ramifications.

Wickett, Xenia: Director (Wickett Advisory)
Rashish, Peter: Vice President and Director, Geoeconomics Program (American-German Institute - Johns Hopkins University)

22.08.2025 09:30 - 22.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 1

Unveiling Modern Crime: Tackling Cybercrime in a Globalised World

Track: Security, SEM
As our societies have evolved, how has crime too? This seminar explores the evolving world of cybercrime, ranging from ransomware and phishing to trafficking and dark web markets. Learn data-driven, network-oriented strategies from experts, analyse real cases, and participate in practical exercises. Discover the tools, techniques, and global partnerships essential for combating digital threats in today’s interconnected world.

Haslhofer, Bernhard: Faculty and Group Leader (Complexity Science Hub)
Goger, Thomas: Chief Public Prosecutor and Deputy Director (Bavarian Central Office for the Prosecution of Cybercrime (ZCB))

22.08.2025 09:30 - 22.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Flora-Saal

Beyond the Hype: Re-situating AI, Power, and Democracy

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
This seminar explores how artificial intelligence is shaping power – and vice versa. We will discuss key challenges such as disinformation, power imbalances, declining trust in institutions, and the economic, environmental, and security risks of AI as a global socio-technical system. Using creative methods like mapping or data walks, participants will strengthen their AI literacy and imagine what a more democratic AI future could look like.

Mayer, Katja: Elise Richter Fellow (University of Vienna)
Milan, Stefania: Professor of Critical Data Studies (University of Amsterdam)

22.08.2025 09:30 - 22.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Europe’s Role in a Changing World

Track: Security, SEM
As the global order fractures under the weight of great power rivalry, can Europe remain a shaper – or will it become a bystander? This seminar explores Europe’s positioning amid shifting power dynamics, strategic rivalry, and global fragmentation. Participants examine key areas, such as security, trade, human rights, and multilateral cooperation in an increasingly complex world.

McInerney-Lankford, Siobhán: Head of Unit for Equality, Roma and Social Rights (EU Fundamental Rights Agency)
Leonard, Mark: Director (European Council on Foreign Relations)

22.08.2025 09:30 - 22.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 2

Understanding Crypto-Assets: Bitcoin, Values and Vulnerabilities

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM
In this seminar we will explain how crypto-assets work, for whom and for what purposes. The seminar starts with Bitcoin, describing how it functions both technically as well as socio-economically. We then question the ‘revolutionary’, world-changing nature of crypto-assets, by inquiring into whose values they represent and which vulnerabilities arise as they become increasingly integrated into a rapidly changing global political economy.

Lafourcade, Pascal: Professor (University Clermont Auvergne)
Campbell-Verduyn, Malcolm: Senior Lecturer (University of Groningen)

22.08.2025 09:30 - 22.08.2025 12:30 | Seminar | CCA – Heiss-Saal

Valuing the Oceans: Challenges and Opportunities

Track: Climate, SEM

The oceans are getting increasingly overused, economised and exploited for their resources at all depths and scales. One of the many key challenges is how ocean diversity is compromised by industrial fishing. How to better care for, value and govern the oceans and their natural riches? Which role do governments, civil society and science play, and what are the means by which they engage? This seminar will present and discuss these challenges and the rich opportunities oceans still offer.

Pauly, Daniel: Killam Professor and Principal Investigator (Sea Around Us initiative at the University of British Columbia)
Asdal, Kristin: Professor (TIK Centre for Technology, Innovation and Culture, University of Oslo)

22.08.2025 15:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Money Matters: Take Charge of Your Financial Future

Track: Finance & Economy, SEM

The pension system is broken – it is time to take control. This hands-on seminar teaches you the basics of investing, helps you understand markets, and challenges you to rethink money through expert talks, a stock market simulation, and new ideas for building long-term financial freedom.

Konradsheim, Matthäus: Entrepreneur (Stealth Mode)
Bayer, Daniel: CEO (Fingu GmbH)

22.08.2025 15:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 1

Let’s Build a Global Museum of Migration. Documenting – Telling – Exhibiting Migration Histories

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

Museums of Migration remain rare across the world. This seminar explores how migration histories can be documented and exhibited as integral parts of global cultural memory. Through interactive formats, participants will develop scenarios and visions for establishing a global Museum of Migration and embedding migration histories into transnational narratives.

Messner, Elena: Postdoctoral Researcher (University of Vienna)
Ristic, Savo: Director (MUSMIG Museum of Migration)
Seidel, Anna: Director and Chairwoman / Slavic Literary Scholar (MUSMIG - Museum of Migration / Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin)

22.08.2025 15:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Gym

Voices Without Boundaries

Track: SEM
Participants are invited to explore their voices in playful and creative ways. Working as an ensemble, they will engage in speech and song activities designed to build technical skills and expressive capacity. Fundamentals of healthy voice practice will be established, and reflective exercises will help participants strengthen their ability to communicate confidently in any public forum.

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This seminar is designed for aspiring entrepreneurs and innovators eager to explore how generative AI can accelerate the journey from idea to startup. Participants will work in small teams to identify real-world challenges, co-create solutions, and use state-of-the-art AI tools to ideate, prototype, and pitch their startup ideas.

Faems, Dries: Full Professor of Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Technological Transformation (WHU Otto Beisheim School of Management)
Burger, Bastian: Director Software & AI (TUM Venture Labs)

22.08.2025 15:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Sportanlage Alpbach – Football Field

Centre of Gravity: Finding Your Leadership Focus

Track: SEM
This leadership seminar, conducted by cadets of the Theresian Military Academy of the Austrian Armed Forces, takes place in an outdoor setting and draws inspiration from Clausewitz‘s concept of the “Center of Gravity“. Participants will face physical and mental challenges designed to test their decision-making, teamwork and resilience. Through reflection and experience-based learning, they will uncover what truly drives effective leadership — in themselves and others.

//INFO: If the weather allows it, the seminar will take place outdoors. Please bring sportswear and steady footwear.

Gstrein, Alexander: Researcher (Ministry of Defence of Austria)

22.08.2025 15:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – First Floor – EDV Room

From Anxiety to Mastery: Thriving in Change and Uncertainty

Track: SEM

Participants build confidence, resilience, and courage to engage with change. Through experiential exercises, systemic tools, and dialogue, they learn to manage stress and anxiety, navigate conflict, and communicate across perspectives — turning uncertainty into opportunity.

Kreh, Alexander: Clinical Psychologist (Universität Innsbruck)
von Hellberg, Philipp: Facilitator & Social Entrepreneur (blufink)

22.08.2025 15:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 4

Theatre as a Sanctuary: How Theatre Builds Confidence and Connection

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

Many actors are introduced to theatre when their parents send them to theatre workshops to overcome their shyness and gain confidence; they end up going on stage in front of hundreds of people. The stage is their place of safety. So, what is it about working together to create a piece of theatre that produces this feeling? This seminar, led by students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London, will explore this question.

Schiller, Ingrid: Acting Tutor, Audition Panellist, Director, Writer (RADA Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Shepphard, Nona: Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA))

22.08.2025 15:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | CCA – Media Room

Futures of a Liveable Planet

Track: Climate, SEM

This seminar invites participants to explore assumptions about the future of our shared habitat. Using the UNESCO methodology “Futures Literacy”, participants will travel back and forth between imagined futures and present-day policy choices. The interactive setting challenges conventional thinking and empowers participants to rethink the boundaries of what makes our planet liveable.

22.08.2025 15:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Hotel Alphof – Seminar Room

Journalism’s Role in Strengthening European Sovereignty

Track: SEM

This seminar invites participants to step into the role of journalists to explore how independent media can strengthen European sovereignty. Guided by an experienced editor and an international reporter, participants will examine media landscapes, media ethics, and media sustainability. Practical exercises will develop critical thinking, writing, and interviewing skills to contribute to Europe’s shared narrative.

Grillmeier, Franziska: Journalist
Munk, Veronika: Director of Innovation and New Markets (Denník N)

22.08.2025 15:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule – Gym

Rethinking Masculinity: A Playful Exploration Through Art

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

What is masculinity and how do gender stereotypes affect our societies? Through voice, dance, and creative expression, we delve into different facets of masculinity, discuss them and develop a collective performance. No fixed answers, just shared exploration – all genders welcome! Be ready to take your curiosity and step forward into the unknown.

Rademacher, Wiebke: University professor of Music/Arts Education (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna (MUK))
Ohlsen, Simeon: Art Scholar (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna)
Benoît, Olivier: Art Scholar (Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna)

22.08.2025 15:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 3

Stronger Together: The Power of the Ensemble

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM

Students from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London will share the parts of their actor training that deal with ensembles. Creating an effective and dynamic piece of theatre requires every individual actor to function as part of the company. Whether they have a large or a small part does not matter – each actor is equally important. This seminar explores the routes, strategies and compromises we might employ to help us work together effectively.

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22.08.2025 15:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 1

Smart Decisions in Uncertain Times: Lead with Courage and Curiosity

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, SEM
In a fast-changing world, complexity and uncertainty are constant companions. This seminar equips participants with key decision-making frameworks, mental well-being strategies, and strategic trade-off exercises to move beyond black-and-white thinking. Through dynamic activities, participants will strengthen the clarity and courage needed to make effective decisions in uncertain times.

Ison, Rebekah: Head of Partnerships and Content (Better Politics Foundation)
Herbst, Natalia: Director for Latin America Strategy (Better Politics Foundation)

22.08.2025 15:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Volksschule – Upper Floor 2

Courage Muscle Training with Radikale Töchter (Radical Daughters)

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
Climate crisis, racism, rising right-wing populism: In light of such challenges, the world needs radical ideas and new impulses for action to tackle the current political climate. Above all, new visions and practices are needed in times of vulnerable democracies. This seminar offers an introduction to tools and tactics of artistic activism (Aktionskunst), which support fundamental democratic values such as liberty, equality, equity and solidarity.

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Leonard, Cesy: Founding Director (Radikale Töchter)
Müller, Anna: Management Assistant (Radikale Töchter)

22.08.2025 15:00 - 22.08.2025 18:00 | Seminar | Mittelschule – Ground Floor – Classroom 2

Creative Writing: Recharge. Refresh. Renew.

Track: Arts & Culture, SEM
As perpetual crisis management narrows our focus and our minds, how can one rethink the future through the power of imagination and creative writing? Participants experiment with language, develop confidence, explore verbal expression and learn to write with greater authenticity and fluidity. Understand the value of creativity in all fields of work and how creative language is essential in building new pathways to and for our world.

Amanulla, Naajia: Art Scholar (Bath Spa University)
Martins, Christine: Art Scholar (Bath Spa University)
English, Lucy: Professor in Creative Enterprise and The Spoken Word (Bath Spa University)

22.08.2025 19:00 - 22.08.2025 20:00 | Stage | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Alpbach Seminars Closing

Join the European Forum Alpbach 2025 Alpbach Seminars closing ceremony! A group of young talents from all over the world celebrates the successful completion of the Alpbach Seminars, reflects on this week full of new experiences, and gives inspiring art performances.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

22.08.2025 20:00 - 22.08.2025 20:30 | Ritual | Village Square

Open Air Concert Alpbach Brass Band

On Fridays during the summer months, the Alpbach brass band hosts their open-air concert on the village square. All Alpbach residents as well as national and international guests are cordially invited!

22.08.2025 21:00 - 23.08.2025 01:00 | Happening | Spar – Garage

FANC Seminar Closing Party

Hosted by: Forum Alpbach Network Committee
The Seminar Days are over! We celebrate the closing of the first week at the European Forum Alpbach. Join us for an unforgettable night.

//INFO: Please bring enough cash to pay for your food and drinks. No card payment.

The EFA Code of Conduct must be respected.

23.08.2025 12:15 - 23.08.2025 13:45 | Open Network | Gasthof Jakober – Dining Hall

WoW* Connects: A Networking Hour for Women*

As part of the EFA World of Women* initiative, EFA is taking extra efforts to encourage female* contributors, both in programming and participation. Every day, from the Europe in the World Days to the Austria in Europe Days, two dedicated hours will be hosted by women* engaged in EFA's broader network, which offers the opportunity to connect, reflect, and act.

// INFO: To ensure a focused and engaging experience, we won't be providing any catering. Participants are, however, free to order lunch and beverages at their own cost. //

Mrkusova, Klaudie: Vice-Chair (Forum Alpbach Network)
Rendl, Sophie: Ombudsperson - European Forum Alpbach (Ombudsteam - European Forum Alpbach)

23.08.2025 13:00 - 23.08.2025 16:00 | Open Network | Mittelschule – Forecourt

International Bazar

Hosted by: Forum Alpbach Network Committee
No place captures the idea of a global village quite like Alpbach during EFA. With the International Bazar we will further distil this rich tapestry of cultures into a thick spirit, for all to come and sample. Join us as the countries represented at Alpbach show off the very best of their homelands at individual booths. Whether through food, music, or art, we invite you to a journey around the globe without the need to catch a plane.

INFO: Please feel warmly invited to attend the International Bazar in your traditional clothing. The EFA Code of Conduct needs to be respected.

23.08.2025 15:30 - 23.08.2025 16:30 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

From Legacy to Impact: 80 Years of Driving Change for Europe

Marking 80 years of EFA, this session goes beyond retrospection. It offers space for dialogue and reflection on key EFA initiatives and invites participants to co-develop visions for a recharged Europe. This is more than commemoration, it’s a call to learn from the past, challenge the present, and shape the future.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Treichl, Andreas: Chairman of the Supervisory Board (ERSTE Foundation)
Mantel, Cora: Coordinator Strategic Partnerships / Co-Founder (Brand New Bundestag / Club Alpbach Germany)
Fritz, Michaela: Vice Rector for Research and Innovation (Medical University Vienna)
Rendl, Sophie: Ombudsperson - European Forum Alpbach (Ombudsteam - European Forum Alpbach)
Shepphard, Nona: Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA))
Kurz, Peter: Former Mayor/City of Mannheim - Chairman Federal Association for urban development (vhw - Bundesverband für Stadtentwicklung; Re:Form/projecttogether)
Paulick-Thiel, Caroline: Founding Director (Politics for Tomorrow / nextlearning e.V.)

23.08.2025 17:00 - 23.08.2025 18:30 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Opening: Europe in the World Days

Track: Arts & Culture, Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law, Finance & Economy, Security
The Opening of the Europe in the World Days sets the stage for the Forum’s central questions: How can Europe generate a fresh burst of energy to assert its role in a contested world of power politics? It contrasts Europe’s internal renewal with its external positioning, paving the way for the module’s explorations.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Karas, Othmar: President (European Forum Alpbach)
Țoiu, Oana: Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania and European Young Leader (EYL40) (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania)
Milborn, Corinna: Director of Information (ProSiebenSat1Puls4)
Ischinger, Wolfgang: President of the Foundation Council (Munich Security Conference Foundation)
Lipavsky, Jan: Minister of Foreign Affairs (Czech Republic)
Bosek, Peter: CEO (Erste Group)
Meinl-Reisinger, Beate: Federal Minister for European and International Affairs (Republic of Austria)

23.08.2025 18:30 - 23.08.2025 22:00 | Happening | Village Square

Be(e) Together – An Invitation from ERSTE Foundation

Hosted by: ERSTE Foundation
Track: Arts & Culture
To round off the opening of the Europe in the World Days, an evening of music and food opens a space for exchange and togetherness in the heart of Alpbach. We gather at the big table – 15 metres long and filled with bread, butter, and more by chefs and everyday heroes, offering space for all who wish to exchange ideas.

Kranabetter, Alexander:

23.08.2025 19:00 - 23.08.2025 19:45 | | Church

Holy Mass

On Saturday Cardinal Jean-Claude Hollerich, Archbishop of Luxembourg will celebrate the Holy Mass. His presence offers a special spiritual preparation for Sunday.

Hollerich, Jean-Claude: Cardinal (Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Luxembourg)

23.08.2025 20:00 - 23.08.2025 22:00 | Happening | Church

Be(e) Together in Concert – DUO RUUT

Hosted by: ERSTE Foundation
Track: Arts & Culture
Following the get-together around the table on the town square, we will move on to the parish church, which will turn into a concert hall for one evening. The Estonian musicians of Duo Ruut combine vocals and the sounds of the kantele, a traditional zither. Their arrestingly beautiful music creates a sense of community within a shared moment.
// 8:00 PM Doors | 8:30 PM Show

23.08.2025 20:00 - 23.08.2025 21:30 | Chat | Schulhäusl

Filmscreening: Brennpunkt Alpbach

Hannes Kar has been covering the European Forum Alpbach as a journalist since 1948. To mark the 80th anniversary of the European Forum Alpbach, Hannes Kar's film "Brennpunkt Alpbach" will be shown – an impressive portrait of the forum and its beginnings, originally created for its 40th anniversary. In conversation with this long-time companion, it becomes clear why Alpbach in particular became the ‘village of thinkers’ – and what makes this place so inspiring to this day.

INFO // The film and lecture are in German.

Kar, Hannes: Television Journalist
Narval, Philippe: Secretary General (Lebenshilfe Austria)

24.08.2025 07:00 - 24.08.2025 08:00 | Ritual | CCA – Square

Morning Sports: Functional Fitness

Start the day with a boost of energy! The trainers of the Austrian Armed Forces will get you sweating with military functional fitness on the forecourt of the CCA - an ideal way to recover from stress and prevent burnout or illness.

24.08.2025 08:00 - 24.08.2025 08:45 | Chat | Schulhäusl

Morning Briefing

Our Morning Briefings provide a daily overview of the most important news and insights from EFA25. Start your Alpbach day well-informed with an engaging conversation!

González Laya, Arancha: Dean (Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA) at Sciences Po)
Wheaton, Sarah: Chief Policy Correspondent; Host, EU Confidential podcast; Co-author, Brussels Playbook (POLITICO)

24.08.2025 09:00 - 24.08.2025 12:30 | Work | Volksschule – Gym

Alpbach IDEAS Camp

Learn more about business and social innovation as well as the design thinking approach, how to structure problems and ideas, and why it is necessary to understand problems and needs before designing innovative solutions. First, we identify problem areas within EFA's four thematic tracks. After prioritising these problems, you will ideate your own solutions for a better Europe and evaluate them as a team.
//INFO: Please note that there is at least a one-hour lunch break and coffee breaks.

