

22nd SECA Conference

AI & Private Markets
where do we go now?

7 July 2026, Zurich
SIX Convention Point

A snapshot

20+ Speakers including academic and industry experts in AI, Cloud, Digital Infrastructure and Data Centers

100+ Investors and Limited Partners from Europe, North America, Asia and the Middle East

250-300 Attendees from Europe's leading private equity, venture capital, infrastructure and asset managers

75% Attendees at C-Suite, board, governance, academic or technology leadership levels

SECA

Swiss Private Equity & Corporate Finance Association
Schweizerische Vereinigung für Unternehmensfinanzierung
Association Suisse des Investisseurs en Capital et de Financement

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now**
www.seca.ch

22nd SECA Conference

AI & Private Markets: Convergence / Opportunities where do we go now?

The SECA Conference is one of the biggest conferences in Switzerland, which brings together the private equity, venture capital and corporate finance industries.

Tuesday, 7 July 2026
08.30 – 17.30

SIX ConventionPoint
Pfungstweidstrasse 110, Zurich

Key Sponsors



SECA Conference

Tuesday, 7 July 2026, 08.30 – 17.30

08.30 – 09.00: Registration / Welcome

Room: Main Auditorium
Moderation: John Cook – Rock Lake Advisors

AI and Private Markets: Overview

The convergence of AI with private capital is generating a new vintage of global investment opportunities that are distinct from both classic tech / VC and traditional PE. Investment categories vary depending on geography, industrial focus, economic policy and technology clusters. AI and ML global PE deal value more than tripled from \$42 billion in 2023 to \$141 billion in 2024, with these deals representing 8% of total global PE deal value — up from just 3% the year prior. Simultaneously, 65% of family offices and investment allocators indicate AI and ML as a high investment priority, yet over half have no exposure to VC or PE and 79% report zero allocation to AI-related opportunities, creating a structural deployment gap that is itself an opportunity for advisors, GPs and LPs. Which geographies, categories and clusters offer the most interesting AI private market opportunities and what are the risks?

09.00 –
12.00

Welcome: **Maurice Pedernana** and **John Cook**

Shri Sanjeev Sanyal, Member EAC-PM, India

Euvyn Naidoo, Professor, Thunderbird School of Global Management: Impact of AI on Global Business, Risk and Agility

Hugo Parsons, Director, Strategy & Transactions, Deloitte SA: AI in M&A, Strategy and Transactions

Coffee Break

Nils Rode, Chief Investment Officer, Schroders: PE Investing in AI Portfolio Companies

Filip Czerwinski, Executive Director, BlackRock: AI Leaders: Private Markets/Public Signal

Sven Janszky, Futurologist, 2B Ahead Think Tank: The Future in an AI Driven World

12.00 – 13.00: Lunch & Networking

Round Table: 13.00 – 14.15

The innovation of AI is having a profound impact on all sectors of the economy, but about 10-15 major sectors offer a bigger impact than others. The four economic sectors with the biggest impact are energy & power infrastructure, financial services, space & defense and healthcare. How will AI be implemented in each of these sectors, what is the timeline and what are benefits and risks?

Room: Auditorium

Moderation: Laura Hermann – Rock Lake Advisors

Round Table: Key Sectors for AI and Private Markets

Bernd Pfister, Chairman, SECA

Karla Dembik – Founder/CEO, AEON Space:

AI in Defense, Cyber Security, Space, Critical Infra, Governance

June Lau, Chair & Founder, Malaysia Medical Association:

AI in Healthcare & Digital Health

Ralf Kaiser, Director, ICTP: Energy & Power Infrastructure Opportunities

Maria Apazoglou, Group Head AI Engineering, Zurich Insurance: AI in Financial Services

14.15 – 14.45: Break & Networking

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<p>Swiss / Europe: 14.45 – 15.40</p> <p>Europe's distinctive edge lies in its industrial depth, technology prowess, regulatory sophistication, and a renewed political will to invest and act globally. If the US pulls out of NATO then this is even more profound. Opportunities are emerging for private markets to supplement and co-invest in long-term government programs in strategic areas including defence, infrastructure, AI, technology, ESG, and renewable energy. The renowned SME sector offers nearly unlimited potential for AI implementation.</p>	<p>Room: Main Auditorium Moderation: Javier Rivas, President, Rock Lake Advisors</p> <p>Swiss / European Opportunities</p> <p>Alicia Montoya, Head of Industry, SDSC (ETH+EPFL): AI/ML in Swiss / European SMEs Gordon Mickel, Operating Principal, AI Growth Factors, Bregal Unternehmerkapital: AI in SME Growth Strategies</p> <p><i>More tba</i></p>
<p>USA: 15.45 – 16.40</p> <p>Silicon Valley has led the charge in innovation for 100 years. Now the power of AI is exploding in every sector in North America. JP Morgan estimates AI could unlock \$15 trillion in value globally, led by Silicon Valley innovation, with four key segments in the lead: Agentic AI at \$6 trillion, Vertical AI at \$3 trillion, Horizontal AI at \$3 trillion, and Industrial AI at \$3 trillion. How will this massive valuation uplift play out in North America and how will it impact the world?</p>	<p>Room: Main Auditorium Moderation: Patrick Keller, Managing Director, Rock Lake Advisors</p> <p>North American Opportunities</p> <p>Doug Smith, Senior Director, Nutanix: AI Investment Landscape, American Markets Sushil Choudhari, Founder, Travel VIP & Credibl ESG: AI in Global Travel & Lifestyle</p> <p><i>More tba</i></p>
<p>India / Israel / Japan: 16.45-17.30</p> <p>The 21st century has been called the century for Asia. Nowhere was that more obvious 15 years ago than when PE firms asked their target investees "what is your China strategy?" From Kazakhstan to China to Japan to India, the race is on to grow, innovate, up-skill and impact their local, regional and global footprint. How will AI impact these markets and what challenges are there on the horizon?</p>	<p>Room: Main Auditorium Moderation: Saurav Sanyal, CEO, Strategica</p> <p>India / Asia Opportunities</p> <p>Jitesh Shetty, CEO, Credibl ESG: AI in Sustainability & ESG Umakant Soni, Co-Founder, Bharat1.ai: Building a Humanity Centric AI City Yariv Adan, General Partner, ellipsis VC, Israel</p> <p><i>More tba</i></p>


