



Dear Taftie members, dear friends,



*It was a real pleasure being the TAFTIE Chair in 2017. I highly appreciated the work done by our predecessors - the other members of our Troika - Peter Dortans from VDI/VDE-IT and Laure Reinhardt from Bpifrance and their teams. I enjoyed also the cooperation with the new member of Troika - MITA - in 2017.*

*For me and for my colleagues from the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic TAFTIE has always been a very valuable source of information and experience. Concerning priorities of our Chairmanship Events, we concentrated on Competence Centres and their internationalisation, mapping of Innovation Capacities, Big Data in R&D, and the state of play in the FP9 and EIC. Altogether 305 participants from Europe, as well as from overseas have accepted our invitation.*

*I am glad that the TAFTIE Task Forces on High Potential Community and Soft Power worked very well. In 2017, the TAFTIE Academy offered two staff trainings, four networking seminars and one webinar that were highly appreciated by the participants.*

*My personal ambition was to strengthen the communication with our international partners, as well as with the Commission and other institutions. Therefore, I invited our international partners to attend all TAFTIE events and we distributed them the programme of our Chairmanship events well in advance. I am glad that NEDO was represented in the Expert Session 1 and in the Expert Session 2, in the Annual Conference and in the Policy Forum and NRC attended the Policy Forum. TAFTIE members took part in the Workshop in Rio de Janeiro in July 2017 organised by FINEP.*

*Members of the Commission were frequent speakers in the TAFTIE events and TAFTIE was well represented in the meetings of ERA Stakeholders Platform, in meetings and brainstorming on EIC, in meetings with Commissioner Moedas and members of the Pascal Lamy Group. I consider these personal contacts and a close communication of TAFTIE with these partners very important. In these days and weeks, the FP9 is being prepared and the recommendations of Pascal Lamy and his High Level Group are seriously taken into consideration. I welcome the fact that European Commission considers communication with heads of EU member states crucial, as well as the synergy with national programmes of R&D support. I am glad to hear that the Commission is open to take into account the diversity across Europe.*

*Since meeting of colleagues is an important part of all TAFTIE events, we intended to offer you also social programme facilitating discussions and exchange of views. We had an ambition to show you some interesting places in Prague, too.*

*We all appreciate open and frank discussions, your support and excellent cooperation with you.*

*I wish Good Luck to our MITA colleagues.*

**Petr Očko**

TAFTIE 2017 and TA CR Chairman



# Expert Session 1

February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

Venue: Prague, Technology Agency of the Czech Republic

---

## Key questions:

*What was the key mission and targets when establishing the Competence Centres in different countries?*

*To which extent were the expectations met and fulfilled?*

---



What is the most important aspect of successful Competence Centres in the future?

The Expert Session 1 focused on Competence Centres. We intended to base this event on the work of Task Force Compact, which had presented an excellent overview of the potential scope and use of the Competence Centres programmes summarised in the final report Future Competence Centre Programmes.

We did not intend to duplicate the work already done. The Expert Session 1 concentrated on experience of agencies, their frank and open bottom – up perspective. We tried to find answers to following questions:

- What was the key mission and targets when establishing the Competence Centres in different countries?
- To which extent were the expectations met and fulfilled?
- What was a success story, what did not work at all? Why?

*“Speaking about the failures is necessary”*

*“It is important to take into consideration specific aspects of each country”*



**Martin BUNČEK**  
TA CR

*“Avoid double structures”*

*“Bottom up activities were necessary”*

*“Participation from Partners outside Austria is fine”*

*“Exiting centres, that are being negative evaluated is a right thing to do, but it is very tough”*



**Otto STARZER**  
FFG

*How to get from 35 to 5-8 centres?*

*Industry is to be interested in Competence Centres not only now, but also in five years. Therefore the centres must have their own ideas and be looking forward to the future, not to be triggered only by the industry.*

*Too big budget of Competence centres might create strange projects.*

*Multinational companies play a very high role – promote the collaboration with local SMEs.*

