

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,
60 boulevard Vauban, 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, 28TH MAY

8:30-17:00: **Conference**

20:00-22:30: **Gala Dinner and Networking (By Invitation)**

FRIDAY, 29TH MAY

10:00-12:00: **Collaborative Workshop: Case Studies and Technical Exchange**

Registration:



[univ-catholille.fr/
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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 the private sector 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 CFA Institute, investment funds, as well as academic researchers, policymakers, and business leaders.

Over two days, participants will analyse geopolitical risks, climate uncertainty, changes in compliance and governance, 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:

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

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. Sarkis JOSEPH**, 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, ECB – Senior Legal Counsel

Sophie MECHIN, CFA Institute – Director, Impact Investing
Michael LAUNAY, Industry Practitioner - Engineer, Senior Software Architect, Complex Project Management
Tom LITTLECHILD, Lead counsel, Wells Fargo

Moderator:

Pr. Sarkis JOSEPH, 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:

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

Paper by 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. Alexander RICHARD, 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.

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 Investment Solutions

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

16:50-17:00

OFFICIAL CLOSING

20:00-22:30

NETWORKING RECEPTION & GALA DINNER (BY INVITATION)

Keynote Speakers:

Chiara ZILIOLI, ECB Director General (Law and Economics)

Representative, ECB

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 and Sandra Kendo)



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

29 May 2026

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

Objective:

Through facilitated brainstorming and interactive discussions, this session will bring together decision-makers, researchers, and practitioners to engage in collective reflection and to explore how to co-create actionable research. The main outputs from the session will be translated into a policy brief on geopolitical risks, compliance, and investment strategies, which aims to combine theory, practice, and evaluation tools to strengthen the EU's strategic position.

Facilitators:

PROF HONG BO, Axa Chair in Global Finance and Director of SOAS Center for Global Finance (U.K)

Sandra KENDO, Associate Professor in Monetary and Banking Economics, Université Catholique de Lille

9:30-10:00	Coffee & Breakfast
10:00-12:00	Applied and Action Research
10:00-12:00	Lunch, Networking & Informal Closing

Practical information:

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