

The Future of Democracy and Europe

Friday, November 6, 2026, 9:00am – 4:45pm, MCI I, Aula (3rd Floor)



Program Overview

09:00-09:15	Welcome and Introduction
09:15-10:30	A Modern View on Inclusion, Prevention and Social Cohesion <i>Bart Somers, Mayor of Mechelen, Belgium</i>
10:30-10:45	Break
10:45-12:15	Panel discussion: Quo Vadis, Democratic Societies?
12:15-13:30	Lunch Break
13:30-14:45	Keynote & Talk: Requirements for a Resilient European Society <i>Othmar Karas, former First Vice-President of the European Parliament</i>
14:45-15:00	Break
15:00-16:30	Leadership in Crisis & Security in Democracies: What is the Price? <i>Matthias Wasinger, Head of Branch Strategic Communication, Austrian Federal Ministry of Defence; Vice President: Tyrol Officers' Association and European Military Press Association</i> <i>Lilla Albert, Expert for Resilience Design Labs, Human Security & Climate Innovation</i>
16:30-16:45	Summary and Closing Remarks

How can democratic societies balance security, prevention, inclusion and social cohesion to remain resilient and capable of action in times of change?

Discover key strategies for a strong, resilient European society at „The Future of Democracy and Europe“ – a one-day symposium at MCI | The Entrepreneurial School®.

Featuring keynotes by **Bart Somers** and **Othmar Karas**, this event brings together experts and perspectives from politics, public administration, security, academia, defense, education, and social services. It is open to everyone seeking new insights into democracy, security and societal resilience.

Registration: By Nov 3, 2026 via office-sgpm@mci.edu