

# MINUTES

## STRATEGIC ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Date, Time:** 2025.02.24, 16:00 – 18:00 (CET)

**Location:** EFA office, Franz-Josefs-Kai 13, 1010 Vienna and online (hybrid)

### PARTICIPANTS

#### Present

Brigitte Brenner  
Verena Ehold  
Irene Giner-Reichl  
Wolfgang Habermayer  
Bruno Hofbauer  
Herwig Hösele  
Michael Ikrath  
Georg Kopetz  
Sophie Martinetz  
Mairéad McGuinness, Co-Chair  
Stefan Wallner  
Christoph Wenna  
Werner Wutscher

#### Online

Cathryn Clüver Ashbrook  
Valerie Hengl  
Michael Hirschbrich  
Thomas Kahn  
Bernhard Marckhgott  
Josef Margreiter  
Filip Radunović  
Martin Weiss

#### Excused

Markus Bischofer  
Lisa-Marie Fassl  
Larissa Krainer  
Elisabeth Krainer-Senger-Weiss  
Armin Laschet, Co-Chair  
Kathryn List  
Hans Mahr  
Clemens Mayr-Harting  
Beate Meini-Reisinger  
Dieter Natlacen  
Bernhard Niesner  
Leonard Novy  
Wolfgang Petritsch  
Klaus Poier  
Andrä Rupprechter  
Sophie Pornschlegel  
Rupert Sausgruber  
Martin Schulz  
Agnes Streissler-Führer  
Matthias Stolz

#### QUA FUNCTION

Othmar Karas (Executive  
Board)  
Florian Boschek (FAN)  
Franz Fischler (Honorary  
President)

Jenni Zeller (FAN)

Sabine Herlitschka (Executive  
Board)  
Christian Kern (Executive  
Board)  
Thomas Mayr-Harting (IAB)

Antonella Mei-Pochtler  
(Executive Board)

Marie Ringler (Executive Board)

Peter Oberlechner (Executive  
Board)

Andreas Maierhofer (FAN)

Karl Sevelde (Auditor)

Andreas Treichl (Honorary  
President)

Michaela Fritz (SAB)

#### **ORGANISATIONAL TEAM**

Ulla Offenbeck

Johannes Piller

René Schlee

Feri Thierry

Annamária Tóth

## 1. OPENING AND INTRODUCTION MAIRÉAD MCGUINNESS

- Talking points:**
- Opening words President Othmar Karas
  - Opening words Mairéad McGuinness

## 2. CO-OPTING MAIRÉAD MCGUINNESS, THOMAS KAHN AND MARKUS BISCHOFER

**Introduction:** Co-opting of the three suggested candidates unanimously accepted.

## 3. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

**Talking points:** Role of Council, active support from council members

**Next steps:** Council members are asked to support the work of the organisational team in their roles as advisors, reference givers, impact deliverers etc.

## 4. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL THEME AND TRACK TOPICS

**Talking points:** Recharge Europe. See PowerPoint attached.

**Contributions:**

Suggestions to introduce topic of stronger transatlantic relations into programme.

Ukraine. Need for a strong mission, presented by young people at end of EFA25.

Europe's role in the world as a new world order emerges.

Question of how we want to live together in 25 years? Where do we transform to?

What do we strive to build tools for?

Need to involve young generation to share their view on trans-national sovereignty.

Re-thinking sovereignty.

Who is the EFA audience? Incentive to invite people from Trump administration.

There is a crisis within the organisations. Use the chance of the breaking down multilateral system for an analysis.

Fight our biggest enemy – fear. Forum needs to help make people and systems more resilient to face challenges.

The young people are the future but we now can make the changes. And we must do so.

Attack on three main pillars of society.

There is the urgency to invest in capital markets. Look at brackets that hold societies together against centrifugal powers.

Europe shows lethargy. Europe needs to recharge and get things done.

## **5. PRESENTATION OF PARTNERSHIP POSSIBILITIES AND ADDITIONS WITH FOCUS ON FOUNDATIONS**

See PowerPoint attached.

**This is where we need your support:** In the PowerPoint of the SAC meeting you find three slides that name climate, democracy and youth foundations (#9 – 11). Some of the foundations are on our contact lists already, some of them (marked in grey) have not been reached out to yet. We kindly ask you to inform us ([partnerships@alpbach.org](mailto:partnerships@alpbach.org)) if you could establish an initial contact with these foundations or if you are even a member of their board or in any other kind of function so that you can connect EFA with these foundations.

