

Winter Academy 2026

Frequently asked questions

What is Helsinki Geoeconomics School?

Helsinki Geoeconomics School is a selective educational formation for professionals who must interpret geoeconomic change and make their reasoning teachable to a defined audience.

The School was established in 2024 as a separate educational institution. Its curriculum was developed under the auspices of its Board of Trustees. Participants repeatedly work as learners, educators and critical audiences.

What is a geoeconomist?

A geoeconomist is an integrative generalist who leads through knowledge. The geoeconomist frames strategic problems, connects specialist work and enables consequential audiences to understand what must be decided or done.

The role may be exercised through strategy, advice, risk management, negotiation, briefing, facilitation or teaching.

Who is the School for?

It is for professionals with a meaningful reciprocal educational responsibility. That responsibility may arise through:

- advising clients;
- briefing boards, officials or other decision-makers;
- leading teams;
- training colleagues;
- facilitating institutional decisions;
- supervising professional work; or
- teaching in the conventional sense.

The audience must be able to question, test and influence the judgment being developed.

Is this general executive training?

No. The School is organised around geoeconomic inquiry, intervention design, reciprocal practice, criticism, revision and onward use. It is not a webinar series, conference panel or passive content product.

What is the inaugural Winter Academy?

It is the School's first concentrated live online formation. It comprises two Terms, four Seminars and eight live 90-minute Modules, together with preparation, clinics, Teaching Dossier work, reciprocal practica, audience service and revision.

What are the two Terms?

They are:

- **Term I - Industrial Strategy, Technology and Production Networks** (30 November-1 December 2026); and
- **Term II - Data, Digital Infrastructure and Algorithmic Governance** (1-2 December 2026).

May I purchase only one Term?

No. The adopted Winter offer is the complete two-Term Academy. EUR 450 is not a standalone-Term price.

What are the dates?

The complete formation runs from **16 November 2026 to 15 January 2027**. The eight live Modules take place from **30 November to 2 December 2026**. Clinics, practica, Dossier work, revision and any permitted remediation take place around those dates.

Where will the Winter Academy take place?

The Winter Academy is a live online formation delivered from Singapore.

A candidate may record interest in joining the instructional centre there through the Winter-linked David A. Baldwin Fund route without first receiving an in-person invitation. If the candidate is admitted to and enrolled in the Academy and receives a Winter-linked Fund award, that award carries the associated invitation once its stated conditions have been met.

Detailed delivery modes and locations for the planned 2027 Programmes will be announced with their calendars.

How much time should I expect to commit?

Approximately 30 hours across both Terms, including 12 live instructional hours and the surrounding guided formation.

What is the tuition?

EUR 900 net plus applicable VAT for the complete two-Term Academy. The applicable VAT treatment will be stated in the definite offer after admission.

When do I pay?

Not at the early-consideration stage.

A candidate invited to apply is reviewed before admission. An admitted candidate then receives a definite written offer and complete terms before deciding whether to accept or make payment.

The ordinary acceptance and full-payment deadline is **16 October 2026**. Later admission may be possible until **13 November 2026**, subject to capacity and formation readiness.

Is the Academy certain to proceed?

The Academy will be finally confirmed on **2 November 2026** if its minimum paid cohort of 18 and the School's delivery conditions have been met.

If it is not confirmed, tuition paid will be refunded in full. Transfer to a later offering or the issue of a future credit requires the participant's consent.

How large will the cohort be?

The Academy is capped at 60 Enrolled Participants. Participants work in parallel Seminar groups and smaller stable Practicum Groups so that questions, professional experience and criticism can reach the teaching.

What does live participation require?

Participants are expected to take part in the live Seminars, clinics and practica and to serve as active audiences for one another. Each Term ordinarily includes one approximately 20-minute reciprocal encounter within a stable Practicum Group.

What if I miss a live Seminar?

Limited recovery may be possible.

Missing one Seminar may be recovered through confirmed recovery materials and application in the Teaching Dossier. If neither Seminar in a Term is attended live, an additional reciprocal recovery clinic is required.

Recorded viewing alone cannot establish completion.

Will recordings be available?

No recording entitlement is presently promised. Any later statement about recordings or secure recovery materials will be made only after production, rights, privacy and access arrangements have been proved.

Does attendance guarantee completion?

No. Successful completion depends upon reciprocal participation, practicum and audience work, and satisfactory Teaching Dossier and revision evidence. Payment and attendance alone do not establish completion.

What record may I receive?

