

AECA

The American European Community Association

***high level dialogue for a globalised world***

**List of Guest Speakers and Topics**

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| **2018** | | |
| 19 Jan 2018 | **H.E. Mr. Dimiter TZANTCHEV**  Ambassador, Bulgarian Permanent Representation to the EU | *“Priorities of the Bulgarian Presidency”* |
| 22 Jan 2018 | **Ms Nadia CALVIÑO**  Director General of DG BUDGET,  European Commission | *“The EU Finances post 2020”* |
| 7 Feb 2018 | **Mr. Roberto VIOLA**  Director General of DG CONNECT,  European Commission | *“The Future of Robotics and Artificial Intelligence in Europe”* |
| 9 Feb 2018 | **Ms Ann METTLER**  Head of the European Political Strategy Centre, European Commission | *“The Future of Europe and the Road to Sibiu”* |
| 8 March 2018 | **H.E. Mr. Marc VANHEUKELEN**  Ambassador, Permanent Representative, EU Permanent Mission to the WTO | *“The Future of Multilateral, Plurilateral*  *and Bilateral Trade deals”* |
| 14 March 2018 | **Mr. Adam FARKAS**  Executive Director, EBA (European Banking Authority) | *“The European Banking Union”* |
| 24 April 2018 | **Mrs Birgit SIPPEL**  MEP & Rapporteur on the e-Privacy regulation | *“The e-Privacy regulation, a key action towards the completion of the Digital Single Market Strategy”* |
| 4 May 2018 | **H.E. Mr. Daniel J. COSTELLO**  Ambassador, Mission of Canada to the EU | *“Canada’s G7 presidency - Building consensus on some of today’s most challenging global issues”* |
| 15 May 2018 | **Prof. Tommaso VALLETTI**  Chief Economist, DG Competition,  European Commission | *“A View from the Chief Economist’s Office: Challenges and Opportunities*  *in Competition Law”* |
| 16 May 2018 | **Mr. Marc DECORTE**  CEO, Shell Belgium, Former VP Connected Digital Technologies,  Shell International | *“Digitalisation in the Energy Industry”* |
| 9 July 2018 | **H.E. Dr. Nikolaus MARSCHIK**  Ambassador, Austrian Permanent Representation to the EU | *“Priorities of the Austrian Presidency”* |
| 10 July 2018 | **Mr. Klaus WELLE**  Secretary General, European Parliament | *“What is changing in Europe –*  *Preparing Europe for the next 25 years”* |
| 6 Sept 2018 | **H.E. Mr. Jaya RATNAM**  Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Singapore to Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg & Mission to the EU | *“ASEAN: Facing the Future”* |
| 27 Sept 2018 | **Mr. Margaritis SCHINAS**  Chief Spokesperson, European Commission | *“Europe through the media lens – The State of the Union speech”* |
| 25 Oct 2018 | **Prof. Dr. Martin SELMAYR**  Secretary General, DG Secretariat-General, European Commission | *“An insider’s view of Europe’s Future, Strategy and Leadership”* |
| 14 Nov 2018 | **Mr. Didier REYNDERS**  Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Affairs, Belgian Government  **H.E. Gordon D. SONDLAND**  Ambassador, U.S. Mission to the EU  **H.E. Ronald GIDWITZ**  Ambassador, U.S. Embassy in Belgium | *AECA Annual Reception:*  *“The European Union and the United States – Privileged Partners in a Complex World”* |
| 20 Nov 2018 | **Mr. Stephen QUEST**  Director General of DG Taxation and Customs Union, European Commission | *“EU Challenges and Priorities in the area of Taxation”* |
| 21 Nov 2018 | **Mr. Sergei GURIEV**  Chief Economist, EBRD (European Bank for Reconstruction and Development) | *“Growth prospects in Central, Eastern Europe and the Balkans”* |
| 27 Nov 2018 | **Ms. Virginia M. (Ginni) ROMETTY**  Chairman, President and CEO,  IBM | *“Digital Competitiveness: A global perspective”* |
