



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Mission of Switzerland to the European Union

SwissCore

Contact Office for European Research
Innovation and Education

Innovation Briefing 2024

EU Innovation policies Igniting the potential of Swiss and European Deep Tech Start-ups & Scale-ups

14 November 2024

15:30 – 20:00

Mission of Switzerland to the EU
Place du Luxembourg 1 – 1050 Brussels



Innovation
Norway



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Swiss Confederation

Innosuisse – Swiss Innovation Agency

Event Summary



The European Union is facing a global race in innovation. Today, as we navigate through a transformative era marked by rapid technological advancement, geopolitical challenges and economic shifts, a robust innovation ecosystem has never been more valuable.

Since its fully-fledged launch in 2021, the European Innovation Council (EIC) under Horizon Europe has contributed to supporting start-ups and scale-ups through dedicated funding opportunities, facilitating access to capital, fostering cross-border collaboration, and ensuring a streamlined path from laboratory research to market-ready solutions. The New European Innovation Agenda (NEIA) supports the vision of positioning Europe at the forefront of the new wave of deep tech innovation and start-ups. However, the EU is still facing one significant challenge with promising companies struggling in finding capital for larger rounds of investments.

This Innovation Briefing is co-organised by SwissCore, the Swiss liaison office for Education, Research and Innovation, the Mission of Switzerland to the EU, Innovation Norway. We will present Swiss, Norwegian, and European initiatives aiming to contribute to a vibrant science-backed start-up ecosystem. Furthermore, we will look into potential solutions how to (i) improve the commercialisation of innovative ideas, (ii) engage with private investors, and (iii) unlock the potential of larger European funding rounds.

Event Agenda



From 15:30

Registration

16:00 – 16:15

Welcome words

Rita Adam

Ambassador, Mission of Switzerland to the EU

Dominique Gruhl-Bégin

CEO, Innosuisse

16:15 – 16:45

Introductory remarks: *Addressing the Scale-Up Gap*

Emily Sinnott

Head of Division, Policy and Strategy, European Investment Bank

16:45 – 17:15

Growth drivers for European Start-ups: the experience from the beneficiary's perspective

Lightning talk:

- **Jurgita Miseviciute**, Head of Public Policy and Government Affairs, Proton
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Event Agenda



17:15 – 18:30

How to build trust between the European Innovation Council, Venture Capitalists, and Institutional Investors

Panel discussion:

- **Keith Sequeira**, Head of Unit, European Innovation Council, European Commission
- **Piotr Michałowski**, Principal Advisor, Equity and Growth, Deep Tech and Digital, European Investment Bank
- **Martin Bresson**, Public Affairs Director, Invest Europe
- **Eva Camerer**, Director Strategy, Innovation Norway
- **Otto Bruun**, Scientific Advisor for International Innovation Programmes, Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI
- **Luca Cruciato**, Advisor for Innovation, SwissCore (Moderation)

18:30

Closing Remarks

Dominique Gruhl-Bégin
CEO, Innosuisse

18:45

Networking Cocktail

20:00

End of reception