## **6. REPORT OF THE FAN**

See PowerPoint attached.

## **7. MISCELLANEOUS**

Save the Date: Next SAC Meeting 12 June 15:00.

The Board Meeting ended at 18:00h  
Minutes: Ulla Offenbeck



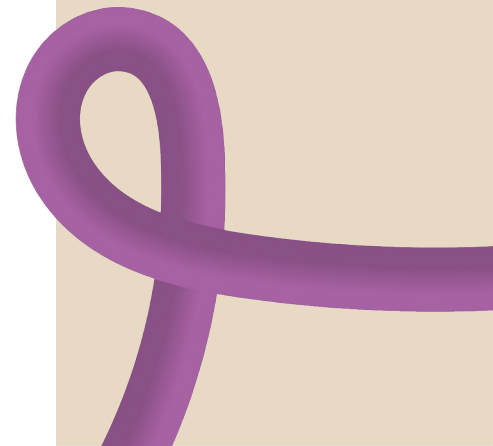
# **STRATEGIC ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

24 February 2025, 16:00 – 18:00

# European Forum Alpbach 2025

# AGENDA

1. Opening and introduction Mairéad McGuinness (Co-Chair)
2. Co-Opting of Mairéad McGuinness, Markus Bischofer, Thomas and Kahn
3. Report of the President
4. Presentation of Annual Theme and Track Topics
5. Partnership possibilities
6. Report of the FAN
7. Miscellaneous





# **1. OPENING AND INTRODUCTION**

## **MAIRÉAD MCGUINNESS (CO- CHAIR)**





## **2. CO-OPTING OF MAIRÉAD MCGUINNESS, MARKUS BISCHOFER AND THOMAS KAHN**

# **3. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**



# **4. ANNUAL THEME AND TRACK TOPICS**

# RECHARGE EUROPE



European  
Forum  
Alpbach  
2025



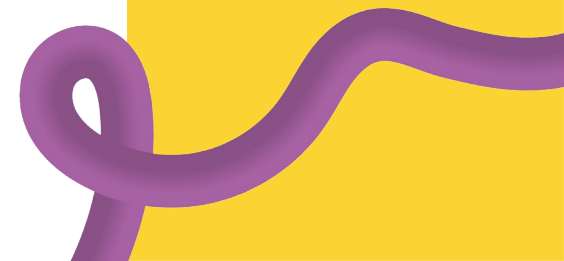
## **EFA25: RECHARGE EUROPE**

The EFA25 will take place from 16 to 29 August.

# ANNUAL THEME: RECHARGE EUROPE

**Eighty years after the end of the Second World War, Europe stands at a crossroads.**

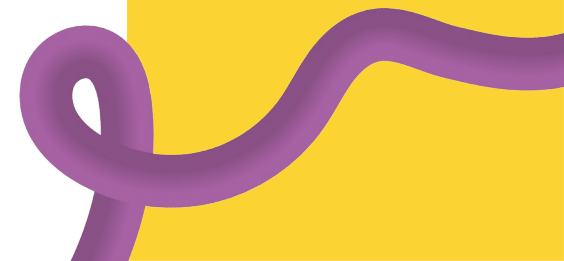
The values that shaped post-war Europe – democracy, human rights, rule of law and social market economies – are being tested in an era defined by rapid technological change, geopolitical shifts and an existential ecological crisis. **Europe needs a fresh burst of energy.** As the global competition for influence, resources and innovation intensifies, Europe's response must go beyond defending past achievements. It must promote an ambitious vision for the future.



## ANNUAL THEME: RECHARGE EUROPE

At the European Forum Alpbach 2025, we will explore how Europe can forge a path that combines competitiveness with its values and unique volatile strengths. Together we will work on a dynamic European model that inspires and leads while preserving what is good and beautiful about our continent: from climate leadership and economic innovation to strengthening our democracies and ensuring our security in a world. **Together, we will renew Europe's potential.**

A shared vision for a comprehensive renewal of Europe galvanised the founders of the European Forum Alpbach eighty years ago. Their approach is no less valid today. To ensure lasting peace and prosperity, Europe must continue to reinvent itself, rooted in values that go beyond economic metrics.



