

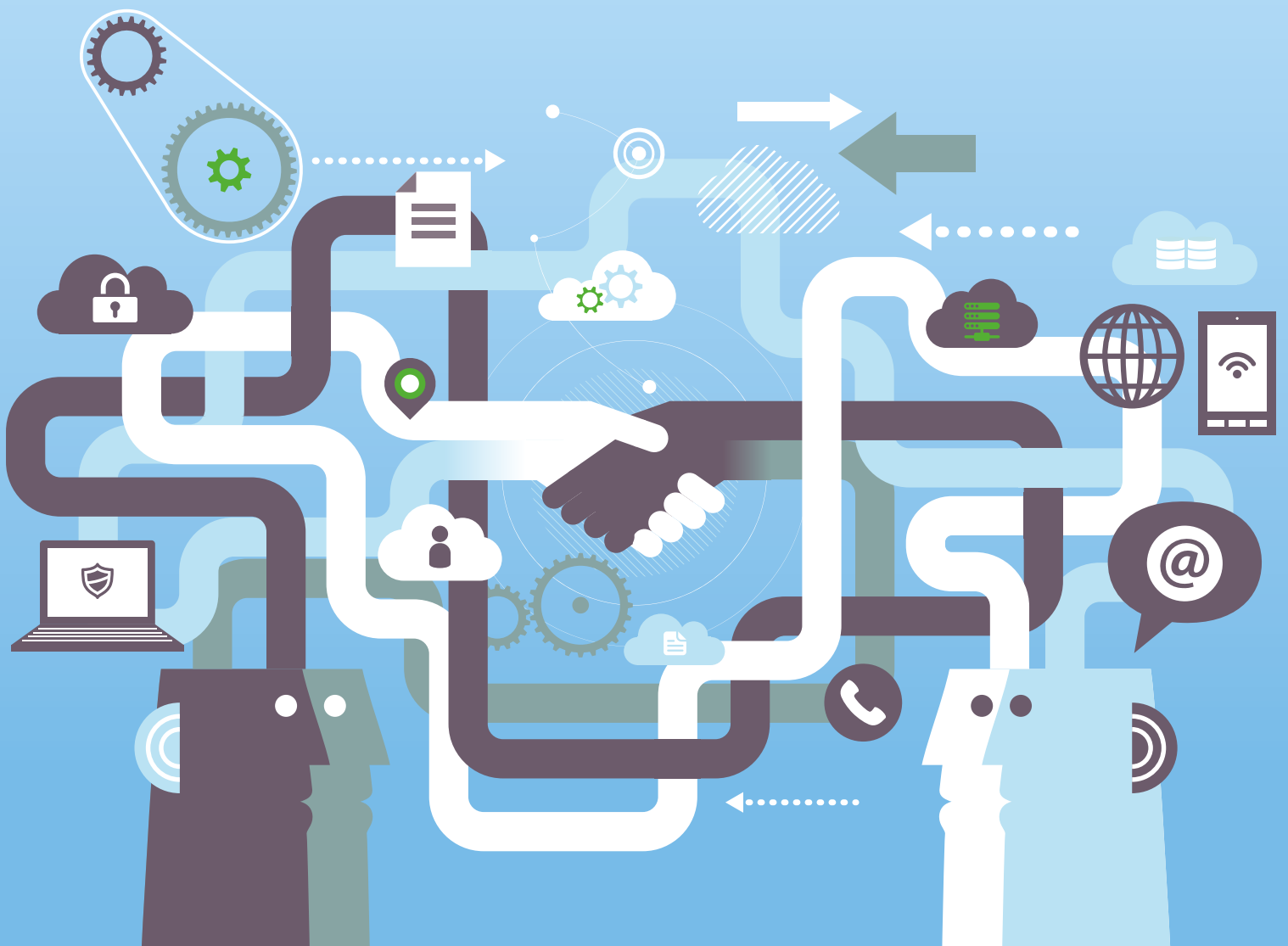
# Strengthening Technology Transfer in Europe

Focus on Western Balkans  
and South-East Europe

17 - 19  
November  
2021

Trieste Convention Center

**Hybrid event**



European  
Commission



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In parallel to the [Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union](#), the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC)\* and Area Science Park\*\* will jointly organise a **hybrid conference** on Technology Transfer, taking place from the **17th to 19th November 2021** in Trieste and online.

Technology Transfer from the research lab to the market is the most complex and risky step of the innovation process. The objective of the conference is to transfer best practices and accelerate the development of the technology transfer ecosystems in the Western Balkans and South-East Europe.

- The **first day** of the conference provides a first introduction to technology transfer and will introduce key technology transfer tools and patent & market intelligence platforms, dedicated to start-ups and scale-ups.
- The **second day** focuses on innovation ecosystems & entrepreneurship, including innovation ecosystems design (incl. research infrastructure & testbeds), early stage financing, investor readiness and much more.
- The **third day** considers how to maximize the potential of successful technology transfer deals in the region and brings together local entrepreneurs and researchers, including participants in the ongoing EU4TECH Proof of Concept capacity building action, for the Western Balkans, to present their practical experience in technology transfer.

Within the three above-mentioned verticals, the conference features a high-level policy dialogue on research, development and innovation and 12 self-standing technical sessions on specific aspects of technology transfer, which will allow participants to follow via web streaming only the most relevant ones for them.

