

ACTIVITY REPORT

WIN

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I. SCHOOL OVERVIEW

IE School of Politics, Economics and Global Affairs has consolidated itself Throughout the 2025–2026 academic year, IE School of Politics, Economics and Global Affairs consolidated its position among **the world's top schools in public policy and global affairs**, while strengthening its leadership in innovative pedagogy.

This year marked a symbolic milestone, with the School receiving **10 international awards** recognising its pioneering approach to academic and pedagogic innovation. Prestigious institutions such as APSIA and QS are among those that have acknowledged the School's achievements. Moreover, to maintain our leadership in pedagogical innovation, this year we have introduced the initiative **AI for Leadership Skills**, integrating AI techniques to strengthen our students' leadership capabilities.

On the academic front, the School launched a major new programme: the **Master in Public Policy**, set to begin in September 2026. The programme addresses today's most pressing global challenges through its specializations: **environment, energy and sustainability; artificial intelligence and digital transformation; and European Union affairs**.

In addition, the School continues to strengthen its established programmes, such as the Master in International Relations, by updating its specializations in Defense and Security; International Political Economy; and Global Governance and International Organizations; and introducing a **new specialization in Space Affairs**, reflecting our commitment to staying aligned with evolving global trends and market demands.

In executive education, the School has introduced new offerings, including ***NextGov: IA y Estrategias Digitales para el Gobierno del Futuro***

Our School places particular emphasis on enhancing the student experience through international trips such as the first Immersion Week in Nairobi or the Transformational Leadership Journey to Nepal, as well as through other initiatives and competitions like the Raisina IE Global Student Challenge in New Delhi or the IE Model United Nations in Madrid, simulations like a cyberattack on NATO, and unique training journeys such as The Diplomatic Academy.

The School has also continued to engage leading European and international figures. This year, former Prime Minister of Portugal and President of the European Commission José Manuel Durão Barroso and former EU Commissioner Cecilia Malmström joined the **Distinguished Fellow Program**, alongside multiple visits from high-level policymakers and institutional leaders. All of these activities are part of the new **Public Leadership Initiative at IE SPEGA**, which brings together training programmes, mentoring, applied research, events, and recognitions to prepare the next generation of leaders.

In applied research, a major milestone was achieved with the launch of the **IE Competitiveness Hub Brussels** in May, a Brussels-based platform dedicated to applied research on European economic competitiveness. The Hub brings together academic excellence, interdisciplinary expertise, and policy-oriented analysis at the heart of the European debate. The Hub further strengthens the applied research contribution of the Global Policy Center to the European Union's global affairs agenda.

The School has also enhanced the research ecosystem driven by its faculty. Over the past year, faculty members have published in leading academic journals and secured prestigious grants and awards, including funding from the European Commission's Horizon programme and the European Research Council's Consolidator Grant.

The School maintains its position as one of the most connected globally, supported by 175 academic partnerships and over 30 institutional collaborations. During this academic year, new agreements were signed with leading universities such as Fudan University and organizations such as the European Climate Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, or Political Intelligence.

Finally, the School has substantially expanded its media impact this year, achieving over 600 articles, equivalent to an advertising value of €7 million. These outcomes reinforce its position as a leading institution in academic excellence and global influence.

AMONG THE WORLD'S TOP
SCHOOLS IN PUBLIC POLICY
AND GLOBAL AFFAIRS



II. LETTER FROM THE DEAN – IE SPEGA



Enrico Letta

*Dean IE School of
Politics, Economics
and Global Affairs*

Dear colleagues and friends,

This academic year marks my second year serving as Dean of IE School of Politics, Economics and Global Affairs, and I take great pride in the dedication of our team and in the results we have achieved together.

Over the past year, the School has reached several important milestones across multiple areas. One of the most significant achievements took place in May with the launch of the IE Competitiveness Hub Brussels. This applied research platform has enabled us to fill an important gap in Brussels: until now, there was no international university presence in the Belgian capital. Through this initiative, IE University aims to establish itself as a bridge between academia and policymakers to drive Europe forward.

This year, we also introduced the Master in Public Policy, positioning our School among leading institutions in this field. In parallel, we have strengthened our executive education portfolio with a forward-looking approach, anticipating the topics that will shape the global affairs and international relations agenda in the years ahead, including emerging domains such as space.

Two major strategic initiatives launched this year are the Public Leadership Initiative and AI for Leadership Skills. The Public Leadership Initiative was recently introduced to bring together all activities related to leadership across the School, not only in master's, bachelor's, and executive education programmes, but also through high-level visits, leadership academies, and research.

The School has also taken a decisive step towards integrating AI-driven tools into its teaching model, further reinforcing its commitment to pedagogical innovation through the launch of AI for Leadership Skills. More than 2,000 students are already using avatars, role-play simulations, and virtual reality in the classroom to develop key leadership skills such as public speaking, negotiation, critical thinking, and policy writing. The objective is not to replace students' judgement, but to equip them with the tools to reach well-founded conclusions more quickly and effectively.

Another new activity I am particularly proud of is the Single Market Competition, in which more than 100 students worked in teams over four weeks to design political communication campaigns highlighting the importance of the Single Market. This is just one example of the wide range of extracurricular activities we actively encourage our students to engage in.

This year, we have also strengthened our faculty with several key appointments that will further enhance the School's research capacity and academic reputation. Catherine E. De Vries joined as Vice Dean for Political Science and International Relations in January, and we were delighted to welcome Toni Roldán, as Assistant Professor of our Economics Department. I would like to convey my deepest appreciation to our entire faculty for their dedication and steadfast commitment to excellence over the course of the year.

Finally, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all members of our School. Your commitment and ambition have been instrumental in the achievements and success of this year, and I strongly encourage you to continue this outstanding work as we further expand our presence and enhance our impact.

IE School of Politics, Economics and Global Affairs will continue to advance its mission by training the next generation of global leaders, reinforcing its leadership in innovative pedagogy, strengthening its presence through new initiatives such as the IE Competitiveness Hub Brussels, producing high-level research, and further consolidating its networks. I look forward to continuing to share new achievements together in the future.

ONE OF THE MOST
SIGNIFICANT
ACHIEVEMENTS
TOOK PLACE IN
MAY WITH THE
LAUNCH OF THE IE
COMPETITIVENESS
HUB BRUSSELS.

III. IE-SPEGA AT A GLANCE

OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS



+2,300
IE-SPEGA STUDENTS

+100
EXECUTIVE
EDUCATION STUDENTS
(FOR INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS)



35
INTERNAL
FACULTY MEMBERS

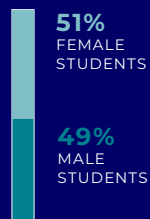
+300
ADJUNCT
PROFESSORS

3
PROFESSORS
OF PRACTICE

BACHELOR

2,145
BACHELOR
STUDENTS

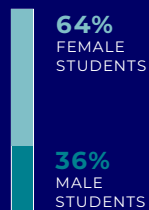
85
NATIONALITIES



MASTER

157
MASTER STUDENTS

46
NATIONALITIES



13
DUAL
PROGRAMS

5
EXECUTIVE
PROGRAMS

2
ACADEMIC
DEPARTMENTS

2
APPLIED-RESEARCH
CENTER
(IE COMPETITIVENESS HUB
BRUSSELS AND GLOBAL
POLICY CENTERS)

3
BACHELOR
SINGLE
PROGRAMS

5
MASTER
PROGRAMS



27
PUBLICATIONS

+600
MEDIA
ARTICLES



175 ACADEMIC PARTNERS
FOR EXCHANGE AND
DUALS



CAPSTONES WITH MORE
THAN **60** LEADING
INSTITUTIONS



10 INTERNATIONAL
AWARDS FOR
INNOVATIVE PEDAGOGY
(QS, APSIA AND MERIT)

IV. PROGRAM PORTFOLIO

BUILDING
LEADERS OF
TOMORROW

We offer highly regarded bachelor's and master's degree programs.