# EFA25 TRACK TOPICS

## CLIMATE

**Europe in the World Days:** Collaborate to Compete:  
Making the Climate Transformation Real

**Austria in Europe Days:** United in Emergency: Towards  
a Stronger Climate and Energy Union

## FINANCE & ECONOMY

**Europe in the World Days:** Innovation as Europe's  
Competitive Edge in Global Transformations

**Austria in Europe Days:** Regaining Competitiveness: A Call  
for Action

## SECURITY

**Europe in the World Days:** Geopolitical Realignment:  
Asserting Europe's Role in a Contested World of Power  
Politics

**Austria in Europe Days:** Towards a European Defence  
Union: Goals, Roles and Responsibilities

## DEMOCRACY & THE RULE OF LAW

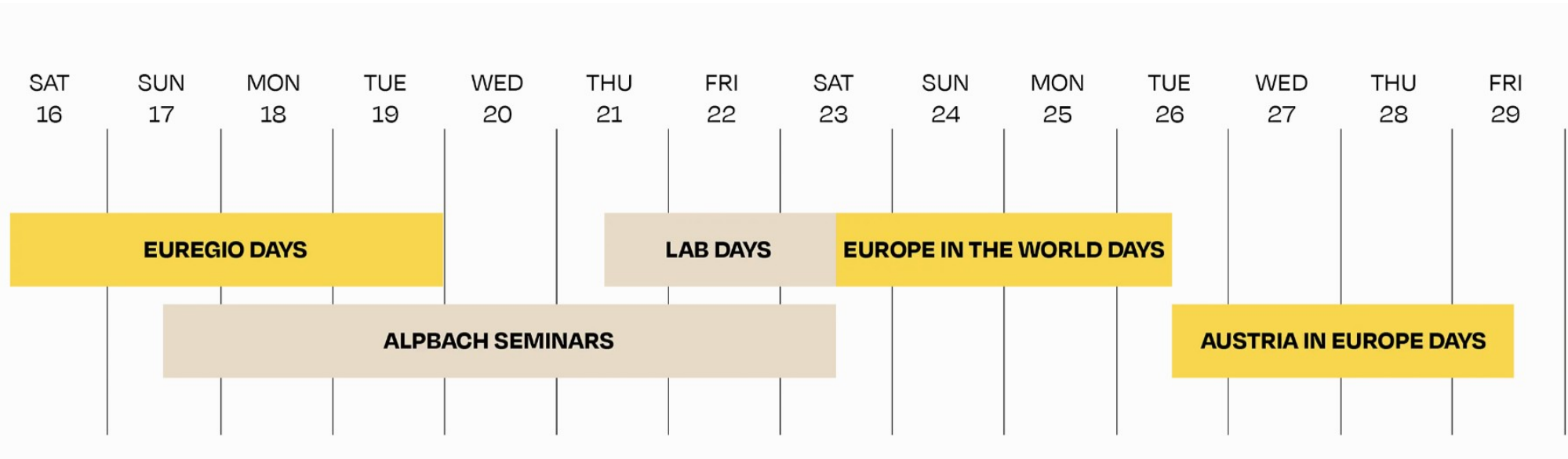
**Europe in the World Days:** People and Power:  
Strengthening Truth and Trust

**Austria in Europe Days:** Democracy and Rule of Law in  
the Digital Age: AI, Disinformation and Media



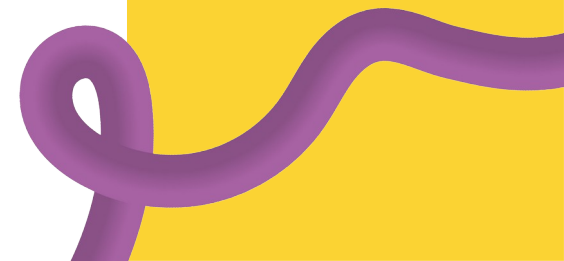
# MODULE STRUCTURE EFA25

16 to 29 August 2025



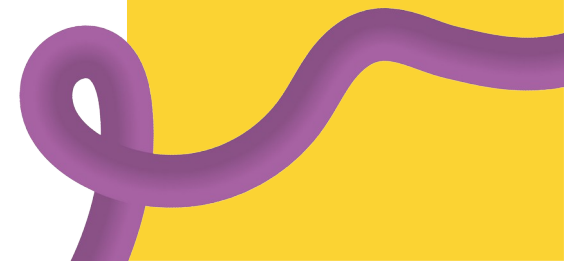
# MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