| 17 Dec 2018 | **Sir Julian KING**  Commissioner for Security Union, European Commission | *“Towards an effective European (cyber)security policy”* |
| **2017** | | |
| 20 Jan 2017 | **Dr. Jean-Christophe TELLIER**  CEO & Chairman of the Executive Committee, UCB | *“New Strategies in the Pharmaceutical Industry: a patient-focused approach”* |
| 9 Jan 2017 | **H.E. Marlene BONNICI**  Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Malta to the EU | *“Priorities of the Maltese Presidency”* |
| 23 Feb 2017 | **General Sir Adrian BRADSHAW KCB OBE**  Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (DSACEUR), NATO / SHAPE | *“What happens to NATO now?”* |
| 27 Feb 2017 | **Ms. Lowri EVANS**  Director General, DG GROW, European Commission | *“Strengthening Europe’s industrial base and digital economy”* |
| 7 March 2017 | **Mr. Markus BORCHERT**  President of DIGITALEUROPE, Senior Vice President Market Europe, Nokia | *“Speeding up the digitalization of the European economy”* |
| 20 March 2017 | **Mr. Wilhelm MOLTERER**  Managing Director, European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) | *“Investment plan for Europe – Lessons learned in mobilizing private financing for strategic investments”* |
| 22 March 2017 | **Count Herman VAN ROMPUY**  President, European Policy Centre, President Emeritus, European Council & Former Belgian Prime Minister | *“Quo Vadis, Europe? The EU post Brexit”* |
| 11 April 2017 | **Mr. Daniel CALLEJA CRESPO**  Director General DG Environment (ENV), European Commission | *“Circular Economy between policy and practical implementation”* |
| 25 April 2017 | **Mr. Tim BENNETT**  Director General & CEO, TransAtlantic Business Council (TABC) | *“A Washington perspective on the new U.S. administration”* |
| 9 May 2017 | **Prof. Dr. Danuta Maria HÜBNER MEP**  Chair of the Constitutional Affairs Committee, European Parliament | *“Is the European union up to the challenges ahead?”* |
| 20 June 2017 | **Mrs. Violeta BULC**  Commissioner for Transport, European Commission | *“Towards a European framework for connected, clean and safe transport services”* |
| 27 June 2017 | **H.E. Mr. Reinhard SILBERBERG**, Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Germany to the EU | *“Germany’s new role in Europe and the world”* |
| 10 July 2017 | **H.E. Ms. Kaja TAEL**  Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Estonia to the EU | *“Priorities of the Estonian presidency of the EU council”* |
| 9 Oct 2017 | **H.E. Dr. Olivér VÁRHELYI**  Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Hungary to the EU | *“The Visegrád group – factor of stability or new east-west divide in Europe?”* |
| 18 Oct 2017 | **Count Paul H. BUYSSE**  Chairman of the High-Level Group on possible Brexit scenarios, Belgian Government | *“Brace for impact – implications of Brexit on the Belgian economy and beyond”* |
| 22 Nov 2017 | **Prof. Dr. Uo HELMBRECHT**  Executive Director, ENISA | *“EU strategies to secure the EU cyber space and critical infrastructures against hackers”* |
| 21 Nov 2017 | **Ms. Ilze JUHANSONE**  Deputy Secretary General in charge of Relations with other Institutions, European Commission | *“EU – NATO cooperation”* |
| 13 Dec 2017 | **Mr. Thomas WEISER**  President of the Economic & Financial Committee of the EU & President of the Euro Working Group | *“Deepening the economic and monetary union – What future for the euro?”* |
| 19 Dec 2017 | **H.E. Mr. Faruk KAYMAKCI**  Ambassador, Permanent Delegation of Turkey to the EU | *“The Future of EU - Turkey Relations”* |
| 2016 | | |
