



# FACETS OF THE FUTURE

FECC ANNUAL CONGRESS

2026 14 - 16.09  
VIENNA

## *Fecc Annual Congress Programme*

*- all rights reserved for potential last-minute changes -*

Venue: Hilton Vienna Waterfront Hotel, Handelskai 269, A-1020 Vienna – Austria

### Monday, 14 September 2026 – Conference Day 0

Hospitality desk operating hours: 12:30h – 21:00h

**17:00h-18:30h: *Chemical Masterclass “Re-anchoring European chemicals markets on new tides”* – presented by Platts, part of S&P Global Energy –**

#### Sub-Topics:

- Does the flow from commoditization to specialization offer a safe harbour?
- Is the silver lining offered by sustainability still shining through?
- What opportunities can global bottlenecks provide Europe’s storm-weary chemicals sector?

#### Speakers:

- **Iris Poon**, Global Leader, Sustainable chemicals at **Platts, part of S&P Global Energy**
- **Marilena Tsimeki**, Managing Editor of the European Chemicals Intermediates team at **Platts, part of S&P Global Energy**.

20:00h: **Opening Reception with food & drinks:** Hilton Waterfront, Danube Terrace



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## Tuesday, 15 September 2026 – Conference Day 1

Full Congress day, taking place in the Congress hotel, followed by a cocktail reception & gala dinner at the exquisite Belvedere, Vienna City Center – with spectacular views on Vienna and one of the world’s most famous paintings: “The Kiss” by Gustav Klimt (can be visited)

Hospitality desk operating hours: 7:30-17:00

8:00h: **Networking Breakfast** in Conference Area

**9:00h-9:20h: Welcome & opening remarks by Moderator and Fecc**

### I. **9:20h-10:20h: Keynote Speeches**

9:20h-9:55h: **Aligning markets, global partnerships and innovation for sustainable industrial transformation**, Interview with **Petra Schwager**, Chief of the Climate and Technology Partnership (CTP) Division, Directorate of SDG Innovation and Economic Transformation (IET) of the **United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO)**

9:55h-10:30h: **The lessons learnt from 2026 developments for Energy Security**: Presentation by **Milosz Karpinski**, Energy Security Analyst, Directorate of Energy Markets & Security, **International Energy Agency (IEA)**

10:30h-11:00h: **Coffee Break**



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## II. **11:00h-12:30h: Supply chain disruptions with no end – what 2026 tells us...**

11:00h-11:20h: **Europe's chemical industry at the tipping point – how to get back to growth?** Keynote presentation: **Rainer Seele**, President Global Chemicals, **XRG**; Chairman of the Supervisory Board of **Covestro**, Supervisory Board Member **Borouge International**

11:20h-12:30h: **Industry Leaders' Panel** discussion featuring:

- **Hans-Joerg Bertschi**, Executive Chairman, **Bertschi Group**
- **Patrick Hore**, Global Vertical Lead Chemicals, **Maersk**
- **Erik Ripple**, CEO, **NatureWorks**
- **Rainer Seele**, President Global Chemicals **XRG**, Chairman of **Covestro**, Board Member of **Borouge International**
- **Rajan Venkatesh**, Managing Director & CEO, **Laxmi Organic Industries Ltd.**

12:30h-14:00h: **Networking Lunch (Conference Area)**



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### III. **14:00h-16:00h: Supply chains resilience in Europe**

14:00h-14:25h: **The resilience of European value chains in turbulent times;** presentation by **Joris Teer**, Policy Analyst & Economic Security & Technology Portfolio Lead at the **EU Institute for Security Studies (EUISS, an agency of the EU)**

14:25h-14:55h: **Pulse Check Distribution 2026 (title tbc)** – setting the scene presentation by **Madjar Navah**, Managing Director & Partner at **Boston Consulting Group** in Düsseldorf

14:55h-15:55h: **Distribution Vision 2030 – International Distribution Leaders’ panel discussion** featuring:

- **Nikhil Agarwal**, Managing Director, **Globestar Energy FZE**
- **David Jukes**, Executive Chairman, **Univar**
- **Sertac Surur**, President EMEA, **Barentz International**

### **15:55h-16:05h: Wrap-Up of Day I Program, by Moderator and Fecc**

#### Evening networking activities:

**18:15h:** Departure to the gala dinner from the hotel entrance

**19:00h:** Cocktail reception at Belvedere, Vienna City Center

**20:00h:** Gala dinner Belvedere, Vienna City Center

**22:30h:** Departure from Belvedere back to the conference hotel



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## Wednesday, 16 September 2026 – Conference Day 2

Second Congress Day (9:00h-14:30h including group lunch), on *Europe's value chains of tomorrow*, taking place at the conference area of the Hilton Waterfront Hotel,

Hospitality desk operating hours: 7:30h-10:00h

**8:00h-9:00h: Networking Breakfast** in Conference Area

**9:00h-9:15h: Opening remarks & introduction of Day 2 Program by moderator and Fecc**

**9:15h-9:30h: Keynote speech by Thomas Jakl, Deputy Director General, Austrian Ministry for Climate and Environmental Protection**

### IV. **9:30h-10:45h: How to commercialize chemical innovations more quickly?**

1. 9:30h-9:40h: The viewpoint of academia – statement presentation by **Prof. Nuno Maulide, University of Vienna**
2. 9:40h-9:50h: The viewpoint of a company – statement presentation by **Nathalie Huther, Chief Commercial Officer, HFR Chemistry**
3. 9:50h-10:00h: The regulator's view – statement presentation by **Thomas Jakl, Deputy Director General, Austrian Ministry for Climate and Environmental Protection**
4. 10:00h-10:45h: Panel discussion with all speakers

10:45h-11:15h: **Coffee Break**



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## V. **11:15h-12:45h: Europe's critical value chains – what's the way forward?**

1. 11:15h-11:30h: **Consumer & Food Trends** - presentation by **Alexander Belderok**, Global Head Consumer Platform/Global Head Agribusiness, Food & Food Ingredients, **Roland Berger The Netherlands**
2. 11:30h-11:45h: **Pharmaceuticals**: Statement presentation by **Giuseppe Pacileo**, Vice-President, Regional Business Unit Head EMEA, **Lonza**
3. 11:45h-12:00h: **Batteries**: Statement presentation by **Clemence Siret**, Corporate Sustainability Manager, **Saft**
4. 12:00h-12:45h: Europe's critical value chains: **Concluding panel discussion**

## **12:45h-13:00h: Concluding Remarks & End of Congress Program**

13:00h-14:30h: **Group lunch at Hilton Waterfront Hotel, Conference Area**

14:30h: **Congress Closure**