*Ideal case - CT is built up on a certain topics and is not duplicating what universities are doing.*

*“TICs need to attract highly networked and trusted managers and staff with relevant business and technical skills”*

*“Each TIC should be overseen by a business led steering group”*

*“Support trust and further cooperation of partners”*



**David GOLDING**  
Enterprise Europe Network

*"Prerequisites for success stands on three pillars:*

- *Knowledge acquisition*
- *Knowledge management*
- *Knowledge integration"*



**Thorsten POSSELT**  
Fraunhofer Center IMW



*"Competence Centres are changing research culture in universities and companies"*

*"Integrated programmes and centres work best"*

*"Governance, balance of power are key to success in centres"*

*"Competence Centres are a useful instrument to bring people together"*

*"Leading persons with strategical thinking are essential"*

*"Let international partners participate on the same rights and duties"*



**Erik ARNOLD**  
Technopolis Group

---

**Closing remark:**

CC are still seen as one of the key mechanisms that should bridges scientific research and economy

---



presentations are available on: <http://bit.ly/2in4EZO>





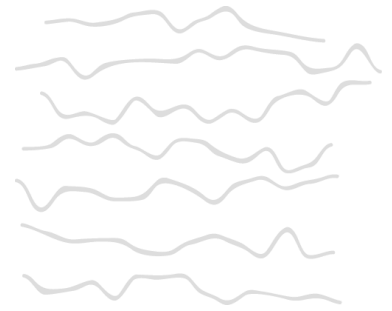


# Expert Session 2

March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Venue: Prague, National Technical Museum

---



## **Motto:**

*Meeting of two worlds – wishes, plans and reality*

---

The Future Competence Centres Programmes Report clearly states that there is a perceived need to provide more incentives and measures to allow Competence Centres to cooperate at a regional and international level, in order to further increase the quality of research performed within centres. Internationalisation is becoming an even more important issue for Competence Centres managers. How does it function in practice?

Meeting of two worlds, of two cultures, has always been a challenge. Research Campus – Public Private Partnership for Innovations is a specific instrument to strengthen research cooperation between academia and industry and to establish long-term strategic cooperation. The staff members have different “cultural” and “linguistic” background. How do they manage to find a common language? The Cluster instrument reflects synergies where European industry’s research and collaboration interests, innovation capacity - and national funding opportunities meet. What is the perception of its members?

EUREKA Clusters are strategically significant initiatives that develop technologies of key importance for European competitiveness. To which extend do the EUREKA clusters fulfil their role – to increase the European competitiveness? What are the bottlenecks of European cooperation? What is the difficult aspect of implementing the programme ITEA?

In the period 2007 – 2013 many scientific centres and large infrastructures were established in order to integrate research and development. Today, their functioning, human resources, sustainability, international co-operation is largely discussed, as well as their co-operation with Competence Centres. Use of large infrastructures is one of the important options for future Competence Centres Programmes. How does the internationalisation of Competence Centres work in real life?

*“Keep in mind, different „culture“ of different organisations and nations”*

*“Collaboration of different partners has always been much more complex than bringing the right partners together”*

*“Historically - countries that closed up were lost”*

*“In legal terms, arranging national public funding for foreign partners is still difficult in most countries”*



**Miroslav JANEČEK**

TA CR

*“An uncomplicated unberaucratic quick financial support could help to effectively compete on the market”*

*“The cooperation of business and researchers produces many ideas that need at least a proof of concept before funding application can be prepared”*

**Dr. Katharina HÄNDELER**

PtJ

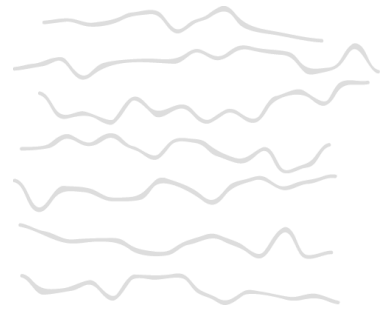
*“Complex global challenges must be increasingly tackled by a division of labour with international partners”*



