

International Conference on Business Ethics

# Geopolitical Risks, Compliance, and Investment Strategies:

## Navigating Economic and Climate Uncertainty in the EU and Beyond



Université Catholique de Lille,  
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Sandra Kendo, Scientific Director  
Axel Humbert-Labeaumaz, Event coordinator

**28** MAY 2026 8:30 - 22:30 & **29** MAY 2026 10:00 - 14:00



**THURSDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

8:30-17:00: **Conference**, RS 031 (*Free Event + Lunch*)

20:00-22:30: **Gala Dinner and Networking** (*Paid Event, by Invitation*)

**FRIDAY, 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

10:00-12:00: **Collaborative Workshop: Case Studies and Technical Exchange** (*Free Event + Lunch*)

Registration:



[univ-catholille.fr/  
chaire-ethique-  
des-affaires](http://univ-catholille.fr/chaire-ethique-des-affaires)



# Introduction

The world is increasingly confronted with fast-growing and mutually reinforcing challenges, ranging from geoeconomic fragmentation to climate disruption and regulatory transformation. This evolving “polycrisis” is not characterised by isolated factors, but by cascading systemic risks that challenge the resilience, governance, and strategic orientation of public institutions and private sectors across Europe and beyond. In such an era of structural uncertainty, traditional siloed approaches to compliance, investment, and risk management are no longer sufficient. It requires a more unified, action-oriented response to navigate complexity and support long-term sustainable growth.

This conference is designed to provide a structured platform that integrates diverse expertise and perspectives to deepen collective understanding of these contemporary systemic challenges. It brings together leading institutional stakeholders, including representatives from the European Central Bank, European Investment Bank, the French Social Investment Forum (FIR), the CFA Institute, Investment funds, as well as academic researchers, policy makers, and business leaders.

Over two days, participants will analyze geopolitical risks, climate uncertainty, compliance and governance changes, and evolving investment strategies in the EU and beyond. Day 1 focuses on resilient and sustainable investment strategies from regulators, practitioners, and academia. Day 2 will be dedicated to a collaborative writing exercise on geopolitical risks, compliance, and investment strategies, which will produce a policy brief combining theory, practice, and evaluation tools to strengthen the EU’s strategic position.

This conference seeks to translate analytical insights into practical tools and actionable recommendations for sustainability investment, compliance, and regulations. It also aims to strengthen coordination among stakeholders and help establish a unified, sustainable, and action-oriented framework.

This event is jointly organised by the Chair of Business Ethics: Compliance, ESG, and Sustainability Reporting at Lille Catholic University, France and the Centre for Global Finance (CGF) at SOAS University of London, UK.

## Program:



8:30-17:00  
Conference  
(RS 031)

- Free Conference
- Paid Gala Dinner and Networking Event

## 28 May 2026

### Shaping Resilient and Sustainable Investment Strategies: Insights from Regulators, Practitioners, and Academia

8:30-9:00

Registration & Welcome Coffee

9:00

Opening Session

**Nicolas VAILLANT**, Vice President and Vice-rector of research and innovation  
**Ioannis PANOUSSIS**, Vice President and Vice-rector in charge international development  
**Sophie CAVILLON**, Dean of FGES  
**Sarah DURELLE-MARC**, Dean of Law Faculty  
**Hong BO**, Axa Chair in Global Finance and Director of SOAS Center for Global Finance (U.K)  
**Sandra KENDO and Gurvan BRANELLEC**, Heads of Chair Business Ethics

9:20-10:20

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

**Geopolitics and Climate Uncertainty: Strategic Implications for the European and Global Economy**

The keynote will examine, among other things, how geopolitical fragmentation and climate-related uncertainties are reshaping economic dynamics across Europe and the global economy. It will highlight their growing impact on markets and value chains amid rising systemic risks. Finally, it will explore the strategic implications for policymakers and investors navigating this increasingly complex environment.

Keynote Speaker: **Chiara ZILIOLI**, ECB Director General (Law and Economics)  
Moderator: **Pr. Joseph SARKIS**, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (USA)

10:20-10:45

Coffee Break

10:45-12:00

**FIRST ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION**

**Regulatory Compliance, Energy Transition, AI and Market Stability: Are Investors Ready?**

During this session, we will explore how evolving EU regulatory frameworks, energy transition

dynamics, and AI-driven innovation are reshaping the investment landscape. We will examine compliance challenges, sustainable finance initiatives, and their implications for market stability. Finally, we will consider whether AI-enabled smart regulation can enhance investor readiness in a rapidly decarbonizing economy.

