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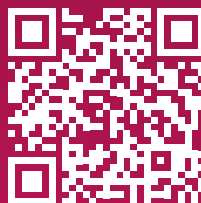


by Handelsblatt

TECH 2025

Program

Digital Program





- Welcome Area
- Blue Stage
- Purple Stage
- TECH Forum
- House of Learning (LAB I-III)
- House of Media
- House of Schwarz Digits
- Food Court
- Tiny Space
- Smoking Area
- Toilet
- Bag-Drop-Off
- Wardrobe
- Emergency Exit
- Bus Stop
- Taxi

Sunday, 25th May 2025

● Blue Stage

| | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| 14:00 | Check-In | |
| 16:00 - 16:15 | Opening & Welcome | Sebastian Matthes (Handelsblatt) |
| 16:15 - 16:30 | Europe in the New World Order - Digital Sovereignty as a Location Factor (in German language) | Joschka Fischer (Former Vice-Chancellor and Former Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany) |
| 16:30 - 17:10 | From Coal and Steel to AI and Quantum - Building the European Technology Union | Rolf Schumann (Schwarz Digits), Joschka Fischer (Former Vice-Chancellor and Former Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Germany), Ann Mettler (Former European Commission), Cedric Neike (Siemens) <i>moderated by Sebastian Matthes (Handelsblatt)</i> |
| 17:10 - 17:25 | Transatlantic Tensions: US Trade and Tech Policies under the Trump administration | Cathryn Clüver Ashbrook (Bertelsmann Stiftung) <i>moderated by Nicole Bastian (Handelsblatt)</i> |
| 17:25 - 18:05 | Defending Europe - Securing the Future with Frontier Technologies | Cathryn Clüver Ashbrook (Bertelsmann Stiftung), Harald Mannheim (Airbus Defence and Space), Bernhard Quendt (Thales) <i>moderated by Nicole Bastian (Handelsblatt)</i> |
| 18:05 - 18:25 | Facts, Truth, Trust | Maria Ressa (Nobel Peace Prize Winner) |
| 18:25 - 18:45 | Being a Mensch - Values for the 21st Century | Markus Gabriel (University of Bonn) <i>in conversation with Jochen Wegner (Die Zeit/Zeit Online)</i> |
| 18:45 - 18:55 | Welcome to TECH | Andrea Wasmuth (Handelsblatt Media Group), Christian Müller (Schwarz Digits) & Rolf Schumann (Schwarz Digits) |
| 18:55 - 19:20 | TECH in Concert | József Lendvay & the Würtz Philharmoniker |
| 19:20 | Dinner @ TECH City | |
| 22:00 | End of TECH Day I | |

Monday, 26th May 2025

Blue Stage

- 8:45 Handelsblatt Morning Briefing Live**
Christian Rickens (Handelsblatt)
- 9:00 The vital question of trust - what answers do politics and technology need to provide?**
Julia Klöckner (German Bundestag)
- 9:15 Between Cost & Control: How Much Dependency Can Europe Afford?**
Francesca Bria (UCL), Hermann Hauser (Amadeus Capital Partners), Thomas Jarzombek (German Bundestag), Rolf Schumann (Schwarz Digits), *moderated by* Larissa Holzki (Handelsblatt)
- 10:00 The Future Perspective: What Will We Regret Not Acting on Today**
Thomas Saueressig (SAP) and Martin Kon (*Cohere*), *moderated by* Christof Kerkmann (Handelsblatt)
- 10:30 Agents, AGI & Enterprise AI: What Businesses need to know in 2025?**
Laura Modiano (OpenAI), Alexander Matthey (Parloa), *moderated by* Stephan Scheuer (Handelsblatt)
- 11:00 Katherina Reiche and the Future of the German and European Economy in the Digital Age**
Katherina Reiche (German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy), *in conversation with* Sebastian Matthes (Handelsblatt)
- 11:30 A New Deal for European Competitiveness**
Michael Brigl (BCG)
- 11:40 Innovation is not enough - How Europe can compete and lead**
Ann-Kristin Achleitner (TU Munich), Michael Brigl (BCG), Lars-Hendrik Röller (Berlin Global Dialogue), Sabine Scheunert (Dassault Systèmes), *moderated by* Horst von Buttlar (WirtschaftsWoche)
- 12:20 The New Economics of Power – Trade, Money, and Conflict**
Henrik Ahlers (EY Germany), Jeannette zu Fürstenberg (General Catalyst), André Schwämmlein (Flix), Christian Sewing (Deutsche Bank), *moderated by* Sebastian Matthes (Handelsblatt)
- 13:10 Smarter, Faster, Stronger - AI, Robotics and the Future of the Industry**
Péter Fankhauser (Anybotics), Katharina Hölzle (Fraunhofer IOA), David Reger (Neura Robotics), *moderated by* Astrid Dörner (Handelsblatt)
- 13:50 Welcome to Heilbronn**
Harry Mergel (Lord Mayor Heilbronn)