BACHELOR DEGREES

► Bachelor in International Relations (BIR)

This program prepares students for international careers across the public, private and non-profit sectors, equipping them to navigate today's multifaceted global landscape. Rooted in the expertise of IE School of Politics, Economics & Global Affairs and the United Nations System Staff College, it offers a world-class education focused on tackling global issues and shaping world changers. Students engage with regional studies & geography while developing a deep understanding of multicultural environments, languages, and cross-cultural dynamics. The program also encourages a strong commitment to volunteering and social impact, fostering responsible leadership. Through this immersive learning experience, students acquire the skills needed to drive change and address complex cross-border economic, political and social challenges in an increasingly interconnected world.

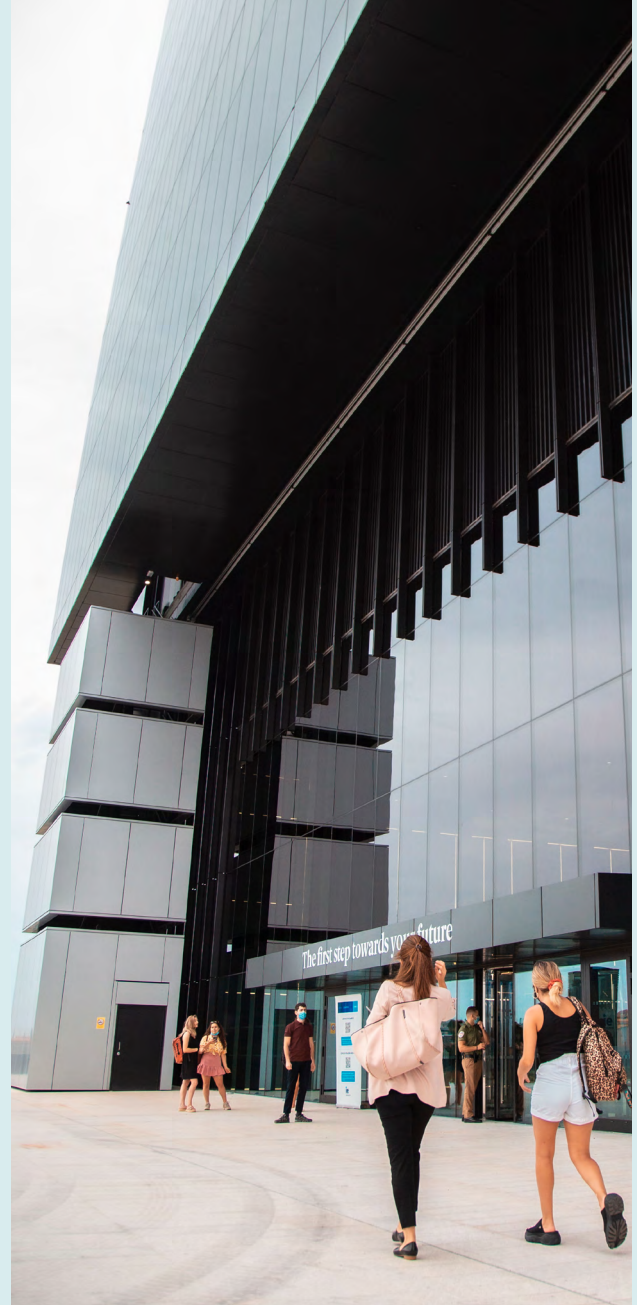
► Bachelor in Political Science (BPS)

An innovative and interdisciplinary program that prepares students to become influential leaders capable of designing, implementing, and evaluating policies that address complex global challenges. Combining political science, economics, and public administration with leadership, management, and communication skills, the program provides a strong foundation for careers in government, international organizations, consulting, NGOs, and public affairs. Through a hands-on, future-focused curriculum, students learn to analyze societal issues and create impactful solutions while integrating emerging technologies such as AI, big data, GovTech, and cybersecurity into decision-making processes. The program emphasizes practical learning, global perspectives, and real-world engagement, empowering graduates to drive positive change across the public and private sectors.

IV. PROGRAM PORTFOLIO

► **Bachelor in Economics (BIE)**

A future-focused program that combines economics, data analytics, and emerging technologies to prepare students for the evolving demands of today's global economy. Through a rigorous and practical curriculum, students develop strong analytical and decision-making skills while exploring areas such as blockchain, cryptocurrencies, programming, AI, and big data to better understand markets, policy, and business challenges. In their final year, students specialize in either Economic & Financial Analysis for Business or Country, Sector & Policy Analysis. Students also have the opportunity to complete their studies with a Capstone Project at top financial institutions from private, public and multilateral institutions (Santander Bank, World Bank, Spanish Congress) as well as completing an individual thesis. Graduates are equipped with both the economic expertise and technological fluency needed for careers in finance, consulting, public policy, technology, and international organizations.



We also offer the possibility of studying Dual Degrees

- **Dual Degree in Business Administration + International Relations**
- **Dual Degree in Economics + International Relations**
- **Dual Degree in Law + International Relations**
- **Dual Degree in Economics + Applied Mathematics**
- **Dual Degree in Business Administration + Political Science**



► **Study in NYC!**

Students in the Bachelor in International Relations, Bachelor in Economics, Bachelor in Political Science and the Dual Degree in Business Administration and International Relations have the opportunity to spend their final year at IE New York College, gaining an international academic experience in the heart of New York City.

MASTER PROGRAMS

► **(NEW) Master's in Public Policy**

This program prepares future changemakers to design, implement, and evaluate effective public policies at the intersection of government, business, and society. Combining analytical rigor, strategic leadership, and immersive learning, the Master in Public Policy equips students with the tools and mindset to navigate complex challenges—from digital disruption to climate transition and institutional reform. Through collaborations with leading organizations such as the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Political Intelligence, the European Climate Foundation, alinnea, and PWC, students gain direct exposure to real-world policy challenges, industry expertise, and international networks. The program is ideal for purpose-driven individuals aiming to work across sectors in roles that require both critical thinking and actionable solutions.

► **Master's in International Relations (MIR)**

This master's trains students in the complex dynamics that shape global affairs, providing them with the ideas and tools required to effectively lead government agencies, corporations, civil society and multilateral organizations in a fast-changing environment.

► **Master's in International Development (MID)**

IE School of Politics, Economics & Global Affairs, in partnership with the United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC), offers a Master in International Development designed for those who want to build a global career in international development, addressing complex development challenges, including economic

inclusion, fragility, and climate risk. The program prepares students to understand these challenges in depth and to design and deliver actionable, scalable solutions across public, private, and multilateral sectors.

This distinctive master's program prepares graduates to build careers across the international development sector, working in governments, international organizations, development finance institutions, consulting firms, NGOs, philanthropies, and the private sector, contributing to social, economic and environmental progress worldwide.

To further enhance career pathways in the sector, IE University has signed a strategic partnership with CONSULTED, Spain's leading network of development consulting firms, creating new opportunities for students pursuing careers in development consulting.

► **Master's in Applied Economics (MAE)**

This Master's is a unique, hands-on program that gives students expert insight into the latest developments in the economic arena. In collaboration with key partners, including the International Finance Corporation (World Bank Group) and PwC, the program combines academic rigor with real-world perspectives from leading organizations in finance and business. Particular emphasis is placed on monetary and fiscal policy and financial markets, while also examining how data analytics are transforming business and how labor markets are rapidly evolving in the digital era.

► **Master's in Technology & Global Affairs**

This program will prepare graduates to make a positive and meaningful contribution to the complex world of global affairs by closely understanding the functioning of technology and its many implications. As a global hub for diplomacy and technology, the IE School of Politics, Economics & Global Affairs collaborates with the Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator (GESDA), Google, and United Nation's International Telecommunication Union (ITU) reinforcing its commitment to training future leaders for the digital age. Through these partnerships, students engage with top experts, cutting-edge research, and exclusive events, gaining valuable insights into digital governance, emerging technologies, and policy.

**Dual Master's Degrees
with Partners**

- **Dual Master in Technology and Global Affairs with Sciences Po.**
 - **Dual Master in International Relations and Master in Public Policy with University of Toronto.**
 - **Dual Master in International Relations and Master in International Affairs with Hertie School.**
-



EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

► **Public Leadership Executive Program (PLEP)**

This program is designed to equip senior officials and emerging leaders with the critical human skills needed to lead effectively in an increasingly complex and uncertain global landscape shaped by geopolitical pressures and technological disruption. Moving beyond technical expertise, the program focuses on developing capabilities such as persuasion, coalition-building, strategic influence, trust-building, and clear, authoritative communication, enabling participants not only to better understand challenges, but to drive meaningful change and perform with confidence in high-stakes environments.

