

DECLARATION OF COOPERATION

on fostering a dynamic ecosystem around EU R&I funding building on initiatives such as the Innovation Radar

Country A

Country B

Country C

Country D

etc.

We, the signatories to this declaration, welcome the fact that the European Union is strongly supporting research and innovation (R&I) in Europe by investing billions of euros through R&I programmes such as Horizon 2020. We emphasise that results from these investments include world-leading innovations which until recently could not be systematically tracked or easily discovered.

We support initiatives such as the Innovation Radar online tool which addresses this problem through its data-driven and user-friendly approach. The Innovation Radar allows for open access to insights about innovations and the innovators behind them emerging from EU-funded research and innovation projects. We stress the importance of transparency and accountability to show Europeans how EU funding is used and how it can contribute to growth, jobs and improving well-being. Citizens, public officials, professionals, journalists and the business community can, thanks to Innovation Radar, easily discover results of EU innovation funding.

We recognise that the Innovation Radar can further reinforce the impact of the EU R&I programmes now and in the future. The public accountability delivered by the Innovation Radar platform will help improve R&I policy planning while also mobilising public funds for R&I by demonstrating the value of such investments. It will help foster the emergence of a dynamic ecosystem around EU R&I programmes by providing new opportunities to: match innovators with those who can help get their innovations to market; attract additional expertise and capital; promote closer cooperation; and, secure wider access to international markets.

Therefore we strongly believe an EU ecosystem for supporting breakthrough innovations is urgently needed. The Innovation Radar represents a useful tool in this regard. We will work together towards:

1. Promoting the use of Innovation Radar by agencies for national and regional innovation, funding and support policies.
2. Connecting European and national innovators through Innovation Radar with investors at all relevant levels (i.e. EIB/EIF, regional development agencies, promotional banks, venture capital networks or business angels) in order to maximise funding opportunities for European tech

entrepreneurs. This is also with a view to assisting more innovative startups in their ambition to become scale-ups and go on to be successful European showcases of tech entrepreneurship.

3. Leveraging the Innovation Radar to implement innovation procurement in support of top innovators and startups, boosting their growth and to have society to benefit fully from the latest publicly funded innovations;

The signatories of this declaration will each designate a lead official to work with the European Commission to explore how the Innovation Radar can be further developed and enriched and thus foster greater uptake of EU-funded innovations. The European Commission will invite the group of national lead officials to meet in Brussels before summer 2018 to discuss next steps.

All Member States, EFTA and EEA countries are invited to join this cooperation.