

EUROPE PANEL 2025

EUROPEAN DEFENCE UNION

Strength, Peace and Freedom

on 13 February 2025 from 17.30 to 22.00 h
at Hotel Bayerischer Hof, Königssaal

An official side event of the MSC

Co-hosted by United Europe, European Forum Alpbach EFA and
The Bavarian Family Entrepreneurs Association

FINAL PROGRAM

17.00 Reception Drinks & Snacks

17.30 Welcome

Othmar Karas, President EFA, Former First Vice-President European Parliament
José Manuel Duaro Barroso, Former President of the European Commission

18.00 Part 1 European Defence Union Strength, Peace and Freedom

Keynote **Andrius Kubilius**, EU Commissioner Defence & Space
with Panelists: **Klaus Welle**, Chairman Academic Council Wilfried-Martens Center,
Board Member EFA
Ronja Kempin, Senior Fellow Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik
Markus Pflitsch, CEO Terraquantum

Moderator: **Antonella Mei-Pochtler**, Vice-President EFA, Chairwoman of Investment
Committee Generali Group
Followed by open discussion

19.00 Part 2 Europe's Competitiveness, Growth and Strength: To protect Europe's Autonomy and Sovereignty

Panelists: **José Manuel Duaro Barroso**, Former President of the European
Commission
Klaus Hommels, Founder & Chairman, Lakestar / Chairman, NATO
Innovation Fund
Paul Achleitner, Chairman Global Advisory Board Deutsche Bank
Gundbert Scherf, CEO Helsing

Moderator: **Gabor Steingart**, Founder and Publisher of The Pioneer
Followed by open discussion

20.00 *Break & Flying Dinner*

20.30 Part 3 Financing

More investments and higher military expenditures require more private and public financing

Panelists: **Hristo Stoykov**, Director European Investment Bank
Franziska Gerathewohl, Head of Alternative Investments & Asset Manager Selection Munich Re-Group
Andreas Treichl, Chairman Erste Foundation

Introduction and Moderator:

Klaus Regling, Former Managing Director of ESM
Followed by open discussion

21.30 Closing & Munich Declaration announcement

José Manuel Duaro Barroso, Former President of European Commission
Klaus Regling, Former Managing Director of ESM
André Loesekrug-Pietri, President of JEDI (Joint European Disruptive Initiative)
Martin Schoeller, Board Member of The Bavarian Family Entrepreneurs

Closing Remark

Antonella Mei-Pochtler, Vice-President EFA, Chairwoman of Investment Committee Generali Group

21.45 Networking & Dessert

The event takes place under Chatham House Rules.

The event itself is co-hosted by

United Europe (President: Günther H. Oettinger; Program Director: Dyria Sigrid Aloussi),
European Forum Alpbach (President: Othmar Karas; Vice-President: Antonella Mei-Pochtler; Secretary General: Feri Thierry),
The Bavarian Family Entrepreneur Association (Board Member: Martin Schoeller) and
JEDI The European ARPA (President: André Loesekrug-Pietri).