



# IAFEI Weekly Update

**Knowledge, Resources, News, and Announcements**

**This is an issue of IAFEI Weekly Update for the week of March 31, 2025.**

Valued All IAFEI Board members, ExCom members & Advisory Committee members:

The following interesting articles and useful information await you in this issue. I hope you enjoy reading them.

My special thanks to Conchita (CLM) and Piergiorgio (PGV) for their contributions.

Please feel free to circulate this Weekly Update within your organization. I am hoping that this Weekly Update may increase the value of IAFEI membership. If you have any suggestions, or recommendations, or would like to participate to provide articles, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your continuous support and I would love to hear from you.

P.S. (Reposted from Issue 11)

The IAFEI 1st Quarter ExCom Meeting was held on Monday, March 17th. Before distributing the official minutes, I would like to share two key topics discussed during the meeting.

## **IAFEI Website Renewal**

A big majority of the members agreed that the website should be revamped to make it more attractive to visitors by leveraging new technology. While I shared one quotation, it was not sufficient to make a final decision. Therefore, we agreed to allow three weeks for further proposals. Each member organization is encouraged to seek potential providers who can offer a compelling quotation. [The deadline for submission is April 8, 2025.](#)

## **IAFEI DAY in Chinese Taiwan**

IAFEI DAY will take place on **Friday, October 17th**, and **Saturday, October 18th**, in Taipei. The ExCom Meeting and Annual Board Meeting will be held as part of this program in a hybrid format. Detailed information will be shared as it becomes available. Please make arrangements to attend either physically or virtually.

**Tsutomu Mannari** (TMA)

Chairman of IAFEI

(Total 16 pages)

## Upcoming Events

Date	Time	Event
April 2025	T.B.N.	<p><b>GLOBAL CFO Round e-Table</b> GEOPOLITICS AND LAW – Critical Issues for CFOs</p> <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <p><b>Piergiorgio Valente</b>, Chair Overall Technical Committee IAFEI  <b>Andrea Borroni</b>, Prof. Comparative Law, Member of 3H Association  <b>Guido Perboli</b>, Prof. of Decision Making and Artificial Intelligence, Member of 3H Association (to be confirmed)  <b>Fabio Zambardino</b>, Prof. of Private Law and Integration Processes, Member of 3H Association  <b>et al.</b></p>
May 7, 2025 (Wednesday)	3 p.m. Vietnam 4 p.m. Philippines, China, Chinese Taipei 5 p.m. Japan 10 a.m. CET	<p><b>Technical Webinar</b></p> <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <p><b>Wilson Tan</b>, Head of Financial Reporting Working Group, IAFEI Technical Committee  <b>Roel E. Lucas</b>, Partner   Assurance, SyCip Gorres Velayo &amp; Co.</p>
May 2025	T.B.N.	<p><b>GLOBAL CFO Round e-Table</b> GLOBAL TAX CONTROVERSIES – Critical Issues for CFOs.</p> <p><u>Speakers (to be confirmed):</u></p> <p><b>Piergiorgio Valente</b>, Chair Overall Technical Committee IAFEI  <b>Steeff Huibregtse</b>, Chief Executive Officer Transfer Pricing Associates BV  <b>Stella Raventos-Calvo</b>, Tax Lawyer, Former Chair of Fiscal Committee at CFE Tax Advisers Europe  <b>Federico Baridon</b>, Associate VAT Partner, Crowe Valente</p>
June 2025	T.B.N.	<p>Special Webinar &amp; Presentation  <b>IAFEI Day 2025 in Chinese Taiwan: A Road Map</b></p> <p><u>Speakers:</u></p> <p><b>Jennifer Wang</b>, Area President for Asia IAFEI  <b>David Chou</b></p>

<b>July 2025</b>	<b>T.B.N.</b>	<b>GLOBAL CFO Round e-Table</b> INTERNATIONAL POLICY CHALLENGES – Critical Issues for CFOs.  <u>Speakers (to be confirmed):</u>  <b>Piergiorgio Valente</b> , Chair Overall Technical Committee IAFEI <b>Aleksandar Ivanovski</b> , Director of CFE Tax Advisers Europe <b>Stella Raventos-Calvo</b> , Tax Lawyer, Former President AEDAF <b>Federico Baridon</b> , Associate VAT Partner, Crowe Valente
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You are welcome to visit our **official website** [www.iafei.org](http://www.iafei.org)

