

# WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THINK TANKS IN THE FUTURE OF EUROPE?

## 2019 European Think Tank Summit

Madrid, 10-12 April 2019

Hosted by: Elcano Royal Institute, Fundación Alternativas, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program - University of Pennsylvania

In collaboration with: Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB)

### 10 APRIL

Venue: Palacio de Viana, Calle Duque de Rivas, 1 (Madrid)

18:45 – 19:00

**Registration**

19:00 – 19:15

**Welcoming Remarks:**

**Charles Powell**, Director, Elcano Royal Institute

**Diego López Garrido**, Executive Vice President, Fundación Alternativas

**Pol Morillas**, Director, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB)

**James G. McGann**, Director, Think Tank and Civil Societies Program, The Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania

19:15 – 20:00

Opening Session **European Think Tank's President's Panel: "Europe at a Crossroads: Think Tanks A Catalyst for Change, Consensus and Cohesion"**

*These are truly extraordinary times for Europe, NATO and EU. The post WWII economic, political and security order are being challenged and redefined by national, regional and tectonic shifts in domestic and international politics. While we cannot predict the outcome we now have a clearer sense of the issues that will shape the future. The European Elections take place in a few weeks, NATO marks its 70th Anniversary and the Brexit impasse continues to send shock waves throughout Europe and the world. A panel of think tank presidents from across Europe will explore the current political disruptions and the issues, institutions, people and politics that will shape Europe's future. The senior executives will also discuss how their institutions are responding to the fundamental shifts in alliances, politics and public policy.*

Chair: **James G. McGann**, Senior Lecturer, International Studies, Lauder Institute and Director, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania

Panelists:

**Joaquin Almunia**, Chairperson, Center for European Policy Studies (Belgium)

**Tarmo Jüristo**, Chairman of the Board, Praxis Centre for Policy Studies (Estonia)

**Oksana Kuziakiv**, Executive Director, Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting (Ukraine)

**Monika Sie Dhian Ho Ma**, General Director, Clingendael Institute (Netherlands)

**Måns Nilsson**, Executive Director, Stockholm Environment Institute (Sweden)

**Roland Schmidt**, Secretary General, Friedrich Ebert Foundation (Germany)  
**Robert Vass**, President, GLOBSEC (Slovakia)

21:00 – 22:30

**Conference Dinner**

*'Turbulent times at home, turbulent times abroad. The EU and its existential dilemmas'*

Hosted by **Josep Borrell**, Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation.

**11 APRIL**

**Venue: Hotel Catalonia, Gran Vía, 9 (Madrid)**

8:00 – 9:00

Breakfast Round Table Discussion: **Quality, Independence, Integrity in the Age of Transparency and Info-Wars**

*Think tanks play a critical role in analysing, developing, and promoting policy solutions, particularly in times of extreme disruption and change. However, these organizations now operate in information-rich societies where facts, evidence, and credible research are often ignored — and where “alternative facts” and “fake news” can gain a footing. In the face of these challenges some scholars have been forced to engage in self-censorship to protect themselves and their families. To remain relevant and impactful, think tanks and policy institutes must simultaneously pursue rigor, innovation, accessibility, and accountability more than ever before. The panel will explore these complex issues and discuss some possible approaches to address them.*

**Round Table Co-Chairs:**

**Claire Luzia Leifert**, Head of Method Cluster, German Council on Foreign Relations (Germany)

**Monika Sie Dhian Ho Ma**, General Director, Clingendael Institute (Netherlands)

**Venue: Fundación Telefónica, Calle de Fuencarral, 3 – 2<sup>nd</sup> floor (Madrid)**

8:30 – 9:15

**Registration**

9:30 – 10:15

**Welcoming remarks:**

**José María Álvarez Pallete**, President, Telefónica

**Emilio Lamo de Espinosa**, Chairman, Elcano Royal Institute

**Nicolas Sartorius**, President of the Advisor Council, Fundación Alternativas

**James G. McGann**, Director, Think Tank and Civil Societies Program, The Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania

**Keynote speech: Cristina Gallach**, High Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda, Presidency of the Government

10:15 – 11:30

### **Plenary (First Session): Europe, AI and the Technological Revolution**

*The 4th Industrial Revolution is a game-changer. While it is similar to the industrial transformations of the past, it will be fundamentally different. Artificial Intelligence (AI) will create massive, creative and destructive disruptions that will reverberate in the years to come. Therefore, it is essential that we understand AI and prepare both for the opportunities and the challenges it poses. The new reality is that AI accelerates the speed of change, increasing the velocity of information and policy flows in business, politics, and society. AI can enable humans to work smarter, faster and better than ever before, but it can also create major disruptions and dislocations in society. The Panel will explore the impact on the economy, society and governance in Europe.*

Chair: **Róbert Vass**, President, GLOBSEC (Slovakia)

Panelists:

**Paul Copping**, Vice President Corporate Development at Sightline Innovation Inc (Canada)

**Bruno Estrada**, Fundación Alternativas (Spain)

**Paul Hofheinz**, Director, The Lisbon Council (Belgium)

**Kristian Fischer**, Director Management, Danish Institute for International Studies (Denmark)

11:30 – 11:45

### **Coffee Break**

11:45 – 13:00

### **Breakout Policy and Organizational Challenges Sessions**

**Breakout A: Trade Winds or Trade Wars: Which Way is the Wind Blowing?**

*The lingering effects of the 2008 economic crisis and the blowback from the uneven and unfulfilled promise of globalization has helped give rise to populism, nativism and protectionist sentiments in many countries. The costs of free trade -- closed factories, unemployed workers and the effect it has local economies and communities -- are easy to see. Less obvious are the benefits in lower prices, higher quality goods, more choices and a better standard of living. The uneven distribution of these benefits of the liberal economic order and free trade are raising questions about the fairness and viability of the free and fair trade around the world. The prospects of a trade war between the US and China, Europe and the US has served to intensify these debates. With this backdrop in mind, the panel will explore the current trade environment; the impact of trade disputes will impact growth and the global economy.*

Chair: **Federico Steinberg**, Senior Analyst, Elcano Royal Institute (Spain)

Panelists:

**Elvire Fabry**, Senior Research Fellow, Jacques Delors Institute (Germany)

**Inês Gonçalves Raposo**, Affiliate Fellow, Bruegel (Belgium)

**Sándor Gyula Nagy**, Deputy Director for Research, Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade (Hungary)

**Dong Wang**, Secretary General, Pangoal Institute and Deputy Executive Director, School of International Studies, Institute for China-US People to People Exchange Peking University (China)

**Breakout B: Trends and Transitions in Climate Change: Alternative Policies, Paradigms and Public Engagements**

*Climate change poses some of the most pressing and intractable problems confronting policymakers and the public today. As the effects of climate change grow, the cost increase and the policy choices narrow a critical examination of alternative policies, paradigms and public engagement strategies is required. There is an urgent need for innovative policies and strategies that can mobilize support from a range of political constituencies and provide creative integrated strategies that address climate adaptation, mitigation, and sustainable development. A panel of senior thought leaders and executives from the leading think tanks working on this issue will discuss and propose new and innovative ways to address this clear and present danger.*

Chair: **Robert Watts**, Director of Communications, Stockholm Environment Institute (Sweden)

Panelists:

**Lara Lázaro**, Senior Analyst, Elcano Royal Institute (Spain)

**Álvaro Rodríguez**, Fundación Alternativas (Spain)

**Camilla Bausch**, Scientific and Executive Director, Ecologic Institute (Germany)

**Sébastien Treyer**, Executive Director, IDDRI (France)

13:00 – 13:15

Group photo

13:15 – 14:30

**Luncheon Panel: Diversity, Innovation, and Impact: The Future of Think Tanks and Policy Advice Featuring the Next Generation of think tank scholars and executives**

