

Quantum Diplomacy in Action

GESDA convenes global leaders in Geneva to advance inclusive governance of quantum technologies

Geneva, Switzerland, 06/05/2026

Anticipation, quantum computing, and the governance of these technological advancements are the focus of two conferences taking place this week in Geneva. The first one, organized on Wednesday by GESDA and the Open Quantum Institute (OQI) at the Biotech Campus, is titled "Quantum Diplomacy in Action," while the second, "Anticipating Technologies – for a Safe and Humane Future," will be held at CERN and is organized by the Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA) in the context of its Chairpersonship of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).

As quantum computing rapidly evolves, their implications extend far beyond scientific discovery. From addressing global challenges such as climate change, health, and food security, to raising critical concerns around cybersecurity, inequality, and the emerging "quantum divide," the need for anticipatory and inclusive governance has become urgent. Without coordinated international efforts, the benefits of quantum innovation risk remaining concentrated among a few, limiting their global impact.

From quantum governance to action: GESDA and OQI collaborates with the diplomatic community on actionable quantum diplomacy

The Quantum Diplomacy in Action Conference on May 6, 2026, responds directly to this challenge and marks a pivotal step in translating dialogue in concrete action for the global governance of quantum computing. Building on GESDA's work with diplomats and international organizations—which led to the creation of the Open Quantum Institute, now hosted at CERN—the event focuses on developing actionable proposals for multilateral cooperation. Discussions throughout the day will address national quantum strategies, intellectual property and access, energy and environmental impacts, and security and dual-use considerations.

Opening remarks by **Prof. Marilyne Andersen**, Director General of GESDA, and **Enrica Porcari**, Chief Information Officer at CERN, will set the stage for a series of high-level sessions. Contributions from international representatives—including Switzerland, Mexico, China, the European Union, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom—highlight the diversity of national approaches and the importance of aligning them within a multilateral framework.

Through expert-led roundtables and plenary discussions, participants will co-develop policy insights and recommendations that will feed into the 2026 OQI Intelligence Report on Quantum Diplomacy in Action. The conference aims to foster shared understanding, identify priority areas for cooperation, and catalyze concrete next steps toward responsible and inclusive quantum governance.

From quantum governance to global security: GESDA contributes to OSCE conference on emerging technologies

GESDA's engagement continues on May 7–8, 2026, as it contributes to the conference “**Anticipating technologies – for a safe and humane future**” in Geneva, organized in the framework of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Chairpersonship.

Held at venues including the CERN Science Gateway, the conference explores how emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and quantum computing are reshaping security and cooperation in Europe. Bringing together primarily diplomatic participants, the event emphasizes the importance of understanding technological developments from a policy and governance perspective.

GESDA's Director General, Prof. Marilyne Andersen, will participate in a high-level panel alongside representatives from Geneva Centre for Security Policy and CERN. The discussion will examine how emerging technologies influence peace and security, the importance of anticipation in policymaking, and the role of multistakeholder dialogue in fostering trust and cooperation.

The panel will also highlight the relevance of quantum computing as a case study for anticipatory governance, including the contributions of initiatives such as the Open Quantum Institute. Building on recent international momentum—including briefings led by GESDA with the United Nations Security Council on the implications of scientific developments, especially with quantum technologies, for global security—the session underscores the growing recognition of science diplomacy as a tool for peace.

Strengthening Geneva's role as a global hub for science diplomacy

Together, these two events reinforce Geneva's unique position as a global hub for science and diplomacy. By convening diverse stakeholders and bridging scientific innovation with policy action, GESDA continues to advance its mission: anticipating scientific breakthroughs and translating them into concrete solutions for a safe, inclusive, and humane future.

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About GESDA

The Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator (GESDA) is an independent Swiss foundation that connects scientific anticipation with global diplomacy. Its mission is to anticipate emerging scientific breakthroughs and help translate them into inclusive, ethical, and cooperative solutions to global challenges.

Media Contact

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