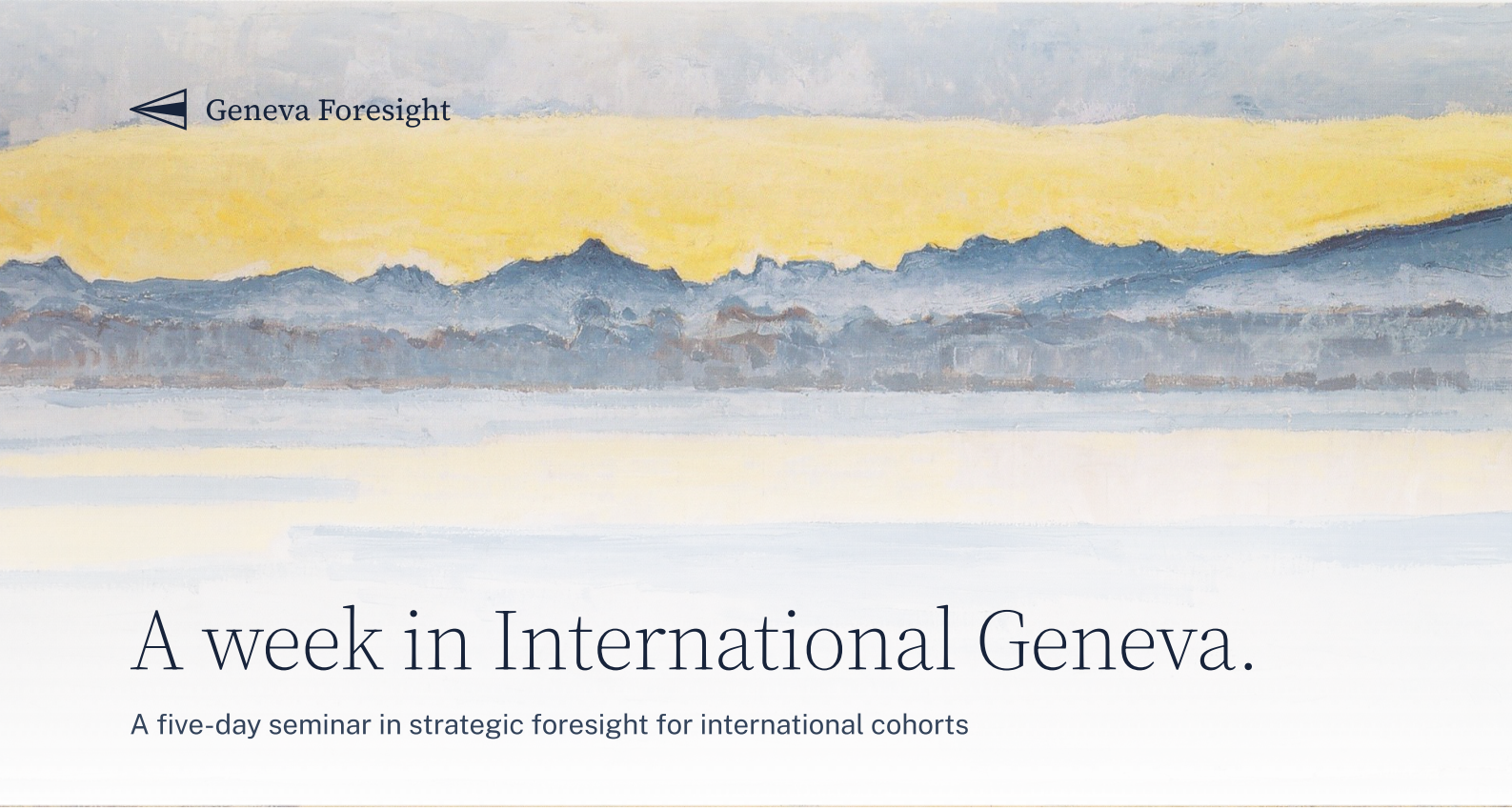
Geneva Foresight



A week in International Geneva.

A five-day seminar in strategic foresight for international cohorts

Participants learn a complete foresight method, from scanning trends to choosing a preferable future, and apply it to the questions the world negotiates in Geneva, alongside peers from other countries and sectors.

The programme

Monday	Trends and drivers: scanning the global environment with PESTEL
Tuesday	Consequences: futures wheels on a live global issue
Wednesday	Scenarios: building the matrix and writing four futures
Thursday	Briefings in international organisations
Friday	Backcasting and strategy: presenting to a panel

Who it is for

- Diplomats and officials of foreign, defence and economy ministries
- Staff of international organisations and member-state missions
- Foundation and NGO teams working towards long-term goals
- Executives exposed to geopolitics, regulation and technology

Included

- Five days of sessions, with a workbook and scenario templates
- Meetings with practitioners in International Geneva
- Refreshments during the seminar
- A farewell dinner on the last evening
- A certificate of completion

Five days
Monday to Friday, in Geneva

Up to 20 participants
From several countries and sectors

CHF 2,450 if booked by 20 Aug 2027
Farewell dinner included

18–22 October 2027
Next: spring 2028

One method, from early signals to decisions.

Recognised foresight tools, joined into a single sequence that participants can run again in their own institutions.

01

Scan the environment

Political, economic, social, technological, environmental and legal trends, and the drivers behind them.

02

Map the consequences

A futures wheel traces what each change could set off, to the second and third level.

03

Find the critical uncertainties

The two forces that matter most and are least predictable frame a 2x2 scenario matrix.

04

Write the scenarios

Four distinct, named futures, explored across the futures cone and challenged by wildcards.

05

Choose a preferable future

Set the goal, then work backwards to what must happen, and by when, to reach it.

06

Test and monitor

Check today's strategy against every scenario, and agree the signals that show which future is emerging.

Probable

Where today's trends lead if little changes.

Plausible

Futures that follow the major trends, with smaller shifts inside them.

Possible

Futures opened by a wildcard: unlikely, but transformative.

Preferable

The future you choose to work towards, planned backwards from the goal.



Seminar lead

Dr Goran Jovanovic

Professor of international relations at the International Institute in Geneva since 2006, where he headed the department and was named Faculty of the Year. From 2016 to 2025 he was academic director at SIT in Switzerland and co-chaired the European part of the SIT Global Master's in Diplomacy and International Relations, where he taught the strategic foresight course.

He has taught students of more than 100 nationalities, from diplomats and government officials to civil society activists, and lectured in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Afghanistan. PhD in international relations, University of Geneva; works in seven languages.

Why Geneva

The United Nations, the WHO, the WTO, the Red Cross and more than 180 diplomatic missions work within a few kilometres of each other, in a neutral country every delegation can reach.

Closed weeks and in-country modules

The programme can also run for a single delegation or company, in Geneva or in your own capital.

Fees

CHF 2,450 if you book by 20 August 2027, CHF 2,900 after that. Students under 26: CHF 1,450. Three or more from one institution: 15% off each place. Travel and accommodation not included.

Independent and self-funded

Independent of any political, ideological, religious or economic organisation, and self-funded.

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Cover: Ferdinand Hodler, Lake Geneva with Mont Blanc at dawn, 1918 (public domain).

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