► **Geopolitics and Global Risks**

Led by the IE Global Policy Center, this program is designed to train senior and mid-career management individuals from international organizations and public institutions who are committed to leading transformations within and outside their organizations. Bringing together a unique blend of expertise from the public and private sectors, the 'Geopolitics and Global Risks' program will provide the skills necessary to effectively tackle complex policy challenges, improve foresight, foster innovation in policymaking and drive positive change.

► **Anticipatory Leadership: Policy and Strategy for Disruptive Technologies**

Co-organized alongside GESDA (Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator), the program addresses the critical need to manage technological disruption through strategic tools, innovative thinking and applicable knowledge. The aim is to explore global trends, scientific and technological advances, strategies to mitigate the social impacts of disruptive

technologies, and practical leadership skills. It stands out for its anticipatory approach, connection with international experts and transformative impact on leaders and organizations.

► **(NEW) NextGov: IA y Estrategias Digitales para el Gobierno del Futuro**

Bringing together the academic rigor of IE School of Politics, Economics and Global Affairs and PwC's expertise in digital transformation, NextGov offers a strategic and practical approach to leading the modernization of the public sector. The program is designed for professionals who want to go beyond diagnosis and acquire the capabilities needed to drive digital government agendas, make informed decisions in complex environments, and generate tangible impact for citizens.

► **(NEW) The Space Sector Unlocked Program**

This program is designed for experienced space professionals seeking to move beyond technical specialization into strategic leadership. Over four intensive days, participants engage directly with some of the individuals who have shaped Europe's space sector from the inside: the mission leader behind Rosetta, senior architects of Copernicus, former ESA directors responsible for Earth Observation programs, and European security and satellite policy leaders. The program also includes an on-site visit to ESA's European Space Astronomy Centre (ESAC) in Villafranca del Castillo, where critical space operations and scientific missions are coordinated.

Developed in partnership with the European Space Agency (ESA), the program bridges technical expertise with the strategic, economic, regulatory, and managerial capabilities increasingly required across the sector.

V. MAJOR EVENTS



INTERESTED IN
RECEIVING
INVITATIONS TO
OUR EVENTS?



REGISTER [HERE](#)

RELEVANT VISITS

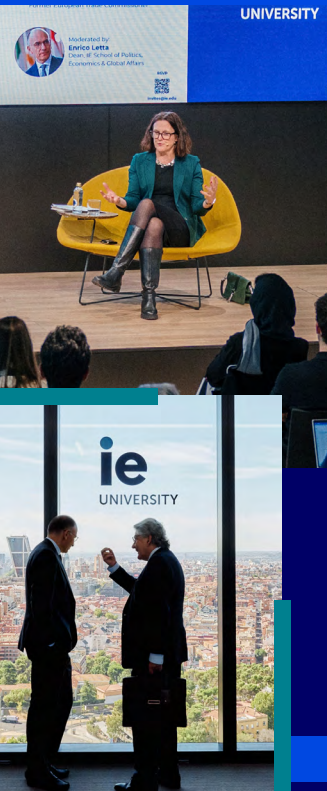
The School of Politics, Economics and Global Affairs, together with other departments at IE University, have continued to consolidate its position as a hub for academic excellence and a preferred destination for distinguished visitors from Governments, Multilateral Organizations, Economic Institutions and Diplomacy. These engagements highlight our commitment to providing students with unparalleled access to world-renowned experts in various fields.

PRIME MINISTERS AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS

- **Mr. Antonio Millán**, Deputy Director of the Sub-Directorate General for North America and Polar Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Spain and Member of the Academy of Diplomacy
- **Mr. Clément Beaune**, High Commissioner for Strategy and Planning of France
- **Mr. Gilles Roth**, Minister of Finance of Luxembourg
- **H.R.H. Guillaume V**, Grand Duke of Luxembourg
- **Mr. Jeffrey Marder**, Ambassador of Canada to Spain
- **Mr. Joaquim Miranda Sarmiento**, Minister of State and Finance of Portugal
- **Mr. Jorge Macri**, Chief of Government of Buenos Aires
- **Mr. José Manuel Durão Barroso**, Former President of the European Commission and Former Prime Minister of Portugal
- **Ms. María José Pinto**, Vice President of Ecuador
- **H.E. Ms. Raghed Al Saqqa**, Ambassador of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the Kingdom of Spain
- **Mr. Serhii Ustymenko**, the Minister Counsellor of the Embassy of Ukraine in Madrid
- **Ms. Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya**, Belarusian Opposition Leader and Political Activist



EUROPEAN UNION LEADERS



- **Ms. Cecilia Malmström**, Former European Commissioner of Trade, Visiting professor at Göteborg School of Economics, Business and Law
- **Ms. Connie Hedegaard**, Former European Commissioner for Climate Action
- **Ms. Funda Tekin**, Director of Institut für Europäische Politik (IEP)
- **Mr. Ian Bond**, Deputy Director of Centre for European Reform (CER)
- **Mr. Javi López**, Vice President of the European Parliament
- **Mr. Josef Aschbacher**, Director General of the European Space Agency (ESA)
- **Ms. María Andrés Marín**, Director of the European Parliament Office in Spain
- **Ms. Marilyne Andersen**, Director General of the Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator (GESDA)
- **Mr. Roberto Viola**, Director-General of DG CONNECT, European Commission
- **Mr. Ricardo Borges de Castro**, Senior Adviser at European Policy Centre
- **Mr. Sébastien Maillard**, Special Adviser at Institut Jacques Delors
- **Mr. Thierry Breton**, Former European Commissioner for the Internal Market and Former Minister of Economy, Finance and Industry of France
- **Ms. Valbona Zeneli**, Senior Fellow at Europe Center

ECONOMIC THOUGHT LEADERS



- **Mr. Alec Russell**, Foreign Editor of Financial Times
- **Mr. Alfred Kammer**, Director of the European Department at the International Monetary Fund
- **Mr. Álvaro Laorden**, Global Head of Market Solutions Sales at Caceis and Member of the Board of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in Luxembourg
- **Ms. Ana Triviño**, Senior Economist at the World Bank and Lead of the Women, Business and the Law program
- **Mr. Andrés Velasco**, Dean of the School of Public Policy at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), and Former Minister of Finance of Chile
- **Mr. Antioco Cuesta**, CEAPI
- **Ms. Bridget Hoffman**, Economist in the Research Department of the Inter-American Development Bank
- **Mr. Carlos Alberto Serna Gámez**, Undersecretary of Economic Development of the Government of the State of Nuevo León
- **Mr. Carlos Lopes**, Honorary Professor at the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance, University of Cape Town, and Former African Union High Representative for Partnerships with Europe
- **Mr. Cristóbal Cárdenas**, Director of Technological Development at Ministry of Economy of the State of Nuevo León
- **Ms. Estefanía Abello**, CFA Society Colombia
- **Mr. Fabián Ibarburu**, CFA Society Uruguay
- **Mr. Floren Denys**, Counsel, Arendt & Medernach

V. MAJOR EVENTS



- **Mr. Gianpiero Leoncini**, Executive Vice President of CAF Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean
- **Mr. Jean-Marc Goy**, President of ALFI (Association of the Luxembourg Fund Industry)
- **Mr. Johan Terblanche**, **Managing Partner**, Maples and Calder (Luxembourg)
- **Mr. Jonathan Westhead**, Director of Communication, Luxembourg for Finance
- **Mr. Luis Buceta**, CFA Society Spain
- **Mr. Manuel López Donaire**, CEAPI
- **Mr. Martín Umarán**, CEAPI
- **Mr. Norman Loayza**, Director of the Policy Indicators Group at the World Bank
- **Mr. Rubén de la Torre**, Director of Innovation and Projects of the Government of the State of Nuevo León
- **Mr. Omar López Tronco**, CFA Society

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS LEADERS

- **Ms. Anastasia Burakova**, Human Rights Lawyer
- **Ms. Arancha González**, Dean of Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA)
- **Mr. Christos Katsioulis**, Director of Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
- **Mr. Darío García de Viedma**, Fellow at Elcano Royal Institute
- **Mr. Fabrice Pothier**, CEO of Rasmussen Global
- **Mr. Javier Muñoz de la Cuesta**, Director en CAMBIUM TECH
- **Ms. Kristina Kuash**, Deputy Managing Director and Senior Fellow at the German Marshall Fund of the United States
- **Mr. Manuel Müller**, Senior Research Fellow at Finnish Institute of International Affairs (FIIA)
- **Mr. Marco Sassoli**, Professor of International Law at the University of Geneva and Former Director of the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights
- **Mr. Miguel Otero**, Senior Fellow at Elcano Royal Institute
- **Ms. Nicoletta Pirozzi**, Head of Programme on European Union and Institutional Relations Manager at Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI)
- **Mr. Santiago Velo de Antelo**, Executive President at the Academy of Diplomacy
- **Mr. Serhii Pokhly**, Director of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute
- **Ms. Shahrbanou Tadjbakhsh**, Associate Professor at Sciences Po (Paris), and Geneva Graduate Institute





DISTINGUISHED FELLOWS PROGRAM

IE School of Politics, Economics, and Global Affairs runs the Distinguished Fellowship Program to bring the student and educational community closer to former Prime Ministers or Presidents of countries from around the world or Multilateral Organizations. These public figures significantly enrich the academic environment, provide invaluable insights to students, promote knowledge, and help broaden global perspectives across the institution.

