



THE INDIA-EU  
FORUM

6-7 February 2026

Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi

*Subject to change*

Day 1, 6 February 2026	
8:45 hrs	All delegates are requested to convene at the <b><i>Chanakya Hall, Second Floor, Sushma Swaraj Bhawan</i></b>
9:00-9:05 hrs	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> <b>Harshavardhan Neotia</b> , Chairman, Ananta Centre; Chairman, Ambuja Neotia Group
9:05-9:10 hrs	<b>Recorded Remarks by Jozef Síkela</b> , European Commissioner for International Partnerships
9:10-10:10 hrs	<b>Inaugural Session: India and the EU: A Strategic Course for the Next Decade</b> <b>S Jaishankar</b> , Minister of External Affairs, Government of India <b>Moderator: Indrani Bagchi</b> , Chief Executive Officer, Ananta Centre

<p><b>10:10-11:30 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Session 2: Theatres of Contestation: How Strategic Challenges Determine our Response to the World</b></p> <p><i>How shifts across key theatres of contestation determine strategy, risk, and response</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Alexander Schallenberg</b>, Former Federal Minister for European and International Affairs &amp; Former Chancellor of Austria</li> <li>● <b>Bilahari Kausikan</b>, Former Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore</li> <li>● <b>Michael Pettis</b>, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace</li> <li>● <b>Laimonas Talat-Kelpša</b>, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lithuania</li> <li>● <b>C. Raja Mohan</b>, Columnist and Visiting Professor, National University of Singapore</li> <li>● <b>Freddy Svane</b>, Former Danish Ambassador to India and Japan</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Arun K Singh</b>, Former Indian Ambassador to the United States, France, and Israel</p>
<p><b>11:30-11:45 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Coffee Break</b></p>
<p><b>11:45-13:00 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Session 3: After the FTA: Leveraging the India-EU Trade &amp; Investment Architecture</b></p> <p><i>With the completion of the FTA, looking forward to increasing bilateral investments, enhanced economic security, and trade in key sectors</i></p> <p><b>Keynote Speaker: Rajesh Agrawal</b>, Commerce Secretary, Government of India</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Sanjiv Bajaj</b>, Managing Director, Bajaj Finserv, India</li> <li>● <b>Hervé Delphin</b>, Ambassador, Delegation of European Union to India</li> <li>● <b>Nilesh Shah</b>, Managing Director, Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company Limited</li> <li>● <b>Piet De Munter</b>, Chief Executive Officer, Flanders Investment &amp; Trade</li> <li>● <b>Ananth Narayan</b>, Former Member, Securities &amp; Exchange Board of India (SEBI)</li> <li>● <b>Saugata Bhattacharya</b>, Member of Monetary Policy Committee, Reserve Bank of India</li> <li>● <b>Diwakar Mittal</b>, Senior Director, Corporate Affairs, Novo Nordisk</li> </ul>

