



STUDENTS FOR LIBERTY
A FREER FUTURE

LIBERTY CON EUROPE

LibertyCon Europe 2026

EVENT REPORT

April 24-26, 2026 | Madrid, Spain

Prepared by **Anano Khorbaladze**, Events Director



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1. General Overview

The 14th annual premier European Students For Liberty event, **LibertyCon Europe 2026**, took place from April 24–26 in Madrid, Spain, bringing together a vibrant and diverse community of liberty-minded individuals from across the globe.

The conference exceeded expectations, welcoming **640 attendees from 52 countries**, surpassing the initial target of 500 participants. Over the course of three days, LibertyCon delivered an extensive and dynamic program, featuring **50 sessions** and **32 hours and 15 minutes of content**, covering a wide range of topics related to freedom, markets, and public policy.

A total of **89 speakers** contributed to the program, including **10 Students For Liberty coordinators and 10 alumni**, highlighting the strength and continuity of the network. The event was made possible with the support of **40 partners and collaborators**.

LibertyCon Europe 2026 once again demonstrated its role as a leading platform for ideas, connection, and collaboration within the global liberty movement.

Under the theme **#IluminandoElMundo**, our guiding motto, “*Enlightening the World*”, LibertyCon Europe 2026 brought together the pro-liberty movement to confront today's most urgent challenges, from the rise of authoritarianism and populism to growing threats against free markets, civil liberties, and individual autonomy.

This year's event explored the intersections of policy, human rights, and technology, highlighting how individual fights for liberty and innovation are deeply interconnected in shaping a freer world. Through a diverse range of sessions, the program empowered individuals and organizations to collaborate across borders, exchange bold ideas, and take meaningful action for lasting change. For a quick overview of the event, check out our blog at studentsforliberty.org.



2. Program

24

WELCOME RECEPTION
FRIDAY



NOVOTEL
MADRID CENTER
Calle de O'Donnell, 53, Salamanca

MAINSTAGE (SALON DUQUE)

19:00-19:30	Doors Open	
19:30 - 19:40	Welcome Address Stefan Acimović	
19:40 - 20:20	Economic Freedom: Challenges and Perspectives Matthew Mitchell, Ilya Somin, Gabriel Calzada, moderator: Jan Mošovský	
20:20 - 21:00	Freedom in Education Gabriel Calzada, James Tooley, Bryan Caplan, moderator: Wolf von Laer	
21:00 - 00:00	Welcome Social	

25

CONFERENCE DAY
SATURDAY



NOVOTEL
MADRID CENTER
Calle de O'Donnell, 53, Salamanca

	CONVENCION (MAIN ROOM)	HAYEK ROOM	MISES ROOM
9:30	Registrations & Liberty Fair Opens		
10:30 - 10:40	Welcome to LibertyCon Europe 2026 Elizabeth Tsereteli & Florian Windberger		
10:40 - 11:20	[EN] The Times They Are A-Changin': Defending Freedom in the 2020s Tom G. Palmer, Stephen Davies, Javier Lasquetty, moderator: Alexander Hammond		
11:20 - 11:30	Break		
11:30 - 12:10	[ES] ¿Hacia dónde va la economía mundial? Oscar García, Enrique Couto, moderator: Albert Guivernau	[EN] Shift in Transatlantic Relations and Its Global Impact Yevhenia Kravchuk, Dalibor Rohac, Koen Petersen, Irune Arino, moderator: Harrison Griffiths	[EN] Misconceptions of Monetary Theory and History George Selgin & Francisco Capella
12:10 - 12:20	Break		
12:20 - 13:00	[ES] ¿Cómo evitamos otro apagón? Manuel Fernández Ordóñez, Roxana Nicula, moderator: Fernando Vicente	[EN] Taxation Without Representation: How Digital Taxes and Regulations Limit Innovation and Economic Growth Fred De Fossard, Pieter Cleppe, Anne Struffmann, Andreas Hellmann, moderator: Tim Andrews	[ES] El problema de la vivienda: ¿falta suelo o sobra regulación? Javier López, Nora Junco, Gonzalo Melian, moderator: Hugo Lopez Quintela
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch		
14:00 - 14:20	Message from Venezuela Virtual Address by Maria Oropeza		
14:20 - 15:10	[EN] Long Arm of Dictatorship: Authoritarian Influence in the West Fengsuo Zhou, Albina Kovalska, Lobsang Sangay, Diana Nasulea, moderator: Tom G. Palmer		
15:10 - 15:20	Break		
15:20 - 16:00	[ES] Instituciones de la libertad: La receta de la prosperidad y las consecuencias de su ausencia Maria Blanco, José Torres Remírez, Marc Urgell, moderator: Irune Arino	[EN] The Battle for Reality: Language as the First Frontier of Freedom Jihyun Park	[EN] Elections, If You Can Keep Them: Case Study of Hungary, Romania and Georgia Zoltan Kesz, Christian Nasulea, Mariam Berdenishvili
16:00 - 16:30	Break		
16:30 - 17:15	[ES] Izquierda, derecha y liberalismo Juan Ramon Rallo	[EN] Roots of Authoritarian Populism Cathy Reizenwitz, Juan Pina, Tom G. Palmer, moderator: Jason Canon	[EN] Faith and Freedom Syed Kamall, Lawrence Reed, moderator: Florian Windberger
17:15 - 17:30	Break		
17:30 - 18:15	[EN] Radical Visions For Liberty David Friedman, Bryan Caplan, moderator: John Devlin		
18:15 - 18:30	Main Stage Closing Address Elizabeth Tsereteli & Florian Windberger		
19:00 - 21:00	Alumni Social & Evening Reception	EUROPEAN DEBATE TOURNAMENT FINALE Motion: Military intervention to defend liberty abroad generally causes more harm than good. Ardit Minarolli & Martin Mbjora vs. Tauras Blazelevicius & Robert Jexenflicker Facilitator: Nik Khosravipour	
21:00-23:00	VIP Dinner (Convencion) With keynote by Lawrence Reed [invitation only]		
22:00 - 01:00	Saturday Social (Bulla Club)		



26 CONFERENCE DAY SUNDAY

TRUSS
C. de Jorge Juan, 99, Salamanca

SALA LEDS (MAIN ROOM)		DAN GROSSMAN ROOM	
12:00-12:30	Registrations & Liberty Fair Opens Sunday Opening Address	11:00 - 12:30	Youth in Action: Hackathon on Military Service
12:30-12:40	Alberto Gomez Hernandez & Anne Struffmann	13:30 - 14:00	[ES] De la coerción a la persuasión: una introducción al Respeto Humano Soledad Castillo Jara
12:40-13:20	What Economics Has To Do With Law David Friedman	14:00 - 14:45	[ES] Libertad en las redes Andrés Caramés, Antonini Jimenez, moderator: Jorge Munoz
13:20-13:30	Cato: Teaching Classical Liberalism Elizabeth Holley & Barbara Galletti Ramirez del Villar	14:45 - 15:15	[ES] ¿Puede el capitalismo ayudar a los más pobres? Alejandro De Leon
13:30 - 14:00	[EN] Crimespeak vs Liberty: Truth, Language, and Power Angelica Werth	15:15 - 16:00	[ES] IA, cálculo económico y soberanía individual: los límites del planificador artificial Jose Sanchis, Alejandro Prendes, moderator: Jorge Munoz
14:00 - 14:30	[EN] The Secular, Individualist Moral Case for Defending a Free Society in the Middle East Elan Journo	16:00 - 16:45	[ES] ¿Tiene solución la corrupción? José Carlos Rodríguez, Carlos Martín Puente, Javier Lasquetty
14:30 - 15:15	[EN] Debate on Open Borders Bryan Caplan & Adrián Rubio, moderator: Jan Mošovský	16:45 - 17:00	[ES] Student Talk: Canarias No Tiene Límites Oscar Jesus Gonzales Mendez
15:15 - 16:00	[EN] Deregulate: For a Europe that Competes Robert Tyler, Rasheed J. Griffith, Tetiana Rak, moderator: Martin Pánek	17:00 - 17:45	[EN] What the Books Don't Tell You: The Human Side of the Great Masters of the 20th Century Pedro Schwartz, Francisco Cabrillo, moderator: Manuel Ferretti Martinez
16:00 - 16:30	[EN] Chat Control & Social Media Bans Jorge Teixeira, Manuel Ferretti Martinez, moderator: Stefan Acimović	17:45 - 18:00	[EN] Student Talk: War on Drugs: When Law Punishes the Peaceful Karol Jakubčák
16:30 - 17:00	[EN] Free Trade: Liberation from Trump's 'Liberation Day' Tariffs Ilya Somin	DAVID BOAZ ROOM	
17:00 - 17:10	[EN] Interview with Ilya Somin Ilya Somin, Martin Pánek	13:30 - 14:00	[EN] The Rise of China and the Challenges to Its World Order: A Focus on Tibet Lobsang Sangay
17:10 - 17:40	[EN] Digital Euro and Digital Freedom Zach Harvey, Miguel González Calvo, Beatriz Santos, moderator: Jacob Farley	14:00 - 14:30	[EN] The Radical Adam Smith Jason Canon
17:40 - 17:50	[EN] The Coming Nuclear Revolution - If the Government Gets Out of the Way Wolfgang Müller	14:30 - 15:00	[EN] The Great Realignment: Why the New Right Is Here to Stay Stephen Davies
17:50 - 18:00	[EN] Interview on European Energy Policy Wolfgang Müller, Jacob Farley	15:00 - 15:30	[EN] The Beautiful Tree: How the World's Poorest People are Educating Themselves James Tooley
18:00 - 18:20	[EN] Book Launch: Healthcare Economics Mario Spoltore	15:30 - 16:00	[ES] Seguir votando gestos Maria Blanco
18:20 - 18:50	[EN] The Power of Independent Voices Remy	16:00 - 16:30	How to Defend Liberty: Advice from Ayn Rand Elan Journo
18:50 - 19:00	Sunday Closing Address	16:30 - 17:00	[EN] Conservative-Liberal Thought in the Nordic Countries Hannes H. Gissurarson
19:00 - 23:00	Farewell Social with Karaoke		

DEREGULATE EU SESSIONS



ILUMINANDO EL MUNDO

Session simultaneously translated | Sesión traducida simultáneamente



DAY 1: FRIDAY, APRIL 24 | Welcome Reception

Novotel Madrid Center

On the evening of April 24, we kicked off LibertyCon Europe with a welcome reception in Novotel Madrid Center.

The evening started with a **welcome address** by Stefan Acimovic (Director of European Programs at Students For Liberty).



The opening address was followed by two engaging sessions that set the tone for the weekend:

Economic Freedom: Challenges and Perspectives, featuring Matthew Mitchell, Ilya Somin, and Gabriel Calzada, moderated by Jan Mošovský. The panel explored the evolving challenges to economic freedom, offering diverse perspectives on how to defend and advance free markets in an increasingly complex global landscape.



Freedom in Education, with Gabriel Calzada, James Tooley, and Bryan Caplan, moderated by Dr. Wolf von Laer. This discussion focused on the role of educational freedom in fostering innovation and individual development, while addressing the limitations of centralized systems and the importance of choice in education.



The Friday welcome reception concluded with a vibrant networking social that brought together participants, speakers, and partners in an informal setting.

For the fourth year in a row, our Local Coordinators running the [SpeakFreely](#) blog published a print magazine for LibertyCon Europe. If you haven't grabbed a copy in Madrid, you can read the online version [here](#). Check out the blog for more in-depth and thought-provoking articles written by our students, alumni, and partners.





DAY 2: SATURDAY, APRIL 25 | Conference

Novotel Madrid Center

This year, LibertyCon Europe took place at Novotel Madrid Center. Registration opened at 09:30 on Saturday, followed by the launch of the Liberty Fair, where we welcomed nearly 45 partners from local and international pro-liberty organizations. The fair created a vibrant space for networking, collaboration, and showcasing impactful work from across the movement, making this year's event one of the most collaborative and dynamic editions of LibertyCon to date.

We also had a dedicated Students For Liberty table at the Liberty Fair, where attendees could pick up exclusive SFL swag and learn more about becoming part of our global network. We received new applications for our Local Coordinator Program in Europe, reflecting the strong enthusiasm for advancing the ideas of liberty.

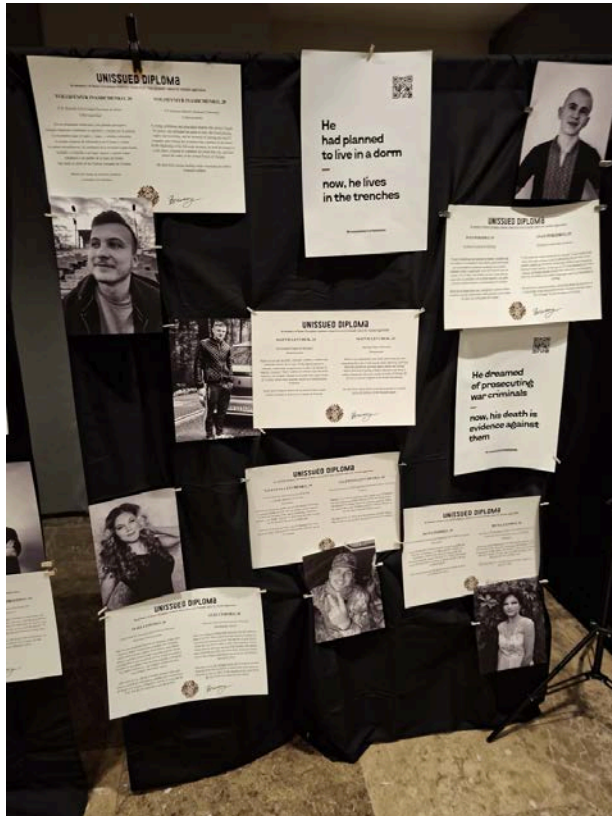






In addition, we featured a welcoming SFL Alumni table, offering our former coordinators and long-time supporters a space to reconnect, share their stories, and continue contributing to the movement. It was a meaningful reminder that once you're part of SFL, you're always part of the liberty family.

Throughout the event, we also remembered those who could not join us: both on Saturday and Sunday, attendees could visit the [Unissued Diplomas](#) exhibition, commemorating students who were killed in Russia's murderous war of aggression against Ukraine, and their dreams that had remained unfulfilled.





We took into consideration the diverse audience, ensuring that all main stage sessions were simultaneously translated from Spanish to English and from English to Spanish, allowing both international and local participants to fully engage and get the most out of the experience.

The conference program began with our energetic MCs, Elizabeth Tsereteli and Florian Winderberg, who warmly welcomed attendees and set the stage for an inspiring weekend.



This was followed by a powerful opening panel, **[EN] *The Times They Are A-Changin': Defending Freedom in the 2020s***, featuring Tom G. Palmer, Stephen Davies, and Javier Lasquetty, and moderated by Alexander Hammond. The discussion explored the evolving challenges to freedom in the modern era and the strategies needed to defend and advance liberty in an increasingly complex global landscape.



After the session break, the program continued across the Hayek and Mises rooms, named in honor of two towering figures of economic thought and champions of individual liberty. Friedrich Hayek, a leading thinker of the Austrian School, emphasized the importance of spontaneous order, limited government, and the rule of law in preserving free societies. Ludwig von Mises, his intellectual predecessor, laid the foundations of modern free-market economics, strongly defending rational economic calculation, individual choice, and the principles of laissez-faire capitalism.

The first bloc of breakouts were:



In **[ES]** *¿Hacia dónde va la economía mundial?*, Oscar Garcia and Enrique Couto, moderated by Albert Guivernau, examined the direction of the global economy, addressing key challenges, emerging markets, and the policy decisions shaping future growth.





Meanwhile, **[EN] *Shift in Transatlantic Relations and Its Global Impact*** brought together Yevheniia Kravchuk, Dalibor Rohac, Koen Petersen, and Irune Arino, moderated by Harrison Griffiths, to explore evolving dynamics between Europe and North America and their broader implications for global stability, security, and cooperation.



In **[EN] *Misconceptions of Monetary Theory and History***, George Selgin and Francisco Capella challenged common misunderstandings surrounding monetary systems, offering historical insights and critical perspectives on prevailing economic narratives.





The next block of breakout sessions featured dynamic conversations on economics, emerging technologies, and regional challenges to liberty.

In **[ES] ¿Cómo evitamos otro apagón?**, Manuel Fernández Ordóñez and Roxana Nicula, moderated by Fernando Vicente, examined the vulnerabilities in energy systems and discussed practical solutions to prevent future large-scale blackouts, focusing on resilience, policy frameworks, and market dynamics.



Meanwhile, **[EN] Taxation Without Representation: How Digital Taxes and Regulations Limit Innovation and Economic Growth** brought together Fred De Fossard, Pieter Cleppe, Anne Struffmann, and Andreas Hellmann, moderated by Tim Andrews, to explore how evolving digital tax policies and regulatory frameworks may hinder innovation, investment, and competitiveness in the global economy.





In **[ES] *El problema de la vivienda: ¿falta suelo o sobra regulación?***, Javier López, Nora Junco, and Gonzalo Melian, moderated by Hugo Lopez Quintela, addressed the ongoing housing crisis, debating whether supply constraints or excessive regulation lie at the heart of affordability challenges.





After a powering lunch break, we continued the program with two powerful keynote moments that brought both urgency and inspiration to the main stage.

The audience first heard a moving **“Message from Venezuela”**, a virtual address by María Oropeza, who shared firsthand insights into the struggle for freedom and human rights under authoritarian rule, offering a deeply personal perspective on resilience and the fight for liberty.





This was followed by a keynote address from **Zurab Japaridze**, a leading libertarian voice and political figure, who delivered a bold and thought-provoking speech on individual freedom, limited government, and the importance of standing firm in defense of liberty in challenging political environments.



After that, another keynote session followed with **[EN] Long Arm of Dictatorship: Authoritarian Influence in the West**, featuring Fengsuo Zhou, Albina Kovalska, Lobsang Sangay, and Diana Nasulea, moderated by Tom G. Palmer.

The panel examined how authoritarian regimes extend their influence beyond their borders, shaping political discourse, economic dependencies, and institutional integrity within Western societies. Drawing from diverse regional experiences, the speakers highlighted the subtle and overt mechanisms of influence, as well as the importance of vigilance and international cooperation in safeguarding democratic values.



The program then transitioned into the next batch of breakout sessions, continuing the conversation with a strong focus on institutions, political resilience, and the global struggle for freedom.



In **[ES] *Instituciones de la libertad: La receta de la prosperidad y las consecuencias de su ausencia***, Maria Blanco, José Torres Remírez, and Marc Urgell, moderated by Irune Arino, explored how strong institutions underpin prosperity, and what happens when they erode or fail, drawing lessons from different national contexts.



Meanwhile, in **[EN] *From Tiananmen to Today: Freedom, Repression, and Resistance in China's Digital Age***, Fengsuo Zhou, interviewed by Martin Pánek, reflected on the legacy of the Tiananmen movement and examined how technology has reshaped both state repression and avenues for resistance in modern China.





In **[EN] Elections, If You Can Keep Them: Case Study of Hungary, Romania and Georgia**, Zoltan Kesz, Christian Nasulea, and Mariam Berdzenishvili analyzed the state of democratic institutions across these countries, discussing electoral integrity, political pressures, and the ongoing challenge of preserving democratic norms.





The final batch of breakout sessions for the day brought together diverse perspectives on ideology, political trends, and the relationship between values and liberty.

In **[ES] *Izquierda, derecha y liberalismo***, Juan Ramon Rallo offered a thought-provoking analysis of the traditional political spectrum, challenging conventional labels and exploring where liberalism truly stands in today's ideological landscape.





Meanwhile, **[EN] *Roots of Authoritarian Populism*** featured Cathy Reisenwitz, Juan Pina, and Tom G. Palmer, moderated by Jason Canon, who examined the underlying causes of rising populist movements, from economic discontent to cultural shifts, and their implications for liberal democratic institutions.





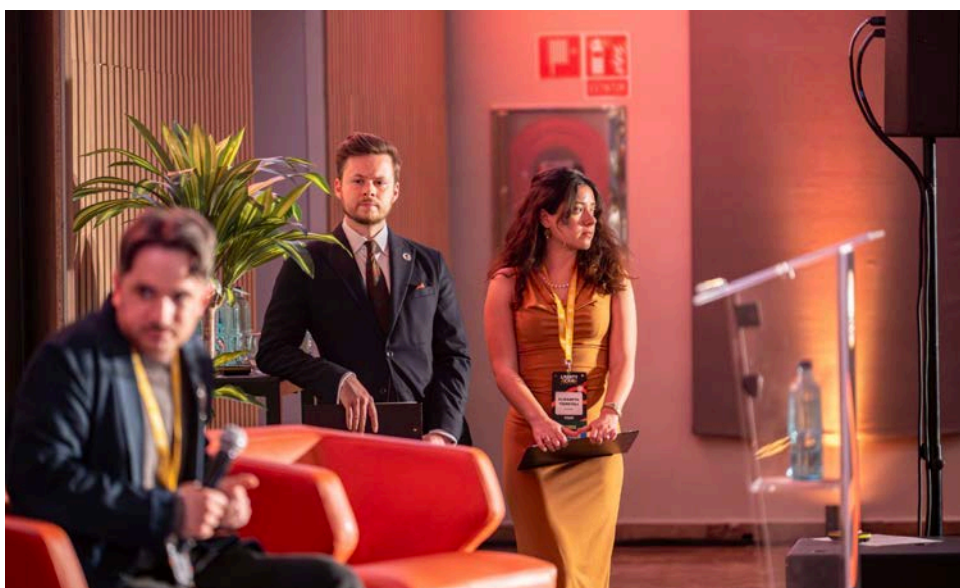
In **[EN] *Faith and Freedom***, Syed Kamall and Lawrence Reed, moderated by Florian Windberger, explored the relationship between religious belief and individual liberty, discussing how faith traditions can both support and challenge the principles of a free society.



The day concluded with a compelling final keynote, **[EN] *Radical Visions for Liberty***, featuring David Friedman and Bryan Caplan, moderated by John Devlin.

The session brought bold and unconventional ideas to the forefront, challenging traditional assumptions about governance, markets, and the future of a free society, and leaving the audience with thought-provoking perspectives to carry into the days ahead.







After the formal part of the conference concluded, the evening transitioned into two simultaneous events, offering both networking and intellectual engagement.

An exclusive **alumni social** gathering brought together Students For Liberty alumni, creating space to reconnect, exchange ideas, and strengthen the community built over the years.





At the same time, in the Hayek room, the **European Debate Tournament** reached its final round, hosted by Nik Khosravipour. The debate featured Ardit Minarolli and Martin Mbjora facing off against Tauras Blazelevicius and Robert Jexenflicker on the motion: ***“Military intervention to defend liberty abroad generally causes more harm than good.”*** The final showcased sharp arguments, strategic thinking, and a high level of engagement, bringing the tournament to a compelling close.



For the first time ever, LibertyCon Europe hosted the annual **global awards dinner** of SFL. The ceremony recognized finalists and winners across multiple



categories, including Student of the Year, Group of the Year, and Project of the Year, highlighting the extraordinary work carried out by young advocates for liberty across all eight global regions of Students For Liberty.

Throughout the evening, attendees heard inspiring remarks from prominent leaders of the liberty movement, including Lawrence Reed, Tom Palmer, Syed Kamall, and Gabriel Calzada.



Europe was represented in the final round of all three major categories. SFL Spain was nominated for Group of the Year, Blazej Szkudlarek from Poland was nominated for Leader of the Year, and Europe's Chat Control campaign was nominated for Project of the Year. In the end, Europe celebrated two major victories, **with SFL Spain receiving the Global Group of the Year award and Blazej Szkudlarek winning the Global Leader of the Year award.**





The Alumnus of the Year award went to Cesar Baez, whose story of resilience and courage began in Venezuela, where student activism could result in imprisonment or death.



The awards dinner served not only as a celebration of achievements from the past year, but also as a reminder of the strength, growth, and international impact of the Students For Liberty network.

The David Boaz Impact Project of the Year award for North America went to Asher Boekestein.



Later that evening, all attendees were invited to a social party at Bulla Club, a popular local nightclub. The event offered a lively and informal setting for guests to unwind, connect, and continue the conversations sparked during the conference



DAY 3: SUNDAY, APRIL 26 | Second Conference Day

TRUSS Madrid

The second conference day of LibertyCon Europe 2026 took place at TRUSS Madrid inside the Movistar Arena, bringing together attendees for another full day of programming, networking, and community building. The venue hosted partner activities, interactive sessions, exhibitions, and informal discussions, creating a more relaxed and social atmosphere while continuing the conversations started throughout the conference.

The second conference day began with an exclusive workshop for a limited number of attendees: the ***“Youth in Action: Hackathon on Military Service,”*** organized by the European Liberal Forum. Focused on teamwork, critical thinking, and fast-paced discussion, the workshop gave attendees the opportunity to engage directly with complex policy challenges while exchanging ideas and perspectives in a collaborative environment.

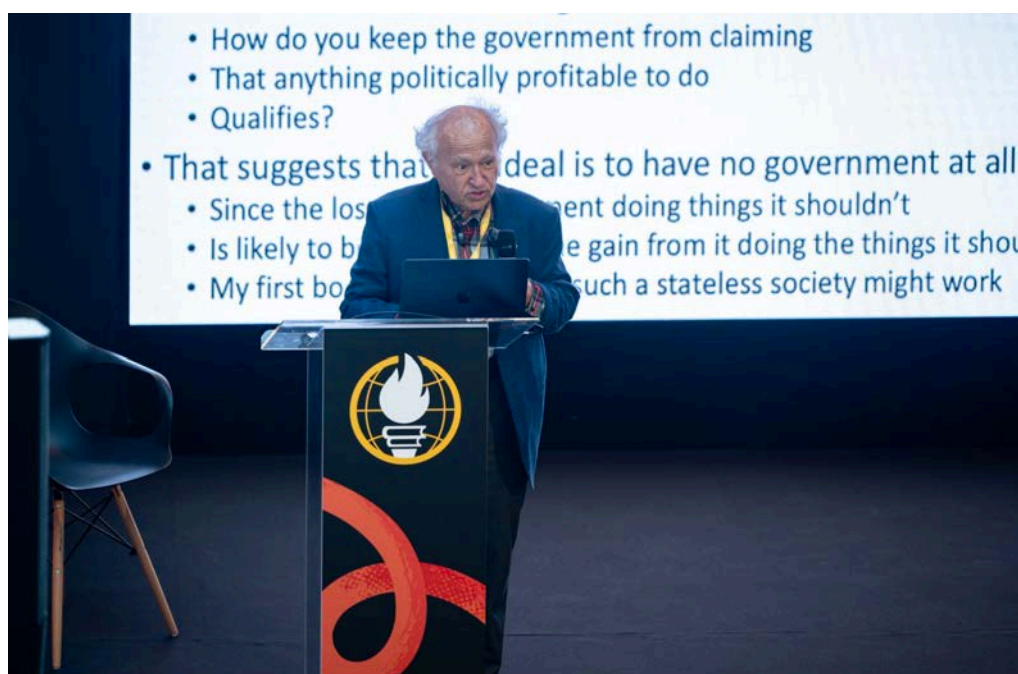




At 12:00 we reopened the registrations and the Liberty Fair, welcoming attendees for another day of discussions, networking, and activities. Throughout the day, the Liberty Fair remained open, giving participants the opportunity to connect with partner organizations, explore projects and initiatives, and engage with fellow attendees between sessions and workshops.

The main stage programming began with opening remarks by Alberto Gomez Hernandez and Anne Struffmann, officially welcoming attendees to the final conference day.

This was followed by **[EN] What Economics Has To Do With Law** featuring David Friedman, who explored the relationship between legal systems and economic principles, examining how incentives shape institutions, governance, and society.





Later, attendees heard from Elizabeth Holley and Barbara Galletti Ramirez del Villar during **[EN] Cato: Teaching Classical Liberalism**, which focused on educational initiatives and approaches to promoting classical liberal ideas to new audiences.



The program then moved into its first round of parallel breakout sessions, with three rooms running simultaneously.

In the Main Room, **[EN] Crimespeak vs Liberty: Truth, Language, and Power**, delivered by Angelica Werth, examined how language is used and weaponized to reshape political reality, restrict dissent, and redefine the boundaries of acceptable speech in liberal democracies.





Meanwhile, in the Dan Grossman Room, **[ES] De la coerción a la persuasión: una introducción al Respeto Humano** by Soledad Castillo Jara offered an introduction to the philosophy of *Respeto Humano*, exploring how persuasion, voluntary cooperation, and mutual respect can replace coercion as the foundation of social order.

