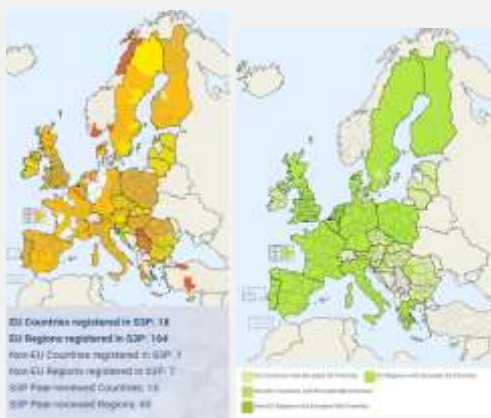


## S3 PLATFORM NEWS

### S3 PLATFORM MEMBERSHIP AND EYE@RIS3 - S3 SPECIALISATION MAPPING

Welcome to our latest newcomers to register:

Jämtland Härjedalen (SWEDEN) and  
Konya-Karaman (TURKEY).

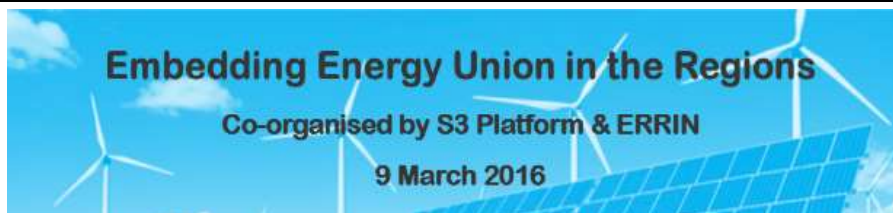


More information and guidelines [here](#).

### REMINDER : UPDATE YOUR S3 PRIORITIES !

The S3 Platform is updating the information on the S3 priorities on the basis of the advanced stages of the regional/national RIS3s. Nevertheless, policy makers from the regions/countries are urged to check and update their S3 priorities in the **Eye@RIS3**.

You are also kindly invited to update your national/regional S3 pages with the S3 Related National Website, Related Links and Country News (see the example of Slovenia [here](#) or our contacts on **S3 Energy** (see the example for Andalusia [here](#)).



EMBEDDING ENERGY UNION IN THE REGIONS, 09/03/2016, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

The Smart Specialisation Platform on Energy and ERRIN are co-organising an event on “Embedding Energy Union in the regions” on 9th March 2016.

The workshop will be open to all regions with energy identified as a priority in their smart specialisation strategy. The event is targeted at the managing authorities and intermediary bodies who are central to the innovation ecosystem and priority setting at regional level.

The workshop’s overall objective is to raise the awareness of the platform with regions that have energy in their smart specialisation and to identify:

- Opportunities for strategic clustering and future transnational project opportunities
- Objectives and benefits for regions of S3 Energy platform and ERRIN network
- Areas of regional focus in energy
- Perceived strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for regions in promising areas of specialisation

For more information and for registration [here](#).



UNIVERSITY BUSINESS FORUM, 25-26/02/2016, VIENNA, AUSTRIA

Opened by **Tibor Navracsics**, European Commissioner for Education and the Joint Research Centre this forum is being organised together with the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy. The two-day forum will bring together representatives from business, public authorities and universities. Around 300 participants from all over Europe will work together on new ideas and collaboration. More information [here](#).



S3 DESIGN LEARNING WORKSHOP, 18–19/02/2016,  
CHISINAU, MOLDOVA

The S3 Platform together with the Academy of Sciences of Moldova in the framework Danube-INCO.NET project has held the first workshop on smart specialisation strategy (S3) design targeted to the EU enlargement and neighbourhood countries. More information and the outcome of the workshop [here](#).

## S3 NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS

### REGIOSTARS AWARDS:

#### LAUNCH OF THE 2016 REGIOSTARS AWARDS

BY THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR REGIONAL AND URBAN POLICY

The objective of the RegioStars Awards is to identify good practices in regional development and to highlight original and innovative projects which could be attractive and inspiring to other regions.

After being selected by an independent jury, representatives from the finalist projects will be invited to attend the Award Ceremony and receive a certificate and a medal. They will also be included in a brochure, published by the European Commission, as well as in the online database of best practices on the Inforegio website.

This year's RegioStars award ceremony will take place on Tuesday, October 11, during the 2016 European Week of Regions and Cities.

The winners in each category will receive a RegioStars trophy and a certificate presented by European Commissioner for Regional Policy, Corina Crețu, and the President of the RegioStars jury. For each winner a short video is also produced which will be published online followed by a promotional campaign on social media.

Applications can be sent by the regional or local Managing Authority, or by the project manager, but with the endorsement of the responsible Managing Authority.

If you have any other questions contact [regiostars2016@iservice-europa.eu](mailto:regiostars2016@iservice-europa.eu).

### RegioStars Awards

Highlight best practice & reward the most inspiring and innovative projects !

**Cat. 1 Smart Growth:** Emerging opportunities in the global economy

**Cat. 2 Sustainable Growth:** Circular Economy

**Cat. 3 Inclusive Growth:** Integrated living

**Cat. 4 CityStar:** Innovative solutions for sustainable urban development

**Cat. 5 Effective management:** Making a difference by managing differently



Apply online before April 15<sup>th</sup> [here](#).

### STAIRWAY TO EXCELLENCE (S2E)

Upcoming [S2E National Events](#) :

[Czech Republic](#): in Prague on March 3, 2016

[Estonia](#): in Tallinn on March 11, 2016

See also our [Call for contributions](#) to forthcoming national S2E events or the final S2E conference.

Updates on [Stairway to Excellence](#) pages for:

- [Synergies examples](#) which SF/ ESIF and FP7/ H2020 funds have been combined: new case involving the EIT and several countries,
- [European instruments/ platforms/ concepts](#): updated fiche of on Clusters, new fiches on LMI and Living Labs.

### S3 PLATFORM ON TWITTER – FOLLOW US!



### [DOWNLOAD S3-PUBLICATIONS AND EU S3 GUIDES](#)

#### THE SPECIALISATION OF EU REGIONS IN FAST GROWING AND KEY ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES



Authors: **EVANGELISTA RINALDO, MELICIANI VALENTINA, VEZZANI ANTONIO**

This publication is available [here](#) and coincided with a [conference](#) on European innovation ecosystems: good governance and effective support for smart specialisation co-organised by the CoR and the EC.



**CEU SUMMER INSTITUTE ON PROGRAM EVALUATION, 18-22 JULY, 2016, BUDAPEST, HUNGARY**

Policy Evaluation for Civil Servants and NGO executives, 18 July - 22 July, 2016: The course covers several facets and methods of public policy, with an introduction to quantitative evaluation of policy interventions. [Read more.](#) Lectures will be led by Professor Douglas J. Besharov of the University of Maryland together with a team of internationally renowned experts in the field of program evaluation and performance measurement. [Read more.](#)