Continuing a 22-year tradition, the course on the future of the European Union will once again take place at the Menéndez y Pelayo International University (UIMP) in Santander, which, from 2013, adopted the generic name Quo Vadis Europa?

As in previous editions, the course will be directed by Josep Borrell Fontelles, currently the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission (HR/VP), together with Professor Francisco Fonseca Morillo as academic director and secretary.

Quo Vadis Europa? will take place at the UIMP’s headquarters in the Palacio de la Magdalena in Santander between 21 and 25 August 2023.

In a context marked by the war in Ukraine and its consequences on the economy and global stability and the emergence of China, the course will address the positioning of the EU as a geo-political actor, its contribution to the security of Europe and its relations with the US, China and other regions of the world.

Political leaders from EU Member States, Ukraine and other candidate countries, MEPs, university professors and experts on the most relevant geopolitical issues will take part in the course.
**Press conference**

**The European Union in the face of war and peace in Ukraine**

**OPENING SESSION. Sí vis pacem para verbum**

- Introduction to the course by **Josep Borrell Fontelles**
- Lecture by **Dmitró Kuleba**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine (online)

**THE VISION OF THE NEIGHBOURS**

11:00-12:00

- **Gabrielius Landsbergis**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania
- **Alexander Schallenberg**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Austria
- **Áurea Moltó**, Executive Director for Foreign Policy
- **Moderator, Josep Borrell**, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

**EU support for Ukraine**

15:30-16:00

- **Admiral Hervé Blejean**, Director-General of the European Union Military Staff (EMUE)

**PANEL DISCUSSION:**

16:00-17:00

- **Borja Lasheras**, Senior Fellow at the Center for European Policy Analysis
- **Cristina Manzano**, Director of es.global
- **Jesús Núñez Villaverde**, Co-Director of the Institute for Studies on Conflict and Humanitarian Action
- **Moderator, Francisco Fonseca**
**Enlargement and Neighbourhood. The Western Balkans on their way towards the European Union**

- Oltar Xhaçka, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Albania (online)
- Bujar Osmani, Minister of Foreign Affairs of North Macedonia
- Áurea Moltó, Executive Director for Foreign Policy
- Gerald Knaus, Chairman of the European Stability Initiative
- Moderator, Esther Orsini-Rosenberg

**Looking East: the EU vis-à-vis Russia and its alliance with China**

- Daniela Schwarzer, Member of the Bertelsmann Stiftung Executive Board

**Europe as a Geopolitical Actor in Security and Defence**

- Nicole Gnesotto, Vice-President of the Jacques Delors Institute
- Admiral Hervé Blejean, Director-General of the European Union Military Staff (EMUE)
- Moderator, Josep Borrell, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

**China: the EU in the face of China’s emergency**

- Yves Tiberghien, Professor at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver and the Institute of Political Science in Paris
- Alice Ekman, Senior Analyst at the European Institute for Security Studies
- Eugenio Bregolat, Former Spanish Ambassador to Russia and China
- Moderator, Francisco Fonseca
EU Energy Policy in the geo-political context
- Cristina Narbona Ruiz, Climate Minister of Spain (2004 – 2008) and Deputy for Madrid in the Spanish Congress (Social and Democrat Group)

The EU from the African perspective
- Aissaita Tall Sall, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Senegal
- Gerald Knaus, Chairman of the European Stability Initiative
- José Segura, Director General of Casa África

The EU and the economic consequences of war
- Jonás Fernández Álvarez, Member of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs of the European Parliament

The construction of a political Europe in the face of the fragmentation of the global system
- Josep Borrell, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
- Nathalie Tocci, Director of the Istituto Affari Internazionali
- Paul Magnette, Professor en la Université Libre de Bruxelles and Mayor of Charleroi

Closing Conference