



European Commissioner for Research and Innovation
Carlos Moedas
European Commission
Rue de la Loi
1000 Brussels
Belgium

Brussels, 25 May 2018

Dear Commissioner Moedas,

Ahead of the negotiations on the next EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (Horizon Europe), we would like to highlight our belief that boosting innovation remains vital to both continued European competitiveness in the global economy and addressing major societal challenges.

Horizon Europe needs to focus on strongly supporting the development of innovation and entrepreneurship across Europe and deliver the desired impacts through pan-European cooperation in innovation ecosystems linking education, research and business. We are of the opinion that the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) strongly contributes to these goals.

The EIT model was recognised in its Midterm Evaluation Report published in October 2017, as being unique to combine education, research and business at EU and regional level. With the necessary budgetary and political support, its impacts could be further enhanced and significantly step up our joint ambition to solve tomorrow's global societal challenges and contribute to a more innovative, interconnected and inclusive Europe.

In this context, we urge you to ensure that the EIT is fully integrated into the structure of Horizon Europe, playing a key role across all pillars – in line with the Commission Communication of 02 May 2018 on the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2028. In view of the current social and economic challenges, the rationale for having a strong EIT has never been more valid and we see enormous opportunity in utilising the EIT as a tool to foster mission-oriented collaboration, combine EU and regional funds, while supporting start-ups and scale-ups.

By way of example, the EIT could build on results of research programmes such as the European Research Council in areas relevant for specific societal challenges and develop marketable products and services based on them. Moreover, the EIT is uniquely placed to support regions to achieve excellence given its existing presence through hubs and activities in all Member States and thereby help to disseminate results across Europe.

Yet, this cannot be achieved unless there is a clear coordinated effort on the side of the European Commission to work together in order to identify concrete synergies as well as formulate the necessary implementation matrix. We are concerned that the European Commission has not yet fully embraced the full potential of the EIT.

In addition, the European Parliament's Scientific and Technological Option Assessment (STOA) Panel will be commissioning a study which will assess the EIT's potential as an integrative instrument across Horizon Europe. This study will feed into the debate on the strategic aspects of future policy design of Horizon Europe, to help to overcome fragmentation and create synergies. The results of the study will be transmitted to you and we invite you to take them into consideration.

We are looking forward to working closely in dialogue with you over the coming months to establish a highly successful Framework Programme for Research and Innovation with the full contribution of the EIT.

Kind regards,

Members of the European Parliament



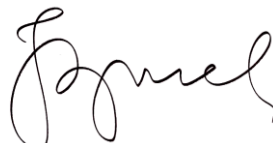
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Germany (EPP)



Lambert Van Nistelrooij
The Netherlands (EPP)



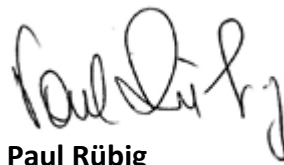
Eva Kaili
Greece (S&D)



Jerzy Buzek
Poland (EPP)



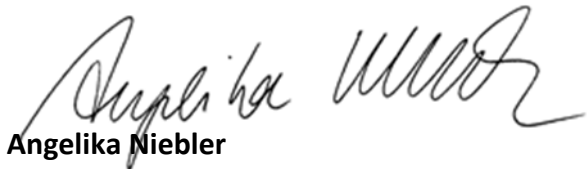
Peter Kouroumbashev
Bulgaria (S&D)



Paul Rübig
Austria (EPP)



Michał Boni
Poland (EPP)



Angelika Niebler
Germany (EPP)



Miroslav Mikolášik
Slovakia (EPP)



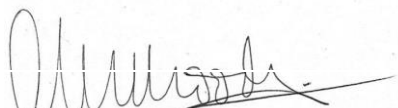
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Poland (S&D)



Ivana Maletić
Croatia (EPP)



Pervenche Berès
France (S&D)



Clare Moody
United Kingdom (S&D)