

## Skytte Institute's Autumn Schools

October 2025, Kääriku Sports Centre, Otepää Parish

Skytte Institute's traditional annual autumn schools were held at Kääriku Sports Centre, bringing together students and high-level guest speakers to discuss pressing issues in international relations, security, and policy. The schools are designed to provide students with an immersive learning environment and direct access to practitioners involved in real world decision-making processes. Chatham House rules apply for all attendees.

Due to the bilingual nature of the institute's programmes, two separate autumn schools were held: one in Estonian and one in English. The Estonian language school took place on 11–12 October and the English language one on 25–26 October 2025. Estonian one had 97 registered participants and English one 42.

### SPEAKERS

- Kristen Michal, Prime Minister of Estonia, joined via video link from Stenbock House.
- Kaupo Rosin, Director General of the Estonian Foreign Intelligence Service, addressed the topic "How to Understand Russia's Behaviour?"
- Helga Kalm, Deputy Director of the International Centre for Defence and Security, spoke on "Trump Vol. 2 – How Did We Get Here and What's Next?"
- Maria Smorževskihh-Smirnova, Director of Narva Museum, gave a presentation titled "Shaping Minds: Russia's Information Influence and Hybrid Strategies in Narva, Estonia's Border City."
- Eero Janson, Head of the Estonian Refugee Council, spoke about "Humanitarianism 2.0."
- Rainer Saks, Cybersecurity expert and Head of the Cyber Policy Centre at the Skytte Institute, analysed "How the War in Ukraine Shapes Russia's Future Capabilities."

Report by Evelyn Pihla, 28.11.2025



Photos by Anna-Leena Rämson, October 2025