- 14:00 Karsten Wildberger and his Priorities for Germany**
Karsten Wildberger (German Federal Minister for Digital and State Modernization) *in conversation with* Sebastian Matthes (Handelsblatt)
- 14:30 Keynote (in German language)**
Winfried Kretschmann (Minister-President of Baden-Württemberg)
- 14:45 Reinventing Hidden Champions (in German language)**
Kenza Ait Si Abbou (Fiege), Michael Förtsch (Q.Ant), Moritz Gräter (IPAI), Winfried Kretschmann (Minister-President of Baden-Württemberg), Niko Mohr (Friedhelm Loh Group), *moderated by* Kirsten Ludowig (Handelsblatt)
- 15:10 Scaling Laws and Emergence in AI Foundation Models**
Irina Rish (Mila)
- 15:30 From Lagging to Leading - Leveraging AI for competitive advantage**
Jonas Andrulis (Aleph Alpha), Irina Rish (Mila), Peter Sarlin (Silo AI), *moderated by* Larissa Holzki (Handelsblatt)
- 16:20 Code. Collaborate. Compete. – Why open source is key**
Jonas Andrulis (Aleph Alpha), Andreas Blattmann (Black Forest Labs), Gianna Lengyel (Mistral AI), Vanessa Cann (Accenture), Robin Rombach (Black Forest Labs), Nils Seele (LEA Partners), *moderated by* Daniel Cronin (Vienna Mentoring Group)
- 17:10 The Future of Knowledge Work: Answers, Agents & AGI**
Richard Socher (You.com)
- 17:35 Digital Humans and AI Characters**
Markus Gross (ETH Zurich, The Walt Disney Studios)
- 18:00 Back. Build. Buy. Repeat. How to Start the Innovation Loop?**
Danyal Bayaz (Finance Minister of Baden-Württemberg), Patrick Cramer (Max Planck Society), Lukasz Gadowski (Team Global), Tina Klüwer (Federal Ministry of Education and Research), *moderated by* Amelie Weber (ARD)
- 18:45 The Future of Flight - Export & Take Off?**
Lukas Gadowski (Team Global), *in conversation with* Larissa Holzki (Handelsblatt)
- 19:00 End of TECH Day II**

Purple Stage

- 9:00 Brain Computer Interface: Hacking Humanity or Healing it?**
Carolina Aguilar (Inbrain), Philipp Harbach (Merck), *in conversation with* Nicole Bastian (Handelsblatt)
- 9:25 Europe's Next Engine of Growth – Is It Pharma?**
Karim Beguir (Instadeep), Nikita Popov (Novartis), Philipp Rösler (Consensor), Gisbert Schneider (ETH Zürich), *moderated by* Ina Karabasz (Handelsblatt)
- 10:00 Merging Virtual Twins with AI – The Catalyst for the Industrial Renaissance**
Philippe Laufer (Dassault Systèmes), Armel Djeukou (Airbus)
- 10:30 Move Slow and Fix Things - How innovation benefits everyone**
Saskia Bruysten (Carbon Equity), Maria Ressa (Nobel Peace Prize Winner), Daniel Sachs (DS Foundation), *moderated by* Solveig Gode (Handelsblatt)
- 11:00 Live-Podcast Handelsblatt Disrupt: Organizing for Breakthrough – What's Next at Bayer with Bill Anderson**
- 11:30 When Machines Think - Think Again. And Lead.**
Bill Anderson (Bayer), Artur Gruca (Unicredit), Sven Mulder (SAP), Claudia Nemat (Telekom), *moderated by* Astrid Dörner (Handelsblatt)
- 12:10 Between Activism and Politics – Digital Democracy & Resilience**
Audrey Tang (Taiwan's Cyber Amassador-at-large) *in conversation with* Peter Wolodarski (Dagens Nyheter)
- 12:30 The Great GenAI Compression**
Fernando Lucini (Accenture)
- 12:45 Does AI Eat Strategy for Breakfast?**
Hala Zeine (ServiceNow) *in conversation with* Solveig Gode (Handelsblatt)
- 13:00 Embracing the Disruptive - Executive Decisions empowered by Data & AI**
Helmut Ahr (Horváth), Friedrich Baumann (MAN), Stephanie Holdt (Voith), Victoria Ossadnik (E.ON), Elke Reichart (Infineon), *moderated by* Kirsten Ludowig (Handelsblatt)
- 13:50 Teaching Machines to See**
Naureen Mahmood (Meshcapade)