*Both business and anthropological literature have shown strong correlations between organizational innovation and diversity. The Panel will feature young scholars and think tank executives who will discuss the importance of diversity in their organizations and emphasize the important connection between diversity and innovation. The panelists have been asked to address the following questions: why did you choose to work at a think tank?; what obstacles did you encounter in the hiring process and advancing your career at a think tank?; what perspectives on policy and organization innovation do you bring to your think tank and the issues facing your country; and what specific recommendations would you suggest to improve the role and impact of think tanks? Finally, and most importantly, what recommendations would you make to improve the careers of ethnic and racial groups, women, young scholars and executives?*

Chair: **Pol Morillas**, Director General and Senior Research Fellow, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB) (Spain)

Panelists:

**Lisa O'Daly**, Human Resources Director, Chatham House (United Kingdom)  
**Anas El Gomati**, Founder, General Director, Research Director, Sadeq Institute (Libya)  
**Kristina Kausch**, Senior Resident Fellow, The German Marshall Fund of the United States (USA)  
**Camino Mortera-Martinez**, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for European Reform (United Kingdom)  
**Matti Pesu**, Research Fellow, Finnish Institute of International Affairs (Finland)

14:30 – 15:45

**Plenary (Second Session): What Is the New European Narrative? Post-Brexit and European Elections**

*In May 2019 elections for European Parliament will take place. This will be an important milestone that will mark enduring legacy of the European Experiment. This is overshadowed by the rising tide of public discontent. This is however, not a time to rest on our laurels or wallow in nihilism, nationalism and nativism but to create a new and bold future course for Europe. To be successful Europe will have to grapple with the current challenges facing the EU, including the continuing Brexit crisis, the need to institute fundamental reforms while finding ways to deepen European integration and make it more open and response to the 500 million citizens it serves. Some may view this a daunting task but it is precisely the moment when leaders and bold ideas are born. A panel thought leaders from across Europe will explore the challenges and provide some of the core elements of a new narrative for Europe.*

Chair: **Cecilie Felicia Stokholm Banke**, Research Coordinator, Senior Researcher, Foreign Policy, Danish Institute for International Studies (Denmark)

Panelists:

**Jakov Devčić**, Team Head, Foreign, Security and European Policy, Konrad Adenauer Foundation (Germany)

**Charles de Marcilly**, Adviser, European Political Strategy Centre, European Commission (European Union)

**Thomas Raines**, Head, Europe Programme, Chatham House (United Kingdom)

**Paul Schmidt**, Austrian Society for European Politics (Austria)

15:45 – 16:15

Coffee Break

16:15 – 17:30

**Plenary (Third Session): The Risks and Rewards of New World Reorder**

*Consciously or inadvertently, the new world order is taking place. Alliances are shifting, conflict and mass migration of people is continuing, and sustained economic and development is remaining elusive. The 2019 European Think Tank Summit is taking place at a truly extraordinary historical moment world politics. The post WWII economic, political and security orders are being challenged and redefined by national and regional tectonic shifts in domestic and international politics. The panel will discuss these changes and suggest ways that think tanks can help policy makers and the public respond to both the challenges and opportunities they present.*

Chair: **Thomas Gomart**, Director, French Institute for International Affairs, IFRI (France)

Panelists:

**Valerii Garbuzov**, Director, Institute for US and Canadian Studies (Russia)

**Tereza Barbora Kupkova**, Project Coordinator, Prague Security Studies Institute (Czech Republic)

**Kristina Kausch**, Senior Resident Fellow, German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF) (United States and Spain)

**Karel Lannoo**, Chief Executive, Center for European Policy Studies (CEPS), (Belgium)

**Paolo Magri**, Vice President, Italian Institute for International Political Studies (Italy)

**Fabrizio Tassinari**, Executive Director of the School of Transnational Governance, European University Institute (Italy)

18:30 – 19:30

**Venue: Town Hall, Plaza de la Villa (Madrid)**

Light supper offered by Manuela Carmena, Mayor of Madrid.