Eichmair, Lisa: Innovation Consultant (Pioneers)
Ruprechter, Paul: Innovation Consultant (Pioneers)

24.08.2025 09:00 - 24.08.2025 10:00 | Chat | CCA – Flora-Heiss-Rogger Saal

Foreign Agent in My Own Country: How Laws Silence Media, Limit Rights, and Impact Lives

Hosted by: Club Alpbach Hungary together with Club Alpbach Belgrade, Club Alpbach Georgia and Club Alpbach Tirol
From Georgia and Hungary's adopted laws to Serbia's proposed bill, "foreign agent" as a legislative and political label is already fueling media closures and journalist persecution, civic space is shrinking and press freedom is at risk. This panel unpacks the legal and political fallout, with personal perspectives from those directly affected, offering insight into the fight for democratic resilience across the region.

Račić, Danijela: Law Expert for Equal Treatment (Club Alpbach Tirol)
Panjakidze, Nino: President (Club Alpbach Georgia)
Dizdarević, Damir: Program Coordinator at the BFPE Foundation (Club Alpbach Belgrade)
Mounk, Yascha: Professor (Johns Hopkins University)
Pethő, András: Executive Director (Direkt36 Investigative Journalism Center)

24.08.2025 09:00 - 24.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Hike Start 3 | CCA Terrace

Hike | Recharge Responsibility – How Business Can Defend Democracy

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
Join us as corporate leaders share why it’s worth the fight – and how they foster democratic values in their companies. You will also gain fresh insights from the “Responsible Leadership Lab” on how business, civil society, and politics can act as partners in challenging times.

van Randenborgh, Charlotte: Political Spokesperson / Strategic and Executive Communications (BAYER AG)
Becker, Sophia: Project Lead, Business Council for Democracy (Gemeinnützige Hertie-Stiftung)
Scharnhorst, Sven: Strategic Communication Specialist (Evonik Industries AG)
Komolafe, Daniela: Managerin Talent Acquisition, Recruiting & Engagement (Konecranes GmbH)
Niejahr, Elisabeth: Managing Director (Hertie Foundation)
Schlageter, Moritz: Co-Founder & Managing Partner (torq.partners)

24.08.2025 09:00 - 24.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Hike Start 1 | CCA Square

Hike | Mainstreaming of Extremism: Where is the Red Line for Democracy?

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
Extremist ideas are increasingly entering mainstream politics and discourse, challenging democratic norms and tearing at the social fabric. Explore how politicians and societies can defend democratic principles without losing their open character. What are the tipping points, and where must the red line be drawn?

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upper floor Class 1).

Laschet, Armin: Member and Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (German Bundestag)
Bildt, Carl: Co-Chair (European Council on Foreign Relations)
Inotai, Edit: Journalist (ARD, Balkan Insight)
Ebner, Julia: Senior Research Fellow & Leader of the Violent Extremism Lab (Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD) & University of Oxford)
Neumann, Peter R.: Professor for Security Studies (King's College London)

24.08.2025 09:00 - 24.08.2025 10:00 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Empowering the Youth Through Sustainable Economic and Financial Education

Track: Finance & Economy
Young people’s economic knowledge and entrepreneurial skills often depend heavily on their social environment, creating unequal opportunities. In this crowd voting event, MEGA Education Foundation presents the finalist initiatives aimed at tackling economic inequality. Help decide which bold ideas will receive funding to scale their impact.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Strolz, Matthias: Impact entrepreneur, capacity builder, author & speaker. Founding Chairman of NEOS. Former MP. (Büro Dr. Matthias Strolz - Betrieb für Entfaltung)

24.08.2025 09:00 - 24.08.2025 12:00 | Work | CCA – Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

Sensing Systems: Unlocking Political Deadlocks for Climate Action

Track: Climate
Political deadlocks continue to stall climate action across Europe. In this workshop, participants use systemic constellations to experience socio-political webs of relationships, interdependencies and hidden dynamics – revealing what blocks progress and inspiring new pathways for bold, collective transformation beyond the cognitive.

//INFO: Maximum number of people: 50

Thomaschki, Kathrin: Head of Section Participation and Transformation (Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy Germany)
Barth, Jonathan: Senior Advisor (Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership)

24.08.2025 09:00 - 24.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Böglerwiese

Hike | Navigating a Multi-Ordered World

Track: Security
Europe faces a world of fragmented power and competing visions of order. This hike explores how Europe can adapt, find allies, protect universal principles, counter the resurgence of imperialism, and contribute to a just global governance amid shifting global dynamics.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Neue Mittelschule - Turnsaal.

Chatterjee, Siddharth: United Nations Resident Coordinator in China (United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office in China)
Wehler-Schöck, Anja: Member of the Editorial Board (Tagesspiegel)
Gilmore, Eamon: Former Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland (Republic of Ireland)
Clüver Ashbrook, Cathryn: Executive Vice President (Bertelsmann Stiftung)
Gardiner, Nile: Director, Margaret Thatcher Center for Freedom (The Heritage Foundation)

24.08.2025 09:00 - 24.08.2025 12:00 | Work | Hotel Post – Seminar Room

Trust in the Digital Age: Collaborative Action to Overcome Misinformation

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
In the digital age, the lines between truth and falsehood are increasingly blurred. As misinformation spreads, how can we ensure a trustworthy media environment for everyone? In this workshop, we'll explore how cross-sector collaboration can help address this challenge by sharing insights from experts, collaboratively identifying obstacles to cooperation, and creating concrete solutions for a more transparent, accountable and trustworthy information landscape.

Herrhausen , Anna: Board Member (PHINEO gAG)
Abedahr, Cornelius: Co-Executive Director (Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD))
Fathy, Jonas: Head of Impact Analysis and PHINEO Philanthropy & Non-Profit (PHINEO gAG)
Buttkus, Charlotte: Senior Consultant & Programme Lead Impact Capacity Building (PHINEO gAG)
Schiffrin, Anya: Director Technology, Media and Communication (Columbia University SIPA)

24.08.2025 11:00 - 24.08.2025 12:00 | Chat | CCA – Flora-Heiss-Rogger Saal

Navigating the Currents: Europe’s Ocean Leadership After Nice

Hosted by: Club Alpbach France
Track: Climate
With the EU poised to ratify the High Seas Treaty and launch its Ocean Pact, 2025 is a defining moment for Europe’s role in global ocean governance. This session brings together leaders from policy, science, and diplomacy to explore how the EU can move from political ambition to practical implementation. What will it take to safeguard biodiversity beyond national borders, and how can Europe lead in translating international commitments into binding protections? Against the backdrop of the post-UN Ocean Conference in Nice agenda, this conversation highlights the risks of delay and the opportunities for coordinated action.

Morgan, Jennifer: Former State Secretary and Special Envoy for International Climate Action (Federal Foreign Office, Germany)
Ollivier, Mathilde: Senator (French Senate)
Pons, Geneviève: Director General (Europe Jacques Delors)
Thomson, Peter: United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean (United Nations)

24.08.2025 12:00 - 24.08.2025 14:00 | Open Network |

EFA Connects: Lunch Tables

Track: Arts & Culture, Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law, Finance & Economy, Security, SEM
If you don’t feel like having lunch by yourself or if you are interested in meeting fellow EFA participants, why not join one of the EFA Connects lunch tables! Strike up a conversation and make new contacts. The tables are not hosted, so you are on your own. How about a question about the best Kaiserschmarren in Alpbach or recommendations for the afternoon programme? EFA Connects lunch tables are located in the Pausenhof and in the restaurant Berghof, and are marked by little EFA flags.

24.08.2025 12:00 - 24.08.2025 16:00 | Ritual | Pausenhof

Lunchbreak with: Die Rote Wand + Vurst

Hosted by: Popchop
Die Rote Wand in Lech is an exclusive culinary hideaway that combines alpine elegance with innovative haute cuisine. Jamie Unshelm, head of the Rote Wand Culinary Lab & Friends and Fools Lounge, is cooking exclusively in Alpbach with his team — serving up a big culinary experience.
Join the curated Future Food programme by Popchop @Pausenhof and explore diverse flavours, creative food concepts, and the stories behind them.

24.08.2025 12:15 - 24.08.2025 13:45 | Open Network | Gasthof Jakober – Dining Hall

WoW* Connects: A Networking Hour for Women*

As part of the EFA World of Women* initiative, EFA is taking extra efforts to encourage female* contributors, both in programming and participation. Every day, from the Europe in the World Days to the Austria in Europe Days, two dedicated hours will be hosted by women* engaged in EFA's broader network, which offers the opportunity to connect, reflect, and act.

// INFO: To ensure a focused and engaging experience, we wont be providing any catering. Participants are, however, free to order lunch and beverages at their own cost. //

Mei-Pochtler, Antonella: Vice president (European Forum Alpbach)

24.08.2025 12:15 - 24.08.2025 13:45 | Track Forum | Hotel Alphof – Right Dining Hall

Track Forum: Finance

Track: Finance & Economy
Come and meet fellow participants who share an interest for the Finance and Economy track. Get to know each other at lunch and debate the current programme highlights and main controversies so far.

//INFO: Lunch and drinks are at your own expense. Please be on time at 12:15 so you have enough time to order comfortably. Three dishes are to choose from.

Trasi, Cecilia: Energy and Climate Research Analyst (Bruegel)

24.08.2025 12:15 - 24.08.2025 13:45 | Track Forum | Gasthof Berghof

Track Forum: Climate

Track: Climate
Come and meet fellow participants who share an interest for the Climate track. Get to know each other at lunch and debate the current programme highlights and main controversies so far.

//INFO: Lunch and drinks are at your own expense. Please be on time at 12:15 so you have enough time to order comfortably. Three dishes are to choose from.

Greenwell, Bettina: Communications Officer (International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA))
Heyl, Ansa: Science Communication Lead (International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis)

24.08.2025 12:30 - 24.08.2025 13:30 | Brown Bag Lunch | CCA – Loggia

Brown Bag Lunch - Are Europeans Ready for War?

In light of Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine and its accelerating militarisation, Europeans must determine their readiness to fight and defend themselves. This discussion aims to assess Europe’s ability to act collectively in the face of growing danger or whether individual countries' self-interest will prevail.

Be quick - the first participants get a free brown bag lunch!

Ollongren, Kajsa: EU Special Representative for Human Rights
Czerwińska, Klaudia: News anchor and television host (TVP World, Telewizja Polska S.A.)

24.08.2025 13:00 - 24.08.2025 13:30 | Happening | Pausenhof

RADA's Pop Up Theatre: AI x 5

Track: Arts & Culture
Artificial Intelligence is everywhere. It is in our private and business software, the apps we use, the trains we take, and the news we watch. And yet, most people would not be able to describe what it is. Will AI save us or ruin us? Is it friend or foe?
Will we regret ever opening Pandora’s box?
Join us to reflect on these questions at the performance of five short sketches.

Schiller, Ingrid: Acting Tutor, Audition Panellist, Director, Writer (RADA Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Shepphard, Nona: Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA))

24.08.2025 14:00 - 24.08.2025 17:00 | Work | Schulhäusl

Reimagining Democracy Through Creative Practice

Track: Arts & Culture, Democracy & The Rule of Law
Develop ideas for a better future together using artistic methods in dialogue with scientific expertise. In collaboration with the pseudo-Marxist media collective Total Refusal and an expert in the field of Democracy & The Rule of Law, this workshop will highlight the strengths and weaknesses of today’s democracy and design forward-looking solutions.

Müllner, Leonhard: artist (total refusal)
Flock, Susanna: artist (total refusal)

24.08.2025 14:00 - 24.08.2025 16:30 | Work | Volksschule – Gym

Alpbach IDEAS Camp

Learn more about business and social innovation as well as the design thinking approach, how to structure problems and ideas, and why it is necessary to understand problems and needs before designing innovative solutions. First, we identify problem areas within EFA’s four thematic tracks. After prioritising these problems, you will ideate your own solutions for a better Europe and evaluate them as a team.
//INFO: Please note that there is at least a one-hour lunch break and coffee breaks.

Ruprechter, Paul: Innovation Consultant (Pioneers)
Eichmair, Lisa: Innovation Consultant (Pioneers)

24.08.2025 14:00 - 24.08.2025 15:00 | Chat | CCA – Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

The UN Charter at 80: The Hidden Strength of Global Law

Track: Security
80 years after its adoption, the UN Charter remains a cornerstone of international law. This session explores which legal frameworks continue to exhibit high communality — broadly shared acceptance among states — and sufficient specificity to guide cooperation amid geopolitical shifts. It also discusses prospects for UN Security Council reform and how Europe can strategically advance multilateral governance through initiatives such as the Pact for the Future.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Khalek, Osama Abdel: Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations (Arab Republic of Egypt)
Fleming, Melissa:
Stagno Ugarte, Bruno: Chief Advocacy Officer, Human Rights Watch, former Foreign Minister of Costa Rica (Human Rights Watch)
Mayr-Harting, Thomas: Co-Chair of the International Advisory Board
Cahen-Salvador, Colombe: Co-Founder (Atlas Movement)

24.08.2025 14:00 - 24.08.2025 15:30 | Chat | CCA – Flora-Heiss-Rogger Saal

Ukraine’s Civil Society: Driving Resilience and Recovery

Track: Security

Ukraine’s civil society has been a cornerstone of resilience throughout the war – mobilising support, defending democratic values, and filling critical gaps. As the country transitions from resistance to recovery, civic actors play a vital role in ensuring that reconstruction is inclusive, transparent, and responsive to local needs. Join a cross-sectoral dialogue with Ukrainian civic leaders, officials, and European partners to explore how recovery efforts can build on the same resilience that has defined Ukraine’s civil society during the war. Together, we will explore why civic engagement is not only a democratic ideal, but also a strategic necessity for sustainable reconstruction based on European values.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Ollongren, Kajsa: EU Special Representative for Human Rights
Pidluska, Inna: Deputy Executive Director (International Renaissance Foundation (IRF))
Heilbronn, Pierre: France's Special Envoy for Ukraine's Relief and Reconstruction (French Republic)
Nykorak, Iryna: Member of Parliament (Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine)
Kryvda, Natalya: Professor (Shevchenko National University of Kyiv)
Gongadze, Myroslava: Senior Advisor for the Ukraine Program at the Institute for State Effectiveness in Washington DC

24.08.2025 14:00 - 24.08.2025 15:00 | Chat | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Pump it! Protest as the Heartbeat of Democracy

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law

Democracies face authoritarian threats from within and without. Citizens play a crucial role in countering these threats. In Georgia, citizens rose up after disputed elections and the government’s decision to delay EU accession. In Serbia, grief triggered an unprecedented democratic movement led by students and involving large sections of society. But after months of peaceful struggle, they have been met with brutal institutionalised violence.
This session explores lessons from both cases and potential ways forward, drawing on key findings from the “Democracy Strikes Back” Lab.

Simić, Aleksa: Student of International Relations (Faculty of Political Science, University of Belgrade)
Brandstätter, Helmut: Member of the European Parliament (European Parliament)
Djokic, Vladan: Rector (University of Belgrade)
Dragicevic, Ivana: Founder (Europe Future Centre)
Vashakidze, Ketevan: President (Europe Foundation)

24.08.2025 14:00 - 24.08.2025 16:30 | Hike | Hike Start 3 | CCA Terrace

Hike │ EUrope in the New World Order – Diverging Interests, United Voice

Track: Security
The world order is being renegotiated, power politics displaces values that were thought to be secure. Europe and its basic principles are facing fundamental challenges: Democracy, the basis of the EU, is being called into question. In the midst of diverging interests and challenges of its member states and institutions, and in relation to third countries, EUrope is searching for a common voice.

//INFO: Please bring hiking shoes and water. In case of bad weather, shuttles will bring you to the location.

Cojuhari, Vladislav: Secretary General (Ministry of Internal Affairs, Republic of Moldova)
Kammel, Arnold: Secretary General (Austrian Federal Ministry of Defence (BMLV))
Akhvlediani, Tinatin: Research Fellow, EU Foreign Policy Unit (Centre for European Policy Studies)
Gazsi, David: Assistant Professor (Universität Wien)

24.08.2025 14:00 - 24.08.2025 16:30 | Hike | Hike Start 2 | Bus Turning Area

Hike | AI, Productivity and Europe’s Role: Can Europe Afford to Be Cautious?

Track: Finance & Economy
Artificial intelligence is transforming industries, yet Europe’s regulatory caution risks leaving it behind global competitors. As the US and China accelerate, Europe must ask: Can it stay competitive without sacrificing its values? Explore strategies for value-driven, AI-powered productivity growth.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upperfloor Class 2).

Touzet, Chloe: Policy Lead (SaferAI)
Villani, Cédric: University Professor (University Lyon I IHES)
Simic, Ana: CEO & Founder (Propeller - AI Consultancy)
Meissner, Philip: Professor, Founder (ESCP, European Center for Digital Competitiveness)

24.08.2025 14:00 - 24.08.2025 16:30 | Hike | Hike Start 1 | CCA Square

Hike | In Ten Years, You'll Wish You Had Listened to This: The Next Generation of Economic Metrics

Track: Climate, Finance & Economy
Today's economy fuels overconsumption and short-term thinking at the expense of people and planet. Join this hike to understand why Europe must pioneer a new vision – valuing real-world assets, wellbeing, and ecological balance – now, not ten years too late.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upper floor Class 1).

Schönberg, Valerie-Sophie: Vorstand, Inhaberin (Circular Economy Forum Austria, Schönberg Consulting)
Deutsch, Tina: Co-Founder & Managing Board Member (KONTEXT – Institute for Climate Matters)
Parvin, Alastair: CEO (Open Systems Lab)
Campanale, Mark: Founder and Director (Carbon Tracker Initiative)

24.08.2025 15:00 - 24.08.2025 16:30 | Happening | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Alpbach Talks

Talking brings people together. With "Alpbach Talks," we bring the successful dialogue format "Germany Talks" by Die ZEIT to the European Forum Alpbach, connecting people with opposing opinions in personal conversations. The focus is on the participants: they answer five questions, are matched with the most contrasting "counterpart" possible, and engage in a one-on-one conversation that fosters constructive perspectives and genuine exchange. This might lead to a fresh look at the familiar, new thoughts, or even an aha moment. In any case, you will take away new perspectives.
Coffee and croissants will be provided for participants.

