

Germany & The Netherlands - Sample Itinerary

The aim of this itinerary is to directly access the companies and institutions affected by the marked slowdown in a globalized economy. In visiting two European countries, participants will get varied insights into how factors like **protectionist subsidy schemes, geopolitical tensions and industrial policies are shaping the widespread expansion of globalization**. Examine this trend through the lens of an embassy, chamber of commerce or international corporation and of course, take the time to explore Berlin and Amsterdam via a few cultural events!

Sun, Sep 10, 2023		Willkommen to Germany!	day 1
	arrive Munich meet ISP representative at the airport		air
	transfer to hotel, check-in		bus transfer
	rest of the day at leisure		

Mon, Sep 11, 2023		Berlin - maintaining international investment	day 2
	breakfast		hotel
	meet in hotel lobby, depart for visits		bus full day
morning	visit: strategic cooperation and economic competition - the current challenges of EU-USA relations <i>e.g. U.S. Commercial Service</i> Although the West is united on many fronts these days, there are some tensions related to the different subsidy programs of the USA and EU. These programs are designed to attract investment in clean technology and promote the development of their own semiconductor industries. This may have some implications for businesses and other aspects of their mutual relations.		
	group lunch		restaurant
afternoon	visit: the European Chips Act - strengthening the EU's semiconductor ecosystem <i>e.g. Intel</i> Intel's ambitious plan to build a new manufacturing site in Germany would be one of the largest foreign investments in Europe in decades and would form one of the centerpieces of EU's strategy of developing local semiconductor industry. Learn from the company's representatives about the strategic reasoning behind this decision and what Intel is hoping to get from establishing a stronger European presence.		
	rest of the day at leisure		

Tue, Sep 12, 2023		Berlin - developing resilience to global change	day 3
	breakfast		hotel
	meet in hotel lobby, depart for visits		bus full day

morning	<p>visit: Germany's lessons from Chinese takeovers <i>e.g. KUKA Robotics</i></p> <p>The Chinese acquisition of Kuka, a globally renowned manufacturer of industrial robots, was significant. This transaction has led to discussions concerning the potential risks associated with transferring Germany's technological advancements and know-how to China. While German authorities did not intervene to prevent the takeover in 2016, it is uncertain whether the outcome would have been the same if the event took place today. Let's examine the impact that the acquisition has had on Kuka and how the company is faring under its new ownership.</p>	
	group lunch	restaurant
afternoon	<p>visit: new economic climate of heightened tensions affecting German tech companies <i>e.g. ERS Electronic</i></p> <p>ERS Electronic is a Munich-based award-winning thermal management solution manufacturer for semiconductor industry and was in fact recently targeted for acquisition by one a Chinese company. The stake was blocked by Germany's government for strategic reasons. So it begs the question, should the government limit the free flow of capital and how does it impact the companies in question?</p>	
	rest of the day at leisure	

Wed, Sep 13, 2023	Transfer to The Netherlands	day 4
	breakfast	hotel
	check out, load luggage onto bus, transfer to airport	bus transfer
	transfer to Amsterdam	air
	transfer to hotel, check in	bus transfer
	rest of the day at leisure	

Thu, Sep 14, 2023	Amsterdam - gateway to western Europe	day 5
	breakfast	hotel
	meet in hotel lobby, depart for visits	bus full day
morning	<p>visit: the importance of foreign investment for open economies <i>e.g. NFIA - Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency</i></p> <p>In the German part of the program, we covered how the geopolitical tensions are manifesting in the area of foreign investments. Now let's explore how a clever way of attracting the right investments can strengthen regional business ecosystems and contribute to national goals in the areas of digitalization, innovation and sustainability.</p>	
	group lunch	restaurant

afternoon	<p>visit: building more resilient supply chains <i>e.g. Royal Philips</i></p> <p>Philips, one of the iconic technology Dutch companies, has struggled dramatically with supply chain issues which even led to decreasing share value and the need to cut down workforce. What are the lessons Philips learnt from this and how it aims to develop more resilient supply chains while keeping its competitive edge?</p>	
	rest of the day at leisure	

Fri, Sep 15, 2023		Tech traditions in Eindhoven	day 6
	breakfast		hotel
	meet in hotel lobby, depart for Eindhoven		bus full day
morning	<p>visit: the unknown Dutch tech giant - meet the most valuable EU tech company <i>e.g. ASML</i></p> <p>ASML is the only company in the world that can produce EUV lithography systems, the chip making machines that are used by Intel, Samsung and other better known semiconductor companies to manufacture their chips. It has been often dubbed the most important technological company of our times. Visit this unique player in the tech field to better understand how they manage key global relationships in a turbulent market.</p> <p>management presentation, discussion, tour of facilities</p>		
	group lunch		
afternoon	<p>visit: Can the EU keep up with the US on green subsidies? <i>e.g. InnoEnergy</i></p> <p>Visit this Eindhoven-based sustainable energy accelerator to learn how the clean tech subsidies in USA and EU are shaping the thinking of investors and clean-tech start-ups. What are the key ingredients to build a green energy innovation ecosystem?</p>		
	rest of the day at leisure		

Sat, Sep 16, 2023		It's time to head home	day 7
	breakfast		hotel
	check out, load luggage onto bus, depart for airport		bus transfer
	depart for home country		air