Iván Duque



Iván Duque, former President of Colombia (2018-2022), is a distinguished leader known for focusing on economic modernization, environmental sustainability, and innovation. Prior to his presidency, he served as a senator in Colombia. He held prominent roles at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), where he worked on social development and cultural projects. Duque advocates for green policies, having spearheaded initiatives like Colombia's transition to renewable energy. He is also the author of several books on economics and public policy and holds advanced degrees from American University and Harvard University. His leadership reflects a commitment to fostering inclusive growth and regional cooperation.

President Duque participated in a series of events, discussions, and meetings, engaging in conversations with IE University's community, students and faculty of the IE School of Politics, Economics, and Global Affairs, who come from 160 countries. Additionally, he took part in different exchanges with leaders from the public sector, the corporate world and the academic and think tank community.

Paolo Gentiloni



Paolo Gentiloni, former European Commissioner for Economy and former Prime Minister of Italy (2016-2018), is a prominent statesman with a career dedicated to European integration and economic reform. As Prime Minister, he focused on economic stability, migration management, and international cooperation. In his current role at the European Commission, Gentiloni has been instrumental in steering the EU's economic recovery through initiatives like the NextGenerationEU plan. A member of Italy's Democratic Party, he has also served as Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Communications. Gentiloni is widely respected for his diplomatic approach and commitment to sustainable growth and European unity.



During his visit to IE University, Mr. Gentiloni engaged with IE University's leadership, faculty, students and other key stakeholders to address critical topics such as global economic challenges, transatlantic cooperation, and Europe's evolving role in a rapidly changing world. He participated in a public lecture titled *"The Future of Europe"* and in a session with students titled *"How to Educate Yourself to Become a Prime Minister?"*.

José Manuel Durão Barroso



José Manuel Durão Barroso served as President of the European Commission from 2004 to 2014, navigating the institution through major challenges including the global financial crisis in 2011 and Russia's invasion of Crimea in 2014. Prior to that, he was Prime Minister of Portugal from 2002 to 2004.

During his visit to IE University in November 2025, Mr. Barroso took part in the event *"The Role of Public Policy in Europe,"* joined by Connie Hedegaard, former European Commissioner for Climate Action, and Clément Beaune, France's High Commissioner for Strategy and Planning, and former Minister Delegate for Europe. Mr. Barroso also engaged directly with students in a session titled *"How to Educate Yourself to Become a Prime Minister?"*, where he provided valuable insights into the skills, competences and values required for effective public leadership.



Cecilia Malmström



Cecilia Malmström served as Commissioner for Trade from 2014 to 2019 and as Commissioner for Home Affairs from 2010 to 2014. Previously, she was Sweden's Minister for EU Affairs from 2006 to 2010.

Ms. Malmström visited IE University in January 2026 to participate in the conversation *“Competitiveness in Action: Future Strategies on International Trade”*. Ms. Malmström also shared insights from her experience as European Commissioner for Trade in a session with students titled *“Leading Europe in a Changing World: Inside the Path of an EU Commissioner”*. Furthermore, Ms. Malmström took part in a session with students attending the CIVICA Winter Honour Seminar 2026, dedicated to exploring gender, diversity and inclusion in the workplace.





MAJOR CONFERENCES HOSTED

IE-SPEGA hosted major global conferences during the past academic year:

► **Transatlantic Bridge Conference**



This major high-level seminar convened over 40 academic experts and senior practitioners who discussed the state of US-European relations in the current global context, the future of European security, AI governance, economic resilience and trade, democratic legitimacy, and financial stability. Co-organized with SAIS-Johns Hopkins, Yale University's Jackson School and Sciences Po's PSIA, this year it took place in the SAIS European campus in Bologna.



► **The Political Economy of International Organization Annual Conference**

IE University welcomed leading scholars from around the world as it hosted, for the first time, the 18th Annual Conference of The Political Economy of International Organization (PEIO) from 29 to 31 January in its Segovia campus. The 2026 edition brought together 120 participants representing many of the world's top universities, including Stanford, Harvard, Princeton, Oxford, the London School of Economics, UC Berkeley, and Georgetown, among others.



VI. EDUCATION AND STUDENT EXPERIENCE

IE-SPEGA's educational model integrates rigorous classroom instruction with a broader set of formative experiences designed to deepen students' understanding of complex global challenges and their capacity to address them.

This model rests, first, on the composition of our faculty, which combines distinguished academics with senior practitioners from international organizations, government, civil society and the private sector, uniting scholarly rigour with applied expertise.

Our teaching privileges active and experiential pedagogies that accelerate learning by situating real-world problems at the centre of the classroom: case studies that confront students with the dilemmas organizations currently face, and role plays and simulations that place them in the position of decision-makers under conditions of uncertainty. Negotiation exercises and our internationally recognised crisis simulations — among them the Refugee Camp Simulation and The Good Goal — exemplify this commitment to learning through structured practice.

SPEGA leads in the responsible integration of artificial intelligence into learning where it confers demonstrable pedagogical value. Within our AI for Leadership Skills initiative, students rehearse high-stakes interactions with AI avatars and receive individualised, formative feedback from AI-based tutors, enabling sustained, low-risk deliberate practice before real performance. Such tools are conceived as complements to, rather than substitutes for, the human relationships that remain central to our pedagogy.

Together, these classroom practices constitute the foundation of a wider educational trajectory that extends beyond the lecture hall, through international immersion trips and capstone projects, as the following pages detail.





10 INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

This year we have reached an important milestone: our School has now received 10 international awards in recognition of our innovative pedagogy. From September 2025 to June 2026, we were awarded four international awards.

1

QS REIMAGINE EDUCATION AWARD 2023 FOR “REFUGEE CAMP SIMULATION”.

2

APSIA’S INTERSECTION AWARD 2023 FOR “REFUGEE CAMP SIMULATION”.

3

MERIT AWARDS 2024.
THE AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD FOR “REFUGEE CAMP SIMULATION”.

4

MERIT AWARDS 2024.
THE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIAL RECOGNITION FOR “REFUGEE CAMP SIMULATION”.

5

QS REIMAGINE EDUCATION AWARD 2024.
FOR “THE GOOD GOAL”.

6

LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES AWARD 2024 FOR “FACING NEW CHALLENGES IN SPACE & CYBER AFFAIRS: SPACEGOV”.

7

MERIT AWARDS 2025.
THE SPECIAL RECOGNITION – EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING WITH SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT FOR “OCEAN CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP”.

8

MERIT AWARDS 2026.
THE AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD FOR “THE GOOD GOAL”.

9

MERIT AWARDS 2026.
THE TECHNOLOGY IN LEARNING AWARD FOR “THE GOOD GOAL”.

10

APSIA AWARDS 2026.
THE INTERSECTION AWARD FOR LINKING THEORY AND PRACTICE FOR “POLICY IN PRACTICE: TRANSFORMATIVE CAPSTONES FOR GLOBAL IMPACT”.





