

Brussels

360

Geostrategy.

Policy.

Technology.

EXECUTIVE COURSE



BRUSSELS SCHOOL OF GOVERNANCE
CENTRE FOR SECURITY,
DIPLOMACY AND STRATEGY

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The “Brussels 360” Executive Course aims to provide participants with a deeper and more critical understanding of Europe’s role in a world in flux. The onset of Sino-American strategic competition and Russia’s war in Ukraine are having profound effects on Europe’s security architecture, and Europe’s global role. The core aim of this 3-day Executive Course is to provide participants with a more profound understanding of these changes, and to do so by engaging, exchanging and learning from leading academics and policymakers in the field.

The Executive Course is organised around three individual modules that are organised over a period of 3 days in Brussels:

1. Trends in Global Geopolitics and European Grand Strategy
2. Trends in European Security and Defence Policy
3. Trends in European Trade and Technology Policy

Each module is built around 3 preparatory pre-recorded lectures and readings, a series of lectures and panel discussions. All lectures and discussions will be held at the offices/headquarters of the Brussels School of Governance, located at [Boulevard de la Plaine 5/1st floor, 1050 Bruxelles.](#)

The Executive Course is run by the Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy (CSDS), which is a research hub at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB). CSDS seeks to contribute to a better understanding of the key contemporary security and diplomatic challenges of the 21st century – and their impact on Europe – while reaching out to the policy community that will ultimately need to handle such challenges.

COURSE OVERVIEW



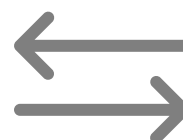
3 days

The Executive Course is organised over a 3-day period of (online and in-person) lectures, policy panels and networking opportunities.



16 hours

To fully prepare for the course, participants are expected to dedicate 16 hours to readings and pre-recorded lectures.



Fees

For participation on the course the fees charged for three days are €2,800. When signing-up early, participants qualify for a reduced fee of €2,500. For details on bespoke institutional arrangements, contact CSDS.

COURSE AIMS

1

To provide participants with a **contemporary understanding** of the geopolitical shifts that are affecting European security and Europe's role in the world.

2

To provide participants with a better **empirical understanding** of the key trends in European security, defence, trade and technology policy.

3

To provide participants with **opportunities to engage and network** with leading policymakers and experts in the Brussels ecosystem.

4

To afford participants the opportunity to enhance their policy analysis and **communication skills** through the production of a policy memo and in-class participation.

DATES

Brussels 360 takes place in **Summer 2025** in June.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Be in possession of an **Masters degree and 2 years'** worth of relevant experience or a **Bachelor degree and 5 years'** worth of relevant experience. Good command of the English language is required, as the course is taught exclusively in English.

COURSE CONVENORS



Prof. Dr. Luis Simón
Director, CSDS

Luis is the Director of CSDS and heads the Brussels office of the Elcano Royal Institute.



Prof. Dr. Giulia Tercovich
Deputy Director, CSDS

Giulia is the Deputy Director of CSDS.



Prof. Dr. Daniel Fiott
Head, Defence and Statecraft
Programme, CSDS

Daniel heads the Defence and Statecraft programme at CSDS and is a non-resident fellow at the Elcano Royal Institute.



Prof. Dr. Antonio Calcara
Head, Geopolitics and Technology
Programme, CSDS

Antonio heads the Geopolitics and Technology programme at CSDS.

POINT OF CONTACT

Piero Barlucchi
Project Officer, CSDS

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COURSE MODULES

Day 1

Module 1 – Trends in Global Geopolitics and European Grand Strategy

The aim of this first module is to better understand key trends in global geopolitics and their implications for European grand strategy.

Schedule

Preparation	Online Lectures (x2)
09:00 – 09:30	Introduction to the Course and Module 1
09:30 – 09:40	Group Picture
09:40 – 10:50	Key geopolitical trends in 2025: Insights from Policy Planning
10:50 – 11:20	Networking Break
11:20 – 12:15	Geopolitical Competition and the Looming Crisis in Global Governance
12:15 – 13:45	Networking Lunch
13:30 – 14:20	Trends in US Grand Strategy: Implications for Global and European Security
14:20 – 14:40	Networking Break
14:40 – 15:30	Competing Visions for European Grand Strategy
15:30 – 15:50	Networking Break
15:50 – 17:00	Europe’s Role in the Indo-Pacific
17:00 – 18:00	Networking Cocktail

Day 2

Module 2 – Trends in European Security and Defence

The aim of this second module is to better understand key trends in European security and defence policy.

Schedule

Preparation	Online Lectures (x2)
09:00 – 09:15	Introduction to Module 2
09:15 – 10:15	Scenarios for Ukraine and European Security
10:15 – 10:45	Networking Break
10:45 – 12:15	The Return of NATO: Deterrence and Defence in the Euro-Atlantic Area
12:15 – 13:30	Networking Lunch
13:30 - 14:45	Unclassified Briefing: How Does Nuclear Sharing Work in Practice?
14:45 - 15:15	Networking break
15:15 - 16:45	The EU as a Defence Actor

Day 3

Module 3 – Trends in European Trade and Technology Policy

The aim of this third module is to better understand contemporary debates and challenges about European economic security and strategic competition in technologies. The second module looks at the policy processes and initiatives that are being developed at the EU level in terms of trade policy, control of technologies, technology innovation and supply chain security.

Schedule

Preparation	Online Lectures (x2)
09:00 – 09:15	Introduction to Module 3
09:15 - 10:30	Key Trends in European Trade Policy
10:15 – 10:45	Networking Break
10:45 – 12:00	Technology Competition and Semiconductors
12:15 – 13:30	Networking Lunch
13:30 – 15:00	Artificial Intelligence and Geopolitics
15:00 – 15:30	Networking Break
15:30 – 17:00	Emerging and Disruptive Technology Trends
17:00	End