



10 OCTOBER 2022

ANNUAL EU BUDGET CONFERENCE

ENHANCING EU STRATEGIC AUTONOMY
A BUDGET FOR A **GEOPOLITICAL EUROPE**

Charlemagne Building - De Gasperi room

SPEAKERS

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Budget

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Ursula von der Leyen

President, European Commission

Ursula von der Leyen has been President of the European Commission since 2019. As the head of the European Union's executive, she has defined six headline ambitions for Europe for her mandate: a European Green Deal, a Europe fit for the digital age, an economy that works for people, a stronger Europe in the world, promoting our European way of life, and a new push for European democracy.

Before joining the Commission, von der Leyen held a number of federal ministerial portfolios in Germany, including Defence Minister, Minister for labour and social affairs, and Family Minister.

Johannes Hahn

Commissioner for Budget and Administration, European Commission

Johannes Hahn has held various management functions in the different sectors of the Austrian economy and industry, including as CEO of Novomatic AG for 5 years. Between 1992 and 1997, Mr. Hahn was Executive Director of the Austrian People's Party Vienna. In 2002, he was elected Deputy Chairman of the Party and Chairman in 2005. Member of the Regional Parliament of Vienna from 1996 to 2003, he became Federal Minister for Science and Research in 2007.

He was the Member of the European Commission in charge of Regional Policy from 2010 to 2014. From 2014 to 2019, he was the Member of the European Commission in charge of Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations.

Since December 2019, he is the Member of the European Commission in charge of Budget and Administration.



Andrej Plenković

Prime Minister, Croatia

Andrej Plenković has been Prime Minister of Croatia since 2016. In 2020, he began a second term as Head of Government after the Croatian Democratic Union's (HDZ) victory in the general elections, and is, since May 2020, the longest-serving Croatian prime minister.

Since 2016, he is also president of the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ), a member of the European People's Party. Prior to that Mr Plenković was a Member of the European Parliament (2013-2016), a Member of the Croatian Parliament (2011-2013) and was State Secretary for European integration (2010-2011). In 1994 he joined the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and in following years held various positions: Head of the Office of the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs (1995), Department for Analysis (1996-1997), Head of the Department for European Integration (1997-2001), Member of the Negotiating Team on the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (2001-2002), Deputy Head of Croatia's Mission to the EU (2002-2005) and Deputy Ambassador to France (2005-2010).

Mr Plenković holds a Bachelor of Law and Master of International Law from the Faculty of Law of the University of Zagreb.



FIRST THEMATIC DEBATE

Investing in deterrence – A budget for security and defence



Thierry Breton

Commissioner for Internal Market, European Commission

Thierry Breton has been the European Commissioner for the Internal Market since 2019. He is responsible for industry, digital, defence and space, as well as tourism, services and audiovisual.

From 2009 to 2019 Mr Breton was CEO of a major European digital technology company, chairing in parallel the French National Research and Technology Association. In 2008-2009, he taught governance in Boston, USA, at Harvard Business School.

In 2005, he was appointed Minister for Economic Affairs, Finance and Industry of France, a post which he held until 2007.

Prior to this, he ran a number of large companies in the IT and telco sector. An engineer in computer science, Thierry Breton began his career as a tech entrepreneur.



Rasa Juknevičienė

MEP, Vice-chair Subcommittee on Security and Defence, European Parliament

MEP Rasa Juknevičienė was elected in 2019 to the European Parliament, where she serves as a Vice-Chair of the Security and Defence Subcommittee, Vice-Chair of the South Caucasus Delegation, Vice-Chair of the EPP group and Chair of the EPP Working Group on External Policies.

Mrs Juknevičienė worked for several years as a physician before being elected to the Lithuanian Parliament in 1990 in the first free elections with Reform Movement Sąjūdis (this Parliament declared the Independence of Lithuania). She was re-elected five times to the seat.

From 2008 to 2012 she served as the Defence minister of Lithuania. She later served as both a Vice-President and then the President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

Alessandro Profumo

Chief Executive Officer, Leonardo

Alessandro Profumo is Chief Executive Officer of Leonardo S.p.a. since May 2017. He is also Honorary Chairman of AIAD (the Italian Industries Federation for Aerospace, Defence and Security), President of the Aerospace and Defence Industries Association of Europe (ASD) and Co-Chairman of the Italy-Japan Business Group.