MAIN INTERNATIONAL STUDY TRIPS

Paris: OECD & IFC (World Bank Group) Academic Visit

October 13th, 2025

Students from the BIE OECD Summer Research Program undertook an academic visit to Paris focused on international economics and global cooperation. The trip included a visit to the OECD headquarters and to the International Finance Corporation (IFC), part of the World Bank Group. This visit connected academic knowledge with real-world professional environments and fostered interest in careers within multilateral organizations.

London: BIE Trip 2026

February 8th – 11th, 2026

Economy students traveled to London for a four-day academic immersion trip into the worlds of economics, finance, policymaking, and global affairs. Students engaged with officials at the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (Economics and Evaluation Department) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD). They also visited The Economist and participated in meetings at Citi Bank UK, Goldman Sachs, and BlackRock. The trip also included a visit to the London School of Economics (LSE), the UK Parliament and the BBC.

Athens: BPS Trip 2026

March 14th – 19th, 2026

First-year Bachelor of Political Science students took part in an immersive academic trip to Athens, engaging directly with the historical and contemporary foundations of political thought and practice. Students had the opportunity to explore the Acropolis and the Acropolis Museum, and engaged with different policy makers like Dimitris Skalkos, Secretary General for International Economic Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and former Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras. This was complemented by a visit to the European Commission Representation in Greece, and a visit to the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy.



VI. EDUCATION AND STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Vienna: SPEGA x Dach Society Trip*March 22nd – 25th, 2026*

Organized in collaboration with the DACH Society, students participated in an academic study trip to Vienna, which combined cultural immersion with in-depth engagement across political, economic, and international institutions. The trip included exchanges at the Austrian Parliament with Andreas Minnich, MP, and at the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs. Students also visited the United Nations Office in Vienna, OPEC headquarters, Verbund, LGT Bank, the Spanish Embassy and the Ban Ki-moon Foundation.

Nepal: Leadership Transformational Journey 2026*March 25th – April 9th, 2026*

Second-year BIR and Dual Degree students participated in the Leadership Transformational Journey in Nepal, a formative experience designed to foster global leadership and intercultural understanding. The itinerary included visits to public and international institutions, providing first-hand insight into local education and governance systems. A highlight of the program was a trekking expedition to Manaslu, accompanied by renowned mountaineer Edurne Pasaban, which reinforced values such as resilience, teamwork, and personal growth. This comprehensive journey combined academic learning, personal development, and direct exposure to diverse social realities.

**Brussels: SPEGA x International Relations Society Trip***May 18th – 20th, 2026*

A group of students participated in the Study Trip to Brussels organized by the IE SPEGA in collaboration with the IE International Relations Society. Over three days, participants explored the functioning of key European institutions and international organizations, including the European Commission, the European Parliament, the European Investment Bank (EIB), UNDP and UN House Brussels, the EEAS, and Political Intelligence.

China: Cultural immersive trip to Zhejiang*26th June – 3rd July*

A 7-day cultural exchange program, with the theme of "Perceiving China: Searching for Charm in Zhejiang", organizes activities such as visiting historical and cultural sites in Shanghai and Zhejiang to promote a deeper understanding of the Chinese culture and achievements of Chinese modernization. The participants will have a chance to experience Chinese culture, and to get more knowledge of present China.



IMMERSION WEEKS

Immersion weeks offer IE-SPEGA Master students the opportunity to travel and enrich their personal and professional profiles through real-world experiences, gaining hands-on experience in their chosen field. It is a chance for students to learn more about their future prospects and meet leaders in politics, economics or global affairs.



Nairobi

Global Development & Innovation

The immersion week in Nairobi focused on how development agendas are implemented across the Global South through collaboration between multilateral institutions, governments, NGOs, and the private sector. Key visits included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, WFP and other UN agencies, the African Development Bank, Samuel Hall, and M-Pesa, highlighting perspectives on humanitarian action, development finance, and technology for development.

Brussels + Geneva

Diplomacy & Global Governance

The program in Brussels and Geneva explored international diplomacy, policymaking, and multilateral cooperation. Visits to the European Commission, European Parliament, NATO, and organizations such as Political Intelligence and Civilians in Conflict provided insights into governance, security, advocacy, and international negotiation.

Brussels + London**Technology, AI & Global Affairs**

The immersion week examined the intersection between technology, digital regulation, and international affairs in Europe's leading policy and innovation hubs. Through visits to the European Commission, European Parliament, Google, Meta, and Political Intelligence, students explored topics related to AI governance, digital policy, and the geopolitical impact of emerging technologies.

Paris + Luxembourg**Finance, Economics & Consulting**

The program focused on the role of finance and economic policy in driving innovation, sustainability, and growth across Europe. Visits to organizations including the OECD, IFC, Qonto, Arendt Services, and the European Investment Bank offered perspectives on consulting, investment, financial regulation, and public-private collaboration.



CHALLENGES, COMPETITIONS AND ACADEMIES

► **Single Market Competition**

IE School of Politics, Economics and Global Affairs launched this year a new initiative to highlight the impact of the European Single Market on citizens' daily lives: the Single Market Competition. Over four weeks, more than 100 students from the School worked in teams to design political communication campaigns illustrating the relevance of the Single Market, drawing inspiration from Dean Enrico Letta's report *Much More Than a Market*. The first two winning teams were awarded a fully funded, one-week academic experience in Brussels, along with the opportunity to collaborate directly with the [IE Competitiveness Hub Brussels](#).

Global MUNs

Our Debate Club, with support from SPEGA, participated last year in international MUN competitions like Harvard National MUN and London International MUN. IE University students received [14 awards](#) that recognize their debating skills at these competitions, considered two of the world's most prestigious Model United Nations (MUN) conferences.

IEUMUN

Our [Model United Nations](#) has become one of the largest and fastest growing in Europe. For the 2025 edition, more than 400 students worldwide attended with over 12 committees.

VI. EDUCATION AND STUDENT EXPERIENCE



Raisina IE Global Student Challenge

IE School of Politics, Economics and Global Affairs (IE SPEGA) and the Observer Research Foundation (ORF), India's leading policy think tank, organized the third edition of the Raisina IE Global Student Challenge, a real-life competition where students contribute to shape ongoing and critical discussions about our shared future. Aimed at integrating younger voices and new perspectives into the global governance discourse, this year's Challenge placed particular emphasis on Artificial Intelligence. The 2026 edition, the largest ever, brought together 84 students from more than 80 leading institutions across 60 countries across the globe, fostering cross disciplinary and cross geographic collaboration and exchange.

► The Diplomatic Academy

IE School of Politics, Economics and Global Affairs carries out every year The Diplomatic Academy, a program designed to prepare students for professional careers in diplomacy through a range of seminars, training sessions and field visits. This year's edition took place from January to April 2026 and brought together 20 Bachelor's students and five Master's students from 13 nationalities. The program includes three immersive weekends at IE University campuses in Segovia and Madrid, focused on practical skill-building and networking with experienced diplomats.

SIMULATIONS

Cyberattack simulation

At our School, students took part in an immersive cyberattack simulation inspired by real world events. Facing incomplete information, political pressure and media scrutiny, they had to make decisions under uncertainty, just like real world leaders. Led by Bjorn Beam, geopolitical expert at Arcano and former CIA officer, the session brought crisis decision-making into the classroom.



100+
clubs at
IE University

SPEAKER SERIES

One Month / One Region

This initiative is a focused program that highlights a different world region each month through events, lectures, and activities. It aims to deepen students' understanding of global affairs, culture, and regional challenges by engaging with experts, diplomats, and professionals. The initiative fosters cross-cultural dialogue and provides insights into regional dynamics shaping international relations.

United Nations Week

This initiative brings together experts and professionals from United Nations agencies worldwide. Students will have the opportunity to engage in masterclasses, lectures, a career fair focused on multilateral organizations, and a mentoring program with high-level United Nations practitioners to provide students with a deeper understanding of international relations, diplomacy and global affairs while complementing their academic studies with practical expertise.

IE CLUBS

With more than 100 IE University clubs, students can join vibrant communities built around shared interests (geographic, professional, social, sports, etc.). Our students are members of various clubs, among them:



REGIONAL CLUBS

These include region- and country-based clubs such as Africa, Asia, Mexico, DACH, Colombia, among others.

VII. STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

PUBLIC LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

The Public Leadership Initiative is designed to position our School as a global reference in the development of principled, innovative, and impact driven public leaders.

