DRAFT PROGRAM
for the XIX Verona Eurasian Economic Forum
October 22–23, 2026, Istanbul, Çırağan Palace

Topic: Challenges of a Changing World and a Changing Economy
Slogan: The Art of Innovation

22 OCTOBER

08:00–09:00 Participant registration

09:00–10:00 Opening Session

MC: **Elif Bereketli,** TRT World

- H.E. Mehmet Şimşek, Ministry of Treasury and Finance of the Republic of Türkiye
- Alexander Grushko, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Russian Federation
- Kirill Komarov, First Deputy Director General – Director of the Development and International Business, ROSATOM
- Antonio Fallico, President, Conoscere Eurasia Association

10:00–11:30 **Special session**

MODERATOR: **Alessandro Cassieri,** Journalist (Italy)

Necmeddin Bilal Erdogan, Chairman, Ilim Yayma Foundation
Kirill Dmitriev, Special Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for Investment and Economic Cooperation with Foreign Countries; Chief Executive Officer, Russian Direct Investment Fund (RDIF)
Romano Prodi, President of the Foundation for International Cooperation; President of the European Commission (1999–2004); Prime Minister of Italy (1996–1998, 2006–2008)
Thomas Graham, the Henry A. Kissinger Distinguished Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations

11:30–13:00 **Session 1**
Energy in Motion: New Players, New Demands, New Problems, New Solutions

MODERATOR: **Tadzio Schilling**, Chief Executive Officer, Association of European Businesses

Kirill Komarov, First Deputy Director General – Director of the Development and International Business, ROSATOM
Leonid Mikhelson, Chairman of the Management Board, Member of the Board of Directors, NOVATEK
Dmitry Khandoga, Head of Department, Gazprom; General Director, Gazprom Export
Pierre M. Louvrier, Board Member, Clementy Asset Management

13:00–14:00 Lunch

14:00–15:30 **Session 2**
USA–Eurasia-World: Challenges and Opportunities
(Curated by American Chamber of Commerce in Russia)

MODERATOR: **Robert Agee,** President, Chief Executive Officer, American Chamber of Commerce in Russia

Bob Foresman, Vice Chairman, KingsRock Advisors; former Vice Chairman of UBS
Alexander Grushko, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Russian Federation
George Beebe, Director of Grand Strategy at the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft
Peter Nicholas Loukianoff, Founding Partner PORTAL Venture Partners
Viktor Vekselberg, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Renova Group
Donald Sassoon, Writer, emeritus professor in comparative European history at Queen Mary University (London)

15:30–17:00 **Session 3**
What Changes Does the Real Economy Face?

MODERATOR: **Sergey Afontsev,** Deputy Director for Scientific Work, Primakov National Research Institute of World Economy and International Relations, Russian Academy of Sciences

Burhan Özdemir, President of MÜSİAD (Independent Industrialists and Businessmen's Association), Republic of Türkiye
Ilya Shestakov, Head, Federal Agency for Fisheries (Rosrybolovstvo)
Mikhail Popov, Deputy Chairman, Committee on Scientific, Educational, and Innovation Policy, Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs
Bruno Giordano, President, Fondazione Cariverona
Alex Krainer, Founder, Krainer Analytics
Emmanuel Quidet, Honorary President, French-Russian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

17:00–18:00 **Session 4**

Technological Sovereignty: Building National Capabilities through Strategic Technology Projects
(Prepared by the State Atomic Energy Corporation "Rosatom")

MODERATOR: **Konstantin Simonov,** Owner, Director General, National Energy Security Fund

Alikaan Çiftçi, Head of Nuclear Industry Association of Türkiye (NIATR)
Anastasia Pavlenko, Deputy Executive Director, Director for Strategic Partnerships, Innopraktika
Umit Suleyman Sehirli, Professor, Vice Rector of Marmara University
Fabio L. Grassi, Professor, Sapienza University – Rome; Scientific Responsible of the Turkey Desk Project
Rob Ritchie, Executive Director, Imine
Dmitry Bashunov, Co-Founder, Metaera

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09:30–11:00 **Session 5**
Financial markets in the heart of Eurasia: Resilience, Infrastructure, Undervalued Opportunities

MODERATOR: **Elena Borisenko,** Deputy Chairman of the Management Board of Gazprombank

Ignat Dirks, First Deputy Head of the Department, Gazprom
Princess Jahnavi Kumari Mewar, 77th Generation (Mewar), Chairperson Ubertas World, Founder & Chairperson Power of Policy
Ivan Chebeskov, Deputy Minister of Finance of the Russian Federation
Riccardo Fallico, Economist, Member of the Board of Directors, Conoscere Eurasia Association
Viktor Zhidkov, Chairman of the Management Board, Moscow Exchange
Timur Onzhanov, Deputy Chairman of the Management Board, Baiterek
Special intervention (timing tbc)

11:00 – 11:30 Special intervention

MODERATOR: **Alessandro Cassieri,** Journalist (Italy)

H.E. Alparslan Bayraktar, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources of the Republic of Türkiye

11:30–13:00 **Session 6**

Access to Innovations in Eurasian Healthcare

MODERATORS:

- **Vera Suldenko,** Director, Government Affairs & Policy Russia & CIS, J&J MedTech & Vision; Co-chair of the Healthcare Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce in Russia
- **Emre Sevinç**, Senior Country Director and General Manager of Medtronic Türkiye, AmCham Türkiye Board Member and co-chair of the AmCham Türkiye Health Committee

Vladislav Shestakov, Director, State Institute of Drugs and Good Practices (GILS and NP)
Ece Salihoğlu, Professor, Vice Rector Istanbul Nişantaşı University
Serhan Acar, Sr. Director, HEMA and Public Affairs, GEM & Mid-Size European Markets, Boston Scientific
Dr.Emre Tavsancil, Global Strategic Accounts Director, Abbott
Dinçer Diren, General Manager, Molecular Imaging, EAGM · GE HealthCare

13:00–14:00 Lunch

14:00–15:30 **Session 7**
Transportation Systems in Modern Geopolitics: Certainty and Uncertainty

MODERATOR: **Mark Entin,** Professor, Moscow State Institute of International Relations

Vadim Mikhailov, First Deputy Managing Director (Strategic Planning and Development), Russian Railways
Nurettin Paksu, CEO, Tersan Shipyard
Irina Odinaeva, Managing Director, Axenix
Antonio Marano, Chairman and CEO, Airport Friuli Venezia Giulia S.p.A.
Alexey Naumov, Government of Moscow, Department for External Economic and International Relations of Moscow; Head of the Foreign Investment Agency

15:30–17:00 **Session 8**

Eurasia as a Unifying Space of Cultures and Opinions to Move Towards a Society of Shared Prosperity

MODERATOR: **Bettina Campedelli,** Full Professor Management, University of Verona - Department of Management

Prof. Dr. Atilla Arkan, Rector, IBN Haldun University (Türkiye)
Fabrizio Cardinali, Chief executive officer, Etro
Andrew Spannaus, Political scientist, Catholic University of Milan

Francesco Sidoti, Italian Sociologist
Ogün Şanlıer, President & Chairman, Bosphorus Film Festival
Igor Bogdasarov, Deputy Director General, Mosfilm
Sergey Belyakov, Chair of the Committee on Pension System Development and Social Insurance, RSPP (Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs)

17:00–17:30 **Forum recap**

MODERATOR: **Matthew Ehret,** Founding director, Rising Tide Foundation of Montreal, Canada; director, Pluralia Dialogos

- **Alessandro Cassieri,** Director, Pluralia Opinions
- **Antonio Fallico,** President, Conoscere Eurasia Association