	<b>Moderator: Govindraj Ethiraj</b> , Editor, The Core
13:00-13:45 hrs	Please join us for lunch at <b><i>Shakuntalam and Nalanda Hall, Ground Floor, Sushma Swaraj Bhawan</i></b>
14:00:-14:20 hrs	<b>Session 4:</b> <b>Jürgen Westermeier</b> , President and Managing Director (MD), Airbus India and South Asia in Conversation with <b>Pramit Pal Chaudhuri</b> , India Practice Head, Eurasia Group
14:30-15:30 hrs	<b>Session 5: Defending Homelands: Future Wars and Security Threats</b>  <i>Both India and the EU are facing increasingly challenging geopolitical environments even as the nature of warfare is changing rapidly, this session will explore shaping current and future conflicts and underscoring the need for enhanced military readiness.</i>  <b>Keynote Speaker: Oliver Burkhard</b> , Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, TKMS GmbH  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Władysław Teofil Bartoszewski</b>, Secretary of State, Poland</li> <li>● <b>Air Chief Mshl NAK Browne</b>, Former CAS and Ambassador to Norway and Director, Tata Advanced Systems Ltd. India</li> <li>● <b>Andrea Margelletti</b>, Advisor to Minister of Defence, Italy &amp; President of CeSI</li> <li>● <b>Kristi Raik</b>, Director, International Centre for Defence and Security (ICDS)</li> <li>● <b>Lt Gen Raj Shukla</b>, Member, Union Public Service Commission; Former General Officer, Commanding-in-Chief, Army Training Command</li> <li>● <b>Vinayak Dalmia</b>, Founder &amp; Managing Director of Bharat Semi &amp; 3rdiTech</li> <li>● <b>Roberto Pierdominici</b>, Managing Director, Leonardo India</li> </ul> <b>Moderator: Pramit Pal Chaudhuri</b> , India Practice Head, Eurasia Group
15:30 - 16:15 hrs	<b>Session 6: Talent Contest: Mobility, Skills, and the New Global Workforce</b>  <i>Redefining mobility as a pathway to work rather than citizenship</i>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Arnab Bhattacharya</b>, Chief Executive Officer, GATI Foundation</li> <li>● <b>Lohit Bhatia</b>, Chief Executive Officer, Qess Corp Limited</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Constantino Xavier</b>, Senior Fellow, Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP)</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Henrik Chetan Aspengren</b>, Acting Head of the Asia Programme, Swedish Institute of International Affairs</p>
<b>16:15-16:30 hrs</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>16:30-17:30 hrs</b>	<p><b>Session 7: Is a Euro-Indo-Pacific Too Much?</b></p> <p><i>Discussing India–EU Engagement in the Indo-Pacific. How China shapes trade, supply chains, security, and connectivity —and what this means for India–EU cooperation</i></p> <p><b>Keynote Speaker: Sibi George</b>, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Gunnar Wiegand</b>, former Managing Director for Asia and the Pacific, EEAS (2016-2023)</li> <li>● <b>Happymon Jacob</b>, Founder, Council for Strategic and Defence Research, (CSDR)</li> <li>● <b>Agatha Kratz</b>, Partner, Rhodium Group</li> <li>● <b>Jamil Anderlini</b>, Regional Director – Europe, POLITICO</li> <li>● <b>Nicolas Kyriakides</b>, Executive President, Cyprus Forum</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Amaia Sánchez-Cacicedo</b>, Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Asia Program, Institut Montaigne</p>
<b>17:30- 18:15 hrs</b>	<p><b>Session 8</b></p> <p><b>Piyush Goyal</b>, Minister of Commerce and Industry of India in Conversation with <b>Harshavardhan Neotia</b>, Chairman, Ananta Centre; Chairman, Ambuja Neotia Group</p>
<b>19:00-21:30 hrs</b>	<p><b>Dinner and Reception</b></p> <p><i>By invitation only</i></p>
<b>Day 2, 7 February 2026</b>	
<b>9:00 hrs</b>	All delegates are requested to convene at the <b>Chanakya Hall, Second Floor, Sushma Swaraj Bhawan</b>

<p><b>9:15-10:30 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Session 9: Shaping the Future of Tech: Pathways for Trust, Scale and Strategic Advantage</b></p> <p><i>From semiconductors and next-gen tech connectivity to cybersecurity and digital governance, building resilient, competitive and technology ecosystems that shape global digital futures</i></p> <p><b>Keynote Speaker: S. Krishnan</b>, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Maria Cristina Russo</b>, Deputy Director-General for Innovation, Prosperity and International Cooperation at the European Commission's DG Research and Innovation (DG RTD)</li> <li>● <b>Otto Pukk</b>, President and CEO, Incap Corporation</li> <li>● <b>Nitin Bansal</b>, Managing Director, Ericsson India</li> <li>● <b>Tarun Chhabra</b>, India Nokia Head</li> <li>● <b>Rahul Matthan</b>, Partner, Trilegal, India</li> <li>● <b>K. Vijay Raghavan</b>, Former Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Konark Bhandari</b>, Fellow, Technology and Society Program, Carnegie India</p>
<p><b>10:30-11:00 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Session 10:</b> Fireside chat with <b>Nikos Dendias</b>, Greek Minister of National Defence</p> <p><b>Moderator: Ashok Malik</b>, Chair of India Practice, Asia Group</p>

