

## 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

▶ **Vadym Halaichuk**, First Deputy Chair of the Committee on Ukraine's Integration into the EU of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (**online**)

▶ **Carolina Perebinos**, State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Moldova (**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 Pinte**a, Expert at Partnerships for New Economy, Chisinau

▶ "The Future of Development Finance", **Raj M. Desai**, Professor of International Development at Georgetown University

▶ "Poland before and after EU accession: comparing trends with candidate countries", **Michal Myck**, Director of CenEA, Szczecin

11:00-11:30

**COFFEE 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

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### ▶ [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), BEROC (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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