

“Advancing Global Science Diplomacy: The EU Framework for Science Diplomacy and how it can support UNESCO’s science diplomacy efforts”

Date: 21 October 2026

Venue: UNESCO HQ Paris, room XI

Format: hybrid

Organiser: EU Delegation to UNESCO in cooperation with the European Commission (DG RTD) and UNESCO

Draft agenda:

Timing TBC

(14:00-14:15) Opening remarks

Moderator:

Michaela Andresova, Policy Officer, Delegation of the European Union to the OECD and UNESCO

Speakers:

H.E. Christina Kokkinakis, Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to the OECD and UNESCO

Denise Pires de Carvalho, Assistant Director-General, Sciences Sector, UNESCO
(TBC)

Thierry Damerval, Special Envoy for Science, Technology and Innovation, Ministry of Higher Education and Research and the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, France
(TBC)

(14:15-14:30) The EU Framework for Science Diplomacy

Jan Marco Müller, Team Leader Global Approach, Multilateral Dialogue and Science Diplomacy, Unit 04. “International Cooperation – Asia, Pacific, Africa and the Middle East”, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission [online]

(14:30-14:45) Science Diplomacy at UNESCO

Shaofeng HU, Director, Division of Ethics, Research and Technology, Sciences Sector (SCS), UNESCO

(14:45-15:00) Why a UNESCO Decision on Science Diplomacy?

Silvia Bojinova, Team Leader Interinstitutional and Multilateral Relations, Unit 03 “International Cooperation – Europe and Americas”, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission

(15:00-15:30) Q&A session

- Moderator: **Silvia Bojinova**, Team Leader Interinstitutional and Multilateral Relations, Unit 03 “International Cooperation – Europe and Americas, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission

(15:30-16:00) Networking coffee break

(16:00-17:00) **Panel discussion: The EU’s role in global science diplomacy**

Welcome and presentation of speakers: **Elena Di Giulio**, trainee, Delegation of the European Union to UNESCO

Moderator: **Jean-Christophe Mauduit**, Associate Professor of Science Diplomacy, University College London (UCL)

Speakers:

Andrei Luca, Director for Cultural, Education and Science Diplomacy, Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Chair of the EU Ministries of Foreign Affairs Science Diplomacy and Advice Network (EMFASDAN)

Pierre-Bruno Ruffini, Professor of Economics, University Le Havre-Normandie

Kerstin Pürschel, Permanent Delegate of Germany to UNESCO (TBC)

Phil Mjwara, Permanent Delegate of South Africa to UNESCO (TBC)

Elke Dall, Coordinator EU Horizon Europe funded project “Consolidating European Science Diplomacy” (CUSP)

(17:00-17:15) Closing remarks

Denise Pires de Carvalho, Assistant Director-General, Sciences Sector, UNESCO (TBC)

H.E. Christina Kokkinakis, Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to the OECD and UNESCO

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