Horizon4Poland'26 conference is one of Poland's leading events dedicated to the **Horizon Europe** programme, bringing together representatives of science, industry, and public institutions from across Europe. Under the theme **'From Partnerships to European Impact'**, the event provides a platform for networking, knowledge exchange, and the development of international research and innovation collaborations through expert debates, matchmaking sessions, and technology showcases.

The conference has received the honorary patronage of the Minister of Science and Higher Education, the Ministry of Economic Development and Technology, the Polish Agency for Enterprise Development, the European Commission Representation in Poland, the National Centre for Research and Development, Polish Chamber of Commerce (KIG) and Polish Confederation Lewiatan.

Marcin Kulasek
Minister of Science and Higher Education
Republic of Poland

European Commission

PARP
Grupa PFR

Ministry of Economic Development and Technology
Republic of Poland

NCBR
National Centre for Research and Development

KRAJOWA IZBA GOSPODARCZA

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KONFEDERACJA LEWIATAN

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

November 3rd, 2026

Venue: The Tides, Warsaw, Wioślarska 8

08:30 – 09:00 Registration and welcome coffee

Location: *Matchmaking and networking area*

09:00 – 09:30 Opening speeches

Location: *Main conference stage*

- **Andrzej Szeptycki** – Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Science and Higher Education
- **Hubert Cichocki** – President, Łukasiewicz Research Network
- **H.E. Neeta Bhushan** – Ambassador of India to Poland (TBC)
- **Katarzyna Smyk** – Head of the European Commission Representation in Poland (TBC)
- **Michał Matlak** – Director, Łukasiewicz-ITECH
- **Presentation of the Industry Contact Point Coordinators**

09:30 – 10:00 Keynote speeches

Location: *Main conference stage*

- **Prof. Grzegorz Brona** – Founder and CEO, Creotech Instruments S.A.
- **Prof. Krzysztof Pyrć** – President, Foundation for Polish Science

10:00 – 11:00 Debate I: The Future of Horizon Europe in the Next EU Budgetary Perspective

Location: *Main conference stage*

This debate will explore the future of the Horizon Europe programme within the next EU budgetary framework, focusing on funding priorities, strategic technologies, Europe's global competitiveness, and the role of research and innovation in addressing societal and economic challenges. Participants will discuss how the future edition of the programme can better support collaboration between science, industry, and public institutions while maximizing Europe's innovation impact.

Speakers:

- **Krzysztof Pyrć** – President, Foundation for Polish Science
- **Michał Goszczyński** – Director, Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Science and Higher Education
- **Tomasz Mazuryk** – Co-Founder and Co-CEO, FundingBox Group
- **Jolanta Itrich-Drabarek** – Vice President for Research, Łukasiewicz Research Network
- **Marcin Kwasowski** – Deputy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Chair: Michał Matlak – Director, Łukasiewicz-ITECH

11:00 – 12:00 **Debate II: Space and Strategic Technologies in Building Europe's Technological Sovereignty**

Location: *Main conference stage*

This debate will focus on the strategic technologies that will shape Europe's future competitiveness, resilience, and technological sovereignty. Experts from industry, research, and public institutions will discuss the role of emerging technologies, the space sector, advanced manufacturing, and innovation ecosystems in strengthening Europe's ability to develop and secure critical capabilities while reducing dependencies and fostering sustainable economic growth.

Speakers:

- **Jędrzej Kowalewski** – CEO, Scanway S.A.
- **Michał Chwieduk** – Head of European Space Agency, Poland
- **Piotr Zabadała** – Deputy Director, Department of Innovation and Space Policy, Ministry of Development and Technology
- **Monika Machowska** – Deputy Director of the Technology Park Department, Krakow Technology Park
- **Dorota Pawlak** – CEO, ENSEMBLE3 Sp. z o.o.

Chair: Jan Jęcz – Polityka Insight

12:15 – 12:30 Coffee break
***Location**: Matchmaking and networking area*

12:30 – 13:30 Debate III: Türkiye–Poland Strategic Investment Partnership: New Horizons in Industry, Defense, Energy and Technology
***Location:** Main conference stage*

This debate will explore the growing strategic partnership between Türkiye and Poland, highlighting opportunities for cooperation in industry, defense, energy, and emerging technologies. The discussion will focus on strengthening bilateral investments, fostering innovation-driven collaboration, and identifying new avenues for joint projects that contribute to economic growth, technological advancement, and regional resilience.