- 14:05 Be Smart – How to Turn Artificial Intelligence into Real-World Results**
Nicole Büttner (Merantix), Rob Hornby (Alix Partners), Naureen Mahmood (Meshcapade), *moderated by* Jacob Wulff Wold (Euractiv)
- 14:30 AI Made in Europe: Ready to lead globally**
Daniela Gerd tom Markotten (Deutsche Bahn), Jarek Kutylowski (DeepL), *in conversation with* Jochen Wegner (Die Zeit/Zeit Online)
- 14:50 Healing with Data – Inside the Medical Data Revolution**
Heyo Kroemer (Charité Berlin), André Nemat (IDSA), Michael Sen (Fresenius), Effy Vayena (ETH Zürich), *moderated by* Ina Karabasz (Handelsblatt)
- 15:30 1 Billion Apps - The Era of Innovation Powered by AI: Are you ready?**
Ana Paula Assis (IBM)
- 15:45 Quantum, its relation to AI and Cyber, and the European Advantage**
Achim Kempf (University of Waterloo)
- 16:00 2025 – The Year of Quantum Breakthrough?**
Alex Glätzle (Planqc), Jan Goetz (IQM), Barbara Kraus (TUM), *moderated by* Christof Kerkmann (Handelsblatt)
- 16:35 Terra Quantum: Announcement**
Markus Pflitsch (Terra Quantum)
- 16:45 Keeping the Lights on**
Markus Krebber (RWE), Thomas Schulz (Bilfinger), Florian Winkler (NTT), *moderated by* Horst von Buttlar (Wirtschaftswoche)
- 17:25 Future of the Industry - How Should Europe Build its Industrial Backbone for 2035?**
Lei Berners-Wu (Rolls Royce), Lars Carlstrom (Statevolt), Kenza Ait Si Abbou (Fiege), Daniel Sachs (P Capital Partners), *moderated by* Nicole Bastian (Handelsblatt)
- 18:00 Chips, Power, and Planet – What Are the Limits of Scaling?**
Michael Förtsch (Q.Ant), Edmondo Orlotti (G42), Michael Peeters (IMEC), *moderated by* Joachim Hofer (Handelsblatt)
- 18:25 Interview**
Ben Lamm (Colossal) –  digital
- 18:35 Panel Discussion**
Fabienne Marco (TUM Quantum Social Lab), Tommy Oehl (Vsquared), *moderated by* Solveig Gode (Handelsblatt)
- 19:00 End of TECH Day II**

Monday, 26th May 2025

● House of Learning (LAB I–III)

LAB I

11:15 - 12:00 - Roundtable

Europe's Leadership in Robotics: Investment, Innovation, and Market Potential

Giorgio Metta (Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia),
Marc Dassler (Energy Robotics),
moderated by Tommy Oehl (Vsquared Ventures)

14:00 - 14:45 - Panel

How to Make Space Technology More Affordable and Democratic

Celia Pelaz (Spire), Hermann Ludwig Moeller (ESPI European Space Policy Institute),
Christian Schmierer (HyImpulse),
moderated by Theresa Locker (Tagespiegel)

15:00 - 16:00 - Masterclass Horváth

AI-empowered decision-making – Performance Management in the new tech era

Matthias Emler (Horváth),
Frank Göller (Horváth),
Jochen Kröber (Horváth),
Svenja Stöveken (Horváth)

16:30 - 17:30 - Masterclass IBM

Sovereign AI & Quantum computing technology from IBM - a story of advanced research, trust, openness and ice cream

Rainer Lahmann (IBM),
Hardy Groeger (IBM)

LAB II

9:45 - 10:30 - Roundtable

AI Meets Retail and Branding: Creating Personalized Shopping and Branding Experiences with Innovative Technology

Opening remarks by Sebastian Walter (Otto Group Holding), Christoph Kastaun (Tchibo)

10:45 - 11:45 - Masterclass Schwarz Digits

How can companies and authorities become digitally sovereign?