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On 10 March, our Director General, Markus J. Beyrer, joined the Macroeconomic Dialogue at Political level, chaired by Andrzej Domański, Minister of Finance of Poland, alongside fellow European social partners and top EU leaders—including Christine Lagarde, President of the ECB; Paschal Donohoe, President of the Eurogroup; and Valdis Dombrovskis, Commissioner for Economy and Productivity. ( ... ... )

[Read the Newsletter >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by PGV)

### ■ 02 **BUSINESSEUROPE** | Headlines | March 20, 2025

#### **Tripartite Social Summit: Europe can only be as strong as its economy**

On 19 March, a BusinessEurope delegation joined fellow social partners and EU leaders at the Tripartite Social Summit—alongside European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and Executive Vice-President Roxana Mînzatu, President of the European Council António Costa and Polish Minister for EU Affairs Adam Szapka — to discuss how to restore Europe’s competitiveness and its position as an attractive, investment-friendly location. ( ... ... )

[Read the Newsletter >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by PGV)

### ■ 03 **IFRS Foundation** | News Alert | March 25, 2025

#### **New IFRS Sustainability translations available**

The IFRS Foundation has published new translations of IFRS Sustainability Standards, educational and supporting materials. Translated material is available in Arabic, Brazilian Portuguese, Simplified Chinese, French, Japanese, Korean, Mongolian, Romanian and Spanish. ( ... ... )

[View IFRS Sustainability Translations >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by CLM)

### ■ 04 **IFRS Foundation** | News Alert | March 26, 2025

#### **Join us for a webinar on how companies are integrating IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards into products and services**

We will be hosting a live webinar on 16 April 2025 during which attendees will learn about the IFRS Sustainability licensing programme and how organisations benefit from integrating IFRS S1, IFRS S2 and the SASB Standards into commercial offerings. (... ...)

[More about the Webinar >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by CLM)

## ■ 05 IFRS Foundation | News Alert | March 26, 2025

### Roadmap Development Tool launched to support jurisdictions plan and design adoption roadmaps for ISSB Standards

As part of the International Sustainability Standard Board's (ISSB) commitment to supporting jurisdictions advance their approaches towards the adoption or other use of ISSB Standards, the IFRS Foundation has today launched one key pillar of its Regulatory Implementation Programme—the Jurisdictional Roadmap Development Tool. ( ... ... )

[Read More >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by CLM)

## ■ 06 IFRS Foundation | News Alert | March 26, 2025

### March 2025 National Standard-setters Newsletter now available

The March 2025 National Standard-setters Newsletter is now available—find out more about work that the IFRS Foundation has been undertaking which is relevant to national standard-setters. ( ... ... )

[View the Newsletter >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by CLM)

## ■ 07 EESC European Economic and Social Committee | February 26-27, 2025 Opinion on "Strengthening the results orientation of post-2027 cohesion policy"

At its 594th plenary session, held on 26-27 February 2025, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) adopted an exploratory opinion at the request of the Polish Presidency **on Strengthening the results orientation of post-2027 cohesion policy – challenges, risks and opportunities.**

The EESC stresses the need for a results oriented approach to ensure cohesion policy continues to deliver tangible benefits while reducing inequalities and promoting sustainable competitiveness.

( ... ... )

[View in Browser >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by PGV)

## ■ 08 **EESC** European Economic and Social Committee | February 26 – 27, 2025 **Opinion on "Administrative cooperation in the field of taxation (DAC9)"**

At its 594th plenary session, held on 26 and 27 February 2025, the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) adopted an opinion on the "Administrative cooperation in the field of taxation (DAC9)".

The EESC welcomes the proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 2011/16/EU on administrative cooperation in the field of taxation (DAC9) and points out that legal certainty and clarity for multinational corporations and tax administrations can only be ensured by creating a single set of uniform rules applicable to all Member States. The Committee deems it crucial that information collected under DAC9 be used only and exclusively as intended by the Commission proposal and not for other purposes. ( ... ... )

[View in Browser >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by PGV)