| 14 Jan 2016 | **Mr. Ben SMULDERS**  Head of Cabinet of 1st Vice-President Frans Timmermans, European Commissioner for Better Regulation, Interinstitutional Relations, the Rule of Law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights | *“Dealing with Regulatory Burden"* |
| 21 Jan 2016 | **H.E. Pieter DE GOOIJER**  Ambassador, Permanent Representation of The Netherlands to the EU | *“Priorities of the Dutch Presidency"* |
| 26 Jan 2016 | **Mr. Valdis DOMBROVSKIS,**  Vice President, European Commissioner for the Euro & Social Dialogue | *“The future of structural reforms in Eurozone countries”* |
| 18 Feb 2016 | **H.E. Mr. Vladimir CHIZHOV**  Ambassador, Russian Federation Mission to the EU | *“Russia – EU Trade Relations”* |
| 9 March 2016 | **Mr. Martin MERLIN**  Director of Financial Markets, DG FISMA, European Commission | *“Capital Markets Union: Unlocking Europe’s liquidity”* |
| 21 March 2016 | **Mr. Gilles de KERCHOVE**  EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator, Council of the European Union | *“The role of the EU in fighting terrorism”* |
| 5 April 2016 | **Prof. Dr. Cecilia MALMSTRÖM**  European Commissioner for Trade | *“TTIP: The future of an EU-US free trade deal”* |
| 14 April 2016 | **Mr. Robert MADELIN**  Senior Advisor for Innovation, European Political Strategy Centre, European Commission | *“Change or complacency? Europe and Innovation”* |
| 22 April 2016 | **Mr. Vytenis ANDRIUKAITIS**  European Commissioner for Health & Food Safety | *“High food standards – a win-win deal for the EU-US Food Sector?”* |
| 17 May 2016 | **Ms. Věra JOUROVÁ**  European Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality | *“The future of transatlantic data flows”* |
| 23 May 2016 | **Mr. Jyrki KATAINEN**  Vice-President & European Commissioner for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness | *“The Investment Plan for Europe: Current state of play”* |
| 13 June 2016 | **Mrs. Marianne THYSSEN**  European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility | *“A European Skills Agenda - Building the road to employment and growth”* |
| 15 July 2016 | **H.E. Peter JAVORČIK**  Ambassador, Permanent Representation of the Slovak Republic to the EU | *“Priorities of the Slovak Republic Presidency”* |
| 6 Sept 2016 | **Mr. Sven SAKKOV**  Director, NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence | *“Cyber Security - Current Strategies and Future Prospects”* |
| 21 Sept 2016 | **Mr. Jos DELBEKE**  Director General for Climate Action (DG CLIMA), European Commission | *“Implementing the Paris Agreement: Next Steps towards a Global Clean Energy Transition”* |
| 11 Oct 2016 | **Dr. Matthias RUETE**  Director General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME), European Commission | *“The future of the Schengen Zone”* |
| 19 Oct 2016 | **Mr. Johan THIJS**  Chief Executive Officer, KBC Group | *“Banking and Business - A Relationship Redeemed?”* |
| 10 Nov 2016 | **Mr. Tibor NAVRACSICS**  European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport | *“Promoting culture and investing in education as catalysts for innovation, economic growth and new jobs”* |
| 28 Nov 2016 | **Mr. Paul ADAMSON**  Founder & Editor, E!Sharp,  Partner & Chairman, Forum Europe | *“Brexit: the state of play - New arguments, new implications”* |
| 8 Dec 2016 | **Dr. Richard CORBETT MEP**  European Parliament | *“Brexit: Hurdles, obstacles and dilemmas”* |
| 20 Dec 2016 | **H.E. Anthony LUZZATTO GARDNER**  Ambassador, U.S. Mission to the EU | *“U.S. - EU Relations: Recent Achievements and the Way Forward”* |
| 2015 | | |
| 20 Jan 2015 | **Mr. João AGUIAR MACHADO**  Director General, DG MOVE, European Commission | *“Initiatives and Priorities of the European Commission for European Transport”* |
