

stars Switzerland symposium 2026
Unknown Unknowns: Prepare for Resilience!
4-7 September 2026
Wolfsberg, Ermatingen

Objectives:

- Broaden the mindset to better understand major global trends which will impact business and society over the next couple of years, like **Disruptive Technological Developments, AI-Innovation, Geopolitics and Goeconomics, Circular Economy, Health and Leadership**
- Engage in interdisciplinary **dialogue across geographies, cultures and industries**
- Contribute to the **personal development to drive responsible and sustainable actions**

Background Information: Link

Friday, 4 September 2026 - Wolfsberg		
12:00	Opening of Conference Check-in	Lobby
15:30	Welcome Coffee	Foyer
16:30	Welcome Address	Toni SCHOENENBERGER Founder and Executive Chairman, stars Foundation, Weinfelden, Switzerland Auditorium
16:45	Complexity is Destiny - Orientation in Times of No Direction	Peter MAURER President, Basel Institute on Governance; Former President, International Committee of the Red Cross ICRC; Member, stars Global Advisory Panel, Berne, Switzerland
18:15	Cocktails hosted by the Canton of Thurgau	Foyer
19:00	Group Picture	
19:15	Dinner	Panoramasaal
	Dinner Speech	
	Night Cap	Remise Wolfsberg

Saturday, 5 September 2026 - Wolfsberg

07:00 Breakfast Restaurant

LEADERSHIP: SUCCESS IN BUSINESS AND BEYOND

08:30 Individual Interviews Auditorium

John R. ALLEN Strategic Advisor, Microsoft; Four-Star General (Ret.), United States Marine Corps; Member, stars Global Advisory Panel, Washington DC, United States
Misty COOK CEO, Concierge on Call; stars Alumna, Washington DC, United States
LIM Siong Guan Former Group President, GIC; Former Head of Singapore Civil Service; Member, stars International Board, Singapore
Fabian RUPPRECHT CEO, Helvetia, Basel, Switzerland
N.N.
N.N.

10:00 Networking Coffee Auditorium Foyer

10:30 Leadership Dialogues (in Breakout Groups) Breakout Rooms

John R. ALLEN Strategic Advisor, Microsoft; Four-Star General (Ret.), United States Marine Corps; Member, stars Global Advisory Panel, Washington DC, United States
Misty COOK CEO, Concierge on Call; stars Alumna, Washington DC, United States
LIM Siong Guan Former Group President, GIC; Former Head of Singapore Civil Service; Member, stars International Board, Singapore
Fabian RUPPRECHT CEO, Helvetia, Basel, Switzerland
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12:00 Buffet Lunch Panoramasaal

CIRCULAR ECONOMY (CE): FROM NET ZERO TO NET POSITIVE

Moderator Auditorium

Gordana KIERANS Circular Economy Consultant, Managing Director MGT OPEN; Supervisory Board Member, Circle Economy Amsterdam; President, stars South-East Europe Alumni Chapter, Grižane, Croatia

13:30 Secondary Materials Auditorium

Agata FRANKIEWICZ Founder and CEO, Deko Eko and Circular Consulting, Poland
Hilde VAN DUIJN CEO, Circle Economy, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

14:45 Networking Coffee Auditorium Foyer

15:15 Financing Auditorium

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16:30 Time at your Disposal

17:00 Departure Auditorium Foyer

18:00 Visit of the Mainau Island (www.mainau.de) Mainau Island

Saturday, 5 September 2026 - Wolfsberg

Welcome Address	Countess Bettina BERNADOTTE af WISBORG Mainau Island; stars Alumna, Mainau Island, Germany Count Björn BERNADOTTE af WISBORG Mainau Island; stars Alumnus, Mainau Island, Germany	Mainau Castle
Walk through the Mainau Island		Mainau Castle
Dinner Buffet		Palm House, Mainau
22:00 Night Cap		Remise Wolfsberg

Sunday, 6 September 2026 - Wolfsberg

07:00 Breakfast Restaurant

GEOPOLITICAL AND GEOECONOMIC INTELLIGENCE

08:30 A World Beyond Trump: Anticipating Geopolitical Futures (Plenary Discussion) Auditorium
John R. ALLEN Strategic Advisor, Microsoft; Four-Star General (Ret.), United States Marine Corps; Member, stars Global Advisory Panel, Washington DC, United States
Volker PERTHES Senior Advisor, German Institute for International and Security Affairs; Former Under-Secretary-General, United Nations; Member, stars Scientific Board, Berlin, Germany
Yanran YAO Lecturer in Chinese Politics, International Development and Gender, The Lau China Institute, King's College London, United Kingdom

09:30 Anticipating Emerging Powers Futures (Plenary Discussion) Auditorium
Sarah MTHINTSO Executive Director, SAB Foundation; stars Alumna, Johannesburg, South Africa
Saraban TURIN CEO, Turtle Venture; stars Alumna, Dhaka, Bangladesh
N.N.