Robin Hermann (STACKIT), Holger Schell (Schwarz IT),
Claudia Alsdorf (Schwarz Digits), Frederik Olivanti (WIRE), Robert Rosellen (ServiceNow)
moderated by Frank Wiethoff (BDO)

12:30 - 13:30 - Masterclass SAP

From POCs to AI Champions: Europe's Path to Becoming the World Leader in AI Adoption

Manuel Gerres (SAP)

14:00 - 15:00 Masterclass Unicredit

Suddenly offline: what it feels like to be attacked by a cybercriminal

Ines Atug (Unicredit), Martin Brinckmann (Unicredit), Artur Gruca (Unicredit)
moderated by Christina von Messling (Foresight Factory)

15:15 - 16:15 Uhr Masterclass Dassault Systèmes

Virtual Worlds for Real Life – Empowering people for sustainable and transformational innovation

Dominique Anderson (Dassault Systèmes),
moderated by Christina von Messling (Foresight Factory)

16:30 - 17:30 - Masterclass ServiceNow

Efficiency meets Innovation, a strategic leap forward – The Future of Global Business Services

Hartmut Müller (ServiceNow)

LAB III

11:00 - 11:45 - Panel

Rethinking Scale: Can Europe Outgrow Silicon Valley?

Romy Schnelle (HTGF),
Patrick Meininger (EGYM),
moderated by Jan Mittendorf (UnternehmerTUM)

12:30-13:30 - Masterclass BCG

Europe's Race to Tech Readiness

Christian Kirschniak (BCG),
Kirsten Rulf (BCG)

14:00 - 14:45 - Masterclass Accenture

AI Agents – Breakthroughs towards a New Era of Organizational Intelligence

Vanessa Cann (Accenture),
Krishna Sridhar (Accenture)

15:00 - 15:45 - Masterclass CyberValley

From Lab to Market: How Research is Driving Innovation

Wieland Brendel (University of Tübingen / ELLIS Institute),
Alexander Brem (University of Stuttgart), Yunus Bulut (KIT)
moderated by Rebecca Reisch (CyberValley)

16:00 - 16:45 - Deep Dive

Industrial AI - Use Cases

Sebastian Seitz (EPLAN)

17:00 - 17:45

From Compliance to Competitive Advantage:

How to Act Now on the EU AI Act

Paula Cipierre (ada Learning)

Blue Stage

- 8:45 Handelsblatt Morning Briefing Live**
Christian Rickens (Handelsblatt)
- 9:00 Yes, it's rocket Science - A startup's journey into space**
Daniel Metzler (Isar Aerospace),
in conversation with Larissa Holzki (Handelsblatt)
- 9:20 To the Stars or Nowhere - How do we Achieve Satellite Sovereignty?**
Aurélié Bressollette (Latitude), Max Gulde (ConstellR), Daniel Metzler (Isar Aerospace), Marta Oliviera (Atmos),
moderated by Thomas Jahn (Handelsblatt)
- 10:00 The Innovation War Is Deadly Serious - Are We?**
Marc Wietfeld (Arx Robotics),
in conversation with Larissa Holzki (Handelsblatt)
- 10:20 No Firewall Against Chaos: Responding to Hybrid Threats**
Valeriya Ionan (Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine) - 📱 digital
Celia Pelaz (Spire), Frank Sauer (University of the Bundeswehr Munich), Bernie Wagner (STACKIT),
moderated by Christof Kerkmann (Handelsblatt)
- 11:05 From Oil to AI - Innovation Politics in the Gulf**
HE Omran Sharaf (Minister for Advanced Science and Technology, UAE),
in conversation with Charlotte Haunhorst (Handelsblatt)
- 11:30 In Crisis Is Opportunity - So How Much Business Is in Climate?**
Barbara Wittenberg (IKomma5),
in conversation with Nadine Schimroszik (Handelsblatt)

- 11:45 The Fusion Moment: Can Europe Power the World?**
Heike Freund (Marvel Fusion), Lucio Milanese (Proxima Fusion),
in conversation with Nadine Schimroszik (Handelsblatt)
- 12:05 Can European Tech Close the Gap?**
Andrew McAfee (MIT),
in conversation with Stephan Scheuer (Handelsblatt)
- 12:35 Digital Euro: If Everything Is Digital - Why Not Our Money?**
Christiane Milders (Schwarz Group), Wolfram Seidemann (G+D), Ignacio Terol (ECB), Joachim Würmeling (Bundesbank),
moderated by Maja Brankovic (WirtschaftsWoche)
- 13:35 No Union, no Unicorns?**
Zoé Fabian (Noteus), Rainer Märkle (HV Capital), Lina Wenner (Firstminute)
in conversation with Astrid Dörner (Handelsblatt)
- 14:00 Interview with Volker Wissing (Former Federal Minister)**
moderated by Sebastian Matthes (Handelsblatt)
- 14:15 Moonshots vs. Colonizing Mars: Is Europe Thinking Big Enough?**
Hendrik Brandis (Earlybird), Lisa Gradow (Fides), Christian Miele (Headline), Volker Wissing (Former Federal Minister),
moderated by Sebastian Matthes (Handelsblatt)
- 14:55 Wrap up & Closing Remarks**
- 15:00 End of TECH Day III**