**Dr. Florian WELTER**

PtJ





*"You have to be clever and practical, and use all the help you can get"*

*"EUREKA provides flexible and user-friendly support of bottom up initiatives among participants in different countries"*



**Fopke KLOK**  
ITEA

*"Cooperation between member states and EC is still not on a sufficient level"*

*"Balancing the interest of the community and national infrastructures is crucial"*



**Roman HVĚZDA**  
ELI

*"Optimisation of data management and exploitation functionalities is a precondition for long-term sustainability"*

*"Research infrastructures needed to be integrated to the international RDI landscape in order to be sustainable"*



**Zsolt MONSZPART**  
NRDI Office

*"Do you have the flexibility in your national labour force?"*

*"The private sector has faced competition for decades. The public sector faces competition only internationally. That is also why the two worlds do not meet"*



**Markus DETTENHOFER**  
CEITEC

---

### Closing remark:

Each organization has to decide:

Internalization – yes, or no? You must decide, there is no half-way

---



presentations are available on: <http://bit.ly/2zMQula>







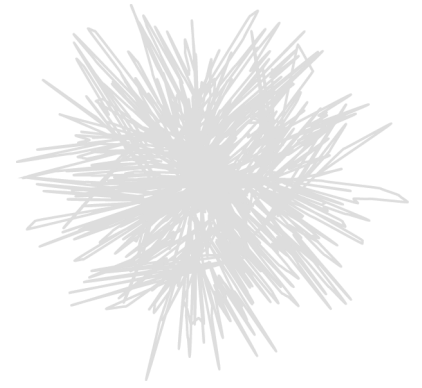


# Expert Session 3

September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Venue: Prague, Senate of the Parliament of the CR

---



## **Key question:**

***Do we manage to fully exploit the innovation potential mapping?***

---

A thorough knowledge of the market position and long-term goals and strategies of different groups of companies and other stakeholders involved in innovation ecosystem is the basic prerequisite for the effectiveness of the support tools of the innovation policy. Many agencies have experience with innovation potential mapping. How do they manage to transform the outcomes of mapping into programmes? What is the future of innovation potential mapping?

*"The European Scoreboard Scoreboard is the main resource for the European Commission to assess the potential of the regional, national or European innovation system"*

*"The quantitative resources and qualitative analysis results are used for the recommendations within the European semester"*

*"The European scoreboard results should be used as a basis for the discussion of different actors in the innovation system"*



**Daniel W. BLOEMERS**  
DG GROW

*"Main barriers to innovation are people, capacities and market competences of companies"*

*"The innovation capacity of a company depends mostly on the ambition to become and change leader"*



**Martin BUNČEK**  
TA CR

*"The overarching goal of the text mining is to turn text into data for analysis"*

*"The text meaning is a new approach in FFG to achieve deeper insights into project data"*



**Harald HOCHREITER**  
FFG

*"SFINNO Database confirmed impact of many TEKES programmes of innovation in Finland and justified the public funding of R&D"*

*"Country comparisons would be interesting but corresponding data still scarce among nations"*

*"The economic recession supported the importance of evidence based impact of R&D investment"*

*"Evidence based policy requires evidence based impact monitoring"*

*"Impacts depend (also) on factors outside STI or any policies"*



**Torsti LOIKKANEN**  
Sapar Ltd.





*"Innovations are driven by the market"*

*"Understanding OPEN INNOVATION means help (& control) champions in the growing"*



**Niki NASKA**  
EUREKA

*"Highly skilled staff with great personal integrity in public innovation agencies – „spiders in the net” and „honest brokers” are prerequisites for advanced innovation policy"*



**David UHLÍŘ**  
JIC

---

### Closing remark

**Innovation capacity mapping, even on European level, is extremely important even under rapidly changing innovation megatrends, practices and framework conditions**

---



presentations are available on:  
<http://bit.ly/2AUARP6>







# Annual Conference

June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Venue: Prague, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the CR

---



## **Motto:**

*Too much data, not enough power to analyse it*

---

Data availability, collection, storage, processing, evaluation and proper use for programming and programmes implementation are neuralgic points for many agencies. Open data and involvement of volunteer and/or NGO community starts to be important, especially when considering impact evaluation. What is the experience of different agencies? Do we have some good practice to share?