Opening remarks: **H.E. Rauf Alp Denktaş** – Ambassador of Türkiye to Poland

Speakers:

- **Witold Leśniak** – Former Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Istanbul, Türkiye
- **Konrad Maj** – Director, HumanTech Center
- **Dorota Heidrich** – Plenipotentiary for International Cooperation to the President of the Łukasiewicz Research Network
- **Oktay Ercan** – EU Projects Expert at the Directorate for European Union Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye
- **Iwona Bogucka** – FND Managing Director & ISETIA CEO

Chair: Atilla Arda Beşen – Founder & CEO, VolareVers; Co-Founder, TIDE

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch break
***Location:** Matchmaking and networking area*

14:30 – 15:30 Debate IV: Scaling Innovation for Europe's Energy Transition

***Location**: Main conference stage*

Europe's energy transition requires not only breakthrough technologies but also effective mechanisms to scale innovation from research and pilot projects to widespread market adoption. This debate will explore how industry, research organizations, investors, and policymakers can work together to accelerate the deployment of clean energy solutions, strengthen European competitiveness, and achieve climate neutrality goals. Participants will discuss funding opportunities, innovation ecosystems, and successful collaboration models that support the growth of sustainable energy technologies across Europe.

Speakers:

- **Leszek Jesień** – Director for International Cooperation, Polskie Sieci Elektroenergetyczne
- **Grzegorz Jóźwiak** – Executive Director, ORLEN S.A.
- **Katarzyna Klejnowska** – Łukasiewicz Research Network – Institute of Non-Ferrous Metals
- **Tomasz Szubiela** – Vice President of the Management Board, Polish Nuclear Power Plants (TBC)
- **Damian Gąsiorek** – Acting Director, Łukasiewicz Research Network – Warsaw Institute of Technology (TBC)
- **Maciej Lipiński –** Climate and Energy Policy Analyst, Reform Institute (TBC)

Chair: **Michał Niewiadomski** – Founder and President of the Energy Club

15:30 – 16:30 Debate V: Beyond Silos: How European Partnerships Listen, Connect and Create Value

Location: *Main conference stage*

European Partnerships play a crucial role in addressing complex societal and technological challenges by bringing together stakeholders from research, industry, public authorities, and civil society. This debate will explore how collaborative approaches can break down sectoral barriers, foster knowledge exchange, and create greater value through coordinated action. Participants will discuss how partnerships can better respond to emerging needs, strengthen innovation ecosystems, and maximize the impact of European research and innovation investments.

Speakers:

- **Joanna Broy** – Ecosystem Lead for Poland, EIT Health
- **Rafał Łukasik** – Acting Director of the Łukasiewicz – Industrial Chemistry Institute (TBC)
- **Magali Poinot** – Head of Governance, Innovative Health Initiative
- **Jakub Kruszyński** – Specialist, ORLEN S.A.
- **VIGO Photonics Representative** – VIGO Photonics (TBC)

Chair: **Monika Ślęzak** – Coordinator, Industry Contact Point MedTech & Health, Łukasiewicz Research Network – PORT

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break

Location*: Matchmaking and networking area*

17:00 – 18:00 Innovation success stories

Location: *Main conference stage*

Meet entrepreneurs who have turned demanding scientific and technological challenges into innovative products and services through research and development. Some have already carried out projects funded by Horizon Europe, while others are preparing to apply for its support. Their stories will show what the journey from idea and lab to market really looks like, and what helps make it a success.

18:00 – 20:00 Networking cocktail

Location*: Matchmaking and networking area*

WORKSHOP AND EXHIBITION TRACK

10:00 – 18:00 INNOVATION EXPO – showcase area

Location: *Innovation expo*

An exhibition area open throughout the event, showcasing innovative solutions developed by event partners, institutes of the Łukasiewicz Research Network, research organizations, and corporate R&D departments.

12:00 – 13:30 Workshop: Problem and idea design for digital health projects (design thinking workshop)

Location: *Workshop room; PARALLEL SESSION*

14:30 – 16:00 Strategic Workshop: Polish Voice in the EIT 2028–2034 Reform

Location: *Workshop room; PARALLEL SESSION*

The "Polish Voice in the EIT 2028–2034 Reform" workshop will bring together Polish organizations cooperating with various EIT communities to discuss what the EIT should look like after 2027 from the perspective of Poland's innovation ecosystem.

16:00 – 18:00 MATCHMAKING SESSION

Location: *Matchmaking and networking area*
(*15-minute time slots)*

Matchmaking offers 15-minute one-to-one meetings with event participants. Access the participant list after registration and schedule meetings with people and organizations that match your interests to build valuable partnerships.