| 11 Feb 2015 | **Prof. José Manuel GONZÁLEZ-PÁRAMO**  Executive Board Director, BBVA | “*Challenges for the European financial sector*” |
| 20 Feb 2015 | **H.E. Ilze JUHANSONE**  Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Latvia to the EU | *“Priorities of the Latvian Presidency”* |
| 2 March 2015 | **Dr. Surin PITSUWAN**  Former Secretary General of ASEAN and Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand | *“ASEAN Community – Opportunities for Europe”* |
| 5 March 2015 | **Ir. Dirk BEEUWSAERT**  Executive Vice President at GDF SUEZ Energy Europe and Chairman of International Power Ltd. | *“Changing dynamics in European energy supply and distribution”* |
| 24 March 2015 | **Prof. Dr. Mario MONTI**  Former EU Competition Commissioner, Former Prime Minister of Italy, President of Bocconi University Milan | *“The transatlantic dimension of competition policy: Retrospective reflections and what lies ahead* |
| 31 March 2015 | **H.E. Yang YANYI**  Ambassador, Chinese Mission to the EU | *“China’s Reforms and Developments”* |
| 22 April 2015 | **Mr. David McALLISTER MEP**  European Parliament | *“The future of EU-US relations”* |
| 29April 2015 | **Mr. Ignacio GARCIA BERCERO**, Director, Directorate for Relations with Neighbouring Countries, USA and Canada, DG TRADE, European Commission | *“A fresh start for TTIP – Where do we stand in the current negotiations?”* |
| 11 May 2015 | **Ms. Margrethe VESTAGER**  European Commissioner for Competition | *“Competitiveness in the global market: A European perspective”* |
| 9 June 2015 | **Mr. Thomas LEYSEN**  Chairman, KBC Group and Umicore | *"Finance: Has the storm passed?"* |
| 2 July 2015 | **H.E. Christian BRAUN**  Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Luxembourg to the EU | *“Priorities of the Luxembourg Presidency”* |
| 9 Sept 2015 | **Mr. Nicolas SAVERYS**  Chief Executive Office, EXMAR | *“The shale oil and gas revolution in the energy world”* |
| 24 Sept 2015 | **H.E. Miguel AGUIRRE DE CARCER**  Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Spain to NATO | *“Europe’s new geopolitical challenges: A NATO perspective”* |
| 21 Oct 2015 | **Mr. Giovanni BUTTARELLI**  Supervisor, EDPS (European Data Protection Supervisor) | *“EU Data Protection - The latest developments”* |
| 10 Nov 2015 | **Dr. Bernhard URL**  Executive Director, EFSA (European Food & Safety Authority) | *“Ensuring consumer safety: The role of EFSA”* |
| 7 Dec 2015 | **Mr. Jos DIJSSELHOF**  Chief Operating Officer (COO), Euronext | *“One money, one financial market – A driver for European integration"* |
| 9 Dec 2015 | **Prof. Dr. Peter PRAET**  Member of the Executive Board, ECB (European Central Bank) | *“Current economic developments in the euro area”* |
| 2014 | | |
| 27 Jan 2014 | **Mr. László ANDOR**  European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion | *“Addressing social Imbalances in Europe”* |
| 28 Jan 2014 | **Mr. Robert MADELIN**  Director General, DG Communications Networks, Content and Technology, European Commission | *“Priorities of the Digital Agenda – the EU-US Perspective”* |
| 31 Jan 2014 | **H.E. Theodoros SOTIROPOULOS**  Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Greece to the EU | *“Priorities of the Greek Presidency”* |
| 11 Feb 2014 | **Mr. Klaus WELLE**  Secretary General, European Parliament | *“The EU Government and upcoming elections”* |
| 13 Feb 2014 | **Dr. Jamie SHEA**  Deputy Assistant Secretary General, NATO | *“The End of the Beginning – NATO getting a Grip on the Cyber-Threat”* |