//INFO: Please arrive on time to avoid missing the matching of participants, as this only occurs once.

Karas, Othmar: President (European Forum Alpbach)
Rehse, Sebastian: Head of Group Corporate Affairs & Stakeholder Mgmt. (Erste Group)
Zimmermann, Ulrike: Project Manager (ZEIT Verlag)

24.08.2025 15:30 - 24.08.2025 16:30 | Chat | CCA – Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

Book Talk: Gabriel Felbermayr

Track: Arts & Culture
Join Gabriel Felbermayr for a book talk of "Der Freihandel hat fertig: Wie die neue Welt(un)ordnung unseren Wohlstand gefährdet" in the Liechtenstein-Hayek-Hall.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Felbermayr, Gabriel: Director (Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO))
Hahn, Tabea: President (Club Alpbach Salzburg)

24.08.2025 16:00 - 24.08.2025 17:00 | Chat | CCA – Loggia

Artist Talk: Iryna Kupchynska

Track: Arts & Culture
Meet the artist Iryna Kupchynska, who will present her skulpture “European Hedgehog” in conversation with Eva-Maria Schitter.

24.08.2025 17:00 - 24.08.2025 18:00 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Beyond Borders: Scaling Innovation Across Europe

Track: Finance & Economy
Can great ideas still grow in Europe? Fragmented markets make it difficult for startups and innovators to scale across Europe. Without bold reforms, ambition risks falling short of impact. Explore what it takes to create a truly integrated European innovation ecosystem - and turn ideas into global success stories.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Thakrar, Nikita: Founder & CEO (Included VC)
Krzyzanowska, Anna: Adviser of the Taskforce on Startups and Scaleups (European Commission)
Wheaton, Sarah: Chief Policy Correspondent; Host, EU Confidential podcast; Co-author, Brussels Playbook (POLITICO)
Grabenwarter, Uli: Deputy Chief Investment Officer & Director - Equity Investments (European Investment Fund)
Budden, Phil: Senior Lecturer (MIT)

24.08.2025 17:00 - 24.08.2025 18:00 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Regaining Trust: Competent Democracy vs. Autocratisation

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
As trust erodes and authoritarian trends rise, democracy must prove its competence. Examine how good governance, collective interest, and institutional renewal can strengthen resilience – and turn democratic competence into a winning strategy.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Ollongren, Kajsa: EU Special Representative for Human Rights
Tharoor, Shashi: Member and Chairman of the Committee on External Affairs (Indian Parliament)
Mounk, Yascha: Professor (Johns Hopkins University)
Herbst, Natalia: Director for Latin America Strategy (Better Politics Foundation)
Glenny, Misha: Rector (Institute for Human Sciences Vienna (IWM))

24.08.2025 18:15 - 24.08.2025 18:45 | Ritual | Church

Into the Silence

A place of calm: Spiritual impulses from various religious and philosophical backgrounds invite you to contemplate and reflect. Inspiring initiators tell their stories, take you on a journey of the mind and initiate moments of genuine stillness.

Marte, Christian: Rector of the Jesuit College Innsbruck

24.08.2025 18:30 - 24.08.2025 19:30 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Bold Ideas to Recharge Europe: Vote for the Future!

Track: Security
Join us in shaping the future of Europe! From climate crisis to technological disruption and populist pressures, Europe stands at a crossroads. In this dynamic pitch session, help select the boldest, most promising ideas to chart a recharged future for Europe.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Arriazu, Pablo: Spacecraft Operations Engineer (Telespazio Germany)
Croft, Theodore: Politics & International Relations graduate
Tierokhin, Bohdan: Undergraduate Student in International Relations and Politics (University of Dundee)
Pressl, Damita: Journalist & Moderator

24.08.2025 20:00 - 24.08.2025 22:00 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Echoes of Tomorrow: The 19th Annual Speakers Night

Hosted by: Club Alpbach Styria
Speakers Night is the popular public speaking contest; a platform for scholarship holders to showcase their rhetorical skills on the big stage. The format offers a select group of bright young minds the ideal opportunity to share their ideas and perspectives on a pre-determined topic with a larger audience, all while receiving valuable feedback from a distinguished panel.

List, Kathryn: CEO and Co-Founder (AVL Foundation)
Scherer, Andrea: Management Consultant (Implement Consulting Group)
Moosbeckhofer, Philipp: Healthcare M&A Associate
Williamson, Howard: Professor of European Youth Policy (University of South Wales)
Stewart, Iain: UNESCO Chair in Geoscience and Society (University of Plymouth)
Villani, Cédric: University Professor (University Lyon I IHES)
Köniğer, Maribel: Program Director Journalism & Media (ERSTE Foundation)

24.08.2025 22:00 - 24.08.2025 23:15 | Happening | Spar – Garage

Concert: Lukas Oscar

Track: Arts & Culture
Dance the night away in an underground parking garage and join us for an unforgettable evening!

Lukas Oscar is an up-and-coming singer/songwriter and music producer based in Vienna, with Filipino roots and a powerful, melancholic voice that captivates listeners from the first note.

Riepl, Alexander: Musician (Lukas Oscar)
Oscar, Lukas: Singer/Songwriter (Lukas Oscar Band)
Grohs, Timon: Musician (Lukas Oscar)
Jauker, Florian: Artist (Bassplayer for Lukas Oscar)

24.08.2025 23:30 - 24.08.2025 23:59 | Happening | Spar – Garage

Concert: Ësenaim

Track: Arts & Culture
Ësenaim. transforms Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) field experiences into immersive art through music, poetry, and visuals. Their work gives voice to forgotten places, turning memory and testimony into a shared emotional experience.

Casera, Michael: Performing Artist (Ësenaim.)
Guefif, Sarah: Performing Artist (Esenaim.)

25.08.2025 04:00 - 25.08.2025 09:00 | Ritual | CCA – Square

Sunrise Hike: Gratlspitz

Rise and shine: Enjoy the first rays of sunshine on the top of Alpbach. Experience this special atmosphere and start your day energised!

//INFO: The hike is not recommended for beginners! Attention: 900 metres in ascent! Please wear hiking boots, bring water and possibly a small snack. If you have a head torch, please bring it with you. Participation at your own risk!

Depending on the pace you are walking at, you should allow between 4 and 5 hours for the walk.

25.08.2025 07:00 - 25.08.2025 08:00 | Ritual | CCA – Square

Morning Sports: Functional Fitness

Start the day with a boost of energy! The trainers of the Austrian Armed Forces will get you sweating with military functional fitness on the forecourt of the CCA - an ideal way to recover from stress and prevent burnout or illness.

25.08.2025 08:00 - 25.08.2025 08:45 | Chat | Schulhäusl

Morning Briefing - Is the World Becoming Increasingly Dangerous?

Our Morning Briefings provide a daily overview of the most important news and insights from EFA25. Start your Alpbach day well-informed with an engaging conversation!

Neumann, Peter R.: Professor for Security Studies (King's College London)
Wehler-Schöck, Anja: Member of the Editorial Board (Tagesspiegel)

25.08.2025 09:00 - 25.08.2025 12:00 | Work | Volksschule – Gym

Alpbach IDEAS Camp

On day two, you will specify your IDEAS and learn more about the evaluation and development process of the Alpbach IDEAS programme, that takes place throughout the year with selected teams. Create and structure an idea card as well as a storyboard for your video reel submissions. Prepare your IDEAS for the EFA jury and public voting and work on your impact for Europe!

Eichmair, Lisa: Innovation Consultant (Pioneers)
Ruprechter, Paul: Innovation Consultant (Pioneers)

25.08.2025 09:00 - 25.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Hike Start 1 | CCA Square

Hike | Knowledge Without Borders: Turning Openness into Climate Leadership

Track: Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law
Climate action demands openness: in science, education, and data. Explore how Europe's "Fifth Freedom" – the free movement of knowledge and talent – can transform responsible openness and democratic leadership into a global competitive advantage, fuelling resilience, innovation and prosperity.

// INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
// INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upper floor Class 1).

Tiwari, Udbhav: Vice President, Strategy and Global Affairs (Signal)
Lips, Karen: Deputy Director General (International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA))
Stewart, Iain: UNESCO Chair in Geoscience and Society (University of Plymouth)
Deutsch, Tina: Co-Founder & Managing Board Member (KONTEXT – Institute for Climate Matters)
Calistru, Elena: President and Member (Funky Citizens / European Economic and Social Commitee)

25.08.2025 09:00 - 25.08.2025 12:00 | Work | CCA – Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

Co-Creating Paths to Unlock Startup Investment for Systemic Challenges

Track: Finance & Economy
Start-ups tackling systemic challenges can struggle to access funding. In this workshop, we will explore via real-world examples, how creative investment tools can unlock new opportunities for mission-driven ventures. Participants will gain insights into what is working, identify key gaps, and co-create practical ideas to shape a more inclusive, flexible, and forward-looking impact finance ecosystem.

Germann, Stefan: CEO (Ursimone Wietlisbach Foundation)
Mageza, Tonderayi Prosper: PhD Candidate in Management Science | Climate Finance & Governance | Sustainable Business Expert (University of Innsbruck)
Wagner, Kai: Investor Relations Manager (Financing Agency for Social Entrepreneurship (FASE))
Nitzlader, Alexandra: Regional Manager Austria (Financing Agency for Social Entrepreneurship (FASE))

25.08.2025 09:00 - 25.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Hike Start 2 | Bus Turning Area

Hike | United or Untethered? The Battle for Europe’s Identity and Future

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
Europe is at a crossroads, facing disagreements over its identity, values, and future. Going beyond the nationalism versus integration binary, debate how Europe can reconcile diverse voices and strengthen unity in light of substantial differences.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upper floor Class 2).

Selmayr, Martin: Ambassador of the European Union in Rome, former Secretary-General of the European Commission (European Union)
Brandstätter, Helmut: Member of the European Parliament (European Parliament)
Inotai, Edit: Journalist (ARD, Balkan Insight)
van Zeben, Josephine: Professor of Transnational Law; Provost of Education and Academic Staff Development (European University Institute)

25.08.2025 09:00 - 25.08.2025 10:00 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Reclaiming Peace: Traditions and New Realities

Track: Security
The concept of peace is evolving amid growing complexity and polarisation. Drawing from diverse cultural traditions, this session examines the politicisation of peace advocacy, and how peace can be sustained as a European and global value in a world of new challenges.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Seifert, Thomas: Co-Editor-in-Chief (European Voices)
Russo, Jenna: Director of Research and Head of the Brian Urquhart Center for Peace Operations (International Peace Institute)
Goldschmidt, Pinchas: Chief Rabbi and President (Conference of European Rabbis)
Hollerich, Jean-Claude: Cardinal (Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Luxembourg)

25.08.2025 09:00 - 25.08.2025 10:00 | Chat | CCA – Flora-Heiss-Rogger Saal

The Weimar Triangle: A Pillar of European Security?

Hosted by: Club Alpbach Poland together with Club Alpbach France and Club Alpbach Germany
Track: Security
Against the backdrop of Russia’s war on Ukraine and growing global instability, the discussion will interrogate whether the Weimar Triangle — the informal political forum between France, Germany, and Poland — can move beyond informal coordination to become a true pillar of European security in a rapidly deteriorating security environment.

Laschet, Armin: Member and Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (German Bundestag)
Farfal, Jan: Co-Founder (Club Alpbach Poland)
Pisarska , Katarzyna: Founder & Director (European Academy of Diplomacy)
Heilbronn, Pierre: France's Special Envoy for Ukraine's Relief and Reconstruction (French Republic)

25.08.2025 10:30 - 25.08.2025 12:00 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

The Centre Must Hold: Geopolitics and the Fracturing of EU Democracy

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, Security
The war in Ukraine has sent geopolitical shocks from the EU's periphery to its core, straining social cohesion and exposing deep fractures in trust and legitimacy. As Europe confronts both old crises and emerging threats, this moment can serve to not only restore the foundations of European democracy, but also to reinvigorate European integration and strengthen the EU's strategic autonomy.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Wagner, Peter: Head of the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (European Commission)
Armakolas, Ioannis: Head of the South-East Europe Programme (ELIAMEP)
Pirdeni, Adea: Minister of State for Public Administration and Anticorruption (Albanian Government Council of Ministers)
Ischinger, Wolfgang: President of the Foundation Council (Munich Security Conference Foundation)

25.08.2025 10:30 - 25.08.2025 12:00 | Chat | Hotel Post – Seminar Room

How New Business Models Help Journalism to Survive

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
The media industry is in the midst of a structural crisis, with many newsrooms cutting costs. However, there is hope: Independent, entrepreneurial news organisations are seeking to fill the void. What business models are they exploring? How can private, philanthropic, and government funders collaborate to support the newsrooms' journeys toward sustainability? What do founders need, and what drives funders' choices? In this chat, leaders from major journalism support organisations and newsrooms will discuss the learnings and next steps of strengthening public-value media in Europe with all participants.

Kotynek, Martin: Founding Director (Media Forward Fund)
Skrabal, Florian: Editor-in-Chief (DOSSIER)
Königer, Maribel: Program Director Journalism & Media (ERSTE Foundation)
Holland, Andrew: Executive Director (Stiftung Mercator Schweiz)

25.08.2025 11:00 - 25.08.2025 12:00 | Chat | CCA – Flora-Heiss-Rogger Saal

Geopolitics by Other Means: Ukraine's Role in the Economic Future of the Democratic World

Hosted by: Kyiv Initiative Group Alpbach together with Club Alpbach Germany and Club Alpbach Salzburg
Track: Finance & Economy
Ukraine is more than a battlefield — it is a strategic pivot in the global competition for resources, markets, and geopolitical influence. Its agriculture, energy, and critical raw materials sectors are reshaping not only regional dynamics, but also economic and strategic landscapes of the whole democratic world. Can EU play this card to stay competitive in the new unprincipled game of resources?

Mei-Pochtler, Antonella: Vice president (European Forum Alpbach)
Heilbronn, Pierre: France's Special Envoy for Ukraine's Relief and Reconstruction (French Republic)
Mezentseva-Fedorenko, Mariia: Member of the Ukrainian Parlament
Poloz, Maria: (Kyiv Initiative Group Alpbach)

25.08.2025 12:00 - 25.08.2025 14:00 | Open Network | Wiedersbergerhornbahn - Bergstation

Strangers in a Gondola

Hosted by: Forum Alpbach Network Committee
You are warmly invited to take a delightful 20-minute journey on a gondola up to the majestic Alpbach's mountain. Here's the twist: You will be sharing the gondola with fellow participants who you haven't crossed paths with before. To add an element of fun during your gondola trip, an engaging quiz awaits you, challenging your knowledge without relying on Google, and incorporating time-based questions. Upon reaching the mountain's summit, you can enjoy a delightful coffee and lunch break with the scenic panorama in the restaurant or opt for a refreshing hike. This view is absolutely worth experiencing!

INFO: Bring hiking shoes or comfortable shoes, water, and sun protection. Remember, you will be in the nature!

Please note that you need to bring your Alpbach Card to use the Gondola.

25.08.2025 12:00 - 25.08.2025 14:00 | Open Network |

EFA Connects: Lunch Tables

Track: Arts & Culture, Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law, Finance & Economy, Security
If you don't feel like having lunch by yourself or if you are interested in meeting fellow EFA participants, why not join one of the EFA Connects lunch tables! Strike up a conversation and make new contacts. The tables are not hosted, so you are on your own. How about a question about the best Kaiserschmarren in Alpbach or recommendations for the afternoon programme? EFA Connects lunch tables are located in the Pausenhof and in the restaurant Berghof, and are marked by little EFA flags.

25.08.2025 12:00 - 25.08.2025 16:00 | Ritual | Pausenhof

Lunchbreak with Furō + Coco Piccante feat. Alp Ruben

Hosted by: Popchop
Everything is always in motion. Behind Furō in Salzburg is Martin Eder. He has already shown his love for baking bread and honest food with pop-ups next to his restaurant in the middle of the city. The kitchen at Furō is 100% vegetarian. Next to im Latin America meets the Middle East: flavour fireworks are guaranteed. Get ready to feast and explore a vibrant celebration of taste, by Ioana Negulescu and Alp Ruben.

25.08.2025 12:15 - 25.08.2025 13:45 | Track Forum | Gasthof Berghof

Track Forum: Security

Track: Security
Come and meet fellow participants who share an interest for the Security track. Get to know each other at lunch and debate the current programme highlights and main controversies so far.

//INFO: Lunch and drinks are at your own expense. Please be on time at 12:15 so you have enough time to order comfortably. Three dishes are to choose from.

Pisarska , Katarzyna: Founder & Director (European Academy of Diplomacy)
González Laya, Arancha: Dean (Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA) at Sciences Po)
Fuhrhop, Pia: Head of the Division International Security (German Institute for International and Security Affairs)
Mair, Stefan: Director and CEO (SWP, German Institute for International and Security Affairs)
Trebeljahr, Leonie Kristina: Research Assistant to the Director (German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP))

25.08.2025 12:15 - 25.08.2025 13:45 | Open Network | Pausenhof

WoW* Connects Everyone: Men* Evolving Now

Hosted by: Forum Alpbach Network
This special World of Women* Connects Network Lunch addresses men*. It spotlights the Men Evolving Now programme, giving men a safe space to explore mental health, relationships, careers, and modern masculinity. A concise opener leads into dialogue that sparks networking, reflection and concrete steps toward gender equality.

25.08.2025 12:15 - 25.08.2025 13:45 | Track Forum | Hotel Alphof – Right Dining Hall

Track Forum: Democracy

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
Come and meet fellow participants who share an interest for the Democracy track. Get to know each other at lunch and debate the current programme highlights and main controversies so far.

//INFO: Lunch and drinks are at your own expense. Please be on time at 12:15 so you have enough time to order comfortably. Three dishes are to choose from.