## ■ 09 **BUSINESSatOECD** | Update | March 2025 **What OECD Business Is Talking About**

- **USCIB** : [USCIB Responds to Trump Administration's Reciprocal Tariff Policy](#)
- **Canadian Chamber of Commerce** : [Our Statement on U.S. Decision to Double Steel and Aluminum Tariffs](#)
- **COPARMEX** : [In the face of tariffs, Mexico must strengthen its economy and provide certainty](#)
- **Keidanren (Japan Business Federation)** : [Dispatch of a joint delegation of three organizations, Keidanren, Japan-China Keikyo, and Nissho, to Beijing](#)
- **economiesuisse** : [Trade policy Trump 2.0 – consequences for Switzerland](#)
- **Confederation of Finnish Industries** : [Concern about EU innovation funding is growing – Finland's 'leading projects' are offered as a solution](#)
- **LEWIATAN** : [Imports of goods higher than exports may be higher by the end of the year](#)

[View the Complete Update >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by PGV)

## ■ 10 **OECD** | Newsletter | March 28, 2025 **The EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism: What is it and how does it work?**

Europe's push to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2030 is prompting a major overhaul of its climate policies. Our blog takes a look at the EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), how it works, and explores its likely impact on global carbon emissions and trade. ( ... ... )

[Read the Blog >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by CLM)

## ■ 11 **OECD** | Newsletter | March 28, 2025 **How to go from startup to scaleup?**

Join us on 10 April in Brussels or online for our joint conference with the EC's DG for Research & Innovation to explore experiences and policy solutions for fostering Europe's startup ecosystem. It will highlight key findings from the EU-funded OECD project on Building a Robust Innovative Entrepreneurship Ecosystem for a Digital and Green Economy (BRIDGE). ( ... ... )

[Register Here >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by CLM)

## ■ 12 **OECD** | Newsletter | March 28, 2025 **How tax data unlocks new insights for industrial policy**

Value-added tax (VAT) data are revolutionising our ability to map and analyse firm interactions. Using data from Estonia, this recent blog post explains how VAT data can be used to map networks of firms, identify the hidden superstars in national value chains, and understand how firms build relationships. ( ... ... )

[Read the Blog >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by CLM)

## ■ 13 **OECD** | Newsletter | March 28, 2025 **How do different sectors engage with AI?**

How much does AI affect activities in different economic sectors? In this recent blog post we take a look at not only the sectors leveraging AI today, but also those at the forefront of new developments, those seeking AI-related talent, and those likely to embrace it next. ( ... ... )

[Read the Blog >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by CLM)

## ■ 14 **OECD** | Newsletter | March 28, 2025 **Coming soon! The OECD Digital Policy Digest**

Stay tuned for our new newsletter spotlighting OECD's work on digital transformation and AI. Our current STI newsletter will evolve to focus more on science, technology, innovation, and industrial policy. ( ... ... )

[Sign Up Here >>>](#)

(↑ Contributed by CLM)


 The logo for BusinessEurope, featuring the word "BUSINESSEUROPE" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below the text is a horizontal bar composed of several colored segments: green, light blue, dark blue, orange, and red.

# Headlines

13 March 2025

## Strengthening the EU economy: Key takeaways from the Macroeconomic Dialogue

On 10 March, our Director General, Markus J. Beyrer, joined the Macroeconomic Dialogue at Political level, chaired by Andrzej Domański, Minister of Finance of Poland, alongside fellow European social partners and top EU leaders—including Christine Lagarde, President of the ECB; Paschal Donohoe, President of the Eurogroup; and Valdis Dombrovskis, Commissioner for Economy and Productivity.



The discussion focused on the recent and expected economic developments and key regulatory barriers that contribute to the fragmentation of the Single Market for services. During the meeting, Beyrer emphasised the urgent need to address two critical challenges: reducing the regulatory burden on businesses and closing the energy cost gap with major global competitors. "The EU economy continues to underperform that of its competitors," he warned.

He spoke about BusinessEurope's 68 concrete suggestions on how to reduce regulatory burden. Beyrer also acknowledged that the first Simplification Omnibus is a first step towards making Europe a better place for doing business. "However, while the direction is right, more needs to be done and delivery will be crucial," Beyrer highlighted.

Images copyright: European Union, 2025



## Meeting with Commissioner Maroš Šefčovič



On 7 March, a BusinessEurope delegation consisting of President Fredrik Persson, Director General Markus J. Beyrer and Deputy Director General Luisa Santos, met with the EU Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security; Interinstitutional Relations and Transparency Maroš Šefčovič, to discuss key priorities for Europe's economic and strategic resilience. The meeting underscored the need to maintain European unity amid growing geopolitical challenges, reinforce the EU's trade diversification strategy – including ratification of the Mercosur agreement, and support Europe's competitiveness to increase negotiation power.

