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# International Alumni Symposium

Lausanne, 3 – 4 October 2025

How to thrive in a fractious world

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## Friday

- 17:00 – 18:00**      **Registration and networking**
- 18:00 – 18:15**      **Welcome**  
Nancy Felix, Chief Alumni and Development Officer  
Getrude Okoth Rea, IMD Alumni Association Board
- 18:15 – 18:30**      **Opening: Why geopolitics matters to business now more than ever**  
David Bach, IMD President and Nestlé Professor
- 18:30**              **Navigating a New Global Order: Challenges for Business Leaders**  
Dialogue between Børge Brende, President and CEO of the World Economic Forum and David Bach, IMD President and Nestlé Professor
- 19:30**              **Networking dinner**

## Saturday

- 09:00 – 09:15**      **Opening remarks**  
Nancy Felix, Chief Alumni and Development Officer
- 09:15 – 09:45**      **Geopolitical Flash Brief: Setting the Stage (TBD)**  
Simon Evenett, Professor of Geopolitics and Strategy
- 09:45 – 10:30**      **C-Suite Panel: Geopolitics in the Boardroom**  
Simon Evenett, Professor of Geopolitics and Strategy
- 10:30 – 11:00**      **Coffee break**
- 11:00 – 12:30**      **Breakout sessions**
- **Leading in the Age of Paradoxes**  
Vanina Farber, elea Professor of Social Innovation and Dean of the IMD EMBA program
  - **Energy, Climate & Global Power**  
Karl Schmedders, Professor of Finance
- 12:30 – 14:00**      **Lunch**
- 14:00 – 14:45**      **Navigating the complexity**
- 14:45 – 15:30**      **Alumni Panel: Where Strategy Meets Geopolitics**
- 15:30 – 16:00**      **Break**
- 16:00 – 17:00**      **The role of the Leader**  
Alyson Meister, Professor of Leadership and Organizational Behavior  
Guilherme Loureiro, Regional CEO Walmart Canada, Chile, Mexico & Central America
- 17:00**              **Closing**
- 18:00**              **Apéro and dinner at the Olympic Museum**