
SESSION STRUCTURE

Eurasia Policy Group: Inaugural Meeting

Thursday 16 July 14:00-15:00 CEST

The Eurasia Policy Group is an invitation-only community that will drive the World Economic Forum's New Vision for Eurasia Strategic Initiative – a platform for regional dialogue and cooperation, with the objective of helping navigate Eurasia's economic development in an era of crisis-induced uncertainty.

The Group will challenge conventional thinking and develop new insights and perspectives for Eurasia, specifically by developing a framework for Eurasia's transformation that addresses three focus areas of the Initiative: strengthening economic resilience and competitiveness, shaping agile governance and fostering social development. The Inaugural Virtual Meeting of the Eurasia Policy Group is the first gathering of this community and provides a unique closed-door opportunity to discuss the latest implications of COVID-19 to industry and governments, immediate actions and ways to reset the region's economies and societies in a more inclusive and sustainable manner.

Introduction (3 minutes)

Martina Larkin, Member of the Executive Committee, Head of Europe and Eurasia, World Economic Forum welcomes participants, highlighting the Forum's role as the International Organization for Public-Private Cooperation, and explains how the Eurasia Policy Group will contribute to the Forum's work on the Great Reset.

Opportunities and challenges for Eurasia in the current context (15 minutes)

Introductory remarks on the opportunities Eurasia has in the current context and the challenges the region is facing. Which factors should a new vision for Eurasia take into account?

Discussion on the short, medium and long-term recovery strategies for Eurasia (30 minutes)

Martina Larkin facilitates the discussion with members of the Eurasia Policy Group on the regional response to COVID-19, which include short, medium and long-term exit strategies and recovery plans around the initiative's three pillars:

- Strengthening economic resilience and competitiveness**

What mechanisms are needed to build regional resilience broadly and in specific areas, such as technology, ahead of unpredictable risks? What strategic partnerships could be fostered within the region and with other regions, to ensure economic recovery and promote a future of sustainable growth and inclusion?

- Shaping agile governance**

How can countries in Eurasia transform their economies based on a shared vision that embraces its identity and aspirations in the age of the Fourth Industrial Revolution? How can governance systems best shaped and transformed to leapfrogging the region's economies and allowing for new business models to arise in order to address the regional frailties?

- Fostering social development**

What steps can leaders take to develop a new social contract for the countries of the region – one that commits to inclusivity, equity and sustainability? How can public and private actors support a dialogue in the region to address socioeconomic polarization as well as the risks associated with it?

Open discussion (10 minutes)

Participants ask questions and provide feedback.

Closing Remarks (2 minutes)

Martina Larkin thanks speakers and participants, briefly summarizes the key next steps, and provides reflections on what has been discussed.