Rooted in our School's commitment to academic excellence, international diversity, and public service, The Public Leadership Initiative strengthens our mission to prepare leaders capable of **addressing complex societal challenges, transforming institutions, influencing policy, and contributing to the public good at local**, national and global levels.

The initiative enriches the educational experience of our undergraduate, graduate, and executive education students through comprehensive public leadership **training programs** (Master in Public Policy, Bachelor in Political Science, Public Leadership Executive Program and other programs with global partners); direct exposure to the **firsthand insights** of former prime ministers, European commissioners and other high-level leaders; **research, applied case studies and podcasts; practical learning opportunities** such as the Transformational Journey to Nepal, The Diplomatic Academy or the E Buddy Initiative with UN Professional Officers for IE Scholars in the UN System; **scholarships** and the **Public Leadership Award**.



AI FOR LEADERSHIP SKILLS

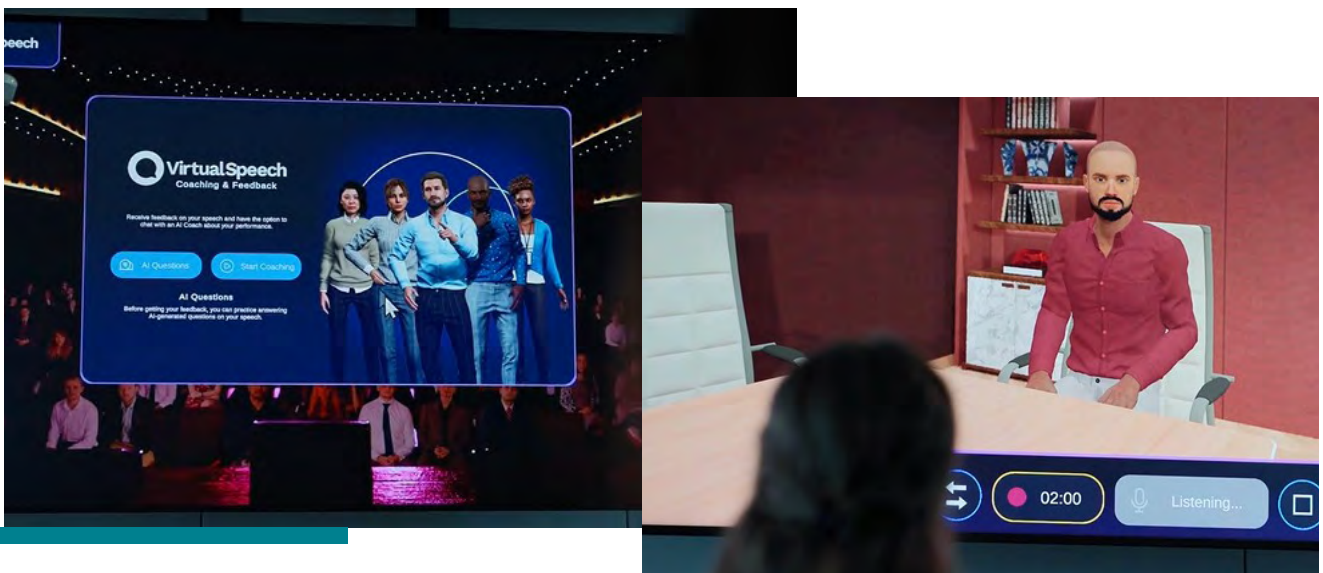
The AI for Leadership Skills initiative integrates advanced artificial intelligence tools to enhance both teaching practices and student learning outcomes.

Reaching over **2,000 students annually**, the initiative enables participants to engage in role plays, real-world scenarios, applied case studies, and first-person simulations that require them to act, make decisions, and develop core leadership competencies. It has been implemented across four key areas:

public speaking, policy writing, negotiation, and critical thinking.

A central strength of the initiative lies in its capacity to provide individualized feedback at scale, equivalent to more than **10,000 office hours per year**. Students can engage with the platform from home and **practise as many times as needed**, reinforcing learning through repetition and flexibility. This personalized approach enables them to progress more efficiently throughout their learning journey. Its impact extends beyond immediate performance, supporting continuous learning, tailored guidance, the identification of strengths and areas for improvement, and sustained student development, ultimately enhancing professional preparedness.

More broadly, the methodology is designed to **reinforce critical thinking and independent reasoning**. Rather than substituting students' ideas, it encourages reflective learning through targeted questioning and guided coaching. This approach enables students to reach well-founded conclusions with **greater speed and effectiveness**, while strengthening **analytical rigor and intellectual autonomy**.



VIII. INCREASING FACULTY EXCELLENCE

The School has assembled 35 full-time faculty + three Professors of Practice, comprised of excellent academics and accomplished professionals with international experience and close ties to the professional world:



**Andrew
Bertoli**



**Carlos Xabel
Lastra-Anadón**



**Catherine
E. De Vries**



**Conner
Joyce**



**Daniel
Kselman**



**D.J.
Flynn**



**Emmy
Lindstam**



**Evangelos
Liaras**



**Guillermo
Torral**



**Ilke
Toygür**



**Irene Menéndez
González**



**Korhan
Kocak**



**Matt
Malis**



**Michael
Becher**



**Nikitas
Konstantinidis**



**Nina
Wiesehomeier**



**Sigrid
Weber**



**Siyun
Jiang**



**Vicente
Valentim**



**Zoe
Xincheng Ge**

ECONOMICS INTERNAL FACULTY



**Ainara González
de San Roman**



**Daniel
Fernández Kranz**



**Gayle
Allard**



**Ghassane
Benmir**



**Gonzalo
Garland**



**Isabel
Sánchez**



**Juan Carlos
Martínez Lázaro**



**Liliana
Gelabert**



**Lorenzo
Silecci**



**Mattia
Fracchia**



**Patricia
Gabaldón**



**Paulina Etxeberría
Garaigorta**



**Sasha
Cheipesh**



**Siqi
Wei**



**Teresa
Santero**

PROFESSORS
OF PRACTICE

**Amanda
Sloat**



**Elena
Grifoni**



**Jafar
Javan**

VIII. INCREASING FACULTY EXCELLENCE

WE HAVE **+300 ADJUNCT FACULTY** COMING
FROM THE MOST PRESTIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS



EL PAÍS



IX. MAXIMIZING RESEARCH IMPACT

GRANTS AND MAIN PUBLICATIONS

GRANTS

► EUROPEAN RESEARCH COUNCIL CONSOLIDATOR GRANT

Researcher Michael Becher awarded for this work on automation and workplace impact

► HORIZON EUROPE (EUROPEAN COMMISSION)

IE University researchers, led by Toni Roldán, will study the impact of AI on European Education Policy

PUBLICATIONS 2025/2026

Acerenza S., Gelabert L., Pereyra M. and Roldán F. — *Non-technological strategic alliances and public support for innovation: What are, if any, their links?*

Arenas-Arroyo, E., Fernández-Kranz, D., & Nollenberger, N. — *High speed internet and the widening gender gap in adolescent mental health: Evidence from hospital records*

Arora, P., Gabaldon, P., Clark, C. E., & Nagaraj, P. — *Legitimacy at a Premium: When Do Firms Hire Comparatively Better (Lesser) Qualified Female Directors?*

Balcells, Laia, Sergi Martínez, Ethan vanderWilden and Vicente Valentim — *Re-Stigmatizing the Radical Right: A One-Way Street?*

Michael Becher and Irene Menéndez González — *Trade and the Politics of Electoral Reform*

Andrew Bertoli and Chad Hazlett — *Seeing Like a District: Understanding What Close-Election Designs for Leader Characteristics Can and Cannot Tell Us*

Valentina Bosetti, Italo Colantone, Catherine E. De Vries, Giorgio Musto — *Green backlash and right-wing populism*

Simone Cremaschi, Nicola Bariletto, Catherine E. De Vries — *Without Roots: The Political Consequences of Collective Economic Shocks*

Simone Cremaschi, Paula Rettl, Marco Cappelluti, Catherine E. De Vries — *Geographies of discontent: Public service deprivation and the rise of the far right in Italy*

DJ Flynn, Carlos Lastra — *Desinformación entre adolescentes en España: desafíos y oportunidades de mejora en la escuela y online*

