EUROPEAN VALUES SUMMIT 2026

NOVEMBER 3–4 PRAGUE

PROGRAM

EUROPEAN VALUES SUMMIT 2026 — 3rd NOVEMBER 2026

8:00 - 9:00 — **ARRIVAL + REGISTRATION + BREAKFAST**

9:00 - 9:05 — **OFFICIAL WELCOME**

JAKUB JANDA
Executive Director, European Values Center for Security Policy, CZ

9:05 - 9:20 — **OPENING SPEECH**

LADISLAV ŠVEC
Deputy Health Minister of the Czech republic, CZ

9:20 - 9:35 — **KEYNOTE SPEECH**

DR. HERMING CHIUEH
Former Deputy Minister of Digital Affairs, TW

9:35 - 9:50 — **VERIFIED - INFLUENCERS' CRISIS PREPAREDNESS**

Official Launch of the VERIFIED Project

10:00 - 11:00 — **PANEL I:**
NO LIMITS, NO BORDERS? CHINA-RUSSIA SECURITY COLLABORATION ACROSS TWO THEATERS

Few developments illustrate the "two regions, one theater" logic as vividly as the deepening security alignment between Beijing and Moscow. China's sustained economic, technological, and diplomatic backing of Russia's war against Ukraine has earned it the designation of a "decisive enabler" of the aggression. Yet the partnership extends well beyond the Ukrainian battlefield. Russia remains a Pacific power in its own right: its "pivot to the East" (povorot na vostok), the strategic weight of Vladivostok, and unresolved territorial tensions with Japan all anchor Moscow firmly in the Indo-Pacific security equation. Drawing on perspectives from Finland, Japan, Taiwan, and Ukraine, this panel will examine how the collaboration operates across domains, from dual-use supply chains and battlefield learning to coordinated pressure below the threshold of war. Is this alignment a durable structural feature of the international system, and how should democracies in both regions calibrate a joint response?

Moderator: MARCIN JERZEWSKI
Head of Taiwan Office, European Values, PL/TW

DR. SARI ARHO HAVRÉN
Associate Fellow, RUSI;
Senior geopolitical advisor, Business Finland, FIN

YURII POITA
Senior Associate Fellow at Mercator Institute for China Studies (MERICS);
Head of the Asia-Pacific Section at the Center for Army, Conversion and Disarmament Studies (CACDS) in Kyiv, Germany/Ukraine

DR. ATSUKO HIGASHINO
Associate Professor in the faculty of International Studies, University of Tsukuba, JPN

DR. JULIE YU-WEN CHEN
Professor of Chinese Studies, University of Helsinki, TW

11:05 - 11:25 — **COFFEE BREAK**

11:30 - 12:30

PANEL II:

BEYOND THE USUAL SUSPECTS: NEW VOICES AND NEW FRONTIERS OF INFORMATION RESILIENCE

Chinese and Russian foreign information manipulation and interference (FIMI) remains a defining challenge for democracies in Central and Eastern Europe and East Asia alike. This panel takes that diagnosis as its starting point, with new comparative research on the propaganda models of Beijing and Moscow setting the stage. It then pushes the conversation onto less-charted terrain. Manipulation increasingly targets complex, science-heavy policy fields such as energy, where laypeople struggle to separate evidence from distortion and where traditional fact-checking falls short. At the same time, new media have redrawn the map of trusted messengers. Influencers and content creators are frequently cast as mouthpieces of authoritarian narratives; this discussion asks whether they can also become assets for a healthier information environment. Bringing together voices from Taiwan, Czechia, and Poland, the panel will explore what resilience demands when both the topics and the messengers are changing.

Moderator: ZUZANA KOŠKOVÁ
Head of Red Watch Program,
European Values Center for Security Policy, CZ

DR. SINEAD HSI-YI CHEN
CEO, Science Media Center Taiwan, TW

JIŘÍ BURÝŠEK
Creator & President, Creators and Online Media Association (ATOM)

FILIP NOUBEL
Deputy Director, inVOC project, CZ

ALEKSANDRA BIELAKOWSKA
RSF Advocacy Manager and Taiwan Chapter Chairperson, Reporters Without Borders (RSF), PL/TW

12:35 - 13:35 **LUNCH**

13:40 - 14:40

PANEL III:

