

DRAFT AGENDA

3-6 December, 2024



INVIGORATEU ACADEMY
**MAKING EU
ENLARGEMENT
A SUCCESS**

Tuesday, 3 December

Introduction

Carnegie Europe (15 Rue du Congrès - 1000 Bruxelles)

14:00-14:30

Welcome and introduction

- **Mariam Khotenashvili**, Executive Director, TEPSA
- **Romain Le Quiniou**, Project and Advocacy Manager, TEPSA

14:30-14:45

Coffee break

14:45-16:00

Merits of enlargement: History, rationale, and toolbox of EU enlargement

- **Dr. Ilke Toygür**, Director, Global Policy Center; Professor of Geopolitics of Europe, School of Politics, Economics & Global Affairs, IE University & TEPSA Board Member

16:00-16:30

Coffee break

16:30-18:15

EU enlargement: democratic resilience and rule of law

- **Dr. Funda Tekin**, Scientific Lead of InvigoratEU; Director, Institut für Europäische Politik & TEPSA Board member

Café Caberdouche (8 Place de la Liberté - 1000 Bruxelles)

18:30-20:00

Welcome drinks: “EU Enlargement - is there really a momentum?”

- **Jovana Marović**, Former First Deputy Prime Minister of Montenegro & BIEPAG Member

Wednesday, 4 December

*State of play of enlargement negotiations
and the reform of the enlargement process*

European Commission DG NEAR (15 Rue de la Loi, 1040 Bruxelles)

09:00-10:00 **State of play of enlargement negotiations:
Western Balkans**

- **Thomas Hagleitner**, Head of Unit Western Balkans Policy and Regional Strategy, DG NEAR, European Commission
- **Jiri Plecity**, Head of Unit Montenegro and Serbia, DG NEAR, European Commission

10:00-10:45 **Break**

10:45-12:00 **State of play of enlargement negotiations:
Eastern Neighbourhood**

- **Elena Višnar Malinovská**, Head of Unit, Inter-institutional, coordination of relief and reconstruction, DG NEAR, European Commission
- **Martin Schroeder**, Head Georgia Desk, DG NEAR, European Commission (*tbc*)

12:00-14:00 **Lunch break - free time**

Carnegie Europe (15 Rue du Congrès - 1000 Bruxelles)

14:00-15:30 **Simulation game: “Communicating EU
Enlargement”**

- **Romain Le Quiniou**, Project and Advocacy Manager, TEPESA

15:30-15:45 **Coffee break**

15:45-16:45 **The model of “Staged Accession”**

- **Steven Blockmans**, Associate Senior Research Fellow, EU Foreign Policy Unit, Center for European Policy Studies (CEPS)

(cont.)

16:45-17:00 **Coffee break**

17:00-18:30 **Feedback and reflection session**

- **Dr. Ilke Toygür**, Director, Global Policy Center; Professor of Geopolitics of Europe, School of Politics, Economics & Global Affairs, IE University & TEPSA Board Member

Grand Central (190 Rue Belliard - 1040 Bruxelles)

19:30-21:30 **Networking session (optional)**

Thursday, 5 December

Enlargement and European security

Carnegie Europe (15 Rue du Congrès - 1000 Bruxelles)

09:30-10:45 **Think tank session: “EU enlargement in a geopolitical context”**

- **Jana Juzová**, Research Fellow, EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy
- **Melchior Szczepanik**, Head of Brussels Office, Polish Institute of International Affairs (PISM)
- **Frauke Seebass**, Associate Researcher, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik

10:45-11:00 **Break**

*European External Action Service
(9 Rond-Point Robert Schuman 9 - 1046 Bruxelles)*

11:45-13:00 **Implications for enlargement for European security: Can the EU provide security foundations for Ukraine?**

- **Petra Gombalová Kyslingerová**, Head of Ukraine Division, EEAS

13:00-14:30 **Lunch break - free time**

(cont.)

Reforms and politics

Carnegie Europe (15 Rue du Congrès - 1000 Bruxelles)

14:30-16:00

Views from the European Parliament

- Jakob Bec, Parliamentary Advisor, EPP Group (tbc)
- Đorđe Bojović, Parliamentary Advisor, The Greens

16:00-16:30

Break

16:30-18:00

Implications of EU enlargement for the EU's Common Agricultural Policy, the EU's Cohesion Policy, and public perceptions of enlargement

- Vincent Cordonnier, Deputy Head of Unit, DG AGRI, European Commission
- Ivanka Lakova, Enlargement Coordinator, Regional and Urban Policy Unit, DG REGIO, European Commission

The Beer Factory (6 Place du Luxembourg - 1050 Ixelles)

19:30-21:30

Networking session (optional)

Friday, 6 December

How to support democratic processes in enlargement countries in the context of Russian hybrid aggression

Carnegie Europe (15 Rue du Congrès - 1000 Bruxelles)

09:30-10:45 **EU enlargement and disinformation: Countering Russia's hybrid war in the neighbourhood**

- Jan Latal, Moldova and Armenia Desks, East Stratcom Task Force, EEAS

10:45-11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00-12:15 **The role of local CSOs in the enlargement process, incl. EU toolbox for keeping uncooperative governments on track**

- Nana Kalandadze, Programme Manager, International IDEA
- Alexandra Kirby, Senior Programme Manager, European Endowment for Democracy (EED) (tbc)

12:15-12:45 **Wrap up and conclusion**

- Dr. Ilke Toygür, Director, Global Policy Center; Professor of Geopolitics of Europe, School of Politics, Economics & Global Affairs, IE University & TEPSA Board Member

13:00-14:30 **Farewell lunch**

About InvigoratEU

How can the EU invigorate its enlargement and neighbourhood policy to enhance Europe's resilience?

Funded by Horizon Europe and led by the University of Duisburg-Essen and the Institut für Europäische Politik, InvigoratEU is on a mission to redefine how the EU engages with its Eastern neighbours and the Western Balkans. Through cutting-edge research and actionable policy recommendations, we're crafting a resilient Europe ready to meet tomorrow's challenges.

Our mission is to analyse EU enlargement strategies; leverage forward-thinking research to anticipate and address future challenges; and make an impact by providing operational recommendations for policymakers that will drive real-world change.



**Learn more on
our website!**

About TEPSA



The Trans European Policy Studies Association (TEPSA) was established in 1974 as the first transnational research network in the field of EU affairs. It comprises leading research institutes throughout Europe, with an office in Brussels. Its aim is to provide high-quality research on European integration to stimulate discussion on policies and political options for Europe. This is achieved by the interaction between the European and national institutions as well as the academic and research community. TEPSA is active on a wide range of research topics, focusing on differentiated integration, the EU's external relations, democratic participation and citizens' engagement.