González, L., Jiménez-Martín, S., Nollenberger, N., & Castelló, J. V. — *The effect of access to legal abortion on fertility, marriage, and long-term outcomes for women*

Carlo Horz and Korhan Kocak — *"I Alone Can Fix It": The Strongman Narrative and Leader Support*

Korhan Kocak — *Provoking the Opposition*

Carlos X. Lastra-Anadón, Kenneth Scheve, David Stasavage — *Learning to love government? Technological Change and the Political Economy of Higher Education*

Palmer, C., Groom, B., Sileci, L., & Langton, S. — *Biodiversity–food trade-offs when agricultural land is spared from production*

Pereira, B., Fracchia, M., Molina-Millan, T., & Vicente, P. C. — *For Honor or for Profit? An Experiment on Recruiting Traditional Health Practitioners for Formal Healthcare*

Kit Rickard, Giovanni Hollenweger, Sigrid Weber, Kristin Bakke — *Contentious Rituals and Intergroup Relations: Parading in Northern Ireland*

Toygür, I., & Sojka, A. — *Does climate policy backlash fuel Eurosceptic vote? Exploring the link in the European Parliament elections*

Vicente Valentim, Elias Dinas, and Daniel Ziblatt — *How Mainstream Politicians Erode Norms*

Sigrid Weber, Nik Stoop, Peter van der Windt, Haoyu Zhai — *A Meta-Analysis of Attitudes Towards Migrants and Displaced Persons*

Wei, Siqi and Rosá, Tatiana — *Estimating Choice Models with Piecewise Smooth Objective Functions: Application to Joint Retirement*



X. BRUSSELS COMPETITIVENESS HUB



Europe is entering a decisive phase. Productivity challenges, technological disruption, energy transition pressures, geopolitical competition and demographic change are testing the continent's growth model.

Competitiveness has become one of the defining policy questions for European integration. Addressing these challenges requires more than slogans or isolated reforms. It requires rigorous diagnosis, cross-sector expertise and practical policy solutions grounded in Europe's institutional realities.

The IE Competitiveness Hub is a Brussels-based platform of IE University dedicated to applied research on European economic competitiveness. It was created to bring academic excellence, interdisciplinary expertise and policy-sensitive analysis into the centre of the European debate at a time of profound economic and geopolitical change. The IE University's Competitiveness Hub Brussels is a joint initiative supported by IE Foundation and its partners, and powered by IE School of Politics, Economics, & Global Affairs and the Global Policy Center.

The activities of the IE Competitiveness Hub are structured around the following pillars:

1

Applied research

Produce rigorous analysis and policy proposals.

2

Academic community

Engage IE community in applied projects.

3

Engagement

Convene experts, industry and policymakers.

4

Dissemination

Bring evidence and ideas to EU public debate.

XI. GLOBAL POLICY CENTER

The IE-SPEGA Global Policy Center (GPC) has become a consolidated and leading applied research hub within IE University. By bridging cutting-edge academic insights with actionable policy solutions and recommendations, the Center has significantly expanded its influence and impact.

Its four core research pillars, Future of Europe, Transatlantic Relations, Bridging the South(s), and Global Perspectives, are now fully institutionalized, driving forward-looking analysis of the evolving global landscape.

The GPC has achieved several milestones this year. Among them was its participation in the co-organization, as part of IE School of Politics, Economics & Global Affairs (IE-SPEGA), in the fourth edition of the *Transatlantic Bridge Conference*, organised in collaboration with Johns Hopkins SAIS, Sciences Po Paris School of International Affairs, and the Yale Jackson School of Global Affairs. The Center has also strengthened its engagement with European policymakers through high-level briefings in Brussels, organized in collaboration with the **European External Action Service (EEAS)**. On the global stage, the GPC has played a key role in the **Think 20 (T20)** under South Africa's G20 Presidency, providing high-level policy recommendations. Furthermore, the Center has successfully led two editions of the Executive Education program on **Geopolitics and Global Risks** in partnership with the Financial Times.

The GPC partnered with the European Parliament to deliver an advanced seminar for IE students, providing a deeper understanding of Europe's evolving role. Other key achievements were the organization of a high-level workshop entitled "*Demystifying the Concept of Coalitions of the Willing: History, Evolution, and Its Impact on European Integration*" and hosting a lunch debate titled "*Bridging Transatlantic Futures: EU–Canada Relations in a Changing World*." The Center has also become the first Spanish member of the European Network for Technological Resilience and Sovereignty (ETRS).

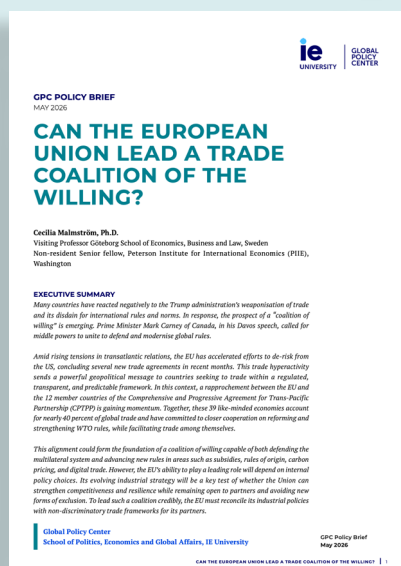
Finally, the Center participated in the launch of the IE Competitiveness Hub in Brussels in May 2026, which will serve as IE University's permanent platform at the heart of the European Union.

PUBLICATIONS

The publications resulting from these initiatives reflect the Center's commitment to producing data-driven, actionable insights for global policymakers and stakeholders. This year's research output has delivered strategic frameworks on multilateral cooperation, economic security, and the evolving role of emerging powers in an increasingly fragmented global order.

This year's key publications include the report *“Strategic Convergence? The Security Partnerships of the European Union and the Global South,”* developed in collaboration with the Observer Research Foundation (ORF), the Brazilian Center for International Relations (CEBRI), and the Institute for Global Dialogue (IGD); the policy brief *“Partners in De-risking: EU–Canada Relations in Times of Transatlantic Drift,”* which examines the deepening relationship between the European Union and Canada in the current challenging geopolitical context; and the policy brief *“Can the European Union Lead a Trade Coalition of the Willing?”* authored by Cecilia Malmström, former European Commissioner for Trade and member of the GPC's Advisory Board.

Other relevant publications include *The Rise of Startups and Venture Capital in Latin America and the Caribbean: Trends and Challenges*; *Leapfrogging Development: Unlocking Africa's Potential in Global Value Chains with Artificial Intelligence*; and *China's Economic Influence in Africa: A Data-Driven Analysis*.



► [READ FULL
REPORTS HERE](#)

XII. VISIBILITY IN MEDIA

OUR MEDIA CHANNELS

Stay connected to the IE School of Politics, Economics and Global Affairs! Follow us on our social media for the latest updates, events, student experience and insights shaping the world of global affairs.

601

ARTICLES IN MEDIA



THE ADVERTISING
VALUE EQUIVALENCY OF
THIS IMPACT IS ALMOST

7M



XIII. ALLIANCES AND PARTNERSHIPS

ALLIANCES

IE SPEGA is a member of several top organizations around the globe to ensure our students are provided with the opportunities and expertise they need to fulfill their professional ambitions and contribute to a better world.



APSIA: The Association of Professional Schools of International Affairs (APSIA) brings together the most prestigious schools in the field, encompassing North American, Asian and European schools. APSIA helps students, schools, organizations, and partners become effective agents of positive change.



NASPAA: With over 300 members around the globe located within the U.S. and in 24 countries, the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to excellence in education and training for public service and to promoting the ideal of public service.



ECPR: The European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) is a leading European association that encourages and supports training, research and cross-national cooperation of academics and graduate students specializing in political science and all its sub-disciplines.



CIVICA: The European University of Social Sciences (CIVICA) unites ten leading European higher education institutions in the social sciences, humanities, business management and public policy, with a total of 72,000 students and PhDs, and 13,000 academic staff.

INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

IE SPEGA partners with multilateral organizations, governmental bodies, private stakeholders and nonprofits to provide students with the most relevant knowledge, leadership strategies, and unique real-world opportunities, empowering them to meet the demands of an ever-changing global landscape.



