

The European Economic Strategy after the EU and US Elections

Foreign Policy Dialogues

March, 24th 2025

Jordi Maragall Room, CIDOB. Elisabets 12, 08001 Barcelona

Organised by: CIDOB with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation

Geoeconomics is set to play an increasingly important role in global politics. The rise of geopolitical tensions in recent years and the use of trade links as a weapon have led to an increased focus on economic security. While the EU has been slower than other major economies to focus on this aspect, it has learned from its peers and there has been a notable evolution of European measures on economic security in the aftermath of the pandemic and the Russian invasion of Ukraine. In June 2023, the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy presented a proposal to draw up the first European Economic Security Strategy, subsequently reinforced with new proposals such as those made in the [foresight document](#) drawn up during the Spanish Presidency of the Council of the EU to strengthen European strategic autonomy and the new tools presented by the European Commission in January 2024.

This seminar aims to analyse where the EU stands in the global strategic competition and the role it can play in geo-economic terms. With a forward-looking perspective, it will examine the main challenges and steps forward in the EU's Economic Security Strategy. To this end, this Dialogue will take place in two complementary sessions bringing together government representatives and experts in international economics and politics.

Programme

- 09.30 – 10.00 **Welcome remarks and purpose of the dialogue**
Pol Morillas, Director, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)
Alejandro Salesa, Deputy Director General for Bilateral Economic Relations and Economic Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation, Spanish Government
- 10.00 – 11.30 **The Economic Role of the EU vis-à-vis China and the US**
Oscar Guinea, Senior Economist, ECIPE
Elvire Fabry, Senior Research Fellow, Geopolitics of trade and Rapporteur of the working group on EU-China relations, Jaques Delors Institute (JDI)
Jeromin Zettelmeyer, Director, Bruegel
- Moderator:* **Víctor Burguete**, Senior Researcher, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)
- 11.30 – 12.00 **Coffee Break**

- 12.00 – 13.30 **The EU's Economic Security Strategy: Challenges and Next Steps**
Moreno Bertoldi, Senior Associate Research Fellow, ISPI Geoeconomics Centre
Clàudia Canals, General Director, AVANÇSA
François Chimits, Senior Economist, MERICS
- Moderator:* **Patricia García-Durán**, Associate Researcher, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs); Professor, Universitat de Barcelona (UB)
- 13.30 – 14.00 **Conclusions**
- 14.00 – 15.00 **Lunch**

With the support of:

