



# APA ACADEMY 2024

Date

7-8 November, 2024

Location

Cardo Autograph Hotel, Brussels

**Contact Us** 

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**Visit Our Website** 

www.epicenternetwork.eu

### Who We Are:

The EPICENTER network is formed by the leading economic think tanks of twelve European countries. Our aim is to inform the European policy debate by bringing together the expertise of our members.

With over 150 experts across twelve member organisations, we offer evidence-based perspectives on some of the most crucial economic and political challenges.

## **What We Offer:**

EPICENTER'S APA Academy is an immersive programme tailored for Accredited Parliamentary Assistants of Members of the European Parliament.

The sessions follow the 'unconference' format, that provides a highly interactive experience and enables us to explore crucial policy areas that can make or break the success of this parliamentary term.

The APA Academy empowers you to sharpen your advocacy skills, champion policies that promote economic growth, innovation, and prosperity within the EU.

As well as gaining and sharing valuable insights, you will have the chance to build lasting professional relationships with fellow APAs outside of the formalities of the Parliament and get to know some of the leading academics working on policy areas relevant to your office.



# **Our Discussion Topics**

# **Economic Competitiveness**



This session will examine various perspectives on economic growth and EU competitiveness and discuss how to foster innovation and entrepreneurship on the old continent better.

### **Topics include:**

- How can the EU regain its competitiveness and ensure faster economic growth across all regions?
- How should our regulatory approach to new technologies change so entrepreneurship can thrive in the Single Market?
- How should capital markets and saving mechanism change to boost innovations and economic growth?

# Taxation Policy



This session will explore various taxation principles and their potential impacts on economic growth, analysing current EU proposals and national approaches.

### **Topics include:**

- How can policymakers identify strategies to support the economy and produce sustainable fiscal policies?
- What can we learn from national tax reform case studies like Estonia and Poland?
- What are the implications of recent EU taxation proposals?

# **Energy & Climate Policy**



This session will examine diverse approaches to energy and climate policy, exploring the balance between environmental sustainability and economic considerations.

### **Topics include:**

- How are the European Green Deal and Fit for 55 package reshaping EU policy?
- Is it possible to reconcile environmental targets and competition in electricity and natural gas market?
- How do we make the best use of human ingenuity to reduce Europe's carbon footprint?

# Geopolitical Affairs



This session will focus the EU's role in a changing global landscape, discussing the fine balance between openness and strategic interests.

### **Topics include:**

- What does the Open Strategic Autonomy mean in practice?
- Is the world 'deglobalising'? If so, what does it mean for the EU?
- What are the potential economic and political impacts of EU expansion?
- How do EU trade agreements function as foreign policy tools?

# Constitutional Affairs



This session will explore potential futures for the EU, considering various approaches to political and economic collaboration across Europe.

### **Topics include:**

- How might EU institutional decision-making evolve?
- What are the implications of multi-speed or variable-geometry approaches?
- How could changes in EU competencies affect member states and citizens?
- How can the EU ensure the rule of law within member states and on a pan-European level?

# Sessions Facilitated by Leading Experts from the Following Organisations:























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