Relating to digitalisation and next production revolution, there is an increasing focus on the open innovation concept. How is the concept communicated, especially to enterprises? Is there a good practice example?

Sharing the data on European level is another issue.

---

## **Too much data and not enough power to analyze**

---

*"We require a skills mix - deep understanding of the programme and technical knowledge, therefore collaboration of CDTI with University is a must"*

*"Strict anonymization procedures hinder temporal series long enough to capture long-term effects"*

*"Data from different parties of state administration is critical to Tekes operations"*

*"Owner of the data decides on the use (shared on need-to-know basis)"*

*"Close contacts between agencies makes a difference"*

*"There are many sources of R&D data that are incoherent"*

*"Start with little steps and do not discuss it too much"*

*"The potential of DAFOS is still unlocked"*

*"The theme these days is not to publish as much as possible, but to share data as quickly as possible"*

*"In Horizon 2020 - sharing of data is a mandatory precondition"*

*"Shall we join our forces? Do we need „Airbus for big data“?"*



**Andres UBIERNA**  
CDTI



**Risto SETÄLÄ**  
Tekes



**Martin BUNČEK**  
TA CR



**Kurt VANDENBERGHE**  
European Commission



*"Ph.D. students in mathematics and/or computer science and engineering have highest earnings"*

*"Institute for Research in Innovation transforms the successful UMETRICS initiative into a permanent national resource by creating a secure professional data platform"*

*"Human error is to blame for most of the (civilian) breaches!"*

*"In 2016, Israeli cyber sales were 10% of global cyber sales"*

*"How to become data security leader? You need thinking out of the box; not treating failure as a reason to stop, stubbornness, skepticism, flexibility, agility, elasticity"*

*"Spreading awareness is crucial"*

*"There is tension between security and speed"*

*"Our mission is to deliver scientifically excellent and industry relevant research in the fields of transport and mobility"*

*"Mobility is recently on the edge of fundamental changes. Millions of sensors that can communicate with each other are connected"*

*"Travelers are flooded with real-time information"*

*"Today's intuition based decision changes into the decision making based on knowledge"*



**Evgeny KLOCHIKHIN**

AIR, USA



**Ruth FRIEDEL**

ISERD



**Martin HÁJEK**

Rodos, ČR

---

### Closing remark

**Big data, their correct use and a reliable infrastructure for their processing are an extraordinary challenge for research and development"**

- Petr Očko -



presentations are available on: <http://bit.ly/2imASDH>









# Policy Forum

November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017

Venue: Brussels, Prague House



---

## Motto:

***More competitive Europe after 2020***

---

How to maximise the impact of future European Union programmes supporting research, development and innovation?

How to design a research and innovation system that can fully use the potential of researchers and innovators and develop a more competitive Europe after 2020? What lessons did we learn from Horizon 2020?

What is the vision of the Commission for the next programming period?

Will the EIC really simplify access to innovation support instruments?

Will EIC help celebrate innovators, promote entrepreneurship and be a voice for innovators?

What is the view of TAFTIE agencies and other stakeholders?

