

International Conference on Business Ethics

Geopolitical Risks, Compliance, and Investment Strategies: Navigating Economic and Climate Uncertainty in the EU and Beyond



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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, 28TH MAY

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

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

FRIDAY, 29TH MAY

10:00-12:00: **Collaborative Workshop: Case Studies and Technical Exchange**, RZ 203 (*Free Event + Lunch*)

Registration:



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

Visioconference:



Une traduction
instantanée
en français
sera visible à
l'écran durant la
conférence.



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 (ECB), the European Investment Bank (EIB), the French Social Investment Forum (FIR), the Chartered Financial Analyst Institute (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 features a collaborative brainstorming and discussion on geopolitical risks, compliance, and investment strategies. The outputs of the discussion will be presented as a policy brief that combines 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:



58 Rue du Port, 59000 Lille
Robert Schuman building,
ground floor: RS 031

- Free Conference
- Paid Gala Dinner and Networking Event

Visioconference:



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, Université Catholique de Lille, *Vice President and Vice-rector of research and innovation*

Ioannis PANOUSSIS, Université Catholique de Lille, *Vice President and Vice-rector in charge international development*

Sophie CAVILLON, Université Catholique de Lille, *Dean of FGES*

Sarah DURELLE-MARC, Université Catholique de Lille, *Dean of Law Faculty*

Hong BO, Centre For Global Finance at SOAS University of London (UK), *Axa Chair in Global Finance and Director*

Sandra KENDO and Gurvan BRANELLEC, Université Catholique de Lille, *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: **Agnieszka TRZCINSKA**, European Central Bank, *Directorate General Macroeconomic Policy and Financial Stability Team Lead*

Moderator: **Prof. 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.

Participants:

Daniel SEGOIN, European Central Bank, *Senior Legal Counsel*

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

Tom LITTLECHILD, Wells Fargo, *Lead counsel*

Laurène CHENEVAT, NATIXIS CIB, *Sustainable Finance Policy and Regulation leader & Forum pour l'Investissement Responsable*

Martin KOEHRING, ODI Global, *Principal Research Fellow and Head, Centre for Private Finance in Development*

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.

Working Paper Presentations:

Dr Michel SANCES, Université Catholique de Lille, *Visiting Professor of EU Competition Law and Digital Law: Emerging Anti-Competitive Practices in Financial Markets: When Information Sharing Violates Article 101 TFEU.*

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

Prof. Joseph SARKIS, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, *"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 of London (UK), *Senior Lecturer in Financial Law*

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.

Participants:

Jean-Philippe DESMARTIN, Forum pour l'Investissement Responsable, *Expert & Edmond de Rothschild AM, Director of Responsible Investment*

Jean-François BOUILLY, Chartered Financial Analyst Institute, *Charterholder & Sanso Longchamp Asset Management, Chief Compliance Officer and General Secretary*

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

David BAEZ, European Central Bank, *Principal Legal Counsel*

Moderator:

Prof Hong BO, Centre for Global Finance at SOAS University of London (UK), *AXA Chair in Global Finance and Director*

16:30-16:50

CONCLUDING SESSION & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

Grégory SCHNEIDER-MAUNOURY, Forum pour l'Investissement Responsable, *Responsible Finance Expert & Université Sorbonne Paris Nord, Associate Professor*

16:50-17:00

OFFICIAL CLOSING

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: **Agnieszka TRZCINSKA**, European Central Bank, Directorate General Macroprudential Policy and Financial Stability Team Lead
Emmanuel DUPIC, Dassault Aviation, Group Head of Ethics and Compliance
Alexandre KATEB, Chartered Financial Analyst Institute, Economist & The Multipolarity Report, Founder and Chairman
Representative, Université Catholique de Lille (Nicolas VAILLANT, Sophie CAVILLON, Sarah DURELLE-MARC, and Dider PEILLON)

29 May 2026

Collaborative Workshop: Case Studies and Technical Exchange



41 Rue du Port, 59000 Lille
Rizomm building, 2nd floor
RZ 203

• Free Session

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 IGHEDOSA and Sandra KENDO

12:00-14:00

Lunch, Networking & Informal Closing

Practical information:

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