



Mar 11, 2026

AEB Flagship Conference

## European Business in Russia: Tomorrow Begins Today

### RBK Event Space

Kosmodomianskaya 52, bld 7  
9.00-15.00

08:30

Registration and welcome coffee

09:10

Welcome address

Dr Thomas Staertzel, Chairman of the Board, Association of European Businesses

09:20

Macro-Outlook

**Avoiding stagnation: how to restart the economy?**

After three years of economic miracle, where the Russian economy has outplayed even the most optimistic forecasts, the economy has slowed down significantly in 2025, although avoiding falling into a recession for now. Where will future growth come from? Will the government succeed in launching the economy on a new growth trajectory without risking undermining macro-prudential stability? What regulatory trends will we face in 2026?

Panelists:

- Yuri Simachev, Director for Economic Policy, Centre for Industrial Policy Studies, HSE
- Evgeny Nadorshin, Chief Economist, PF Capital
- Vitaly Zhigulin, Partner, Kesarev
- Chris Weafer, CEO, Macro Advisory

Moderator: Ulf Schneider, President & Founder, SCHNEIDER GROUP

10:45

Coffee break

11:15

Plenary Session

**Economic relations Europe - Russia: what vision for the 21<sup>st</sup> century?**

The foundations for energy cooperation between Russia and Europe, becoming the backbone of economic relations after 1991, were laid out in the 1970s, long before the end of the Cold War. If this is true, it becomes critical to think about a vision for future cooperation in the world of tomorrow. Should we try to build back better? Or are levels of distrust too high and will engagement only be possible on a

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### Association of European Businesses

127055, Moscow, Butyrsky val, 68/70,  
bldg.1, office 63, 6th floor

Tel.: +7 (495) 234 27 64  
E-mail: [info@aebrus.ru](mailto:info@aebrus.ru)

Telegram: [t.me/aebrus\\_news](https://t.me/aebrus_news)  
Web: [www.aebrus.ru](http://www.aebrus.ru)

limited range of issues? Whatever the answer to this question, it is crucial to think about the future now and to develop different ideas for our relations in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Panelists:

- Alexander Grushko, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Maria Bagreeva, Minister of the Moscow Government, Head of the Department for Economic Policy and Development of the City of Moscow
- Denis Tyupyshev, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Economic Development
- Sergey Kuchushev, Deputy Minister of Digital Development
- Representative of the Ministry of Industry & Trade
- Alexander Shokhin, President, RSPP
- Irina Panarina, President, Russia & CIS, AstraZeneca
- Stefan van Doorslaer, CEO, Astros Logistics

Moderator: Tazio Schilling, CEO, Association of European Businesses

**12:45**

**Coffee break**

**13:15**

**Digital Session**

**Bridging the digital divide: blueprint for connectivity and competitiveness in a world of tomorrow**

With ever more numerous restrictions and measures to ensure digital sovereignty and security, the idea of an undivided world, the utopia of a global village, seems farther away than ever. At the same time, the fundamentals have not changed, and connectivity and economies of scale still present a largely untapped potential. How then can we change direction and gear and develop and increase connectivity in tomorrow's world without jeopardizing our security and sovereignty?

Panelists:

- Semen Budenny, Managing Director, Head of AI Advanced Technologies, Sberbank
- Pavel Gontarev, CEO, VK Tech
- Roman Sabirov, CEO, Philips
- Grigory Atrepiev, CEO, Yandex Cloud
- Representative of Severstal

Moderator: Sergey Kireev, Managing Director, Axenix

**14:15**

**Buffet lunch**

**Language:** Russian, English (translation provided)

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**Tel.:** +7 (495) 234 27 64  
**E-mail:** info@aebrus.ru

**Telegram:** t.me/aebrus\_news  
**Web:** www.aebrus.ru

**Contacts:**

Program: Olga Silnitskaya, Deputy CEO, [olga.silnitskaya@aebrus.ru](mailto:olga.silnitskaya@aebrus.ru)

Registration: Polina Skorovarova, Event Manager, [polina.skorovarova@aebrus.ru](mailto:polina.skorovarova@aebrus.ru)

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