Born in Genoa (Italy), he holds a degree in Business Economics from Bocconi University. In 1977, he began his career at Banco Lariano. In 1987, he joined McKinsey & Company and in 1989 he joined Bain, Cuneo & Associati. In 1991, he was appointed General Manager in RAS - Riunione Adriatica di Sicurtà, responsible for the banking and parabanking sectors. In 1994, he joined Credito Italiano (today Unicredit), where he was appointed Deputy General Manager and put in charge of Planning & Group Control. A year later, he was appointed Chief General Manager and, in 1997, he became Chief Executive Officer, a position that he maintained also with Unicredit Group till 2010. Profumo was appointed Cavaliere del Lavoro in 2004 and decorated Grande Ufficiale Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana (Grand Officer Order of Merit of the Italian Republic) in 2005.



Mircea Geoană

Deputy Secretary General, NATO

Mircea Geoană became NATO Deputy Secretary General in October 2019, after a distinguished domestic and international career. Mr Geoană is the first Deputy Secretary General from Romania, and the first from any of the countries that joined the Alliance after the end of the Cold War.

He studied at the Polytechnic University in Bucharest, the Faculty of Law of the University of Bucharest, the Ecole Nationale d'Administration in Paris, and he holds a PhD from the Economic Studies Academy of Bucharest. Mr Geoană has served as a diplomat and a politician, and in 2009 was his party's candidate to be President of Romania.





Paola Tamma (*Moderator*)

**Reporter,
Politico**

Paola Tamma is a reporter covering the EU economy. She joined POLITICO in 2018 writing on climate and energy.

Prior to joining Politico, she worked for the Brussels-based media Euractiv, and spent some time at The New Arab, the Guardian data team and was the London correspondent for the Italian Radio Popolare, where she covered terrorist attacks in London and Manchester.

She holds a master in International Relations from the University of Edinburgh and Sciences Po Paris, and graduated in investigative journalism from City University of London in 2017.

Born in Italy, she lived in Australia, France, the UK, and now calls Brussels home.

SECOND THEMATIC DEBATE

Investing in energy security and independence: trade-off or synergy with the green transition?



Tinne Van der Straeten

**Minister of Energy,
Belgium**

Tinne Van der Straeten is Minister for Energy of Belgium.

She served in the Belgian Federal Parliament (2007-2010, 2019-2020) before she became minister.

In 2010 she co-founded Brussels-based law firm Blixt. A law firm specialized in energy law where she gained 9 years of experience in the energy sector.

She has been a board member for many organizations, such as the King Baudouin Foundation and CAW Brussels.

Tinne Van der Straeten studied at UGent and VUB and has a law degree.



Gert Jan Koopman

**Director-General for Budget,
European Commission**

Gert Jan Koopman has been the Director-General of the European Commission's budget department since August 2018. In his role, he is in charge of all aspects of the EU budget management, including the borrowing to finance the recovery under the NextGenerationEU instrument.

Mr Koopman has been working for the European Commission for three decades. Previously, he was in charge of State Aid control at the Commission's Directorate-General for Competition. His earlier assignments included Director posts in the Commission's departments for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN) as well as "Enterprise and Industry" (today's DG GROW).

In the past, Mr Koopman was a member of the Commission's Impact Assessment Board. He worked in the Cabinets of Vice-President Kinnock – lastly as a Head of Cabinet. Prior to joining the Commission, Mr Koopman was an associate of the Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Research (CPB).

A Dutch national, he holds degrees in Economics and Latin and Greek from the University of Amsterdam.

Michala Marcussen

Group Chief Economist and Head of Economic and Sector Research, Société Générale

Michala Marcussen was appointed as Societe Generale's Group Chief Economist in September 2017. In her role of the Head of Economic and Sector Research in the Risk Division, she leads a team of over 30 economists and sector engineers. She is a member of Société Générale's Group Management Committee and has been with the Group since 1994. She began her career with Den Danske Bank in 1986 and has worked in Copenhagen, Brussels, London and Paris.

With over 30 years of experience in the financial industry, she has done extensive work on European integration, the long-term economic outlook, fair value of interest rates and pension savings. Michala Marcussen holds a Master of Science in Economics from the University of Copenhagen and is a CFA charterholder. Michala Marcussen was appointed as a member of the High Council of Public Finance in September 2020. She is also Vice President of the SUERF (European Money and Finance Forum) Council of Management and a member of the Scientific Council to the Cité de l'Economie.



Tim Gould

Chief Energy Economist, International Energy Agency

Tim Gould was appointed the Agency's Chief Energy Economist in 2021.

As Chief Energy Economist, he provides strategic advice on energy economics across a wide range of IEA activities and analysis. Mr Gould is also Head of the Division for Energy Supply and Investment Outlooks, in which capacity he co-leads the World Energy Outlook, the IEA's flagship publication, and oversees the Agency's work on investment and finance, including the World Energy Investment report.