| 25 March 2014 | **H.E. Vladimir CHIZHOV**  Ambassador, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the EU | *“Russia-EU Relations: Perceptions & Realities”* |
| 9 April 2014 | **Count Dr. Med. Jacques ROGGE**  Honourable Chairman, IOC (International Olympic Committee) | *“The influence of the Olympic movement on the global political and economic arena* |
| 24 April 2014 | **Mr. Ignacio GARCIA BERCERO**  Director of Unit Relations Neighbouring Countries, USA & Canada, DG Trade, European Commission | *“The regulatory dimension of TTIP: What are the Challenges”* |
| 17 June 2014 | **Mr. Olli REHN**  Vice-President and European Commissioner for Economic & Monetary Affairs | *“Reforms towards sustainable growth”* |
| 19 June 2014 | **Mr. Pascal LAMY**  Honorary President, Notre Europe-Jacques Delors Institute | *“The future of global trading systems”* |
| 27 June 2014 | **Prof. Dr. Peter PRAET**  Chief Economist, European Central Bank | *“The Euro area in 2014”* |
| 7 July 2014 | **H.E. Stefano SANNINO**  Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Italy to the EU | *“Priorities of the Italian Presidency”* |
| 26 Sept 2014 | **Mr. Peter SUTHERLAND**  Chairman, Goldman Sachs International | *“Migration - the Big Challenge for Europe”* |
| 2 Oct 2014 | **Mr. Jean-Luc DEMARTY**  Director General, DG Trade, European Commission | *“TTIP Regulatory Pillar: Opportunities and Challenges”* |
| 16 Oct 2014 | **H.E. Arif Havas OEGROSENO**  Ambassador, Embassy of Indonesia to Belgium, Luxembourg and the EU | *“Indonesia and the EU: Achieving a bilateral Free Trade Agreement”* |
| 23 Oct 2014 | **Mr. Pim van BALLEKOM**  Vice President Finance, European Investment Bank | *“Moving beyond Economic Crisis – Creating Innovative and Sustainable Growth in Europe”* |
| 19 Nov 2014 | **Antonio LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ WHITE**  EPP Secretary General (European People’s Party) and MEP, European Parliament | *“European governance in light of the new European Institutions”* |
| 2013 | | |
| 18 Jan 2013 | **H.E. Rory MONTGOMERY**  Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Ireland to the EU | *“The Priorities of the Irish Presidency of the European Union”* |
| 31 Jan 2013 | **Mr. Algirdas SEMETA**  European Commissioner for Taxation and Customs Union, Audit and Anti-Fraud | *“EU-US Cooperation in Customs and Supply Chain Security: Improving the Global Business Environment"* |
| 7 Feb 2013 | **Mr. Ferdinando BECCALLI FALCO**  President & CEO Germany & Europe, General Electric | *“How the spirit of leadership, innovation and experimentation lead to strengths in growing markets”* |
| 25 Feb 2013 | **Mr. Michel BARNIER**  European Commissioner for Internal Market & Services | *“The Single Market Act – a Strategy for economic growth and sustainability”* |
| 17 April 2013 | **H.E. Kojiro SHIOJIRI**  Ambassador, Mission of Japan to the EU | “*Impact for Global Economies of Financial Instability in Europe”* |
| 23 April 2013 | **Vital MOREIRA** **MEP**  Chairman of the International Trade Committee, European Parliament | *“EU-US Relations : The Comprehensive Trade Agreement – Challenges and Opportunities”* |
| 24 May 2013 | **Jos DELBEKE**  Director General for Climate Action, European Commission | *“Towards a Climate and Energy Package for 2030”* |
| 19 June 2013 | **Mr. Marc GRYNBERG**  CEO, Umicore | “*Is the Green (r)evolution a realistic route to a low carbon economy?”* |
| 26 June 2013 | **Mr. Peter SKINNER MEP**  Member of the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee & Member of the Delegation for Relations with the US, European Parliament | *“EU-US Financial Regulation – the Imperatives for Cooperation in an interconnected Global Economic System”* |
