

STEADY AGAINST THE WIND: UKRAINE'S AND MOLDOVA'S PATH TOWARDS EU MEMBERSHIP

Friday, December 5, 2025

PROGRAM

VENUE DETAILS WILL BE SHARED
EXCLUSIVELY WITH CONFIRMED ATTENDEES



08:45-09:10

REGISTRATION & COFFEE (entrance to room Convendum)

09:10-09:15

OPENING REMARKS & WELCOME

▸ **Anders Olofsgård**, Deputy Director of SITE

09:15-10:00

INTRODUCTIONS

▸ **Dag Hartelius**, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs

▸ **Olena Kondratiuk**, Deputy Speaker of the Ukrainian Parliament

▸ **Marcel Spatari**, Chair of the European Integration Committee of the Moldovan Parliament (*online*)

10:00-11:00

ECONOMIC PRECONDITIONS AND FOREIGN SUPPORT

▸ "The macroeconomic situation in Ukraine", **Nataliia Shapoval**, Chairman of KSE Institute

▸ "Macroeconomic Developments and Entrepreneurial Dynamics in Moldova on the path to EU integration", **Dumitru Pintea**, Expert at Partnerships for New Economy, Chisinau

▸ "The future of foreign aid", **Raj M. Desai**, Professor of International Development at Georgetown University

▸ "EU and the economy in Poland", **Michał Myck**, Director of CenEA, Szczecin

11:00-11:30

COFFE BREAK

11:30-12:15

PANEL 1: ECONOMIC RESILIENCE AND EU ACCESSION

- ▶ **Stefan Falk**, Director, Swedfund Project Accelerator
- ▶ **Dumitru Pinte**a, Expert at Partnerships for New Economy, Chisinau
- ▶ **Michal Myck**, Director at CenEA, Szczecin
- ▶ **Raj M. Desai**, Professor of International Development at Georgetown University
- ▶ **Nataliia Shapoval**, Chairman of KSE Institute

Moderator: **Torbjörn Becker**, Director of SITE

12:15-13:15

LUNCH BREAK

13:15-14:00

PANEL 2: DEMOCRATIC RESILIENCE, DISINFORMATION AND EU ACCESSION

- ▶ **Tobias Thyberg**, Deputy Director General, Ministry for Foreign Affairs
- ▶ **Klara Lindström**, Analyst at the Stockholm Centre for Eastern European Studies (SCEEUS)
- ▶ **Nataliia Shapoval**, Chairman of KSE Institute
- ▶ **Viorel Ursu**, Moldovan Ambassador to Sweden

Moderator: **Anders Olofsgård**

14:00-14:30

HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ “The Voices of the Young: Ukraine and Moldova”, **Anhelina Vaskovska**, International Relations Specialist
- ▶ “Building Institutions for Economic Competence”, **Rustam Romaniuc**, Associate Professor at Montpellier Business School

14:30-15:00

COFFEE BREAK

15:00-15:30

PANEL 3: HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AND EU ACCESSION

- ▶ **Rustam Romaniuc**, Associate Professor at Montpellier Business School
- ▶ **Anhelina Vaskovska**, International Relations Specialist
- ▶ **Kata Fredheim**, Executive Vice President of Partnerships and Strategy, SSE Riga

Moderator: **Anders Olofsgård**

15:30-15:45

CLOSING REMARKS

- ▶ **Torbjörn Becker & Nataliia Shapoval**

MORE INFO

▶ [About the event](#)

About the FREE Network

The Forum for Research on Eastern Europe and Emerging Economies (FREE Network) is a joint initiative by SITE (Stockholm), BERO (Minsk), BICEPS (Riga), CenEA (Szczecin), ISET-PI (Tbilisi), and KSE Institute (Kyiv). Together, these research institutes form an extensive network of leading academic experts on economic issues in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

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