UNSSC: IE SPEGA and the United Nations System Staff College have co-designed and continue to co-run our Master in International Development (MID). The partnership, through interagency learning and training, brings students and faculty together to advance the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda set by the United Nations. UNSSC also collaborates closely with our Bachelor in International Relations.



OECD: IE-SPEGA and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development have an ongoing collaboration with our Bachelor in Economics through a research summer program and student visits, among other activities.



International Financial Corporation (IFC): The School maintains an agreement with the IFC that will, undoubtedly, enhance the academics and experience of our Bachelor in Economics and Master in Applied Economics students.



PwC: IE-SPEGA expanded its partnership agreement with PwC, building on the existing collaboration with the Master in Applied Economics to enhance the experience of Master in Public Policy students and introduce a new executive education program on the digitalization of the public sector.



Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator (GESDA): IE-SPEGA successfully delivered the first edition of the Anticipatory Leadership Week in Madrid, in collaboration with GESDA. GESDA also became a strategic partner for our Master in Technology and Global Affairs.



ESA: The European Space Agency (ESA) and IE University have signed a strategic agreement to advance education, innovation and talent development in the global space sector. ESA is our partner for the Space Affairs specialization within the Master in International Relations and partner of the Space Sector Unlocked executive program, whose first edition is set to take place in October 2026.



Google: The partnership between Google and our School will provide students, faculty, and industry experts with unique opportunities to engage in critical discussions and hands-on learning experiences at the intersection of technology and policy.



ITU: IE SPEGA and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) - the United Nations agency for digital technologies - have joined forces to foster research and innovation on emerging technologies, especially in the Master in Technology and Global Affairs and the MPP – Digital Transformation track.



European Climate Foundation: Our School and the European Climate Foundation have joined forces to shape the next generation of climate policy leaders. The partnership supports teaching, research, public dialogue and student opportunities linked to the new Master in Public Policy.



The Nature Conservancy: IE SPEGA now partners with The Nature Conservancy to advance innovative environmental policies through academic collaboration with the Environment, Energy & Sustainability specialization of the new Master in Public Policy.



Political Intelligence: IE SPEGA signed an alliance with Political Intelligence, a leading European consultancy in public affairs, to promote knowledge exchange and educational opportunities on EU affairs, through academic collaboration in the Master in Public Policy and Bachelor in Political Science.



Alinnea: Hosted by IE University and supported by the European Climate Foundation (ECF), Alinnea is a dynamic Think & Action Tank dedicated to accelerating effective and equitable climate action. Alinnea is a partner of the Environment, Energy & Sustainability specialization of the Master in Public Policy.



UCCI: IE SPEGA and the Union of Ibero-American Capital Cities (UCCI) continued their collaboration to promote knowledge exchange in key areas such as urban governance, international cooperation, multilateralism, and the development of innovative public policies. UCCI is also a partner for the Master in Public Policy.



Samuel Hall East Africa: A key partner for the Master in International Development, this collaboration encompasses events on the evolving international development sector, capstone projects, research cooperation, and a visit to the organisation's headquarters in Nairobi as part of the immersion week.



CONSULTED: IE University signed a strategic partnership with Consulted, the Spanish Association of Development Consulting Firms, creating new opportunities for IE students and alumni to pursue careers in development consulting and sustainability.



IE Center for the Governance of Change:

A strategic partner of the Master in Technology and Global Affairs, the CGC is an applied research and educational institution that explores the political, economic, and societal impact of emerging technologies and advances solutions to address their unintended consequences.

ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS



Sciences Po Paris School of International Affairs: IE SPEGA and Sciences Po PSIA welcomed in the 2025-2026 academic year the first cohort of the dual Master in Technology and Global Affairs program.



University of Toronto: IE SPEGA and the Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy continue their collaboration through a dual Master in International Relations and Master in Public Policy.



Hertie School: In the 2025-2026 academic year, three students initiated their Dual Degree between IE's Master in International Relations and Hertie's Master of International Affairs.



Fudan University: Our School announced a new collaboration with Fudan University in Shanghai, China.



BUILDING FUTURES

XIV. CAREER SUPPORT AND ALUMNI GLOBAL IMPACT

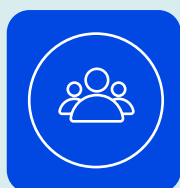
ALUMNI DATA

With one of the world's most diverse alumni networks, IE-SPEGA offers many ways to connect and engage with fellow alumni and the university.

+2,300
alumni

116
nationalities

ALUMNI EVENTS



Global Alumni Weekend

This event has almost 1,000 alumni professionals reuniting at our IE Tower from around the world to relive their days at IE, celebrate class reunions, and reconnect with the IE Community.



Career Development Workshops

All our alumni have the opportunity to attend career support and development courses, workshops, info sessions, and headhunter panels especially made for IE alumni.



Young Professionals

IE Global Alumni Relations offers career-related support activities especially designed for undergraduate alumni and young professionals with under three years of professional experience.

ALUMNI SUCCESS STORIES



Viktoria Miladinova- Vekova

“ *Collaborating with a real international organization helped me better understand how theoretical knowledge is applied in real-world policy-making contexts.* ”

Viktoria Miladinova-Vekova is a Bachelor in International Relations student at IE University from Bulgaria and a member of the Bulgarian national taekwondo team. At IE, she values the program's international diversity, flexible structure, and hands-on learning opportunities, including working with the United Nations through the Policy Lab and participating in Model United Nations conferences. This lab allowed her to work with UNODC, a department of the United Nations.

**Bachelor in
International Relations**



Rubing Wang

“ *Classes are intense and highly interactive, and professors constantly encourage us to question assumptions, engage in discussion and learn from one another.* ”

Rubing Wang is a Master in Applied Economics student at IE University, originally from Xi'an, China, with an interdisciplinary background spanning applied psychology, statistics and data science. His international experience includes roles at the United Nations Secretariat and Nike, which have shaped his interest in the intersection of data, policy and global development. IE University's applied and international academic approach offered him the academic depth he was looking for and helped him better integrate data, behavioral insights and economic reasoning in preparation for future policy and analytical roles.

**Master in Applied
Economics**

IE EMPLOYABILITY

IE RANKING EMPLOYABILITY

IE University has been ranked

#1

in Spain

#6

in Europe

#17

worldwide

FOR
EMPLOYABILITY

CAREER EVENTS

Career events hosted by SPEGA with Multilateral Organizations, Development Banks, Public Affairs and Think Tanks:

► **IGOs Career Fair (November 2025):** 24 Intergovernmental Organizations attended, including OECD, World Bank Group, UNICEF, NATO, UNDP, IOM, World Trade Organization, EPSO, InterAmerican Development Bank, European Space Agency, UNIDO or OPEC Fund.

► **Public Affairs and Think Tanks Day (April 2026):**

8 organizations attended, including Amazon, Google, Political Intelligence, BeBartlet, Club de Madrid, Real Instituto Elcano, GWL Voices and CIDOB.

Career Webinars (Global Impact Tuesdays): from September 2025 to June 2026 we have hosted more than 12 organizations, including IFC, IDB, DT Global (Consulted), RBB Economics, UNSSC, NATO Communications Agency, World Food Program, African Development Bank, World Economic Forum and World Intellectual Property Organization.

2024-2025 IESPEGA PLACEMENTS

IE-SPEGA's Placement rate University:

100% **100%** **94%**
BIR PPLE BBABIR

100% **94%**
LLBBIR BIE

IE-SPEGA's Placement rate Masters:

84% **90%** **100%**
MIR MID MAE

XV. THE SPEGA TEAM

MANAGEMENT

Enrico Letta, Dean
Borja Santos Porras, Associate Dean
Catherine E. De Vries,
 Academic Vice Dean (Political Science)
Daniel Fernández-Kranz,
 Academic Vice Dean (Economics)
Pablo Marco, Associate Vice Dean for Learning Innovation
Ilke Toygür, Director GPC
Tullio Ambrossone, Coordinator of the IE Competitiveness Hub Brussels

TEAM 25

Ainhoa Suárez, Program Assistant
Álex Gámez, Program Assistant (Segovia)
Alicia Fernández Planelles, Junior manager
Ana San José, Dean's Office Assistant
Betsey Taylor Medow, Senior Associate Director
Carolina Parilli, Executive Director (MASTER)
Catherine Moor, Program Coordinator
Celia Rincón, Program Assistant
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