| 19 July 2013 | **H.E. Raimundas KAROBLIS**  Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the EU | *“Priorities of the Lithuanian Presidency”* |
| 11 Sept 2013 | **Mr. Luc COENE**  Governor National Bank of Belgium | *“European Economic Convergence – Perspectives from a National Bank”* |
| 9 Oct 2013 | **Mr. Philip LOWE**  Director General, DG Energy, European Commission | *“European Energy Strategy to 2020 and beyond”* |
| 29 Oct 2013 | **Mr. Joachim ALMUNIA**  Vice President, Commissioner for Competition, European Commission | *“Competition Policy – European and Global Perspectives”* |
| 2012 | | |
| 16 Jan 2012 | **H.E. Poul Skytte CHRISTOFFERSEN**  Danish Ambassador to Belgium | *“Priorities of the Danish Presidency”* |
| 16 Feb 2012 | **Baron Paul BUYSSE**  Chairman of the Board, Bekaert SA | *“The Hidden Realities of the World Economic Challenges”* |
| 29 Feb 2012 | **Mr. Alexander Graf LAMBSDORFF MEP**  Member Committee on Foreign Affairs and Delegation for relations with the People's Republic of China, European Parliament | *“China, the US and the struggle for Supremacy in the Pacific Rim”* |
| 21 March 2012 | **Mr. Ray Mc DANIEL**  CEO, Moody's Corporation | *“The regulation of credit rating agencies: Why getting it right matters for the global economy”* |
| 30 March 2012 | **Mr. Kai-Uwe KUHN**  Director & Chief Economist, DG Competition, European Commission | *“Future of EU Competition Policy”* |
| 19 April 2012 | **Mr. Martin SORRELL**  Chief Executive WPP Group | *“What is the new Economic Reality”* |
| 26 Apil 2012 | **Mr. José BARROSO**  President, European Commission | *“EU-US relations in the context of EU-US High Level Group on Growth and Jobs”* |
| 29 June 2012 | **Mr. David O’SULLIVAN**  Chief Operating Officer, EEAS | *“EEAS – the New Diplomacy : Objectives, Achievements and Added Value”* |
| 9 July 2012 | **H.E. Mr. Kornelios S. KORNELIOU**  Ambassador, Permanent Representation of Cyprus to the EU | *“The Priorities of the Cyprus Presidency of the European Union”* |
| 12 July 2012 | **Mr. Jonathan FAUL**  Director General, DG Internal Market, European Commission | *“WTO’s government procurement negotiation : EU succeeds in gaining more market access”* |
| 11 Sept 2012 | **H.E. Myriam SAPIRO**  Deputy U.S. Trade Representative, Executive Office of the President of the United States | *“New Initiatives to strengthen Transatlantic Economies”* |
| 20 Sept 2012 | **H.E. Mr. Jon CUNLIFFE**  Ambassador UK Permanent Representation to the EU | *“Directions for Europe”* |
| 3 Oct 2012 | **Baron Frans van DAELE**  Chief Cabinet of the President Herman van Rompuy | *"Towards a genuine Economic & Monetary Union"* |
| 9 Oct 2012 | **Mr. Frank COENEN**  CEO, Tessenderlo Group | *“Transforming because we must, we can and we want”* |
| 17 Oct 2012 | **Mr. Jean-Luc DEMARTY**  Director General for Trade, European Commission | *“A Common International Trade Policy for the Leading EU Trade Region”* |
| 22 Oct 2012 | **Mr. Arnaud FEIST**  Chief Executive Officer, Brussels National Airport | *“ Brussels Airport – Vision 2016”* |
| 25 Oct 2012 | **Mr. Daniel DOBBENI**  President & Chief Executive Officer, ELIA and Chairman Steering Committee European Transmission Systems Operators (ETSO) | *“EU Regulation on EU Internal Energy Market : Crucial for investments”* |
| 22 Nov 2012 | **H.E. PHAM Sanh Chau**  Ambassador of VIETNAM | *“EU-VIETNAM : Update Negotiations Free Trade Agreements”* |
| 20 Dec 2012 | **Mr. Paul BULCKE**  CEO, Nestle | *“Principles and Strategies for Economic and Environmental Sustainability – a Global Business Leaders’s Perspective”* |