Picture copyright: European Union, 2025

## Advancing gender equality in Europe



Watch MEP Lina Gálvez, Chair of the European Parliament Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality, sharing her views on how the EU can support female entrepreneurs and boost women's STEM and IT skills.

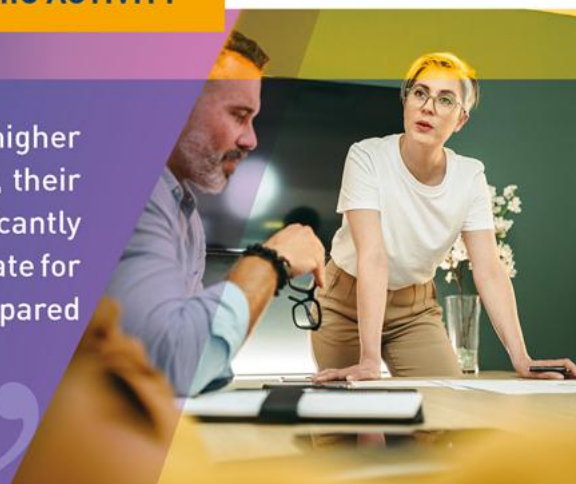
Also, check out our new paper on [strengthening gender equality in Europe](#). We call for a comprehensive approach to increasing women's economic activity.

### Did you know?

#### INCREASING WOMEN'S ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

BUSINESSEUROPE

Despite women in the EU having higher average education levels than men, their employment rates remain significantly lower. In 2023, the EU employment rate for men of working age was **80.4%**, compared to **70.2%** for women.



## Quote of the week

**"Europe must be united in its response. The EU's top priority is to protect its interests, with the ultimate goal of finding a negotiated solution."**

Our Director General Markus J. Beyrer quoted by [AFP](#) on USA's decision to impose a new 25 percent tariff on all imported steel and aluminum products. Read our [press release here](#).

## Latest publications



### Proposal for a Regulation on the "eDeclaration"

13 March

Read [our position paper](#).

### Revision of Regulation 883/2004 on the Coordination of Social Security Systems

12 March

Read the [joint employers statement](#).



### Key messages to EU Competitiveness Council of 12 March 2025

11 March

Read the [letter from Markus J. Beyrer to Krzysztof Paszyk](#).

## Upcoming events

**17 March**

[EU Omnibus proposal: First step, what's next for business?](#)

**19 March**

[Tripartite Social Summit](#)

**20-21 March**

[European Council](#)

**21 March**

[BusinessEurope event on EU-China relations](#)

**5-6 June**

[EU Industry Days 2025](#)

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# Headlines

20 March 2025

## Tripartite Social Summit: Europe can only be as strong as its economy

On 19 March, a BusinessEurope delegation joined fellow social partners and EU leaders at the Tripartite Social Summit—alongside European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and Executive Vice-President Roxana Mînzatu, President of the European Council António Costa and Polish Minister for EU Affairs Adam Szapka — to discuss how to restore Europe’s competitiveness and its position as an attractive, investment-friendly location.



Our President Fredrik Persson said: “In this highly uncertain global environment, strengthening the economic backbone of the European Union is more urgent than ever. There can be no resilient and strong Europe without resilient and strong competitive business and industry. In all my contacts with companies across Europe, I hear the same message: the European Commission’s recent proposals are steps in the right direction, but they remain insufficient to close the energy cost gap with our main competitors and to bring the regulatory overburden to a digestible level.”

He also presented our freshly published Reform Barometer 2025, which shows that overregulation, high energy prices and labour shortages continue to be the three main factors holding Europe back. Furthermore, an overwhelming 85% of our members underline that the current deregulation agenda in the US will further divert investment away from Europe if concrete signals are not given that the EU is walking the talk on prioritising competitiveness. Read [our full publication](#) to learn more.