- **Euregio Days:** The Forum for people who want to find regional solutions to global problems
  - People of the Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino Euroregion gather in Alpbach to celebrate regional cooperation. Outstanding research and innovation are awarded, and “Tyrol Day” marks a festive highlight.
- **Alpbach Seminars:** The Forum for outstanding young talents to learn, debate and engage
  - Each year, EFA awards about 500 scholarships to young people. The Alpbach Seminars offer five days of inspirational and thought-provoking sessions, expanding horizons and fostering learning.
- **Lab Days:** The Forum for innovative minds to collaborate and create solutions in focused sessions
  - Selected experts (by invitation only) collaborate in closed sessions, working on predetermined issues and tackling specific challenges.



# MODULE DESCRIPTIONS

- **Europe in the World Days:** The Forum for Europeans who drive ideas for a strong and democratic Europe
  - Key actors of European politics, the economy, science and culture meet in Alpbach for the season kick-off. In dialogue with international thought leaders, they address global issues and explore Europe's role in the world through innovative formats such as hikes, workshops and rituals.
- **Austria in Europe Days:** The Forum for the exploration of European Union's inner perspectives
  - The Austria in Europe Days mark the season opening of Austrian politics and define the role of Austria and other EU member states in Europe. Key actors of civil society, business and parliament engage proactively on internal EU challenges with the next generation.

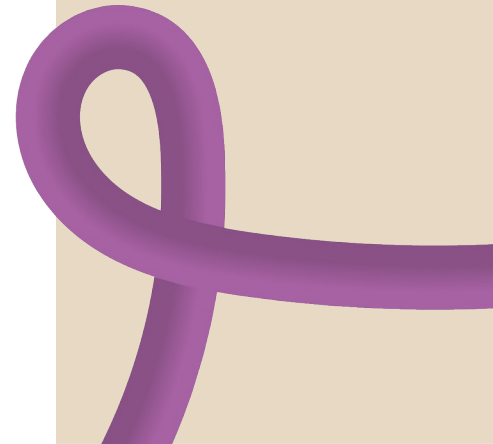




## **5. PARTNERSHIP POSSIBILITIES**

## PARTNERSHIPS SEGMENTS

- (1) Corporate sponsors (Austrian companies or multinationals with a base in Austria) 💰
- (2) Grantmaking foundations (mainly from DE & EU) 💰
- (3) Individual donors (almost exclusively from AT) 💰
- (4) Public institutions (mainly from Austria, EP, EIB) 💰
- (5) Unit partnerships (e.g. RADA – Programme Unit, Media Partnerships – Unit Communications, ÖBB – Unit Experience)



# INCOME SOURCES (2024)

Grantmaking foundations	37%
Corporate sponsoring	22%
Donations / Talent Development	14%
Ticket Sales	11%
Public institutions and grants	10%
Scholarships and tickets of clubs	3%
Other	2%
Memberships	0,6%
TOTAL	100%

# EFA OFFERS VARIOUS TIERS OF PARTNERSHIPS

## Partner

Support individual elements at EFA, that collectively make up the experience that makes EFA unique for its participants and partners

**Minimum annual donation**  
EUR 30,000

### SELECTED EXAMPLES

European  
Cultural  
Foundation



HEINRICH BÖLL STIFTUNG

## Advanced partner

Support individual elements at EFA, that collectively make up the experience that makes EFA unique for its participants and partners, while also benefiting from the broader EFA network and its events

**Minimum annual donation**  
EUR 50,000

### SELECTED EXAMPLES

Karel Komárek  
Family  
Foundation



## Premium partner

Co-develop EFA's broader offerings, bringing thought-leadership and driving impact

**Minimum annual donation**  
EUR 100,000

### SELECTED EXAMPLES



**STRABAG**



STIFTUNG  
MERCATOR

## Core partner

Shape EFA's focus and future orientation in the long term by getting closely involved with its overarching thematic direction