Mr Gould joined the IEA in 2008, initially as a specialist on Russian and Caspian energy, and in recent years has designed and directed the World Energy Outlook together with the IEA's Chief Energy Modeller while contributing to the Outlook as a principal author. Prior to joining the IEA, Mr Gould worked on European and Eurasian energy issues in Brussels and has ten years of experience in Eastern Europe, primarily in Ukraine. He graduated from Oxford University and has a post-graduate diploma from the School of Advanced International Studies of Johns Hopkins University.



Thomas Pellerin-Carlin (*Moderator*)

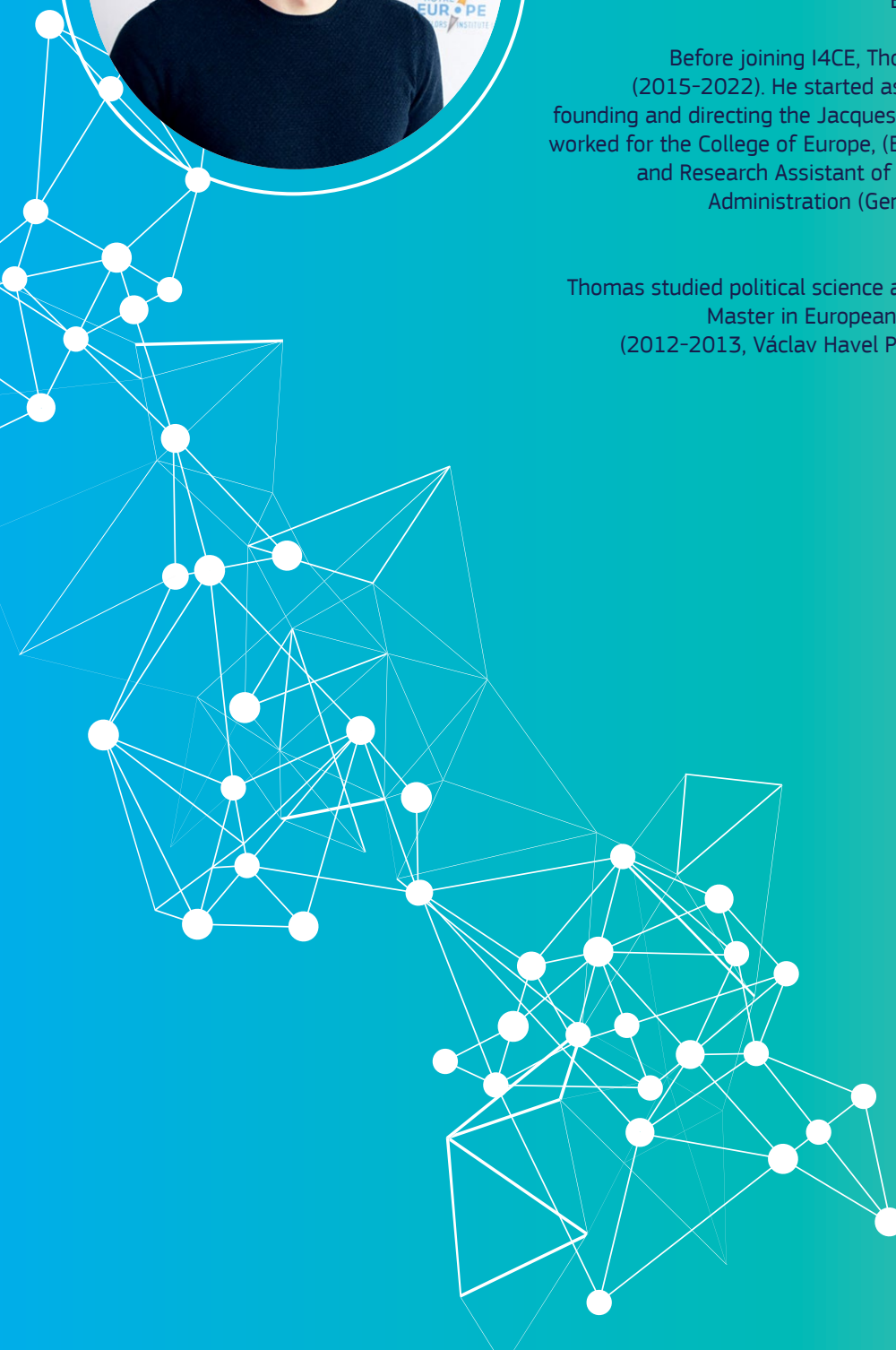
Director, EU Programme, Institute for Climate Economics (I4CE)

Thomas Pellerin-Carlin joins the Institute for Climate Economics (I4CE) in 2022, where he leads the Institute's European programme.