Successful completion of a Term may be recorded in a Term Completion Statement. It is not a certificate, diploma, professional designation, academic or CPD credit, or accreditation.

What is the progression set-off?

Each successfully completed Term vests a personal EUR 450 set-off against the corresponding later Certificate Programme:

- Industrial Policy for Term I; and
- Data & Technology for Term II.

Each set-off:

- is non-transferable between people or Programmes;
- has no cash value;
- remains available until 30 June 2030;
- does not cover later Programme integration, Certificate practicum, assessment or moderation; and
- does not make either Winter Term separately purchasable.

If the School has not made the corresponding Certificate Programme reasonably available by 30 June 2030, the set-off remains available until the participant has had one genuine opportunity to use it.

What if I withdraw after accepting an offer?

Any applicable mandatory withdrawal rights remain unaffected and will be stated in the definite offer and complete terms.

After any applicable mandatory withdrawal period, participant cancellation creates no automatic contractual entitlement to a cash refund. In documented exceptional circumstances, the School may grant one personal, non-transferable, non-cash future School credit. Any such credit is discretionary and does not cover irrecoverable physical, hotel, travel or other third-party costs.

If the School cancels the Academy, tuition will be refunded in full unless the participant voluntarily accepts transfer or credit instead.

What is planned for 2027?

The School plans three-Term Programmes in:

- Trade;
- Investment;
- Finance;
- Industrial Policy; and
- Data & Technology.

Detailed calendars, delivery modes, locations, tuition and any later qualification treatment will be announced separately. Winter participation does not guarantee admission to a later Programme.

What is Faculty Adjunct?

Faculty Adjunct is a selective annual faculty-adjacent formation appointment, conferred separately on merit. It carries advanced pedagogical obligations, which may include supervised teaching, peer criticism and teaching-community work.

It does not follow automatically from admission, completion or Fund support, and does not by itself authorise independent teaching, assessment or certification, or confer Society, Task Force or Hegemon standing.

What is the David A. Baldwin Fund route?

It is a separately governed Society route for Practitioner-Evaluators and occasion-specific participation support.

A Practitioner-Evaluator who receives Fund support tests the School's teaching and working methods against a genuine professional problem, submits a confidential practitioner review of **800-1,200 words within 30 days after completing the supported formation**, and takes part in **one follow-up conversation of up to 45 minutes**.

School tuition covers the formation itself. The Fund supports eligible additional costs associated with approved in-person participation.

What support can the Fund provide?

The Society may make:

- a **Co-Funding Award**, covering 50 per cent of an eligible on-site participation charge;
- a **Full Funding Award**, covering 100 per cent of an eligible on-site participation charge; or
- a **Full Funding and Mobility Award**, covering 100 per cent of an eligible on-site participation charge and including confirmed accommodation and mobility support.

For the inaugural Winter Academy, no prior in-person invitation is required in order to seek Fund consideration. A Winter-linked award carries the invitation to join the Singapore instructional centre once the recipient has been admitted to and enrolled in the Academy and the award's stated conditions have been met. The Award Confirmation identifies both the physical opportunity and the support attached to it. The participant can then decide whether to proceed.

The award is personal, merit-based, non-transferable and is not paid as cash.

Is the David A. Baldwin Fund the same as the David A. Baldwin Prize?

No.

The Fund concerns eligible participation support for Practitioner-Evaluators. The David A. Baldwin Prize in Geoeconomics recognises scholarly publications through a separate nomination and jury process.

May I express interest in attending in Singapore?

Yes. The first stage may record non-binding interest in the Winter-linked Fund route and in joining the Winter Academy instructional centre in Singapore. No prior in-person invitation is required.

Recording interest allows the School and Society to understand demand. It is not itself a formal application, physical invitation or Fund award. If the route is taken forward, the Society will invite the candidate to complete the Fund supplement. A Winter-linked award ultimately offered after the coordinated School and Society decisions carries the associated Singapore invitation once its stated conditions have been met.

Does Academy participation give access to the Society or Task Force?

No. The School, Society, Task Force and Hegemon have distinct functions. Tuition, admission or participation in one creates no status, access or authority in another.

What happens after I request early consideration?

The School reviews the educational information in your request. It may:

- invite a formal application;
- request a brief clarification;
- place the request on hold; or
- decline it.

A formal application remains separate from admission. Admission remains separate from the definite offer. Payment remains separate from programme confirmation and enrolment.

Does requesting early consideration create an obligation?

No. It creates no payment obligation and is not a formal application, admission, enrolment, Fund application, Fund award or in-person invitation.