**Minimum annual donation**  
EUR 300,000

### SELECTED EXAMPLES

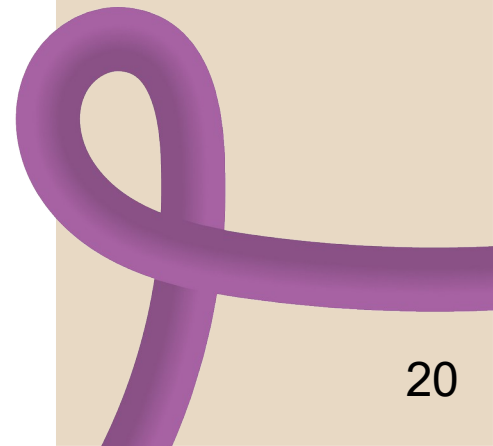
OPEN SOCIETY  
FOUNDATIONS



## HOW THE SAC CAN HELP

... by reaching out and connecting us to partners with expertise in the tracks and track topics

- Foundations
- Private donors
- (European) institutional funding
- Corporate sponsors
- Programme and media partnerships
- Journalists





# FOUNDATIONS LEADS: CLIMATE

Orgs identified by EFA but not yet reached out to      Orgs identified by EFA and reached out to

**Largest foundations focusing on climate in Europe**  
*(including foundations that are not exclusively focused on climate)*

Name	Annual thematic grant-making budget (kUSD)
Novo Nordisk Foundation	1'155'000*
Nationale Postcode Loterij	899'561*
National Lottery Community Fund	765'523*
IKEA Foundation	260'000*
Children's Investment Fund Foundation	220'000
European Climate Foundation	176'763
Wellcome Trust	158'000
Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation	140'200
Carlsberg Foundation	100'000*
TrygFonden	80'000*
Laudes Foundation	71'000*
Arcadia Fund	63'000*
Oak Foundation	24'482
Independent Research Fund Denmark	18'915
Stiftung Mercator	14'419
Lundbeck Fonden	11'600
Robert Bosch Stiftung	6'733
Fondation Botnar	1'828
King Baudouin Foundation	597

# FOUNDATIONS LEADS: DEMOCRACY

■ Orgs identified by EFA but not yet reached out to    ■ Orgs identified by EFA and reached out to

**Largest foundations focusing on democracy in Europe**  
*(including foundations that are not exclusively focused on democracy)*

Name	Annual thematic grant-making budget (kUSD)
European Endowment for Democracy <sup>1</sup>	40'000
Robert Bosch Stiftung	6'354
Bertelsmann Stiftung	5'759
Adessium Foundation	4'288
Civitates	3'389
Schwarzkopf Foundation Young Europe	3'245
Involve	1'263
Heinrich Böll Stiftung	321
Schöpflin Foundation	No info
European Partnership for Democracy	No info
European Citizen Action Service	No info

# FOUNDATIONS LEADS: YOUTH

■ Orgs identified by EFA but not yet reached out to

■ Orgs identified by EFA and reached out to

## **Largest foundations focusing on youth in Europe** (including foundations that are not exclusively focused on youth)

<b>Name</b>	<b>Annual thematic grant-making budget (kUSD)</b>
La Caixa Foundation	581'030*
Lego	195'300
European Solidarity Corps	155'903
Stichting INGKA Foundation	100'000*
Fondation de France	63'304
Fondation Botnar	18'650
Robert Bosch Stiftung	10'454
Fondazione Cariplo	8'966
Independent Research Fund Denmark	8'579
Bertelsmann Stiftung	7'833
European Youth Foundation	3'756
Schwarzkopf Foundation Young Europe	3'245
Fondation pour l'Enfance	1'828

## **6. REPORT OF THE FAN**

# FAN BOARD UPDATES

## Current FAN Board

Election of the FAN Board 2025-28: FAN General Assembly at EFA25  
(FANB elected every 3 years, max. 6 members + 2 co-opted)

**JENNI**



**ANDI**



**KLAUDIE**



**FLORIAN**



**DOROTEA**



**PHILIPP**



**MARIA**





# FANB INSIGHTS

- **Weekly FANB Jours Fixes (+ more)**
- **Monthly FAN Jours Fixes**
- **FANB Strategy Retreat** in October in Nesselwängle, Tyrol
  - FANniversary
  - FAN Fall Conference
  - FAN campaigns
- **FAN Fall Conference** in November in Bad Ischl, AT

## COMING UP:

- **FANB Strategy Retreat** in April in Dubrovnik, Croatia
  - FANB handover
  - FANniversary
  - FAN Spring Conference
- **FAN Spring Conference** in May in Brno, Czechia