Thomas also teaches at Sciences Po in Paris, and at the College of Europe Energy Union Training Programme in Bruges.

Before joining I4CE, Thomas worked at the Jacques Delors Institute (2015-2022). He started as an EU energy policy research fellow before founding and directing the Jacques Delors Energy Centre (2018-2022). He also worked for the College of Europe, (Belgium, 2013-2015) as Academic Assistant and Research Assistant of its European Energy Policy Chair; the French Administration (General Secretariat for European Affairs, 2012) and the French Army Defence Staff.

Thomas studied political science and holds a MA from the College of Europe's Master in European Political and Administrative Studies, Bruges (2012-2013, Václav Havel Promotion) and an MA from Sciences-Po Lille (2007-2012, George Orwell Promotion).



TED TALK

Financing EU strategic autonomy

Alexander Stubb

Director and full-time professor, School of Transnational Governance, European University Institute

Professor Alexander Stubb is the Director of the School of Transnational Governance as of 1 May 2020. He has served as Prime Minister, Finance Minister, Foreign Minister, Trade and Europe Minister of Finland (2008–2016). He was a Member of the European Parliament from 2004 to 2008 and national parliament (2011–2017). He was the Chairman of the Finnish National Coalition Party (Kokoomus) from 2014 to 2016 and Vice President of the European Investment Bank (EIB) from 2017 to 2020.

Professor Stubb worked as an advisor at the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Helsinki and Brussels and in President Romano Prodi's team at the European Commission (1995–2004).

Professor Stubb holds a Ph.D. in international relations from the London School of Economics, a Master's degree in EU administration from the College of Europe in Bruges, and a B.A. in political science from Furman University in South Carolina.



THIRD THEMATIC DEBATE

An EU budget for a geopolitical Europe

Zbyněk Stanjura *(Introductory speech)*

**Minister of Finance,
Czechia**

Zbyněk Stanjura was born in Opava, the Czech Republic. His alma mater is the Brno University of Technology where he attained master's degree in the electronic computers course.

After the fall of Communism, he started a company with several of his classmates and worked there as a programmer and manager for 11 years.

Interest in his town of birth led him to local government. For 17 years, he was an Opava city representative and mayor for 8 years. He later applied this experience in the Chamber of Deputies (Parliament of the Czech Republic) where he has been serving as its Member since 2010. He was the Minister of Transport from December 2012 until August 2013. In December 2021, he was appointed Minister of Finance.



Sigrid Kaag

**Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,
the Netherlands**

Sigrid Kaag is a Dutch diplomat and politician, serving as Minister of Finance and First Deputy Prime Minister in the Fourth Rutte cabinet. She previously served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation in the Third Rutte cabinet.

A diplomat by occupation, minister Kaag has held various positions for several agencies and programmes of the United Nations. Amongst others, she worked for the UNRWA in Jerusalem, the International Organization for Migration in Geneva, UNICEF in Amman, and the UNDP in New York.

From January 2015 until October 2017 Sigrid Kaag was the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL). Prior to that she served as Under Secretary-General and Special Coordinator of the United Nations – Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (UN-OPCW) Joint Mission to eliminate the declared chemical weapons programme of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Photo: © Martijn Beekman



Johannes Hahn

Commissioner for Budget and Administration, European Commission

Johannes Hahn has held various management functions in the different sectors of the Austrian economy and industry, including as CEO of Novomatic AG for 5 years. Between 1992 and 1997, Mr. Hahn was Executive Director of the Austrian People's Party Vienna. In 2002, he was elected Deputy Chairman of the Party and Chairman in 2005. Member of the Regional Parliament of Vienna from 1996 to 2003, he became Federal Minister for Science and Research in 2007.

He was the Member of the European Commission in charge of Regional Policy from 2010 to 2014. From 2014 to 2019, he was the Member of the European Commission in charge of Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations.

Since December 2019, he is the Member of the European Commission in charge of Budget and Administration.



Monika Hohlmeier

MEP, Chair Committee on Budgetary Control, European Parliament

Monika Hohlmeier is a Member of the European Parliament since 2009.

She is the current chair of the Committee on Budgetary Control (CONT) and a member of the Committee on Budget (BUDG) as well as a substitute member of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON). She was Co-rapporteur for the Special Committee on Terrorism until 2018.

