

Madrid & Barcelona Future of Europe Debates 2024

17 & 18 October 2024

IE Tower

P.º de la Castellana, 259

Madrid

Session III: 'Navigating Global Shifts: the EU's strategic pathway'

The European Union (EU) is approaching a tipping point. With the 2024 "super-electoral" year coming to an end, the uncertain outcomes of the persisting war in Ukraine, the lack of a cohesive EU stance on the war in Gaza impacting how the union is perceived worldwide, and increasing geopolitical frictions between the US and China, analyzing the EU's strategy to navigate these global shifts has become more important than ever.

The third session of the 2024 Madrid & Barcelona Future of Europe Debates, "*Navigating Global Shifts: the EU's Strategic Pathway*" will bring together a group of experts to analyze the future of the EU and its policies in the world. The event will consist of a public panel and a closed-door roundtable discussion.

The public panel, '*Navigating Global Shifts: the EU's strategic pathway*', on October 17th, will focus on the EU's approach to managing present geopolitical complexities. Taking the EU's 2024–2029 Strategic Agenda as the starting point for the discussion, the experts will analyze the key challenges and opportunities for a free and democratic, strong and secure, and prosperous and competitive Europe.

The experts will discuss the state EU's internal cohesion and democracy; the union's renewed impetus for security and defense initiatives; and its geo-economic strategy, with strategic interdependence and the need to enhance engagement with Global South countries at the core of it.

The roundtable discussion, '*Charting new Horizons: Steering the EU's policies to the current Global shifts*', on October 18th, will consist of two panels.

The first panel, '*Constructive Criticism of the EU's policies in the world*' will address the following question: *How are the EU's foreign policies impacting and perceived by the Global South and emerging countries?* Experts from outside the EU will be invited to present a series of perspectives, criticisms, and recommendations on the EU's policies around the world.



The second panel, *‘Ideas for the way forward. Improving the EU’s External Action: Strategies for competitiveness, interdependence, climate action, and the Global Gateway Initiative’*, will be guided by the following question: *What constructive changes are needed in the EU’s foreign policies to improve its strategic impact and foster stronger international partnerships?* EU experts will present and debate policy recommendations and ideas for the EU to move forward with its geostrategic orientation and policies, such as its quest for enhanced competitiveness, ‘strategic interdependence’, its climate action and the Global Gateway Initiative.

The overarching goal of this event is to close the first edition of the Madrid & Barcelona Future of Europe debates initiative by the Global Policy Center, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Madrid (FES), and the Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB). While the first and second debates focused on two of the EU’s internal dimensions (the EU’s Enlargement and Institutional reform and the challenges emanating from the 2024 elections to the European Parliament), the third debate aims to widen the scope and reflect on how current geopolitical trends might impact the future of Europe.

The key insights from the three debates will be incorporated into a GPC policy brief that will be published at the end of the year.

Thursday, 17th October 2024 Public Event – ‘Navigating Global Shifts: the EU’s strategic pathway’	
17:15 – 17:30	Registration
17:30 – 19:00	<p>Public Event – ‘Navigating Global Shifts: the EU’s strategic pathway’</p> <p><u>Welcome Remarks</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Manuel Muñiz Villa, Provost, IE University in Madrid <p><u>Moderator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ilke Toygür, Director, Global Policy Center, IE University <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <p>Giuseppe Porcaro, Policy Officer, Strategic Foresight & Policy Planning Division, European External Action Service (EEAS)</p> <p>Rosa Balfour, Director, Carnegie Europe</p>



	<p>Fabian Zuleeg, Chief Executive & Chief Economist, European Policy Centre</p> <p>Pol Morillas, Director, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB)</p>
19:00–19:30	Appetizer
19:30-21:30	Dinner with experts and organizers (by invitation only)
<p>Friday, 18th October 2024 Future of Europe debates, Session III: ‘Charting new Horizons: Steering the EU’s policies towards the current Global shifts’</p>	
9:30 – 9:45	Registration & coffee
9:45 – 10:00	<p>Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ilke Toygür, Director, Global Policy Center, IE University - Luise Rürup, Representative, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Portugal & Spanien - Héctor Sánchez Margalef, Researcher, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB)
10:00– 11:45	<p>Panel I: ‘Constructive criticism of the EU’s policies in the World’.</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Héctor Sánchez Margalef, Researcher, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB) <p><u>Input Givers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Noha El Mikawy, Dean of the School of Global Affairs and Public Policy (GAPP) at the American University in Cairo (AUC), Egypt



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Philani Mthembu, Executive Director, Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD), associated with UNISA, South Africa - Monica Hirst, Professor and researcher, Institute of Social and Political Studies, Rio de Janeiro State University (Brazil), Professor, Torcuato di Tella University, Buenos Aires, Argentina
11:45 – 12:15	Coffee Break
12:15 – 13:45	<p>Panel II: ‘Ideas for the way forward. Improving the EU’s External Action: Strategies for competitiveness, interdependence, climate action, and the Global Gateway Initiative’</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amaia Sánchez-Cacicedo, IE SPEGA Faculty <p><u>Input Givers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hana Jalloul, Member of the European Parliament, Vice-Chair Committee on Foreign Affairs, Brussels - Claudia Detsch, Director, FES Just Climate, Brussels - Miguel Otero, Investigador Principal, Real Instituto Elcano, Madrid
13:45 – 13:50	<p>Concluding Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ilke Toygür, Director, Global Policy Center, IE University
13:50 – 14:30	Appetizer
14:30 – 16:00	Lunch

