



Eurooppalainen
Pääkaupunkiseutu ry

EUROCAPITALES Annual Meeting, 12-14 June 2026, Helsinki

Program

Friday, June 12, Hakaniemi

- **16:00** Transfer from Hotel Hilton Kalastajatorppa lobby
- **16:30 Session 1: Civil Defence**
 - Visit to Merihaka Civil Defence Bedrock Shelter, coffee break in the shelter
(Meeting point: Hakaniemi Metro Station, exit C)
 - 17:30 *"Helsinki Civil Defence from History to Current Day"*
President, Helsinki Civil Defence Association, Mr Jukka Lehtiranta
(Restaurant Oiva est. 1940, Porthaninkatu 5)
- **19:00** Dinner hosted by European Movement Helsinki Region for international delegates
(Restaurant Oiva est. 1940, Porthaninkatu 5)

Saturday, June 13, Hotel Hilton Kalastajatorppa

(Event room "Merisali 1", Hotel Hilton Kalastajatorppa, Kalastajatorpantie 1)

- **9:30 Opening remarks**
 - Chairman, European Movement Helsinki Region, Mr Ilari Rantakari
 - President, EUROCAPITALES International, Dr Jean-Paul Doguet
 - Deputy Mayor, City of Helsinki, Ms Maarit Vierunen
 - Acting Executive Director, European Movement in Finland, Mr Samuel Tammekann
- **10:00 Session 2: European Security**
 - *"Security in Europe and Finland"*
Director, Finnish Institute in the Middle East, Dr Juha Mäkelä
 - *"Europe and Global Challenges"*
Director, Finnish Institute in the Middle East, Dr Juha Mäkelä
 - *"Four Autonomies: Protecting Europe's Own Agency in the World"*
Acting Executive Director, European Movement in Finland, Mr Samuel Tammekann
- **12:00** Lunch
- **13:00 Session 3: Defence, Budgets and Resilience**
 - *"Overview of Recent European Commission Proposals on Defence and Resilience"*
Head of Media and Spokesperson for Finland, European Commission Representation in Finland, Mr Ismo Ulvila
 - *"The Finnish Concept for Comprehensive Security"*
Secretary-General, The Security Committee in Finland (MoD), Mr Petteri Korvala
 - *"Greek Defense Policy and Greece's Military Spending"*
Chairman, Europe House Byron Athens, Mr Stavros Vardalas
 - *"The Challenges of the French Military Budget for the Future"*
President, Eurocapitales International; Chairman, Eurocapitales Paris; Post-Graduate Professor, Dr Jean-Paul Doguet

Concluding remarks:

President, European Movement Helsinki Region; Ambassador Emeritus, Mr Ilari Rantakari



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(Saturday, June 13, continues)

- **15:00** Afternoon Coffee Break
- **15:30** EUROCAPITALES International Annual General Meeting
- **17:00** Free time
- **18:00** Transfer to Dinner Cruise from Hotel Hilton Kalastajatorppa lobby
(Embarkation: Royal Line M/S Natalia, Market Square/Kauppatori), by 18:45)

Sunday, June 14, Suomenlinna

- **9:45** Transfer to UNESCO World Heritage Site Suomenlinna Sea Fortress
(Meeting point: FRS Finland pier Keisarinluodonlaituri 1, Market Square/Kauppatori, by 10:20)
- **13:00** Departures

Keynote Speaker Profiles

Dr. Juha Mäkelä is a Finnish General Staff (G.S.) officer and retired Lieutenant Colonel. He served in the Finnish Defence Forces for 34 years, including work as the FDF's Middle East expert and recently from 2022 – 2026 as Chief of Division at the Finnish Defence Research Agency. Mäkelä holds a Doctor of Military Sciences degree from the Finnish National Defence University (FNDU), with his doctoral thesis focusing on the concept of the Securocracy—specifically, the role of security elites in Egypt and Jordan after the Arab Spring. His Middle Eastern assignments among other things include a position as Visiting Researcher at the al-Ahram Centre for Political and Strategic Studies in Cairo, Egypt, in 2011. Between 2019 and 2022, he worked as Finland's Defence Attaché for Türkiye, Lebanon, and Georgia. After his retirement from active duty in March 2026, Dr. Mäkelä was appointed Director of the Finnish Institute in the Middle East (FIME) to Beirut, Lebanon, beginning in June 2026. The FIME is an academic institute that focuses on research into the languages, cultures, religions, and societies of the entire Middle East region.

Mr. Petteri Korvala is Secretary General of the Security Committee, where he promotes Finland's comprehensive security and crisis resilience. He leads the Secretariat of the Security Committee and oversees efforts to strengthen security across all sectors of society. Korvala has over 30 years of experience in defence administration, serving in the Finnish Defence Forces and Ministry of Defence in both domestic and international roles. His previous positions include Deputy Military Representative to the EU, liaison officer at U.S. European Command, and military assistant to the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Defence. He holds the rank of colonel and is a general staff officer with a master's degree in economics and is currently pursuing a master's in engineering.

All times are local (EEST). Transfers are provided from/to Hotel Hilton Kalastajatorppa, meeting points are listed for separate arrivals. For assistance during the event: +358 40 813 3041.

WhatsApp group: Eurocapitales Helsinki 2026.

Streaming Schedule

Friday 12.6. 17:30—18:30 / Saturday 13.6. 09:30—12:00 / 13:00—15:00 / 15:30—17:00 EEST

Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83513402746>

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