

# 10 YEARS OF YERUN: LOOKING AHEAD, GROWING TOGETHER



## YERUN 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference

SPARKS

60 rue Ravenstein - 1000 Brussels

**THURSDAY 5 JUNE 2025, 08.45 AM - 6.30 PM CEST**

# EVENT PROGRAMME



Event Moderator: Charlotte Van Velthoven-Geerdink, Charly Speaks

08.45 - 09.30

*Registrations & Welcome Breakfast*

09.30 - 09.50

*Welcome address*

**Dag Rune Olsen**, YERUN President, and Rector of UiT-The Arctic University of Norway

**Silvia Gómez Recio**, YERUN Secretary General

*The Theater*

09.50 - 10.00

*Keynote speech*

**Henna Virkkunen**, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission for Tech Sovereignty, Security and Democracy

*The Theater*

10.00 - 11.00

*High-level panel - Funding Europe's Future:  
What Do We Need for a Competitive Europe?*

**Andrzej Szeptycki**, Deputy Minister of Science and Higher Education of Poland

**Eszter Lakos**, Member of the European Parliament (EPP)

**Maria Leptin**, President of the European Research Council

**Pauline Rouch**, Director for the Common Policy Centre, DG RTD, European Commission

Moderator: Charlotte Van Velthoven-Geerdink, Charly Speaks

*The Theater*

11.00 - 11.30

*Coffee Break & Room Change*

# PARALLEL PANEL SESSIONS

11.30 - 12.30

*How Can the R&I Sector Better Contribute  
to Europe's Future?*

**Caroline Vandierendonck**, Head STEP Taskforce, DG BUDG,  
European Commission

**Pirita Lindholm**, Director at European Regions Research and  
Innovation Network (ERRIN)

**Colin Fitzpatrick**, Vice President of Global and Community  
Engagement at University of Limerick

**Malin Ideland**, Pro Vice Chancellor for Research and Doctoral  
Education at Malmö University

**Geoff Rodgers**, Pro Vice Chancellor for Enterprise and  
Employment at Brunel University of London

*Moderator: Charlotte Van Velthoven-Geerdink, Charly Speaks*

**Room 7 - The Balcony**

11.30 - 12.30

*Who Leads the Leaders? Rethinking  
University Leadership in a Changing World*

**Lana Par**, Vice President of the European Students' Union

**Thomas Estermann**, Director of Governance, Funding and  
Public Policy Development at European University  
Association (EUA)

**Ada Pellert**, Rector of University of Klagenfurt

**Jens Ringsmose**, Rector of University of Southern Denmark

*Moderator: Silvia Gómez Recio, YERUN Secretary General*

**Room 8 - The Launchpad**

**11.30 - 12.30**

*Europe's Competitiveness: What Are the Real Assets of Europe? Can Technology Alone Save Us?*

**Maria Cristina Russo**, Director for Prosperity, DG RTD, European Commission

**Lina Gálvez**, Member of the European Parliament (S&D)

**Jon Deer**, Treasurer of EASSH, and Director of Research and Innovation at City & St George's University of London

**Rianne Letschert**, President of Maastricht University

*Moderator: Massimo Busuoli, Director at NTNU*

**The Theater**

**12.30 - 13.30**

*Lunch*

**13.30 - 14.50**

*Ted Talks*

**Adam Izdebski**, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń

**Tina Kold Jensen**, University of Southern Denmark

**Cyprien Verseux**, University of Bremen

**Gabriele Spilker**, University of Konstanz

**Gideon Koekoek**, Maastricht University

**The Theater**

**14.50 - 15.30**

*The University of the Future*

**Jamil Salmi**, Global Tertiary Education Expert

**The Theater**

**15.30 - 16.00**

*Coffee Break & Room Change*

# PARALLEL PANEL SESSIONS

16.00 - 17.00

*Enabling Talent to Grow: Creating the Right  
Conditions for Careers*

**Claire Morel**, Head of Unit in charge of the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, DG EAC, European Commission

**Emmanuelle Gardan**, Director at COIMBRA Group

**Clare Viney**, Chief Executive Officer at CRAC/Vitae

**Julia Sievers**, Head of Academic Affairs at University of Bremen

**Saša Zelenika**, Rector's Advisor for European Policies and Internationalisation at University of Rijeka

*Moderator: Marta Agostinho, Executive Director at EU-LIFE*

**Room 7 - The Balcony**

16.00 - 17.00

*Working Together for Impact: The Future of  
European University Collaboration*

**Charlotte Nilsen**, USN Student representative in the EDUC Alliance

**Susanne Conze**, Head of Unit for Higher Education, DG EAC, European Commission

**Veronika Kupriyanova**, Deputy Director Academic Cooperation Association (ACA)

**Valerie Schegk**, Secretary General at YUFE Alliance, and FOREU4ALL Forum Board Representative

**João Amaro de Matos**, Vice Rector for Education and International Development at NOVA University Lisbon

*Moderator: Charlotte Van Velthoven-Geerdink, Charly Speaks*

**The Theater**

16.00 - 17.00

*Connect by YERUN: How Can Networks  
Maximise Research Collaborations*

**Dusan Misevic**, Data Scientist at University of Southern Denmark, and Developer of CONNECT by YERUN

**Maéva Vignes**, Freelancer in Data Science & EU Research Funding, and Developer of CONNECT by YERUN

**Wainer Lusoli**, Deputy Head, Reforming European R&I and Research Infrastructures, REA

**Anne Adams**, Head of Grants Office at University of Antwerp

**Adam Kola**, YERUN Vice President, and Vice Rector for Research at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń

*Moderator: Silvia Gómez Recio, YERUN Secretary General*

**Room 8 - The Launchpad**

17.00 - 17.30

*Keynote: Upcoming Danish EU Presidency*

**Christina Egelund**, Minister of Higher Education and Science of Denmark

**The Theater**

17.30 - 17.45

*Wrap up & Conclusion*

**Dag Rune Olsen**, YERUN President, and Rector of UiT- The Arctic University of Norway

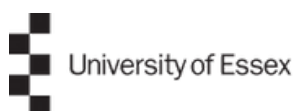
**Silvia Gómez Recio**, YERUN Secretary General

**The Theater**

17.45 - 18.30

*Networking Drinks*

## - YERUN Members -



YERUN, Young European Research Universities Network, 2025

For questions about this document please contact the YERUN Team: [YerunTeam@yerun.eu](mailto:YerunTeam@yerun.eu)

