



CONCEPT

Strategic Trends is the annual flagship publication of the Center for Security Studies (CSS) at ETH Zurich, providing in-depth analyses of major global developments with a focus on international security. The 2025 edition, titled “[Navigating Fractures and Uncertainty](#)”, offers a comprehensive analysis of pressing global challenges. It examines the future of the global order amid shifting power dynamics; the reconfiguration of the Eurasian geopolitical landscape; lessons from ongoing conflicts in the Middle East and their long-term implications; the future of Euro-Atlantic-Indo-Pacific cooperation and strategic alignments; digital capabilities as a strategic resource in contemporary security; and, the control and cooperation needed in the development of advanced technologies. As global security dynamics continue to evolve, Europe will need to navigate growing challenges and opportunities in defence, diplomacy, trade and technological governance. This event aims to foster dialogue on how Europe – broadly defined – can adapt its strategic posture to these developments.

The Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy (CSDS) at the VUB and Center for Security Studies (CSS) at ETH Zurich are co-hosting a panel discussion marking the launch of CSS’ **Strategic Trends 2025**. The discussion will reflect on the insights from Strategic Trends 2025, and offer a forward-looking analysis of emerging geopolitical dynamics and their implications for European security.

PROGRAMME

17:00 – 18:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

Opening remarks

Daniel Möckli

Director, Center for Security Studies (CSS)

Chair

Giulia Tercovich

Deputy Director, Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy – VUB

Presenters

Gorana Grgic

Senior Researcher, Center for Security Studies (CSS)

Barbora Maronkova

Programme Officer, Public Diplomacy Division, NATO

Luis Simón

Director, Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy – VUB

Jean-Pierre Van Aubel

Senior Expert, European External Action Service (EEAS)

Q&A

18:00 – 19:00 **RECEPTION AND NETWORKING**