**12 APRIL**

**Venue: Fundación Telefónica, Calle de Fuencarral, 3 – 2<sup>nd</sup> floor (Madrid)**

9:00 – 9:15

**Registration**

9:30 – 10:45

**Breakout Policy and Organizational Challenges sessions**

**Breakout C: *Migration and Global Refugee Crisis Waves, Walls or Workable Solutions***

The irregular migration continues to be a potent political challenge that does not lend itself to easy solutions and is likely to grow if the predicted economic slowdown is realized. The refugee crisis is creating deep divisions in the EU over how best to deal with resettling those fleeing war, famine, political instability and economic hardship in face of rising nationalism and populism. The wave of irregular immigration has slowed but the challenge remains. The Break Out Session will explore how think tanks are helping to both understand and develop workable and humane solutions to this global issue.

Chair: **Charles Powell**, Director, Elcano Royal Institute (Spain)

Panelists:

**Christian Bilfinger**, Desk Officer, Refugee and Migration Policy, Konrad Adenauer Foundation (Germany)

**Blanca Garcés**, Senior Research Fellow and Research Coordinator, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB) (Spain)

**Mehdi Benomar**, Lead International Relations Specialist, Policy Center for the New South FNA OCP Policy Center (Morocco)

**Breakout D: Harnessing Technology To Enhance Research and Engage Policymakers and the Public**

*The popularization of new media has created a massive untapped pool of resources for knowledge to be shared with new and a wider audience. However, the unchecked nature of new media also results in a lack of quality control and oversaturation of content for readers to filter through. In addition, GDPR regime in Europe can be a challenge to taking best advantage of these new opportunities. In an age of shorter attention spans and the paradox of choice, think tanks must navigate these waters to retain their appeal to changing demographics. This session aims to identify best practices for optimizing the use of new media, social networking and other platforms for marketing and public engagement, as well as examining which platforms we are all using to the greatest impact. More specifically, how can think tanks creatively harness these new tools beyond standard marketing purposes while being discerning about the quality, effectiveness of various platforms, and how they align with think tank's mission to inform policymakers and the public about key policy issues.*

Chair: **Matt Dann**, Secretary General, Bruegel (Belgium)

Panelists:

**Nienke Beuwer**, Director of External Relations, McKinsey Global Institute (Netherlands)

**Milos Djindjic**, Programme Manager and Senior Researcher, European Policy Center (Serbia)

**Martin Michelot**, Deputy Director, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy (Czech Republic)

**Bjarke Møller**, Executive Director, Think Europa (Denmark)

10:45 – 11:00

Coffee break

11:00 – 12:15

**Plenary (Fourth Session): Providing Solutions Not Sound Bites in an Age of Economic Insecurity and Inequity**

*In the aftermath of the economic crisis of 2008 the growing shrinking middle class and growing inequity has come into focus and given rise to the populist movements in the US and Europe. The new reality is that most advanced industrialized democracies are crippled by political polarization, the fragmentation of political parties and a public that is lost in a sea of insecurity and understandably full of distrust and discontent. Think tanks are uniquely positioned to help provide sound analysis and advice on how to address the economic insecurity that many people face today. The Panel will discuss the problem and how policymakers might address it with sound policies, not sound bites.*

Chair: **Rym Ayadi**, President, Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association (Spain)

Panelists:

**Tarmo Juristo**, Head of Management Board, PRAXIS (Estonia)

**Grzegorz Poniatoski**, Director of Fiscal Policy Studies, CASE (Poland)

**Nicolas Bauquet**, Research Director, Institut Montaigne (France)

**Jesús Ruiz-Huerta**, OPEX Director, Fundación Alternativas (Spain)

12:15 – 13:45

**Plenary (Fifth Session): NATO at 70<sup>th</sup> and the Future of Security Alliances**

*In April, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization will mark its 70th anniversary. It is the world's oldest and most successful military alliance of democratic nations in the world. Despite its success, NATO faces serious and complex challenges to its purpose, unity, and even its existence. A Panel of scholars and policymakers will discuss the NATO, the challenges it faces and what it means for the future of security alliances.*

Chair: **Lucie Béraud-Sudreau**, Research Fellow for Defence Economics, International Institute for Strategic Studies (United Kingdom)