10:30 Networking Coffee Auditorium Foyer

11:00 Deep Dive Breakout Group 1: A World Beyond Trump: Anticipating Geopolitical Futures Auditorium
John R. ALLEN Strategic Advisor, Microsoft; Four-Star General (Ret.), United States Marine Corps; Member, stars Global Advisory Panel, Washington DC, United States
Volker PERTHES Senior Advisor, German Institute for International and Security Affairs; Former Under-Secretary-General, United Nations; Member, stars Scientific Board, Berlin, Germany
Yanran YAO Lecturer in Chinese Politics, International Development and Gender, The Lau China Institute, King's College London, United Kingdom

Deep Dive Breakout Group 2: Anticipating Emerging Powers Futures Breakout Room
Sarah MTHINTSO Executive Director, SAB Foundation; stars Alumna, Johannesburg, South Africa
Saraban TURIN CEO, Turtle Venture; stars Alumna, Dhaka, Bangladesh
N.N.
Moderator:
Ueli FREI Director, Fundes International, Frauenfeld, Switzerland

12:30 Buffet Lunch Panoramasaal

THINK THE UNTHINKABLE: GLOBAL HEALTH MATTERS

15:30 Networking Coffee Auditorium Foyer

PEERS-EXCHANGE

16:00 Breakout Groups Breakout Rooms

Sunday, 6 September 2026 - Wolfsberg

Hollywood as a Laboratory for
21st Century Leadership and
Organization

Roland DEISER Senior Drucker Fellow, Professor for
Organizational Politics, Founder and Chairman, Center
for the Future of Organization, Drucker School of
Management, Claremont Graduate University, Los
Angeles, United States

Addicted by Design: AI,
Persuasive Software, and
Emerging Systemic Risks

Sophia REICH Head, Casualty Treaty Underwriting
WSE and MEA, Swiss Re; stars Alumna, Zurich,
Switzerland

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17:30 Time at your Disposal

18:30 Cocktails

Restaurant

19:00 Dinner

Restaurant

Night Cap

Remise Wolfsberg

Monday, 7 September 2026 - Wolfsberg

07:00 Breakfast (Check-out till 8.15) Restaurant

EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES RESHAPING POSSIBILITY

08:30 AI - Driven Change Management **Christian WESTERMANN** Partner and AI Leader, PwC Switzerland, Zurich, Switzerland Auditorium

09:00 Agentic AI and the Future of Work **Philipp AEBY** Co-Founder and CEO, RepRisk, Zurich, Switzerland

09:30 Internet or Inter-Threat: Cybersecurity and the Next Generation of the Internet **Martin BOSSHARDT** CEO, Anapaya Systems; Member, stars Scientific Board, Zurich, Switzerland

10:00 Networking Coffee Auditorium Foyer

10:30 Co-Creating the (AI)Agentic Enterprise **Roland DEISER** Senior Drucker Fellow, Professor for Organizational Politics, Founder and Chairman, Center for the Future of Organization, Drucker School of Management, Claremont Graduate University, Los Angeles, United States Auditorium

11:00 Plenary Discussion **Philipp AEBY** Co-Founder and CEO, RepRisk, Zurich, Switzerland
Martin BOSSHARDT CEO, Anapaya Systems; Member, stars Scientific Board, Zurich, Switzerland
Roland DEISER Senior Drucker Fellow, Professor for Organizational Politics, Founder and Chairman, Center for the Future of Organization, Drucker School of Management, Claremont Graduate University, Los Angeles, United States
Christian WESTERMANN Partner and AI Leader, PwC Switzerland, Zurich, Switzerland

12:00 Concluding Remarks **Toni SCHOENENBERGER** Founder and Executive Chairman, stars Foundation, Weinfelden, Switzerland

12:15 Buffet Lunch Restaurant

13:30 Shuttle to the Airport or to the Railway Station Meeting Point: Lobby

Moderation:

Mark DITTLI, Co-Founder and Financial Journalist, The Market, Zurich, Switzerland

The symposium is held under the Chatham House Rules.

stars reserves the right to make any necessary changes to the programme. The full terms and conditions of stars are available here.

15 April 2026

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