INFRASTRUCTURE, INFLUENCE, AND GOVERNANCE: LESSONS FROM AFRICA'S EXPERIENCE WITH FOREIGN-FINANCED INFRASTRUCTURE

As infrastructure investment becomes an increasingly important tool of geopolitical influence, developments in Africa carry lessons far beyond the continent. Foreign-financed infrastructure can help close critical development gaps, but it can also create governance vulnerabilities, fiscal risks, and opportunities for external actors to shape political and economic decision-making. Drawing on early findings from CIPE's Infrastructure Watch Africa initiative, experts from Ghana, Nigeria, and Ethiopia will discuss emerging trends in large-scale infrastructure financing, including projects associated with China's Belt and Road Initiative, and examine how these investments are affecting governance, public accountability, and economic sovereignty. The discussion will also highlight policy and institutional reforms that can reduce hidden risks, strengthen transparency and oversight, and help governments negotiate fairer infrastructure agreements. The session offers valuable insights into how infrastructure financing has become a strategic arena where democratic governance, economic resilience, and geopolitical influence intersect, with important implications for Europe's engagement with Africa and support for open, accountable societies.

Moderator: RIA ORCA
Program Manager, CIPE, PH

SAMUEL MANU
Economist, Institute of Economic Affairs, GH

OLUSEYI OLUFEMI
Country Director, Dataphyte, NGA

YOHANNES ASSEFA, J.D.
Managing Director, Stalwart Management Consultancy Services LLC (USA), ETH/USA

PROF. JEREMY GARLICK
Director of the Jan Masaryk Centre for International Studies,
Prague University of Economics and Business, CZ

14:45 - 15:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

15:00 - 16:00

PANEL IV:
ON THIN ICE: ARCTIC SECURITY BETWEEN TWO THEATERS

Once regarded as a zone of low tension, the Arctic is fast becoming a connective tissue between Euro-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific security. The climate crisis is opening new sea lanes and exposing critical resources, while great-power competition and the logic of spheres of influence are returning to the region with force. The result is an accumulation of traditional and non-traditional threats, from Russian military positioning and shadow fleets to vulnerable infrastructure and fragile ecosystems. Europe has taken note: leaders gathered in Rovaniemi this September declared the region vital to the continent's security, and both the EU and the United Kingdom are sharpening their strategic approaches. With perspectives from across Europe, the Republic of Korea, and Canada, this panel will ask how a united Europe can work with like-minded Arctic and non-Arctic partners to uphold good governance in the High North.

Moderator: DR. OLIMPIA KOT
Senior Project Coordinator and Analyst, European Values, PL/TW

NICOLAS JOUAN
Senior Analyst, RAND Europe, UK

DR. EUNJUNG LIM
Visiting Scholar, Walter H. Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, Standford University, KOR

ARILD MOE
Research professor, Fridtjof Nansen Institute, NOR

DR. HEMA NADARAJAH
Senior Program Manager, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada
Adjunct Professor, University of British Columbia, CAN

16:00 - 16:15 **COFFEE BREAK**

16:15 - 17:15

PANEL V:
REHEARSING THE UNTHINKABLE: WHAT DUAL-THEATER SIMULATIONS TEACH US

What happens if crises erupt in the Taiwan Strait and on NATO's eastern flank at the same time? Through its series of tabletop exercises, the European Values Center for Security Policy has extensively stress-tested this scenario with decision-makers and experts from both regions. The series was recently profiled in The Atlantic as one of the most detailed public analyses of the possibility. The simulations have ranged from a Chinese naval quarantine of Taiwan to coordinated escalation by Russia, China, and North Korea, with dedicated attention to the roles of countries such as France, Japan, and the Republic of Korea. This panel distills the key findings, including the risk of European decision-making paralysis and the dual-theater contingencies that planning confined to a single region tends to overlook. Speakers from Germany, the United States, Poland, and the Republic of Korea will discuss what these lessons mean for allied preparedness, continuing the Center's mission of breaking down the silos between Euro-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific security thinking.

Moderator: JAKUB JANDA
Executive Director, European Values Center for Security Policy, CZ

REINHARD BÜTIKOFER
International Coordinator, German-Taiwanese Association (DTG), GER

MARKUS GARLAUSKAS
Director, Indo-Pacific Security Initiative, Atlantic Council Scowcroft Center, US

DR. SUNGWON LEE
Research Fellow and Director of the Center for Security Strategy, Sejong Institute, KOR

TOMASZ SMURA
Member of the Board, Director of International Security and Defence Programme, Casimir Pulaski Foundation, POL

17:15 - 17:25

CLOSING REMARKS

EUROPEAN VALUES SUMMIT 2026

Organizer

Partners

The event was organised by the European Values Center for Security Policy with the support of the Indo-Pacific and Euro-Atlantic Hub for Shared Security Challenges, a project funded by NATO's Political Affairs and Security Policy Division.