**FAN FALL CONFERENCE, BAD ISCHL, UPPER AUSTRIA**  
**~100 FAN REPRESENTATIVES FROM 32 CLUBS / IGS**

# NEW / REVIVED FAN MEMBERS 2024/25

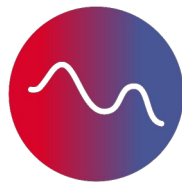
- Club Alpbach Hungary – *in progress*
- Club Alpbach Spain
- Club Alpbach Switzerland
- Club Alpbach Czechia Slovakia



Club  
Alpbach  
Spain

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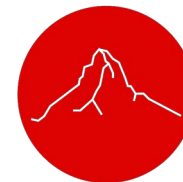
Forum Alpbach  
Network



Club  
Alpbach  
Czechia & Slovakia

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Forum Alpbach  
Network



Club  
Alpbach  
Switzerland

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Forum Alpbach  
Network



**EFA365 / FAN EVENTS**

Club  
Alpbach  
France  
Forum Alpbach  
Network



# Lancement Thématique 2025

« GOUVERNANCE DE L'EAU :  
ENVIRONNEMENT, SÉCURITÉ, DIPLOMATIE »

Mercredi 18 Décembre - 18:00 CET en ligne



## TRUMP 2.0 & EUROPE

### HOW WILL THE EU NAVIGATE A NEW GEOPOLITICAL ERA?

Club  
Alpbach  
London  
Forum Alpbach  
Network

12 FEB 2025, 13:00-14:00  
15-19 DEVEREUX COURT, THE STRAND  
FREE EVENT - REGISTER AT [RB.GY/H22158](https://rb.gy/h22158) - SPACES LIMITED

**PANELLISTS**  
What does Trump mean for EU trade, security, environment - and the liberal-democratic project as a whole? Will Europe unite or fragment? Our expert panel discusses.

**Klaus Welle** is the former Secretary General of the **European Parliament** and Visiting Professor in Practice at LSE European Institute.

**Anunita Chandrasekar** is O'Donnell Fellow at the **Centre for European Reform**, a think-tank devoted to improving the EU, and has just returned from the US.

**Evie Aspinall** is the Director of the **British Foreign Policy Group**, a thinktank focused on the intersection between international and domestic policy.

**Zoe Swanwick** (moderator) is a Researcher at **Coalition for Global Prosperity**, and provides pro bono work for a geopolitical risk consultancy.

Further information & registration at [clubalpbachlondon.eventbrite.com](https://clubalpbachlondon.eventbrite.com)

30. JÄNNER 2025  
18:00 UHR

# EUROPA AM WEG ZUR VERTEIDIGUNGSUNION?

## HERAUSFORDERUNGEN UND PERSPEKTIVEN FÜR EUROPAS SICHERHEITSPOLITIK

### HAUS DER EUROPÄISCHEN UNION

Wipplingerstraße 35, Wien





## Heute ist Wahltag!

Auch wenn du mit keiner  
Partei 100% übereinstimmst –  
geh wählen und mach deine Stimme hörbar!

#Palumba

Download on the  
App Store

Get it on  
Google Play

# CAPE TOWN CONVERSATION

NOVEMBER 26-28, 2024

## FAN VOICE (BLOG ARTICLE) ON ALPBACH.ORG

**FAN** Club  
Alpbach  
Kosovo  
Forum Alpbach  
Network

## SCREENING OF DEARMAMMA DOCUMENTARY

30.10.2024  
19:00

@KINO  
ARMATA

FREE ENTRY!

MORE  
INFO:

[@clubalpbachkosovo  
alpbach.kosovo@gmail.com](https://clubalpbachkosovo.alpbach.kosovo@gmail.com)

Virtual panel  
discussion  
RECAP

## COP29 OUTCOMES IN BAKU

The EU's Role in Shaping Global  
Climate Negotiations

Swipe for panel highlights, and watch  
the full discussion!