Zhuravel, Anastasiia: PhD Candidate at the Centre for Fundamental Rights (Hertie School)

25.08.2025 12:15 - 25.08.2025 13:45 | Open Network | Gasthof Jakober – Dining Hall

WoW* Connects: A Networking Hour for Women*

As part of the EFA World of Women* initiative, EFA is taking extra efforts to encourage female* contributors, both in programming and participation. Every day, from the Europe in the World Days to the Austria in Europe Days, two dedicated hours will be hosted by women* engaged in EFA's broader network, which offers the opportunity to connect, reflect, and act.

// INFO: To ensure a focused and engaging experience, we wont be providing any catering. Participants are, however, free to order lunch and beverages at their own cost. //

Hornstein-Tomić, Caroline: Board Member (European Forum Alpbach)

25.08.2025 12:30 - 25.08.2025 13:30 | Brown Bag Lunch | CCA – Loggia

Brown Bag Lunch - Europe's Strategic Repositioning – Between Power, Trade, and Industrial Logic

Explore how Europe is repositioning itself in a shifting global landscape – between power politics, the future of trade and openness, and the search for industrial and technological strategy. A timely conversation that looks ahead to Europe's economic path in the years to come.

Stiglitz, Joseph E.: Economist, Public Policy Analyst and Professor (Columbia University)
Weyand, Sabine: Director-General for Trade and Economic Security (European Commission)
Eder, Florian: Editor Süddeutsche Zeitung Dossier

25.08.2025 13:00 - 25.08.2025 13:30 | Happening | Schulhäusl

RADA's Pop Up Theatre: AI x 5

Track: Arts & Culture
Artificial Intelligence is everywhere. It is in our private and business software, the apps we use, the trains we take, and the news we watch. And yet, most people would not be able to describe what it is. Will AI save us or ruin us? Is it friend or foe?
Will we regret ever opening Pandora's box?
Join us to reflect on these questions at the performance of five short sketches.

Schiller, Ingrid: Acting Tutor, Audition Panellist, Director, Writer (RADA Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Shepphard, Nona: Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA))

25.08.2025 14:00 - 25.08.2025 17:00 | Work | Schulhäusl

Innovation Through Design

Track: Arts & Culture, Finance & Economy
Develop ideas for a sustainable prosperity using artistic methods in dialogue with scientific expertise. Together with designers and an expert in the field of Finance and Economy, this workshop will present new solution-oriented approaches to sustainable prosperity through innovation.

Kneissl, Stephanie: Designer & Curator (Design in Gesellschaft, Institut of Science and Technology Austria (ISTA))
Ehn, Franz: Designer (Design in Gesellschaft)

25.08.2025 14:00 - 25.08.2025 15:30 | Chat | CCA – Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

The Future of Money is Sustainability

Sustainable finance is reshaping not only markets but the very purpose of capital. This Chat explores how investments, entrepreneurship, and social responsibility must align to drive real-world impact. Featuring the inspiring journey of Soapeya - an innovative venture in health and hygiene - the session will showcase how mission-driven businesses and investors can create lasting value for people and the planet.

Pichler, Andreas: Head of Corporate Finance Solutions (Erste Group Bank AG)
Köttritsch, Michael: Editor (Die Presse)
Herrhausen , Anna: Board Member (PHINEO gAG)
Nixdorff, Tim: COO (Deutsche Nachhaltigkeit)
Rickert, Andreas: Chairman (Phineo)
Ringler, Marie: Vice-President & Global Leadership Group Member (European Forum Alpbach & Ashoka)

25.08.2025 14:00 - 25.08.2025 15:30 | Chat | Hotel Post – Seminar Room

Making Aviation Sustainable Today

Track: Climate
Most projections agree: Air traffic is here to stay, and it is likely to increase in the future. But no matter how many flights remain – we need to decrease their climate impact fast. While waiting for a higher availability of Sustainable Aviation Fuels or for optimised engine technology, we need to fly cooler now. In this chat, we discuss the current scientific understanding around air traffic’s climate impact and possible quick solutions.

Malanik, Peter: Managing Director (Aviation Industry Austria)
Hodgson, Paul: Director (pH[Shift])
Zopp, Raimund: Director of Innovation (Flightkeys)
Martín Frías, Alejandra: Head of Sustainability and Contrail Research (Flightkeys)
Deutsch, Tina: Co-Founder & Managing Board Member (KONTEXT – Institute for Climate Matters)

25.08.2025 14:00 - 25.08.2025 15:00 | Chat | CCA – Flora-Heiss-Rogger Saal

Democracy on Trial: Power, Corruption, and Reclaiming the Rule of Law

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
Democratic backsliding, institutional capture, and corruption threaten the foundations of the rule of law. Explore strategies to safeguard democratic institutions – and reclaim the rule of law where it has been eroded.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Osmani-Sadriu, Vjosa: President (Republic of Kosovo)
Farfal, Jan: Co-Founder (Club Alpbach Poland)
Inotai, Edit: Journalist (ARD, Balkan Insight)
Barley, Katarina: Vice-President (European Parliament)
Pethő, András: Executive Director (Direkt36 Investigative Journalism Center)

25.08.2025 14:00 - 25.08.2025 15:30 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Europe and the Question of Palestine: Between Historical Responsibility and Future Integrity

Track: Security
This panel examines Europe’s evolving position on the question of Palestine by exploring tensions between historical responsibilities, contemporary policy choices and global perceptions of justice. It will discuss how structural and colonial-era asymmetries as well as selective humanitarian responses continue to shape Europe’s role in the region. The session invites reflections on how a re-imagined European engagement could contribute to an international legal order grounded in new relationships that are based on human dignity, accountability and mutual respect.

//INFO: This session will be translated and transcribed by Wordly.

Eshghi, Siavash: Programme Coordinator (Global Unit for Human Security, Heinrich Boell Foundation)
Hatuqa, Dalia: Journalist (Independent)
Wildangel, René: Authour, Historian, Analyst (Independent)
Kaag, Sigrid: Former Deputy Prime Minister of the Netherlands and Undersecretary-General of the UN
Madlingozi, Tshepo: Commissioner for South African Human Rights Commission (South African Human Rights Commission)

25.08.2025 14:00 - 25.08.2025 15:00 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

More from Less: Europe’s Shift Beyond Extraction

Track: Climate, Finance & Economy
Surging material extraction threatens climate goals, equality, and long-term prosperity. Explore how Europe can lead by designing a sustainable industrial architecture – cutting resource intensity, raising environmental standards, and creating prosperity within planetary boundaries.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Ambros, Felix: Co-Founder and Managing Director (Thinkubator)
Haas, Sarah: Stakeholder Relations Manager (KONTEXT Institute for Climate Matters)
Wijkman, Anders: Honorary President (Club of Rome)
Bornschlegl, Marco Xaver: Central Division Manager (STRABAG Innovation & Digitalisation)
Adib, Rana: Executive Director (REN21)

25.08.2025 14:00 - 25.08.2025 16:30 | Hike | Hike Start 1 | CCA Square

Hike | From Chessboard to Player: Europe’s Strategy in the New Economic Order

Track: Finance & Economy
Trade wars, tariffs, and shifting alliances have turned markets into battlegrounds. Europe can no longer afford to be merely a chessboard for others’ moves – it must become a player. Explore how Europe can leverage sustainability leadership and global partnerships to shape the new economic order.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upperfloor Class 1).

Kobernik, Oleksandra: Policy Fellow (German Marshall Fund of the United States)
Felbermayr, Gabriel: Director (Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO))
Wettach, Silke: Business journalist/Moderator (Freelance)
Weyand, Sabine: Director-General for Trade and Economic Security (European Commission)
Wickett, Xenia: Director (Wickett Advisory)

25.08.2025 14:00 - 25.08.2025 16:30 | Hike | Hike Start 2 | Bus Turning Area

Hike | Confronting Conflict: Human Cost Beyond Headlines

Track: Security
This hike connects participants with survivors, artists, and journalists to explore the human impact of war and conflict. Through personal experiences, discover lessons in resilience, memory, and the societal responsibilities of dealing with violence and recovery.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upperfloor Class 2).

Seifert, Thomas: Co-Editor-in-Chief (European Voices)
Yakubovich, Maryna: Belarusian actress, director and theatre pedagogue in exile (Thomas Bernhard Institut, Universität Mozarteum Salzburg)
Poloz, Maria: President (Kyiv Initiative Group Alpbach)
Wachsmuth, Simon: Artist (Artist)

25.08.2025 14:00 - 25.08.2025 15:30 | Chat | CCA – Loggia

Strengthening Europe’s Antibiotic Independence

Track: Security
Antibiotics are vital to modern medicine, yet Europe’s production capacity is at risk, with most API suppliers based in China. This dependency threatens security, competitiveness, and public health. This session will explore restoring Europe’s antibiotic capacity, reducing reliance, and strengthening sovereignty - key not only for health policy, but for supply security, competitiveness, and geopolitical stability.

Runge, Claus: Health Economist (Bayer)
Prevolnik Rupel, Valentina: Minister for Health (Ministry of Health Slovenia)
Kocher, Michael: CEO (Xellia Pharmaceuticals)
Butera, Yvan: Minister for Health (Ministry of Health Rwanda)
Schumann, Korinna: Federal Minister (Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection (BMASGPK))
Saynor, Richard: CEO (Sandoz)
Milborn, Corinna: Director of Information (ProSiebenSat1Puls4)

25.08.2025 15:30 - 25.08.2025 16:30 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Tackling Financial Health in Volatile Times

Track: Finance & Economy
Only those who sharpen their awareness of finance and risk can successfully build their future. But what are the key elements for financial health? And how can we strengthen financial literacy to ensure long-term stability and resilience? We will delve into these questions – and offer insights for a financially secure future.

Lahner, Gerhard: Member of Management Board/Chief Operations Officer (Vienna Insurance Group)
Poletto, Maurizio: Chief Operating Officer & Chief Platform Officer (Erste Group)
Pressl, Damita: Journalist & Moderator

25.08.2025 15:30 - 25.08.2025 16:30 | Executive Talk | Hotel Alphof – Winter Garden

Executive Talk: The Digital Euro – Europe’s Chance to Secure its Monetary Sovereignty

The tectonic plates of the global financial system are shifting, while new geopolitical order challenges countries' political capacity to act. The digital euro holds the promise of enhancing Europe's monetary sovereignty. Yet the Eurozone's ambitions are facing strong competition from a newly emerging alternative: a world of private digital currencies underpinned by U.S. regulation. This session will explore key issues such as digital euro, stable coins and how to strengthen the international role of the euro.

Enjoy inspiring ideas, meaningful conversations, and drinks in a relaxed atmosphere.

Meichenitsch, Josef: Member of the Board of Directors (Austrian National Bank (OeNB))
Balz, Burkhard: Member of the Executive Board (German National Bank (DBB))
Niederländer, Petia: Director for Payments, Risk Management and Financial Literacy (Austrian National Bank (OeNB))

25.08.2025 15:30 - 25.08.2025 16:30 | Chat | CCA – Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

Book Talk: Joseph Stiglitz

Track: Arts & Culture, Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law, Finance & Economy, Security
Join Joseph Stiglitz for a book talk of “The Road to Freedom: Economics and the Good Society” in the Liechtenstein-Hayek-Hall.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Ehrenfeldner, Lorenz:
Stiglitz, Joseph E.: Economist, Public Policy Analyst and Professor (Columbia University)

25.08.2025 16:00 - 25.08.2025 17:00 | Ritual | CCA – Loggia

Circle – Recharge Europe Begins with Recharging Ourselves

Track: Arts & Culture
Join us in the mountains for a special Circle — a space to pause, reflect, and reconnect. We'll begin in silence, then share what brought us to Alpbach and what inspires us. In nature, through listening and gratitude, we’ll rekindle our sense of purpose and community.

Garuti, Claudia: Co-Director - Better Way Foundation and Circles Consciously Curated (Better Way supports climate and gender justice leaders. Circles creates spaces for dialogue)
Bravi , Alessandra: Founder and Director (Treehouse giving)

25.08.2025 17:00 - 25.08.2025 18:00 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Collaborate to Compete: Making Climate Transformation Real

Track: Climate
Europe was built on cooperation after crisis. Today, facing systemic climate risks, Europe must lead again – by fostering radical collaboration across borders, sectors and disciplines. Discuss how systemic cooperation can deliver resilience, peace and sustainable competitiveness within planetary boundaries.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Dunlop, Kirsten: CEO (EIT Climate-KIC)
Chatterjee, Siddharth: United Nations Resident Coordinator in China (United Nations Resident Coordinator's Office in China)
Tsao, Chavalit Frederik: Chairman (TPC (Tsao Pao Chee))
Morgan, Jennifer: Former State Secretary and Special Envoy for International Climate Action (Federal Foreign Office, Germany)
Patel, Sheela: Director (Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centres (SPARC))

25.08.2025 17:00 - 25.08.2025 18:00 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Europe’s Strategic Awakening: Security in a Fragmented World

Track: Security
Discuss how Europe can recalibrate its security architecture in response to geopolitical realignments, redefine its ambitions, strengthen institutional security, and address persistent threats on global level.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Whittaker, Meredith: President (Signal)
Wheaton, Sarah: Chief Policy Correspondent; Host, EU Confidential podcast; Co-author, Brussels Playbook (POLITICO)
Pisarska , Katarzyna: Founder & Director (European Academy of Diplomacy)
Brieger, Robert: Chairman of the EU Military Committee (European Union External Action Service)
Wagner, Peter: Head of the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (European Commission)

25.08.2025 18:15 - 25.08.2025 18:45 | Ritual | Church

Into the Silence

A place of calm: Spiritual impulses from various religious and philosophical backgrounds invite you to contemplate and reflect. Inspiring initiators tell their stories, take you on a journey of the mind and initiate moments of genuine stillness.

Williamson, Howard: Professor of European Youth Policy (University of South Wales)

25.08.2025 18:30 - 25.08.2025 19:30 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Bold Ideas to Recharge Europe: Vote for the Future!

Track: Finance & Economy
Join us in shaping the future of Europe! From climate crisis to technological disruption and populist pressures, Europe stands at a crossroads. In this dynamic pitch session, help select the boldest, most promising ideas to chart a recharged future for Europe.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Pirkner, Christian: CEO (Blue Code International AG)
Tauber, Christian: Founder & CEO (NEOALP)
Czechowska, Adrianna: Undergraduate Student in Biomedical Engineering and Technologies (Lodz University of Technology)
Pressl, Damita: Journalist & Moderator

25.08.2025 20:00 - 25.08.2025 22:30 | Open Network | Hotel Alphof - Dining Hall

Join in – it’s time to Recharge Europe!

Tyrol welcomes Europe! Join us in the cosy atmosphere of Alphof for culinary delights from Tyrol: a great opportunity to meet new people and raise a glass together. Afterwards, there is a party in the Alpbach underground garage for those looking for more action.

25.08.2025 20:30 - 25.08.2025 23:59 | Open Network | Spar – Garage

Sound of Music

Following the opening act by FAN, DJ SLG from the inclusive DJ collective Fireflies presents a unique musical journey. With electro, deep house, and house music, a space is created where worries fade, and people are brought together through the power of music and dance.

26.08.2025 07:00 - 26.08.2025 08:00 | Ritual | CCA – Square

Morning Sports: Functional Fitness

Start the day with a boost of energy! The trainers of the Austrian Armed Forces will get you sweating with military functional fitness on the forecourt of the CCA - an ideal way to recover from stress and prevent burnout or illness.

26.08.2025 08:00 - 26.08.2025 08:30 | Ritual | Church

Into the Silence

A place of calm: Spiritual impulses from various religious and philosophical backgrounds invite you to contemplate and reflect. Inspiring initiators tell their stories, take you on a journey of the mind and initiate moments of genuine stillness.

Bravi , Alessandra: Founder and Director (Treehouse giving)
Garuti, Claudia: Co-Director - Better Way Foundation and Circles Consciously Curated (Better Way supports climate and gender justice leaders. Circles creates spaces for dialogue)

26.08.2025 08:00 - 26.08.2025 08:45 | Chat | Schulhäusl

Morning Briefing

After the agreement on a trade deal between the US and the EU, Felbermayr assesses the accord. Start your Alpbach day well-informed with an engaging conversation!

Schnauder , Andreas: Chief Editor Pragmaticus (Der Pragmaticus)
Felbermayr, Gabriel: Director (Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO))

26.08.2025 09:00 - 26.08.2025 10:15 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Closing: Europe in the World Days

Track: Arts & Culture, Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law, Finance & Economy, Security
Closing the Europe in the World Days, examine Europe's future in an era of geoeconomic disruption, trade wars, and shifting alliances. Explore how Europe can forge new partnerships and secure its role in a world of intensified economic competition.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

González Laya, Arancha: Dean (Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA) at Sciences Po)
Tharoor, Shashi: Member and Chairman of the Committee on External Affairs (Indian Parliament)
Wheaton, Sarah: Chief Policy Correspondent; Host, EU Confidential podcast; Co-author, Brussels Playbook (POLITICO)
Stiglitz, Joseph E.: Economist, Public Policy Analyst and Professor (Columbia University)
Treichl, Andreas: Chairman of the Supervisory Board (ERSTE Foundation)
Weyand, Sabine: Director-General for Trade and Economic Security (European Commission)

26.08.2025 09:30 - 26.08.2025 12:30 | Work | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Tourism. The Future. Austria. 2025 – Change, Values, Growth

Socio-political and technological change, new trends, and ground-breaking innovations pose major challenges for tourism – and, at the same time, open up opportunities for bold visions and sustainable strategies. The Tourism Day will shed light on how Austria can further develop its role as a hub between tradition and innovation. Together with stakeholders from politics, business and tourism, new impetus will be provided: from sustainable quality and digital tools to questions of regional value creation.

Discover the detailed programme here!