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Participants:

**Daniel SEGOIN**, ECB – Senior Legal Counsel

**Sophie MECHIN**, CFA Institute – Sustainable Private Assets Lead, BNP Paribas Asset Management

**Michael LAUNAY**, Industry Practitioner - Engineer, Senior Software Architect, Complex Project Management

**Tom LITTLECHILD**, Lead counsel, Wells Fargo

**Laurène CHENEVAT**, Sustainable Finance Policy and Regulation leader at Natixis CIB - FIR

Moderator:

**Pr. Joseph SARKIS**, Worcester Polytechnic Institute (USA)

12:00-13:30

Lunch Break

13:30-15:00

## WORKING PAPERS AND REPORTS PRESENTATION

### Climate Resilience, EU Sustainability Frameworks, and Risk Management Strategies

This session will explore how climate finance and resilience strategies are shaping responses to environmental and economic challenges. It will examine the role of EU taxonomy and sustainability reporting frameworks in guiding transparent and consistent investment practices. Finally, it will discuss how advanced risk management models can support more informed and resilient investment decision-making.

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Working Paper Presentations:

**Dr Michel SANCES**, *Emerging Anti-Competitive Practices in Financial Markets: When Information Sharing Violates Article 101 TFEU.*

**Dr Frank BETZ** (Senior Economist, European Investment Bank): *how European firms perceive and respond to physical climate risks?*

**Prof. Joseph SARKIS**, *“Thinking Regeneratively - Public and Private Investment in Resilience through Circular Economy and Nature-Positivity*

**Emmanuel DUPIC**, (Dassault aviation) – *Geopolitical risk and Compliance*

Moderator:

**Dr. Richard ALEXANDER**, SOAS University – Senior Lecturer in Financial Law (U.K)

15:00-15:15

Coffee Break

15:15-16:30

## SECOND ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

### Geopolitical risks, Integrating Compliance, Climate Resilience, and Investment Strategies: What Path Forward for the EU and Beyond?

This session will explore how geopolitical risks, regulatory developments, and climate resilience considerations are shaping investment strategies in the EU and beyond. It will examine the impact of EU regulatory tightening, the effectiveness of ESG and compliance instruments, and the materialization of financial risks. Finally, it will discuss the role of global cooperation in managing climate-related risks and guiding strategic investment decisions.

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Participants:

**Jean-Philippe DESMARTIN**, FIR Expert - Director of Responsible Investment at Edmond de Rothschild AM

**Jean-François BOUILLY**, CFA Institute Charterholder - Chief Compliance Officer and General Secretary, Sanso Longchamp Asset Management

**Nick ANDREWS**, Co-Founder at Strata Global Limited

**David BAEZ**, ECB – Principal Legal Counsel

Moderator:

**Prof Hong BO**, Axa Chair in Global Finance and Director of SOAS Center for Global Finance (U.K)

16:30-16:50

## CONCLUDING SESSION & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### Topics: Key Ending Notes – What can we learn from all these key aspects?

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**Grégory SCHNEIDER-MAUNOURY**, FIR - Responsible Finance Expert, Associate Professor at Sorbonne Paris Nord University

16:50-17:00

## OFFICIAL CLOSING

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**Prof. Véronique FLAMBARD**, LITL and **Prof. Delphine PANOUSSIS**, C3RD

Some important information regarding the Gala Dinner: **Gurvan BRANELLEC**

20:00-22:30

## NETWORKING RECEPTION & GALA DINNER (BY INVITATION)

### Keynote Speakers:

**Chiara ZILIOLI**, ECB Director General (Law and Economics)

**Emmanuel DUPIC**, Group Head of Ethics and Compliance DASSAULT AVIATION

**Alexandre KATEB**, CFA Institute - Economist and a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) & founder and chairman of The Multipolarity Report

**Representative, Université Catholique de Lille** (Nicolas VAILLANT, Sophie CAVILLON, Sarah DURELLE-MARC, and Dider PEILLON)

# 29 May 2026

• Free Session

## Collaborative Technical Session: Action Research on Compliance, Sustainability, and Investment Strategies

9:30-10:00

Coffee & Breakfast

10:00-12:00

### WORKSHOP

This session features an interactive workshop facilitated through brainstorming among decision-makers, researchers, and practitioners. The discussions will focus on exploring actionable research on geopolitical risks, compliance, and investment strategies. It aims to identify thematic areas, define clear workstreams and confirm chapter contributors. The outputs will be translated into a research agenda for an edited book volume that integrates theory, practice, and evaluative tools to strengthen the EU's strategic positioning.

During the session, participants will collaboratively refine chapter themes through a structured exchange across the following dimensions:

1. Bridging research and practice: Encouraging dialogue between academics and practitioners on geopolitical risks facing the EU and examining how these dynamics are reshaping strategic domains such as AI, the climate transition, critical industries, economic strategy, and data governance.
2. From ideas to application: Identifying key challenges alongside practical, implementable solutions that can inform both policy and market responses.
3. Implementation: Highlighting the tools, mechanisms, institutional channels, and key drivers required to deliver proposed solutions.
4. Regulatory and supervisory considerations: Examining how regulatory and supervisory frameworks intersect with investment strategies, particularly in strengthening resilience under evolving global conditions.

### Facilitators:

**Meng XIE, Hong BO, Jeffrey IGHEIOSA and Sandra KENDO**

12:00-14:00

Lunch, Networking & Informal Closing

### Practical information:

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