

Jean Monnet Summer School 2026.

Europe's Innovation Nexus: Science, Technology & Industrial Policy.

The European Union has been facing several challenges in the recent years. Economic growth has been sluggish, geopolitical tensions are on the rise, and Europe seem to have been losing ground in the innovation race for artificial intelligence (AI). Yet innovation has never been more relevant to ensure economic growth and rising standards of living.

This year's Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences has emphasised this, rewarding contributions of scholars that have looked specifically at the role of innovation in fostering economic growth. Mokyr's work has highlighted the mechanisms that enable scientific breakthroughs and their application leading to sustained economic growth over the course of time. Aghion and Howitt's work has formalised the process of creative destruction through product and process innovation, which is at the core of Schumpeterian theories of economics.

Against this background, the Summer School on "Europe's Innovation Nexus: Science, Technology, and Industrial Policy" will take place at the **University of Strasbourg from June 29 to July 1 2026**, co-organised with LUISS University and UNU-MERIT, with financial support from the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence at the LUISS Research Centre on European Analysis and Policy (LEAP) and Interdisciplinary Thematic Institute MAKerS of the University of Strasbourg.¹

The three-day summer school is designed for PhD students in economics, innovation studies and the social sciences more broadly. It will directly engage with the themes highlighted by the Schumpeterian tradition and the Nobel laureates: how scientific advances, technological change and industrial transformation interplay to shape growth, competitiveness and policy in European contexts.

The Summer School will begin by examining **Science Policy**, exploring the economics of scientific production and the transformative role of AI in research. The second day will focus on **Technology Policy**, delving into structural and technical change, including the geography of datacentres and digital infrastructure. Finally, the third day will look at **Industrial Policy**, analysing how policy makers in Europe can identify and foster specialisation patterns in new products and how industrial dynamics are evolving in Europe.

¹ This work of the Interdisciplinary Thematic Institute MAKerS, as part of the ITI 2021-2028 programme of the University of Strasbourg, CNRS and INSERM, was supported by IdEx Unistra (ANR-10-IDEX-0002), and by SFRI-STRAT'US project (ANR-20-SFRI-0012).

The structure of the Summer School along with details of **topics** and **faculty** is available at the end of this document.

Participants will engage in lectures linking theory and practice and, crucially, will also have the opportunity to present their own work and receive feedback by senior researchers from the Summer School faculty.

The summer school culminates just before the **International Schumpeter Conference, also taking place at the University of Strasbourg**, allowing students to carry fresh insights directly into a broader research community. Join us to understand, critique and shape the future of Europe's innovation-policy landscape in the new current geopolitical landscape.

Key information and application.

Dates: June 29 – July 1, 2026.

Location: University of Strasbourg, Strasbourg, France.

Cost: Participation is free for selected students (travel and accommodation are not covered).

Applications deadline: 20/04/2026

Application Procedure: Applications must be submitted by email to leap@luiss.it, with all required documents attached. Please use the following subject line: "Jean Monnet Summer School 2026 – application – Name Surname"

Application Requirements:

- Curriculum vitae.
- Short motivational statement.
- Most recent research paper (or PhD chapter), also in draft format.

Applications will be evaluated based on their fit with the PhD Summer School's topic, the students' previous experience and the quality of the submitted research paper.

Applicants will be notified of the decision by May 5.

Contact: leap@luiss.it – A detailed programme schedule with specific session timings and topics will be available on the website <https://leap.luiss.it/centre-of-excellence/> in the coming weeks, as well as on the University of Strasbourg [Bureau d'économie théorique et appliquée](#) and [ITI Makers](#) websites.