<p><b>11:10-12:10 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Session 11: Waves of Cooperation: Advancing Strategic Connectivity Across Regions</b></p> <p><i>Positioning initiatives such as IMEC for success, through strengthened infrastructure and resilient maritime connectivity across connected geographies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>R Lakshmanan</b>, Joint Secretary, Shipping, Shipbuilding &amp; Public Private Partnership, Government of India</li> <li>● <b>Andrea Di Giuseppe</b>, Member of Parliament, Chamber of Deputies (Lower House) &amp; Chairman of the Committee on International Trade of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies</li> <li>● <b>Pradeep Jayaraman</b>, Chief Executive Officer, Adani Vizhinjam Port Pvt Ltd</li> <li>● <b>Peteris Ustubs</b>, Director for Asia-Pacific, DG INTPA, European Commission</li> <li>● <b>Jesper Stenbak</b>, Senior Vice President, Dubai, CMA CGM</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Sunjay Sudhir</b>, Former Indian Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates</p>
<p><b>12:15-12:45 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Session 12:</b></p> <p><b>Sabyasachi Mukherjee</b>, Founder and Creative Director, Sabyasachi, in conversation with <b>Bhairavi Jani</b>, Trustee, Ananta Centre and Executive Director, SCA Group</p>
<p><b>12:45-13:30 hrs</b></p>	<p>Please join us for lunch at <b><i>Shakuntalam and Nalanda Hall, Ground Floor, Sushma Swaraj Bhawan</i></b></p>
<p><b>13:30-14:15 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Session 13: Orbital Futures: Exploring a Space Partnership</b></p> <p><i>Exploring strategic, civil, and commercial collaboration in space—from earth observation and satellite navigation to launch services, space security, and resilient orbital infrastructure</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Kshitij Khandelwal</b>, Chief Technology Officer &amp; Co-founder, Pixxel, India</li> <li>● <b>D. Gowrisankar</b>, Outstanding Scientist &amp; Director, Office of International and Interagency Cooperation, ISRO</li> <li>● <b>Sethu SAVEDA Suvanam</b>, Chief Executive Officer, ReOrbit</li> <li>● <b>Tanveer Ahmed</b>, Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer, Digantara Industries</li> <li>● <b>Partha Roy Chowdhury</b>, Vice President Missions Sales, ICEYE</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Suyash Singh</b>, Co-founder, Galaxeye</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Lt. Gen. AK Bhatt</b>, Director General, Indian Space Association (ISpA)</p>
<p><b>14:15-15:00 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Session 14: 5-Dimension Battlefield: Building Resilient Defence Systems</b></p> <p><i>From platforms to ecosystems: how industry-led innovation is enabling integrated defence capabilities across five domains</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Arun Ramchandani</b>, Senior Vice President and Head, L&amp;T Precision Engineering and Systems</li> <li>● <b>Jetendra Gavankar</b>, Chief Executive Officer and India Country Head, Safran</li> <li>● <b>Luis Simón</b>, Director, Centre for Security, Diplomacy and Strategy (CSDS), and Director of the Brussels Office and Senior Fellow at the Elcano Royal Institute</li> <li>● <b>Davide Cucino</b>, Senior Vice President, EU and NATO Affairs, Fincantieri</li> <li>● <b>Lt Gen (D.) Rajesh Pant</b>, Former National Cybersecurity Coordinator</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Indrani Bagchi</b>, Chief Executive Officer, Ananta Centre</p>
<p><b>15:00-16:00 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Session 15: From Transition to Abundance: Securing our Energy Future</b></p> <p><i>Exploring joint energy pathways to drive high-impact renewable growth while ensuring long-term energy security through clean and scalable solutions for future demand</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Santosh Sarangi</b>, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India</li> <li>● <b>Arunabha Ghosh</b>, Founder–Chief Executive Officer, Council on Energy Environment and Water</li> <li>● <b>Ashish Khanna</b>, Director General, International Solar Alliance, India</li> <li>● <b>Ravi Grover</b>, Founding Director, Homi Bhabha National Institute; Member, Atomic Energy Commission</li> <li>● <b>Sivagnana Kalirajan</b>, Managing Director, EDF, Nuclear Projects India</li> <li>● <b>Giulia Monteleone</b>, Head of Energy Technologies and Renewable Sources Department, ENEA</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Lizza Bomassi</b>, Research Analyst, EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS)</p>

<p><b>16:00-17:00 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Session 16: The Multipolar Moment: Cooperation in an Era of Competing Powers</b></p> <p><i>Exploring how India and Europe can align strategies across security, technology, and economic resilience</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Peter Launsky-Tieffenthal</b>, Special Representative for Global Affairs to the Chancellor, Austria</li> <li>● <b>Karlis Bukovskis</b>, Director, Latvian Institute of International Affairs</li> <li>● <b>Theresa Fallon</b>, Founder &amp; Director, Centre for Russia, Europe, Asia Studies (CREAS)</li> <li>● <b>Timo Harakka</b>, Member of Parliament, Finland</li> <li>● <b>Jan Luykx</b>, Senior Associate Fellow, Egmont Institute; Former Belgian Ambassador to India</li> <li>● <b>Rob de Wijk</b>, Director, Hague Centre for Strategic Studies (HCSS)</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Ummu Salma Bava</b>, Professor and Jean Monnet Chair, Centre for European Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University</p>
<p><b>17:00 hrs</b></p>	<p><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <p><b>Indrani Bagchi</b>, Chief Executive Officer, Ananta Centre</p>