*"Doubling EU Research and Innovation budget post 2020 to EUR 160 billion over seven years is the bare minimum"*

*"Educate for the future and invest in people who will make the changes"*

*"EUREKA enables flexible and agile funding of cross-border collaboration projects. Bottom-up projects are born from the interest of companies. National funding organisations are directly involved"*

*"The Dutch National Subsidy Framework offers good opportunities for simplification based on justified trust. If adapted to the challenges of one level European playing field, this approach could offer European added value without adding risks for the European funds"*

*"Sustainable aviation is key in terms of fuel efficiency and wider social implications - a clear return for EU citizens. PPP is a successful model to accelerate R&I, ensure long-term commitments, pool resources to key missions/objectives and leverage industry investments in R&I"*



**Lucyna WOZNIAK**

Pascal Lamy Group



**Heikki Uusi-HONKO**

EUREKA



**Richard van KEULEN**

Netherlands  
Enterprise Agency



**Bruno MASTANTUONO**

Clean Sky 2



## Keith SEQUEIRA

Member of the Cabinet of Commissioner  
Moedas



**Our approach to innovations will be totally different to what we have seen in the past decades. There are three crucial aspects for innovation:**

1. The importance of science and technology for innovation will increase. Not every innovator is prepared to use it now. A combination of knowledge, science, engineering will become more critical for innovation.
2. There is a strong need for private financing, for risk and patient capital. Europe needs to invest more into ventures, scales-up and start ups. Innovations may take years and require a lot of risk finance over a long period of time.
3. The innovations in many important areas – health sector, energy, transportation, education, and environment – happen in highly regulated environment. The public policy side approach towards innovation becomes critical.

**The bases for the changes in the 9FP are the strategic recommendations of the Pascal Lamy Group how to maximise impact of future European research and innovations programmes.**

**The three key recommendations are:**

1. **Prioritise research and innovation in EU and national budgets.** The HLG proposes doubling of financing for the upcoming seven years.
2. The EU programme for R&D is to be designed **mission oriented** and creating **greater impact**, it should **focus much more on a common purpose, for general publics**.
3. **Built an EU innovation policy that creates future markets.** Support breakthrough innovation. Use the experience and lessons learned from the success of ERC and PPP.

**Europe is good in producing science and knowledge but we do not use it for growth. Experience with ERC is excellent, however innovation is totally different.**

There will be three important changes in the upcoming period:

1. No sectors will be predefined, there are no “boxes” SME Instrument will be totally open to all sectors.
2. There will be more focus on persons presenting the projects. The projects will be evaluated not only on what is proposed on paper, but also on the basis of interview with the jury.
3. European Innovation Council (EIC) is based on experience of experienced and credible innovators with personal experience in several areas of expertise. In January they will present a proposal what will be the ideal EIC.

**Next steps:**

- ⇒ Public consultation will start in the first months of 2018
- ⇒ First draft of budget to be presented in May 2018
- ⇒ First draft of 9 FP to be presented in June

Communication with heads of EU member states will be crucial, as well as support and synergy with national programmes of R&D support. The Commission is open to take into account the diversity across Europe. The main criterion will be excellence, regardless the country, region, technology or sector.



*"Let us Focus on people and companies with ideas for radically new, breakthrough products, services, processes or business models, that open up new markets with the potential for rapid European and global-scale growth "*



**Stephane OUAKI**  
European Commission

*"The SME Instrument provides full-cycle business innovation support. It has three phases, including a coaching and mentoring service. € 1.4 billion is dedicated for funding over the period 2018-2020 in the EIC"*



**Bernd REICHERT**  
SME Instrument

*"For business, priority No 1 is to scale-up efforts on financing research and innovation activities with a clear and strong EU added value, to overcome the EU innovation deficit and more intensively strengthen the EU's industrial leadership and cross-border industrial collaborative"*



**Jan BAMBAS**  
BusinessEurope

*"Innovation agencies are willing to partner the European Commission for setting-up a European innovation promotion system that is centred on the needs of the innovator"*



**Ana PONTE**  
ANI

---

### Closing remark

Privileging impact of projects on the life of EU citizens over the process is crucial. The vision is to build an EU innovation policy that creates future markets and supports breakthrough innovations. We must invest in people that make the change. Let us create open, non-discriminatory approach on European level. The Commission is open to cooperation with innovation agencies. We want to create a system that works. We want to increase a reputation of Europe in innovation.

---



presentations are available on: <http://bit.ly/2kdhvXR>