Schultz, Martha: Vice President (Austrian Chamber of Commerce (WKÖ))
Schattleitner, Mathias: Managing Director (Tourismusverband Schladming-Dachstein)
Panholzer, Klaus: Managing Director (Schönbrunn Group)
Santander, Eduardo: CEO (European Travel Commission (ETC))
Rusinek, Hans: Economist & Philosopher
Zeiss, Harald: Managing Director (Institut für nachhaltigen Tourismus)
Klier, Reinhard: Managing Director (Wintersport Tirol (Stubaier Gletscher))
Steharnig-Staudinger, Astrid: CEO (Österreich Werbung)
Kraus-Winkler, Susanne: Chairwoman, Federal Tourism & Leisure Industry Division (Austrian Chamber of Commerce (WKÖ))
Mahrer, Harald: President (Austrian Chamber of Commerce (WKÖ))

26.08.2025 09:30 - 26.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Hike Start 3 | CCA Terrace

Hike | Corporate Innovation

Join us for a unique hiking experience that combines fresh mountain air with fresh perspectives on innovation. Together, we will explore how organisations innovate, re-invent and grow through corporate venturing. At the hotel Alpbacherhof, we'll gather for a panel discussion with experts, who will share their insights and lessons learned. Confirmed speakers are Christoph Knogler, CEO of the KEBA Group, Leonhard Schitter, CEO of the Energie AG OÖ, Maximilian Clary Und Aldringen, COO of the Erste Bank Austria, and Thomas Gabriel, Managing Partner of Pioneers. You'll have the opportunity to ask questions, exchange ideas, and connect with peers!

//INFO: Please bring hiking shoes and water.

26.08.2025 10:30 - 26.08.2025 12:00 | Chat | CCA – Hayek-Saal

Europe's Geopolitical Dilemma

Track: Security
In a fragmented security environment, Europe faces the challenge of balancing internal reform and external stabilisation. With Ukraine and the Western Balkans testing the EU's geopolitical relevance, enlargement and security policy must go hand in hand. The session explores what reforms and actions are needed to strengthen Europe's strategic role ahead and the EU's position in ensuring peace and stability across the continent.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Kobzova, Jana: Co-director at European Security Program (European Council of Foreign Relations)
Wagner, Peter: Head of the Service for Foreign Policy Instruments (European Commission)
Litra, Leonid: Visiting Fellow (New Europe Center)
Sarrazin, Manuel: President (Southeast Europe Association Munich)
Volker, Kurt: Distinguished Fellow (Center for European Policy Analysis)

26.08.2025 10:30 - 26.08.2025 12:00 | Chat | CCA – Liechtenstein-Saal

The Role of Housing in Building Resilient Democracies

Track: Finance & Economy
Housing is a basic human need and a recognised human right. The cost of living has become a key European challenge, impacting people's lives and sense of security. Join industry experts to explore if the rising housing inequality fuels political extremism and reduced democratic participation. Let's discover together how different stakeholders can address this issue to build resilient democracies.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Lehmann, Raphael: Impact Investment Manager (Erste Social Finance Holding)
Edwards, Sorcha: Secretary General (Housing Europe)
Lakatos, Edit: Policy Officer at the Housing Taskforce (European Commission)
Kemp, Peter: Professor of Public Policy (University of Oxford)
Haslberger, Matthias: Researcher (University of St. Gallen)

26.08.2025 10:45 - 26.08.2025 12:00 | Open Network | CCA – Flora-Heiss-Rogger Saal

Celebrating the History of the Youth: the Forum Alpbach Network

Hosted by: FAN
What would the European Forum Alpbach (EFA) be without the youth, and what would the Forum Alpbach Network (FAN) be without the EFA? To mark the 80th anniversary of the EFA, we look back on the history of the FAN, talk about the impact the network has had and present the limited FANniversary booklet.

Paloski, Marko: Board Member (Club Alpbach Macedonia)
Zeller, Jenni: Chair / Business Network Manager (Forum Alpbach Network / myAbility)
Duttenhöfer, Sophia: Board Member (Club Alpbach Germany)
Vecchiet, Jadran: Journalist and President (Club Alpbach Senza Confini)
Boschek, Florian: Board Member and Founder (Forum Alpbach Network Board / HPV-Impfung jetzt!)

26.08.2025 12:00 - 26.08.2025 14:00 | Open Network | Pausenhof

FANniversary

Hosted by: FAN
Track: Arts & Culture, Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law, Finance & Economy, Security, SEM
What would the European Forum Alpbach (EFA) be without the youth, and what would the Forum Alpbach Network (FAN) be without the EFA? To mark the 80th anniversary of the EFA, we look back on the history of the FAN, cheer to the impact the network has had and present the limited FANniversary booklet.

Vecchiet, Jadran: Journalist and President (Club Alpbach Senza Confini)
Duttenhöfer, Sophia: Board Member (Club Alpbach Germany)
Zeller, Jenni: Chair / Business Network Manager (Forum Alpbach Network / myAbility)
Paloski, Marko: Board Member (Club Alpbach Macedonia)
Boschek, Florian: Board Member and Founder (Forum Alpbach Network Board / HPV-Impfung jetzt!)

26.08.2025 12:00 - 26.08.2025 16:00 | Ritual | Pausenhof

Lunchbreak with Azzurro + Vurst

Hosted by: Popchop
Azzurro is an atmospheric neobistro in Vienna offering modern, creative cuisine with a focus on seasonal vegetables and Austrian ingredients.The ever-surprising dishes impress alongside a relaxed vibe and a strong wine list. Next to it Vurst will serve you some tipical austrian main dishes in Vegan!

26.08.2025 12:15 - 26.08.2025 13:45 | Open Network | Gasthof Jakober – Dining Hall

WoW* Connects: A Networking Hour for Women*

As part of the EFA World of Women* initiative, EFA is taking extra efforts to encourage female* contributors, both in programming and participation. Every day, from the Europe in the World Days to the Austria in Europe Days, two dedicated hours will be hosted by women* engaged in EFA’s broader network, which offers the opportunity to connect, reflect, and act.

// INFO: To ensure a focused and engaging experience, we wont be providing any catering. Participants are, however, free to order lunch and beverages at their own cost. //

Fritz, Michaela: Vice Rector for Research and Innovation (Medical University Vienna)

26.08.2025 12:30 - 26.08.2025 13:30 | Brown Bag Lunch | CCA – Loggia

Brown Bag Lunch: Europe’s Economy in Transition – A Conversation with Peter Bosek

Join us for an informal discussion format in the EFA Loggia that is exclusively hosted by our Media Partners together with one or two speakers. Be quick - the first participants ge a free brown bag lunch!

Please note: This is a Live Recording of „Was wichtig ist“, the daily News Podcast of „Die Presse“.

Bosek, Peter: CEO (Erste Group)
Wallner, Anna: Journalist at the daily newspaper ‘Die Presse’

26.08.2025 13:50 - 26.08.2025 17:00 | Work | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Tourism. The Future. Austria. 2025 – Change, Values, Growth

Socio-political and technological change, new trends, and ground-breaking innovations pose major challenges for tourism – and, at the same time, open up opportunities for bold visions and sustainable strategies. The Tourism Day will shed light on how Austria can further develop its role as a hub between tradition and innovation. Together with stakeholders from politics, business and tourism, new impetus will be provided: from sustainable quality and digital tools to questions of regional value creation.

Discover the detailed programme here!

Madreiter, Elisabeth: Host in 4th Generation (Hotel "Der Löwe")
Mahrer, Harald: President (Austrian Chamber of Commerce (WKÖ))
Zehetner, Elisabeth: State Secretary for Energy, Start-ups and Tourism (Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs, Energy and Tourism (BMWET))
Hattmannsdorfer, Wolfgang: Federal Minister of Economy, Energy and Tourism. (Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft, Energie und Tourismus)
Kaswurm, Martin: Managing Director & Founder (Chaka2 & Kaswurm Development Group)
Gasser, Ambros: Managing Director (ASI Reisen & WeDesignTrips)
Artner, Réka R.: Head of BOLD Community (Wirtschaftskammer Österreich (WKÖ))
Auer, Gerald: Managing Director Technology (Falkensteiner Michaeler Tourism Group)
Sigurjonsdottir, Asta Kirstin: Managing Director (Iceland Tourism Cluster)
Hann, Tobias: Managing Director (MOSTLY AI)
Schmidt, Alexander L.: Professor (Hotelschool The Hague)
Friesenbichler, Tobias: Senior Industry Manager (Google Austria)

26.08.2025 14:00 - 26.08.2025 16:00 | Open Network | Pausenhof

Alpbach Pride

Hosted by: Forum Alpbach Network
The Forum Alpbach Network Pride celebrates its fifth edition! Join the parade and raise your voice against social exclusion. As prejudices and discriminating practices against the LGBTQIA+ community are on the rise in Europe and beyond, it remains necessary to continue this newly established tradition. Feel free to come in your best pride outfit and get the glitter shining for a joint celebration of diversity. Special add-on for the 5th anniversary: The renowned Drag Artist Lilly Hightower will join the parade and perform an enchanting show!

26.08.2025 14:30 - 26.08.2025 16:30 | Happening | Sportanlage Alpbach – Football Field

Football Tournament: The EFA Vienna Derby in Alpbach – Austria vs. Rapid

The football tournament at the European Forum Alpbach is once again a sporting highlight on this year's programme: The legendary Vienna derby between Austria Vienna and Rapid Vienna takes place on the football pitch in Alpbach, with real legends from both clubs.

Also taking part is a high-calibre squad from the worlds of politics, business, science and media.

Come and watch the excitement unfold!

26.08.2025 15:00 - 26.08.2025 16:30 | Chat | CCA – Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

What If We Got It Right? Unlocking European Competitiveness Through Better Regulation

Smart regulation boosts competitiveness by cutting complexity, empowering businesses to innovate, grow, and scale. Simplified rules benefit SMEs, attract investment, and build trust. With Austria’s SME package and the EU’s 25% burden-cut goal, now is the time to act. Join leaders to explore practical steps for smarter rules that unlock innovation and growth.

Fürst, Natascha: CEO (Female Founders)
Schellhorn, Sepp: State Secretary (Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs (BMEIA))
Jovicevic, Dejan: Founder and CEO (Brutkasten Media)
Herlitschka, Sabine: CEO (Infineon Technologies Austria)
Bräuniger, Rocco: Vice-President, Country Manager DACH & EU Expansion (Amazon)
Liebhaberg, Bruno: Founder and Executive Chairman (Centre on Regulation in Europe (CERRE))

26.08.2025 15:00 - 26.08.2025 16:00 | Chat | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Rethinking Europe – Lessons from 30 Years

2025 marks 30 years of Austria’s EU membership — a milestone that not only inspires national reflection but also a broader European conversation. What have three decades of European integration taught us across member states? How has the Union shaped its citizens’ lives, and how can it remain resilient for the future? Ministers from Austria, Hungary, and Slovenia, together with the President of the European Forum Alpbach, will reflect on Europe’s achievements and look forward to the challenges and opportunities of the next 30 years.

Seifert, Thomas: Co-Editor-in-Chief (European Voices)
Karas, Othmar: President (European Forum Alpbach)
Grašič, Neva: State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs (Republic of Slovenia)
Bóka, János: Minister for European Union Affairs of Hungary
Plakolm, Claudia: Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Family (Republic of Austria)

26.08.2025 15:30 - 26.08.2025 17:00 | Chat | Gasthof Berghof

Executive Talk with Dariusz Mazurkiewicz: The Future of European Payments

Track: Finance & Economy
As Europe pushes for digital sovereignty, the future of its payment systems is at stake. Will regional solutions like BLIK scale across borders? What role should regulators and innovators play in building a unified, secure, and competitive ecosystem? Join this high-level discussion on the next chapter of European payments and enjoy inspiring ideas, meaningful conversations and drinks in a relaxed atmosphere.

Upis, Guntars: Economic Researcher & Vice President (PwC Netherlands & Club Alpbach Netherlands)
Mei-Pochtler, Antonella: Vice president (European Forum Alpbach)
Mazurkiewicz, Dariusz: CEO (BLIK)

26.08.2025 17:00 - 26.08.2025 18:30 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Opening: Austria in Europe Days

Track: Arts & Culture, Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law, Finance & Economy, Security
Thirty years after Austria’s accession to the European Union, the opening of the Austria in Europe Days will reflect on what has changed - and what still holds true. As Europe faces internal and external challenges, the session asks: How can Europe recharge from within? What new incentives for EU membership are needed today?

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Karas, Othmar: President (European Forum Alpbach)
Wheaton, Sarah: Chief Policy Correspondent; Host, EU Confidential podcast; Co-author, Brussels Playbook (POLITICO)
Plakolm, Claudia: Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Family (Republic of Austria)
Kern, Christian: Vice President (European Forum Alpbach)
Beyrer, Markus: Director General (BusinessEurope)
Rinkevics, Edgars: President (Republic of Latvia)
Van der Bellen, Alexander: Federal President (Republic of Austria)

26.08.2025 18:30 - 26.08.2025 19:00 | Happening | CCA – Square

Traditional Reception with the Alpbach Rifle Company and the Alpbach Federal Music Band

Join the traditional welcome of the Tyrolean federal state. This festive reception welcomes political representatives, with the ceremonial greetings of the Alpbach Rifle Company and the Alpbach Federal Music Band.

Please note: As part of the celebration, guests will be greeted with ceremonial gun salutes. If this may cause any discomfort, we recommend arriving after 19:00 o'clock.

26.08.2025 18:45 - 26.08.2025 20:15 | Open Network | Schulhäusl

Talent Forum

Get inspired for your professional future or perhaps even secure your next job in an exciting company. The Talent Forum offers all participants the opportunity to connect and network with leading companies from Austria and Europe, while exploring how innovation with responsibility can ensure that progress benefits people and society. Take advantage of this unique opportunity and find your new professional challenge.

//Warm snacks and drinks will be provided.//

Bachler, Christine: Platform Evolution Lead (Erste Group)
Terko, Sanela: Partner (BDO)
Probst, Karin: Chief People Officer (McDonald’s Austria)

26.08.2025 19:00 - 26.08.2025 20:15 | Happening | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Sound of Entanglement

Track: Arts & Culture
The second quantum revolution as an audiovisual spectacle: A team of artists and scientists aims to make the quantum phenomenon of entanglement audible by performing in response to an experimental setup from the high-tech lab. Musicians interact with these sounds in real-time, while live visuals, also controlled by the quantum experiment, animate the stage.

THE SOUND OF ENTANGLEMENT was presented for the first time at the Ars Electronica Festival 2024 as part of antonbruckner2024 in front of over 3,000 people at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Linz. This was followed by invitations to the renowned Johns Hopkins University in Washington, the Vienna Ball of Sciences, and to be part of the Austrian Pavilion at EXPO2025 in Osaka, Japan.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Structure:
First part: Lecture
Second part: Artistic Performance
Followed by Q&A

Ringbauer, Martin: Assistant Professor (Universität Innsbruck)
Haslinger, Philipp: Quantum Physics Researcher (TU Wien - Atominsitut)
Kofler, Johannes: Senior Lecturer (Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria)
Orthner, Benjamin: Lead Developer for Experiment and Software Integration ("The Sound of Entanglement") (Atominstitut, Technische Universität Wien (TU Wien))
Schwarz, Judith: musician (The Sound of Entaglement)
Mayr, Manuel: MUSICIAN; COMPOSER; PRODUCER (The Sound Of Entanglement)
Wenger, Clemens: SPEAKER / ARTIST (The Sound Of Entanglement)

26.08.2025 19:00 - 26.08.2025 23:30 | Open Network | Gasthof Jakober – Dining Hall

Refresh and Recharge

After an inspiring start into the Austria in Europe Days, the restaurant Jakober transforms into a vibrant meeting place. Connect with fellow participants and catch up with familiar faces. Enjoy snacks, drinks, and music in a relaxed atmosphere.

27.08.2025 07:00 - 27.08.2025 08:00 | Ritual | CCA – Square

Morning Sports: Functional Fitness

Start the day with a boost of energy! The trainers of the Austrian Armed Forces will get you sweating with military functional fitness on the forecourt of the CCA - an ideal way to recover from stress and prevent burnout or illness.

27.08.2025 08:00 - 27.08.2025 08:30 | Ritual | Church

Into the Silence

A place of calm: Spiritual impulses from various religious and philosophical backgrounds invite you to contemplate and reflect. Inspiring initiators tell their stories, take you on a journey of the mind and initiate moments of genuine stillness.

Thun-Hohenstein, Christoph: Cultural manager, curator, and author, Artistic Director of the future platform ReGenerativa (Kunst & Klima Werkstätte GmbH)

27.08.2025 08:00 - 27.08.2025 08:45 | Chat | Schulhäusl

Morning Briefing: Insight Brussels – How European Public Opinion is Formed

Two experienced journalists offer a behind-the-scenes perspective and discuss how the media shapes political perception in Europe. What role do they play in the interaction between politics and the public – and how are things currently unfolding in European politics between the EU institutions and national governments?

Karnitschnig, Matthew: Editor-in-Chief (Euractiv)
Mayer, Thomas: (Der Standard)

27.08.2025 09:00 - 27.08.2025 10:00 | Chat | CCA – Rogger-Saal

Democratising the Energy Transition through Cross-Border Collaboration

Hosted by: Club Alpbach Lower Austria together with Club Alpbach Czechia & Slovakia
Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
How can we democratise the energy transition across borders? This panel reflects on the Cross Border Dialogue, an initiative by the Clubs Alpbach Lower Austria and Czechia & Slovakia. Through a real-life challenge from our partner Enery, it explores how cross-border collaboration can foster community buy-in for renewable energy and strengthen democratic participation in shaping our energy future.

Nemec, Lukas: Co-Founder (Enery)
Cizmar, Krystof: Board Member (Club Alpbach Czechia Slovakia)
Korlaar, Petra: Deputy Major of Mikulov, Upcoming CBD Conference Host (Mikulov, Czech Republic)
Kaur, Immy: Co-Founder & Director (CIVIC SQUARE)

27.08.2025 09:00 - 27.08.2025 11:45 | Work | Hotel Post – Seminar Room

Befriending Our Future Selves: From Imagination to Action

Track: Finance & Economy
We often think of our future self as a single version of ourselves that is distant and separate. But our futures are multiple and shaped by the people, systems, and choices around us - and they are deeply interconnected. In this workshop, we'll use creative methods to rethink financial wellbeing as something shared, not just personal. Together, we'll come up with ideas that people, organisations and communities can try out to support healthier and more connected financial futures.