Dec 9 | 18:30 CET

## CAD X CAF

Deutsch -  
Französischer Tag

#DTP2025  
#JFA2025

Journée franco-  
allemande





# UPCOMING FAN EVENTS

**MOVIE SCREENING**

## “Hidden Figures”

Breaking Discriminatory Barriers

TX 5063



29 ▶ 29A 30 ▶ 30A

**WHEN:** February 26th 3:30 pm

**WHERE:** The American University of Iraq, Sulaimani (AUIS)

**EVENT:** Movie Screening

**FAN** Forum Alpach Network

**AUIS** Harmony Week

Club Alpach Iraq Forum Alpach Network

**Golden Hour** CLUB

**MARCH 12. 2025** **STARTING AT 19:00** **SNEAK IN** SIEBENSTERNGASSE 12 1070 WIEN

YOUR WAY TO A SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE EUROPEAN FORUM ALPBACH 2025



## INTERCLUB INFO SESSION

**FAN** Forum Alpach Network

Club Alpach Burgenland Forum Alpach Network

Club Alpach Germany Forum Alpach Network

Club Alpach Niederösterreich Forum Alpach Network

Club Alpach Salzburg Forum Alpach Network

Club Alpach Senza Confini Forum Alpach Network

Club Alpach Tirol Forum Alpach Network

Club Alpach Upper Austria Forum Alpach Network

Club Alpach Vorarlberg Forum Alpach Network

Initiativesgruppe Alpach Wien Forum Alpach Network

Join the challenge

## ENERGIA GIOVANE PER IL CAMBIAMENTO

3/03/2025-15/04/2025

Club Alpach Trentino Forum Alpach Network

## CROSS-BORDER DIALOGUE

HAIBURG AN DER DONAU 30.4.-2.5.2025

Club Alpach Niedersachsen Forum Alpach Network

Club Alpach Österreich & Steiermark Forum Alpach Network

Club Alpach Belgium Brussels Forum Alpach Network

**Fireside chat** with Mario Nava, Director General of DG EMPL, and Esther Lynch, Secretary General of the European Trade Union Confederation




25 February 2025 18.00-20.00 Boulevard du Jardin Botanique 20, 1000 Bruxelles



# GEOPOLITICS & CAMPAIGNS

## General themes

- quarterly themes for the FAN
- Club themes (e.g. CA France: water governance)

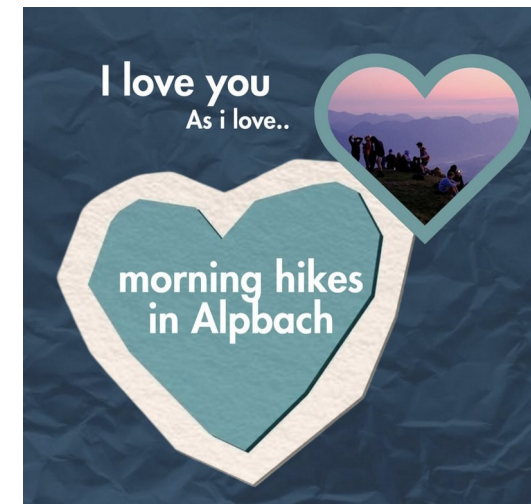
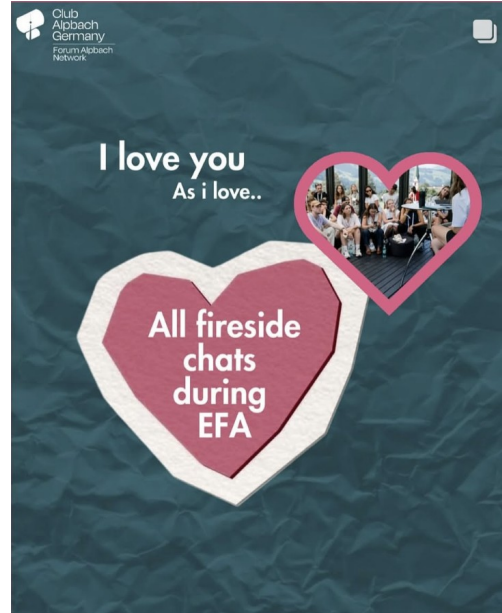
## Current affairs

- FAN campaigns (e.g. Orange the World, Black History Month, Pride)
- Geopolitical developments / conflicts





# HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY & SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION KICK-OFF!



# **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

**80 YEARS OF EFA / ALMOST 20 YEARS OF FAN**





# FANNIVERSARY

**Looking back – Enjoying the moment – Thinking ahead**

## **5 projects by the FAN members**

1. FAN Booklet
2. FANTastic Countdown
3. FAN Goes Local
4. European FANTasies
5. FANniversary at EFA25

**THANK  
YOU**



## **7. MISCELLANEOUS**

Save the date: next SAC Meeting 12 June 2025