



(DRAFT – timing still indicative !)

The Future of the EEA Internal Market in view of current geopolitical and global economic challenges

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Wednesday, 14 May 2025

(streaming available)

Programme

On 1st May 2025, Liechtenstein celebrates the 30th anniversary of its accession to the European Economic Area (EEA) and thus its participation in the EU's internal market. The European Union's understanding of the internal market has evolved considering the current geopolitical context and recent crises. Geopolitics is understood very broadly here. It is not only about the security policy situation, but also about the economic aspects that arise from it. The focus is now increasingly on ensuring Europe's future competitiveness, economic security and resilience. The internal market is seen as an instrument to achieve these new goals and is no longer primarily an objective to be achieved. These developments have raised the question of how this new understanding might affect cooperation within the EEA. While this cooperation, like that within the EU, is primarily based on legal principles, the political and economic aspects should not be forgotten. And then there is – again – the possibility of Iceland leaving the EEA to join the EU. At the end of the day, the organizers hope to have a clearer picture of where the EEA is heading in the future.

08:30-09:00	<i>Arrival; Coffee</i>		
09:00-09:10	Welcome Address	Prof. Thomas Meier	Liechtenstein Institute
09:10-09:20	Welcome Address	Brigitte Haas	Prime Minister
Overview			
09.20-09:50	Introduction to the Topic	Dr. Georges Baur	Liechtenstein Institute
09:50-10:10	The Changing Geopolitical Environment	Dr. Christian Frommelt	University of Liechtenstein
10:10-10:30	The Economic Background	Dr. Martin Geiger	Liechtenstein Institute
10:30-10:50	Discussion		
10:50-11:10	<i>Coffee break</i>		

New Challenges to the Internal Market			
11:10-11:40	The EU's Geopolitical Exposure: Consequences for the Internal Market	Prof. Peter van Elsuwege	Universiteit Gent/GELI
11:40-12:10	Economic Security and the EEA	Ambassador Pascal Schafhauser	Head of the Mission of Liechtenstein to the EU, Brussels
12:10-13:30	<i>Lunch break</i>		
The EFTA-States' and the UK's views			
13:30-14:00	The EFTA Taskforce Report on Cross-sectoral EU initiatives	Dr. Andrea Entner-Koch	EEA Coordination Unit, Liechtenstein
14:00-14:30	Iceland	Prof. Gunnar Thor Pétursson	Háskólinn í Reykjavík
14:30-15:00	Norway	Prof. Halvard H. Fredriksen	Universitetet i Bergen
15:00-15:30	Switzerland	Prof. Christa Tobler	Universiteit Leiden/ Europainstitut Basel
15:30-15:40	<i>Coffee break</i>		
15:40-16:10	United Kingdom	Prof. Catherine Barnard	University of Cambridge
16:10-16:40	Liechtenstein	Dr. Georges Baur	Liechtenstein Institute
16:40-17:00	Discussion		
Presentation of the Research Handbook on the EEA Internal Market			
17:00-17.20	Presentation	Prof. Graham Butler, Editor	
Conclusion			
17:20-17:30	Remarks	Ambassador Petros Mavromichalis	Head of the EU-Delegation to Liechtenstein
	«Wrap up»	Dr. Georges Baur	

Programme subject to change!