Before joining the European Parliament, Monika Hohlmeier served as State Secretary in the Bavarian Ministry for Education and Culture between 1993 and 1998 followed by her announcement as Bavarian Minister for Education and Culture between 1998 and 2005.



Odile Renaud-Basso

President, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development



Odile Renaud-Basso was elected the 7th President of EBRD on 2 November 2020 by the EBRD's Board of Governors and is the first ever female head of a multilateral development bank.

Prior to joining the EBRD, as Director General at the French Treasury, Ms Renaud-Basso oversaw the development of France's economic policies, leading on European and international financial affairs, trade policies, financial regulation and debt management. In this capacity she also served as Vice-President of the European Economic and Financial Committee, deputy to the G7/G20 groups and French Governor or Alternate Governor of the WB, EBRD and ADB. She was also Chair of the Paris Club.

Ms Renaud-Basso is a graduate of the Paris Institut d'Etudes Politiques (Sciences Po), and an alumna of the Ecole Nationale d'Administration and Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Arancha González Laya

Dean, Paris School of International Affairs, SciencesPo Paris



Arancha González Laya is the Dean of the Paris School of International Affairs at Sciences Po. Ms. González was Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain (2020-July 2021). She served as United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the International Trade Centre, the joint trade development agency of the United Nations and the World Trade Organisation (2013 to 2019). Between 2005 and 2013 Ms. González was Chief of Staff to World Trade Organization Director-General Pascal Lamy and his representative (Sherpa) at the G-20.

Prior to that Ms. González held several positions at the European Commission in the area of external relations. Ms. González began her career as an associate in a German law firm advising companies on trade, competition and state-aid matters. She serves in the Mission Committee of Danone and is a member of the International Advisory Council of the European House-Ambrosetti.

A Spanish national, Ms. González holds a degree in law from the University of Navarra and a postgraduate degree in European Law from the University of Carlos III, Madrid.

Maria Tadeo (*Moderator*)

European correspondent for Bloomberg Television

Maria Tadeo is a Brussels-based reporter for Bloomberg Television where she regularly reports on the continent's politics and economy. She covered the Catalan independence crisis in-depth in 2017, the European elections and the Brexit negotiations from Brussels.

She has also covered international events such as the G-7 and the European Central Bank monetary policy decisions. Reporting from the field across Europe, she has also landed interviews with top ranking European officials including French Finance Minister Bruno le Maire, Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis and European Central Bank governing council member Olli Rehn among others.

Previously, Maria was based in Bloomberg's London headquarters and the Madrid bureau. She graduated with a first class degree in journalism from City University London and received a scholarship from Banco Santander to complete a master's degree in financial journalism.



LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Youth perspectives



From left to right: David Broul, Matúš Babulík, Arthur de Liedekerke, Marcus Ehasoo, Tamás Kiss-Galalvi, Biliána Sirakova (European Youth Coordinator), Alexandre Romanenko, Anna-Maria Chrystoph, Commissioner Johannes Hahn, Gianna Zoukidou, Mathieu Moiroud, Thomas Matthew, Hoar Habrelian, Rares Voicu. Youth Policy Dialogue, 21 September 2022.

Johannes Hahn, European Commissioner for Budget and Administration, exchanged on 21 September with a group of young Europeans on the topic “Financing future EU priorities.” Two representatives of the group, **Gianna Zoukidou**, Human Rights Officer working for the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine and **Alexandre Romanenko**, Student at Sorbonne University in Paris, join the Commissioner at the Annual EU Budget Conference for a chat bringing youth perspective into the discussion.

Jennifer Baker (Master of Ceremony)

Journalist

Better known as Brusselsgeek, Jennifer has been a journalist in print, radio and television for 20 years, the last 10+ specialising in EU policy.

She has worked across a wide range of media, from editing a national daily paper in Malta, to reporting on European affairs for Middle Eastern television, and has a wealth of experience in navigating the political quagmire of the EU.

Regularly listed as one of the top influencers in the EU bubble, Jennifer was awarded #1 Tech Influencer 2019 by ZN, was listed by Politico as one of the Top 20 Women Shaping Brussels in 2017, and was named by Onalytica as one of the world’s Top 100 Influencers on Data Security 2016. She is also a GLG expert Council Member providing advice on EU Policy, and was an original member of the Expert Council of the Good Technology Collective.

Jennifer regularly features as an EU expert on BBC radio, Euronews, SkyNews and others, and hosts Brussels’ must-watch weekly roundup show TOTW for Euractiv.





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