

CBS

INTERNATIONAL
BUSINESS SCHOOL

Cologne, 15-16 October 2026

EUROPEAN BUSINESS EDUCATION & FUTURE SKILLS SUMMIT 2026

Educating Talent for a Changing World

AI • Future Skills • Global Talent •
Industry Collaboration

Hosted by



Powered by



EUROPEAN BUSINESS EDUCATION & FUTURE SKILLS SUMMIT 2026

Hosted by CBS International Business School | Powered by IACBE

EDUCATING TALENT FOR A CHANGING WORLD

AI • Future Skills • Global Talent • Industry Collaboration

The European Business Education & Future Skills Summit brings together academic leaders, faculty members, quality assurance professionals and industry representatives to explore how business schools can prepare graduates for a rapidly changing world.

Across two days, participants will examine how artificial intelligence, changing labour market expectations, global talent mobility and stronger collaboration with industry are reshaping business education.

The summit combines keynote presentations, employer perspectives, institutional best practices, collaborative working sessions and unique networking opportunities. Participants will leave with practical ideas, new connections and concrete recommendations for their institutions.

SUMMIT OUTCOMES

The European Business Education & Future Skills Summit is designed not only as a platform for discussion but also as a catalyst for practical ideas and future collaboration.

The insights, recommendations and examples of good practice developed throughout the summit will be documented and shared with all participants.

Following the event, CBS International Business School and IACBE will publish the

European Business Education & Future Skills Summit Insights Report 2026

The report will be distributed digitally to all participants & participating institutions.



WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2026

Arrival Day

18:30 | **Welcome Dinner for Early Arrivals**

An informal networking dinner for participants arriving the evening before the summit. Costs for the dinner are not included.

THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2026

Day 1 – Understand the Change

Trends, Innovation & Future Challenges

09:00-10:00 | **Registration & Welcome Coffee**

10:00-10:20 | **Welcome by CBS and IACBE**

Opening remarks and introduction to the summit theme.

10:20-11:15 | **Opening Keynote**

AI is Rewriting Higher Education – Are We Ready?

Artificial Intelligence is fundamentally changing how students learn, how faculty teach and how institutions assess learning outcomes.

11:15-11:45 | **IACBE Presidential Address**

Quality, Relevance and Impact in Business Education

11:45-12:15 | **Fireside Chat**

The Future of Business Schools in Europe

A conversation between representatives from higher education exploring how business schools must adapt to remain relevant and impactful.

12:15-13:00 | **Industry Perspective**

What Employers Really Expect from Graduates in 2030

Employers increasingly seek graduates who combine academic knowledge with adaptability, digital literacy, problem-solving capabilities and strong interpersonal skills.

13:00-14:00 | **Networking Lunch**

14:00-14:30 | **IACBE corporate partners**

Peregrine Global Services

14:30-15:15 | **Educating for Employability:**

How Applied Learning, Business Projects and Industry Collaboration Shape Career Success

Part I | Business Projects as a Core Element of the Curriculum

Roundtable with students and faculty.

Part II | Graduate Success Stories – What Made the Difference? Alumni Reflections on Career Readiness and Employability

Discussion with alumni on successful career entry and the practical relevance of applied business education.

15:15-15:45 | **Coffee Break**

15:45-17:15 | **Innovation Showcase**

Business Education Research & Practice in Action

A series of selected short presentations showcasing innovative approaches, research findings and practical solutions from participating institutions.

Format | **8-minute presentation + 4-minute discussion – Call for Contributions**

Participants are invited to submit proposals for presentation.

17:15-17:45 | **Summit Pulse**

Three Questions for the Future of Business Education

A fast-paced interactive reflection session capturing the key insights of the day.

17:45-19:15 | **Conference Reception**

Drinks & Networking

19:30-22:00 | **Surprise Evening event in the Old Town of the City Center**

FRIDAY, 16 OCTOBER 2026

Day 2 – Create the Response

From Ideas to Action

09:00-09:30 | **Morning Coffee & Reflections**

Recap of Day 1 and introduction to the collaborative sessions.

09:30-10:30 | **Future Lab 1 – Co-Creation Session**

Teaching and Assessment in the Age of AI

Participants work together to develop practical recommendations for business schools.

10:30-11:00 | **Coffee Break**

11:00-12:00 | **Future Lab 2 – Co-Creation Session**

Embedding Employability and Future Skills into the Curriculum

Participants explore how institutions can better prepare graduates for the future labour market.

12:00-13:00 | **Future Lab 3 – Co-Creation Session**

Internationalisation & Employer Engagement

Participants discuss how business schools can attract, develop and retain international talent while strengthening employer engagement.