Purple Stage

- 8:45 Simultancast Blue Stage**
- 9:00 A Future for All: How Europe can lead the way to a Humane Tech World**
Ramesh Srinivasan (UCLA)
- 9:20 Humanity, AI and the Future of Europe**
Miriam Meckel (ada Learning) & Lea Steinacker (ada Learning)
- 9:50 Trust in media in times of the AI revolution**
Gerrit Richter (Civey)
- 10:00 Global Perspectives: A Media Briefing**
Florian Hager (ARD), Sebastian Matthes (Handelsblatt), Miriam Meckel (ada Learning), *moderated by* Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg (Spitzberg Ventures)
- 10:40 From Driving Cars to Driving Values: The New Race in Mobility**
Stefan Hartung (Bosch), Alex Kendall (Wayve), Hendrik Kramer (Fernride),
moderated by Ina Karabasz (Handelsblatt)
- 11:35 The Factory of the Future: Automation and „new collar“ jobs**
Jörg Burzer (Mercedes-Benz), Cedric Neike (Siemens), Bastian Nominacher (Celonis),
moderated by Nicole Bastian (Handelsblatt)
- 12:15 Creativism - The End of Modernism Through AI**
Matthias Hollwich (HWKN)
- 12:45 From Breakthrough Research to Global Tech Champions - Building Successful Ecosystems**
Vera Futorjanski (Investor), Ricardo Marvao (beta-i), Helmut Schönenberger (UnternehmerTUM),
moderated by Charlotte Haunhorst (Handelsblatt)
- 13:30 End of TECH Day III**

Tuesday, 27th May 2025

● House of Learning (LAB I–III)

LAB I

11:00 - 12:00 - Deep Dive

Unlocking the Sleeping Giant: Public Procurement of Tech in the EU

Manuel Kilian (Global Government Technology Centre Berlin),
Paulo Kalkhake (GovTechHH)

LAB II

10:00 - 10:45 - Masterclass EY

The Business Value of AI - from technology to business transformation

Holger Fehlbier (EY),
Christian Wesp (EY)

11:00 - 12:00 - Masterclass MHP

The LLM War is over – Infrastructure strikes back: How enterprises can build an AI-ready foundation for scalable value

Stephan Baier (MHP)

LAB III

10:00 - 10:45 - Deep Dive

Europe's approach to data sovereignty - a strength or a barrier to global competitiveness?

Ulrich Ahle (Gaia-X), Claudia Alsdorf (Schwarz Group),
Alexander Smolianitski (ZenDiS),
moderated by Sebastiano Toffaletti (European Digital SME Alliance)

11:00-12:00 - Masterclass XM Cyber

Modern Exposure Management with a Sovereign Approach

Tobi Träbing (XM Cyber)
moderated by Christina von Messling (Foresight Factory)

12:30 - 14:00 - AI Lab powered by pwc

Beyond Pilots: Harnessing Agentic AI for Industrial Value at Scale

Florian Stürmer & Christian Tietz (PwC Deutschland)

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by Handelsblatt

Relaxing Breaks @ Food Court

Our program is fast-paced and full of energy—no official breaks, just continuous inspiration!

Sunday, May 25

2:00 – 4:30 p.m. Reception with drinks and finger food
7:30 – 10:30 p.m. Aperitif and flying dinner

Monday, May 26

8:00 – 8:45 a.m. Reception with drinks and breakfast
10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Coffee break
12:00 – 3:00 p.m. Lunch
3:30 – 4:30 p.m. Coffee break

Tuesday, May 27

8:00 – 8:45 a.m. Reception with drinks and breakfast
10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Coffee break
12:30 – 1:30 p.m. To-go boxes/lunch to stay

Let's continue the conversation and connect while exploring the „Neckarmeile“ in the heart of Heilbronn on Monday evening, 26th May. You'll find a selection of recommended restaurants via the QR code below.



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