17.30 – 20.00: Piano Aperitivo & Networking at SIX
Pianist: Assel Abilseitova - Khazakstan

Speakers




Maria Apazoglou 
Group Head of AI Engineering & Platforms,
Zurich Insurance



Nicolas Bornitz 
Director, M&A Transaction Services: Due Diligence & Origination,
Deloitte



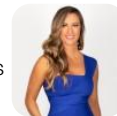
Sushil Choudhari 
Founder,
Travel VIP & Credibl ESG



John Cook 
Chairman,
Rock Lake Advisors, Zug



Filip Czerwinski 
Executive Director / Investor,
BlackRock Private Equity Partners



Karla Dembik 
Founder & CEO,
AEON Space



Laura Hermann 
Rock Lake Advisors



Sven Gábor Jánoszy 
Futurologist,
2B AHEAD Ventures GmbH



Ralf Kaiser 
experimental nuclear physicist,
ICTP



Patrick Keller 
Managing Director,
Rock Lake Advisors



June Lau 
Chair & Founder,
Malaysia Medical Association



Gordon Mickel 
Operating Principal,
BU Bregal Unternehmerkapital



Alicia Montoya 
Head of Industry Development,
Swiss Data Science Center



Evin Naidoo 
Distinguished Prof. of Global Accounting, Risk & Agility,
Thunderbird School of Global Management



Maurice Pedergrana 
Prof. Dr., Partner & Chief Economist,
Zugerberg Finanz AG



Bernd Pfister 
Dr., Managing Director,
Paros Capital AG, Baar & SECA Chairman



Javier Rivas 
Managing Director,
Rock Lake Advisors



Nils Rode 
Chief Investment Officer,
Schroders Capital



Shri Sanjeev Sanyal 
Member EAC-PM, India



Saurav Sanyal 
Managing Partner,
Strategica



Jitesh Shetty 
Founder/CEO,
Credibl



Doug Smith 
Senior Director,
Nutanix



Umakant Soni 
Co-founder,
Bharat1.ai



Assel Abilseitova 
Musician, teacher, art lover and simply a human being

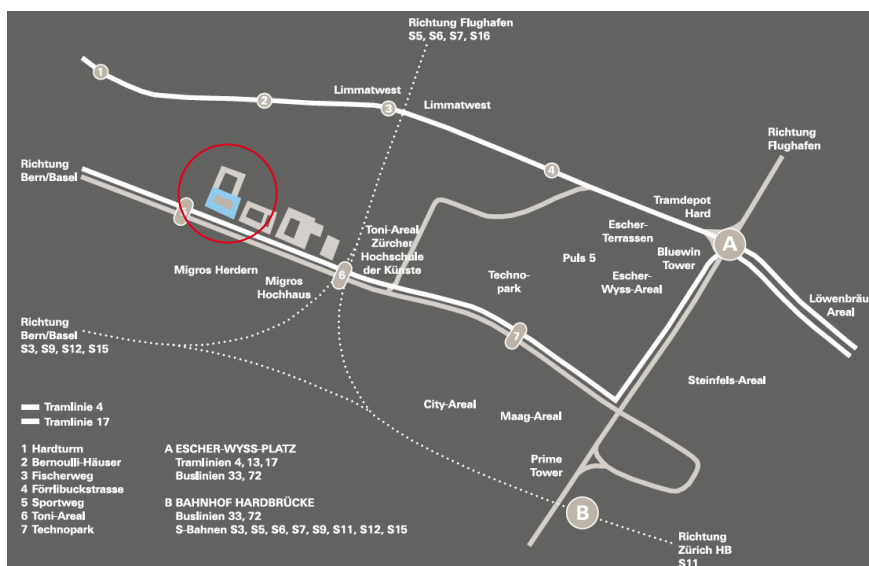
Why attend the SECA Conference:

- Gain firsthand knowledge from leading experts, innovators, and decision-makers.
- Connect with professionals, peers, and potential partners from across the sector.
- Discover the latest technologies, strategies, and best practices driving change and growth.
- Engage in meaningful conversations and build lasting relationships within the SECA community.
- Explore new opportunities, gain visibility, and position yourself for future growth in your field.

Details of the Conference and Registration

The SECA conference will take place in the SIX ConventionPoint.

Tuesday, 7 July 2026, 08.30 – 20.00, Pfingstweidstrasse 110, CH-8005 Zurich



Fee

Conference Fee	CHF 450
Pension Funds and Family Offices	CHF 150

SECA Full Member	3 participants for free
SECA Associate Member	2 participants for free
SECA Individual Member	1 participant for free – personal membership required
Young SECA Member	1 participant for free – personal membership required
AMAS Member	1 participant for free

Registration

Please register until **24 June 2026** on our website www.seca.ch.

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Many thanks to all our Speakers & Partners!