Matsuyama, Naoki: Researcher (Open Future Lab)
Pello, Rauno: Managing Director Open Future Lab (Open Future Lab)
Negruți, Daniela: Communication & Community Manager (Open Future Lab)

27.08.2025 09:00 - 27.08.2025 12:00 | Work | CCA – Flora-Saal

European Health Data Space: Navigating the Paradigm Shift | Health Focus

The European Health Data Space (EHDS) marks a paradigm shift in how health data is used across Europe, with significant implications for Austria's healthcare system. In particular, the secondary use of health data for research, innovation, and public health is reshaping existing frameworks across healthcare, policy, society, and the economy. This transformation presents both opportunities and challenges as European Member States take their next steps toward coordinated and responsible implementation.

Kuhrn, Melanie: Co-President (Initiative Group Alpbach Vienna)
Auer, Clemens-Martin: Special Envoy of Health (Austrian Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection (BMSGPK))
Fürmann, Michael: Head of Unit for eHealth EU and International Legal Affairs (Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection (BMASGPK))
Ostermann, Herwig: Executive Director (Austrian National Public Health Institute / Gesundheit Österreich GmbH)
Königsberger-Ludwig, Ulrike: State Secretary for Labour, Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection
Degelsegger-Marquez, Alexander: Head of Department (Austrian National Public Health Institute / Gesundheit Österreich GmbH)
Klimek, Peter: Associate Professor (Complexity Science Hub)
Fuchs, Regina: Director of Social Statistics (Statistics Austria)
Zaletel, Metka: Head of Health Data Centre at National Institute of Public Health Slovenia (National Institute of Public Health Slovenia)
Janssens, Katleen:
Strammiello, Valentina: Interim Executive Director (European Patients' Forum)

27.08.2025 09:00 - 27.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Hike Start 3 | CCA Terrace

Hike | From Seed to Peak: Walking the Startup Lifecycle

Track: Finance & Economy
Join a scenic hike mirroring a startup's lifecycle, with stops covering (pre-)seed, growth, and exit stages. Experts and peers share insights and policy challenges, sparking candid dialogue in an inspiring setting. The hike ends with a roundtable, key takeaways, and networking while lunch.
//INFO: This hike is heading to the Alpengasthof Rossmoos. Please bring hiking shoes and water. In case of bad weather, shuttles will bring you to the location.

Spieler, Thomas: Public Policy for Austria & Switzerland (Amazon)
Schmit, Philippe: CEO (Social Cooling)
Agarwal, Neha: Co-Founder (Fawks AI and Housiey.com)
Polagnoli, Lucanus: Founding Partner (Calm/Storm Ventures)
Fink, Christoph: Co-Founder and CEO (NAKED Optics)
Hanf, David: President & CFO (European Startup Network & Depoly)
Raggl, Laura: Managing Partner (ROI Ventures)
Wundsam, Hannah: Managing Director (AustrianStartups)
Zehetner, Elisabeth: State Secretary for Energy, Start-ups and Tourism (Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs, Energy and Tourism (BMWET))
Bräuniger, Rocco: Vice-President, Country Manager DACH & EU Expansion (Amazon)

27.08.2025 09:00 - 27.08.2025 12:00 | Work | CCA – Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

Disinformation Foresight Exercise: Anticipate and Counteract

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, Security
In this workshop, you engage in a foresight exercise to predict how disinformation tactics and technologies might evolve over the next decade. Explore emerging trends in disinformation and brainstorm potential future scenarios. Anticipate challenges and develop innovative strategies to counteract future forms of disinformation.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Besancenot, Marie-Doha: Senior Advisor to the French Foreign Minister for StratCom (French Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
Tilistyák, Adél: Project Coordinator (Political Capital)
Krekó, Péter: Director (Political Capital Institute)

27.08.2025 09:00 - 27.08.2025 10:00 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Green and Competitive: Can Europe Lead on Both Fronts?

Track: Climate, Finance & Economy
Europe aims to be both a global economic leader and a sustainability champion, but can it achieve both? The European Commission’s Competitiveness Compass offers a strategic roadmap, yet balancing competitiveness with ambitious climate and sustainability goals remains a critical challenge. Discuss the tensions and trade-offs Europe must navigate.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Deutsch, Tina: Co-Founder & Managing Board Member (KONTEXT – Institute for Climate Matters)
Strugl, Michael: Chief Executive Officer (Verbund AG)
Schuster, Frank: Head (European Investment Bank Group Office in Austria)
Stürgkh, Anna: Member (European Parliament | RENEW Europe | NEOS)
Stagl, Sigrid: Climate Economist (Vienna University of Economics and Business)

27.08.2025 09:00 - 27.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Hike Start 1 | CCA Square

Hike | Sovereignty by Design: Europe’s Critical Capabilities

Track: Security
Future European defence depends on strategic enablers – space, cyber, dual-use innovation, and resilient industries. Drawing upon European Defence Industrial Strategy and the Defence White Paper, this hike discusses how Europe can build critical capabilities to strengthen sovereignty and readiness by 2030.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upperfloor Class 1).

Oeking, Claudia: Head of Public Affairs (Airbus)
Wehler-Schöck, Anja: Member of the Editorial Board (Tagesspiegel)
Beer, Eveline: Co-CEO and Co-Founder (Women in Defense Tech)
Aschbacher, Josef: Director General (European Space Agency (ESA))

27.08.2025 09:00 - 27.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Hike Start 2 | Bus Turning Area

Hike | A Union of People and Generations: Teaming Up for Europe’s Green Future

Track: Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law
Tackling the climate crisis requires intergenerational alliances. Uniting long-term wisdom with innovative solutions can drive inclusive climate action, strengthen social cohesion, and ensure that no one is left behind in Europe’s green transition.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upper floor Class 2).

Schilling, Lena: Member of the European Parliament (Greens/efa in the European Parliament & Grüne Österreich)
Degn, Ivo: Co-Founder (Climate Farmers)
Krömer, Michaela: Attorney at law specialised in climate and human rights litigation (CLAW- Initiative für Klimarecht)
Hollenstein, Pia: Co-Founder and Member of the board (KlimaSeniorinnen)
Howe, Sophie: Director (Sophie Howe Associates Ltd. Former and First future generations commissioner for Wales)

27.08.2025 10:30 - 27.08.2025 12:00 | Executive Talk | Bikerei 701

Executive Talk: From Vision to Voltage - Making 'One Grid, One Price' Work

This pragmatic CEO Talk aims to unpack what it really takes to implement a single, integrated power market by 2030. The conversation will spotlight on-the-ground realities: how grid bottlenecks, permitting delays, investor risk models, and regulatory fragmentation are slowing progress – and which concrete steps can change that. Expect insights on aligning physical infrastructure with market signals, what capital needs to stay confident in Europe’s energy transition, and where public and private players must urgently act. A live audience poll will put one key reform to the test – helping pick the most impactful fix to deliver cheaper, cleaner power across borders.

Enjoy inspiring ideas, meaningful conversations, and drinks in a relaxed atmosphere.

Christiner, Gerhard: Board Member (Austrian Power Grid)
Brunner, Christiane: Boardmember (CEOs for Future)
Koenig, Richard: CEO (Enery)

27.08.2025 11:00 - 27.08.2025 12:00 | Chat | CCA – Rogger-Saal

Europe in a Competition of Great Powers. A Manifesto.

Hosted by: Club Alpbach Liechtenstein together with Club Alpbach Salzburg and Club Alpbach Upper Austria
Track: Security
Amid geopolitical uncertainty, war in Europe, and rising authoritarianism, Europe – especially the EU – must redefine its global role. This session brings together experts and the audience to discuss the manifesto “Europe in a Competition of Great Powers”, co-developed with Herfried Münkler and young Europeans. Refine it before its submission to the EU Commission in autumn.

Breitwieser, Sebastian: Board Member (Club Alpbach Upper Austria)
Osawaru, Jakob: Board Member (Club Alpbach Upper Austria)
Schottke, Jeldrik: President (Club Alpbach Liechtenstein)
Hahn, Tabea: President (Club Alpbach Salzburg)
Cecere, Vito: Ambassador to Austria (Bundesrepublik Deutschland)
Schweeger, Elisabeth: Artistic Director (European Capital of Culture Bad Ischl Salzkammergut)

27.08.2025 12:00 - 27.08.2025 14:00 | Open Network |

EFA Connects: Lunch Tables

Track: Arts & Culture, Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law, Finance & Economy, Security
If you don’t feel like having lunch by yourself or if you are interested in meeting fellow EFA participants, why not join one of the EFA Connects lunch tables! Strike up a conversation and make new contacts. The tables are not hosted, so you are on your own. How about a question about the best Kaiserschmarren in Alpbach or recommendations for the afternoon programme? EFA Connects lunch tables are located in the Pausenhof and in the restaurant Berghof, and are marked by little EFA flags.

27.08.2025 12:00 - 27.08.2025 16:00 | Ritual | Pausenhof

Lunchbreak with KRAULI & HELD + Vurst

Hosted by: Popchop
CHRISTOPH “KRAULI” HELD is an award-winning chef, TV cook, and entrepreneur from Bad Goisern. For over 18 years, he has combined fresh ingredients with creative, down-to-earth cuisine. Since 2020, his YouTube channel held&herd has captivated a large audience. Krauli represents modern culinary art that authentically unites tradition and innovation.

27.08.2025 12:15 - 27.08.2025 13:45 | Track Forum | Gasthof Berghof

Track Forum: Security

Track: Security
Come and meet fellow participants who share an interest for the Security track. Get to know each other at lunch and debate the current programme highlights and main controversies so far.

//INFO: Lunch and drinks are at your own expense. Please be on time at 12:15 so you have enough time to order comfortably. Three dishes are to choose from.

Schwarz, Christoph: Senior Research Fellow (Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy)
Nieschalke, Nick: Research Fellow (Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy | AIES)
Zinkanell, Michael Gabriel: Director (Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES))

27.08.2025 12:15 - 27.08.2025 13:45 | Open Network | Gasthof Jakober – Dining Hall

WoW* Connects: A Networking Hour for Women*

As part of the EFA World of Women* initiative, EFA is taking extra efforts to encourage female* contributors, both in programming and participation. Every day, from the Europe in the World Days to the Austria in Europe Days, two dedicated hours will be hosted by women* engaged in EFA's broader network, which offers the opportunity to connect, reflect, and act.

// INFO: To ensure a focused and engaging experience, we wont be providing any catering. Participants are, however, free to order lunch and beverages at their own cost. //

Staudenmayer, Ellen: Managing Director (McDonalds Österreich)
Herlitschka, Sabine: CEO (Infineon Technologies Austria)

27.08.2025 12:15 - 27.08.2025 13:45 | Track Forum | Hotel Alphof – Right Dining Hall

Track Forum: Finance

Track: Finance & Economy
Come and meet fellow participants who share an interest for the Finance and Economy track. Get to know each other at lunch and debate the current programme highlights and main controversies so far.

//INFO: Lunch and drinks are at your own expense. Please be on time at 12:15 so you have enough time to order comfortably. Three dishes are to choose from.

Kariem, Heider: Economist (Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO))
Zerobin, Manuel: Junior Economist and Doctoral Candidate (Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO))

27.08.2025 12:30 - 27.08.2025 13:30 | Brown Bag Lunch | CCA – Loggia

Brown Bag Lunch – Europe at the Crossroads: AI, Sovereignty, and Global Power

As innovations like AI and quantum technology reshape global economy, Europe faces a critical question: How can it maintain digital sovereignty while competing with technological superpowers like China and the United States? Be quick: the first participants get a free Brown Bag Lunch!
Be quick - the first participants get a free brown bag lunch!

Hauser, Hermann: Co-founder & Venture Partner (Amadeus Capital Partners)
Pucker, Paula-Marie: Journalist (trend magazine)

27.08.2025 13:00 - 27.08.2025 13:30 | Happening | Schulhäusl

RADA's Pop Up Theatre: AI x 5

Track: Arts & Culture
Artificial Intelligence is everywhere. It is in our private and business software, the apps we use, the trains we take, and the news we watch. And yet, most people would not be able to describe what it is. Will AI save us or ruin us? Is it friend or foe?
Will we regret ever opening Pandora’s box?
Join us to reflect on these questions at the performance of five short sketches.

Schiller, Ingrid: Acting Tutor, Audition Panellist, Director, Writer (RADA Royal Academy of Dramatic Art)
Shepphard, Nona: Associate Director and Chair of Audition Panel (Royal Academy of Dramatic Art London (RADA))

27.08.2025 14:00 - 27.08.2025 17:00 | Work | Schulhäusl

Paths Toward a Connected Future

Track: Arts & Culture, Climate
Develop ideas in this workshop for a better future using artistic methods in dialogue with scientific expertise. Together with experts in architecture, literature, and social transformation, you will explore new ways of living as integrated, responsible participants within broader ecosystems.

Volkmann, Jana: Writer
Alexander, Jon: Co-Founder (New Citizen Project)
Lecker, Fabian: Architect, R&D (EFFEKT Architects)

27.08.2025 14:00 - 27.08.2025 16:30 | Hike | Hike Start 2 | Bus Turning Area

Hike | Navigating Threats and Redefining Relationships: A New Era of European Security

Track: Security
War in Europe, regional instability, and shifting alliances are challenging the EU’s security architecture and prompting a comprehensive reassessment of its migration policy. This hike examines how external pressures and evolving geopolitical dynamics are connected to the EU.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upperfloor Class 2).

Repinski, Gordon: Senior Executive Editor (POLITICO Germany)
Brunner, Magnus: EU Commissioner for Home Affairs and Migration (European Commission)

27.08.2025 14:00 - 27.08.2025 15:30 | Chat | CCA – Rogger-Saal

The Demographic Bomb: How can we make Healthcare and Nursing fit for the Future? | Health Focus

The number of people in need of care is increasing every year, while at the same time the healthcare system, care facilities and families are reaching their limits.Caregivers often have to reduce their working hours or leave their jobs, which has serious consequences for the labour market and the economy. Where do we need to start in order to alleviate the shortage of skilled labour, ensure a high-quality care, and provide better support for caregivers?

//INFO: Session will be held in German and is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Wallner, Roland: Deputy Managing Director (Hilfswerk)
Königsberger-Ludwig, Ulrike: State Secretary for Labour, Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection
Draxl, Petra: Board Member (Public Employment Service Austria (AMS))
Pressl, Damita: Journalist & Moderator
Czypionka, Thomas: Head of IHS Health Economics and Health Policy (Institute for Advanced Studies (IHS))

27.08.2025 14:00 - 27.08.2025 16:30 | Hike | Hike Start 1 | CCA Square

Hike | Free Speech Weaponised: Rights, Regulation and Censorship

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
Free speech is a cornerstone of democracy, but the expression itself is increasingly weaponised to legitimise extremism and curtail freedoms. Engage in the complex debate on how to defend free speech without enabling its abuse – and how democracies can strike the right balance.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upper floor Class 1).

Brogi, Elda: Deputy Director of the Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom (European University Institute)
Zeller, Jenni: Chair / Business Network Manager (Forum Alpbach Network / myAbility)
Krekó, Péter: Director (Political Capital Institute)
Karnitschnig, Matthew: Editor-in-Chief (Euractiv)

27.08.2025 14:00 - 27.08.2025 16:30 | Work | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Financing the Future: Investing in Biodiversity and Climate Change Adaptation

While green finance has so far been strongly focused on emission avoidance, climate adaptation and biodiversity protection are increasingly emerging as critical priorities for investments. This session will shed light on how private capital can be mobilised in a targeted manner. Practical models, key players and political framework conditions will be discussed in order to strengthen green finance as a lever for a sustainable transformation.

Schuster, Frank: Head (European Investment Bank Group Office in Austria)
Hummer, Katja: Advisor for EU Affairs, Environment, and Climate (Federal Ministry (BMLUK))
Baldinger, Marlene: Advisor for Green Finance (Federal Ministry (BMLUK))
Alge, Michael: Chairman of the Board (Raiffeisen Landesbank Vorarlberg)
Totschnig, Norbert: Federal Minister (Federal Ministry (BMLUK))
Stagl, Sigrid: Climate Economist (Vienna University of Economics and Business)

27.08.2025 14:00 - 27.08.2025 15:30 | Chat | CCA – Flora-Saal

Recharge Democracy: Schools as Future Hubs for a Democratic Europe

Democracies are under pressure - worldwide, including in Europe. In this context, it is crucial to strengthen political institutions and revitalise democracy as a social practice. This forms the basis of a vibrant and resilient civil society. Join us to discuss how democracy education can be visibly and effectively integrated into everyday school life and how schools can be supported as central hubs of democratic practice.

Please note that there is a maximum number of participants for this session (first come, first served).

Pichler, Julia: Director (Education Lab)
Breser, Britta: Professor of Democratic Education (University of Vienna)
Lugmayr, Leopold: 2020 - 2025: Head of Department Democracy Education in the Austrian Parliament (Austrian Parliament)
Langhammer, Mira: Federal Student Representative (Federal Student Representation)
Wiederkehr, Christoph: Federal Minister for Education (Austrian Ministry of Education (BMB))

27.08.2025 14:00 - 27.08.2025 15:00 | Chat | CCA – Liechtenstein-Saal

Skills Matter: Shaping the Workforce of Tomorrow

Track: Finance & Economy
AI, automation, and rapid technological change are transforming the workforce, and so are demographics and immigration. Which skills will define resilience and success in tomorrow’s labour market? Explore how we can prepare for the labour market of tomorrow – and what policies are needed to equip people with the skills to thrive in an increasingly automated world.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Probst, Karin: Chief People Officer (McDonald’s Austria)
Harder, Jan Christoph: President Region West, North and Rest of World (RoW) (SKODA Group)
Goldin, Ian: Professor of Globalisation and Development (Oxford University)
Ecker, Bernhard: Editor-in-Chief (Trend (Business Magazine))

27.08.2025 14:00 - 27.08.2025 15:00 | Chat | CCA – Hayek-Saal

Energy Without Borders: Building Europe’s Clean Powerhouse

Track: Climate
A unified Energy Union could supercharge Europe’s security, economy, and climate resilience. Discover how cross-border cooperation and smart innovation can light the way towards a clean, interconnected European energy future – and what political courage it will take to get there.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

von Kienitz, Burkhard: COO; World Energy Council Officer, Trustee; United Europe Board Member; TUM Lecturer (E.ON SE)
Giner-Reichl, Irene: Member of the Strategic Advisory Council European Forum Alpbach (European Forum Alpbach)
Hattmannsdorfer, Wolfgang: Federal Minister of Economy, Energy and Tourism. (Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft, Energie und Tourismus)
Kaur, Immy: Co-Founder & Director (CIVIC SQUARE)
Jonströmer, Cynthia: Founder and CEO (Stockholm Climate Leadership Forum)

27.08.2025 15:30 - 27.08.2025 16:30 | Executive Talk | Hotel Post – Seminar Room

Executive Talk with Dieter Pscheidl: Simplification in EU Financial Regulation

Track: Finance & Economy
The EU is repeatedly confronted with criticism of excessive regulation in a wide range of areas. In order to remain competitive and actionable, it is essential to simplify these regulations. In this high-level discussion, possibilities for simplifying regulations in the financial sector will be discussed. The session explores key issues — from the European Green Deal to the Capital Markets Union and (In)Solvency, Recovery and Resolution matters - offering strategic exchange and potential for broader impact.