**Keynote speaker: Javier Solana**, Former Secretary General of NATO

13:45 – 14:15

The Role of Think Tanks in Shaping Europe's Future

*A closing panel of participants will provide analysis and commentary on the major conclusions, strategies and actions generated by the summit*

**Charles Powell**, Director, Elcano Royal Institute (Spain)

**Carlos Carnero**, Managing Director, Fundación Alternativas (Spain)

**Pol Morillas**, Director, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs (CIDOB) (Spain)

**James G. McGann**, Director, Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, The Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania

14:15 – 15:30

Luncheon and Farewell



## 2019 Europe Think Tank Summit Planning Committee

Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

(CIDOB) (Spain) (Summit Partner)

Bruegel (Belgium)

Center for European Policy Studies (CEPS)

(Belgium)

Centre for Liberal Strategies (Bulgaria)

Centre for Social and Economic Research (CASE)

(Poland)

Chatham House (United Kingdom)

Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS)

(Denmark)

Real Instituto Elcano (Spain) (Co-Host and Co-Organizer)

European Policy Centre (CEP) (Serbia)

European University Institute (Italy)

EUROPEUM (Czech Republic)

Finnish Institute for International Affairs (FIIA)

(Finland)

French Institute of International Relations (IFRI)

(France)

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) (Germany)

Fundación Alternativas (Spain) (Co-Host and Co-Organizer)

GLOBSEC (Slovak Republic)

Italian Institute for International Political Studies (ISPI) (Italy)

International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) (United Kingdom)

Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS) (Germany)

McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) (United Kingdom)

Netherlands Institute of International Relations Clingendael (Netherlands)

PRAXIS (Estonia)

Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) (Sweden)

Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania (TTCSP) (United States) (Co-Host and Co-Organizer)

## List of Confirmed Think Tanks

Austrian Society for European Politics

Bratislava Policy Institute

Bruegel

CASE-Center for Social and Economic Research

CCOO

Centre for Liberal Strategies

Chatham House

CIDOB, Barcelona Centre for International Affairs

Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS)

Ecologic Institute

Elcano Royal Institute (Real Instituto Elcano)

Elcano Royal Institute for Strategic Studies

EPICENTER

EPSC, European Commission

EUI School of Transnational Governance

Euro-Mediterranean Economists Association

European Institute of the

Mediterranean/EuroMeSCo

European Policy Centre (CEP)

EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy

Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA)

Foreign Affairs Latinoamerica  
Foreign Policy Initiative BH  
Francisco Manuel dos Santos Foundation  
FRIDE  
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung  
Fundación Alternativas  
German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP)  
German Marshall Fund of the United States  
Getulio Vargas Foundation FGV  
GLOBSEC  
Hispanic Observatory  
IDDRI - Institute for Sustainable Development  
and International Relations  
IFRI French Institute of International Relations  
Institut Montaigne  
Institute for Economic Research and Policy  
Consulting  
Institute for European Environmental Polic IEEP  
Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade  
Institute for US and Canadian Studies  
IRIS - Institut de relations internationales et  
stratégiques  
ISPI Italian Institute for International Political  
Studies  
Jacques Delors Institute  
KAPSARC  
Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation  
Korea Institute for International Economic  
Policy  
Legal Analysis and Research Public Association  
Lisbon Council  
LSE IDEAS  
McKinsey Global Institute  
Michael and Kitty Dukakis Center for Public and  
Humanitarian Service  
Millennium Project - Gipuzkoa  
Millennium Project - Spain  
Navarra Center for International Development  
Open Knowledge Foundation Deutschland e.V.  
POLICY CENTER for The New South  
Prague Security Studies Institute  
Praxis

Razumkov Centre  
Romanian Academic Society  
Sadeq institute  
School of Transnational Governance, European  
University Institute  
SEI - Stockholm Environment Institute  
Stockholm Environment Institute  
Think EUROPA  
Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, Lauder  
Institute, University of Pennsylvania  
Wilson Center  
WiseEuropa  
WORLD LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE