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## SESSION 13 Key challenges ahead for EU-US relations 2025 – 2028

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**Bruce Stokes, The Honorable Nathaniel Moran, and Thomas Reynaert**

There was discussion around increasing transatlantic cooperation and coordination on critical emerging technologies like AI, quantum computing, semiconductors, cybersecurity, and 6G. Challenges include a lack of skilled workers, the need for open innovation ecosystems, and avoiding overly nationalist/protectionist approaches.

Defense industrial base cooperation was discussed, with suggestions to reward innovation, lengthen contracts to incentivize investment, reduce regulatory burdens, seek new export markets like India, and consider pre-competitive R&D models. However, national interests and political factors remain obstacles.

Addressing challenges in the global south, like food insecurity, economic development, and climate change adaptation, was raised as important for humanitarian reasons but also to address the root causes of migration pressures.

Differences in national/regional priorities (e.g., the Balkans vs the Southern U.S. border) can make it difficult to align focus across the transatlantic partnership. Integrating Ukraine into Western structures and making transatlantic cooperation more formal/institutional were cited as potential major future challenges over the next few years.