IDEASLAB

2-3 March 2026, The Square

Mont des Arts, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Programme day 1 (subject to change)

Time	Session
09.00 - 09.30	✏️ Morning coffee and registration
09.30 - 09.45	Plenary — **Kick off**
09.45 - 11.00	Plenary — **Freedom of expression – a modern 'leviathan'?**
11.00 - 11.30	☕ Coffee break and networking
11.30 - 12.45	Plenary — **What future for Europe's security architecture?**
12.45 - 13.45	🍴 Networking lunch

13.45 - 15.00

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
The new Apply AI Strategy – between sovereignty and competitiveness
🕐 13:45-15:00 📍 The Square

ENERGY AND CLIMATE
How international carbon credits could help the EU to regain climate leadership
🕐 13:45-15:00 📍 The Square

EU ENLARGEMENT
Investing in security: how to strengthen the EU's future members
🕐 13:45-15:00 📍 The Square

HEALTH
Shaping the new Global Health Resilience Initiative
🕐 13:45-15:00 📍 The Square

DEMOCRACY
Revamping the European Citizens' Initiative: bringing DEI in from the cold
🕐 13:45-15:00 📍 The Square

EU BUDGET
Lost in negotiations: a new MFF without common vision?
🕐 13:45-15:00 📍 The Square

GLOBAL GATEWAY
Global Gateway: critical raw materials, connectivity and Europe's strategic choices
🕐 13:45-15:00 📍 The Square

MIGRATION
Rethinking return: safe third countries, return hubs and rights-based alternatives
🕐 13:45-15:00 📍 The Square

15.00 - 15.15

🚶 Session transfer

15.15 - 16.30

UKRAINE
From mines to markets: pathways to Ukraine's recovery
🕐 15:15-16:30 📍 The Square

QUANTUM
The EU transition to quantum safe: an entangled discussion
🕐 15:15-16:30 📍 The Square

FUTURE OF WORK
Brain capital and the future of work: rethinking labour markets for the AI age
🕐 15:15-16:30 📍 The Square

DIGITAL REGULATION
EU digital regulation: too much of a good thing?
🕐 15:15-16:30 📍 The Square

EU INSTITUTIONS
The second von der Leyen Commission: how is the EU executive faring?
🕐 15:15-16:30 📍 The Square

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
How can Europe prepare for the autonomous AI agent economy?
🕐 15:15-16:30 📍 The Square

Time	Session
16.30 - 17.00	☕ Coffee break and networking
17.00 - 18.15	Plenary — **Project 2028: completing the Single Market**
18.15 - 19.30	🍸 Reception
19.30 - 21.00	🎤 **Evening speech**

Programme day 2 (subject to change)

09.00 - 09.30   ✏️ Morning coffee and registration

09.30 - 10.45   Plenary   **Rewriting the future of industrial strategy**

10.45 - 11.15   ☕ Coffee break and networking

11:15-12:30

FINANCE	FOREIGN POLICY	ENERGY AND CLIMATE	RULE OF LAW	DIGITAL	GOVERNANCE
From rules to strategy: tax in a fragmented world	The EU in Gaza: partner or bystander?	How can the EU deliver clean, reliable and affordable energy?	An EU accountability scoreboard to uphold the rule of law, political integrity and transparency	The EU International Digital Strategy: what code for tech diplomacy?	The next Horizon Europe: ideas for a more agile and effective governance
🕐 11:15-12:30 📍 The Square	🕐 11:15-12:30 📍 The Square	🕐 11:15-12:30 📍 The Square	🕐 11:15-12:30 📍 The Square	🕐 11:15-12:30 📍 The Square	🕐 11:15-12:30 📍 The Square

12.30 - 13.30   🍽️ Networking lunch

13.30 - 14.45   Plenary   **Making Europe a leader in the next era of scientific discovery**

14.45 - 15.00   🏆 **Wrap-up**

15.00 - 17.00

BY INVITATION ONLY	BY INVITATION ONLY	BY INVITATION ONLY	OPEN TO PUBLIC
CEPS advisory forum on the EU's role in global health	Competition or competitiveness? The future of antitrust in an increasingly complex economy	Between two giants: Europe's strategy for double de-risking	Ancient tongues, modern voices: AI for language and biocultural heritage
🕐 15:00-17:00 📍 The Square	🕐 15:00-17:00 📍 The Square	🕐 15:00-17:00 📍 The Square	🕐 15:00-17:00 📍 The Square