Over in the David Boaz Room, Lobsang Sangay opened the room with **[EN] The Rise of China and the Challenges to Its World Order: A Focus on Tibet**, drawing on his own experience as a former leader of the Tibetan government-in-exile to outline how China's growing global influence is reshaping the international order and what this means for occupied peoples and free societies alike.



The next wave of breakouts continued the rhythm. In the Main Room, **[EN] The Secular, Individualist Moral Case for Defending a Free Society in the Middle East** by Elan Journo argued that the defense of freedom in the region must rest on individualist and secular foundations rather than collectivist or religious ones, and that this moral clarity is essential for any serious strategy of liberation.



Over in the Dan Grossman Room, **[ES] Libertad en las redes** brought together Andrés Caramés and Antonini Jimenez, moderated by Jorge Munoz, in a conversation on digital freedom, online expression, and the role of social platforms in shaping and sometimes constraining modern public discourse.





Simultaneously, in the David Boaz Room, Jason Canon presented **[EN] *The Radical Adam Smith***, offering a fresh look at the moral and political philosophy of Adam Smith and pushing back against the often narrow modern reading of his work, recovering a thinker far more radical than the textbook version suggests.

A highlight of the day followed with **[EN] *Debate on Open Borders***, in which Bryan Caplan and Adrián Rubio, moderated by Jan Mošovský, faced off on one of the most contested questions within libertarian thought — whether the free movement of people is a moral and economic imperative, or a policy whose practical limits cannot be ignored. The exchange was lively, substantive, and one of the most attended sessions of the day.





In parallel, the Dan Grossman Room continued in Spanish with **[ES] ¿Puede el capitalismo ayudar a los más pobres?**, where Alejandro De Leon made the case that market economies remain the most powerful engine humanity has ever known for lifting people out of poverty, drawing on global data and historical examples.

The David Boaz Room offered **[EN] The Great Realignment: Why the New Right Is Here to Stay**, in which Stephen Davies analyzed the political shifts reshaping Western democracies, exploring what they mean for the future of liberty-minded movements and how classical liberals should position themselves in this new landscape.



Continuing the afternoon, the Main Room hosted **[EN] Deregulate: For a Europe that Competes**, with Robert Tyler, Rasheed J. Griffith, and Tetiana Rak, moderated by Martin Pánek. The panel examined how regulatory burdens are holding back European competitiveness and what bold reforms would be needed to unlock the continent's economic potential in an era of intensifying global rivalry.



In the Dan Grossman Room, **[ES] *IA, cálculo económico y soberanía individual: los límites del planificador artificial*** gathered Jose Sanchis and Alejandro Prendes, again moderated by Jorge Munoz, for a thought-provoking discussion on artificial intelligence, the economic calculation problem, and the limits of centralized planning in a world of increasingly capable machines.



The David Boaz Room continued with **[EN] *The Beautiful Tree: How the World's Poorest People are Educating Themselves* by James Tooley**, who shared insights from his fieldwork on grassroots private schools serving the world's poorest communities and the lessons they hold for education systems everywhere. Shortly afterward, Maria Blanco delivered **[ES] *Seguís votando gestos***, a sharp and provocative talk on what she sees as the empty symbolism of much modern political behavior.

The program then moved into another set of sessions. In the Main Room, **[EN] *Chat Control & Social Media Bans*** brought together Jorge Teixeira and Manuel Ferretti Martinez, moderated by Stefan Aćimović, to discuss the growing wave of European proposals to monitor private messaging and restrict online platforms, and what they mean for digital rights, individual privacy, and the future of online discourse.



Meanwhile, **[ES] ¿Tiene solución la corrupción?** The Dan Grossman Room brought together José Carlos Rodríguez, Carlos Martín Puente, and Javier Lasquetty to examine the persistent challenge of corruption and its institutional roots, its political costs, and whether genuine, lasting reform is possible within current democratic frameworks.





In the David Boaz Room, Elan Journo returned with **[EN] How to Defend Liberty: Advice from Ayn Rand**, drawing on Rand's philosophical legacy to outline how a coherent moral defense of freedom can be made today and why such a defense remains essential.

Following that, the Main Room welcomed **[EN] Free Trade: Liberation from Trump's 'Liberation Day' Tariffs**, a sharp and timely lecture by Ilya Somin on the economic and constitutional case against the latest wave of protectionist measures emanating from Washington. The conversation continued immediately afterward with a brief *Interview with Ilya Somin* conducted by Martin Pánek, which gave the audience a chance to dig deeper into the legal arguments and political implications of the case.



Parallel to this, the Dan Grossman Room closed its Spanish-language track with **[ES] Student Talk: Canarias No Tiene Límites**, a heartfelt presentation by Oscar Jesus Gonzales Mendez on the spirit of enterprise, opportunity, and freedom in the Canary Islands.