On 17 March, we gathered EU policymakers and company representatives to discuss this critical question at our joint event with MEP Axel Voss, moderated by Jennifer Baker. In his opening remarks, our Director General, Markus J. Beyrer, highlighted a key challenge: 86% of EU companies employ staff solely for regulatory compliance, costing them 1.8% of their turnover. He warned that “Europe will not achieve its goals without competitive businesses”. In his keynote speech, MEP Axel Voss stressed the need for greater ambition in response to global competition: “The European business community should not be hesitant to push for more,” he urged, emphasising that we need to go beyond the current proposals from the Commission and Parliament. See [pictures of the event here](#).

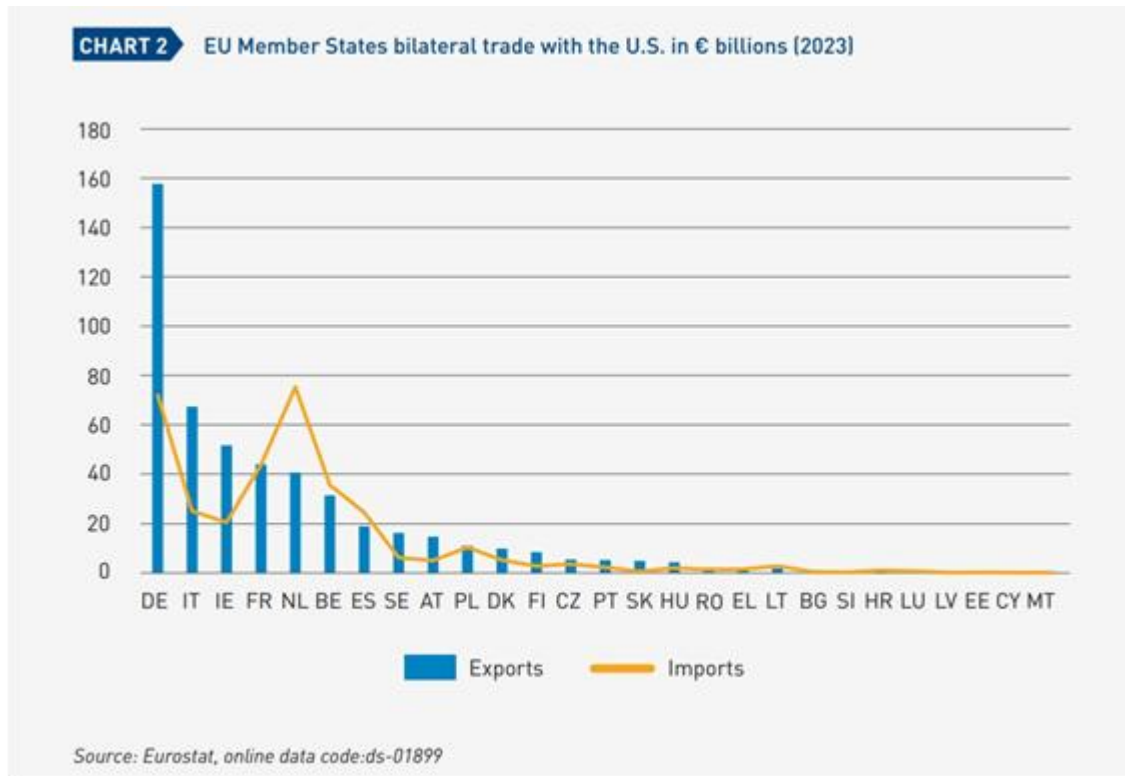
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## Reform Barometer 2025: High regulatory burden continues to deter investment



How is Europe performing on global competitiveness? Our latest Reform Barometer analyses key indicators like public finances, the business environment and the labour market. Watch our Chief Economist Lúcio Vinhas de Souza present the main findings.

### Did you know?



This is one of the insights highlighted in our Reform Barometer. Learn more [here](#).

## Quote of the week

**“Most European businesses expect President Donald Trump’s sweeping push for deregulation to divert investments away from a lagging European Union, according to a survey conducted by a key lobby group.”**

[Bloomberg](#) on 19 March about our [Reform Barometer](#) publication.

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## Latest publication



### Tangible improvements in the EU investment location are urgently needed

18 March

Read our [message to European Council meeting on 20-21 March 2025](#).

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## Upcoming events

**20-21 March**

[European Council](#)

**21 March**

[BusinessEurope event on EU-China relations](#)

**26 March**

[Empowering Europe: advancing competitiveness for long-term growth](#)

**5-6 June**

[EU Industry Days 2025](#)

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