13:00-13:30 | **Summit Conclusions & Looking Ahead**

What Will Shape Business Education Over the Next Decade?

Presentation of the key outputs developed during the Future Labs & discussion of emerging priorities, future collaboration opportunities and next steps for participants and institutions.

Closing Remarks

CBS International Business School

13:30-14:30 | **Networking Lunch**

14:30-15:15 | **IACBE European Chapter Meeting** (internal)

16:00-17:30 | **Special Insights into Cologne**

17:30-19:00 | **Free time to do some personal sightseeing or souvenir shopping**

From 19:00 | **Summit Dinner at a Traditional Cologne Brewery**



CALL FOR PAPERS

European Business Education & Future Skills Summit 2026

CBS International Business School | Powered by IACBE
15-16 October 2026, Cologne – Germany

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We are excited to announce the Call for Papers for our upcoming European Business Education & Future Skills Work Summit 2026, focused on future Business education and the role of applied learning and AI in a rapidly changing world.

FORMAT

Research ideas will be pitched in a 8-minute presentation followed by a 4-minute Q&A session. This format encourages dynamic exchanges and allows for multiple perspectives on key issues.

TOPICS OF INTEREST

We invite submissions that explore, but are not limited to, the following areas:

- AI & Learning
- Future Skills & Employability
- Global Talent & Internationalisation
- Industry Collaboration
- Quality Assurance & Accreditation
- Sustainability & Responsible Management Education
- Digital Learning Environments
- Student Success and Retention

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITY

Presenters will be invited to submit a short practice paper, case study or extended abstract for inclusion in the European Business Education & Future Skills Summit Insights Report 2026.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Please submit an abstract of 300 words along with your name, affiliation, and contact information by 31 August 2026. Selected presenters will be notified by Silke Bochow and will be required to submit their presentations by 01 October 2026. All presenters are expected to submit a paper (3-5 pages) after the conference before 31 October 2026.

IMPORTANT DATES

Submission Deadline:

31 August 2026

Notification of Acceptance:

15 September 2026

Presentation Submission:

01 October 2026

Paper Submission:

31 October 2026

Submissions & further enquiries
to be sent to **Silke Bochow:**

s.bochow@cbs.de



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

European Business Education & Future Skills Summit 2026

COSTS

295€ Early bird fees/Paper presenters/2nd registered participant of one institution

350€ Regular fees

Please note that the fees **do not include accommodation**.

REGISTRATION

Early bird Deadline: 15 August 2026

Regular Deadline: 15 September 2026

Please register here (registration opens on 1 August 2026)



ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS

Hotel Begardenhof (5 mins walking distance from CBS)

Motel One Cologne Altstadt (app. 20 mins by public transport)

Mercure Hotel Severinshof (app. 20 mins by public transport)



ARRIVAL INFORMATION

The closest airport is the Cologne/Bonn Airport. Alternatively, you can fly to Düsseldorf or Frankfurt. From these airports, direct ICE trains connect to Cologne Central Station (Köln Hbf), where you can easily transfer to local transport (tram or taxi) to reach the CBS campus.

Find all information on public transport in Cologne, as well as fares here:



From Cologne Main Station (Köln Hauptbahnhof) → CBS International Business School

Take Underground 16 (direction Bad Godesberg) to Rodenkirchen. From there it's a 2 mins walk to CBS, Bahnstr. 6-8.

From Cologne/Bonn Airport → CBS International Business School

Take the subway S19 or regional trains RE6 or RB27 to Cologne Main Station (Köln Hauptbahnhof). Then transfer to Underground 16 (direction Bad Godesberg) to Rodenkirchen. From there it's a 2 mins walk to CBS, Bahnstr. 6-8.

From Düsseldorf Airport → CBS International Business School

Take the regional trains RE1 or RE5 to Cologne Main Station (Köln Hauptbahnhof). Then transfer to Underground 16 (direction Bad Godesberg) to Rodenkirchen. From there it's a 2 mins walk to CBS, Bahnstr. 6-8.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

European Business Education & Future Skills Summit 2026

THINGS TO DO IN COLOGNE

- **Cologne Cathedral** (Kölner Dom)
- **Chocolate Museum**
- **Hohenzollern Bridge**
- **Museum Ludwig** (Museum of modern art)
- **Cologne Zoo** (Kölner Zoo)
- **Kölntriangle** (best observation rooftop with view of Cologne and the cathedral)

THINGS TO DO AROUND COLOGNE

- **Brühl Castle** (Schloss Brühl)
- **Phantasialand** (amusement park)
- **Museum of German History, Bonn** (Haus der Geschichte, Bonn)

For more information:



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