And in the David Boaz Room, **[EN] Conservative-Liberal Thought in the Nordic Countries** by Hannes H. Gissurarson explored the intellectual tradition of liberty-minded thought across Scandinavia and Iceland, a perspective often overlooked in mainstream accounts of European political philosophy.



The Main Room then turned to one of the most pressing tech-policy questions of our age: **[EN] Digital Euro and Digital Freedom**, with Zach Harvey, Miguel González Calvo, and Beatriz Santos, moderated by Jacob Farley. The panel debated the implications of a central bank digital currency for privacy, financial autonomy, and the very nature of money itself.



In the Dan Grossman Room, **[EN] What the Books Don't Tell You: The Human Side of the Great Masters of the 20th Century** brought Pedro Schwartz and Francisco Cabrillo together, moderated by Manuel Ferretti Martinez, for an intimate and at times moving look at the personal lives, friendships, and personalities of the great economists and thinkers of the past century a side of the story rarely found in the textbooks.





The afternoon then moved into its final stretch. The Main Room hosted **[EN] The Coming Nuclear Revolution** *If the Government Gets Out of the Way* by Wolfgang Müller, who made the case for nuclear energy as the cleanest, safest, and most reliable path to abundant power provided regulators allow it to flourish. He was then joined by Jacob Farley for an *Interview on European Energy Policy*, extending the conversation into the wider question of how Europe will power its future.



Simultaneously, in the Dan Grossman Room, Karol Jakubčák delivered the **[EN] Student Talk: War on Drugs When Law Punishes the Peaceful**, a passionate appeal against prohibitionist policies and the human cost they impose on otherwise peaceful individuals.

The program approached its close with **[EN] Book Launch: Healthcare Economics** by Mario Spoltore, an introduction to his new work on the economics of health systems and the case for market-driven reforms in a sector long dominated by state planning.





The final keynote of the conference was **[EN] The Power of Independent Voices** by Remy, a fitting and uplifting close to three days of dialogue a tribute to the writers, comedians, journalists, and creators who carry the flame of free expression beyond the walls of any single institution.





The Sunday Closing Address brought LibertyCon Europe 2026 to an official end, with words of thanks, reflection, and renewed commitment to the cause of liberty. As the audience rose for a final ovation, it was clear that the connections, ideas, and energy of these three days would travel far beyond the conference hall back into universities, think tanks, parliaments, and communities across Europe and the world.





3. Sponsors

We raised over \$93 000 from external partners and ticket sales for LibertyCon Europe 2026. The total budget of the event was \$X

Thanks to our sponsors, without whom hosting LibertyCon Europe 2026 would not have been possible!

DIAMOND



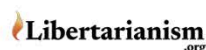
PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER





BRONZE



COLLABORATOR





4. Media

At 50 sessions (not counting opening and closing addresses etc) totalling 32 hours, it was the LibertyCon with the most content yet. The event was for the most part recorded: you will soon find most mainstage sessions and human rights related sessions on ESFL [YouTube](#)

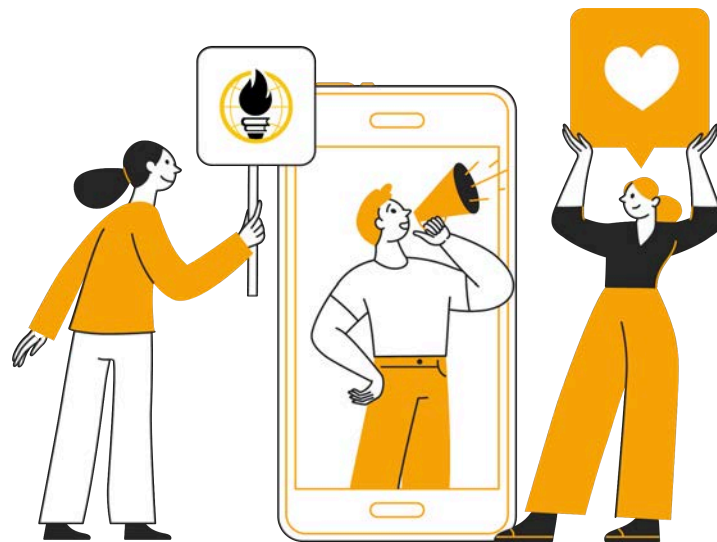
5. Conclusion

LibertyCon Europe 2026 turned out to be an extraordinary gathering where pro-liberty activists from 52 countries had a chance to connect with the most outstanding pro-liberty organizations fighting for freedom and participate in diverse event formats within 3 days, such as a reception, conference, VIP dinner and Award Ceremony, social, festival, workshops, exhibitions,, etc.

Moreover, LibertyCon Europe 2026 was not just about inspiring sessions or great speakers but also about the energetic atmosphere created by over 80 Local Coordinators who worked together for months to create the best event experience. It is worth mentioning that Spanish Students For Liberty.

With the huge experience gained this year, we can assure you that LibertyCon Europe 2027 will bring something even more special!

SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!



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