Jean Monnet Summer School Programme 2026 edition



Monday 29-Jun Science policy		Tuesday 30-Jun Tech policy		Wednesday 1-Jul Industrial dynamics and policies	
09:00 - 09:15	Welcome (Salle du Conseil - Level 1)				
09:15 - 10:45	On the Role of Universities in the Intellectual Life of a Society - Robin Cowan, University of Strasbourg (Salle du Conseil - level 1)	09:00 - 10:30	Skills, technological transitions and structural change - Tommaso Ciarli, UNU-MERIT (Salle du Conseil - level 1)	09:00 - 10:30	Selective Industrial Policy for the EU Open Strategic Autonomy: the Role of Products' Relatedness - Filippo Bontadini, LUISS University (Salle du Conseil - level 1)
10:45 - 11:00	Coffee Break (Salle de Pause - BETA - level 1)	10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break	10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break
10:30 - 12:30	Student presentations (Salle du Conseil - level 1)	10:30 - 12:30	Student presentations (A015 - Level 0)	10:30 - 12:30	Student presentations (Salle du Conseil - level 1)
11:00 - 11:30	Arnaud Niedbalet The Economics of Scientific Knowledge Revisited in Light of the Production of Ignorance	11:00 - 11:30	Santiago Picasso Exposure to Digital Automation and Jobs in Global Value Chains	11:00 - 11:30	Xu Liu Reactive Crisis Intervention vs. Proactive State Strategy: Germany and China — An Updated Perspective
11:30 - 12:00	Fazliddin Shermatov AI and Supercomputing are Powering the Next Wave of Breakthrough Science - But at What Cost?	11:30 - 12:00	Corentin Lobet Racing for the Fittest: When Technology Selection Drives Population Selection	11:30 - 12:00	Javier de Gollerichs Derisking European Critical Raw Materials Dependencies
12:00 - 12:30		12:00 - 12:30		12:00 - 12:30	
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch Le 32 level 2, 32 Boulevard de la Victoire, 67000 Strasbourg	12:30 - 14:00	Lunch Le 32 level 2, 32 Boulevard de la Victoire, 67000 Strasbourg	12:30 - 14:00	Lunch Le 32 level 2, 32 Boulevard de la Victoire, 67000 Strasbourg
14:00 - 15:30	AI in Science - Stefano Bianchini, University of Strasbourg (Salle du Conseil - level 1)	14:00 - 15:30	Data centres and digital infrastructure - Maria Savona LUISS University and SPRU University of Sussex (A015 - Level 0)	14:00 - 16:00	Student presentations (Salle du Conseil - level 1)
15:30 - 16:00	Coffee Break (Salle de Pause - BETA - level 1)	15:30 - 16:00	Coffee Break (Salle de Pause - BETA - level 1)	14:00 - 14:30	Arsia Khalid Do Institutions Matter for Twin Technologies? Evidence from European Regions
16:00 - 17:30	Student presentations (Salle du Conseil - level 1)	16:00 - 17:30	Student presentations (Salle du Conseil - level 1)	14:30 - 15:00	Yan Wu Media's Role in Low-Carbon City Transformation in China
16:00 - 16:30	Tailun Chen Context-Driven Innovation for Sustainability Transition	16:00 - 16:30	Denny Albani Labour Market Flexibility and Innovation: The Italian Case	15:00 - 15:30	Binta Moustapha Venture Studios as Industrial Policy: Nigeria's Green Hydrogen Innovation System
16:30 - 17:00	Yang Li Strategic Narratives of Digital Entrepreneurship in China's Techno-Developmental State	16:30 - 17:00	Sihe Djidjik Strategic Management, Organisational Culture and Performance in SMEs	15:30 - 16:00	David Shakarishvili (online) Europe's Innovation Paradox in the Age of AI: From Scientific Leadership to Industrial Underperformance
17:00 - 17:30	Li Qingrui From Empirical Technology to Innovation Leadership: Chinese NIS and Innovation Intermediaries	17:00 - 17:30	Yadav Raghvendra Responsible Standards for Digital Equity: Women's Transit Safety in India	16:00 - 16:30	Coffee Break ISS 2026 (Entrance Amphi 4 - level -1)
		20:00	Social Dinner Le Météor 10 rue du 22 Novembre, 67000 Strasbourg	16:30 - 18:00	ISS 2026 Keynote: General Equilibrium : Paradigm lost, Paradise regained - Alan Kirman, University of Aix-Marseille (Amphi 4 - level -1)
				19:00 - 21:00	Welcome Cocktail ISS 2026 (level -1)