



## EUROPE PANEL 2025

### EUROPEAN DEFENCE UNION Strength, Peace, and Freedom

on 13 February 2025 from 17.30 to 22.00 h  
at Hotel Bayerischer Hof, Königssaal

An official side event of the MSC  
Co-hosted by United Europe, European Forum Alpbach EFA and  
The Bavarian Family Entrepreneurs Association

#### FINAL PROGRAM

**17.00 Reception Drinks & Snacks**

**17.30 Welcome**

**José Manuel Duaro Barroso**, Former President of the European Commission  
**Othmar Karas**, Former Vice-President European Parliament, President EFA

**18.00 Part 1 European Defence Union  
Strength, Peace and Freedom**

Keynote **Andrius Kubilius**, EU Commissioner Defence & Space  
with Panelists: **Klaus Welle**, Chairman Academic Council Wilfried-Martens Center,  
Board Member EFA  
**Ronja Kempin**, Senior Fellow Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik  
**Markus Pflitsch**, CEO Terraquantum

Moderator: **Antonella Mei-Pochtler**, Vice-President EFA, Chairwoman of Investment  
Committee Generali Group  
Followed by open discussion

**19.00 Part 2 Europe's Competitiveness, Growth and Strength:  
To protect Europe's Autonomy and Sovereignty**

Panelists: **José Manuel Duaro Barroso**, Former President of the European  
Commission  
**Klaus Hommels**, Founder & Chairman, Lakestar / Chairman, NATO  
Innovation Fund  
**Paul Achleitner**, Chairman Global Advisory Board Deutsche Bank  
**Gundbert Scherf**, CEO Helsing

Moderator: **Gabor Steingart**, Founder and Publisher of The Pioneer  
Followed by open discussion



**20.00 Break & Dinner**

**20.30 Part 3 Financing**

**More investments and higher military expenditures require more private and public financing**

Panelists: **Hristo Stoykov**, Director European Investment Bank  
**Franziska Gerathewohl**, Head of Alternative Investments & Asset Manager  
Selection Munich Re-Group  
**Andreas Treichl**, Chairman Erste Foundation

Introduction and Moderator: **Klaus Regling**, Former Managing Director of ESM  
Followed by open discussion

**21.30 Closing & Munich Declaration announcement**

**José Manuel Duaro Barroso**, Former President of European Commission  
**Klaus Regling**, Former Managing Director of ESM  
**André Loesekrug-Pietri**, President of JEDI (Joint European Disruptive Initiative)  
**Martin Schoeller**, Board Member of The Bavarian Family Entrepreneurs

**Summary:**

A **Munich Declaration** will be presented including outcomes and key findings of the panels.

**21.45 Networking & Dessert**

The event takes place under Chatham House Rules.

The event itself is co-hosted by **United Europe** (President: Günther H. Oettinger; Program Director: Dyria Sigrid Alloussi), the **European Forum Alpbach** (President: Othmar Karas; Vice-President: Antonella Mei-Pochtler; Program Director: Feri Thierry), **The Bavarian Family Entrepreneur Association** (Board Member: Martin Schoeller) and **JEDI The European ARPA** (André Loesekrug-Pietri, President).