Enjoy inspiring ideas, meaningful conversations, and drinks in a relaxed atmosphere.

Kariem, Heider: Economist (Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO))
Knot, Klaas: Former President (De Nederlandsche Bank)
Pscheidl, Dieter: Head of European Affairs (Vienna Insurance Group)

27.08.2025 15:30 - 27.08.2025 16:30 | Chat | CCA – Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

Book Talk: Richard Cockett

Track: Arts & Culture, Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law, Finance & Economy, Security
Join Richard Cockett for a book talk of “Vienna: How the City of Ideas Created the Modern World” in the Liechtenstein-Hayek-Hall.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Schottke, Jeldrik: President (Club Alpbach Liechtenstein)
Cockett, Richard: Author of "Vienna; How the City of Ideas Created the Modern World", Senior Editor (The Economist)

27.08.2025 15:30 - 27.08.2025 16:30 | Chat | Gasthof Berghof

Executive Talk: Leading in High-Pressure Times. How Can Executives Stay Strong and Effective?

Permanent crises, pressure, and digital transformation are redefining leadership. How can leaders remain strong, foster innovation, and steer their organisations toward the future? Insights from a survey of 400 top executives reveal which skills matter today – and where true energy and new ideas really come from.

Herlitschka, Sabine: CEO (Infineon Technologies Austria)
Fanto, Karen: Deputy Chairperson / Director Division Management International (Zukunft.Frauen Alumnae Club / Berndorf Bäderbau)
Perfahl-Strilka, Jutta: CEO / CEO (Hokify / Zukunft.Frauen Alumnae Club)

27.08.2025 16:00 - 27.08.2025 17:00 | Ritual | CCA – Flora-Saal

ArtWave Session: Rituals – The Voice as Wellness Technology

Track: Arts & Culture
Experience the power of your voice as a wellness technology with the ArtWave Divas. Through simple, joyful practices using breath, movement, music, and vibration, you'll strengthen body, mind, and spirit – and discover your voice as both a muscle and a tool for your regeneration.

Davison, Jennifer: Opera Singer, Founder (ArtWave, Arts for Health Austria)
Robein, Bea: Opera Singer, Founder (ArtWave, Arts for Health Austria)

27.08.2025 17:00 - 27.08.2025 18:00 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Making European Climate Action Great Again: A Culture Shock

Track: Climate
Fear alone will not drive climate action. Culture, creativity and new narratives can inspire agency, overcome division, and turn climate action into Europe's most powerful and unifying movement for hope and leadership.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Hogan, Clover: Founder & Climate Activist (Force of Nature)
Dunlop, Kirsten: CEO (EIT Climate-KIC)
Alexander, Jon: Co-Founder (New Citizen Project)
Townsend, Solitaire: Co-Founder and Chief Solutionist (Futerra)

27.08.2025 17:00 - 27.08.2025 18:00 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Towards a European Defence Union: Strategic Realism in Practice

Track: Security
Europe’s shift towards realpolitik is reshaping its security strategy. This session analyses the lessons of past European defence initiatives, the future of deterrence, and the way Europe must strengthen its military posture to protect its sovereignty and alliances.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Repinski, Gordon: Senior Executive Editor (POLITICO Germany)
Oeking, Claudia: Head of Public Affairs (Airbus)
Farfal, Jan: Co-Founder (Club Alpbach Poland)
Masala, Carlo: Professor of International Politics (Bundeswehr University Munich)
Süß, Michael: Executive Chairman (OC Oerlikon Management AG)

27.08.2025 18:00 - 27.08.2025 18:30 | Chat | CCA Bookstore

Book Signing: Ian Goldin

Track: Arts & Culture, Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law, Finance & Economy, Security
Join Ian Goldin for a book signing of "The Shortest History of Migration: When, Why, and How Humans Move" and "Age of the City" at the Bookstore in the CCA Foyer.

27.08.2025 18:30 - 27.08.2025 19:30 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

From Legacy to Impact: 80 Years of Driving Change for Europe

Marking 80 years of EFA, this session goes beyond retrospection. It offers space for dialogue and reflection on key EFA initiatives and invites participants to co-develop visions for a recharged Europe. This is more than commemoration, it’s a call to learn from the past, challenge the present, and shape the future. //INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Zeller, Jenni: Chair / Business Network Manager (Forum Alpbach Network / myAbility)
Prosser, Robert: Artist (Kchwant)
Fischler, Franz: Former President (European Forum Alpbach)
Kuschert, Janet: Board Member AIM Alumni Club (-)
Maier, Ferdinand: Secretary General (Österreich hilfsbereit)
Schack, Elisabeth: Co-Head of Drama (Tiroler Landestheater Orchester GmbH Innsbruck)

27.08.2025 18:30 - 27.08.2025 19:30 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Bold Ideas to Recharge Europe: Vote for the Future!

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
Join us in shaping the future of Europe! From climate crisis to technological disruption and populist pressures, Europe stands at a crossroads. In this dynamic pitch session, help select the boldest, most promising ideas to chart a re:charged future for Europe.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Lipp-Rosenthal, Mathias: Chairman and Founder (AI Empowered Politics)
Lemberg-Lvova, Anastasia: Director (De Structura / Reset network)
Ben Ali, Samira: Climate Justice Advocate (World's Youth for Climate Justice)
Pressl, Damita: Journalist & Moderator

27.08.2025 19:00 - 27.08.2025 20:30 | Happening | Schulhäusl

FAN Debate Night

Hosted by: Forum Alpbach Network Committee
The Forum Alpbach Network Committee (FANC) invites scholarship holders to a dynamic evening of critical thinking, sharp arguments, and fresh perspectives. In two thrilling rounds of debate — one prepared and one spontaneous — our scholarship holders take the stage, celebrating dialogue, disagreement, and diplomacy. An EFA jury will be on hand to evaluate the performances and crown the winners.

Neuberg, Dorotea: Consultant (Kearney / Forum Alpbach Network Board)
Zeller, Jenni: Chair / Business Network Manager (Forum Alpbach Network / myAbility)
Williamson, Howard: Professor of European Youth Policy (University of South Wales)
Kneip, Winfried: Founder & Programme Director (Love Politics)
Mrkusova, Klaudie: Vice-Chair (Forum Alpbach Network)

27.08.2025 20:00 - 27.08.2025 22:00 | Open Network | Gasthof Jakober – Terrace

Courage & Confidence

Courage and confidence are at the heart of this evening, which is entirely devoted to dialogue about future prospects, drive, and responsibility. Together with Governor Anton Mattle and State Secretary Alexander Pröll, we will discuss how current challenges can be tackled with courage and how the future can be shaped with confidence.
Join an inspiring exchange, driven by ideas, discussions, and new perspectives – presented by Tirolerin, Hypo Bank Tirol, Avanade and Accenture.

Mattle, Anton:
Pröll, Alexander: State Secretary for Digitalization (Federal Chancellery // Government)

27.08.2025 20:00 - 27.08.2025 22:00 | Happening | Church

Concert: Anna Buchegger

Track: Arts & Culture
Join us for a special evening in the unique surroundings of Alpbach's baroque church. Anna Buchegger is known for incorporating traditional imagery and elements in her performances. She combines alpine folklore with modern effects and creates a unique melange that appeals to both older and younger generations.

//INFO: Limited number of seats available. Please note that drinking from open cups/bottles and eating is not permitted.

Doors: 8.00 pm
Anna Buchegger: 8.30 pm

Wöhrer, David: Musician & Producer (Anna Buchegger)
Buchegger, Anna: Musician & Artist (Anna Buchegger)

27.08.2025 20:00 - 27.08.2025 23:30 | Open Network | Hotel Böglerhof – Böglersbar

Women Economic Summit: Recharge Austria

In light of rapid technological change, geopolitical tensions and ecological crises, new paths for Europe's future need to be identified. The session will focus on Austria's innovative strength, strengthening our resilience and finding sustainable answers to the challenges of global competition – how can we strengthen Austria and Europe to seize these changes as opportunities?
Join our top female managers in discussing how we can change perspectives, identify potential and define new positioning opportunities for Austria.
Please note that the session will be held in German.
There will be music by MHTM beats by Gandi from 9.30 p.m.

Gruszkiewicz, Barbara: Director Corporate Affairs, Communication & Marketing
Mitterstieler , Esther: State Director (ORF Tirol)
Zehetner, Elisabeth: State Secretary for Energy, Start-ups and Tourism (Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs, Energy and Tourism (BMWET))
Zapreva, Susanna: Director (Verbund)
Stiftinger, Edeltraud: Vice Governor (Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB))
Mosser, Maimuna: Country Director (Google)
Stornig-Wisek, Natascha: Tax Advisor and Certified Public Accountant (LeitnerLeitner)
Stagl, Sigrid: Climate Economist (Vienna University of Economics and Business)

28.08.2025 04:00 - 28.08.2025 09:00 | Hike | Hike Start 1 | CCA Square

Sunrise Hike: Gratlspitz

Rise and shine: Enjoy the first rays of sunshine on the top of Alpbach. Experience this special atmosphere and start your day energised!

//INFO: The hike is not recommended for beginners! Attention: 900 metres in ascent! Please wear hiking boots, bring water and possibly a small snack. If you have a head torch, please bring it with you. Participation at your own risk!

Depending on the pace you are walking at, you should allow between 4 and 5 hours for the walk.

28.08.2025 07:00 - 28.08.2025 08:00 | Ritual | CCA – Square

Morning Sports: Functional Fitness

Start the day with a boost of energy! The trainers of the Austrian Armed Forces will get you sweating with military functional fitness on the forecourt of the CCA - an ideal way to recover from stress and prevent burnout or illness.

28.08.2025 08:00 - 28.08.2025 08:30 | Ritual | Church

Into the Silence

A place of calm: Spiritual impulses from various religious and philosophical backgrounds invite you to contemplate and reflect. Inspiring initiators tell their stories, take you on a journey of the mind and initiate moments of genuine stillness.

Davison, Jennifer: Opera Singer, Founder (ArtWave, Arts for Health Austria)
Robein, Bea: Opera Singer, Founder (ArtWave, Arts for Health Austria)

28.08.2025 08:00 - 28.08.2025 08:45 | Chat | Schulhäusl

Morning Briefing – Shaping Tomorrow’s Infrastructure

Our Morning Briefings provide a daily overview of the most important news and insights from EFA25. Start your Alpbach day well-informed with an engaging discussion on the current challenges and future prospects for forward-looking infrastructure in Europe and Austria!

Hanke, Peter: Federal Minister for Innovation, Mobility and Infrastructure (Republic of Austria)
Milborn, Corinna: Director of Information (ProSiebenSat1Puls4)

28.08.2025 08:30 - 28.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Hike Start 1 | CCA Square

Europe Begins with Me: Less Talk, More Shaping

Everyone talks politics and reform but real change rarely starts at the top. At the Talk on the Alm, it will be explored how transformation begins where taking action happens: in companies, organisations, and local environments. That’s where trust, motivation, and confidence grow – vital forces for a stronger Europe in uncertain times.

//INFO: Register via E-Mail: veranstaltungen@diepresse.com
//INFO: Opening with a joint hike to Zirmalm, followed by a discussion and get-together (approx. 50 min walking; shuttle available on request).

Bamberger, Alexander: Managing Director (BMW Austria)
Suchocki, Oliver: Consulting Partner (EY Austria)
Köttritsch, Michael: Editor (Die Presse)
von Moltke, Klaus: SVP of Engine Production & Plant director of the Steyr facility (BMW AG)
Dank, Matthias: Executive Vice President (AVL List GmbH)
Brandl, Julia: Professor and Social Entrepreneur (University of Innsbruck)

28.08.2025 09:00 - 28.08.2025 12:00 | Work | CCA – Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

The Price of Security: Defence, Democracy, and Societal Trade-offs

Track: Security
In this workshop, participants explore how Europe’s security ambitions affect the social contract. Discuss financing strategies such as war bonds, societal resilience, intergenerational perceptions of security and trade-offs to prepare for future defence realities.

Fabbrini, Federico: Full Professor of European Law and Founding Director (Brexit Institute and Dublin European Law Institute Dublin City University)
Homanska, Agnieszka: Head of Cabinet of the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs Radoslaw Sikorski (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland)
Steindl, Ulf: Research Fellow (Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES))

28.08.2025 09:00 - 28.08.2025 10:00 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

A Food, Water and Nature Union: Europe’s Survival Plan

Track: Climate
Integrating agriculture, water management, and nature restoration is key to securing Europe’s food systems and biodiversity. A unified approach can transform landscapes, foster a greener economy, and ensure long-term sustainability – if political will, fair transitions, and bold reforms align.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Frick, Martin: Director, WFP Global Office Berlin (United Nations World Food Programme (WFP))
Steiner, Nick: Water Cycle Restoration Practitioner (Water Stories)
Myrivili, Lenio: Global Chief Heat Officer (UN-Habitat)
Degn, Ivo: Co-Founder (Climate Farmers)
Roswall, Jessika: European Commissioner for Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy (European Commission)

28.08.2025 09:00 - 28.08.2025 10:00 | Chat | CCA – Rogger-Saal

Can (Regional) Inequality be Overcome?

Hosted by: Club Alpbach Netherlands
Track: Finance & Economy
Deeper economic integration has given the EU periphery (some) convergence in living standards and the EU core (some) relief with labour shortages. However, economic integration has not alleviated population ageing and brain drain the EU periphery. Explore whether regional inequality within the EU can be overcome - or wheter it is likely to increase with further economic integration and EU enlargement.

Mageza, Tonderayi Prosper: PhD Candidate in Management Science | Climate Finance & Governance | Sustainable Business Expert (University of Innsbruck)
Sakhno, Hanna: Policy Economist (SEO Amsterdam Economics)
Goldin, Ian: Professor of Globalisation and Development (Oxford University)
Nava, Mario: Director-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (European Commission)

28.08.2025 09:00 - 28.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Hike Start 3 | CCA Terrace

Hike | Unlikely Allies: From Friction to Transformation

Some perspectives clash, yet it is in that friction where true innovation emerges. This hike unites voices from politics, business, civil society, and public administration to explore how unlikely collaborations can spark system change. Co-hosted by Impact Hub Vienna with Climate Lab, Future Health Lab, and Education Lab, we share examples of cross-sector solutions. Along the trail, impulses and dialogue open space for reflection, challenge, and fresh alliances.

//INFO: Please bring hiking shoes and water. In case of bad weather, shuttles will bring you to the location.

Rupprecht, Stefanie-Marie: Head of Public Affairs
Alexander, Jon: Co-Founder (New Citizen Project)
Ruedl, Nadina: Founder (Die Pflanzerei)
Detering, Jakob: Managing Director (Impact Hub Vienna)

28.08.2025 09:00 - 28.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Hike Start 2 | Bus Turning Area

Hike | Ageing Europe: Can Europe Afford to Grow Old?

Track: Finance & Economy
Europe is ageing – and its pension systems are under increasing strain. With smaller workforces and longer life expectancies, the challenge is to ensure long-term sustainability and intergenerational fairness. Explore how reimagining retirement can recharge Europe’s social and economic future.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upperfloor Class 2).

Upis, Guntars: Economic Researcher & Vice President (PwC Netherlands & Club Alpbach Netherlands)
Draxl, Petra: Board Member (Public Employment Service Austria (AMS))
Schuster, Barbara: Economist (Momentum Institut)
Bonin, Holger: Scientific Director (Institute of Advanced Studies (IHS))

28.08.2025 09:00 - 28.08.2025 12:00 | Hike | Hike Start 1 | CCA Square

Hike | The Social Dilemma: Impact on Society and Reclaiming Control

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
Social media platforms and their enabling technologies are reshaping mental health, democracy and society. Examine the social dilemma they pose – and discuss what political, societal, and personal actions are needed to reclaim agency in the digital age between openness to technological advances and need for self-determination.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upper floor Class 1).

Villani, Cédric: University Professor (University Lyon I IHES)
Chowdhury, Rumman: CEO (Humane Intelligence)
Lipp-Rosenthal, Mathias: Chairman and Founder (AI Empowered Politics)
Rußmann, Uta: Professor of Media and Communication Studies & Head of Department (University of Innsbruck)
Simic, Ana: CEO & Founder (Propeller - AI Consultancy)

28.08.2025 10:30 - 28.08.2025 12:00 | Chat | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

The Future of Monetary Policy and Financial Markets in Europe

Track: Finance & Economy
In an era of heightened geopolitical uncertainty and structural economic shifts, the future of monetary policy and financial markets in Europe faces unprecedented challenges. Leading central bankers will discuss how policy frameworks must adjust to a changing economic landscape, the evolving role of financial markets in supporting growth and stability, and the implications for monetary policy.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Raposo, Clara: Vice-Governor (Banco de Portugal)
van Trotsenburg, Axel: Senior Managing Director (World Bank)
Knot, Klaas: Former President (De Nederlandsche Bank)
Radović, Irena: Governor (Central Bank of Montenegro)
Holzmann, Robert: Governor (Oesterreichische Nationalbank)
Köhler-Geib, Fritzi: Member of the Executive Board (Deutsche Bundesbank)

28.08.2025 10:30 - 28.08.2025 12:00 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Ukraine as a Cornerstone for Europe’s Security and Defence

Track: Security
In Europe, Ukraine is often seen as a petitioner and a recipient of aid. In reality, it has been safeguarding Europe’s security and freedom for more than three years. Today, Ukraine not only fields the largest and most battle-hardened army in Europe, it also covers 40% of its defence needs through domestic production and boasts a vibrant Mil-Tech ecosystem. Looking ahead, Ukraine therefore must be a cornerstone of the European security and defence architecture that must increasingly stand on its own.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Zinkanell, Michael Gabriel: Director (Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES))
Enskat, Sebastian: Director KAS Vienna (Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS))
Orobets, Lesya: Ukrainian civil activist
Birringer, Thomas: Head (Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Ukraine)
Hoffberger-Pippan, Elisabeth: Senior Researcher (Peace Research Institute Frankfurt)
Masala, Carlo: Professor of International Politics (Bundeswehr University Munich)

28.08.2025 11:00 - 28.08.2025 12:00 | Chat | CCA – Rogger-Saal

Hydrogen as a Controversial Solution to the Energy Crisis

Hosted by: Club Alpbach Croatia together with Club Alpach Upper Austria and Initiative Group Kosovo
Track: Climate
This session explores hydrogen’s controversial role in the energy transition. Experts from policy, science, and business will address common misconceptions, economic challenges, and practical solutions – showing why hydrogen remains essential for decarbonising Europe by 2050.

Mesinovic, Ela: Public Affairs Expert in Energy and Climate (Club Alpbach Croatia)
Richter, Michael: Deputy Area Manager Green Energy & Industry, HyCentA Research (Club Alpbach Oberösterreich)
Herlitschka, Sabine: CEO (Infineon Technologies Austria)
Stagl, Sigrid: Climate Economist (Vienna University of Economics and Business)

28.08.2025 12:00 - 28.08.2025 14:00 | Open Network |

EFA Connects: Lunch Tables

Track: Arts & Culture, Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law, Finance & Economy, Security
If you don’t feel like having lunch by yourself or if you are interested in meeting fellow EFA participants, why not join one of the EFA Connects lunch tables! Strike up a conversation and make new contacts. The tables are not hosted, so you are on your own. How about a question about the best Kaiserschmarren in Alpbach or recommendations for the afternoon programme? EFA Connects lunch tables are located in the Pausenhof and in the restaurant Berghof, and are marked by little EFA flags.

28.08.2025 12:00 - 28.08.2025 16:00 | Ritual | Pausenhof

Lunchbreak with ZOMM

Hosted by: Popchop
At ZOMM, alpine coziness meets culinary curiosity. Creative cuisine with honest ingredients – cooked with what the season and region provide: sustainable, respectful, and close to the product. “Zomm” is Tyrolean for “together.” That’s exactly what we live – as a team, with guests, and regional partners. A place to arrive, enjoy, and unwind – with space for genuine encounters and special moments.

28.08.2025 12:15 - 28.08.2025 13:45 | Open Network | Gasthof Jakober – Dining Hall

WoW* Connects: A Networking Hour for Women*

As part of the EFA World of Women* initiative, EFA is taking extra efforts to encourage female* contributors, both in programming and participation. Every day, from the Europe in the World Days to the Austria in Europe Days, two dedicated hours will be hosted by women* engaged in EFA’s broader network, which offers the opportunity to connect, reflect, and act.

// INFO: To ensure a focused and engaging experience, we won't be providing any catering. Participants are, however, free to order lunch and beverages at their own cost. //

Ernst, Michaela: Co-Founder and Publisher (SHEconomy)
Giner-Reichl, Irene: Member of the Strategic Advisory Council European Forum Alpbach (European Forum Alpbach)

28.08.2025 12:15 - 28.08.2025 13:45 | Track Forum | Gasthof Berghof

Track Forum: Democracy

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
Come and meet fellow participants who share an interest for the Democracy track. Get to know each other at lunch and debate the current programme highlights and main controversies so far.

//INFO: Lunch and drinks are at your own expense. Please be on time at 12:15 so you have enough time to order comfortably. Three dishes are to choose from.

Brogi, Elda: Deputy Director of the Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom (European University Institute)
Gori, Paula: Secretary-General and Coordinator of the European Digital Media Observatory (European University Institute)

28.08.2025 12:15 - 28.08.2025 13:45 | Track Forum | Hotel Alphof – Right Dining Hall

Track Forum: Climate

Track: Climate
Come and meet fellow participants who share an interest for the Climate track. Get to know each other at lunch and debate the current programme highlights and main controversies so far.
The exchange will be hosted with a focus on building bridges and the KONTEXT Common Ground Check.

//INFO: Lunch and drinks are at your own expense. Please be on time at 12:15 so you have enough time to order comfortably. Three dishes are to choose from.

Rogenhofer, Katharina: Co-Founder and Boardmember (KONTEXT Institut)

28.08.2025 12:30 - 28.08.2025 13:30 | Brown Bag Lunch | CCA – Loggia

Brown Bag Lunch - The Digital Euro as an Instrument of European Sovereignty

Join us for an informal discussion format in the EFA Loggia. The focus is on the perspective of private banks regarding the digital euro – and on how their practical experience could be of value to this project. Be quick - the first participants get a free brown bag lunch!

Meichenitsch, Josef: Member of the Board of Directors (Austrian National Bank (OeNB))
Poletto, Maurizio: Chief Operating Officer & Chief Platform Officer (Erste Group)
Gepp, Joseph: Head of the Business Department (Der Standard)

28.08.2025 14:00 - 28.08.2025 15:30 | Chat | CCA – Flora-Saal

Regenerative Agriculture: A Revolution or Just a Trend?

Track: Climate
The agri-food system is under growing pressure due to climate risks and economic instability. A new approach is regenerative agriculture, focusing on practices aimed at protecting and improving soil health, biodiversity, climate, and water resources. The challenge for the new model is though: How can regenerative agriculture be scaled across Europe and which support do farmers need – and from whom?

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Gerlach, Robert: CEO (Klim)
Frick, Martin: Director, WFP Global Office Berlin (United Nations World Food Programme (WFP))
Bodner, Gernot: Senior Scientist and Deputy Head (Institute of Agronomy, BOKU University Vienna)
Neumüller-Klapper, Marianne: Operations & Sustainability Director (Nestle Österreich GmbH)
Pressl, Damita: Journalist & Moderator

28.08.2025 14:00 - 28.08.2025 15:00 | Chat | CCA – Liechtenstein-Hayek-Saal

Rallying a Union’s Defence: Collective Security and European Solidarity

Track: Security
This session focuses on the importance of institutional security and the role of the EU’s mutual assistance clause in shaping collective security. Explore how defence solidarity, different security cultures, and strategic autonomy debates shape Europe’s capacity to defend itself in a volatile world.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Fabbrini, Federico: Full Professor of European Law and Founding Director (Brexit Institute and Dublin European Law Institute Dublin City University)
Rottenberger, Nikolaus: Head of Military Diplomacy Division (Ministry of Defence of Austria)
Hoffberger-Pippan, Elisabeth: Senior Researcher (Peace Research Institute Frankfurt)
Zinkanell, Michael Gabriel: Director (Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy (AIES))
Schwarz, Christoph: Senior Research Fellow (Austrian Institute for European and Security Policy)

28.08.2025 14:00 - 28.08.2025 17:00 | Hike | Hike Start 3 | CCA Terrace

Hike | Energy Future: How Reliable Is Austria’s Power Supply?

Track: Climate, Security
Achieving climate neutrality by 2040 requires a realignment of our energy system. Renewable energy sources are being expanded on a large scale, while conventional power plants are gradually being phased out. But the central question of this transformation is how to ensure a stable and reliable energy supply — even during weather extremes — in a system powered by renewables.

//INFO: Please bring hiking shoes and water. In case of bad weather, shuttles will bring you to the location.

Zehetner, Elisabeth: State Secretary for Energy, Start-ups and Tourism (Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs, Energy and Tourism (BMWET))
Pototschnig, Alberto: Executive Deputy Director (Florence School of Regulation)
Milborn, Corinna: Director of Information (ProSiebenSat1Puls4)
Strebl, Michael: Chairman of the Management Board Wien Energie GmbH (Wien Energie GmbH)

28.08.2025 14:00 - 28.08.2025 16:30 | Hike | Hike Start 1 | CCA Square

Hike | A Green Industrial Policy for Europe’s Future

Track: Climate, Finance & Economy
A Green Industrial Deal could make or break Europe’s competitiveness and climate leadership. Explore what it will take to drive sustainable industry, strengthen innovation ecosystems and win the new global race for a prosperous future.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.

//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upper floor Class 1).

van Driel, Kjartan: PhD Candidate (Complexity Science Hub)
Niederländer, Frank: Vice President Government Affairs Europe (BMW Group)
Ehold, Verena: Managing Director (Federal Environment Agency)
Wagner, Gernot: Climate economist (Columbia Business School)
Albuquerque, Maria Luís: Commissioner for Financial Services and the Savings and Investments Union (European Commission)

28.08.2025 14:00 - 28.08.2025 15:30 | Chat | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Trust in Media in the digital storm

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
As we scroll through countless news headlines and opinions, it becomes increasingly difficult to determine what to believe and whom to trust. Public service media plays a crucial role in this landscape and must strengthen its position as a trusted source while fulfilling its informational and educational mandate and upholding its democratic understanding amid growing polarization and skepticism. This panel attempts to illuminate the critical relationship between credibility, algorithm and ratings.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Pröll, Alexander: State Secretary for Digitalization (Federal Chancellery // Government)
Spiekermann, Sarah: Head of the Institute for Information Systems and Society (University of Business and Economics Vienna)
Weissmann, Roland: General Manager (Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF))
Schaidreiter, Raffaela: ORF-Correspondent, Head of office ORF-Brussels (ORF, Austrian Broadcasting Corporation)
Karas, Othmar: President (European Forum Alpbach)

28.08.2025 14:00 - 28.08.2025 17:00 | Work | Schulhäusl

Cooperation and Intercultural Dialogue

Track: Arts & Culture, Security
Develop ideas for a better future together using artistic methods in dialogue with subject expertise. In this workshop, join artists and an expert in the field of security to explore the spectrum between international, public, and private security.

Moreno-Gil, Belenish: Freelance composer, dramaturg and musicologist (-)
Shahyar, Golnar:

28.08.2025 14:00 - 28.08.2025 16:30 | Hike | Hike Start 2 | Bus Turning Area

Hike | Attitudes Matter: How Attitudes Towards Work and Risk Shape Europe’s Competitiveness

Track: Finance & Economy
Attitudes towards work, career paths, and risk are evolving across Europe. In some regions, high risk aversion can limit entrepreneurial spirit and innovation. Explore how cultural and societal narratives around work and risk-taking are shaping Europe’s ability to adapt, innovate, and thrive in a changing global landscape.

//INFO: Bring hiking shoes and water.
//INFO: In case of heavy rain, the session is going to take place at Volksschule (Upperfloor Class 2).

Ecker, Bernhard: Editor-in-Chief (Trend (Business Magazine))
Srzentic, Tamara: First Digital Minister of Montenegro; Digital Transformation Director; European Young Leader (EYL40) (Government of California)
Fiedler, Susann: Professor for Business & Psychology (Vienna University of Economics and Business)
Nava, Mario: Director-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (European Commission)

28.08.2025 14:00 - 28.08.2025 15:00 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

European Digital Sovereignty in Times of Geopolitical Competition

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law, Finance & Economy
As geopolitical tensions rise, Europe’s digital sovereignty becomes a strategic imperative. Explore how Europe can secure its technological independence— while safeguarding its values and autonomy.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Poletto, Maurizio: Chief Operating Officer & Chief Platform Officer (Erste Group)
Hauser, Hermann: Co-founder & Venture Partner (Amadeus Capital Partners)
Simic, Ana: CEO & Founder (Propeller - AI Consultancy)
Bria, Francesca: Innovation Economist & Senior Fellow (Stiftung Mercator)
Geese, Alexandra: Digital Policy Expert & Member of European Parliament (European Parliament)

28.08.2025 14:00 - 28.08.2025 15:00 | Chat | CCA – Rogger-Saal

The Non-Negotiables in Health: What to Invest in for a Future-Ready System

Hosted by: FAN Health Initiative
In times of limited resources and rising demands, Austria’s healthcare must focus on what’s truly essential. This panel unites experts to discuss smart investments and innovations –from primary health care to digital infrastructure, workforce, and prevention – that ensure a resilient, equitable, and efficient system by 2035. Join us to rethink healthcare priorities and shape a sustainable future beyond crisis.

Fritz, Michaela: Vice Rector for Research and Innovation (Medical University Vienna)
Ostermann, Herwig: Executive Director (Austrian National Public Health Institute / Gesundheit Österreich GmbH)
Klopf, Christina: Representative (FAN Health Initiative)
Graf, Lina: Co-Founder (Doc2Me)
Mcdonald, Peter: Co-Chair (Austrian National Health Insurance)

28.08.2025 15:30 - 28.08.2025 16:30 | Chat | Gasthof Berghof

Executive Talk with Jörg Spreitzer: Aligning Performance and Appreciation with the 5R-Method

In an era where Europe’s productivity increasingly depends on culture and leadership, this talk explores how trust-based workplaces consistently outperform their peers using the 5R Method: Revenue, Retention, Resilience, ROI, and Recognition. Drawing on insights from the European Workforce Study (EWS), it will be demonstrated how appreciation and organisational excellence serve as strategic drivers of sustainable economic success.

Enjoy inspiring ideas, meaningful conversations, and drinks in a relaxed atmosphere.

Spreitzer, Jörg: Managing Partner (Great Place to Work)

28.08.2025 16:00 - 28.08.2025 17:00 | Ritual | CCA – Heiss-Saal

Awareness is Everyone’s Responsibility: Open Meeting in Alpbach

Track: Arts & Culture
Awareness work fosters spaces where all feel safe, respected, and supported — especially those facing discrimination or exclusion. This session explores shared responsibility, support structures, and how to act as a bystander without overstepping personal limits.

Rendl, Sophie: Ombudsperson - European Forum Alpbach (Ombudsteam - European Forum Alpbach)

28.08.2025 17:00 - 28.08.2025 18:00 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Democracy in the Digital Age: Unmasking the Power of Deception

Track: Democracy & The Rule of Law
AI-generated content and algorithmic manipulation threaten informed public discourse. Examine how democracies can expose, counter, and navigate these challenges – for a resilient digital society.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Blom, Philipp: Historian and Author
O'Flaherty, Michael: Commissioner for Human Rights (Council of Europe)
Chowdhury, Rumman: CEO (Humane Intelligence)
Crane, Tim: Professor of Philosophy and Pro-Rector (Central European University)

28.08.2025 17:00 - 28.08.2025 18:00 | Chat | CCA – Schrödinger-Saal

Balancing the Books: Can Europe Afford Its Future?

Track: Finance & Economy
Green transformation, defence, digitalisation – Europe’s ambitions are expensive. Are current budget frameworks fit for the scale of future challenges? Debate what it will take to finance a resilient, competitive Europe.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Pressl, Damita: Journalist & Moderator
Holzinger-Burgstaller, Gerda: CEO (Erste Bank Oesterreich)
van Trotsenburg, Axel: Senior Managing Director (World Bank)
Albuquerque, Maria Luís: Commissioner for Financial Services and the Savings and Investments Union (European Commission)

28.08.2025 18:30 - 28.08.2025 19:30 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Bold Ideas to Recharge Europe: Vote for the Future!

Track: Climate
Join us in shaping the future of Europe! From climate crisis to technological disruption and populist pressures, Europe stands at a crossroads. In this dynamic pitch session, help select the boldest, most promising ideas to chart a re:charged future for Europe.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

Walter, Franz: Independent Photographer, Filmmaker, Designer (Studio Franz Walter)
Weingraber, Werner: Managing Director (Madaster Austria GmbH)
Macher, Sonja: Founder (InnovationsMacherIn)
Pressl, Damita: Journalist & Moderator

28.08.2025 19:30 - 28.08.2025 23:00 | Open Network | CCA – Otto Molden Foyer

It's a Wrap

Track:
It’s a Wrap invites you to dance, celebrate, and toast to shared experiences and new friendships. Let’s make this an evening to remember. See you on the dancefloor!

29.08.2025 07:00 - 29.08.2025 08:00 | Ritual | CCA – Square

Morning Sports: Functional Fitness

Start the day with a boost of energy! The trainers of the Austrian Armed Forces will get you sweating with military functional fitness on the forecourt of the CCA - an ideal way to recover from stress and prevent burnout or illness.

29.08.2025 08:00 - 29.08.2025 08:30 | Ritual | Church

Into the Silence

A place of calm: Spiritual impulses from various religious and philosophical backgrounds invite you to contemplate and reflect. Inspiring initiators tell their stories, take you on a journey of the mind and initiate moments of genuine stillness.

29.08.2025 09:00 - 29.08.2025 10:15 | Stage | CCA – Herz-Kremenak-Saal

Closing: Austria in Europe Days

Track: Arts & Culture, Climate, Democracy & The Rule of Law, Finance & Economy, Security
As the Austria in Europe Days and the European Forum Alpbach 2025 come to a close, this session explores pathways to strengthen European unity amid division. Together, we seek bold and inspiring visions to recharge Europe from within.

//INFO: This session is being translated and transcribed live using the Wordly app.

van Trotsenburg, Axel: Senior Managing Director (World Bank)
Schaidreiter, Raffaela: ORF-Correspondent, Head of office ORF-Brussels (ORF, Austrian Broadcasting Corporation)
Bria, Francesca: Innovation Economist & Senior Fellow (Stiftung Mercator)
De Wever, Bart: Prime Minister (Belgium)
Stocker, Christian: Federal Chancellor (Republic of Austria)

29.08.2025 10:30 - 29.08.2025 13:00 | Happening | CCA – Terrace

Afterglow - The Last Sparkle

Track:
Let’s say goodbye to an exciting time and take the opportunity to get together once more for a relaxed coffee. Personal highlights, unique experiences, inspiring encounters, and intensive discussions: We look forward to hearing your stories and hope to see you again next year!