\* The Joint Research Centre (JRC), the European Commission's science and knowledge service, has created in 2018 within its premises a Competence Centre on Technology Transfer (CCTT). Its main objective is to provide expertise and tools addressed to the needs of European policy makers as well as those of innovation practitioners particularly from the Danube, Western Balkans and South East European regions. In fact, over the last years, the JRC developed a network of 1000+ operators in the Regions through the organization of workshops and trainings on specific aspects of technology transfer involving also of experts from Western Europe.

\*\* Area Science Park - a public national research organization - promotes the development of innovation processes. Since 1978, its mission has been to boost connections between research and enterprise, public administration and the private sector, supporting national and international initiatives and fostering territorial development. Area Science Park's valuable assets can provide a range of benefits to regional and national economic systems, including: specialized skills for business innovation services, capacity for the creation and development of innovative start-ups, cutting-edge equipment and technological facilities for industrial research, advanced training for human resources. Given its geographical position, Area is actively engaged in collaborations with the Western Balkans in the sector of innovation and technology transfer.

# 17 November

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## WELCOME MESSAGES

09:30 - 10:15

Introduced by: **Caterina Petrillo**, *President Area Science Park* and **Matthew King**, *Deputy Director, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission*

**Roberto Dipiazza**, *Mayor of Trieste*

**Massimiliano Fedriga**, *President of the Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region*

**Maria Cristina Messa**, *Italian Minister of University and Research (video message)*

**Simona Kustec**, *Minister of Education, Science and Sport, Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the EU 2021*

**Mariya Gabriel**, *European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth (video message)*

## INTRODUCTION BY THE ORGANISERS

10:15 - 10:45

**Stephen Taylor**, *Deputy Director General*

**Alessandro Fazio**, *Head of Competence Centre of Technology Transfer (CC TT), Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission*

## Coffee Break

10:45 - 11:00

## CHAIRS SESSIONS DAY 1 TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

**Stephen Taylor**, *Director, Area Science Park*

**Giancarlo Caratti**, *former Head of Unit IP & Technology Transfer, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission*

## TECHNICAL SESSION 1.1

### TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

11:00 - 12:30

Moderator: **Sheron Shamulia**, *Policy Officer, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission*

Presentations:

Technology Transfer Case studies

**Yann Ménière**, *Chief Economist, European Patent Office*

Technology transfer knowledge management

**Andrea Basso**, *expert team lead of Joint Research Centre-study*

**Olivier Eulaerts**, *team leader for Tools for Innovation Monitoring, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission*

Panellists:

**Kirsi Haavisto**, *Head of Unit Valorisation policies & IPR, Directorate-General Research and Innovation, European Commission*

**Laura MacDonald**, *Chief Executive, Association of European Science and Technology Transfer Professionals (ASTP)*

**Muriel Attané**, *Secretary General, European Association of Research and Technology Organisations (EARTO)*

**Olga Spasic**, *Senior Program Officer, Innovation and Technology Transfer Section, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)*

The session will first start with presentations illustrating popular tools for technology transfer (like e.g. IP protection, TIM, patent search engines, etc.) and providing best practices, in addition to where to find relevant online tools. These presentations are then followed by a panel, discussing European valorization policy, and how TTO actors & patent offices are helping R&D get in the real world.

## Lunch Break

12:30 - 13:30

### TECHNICAL SESSION 1.2

## DATA USE, ACCESS AND CONTROL

13:30 - 14:30

Moderator: **Giancarlo Caratti**, former HoU IP & Technology Transfer, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Presentations:

Opening presentation, setting the scene: "Your" data? Who owns the data? The IP rules

**Jean-Paul Triaille**, Legal Adviser, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission

A single market for data - the Data Governance Act and the Data Act

**Maria Rosaria Coduti**, Policy Officer, Directorate-General Communications Networks, Content and Technology, European Commission

A case study – Area Science Park

**Stefano Cozzini**, Director, Institute for Research and Technologies, Area Science Park

Q&A session

Speakers will provide information on intellectual property rules regarding data, recent regulatory initiatives on access to data and share examples of successful case studies in this domain.

## Coffee Break

14:30 - 14:45

### TECHNICAL SESSION 1.3

## TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND THE GREEN DEAL

14:45 - 15:45

Moderator: **Margot Möslinger**, Policy Officer, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Presentation of report "Technology Transfer and Commercialisation for the European Green Deal"

**Stefano Sarris**, Policy Officer, International Relations, Directorate-General for Climate Action, European Commission and **Gergely Gathy**, Policy Officer, Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission

Panellists:

**Kirsten Dunlop**, CEO, EIT Climate-KIC (TBC)

**Stefano Soro**, Head of Unit, Circular and Green Economy, Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission

**Giulia Serra**, Policy Officer, Directorate-General for Energy, European Commission

**Massimiliano Rudella**, Director, Institute for Innovation and Projects, Area Science Park

Many green technologies with a great potential to contribute to the EU's green transition are currently being developed in research laboratories across the EU. How can we ensure that these novel technologies find the right conditions to mature and become widespread in the EU? What are the main barriers in the transfer of green technologies from the research organisations to the market? And what could facilitate the rapid commercialisation of green technologies? This session on technology transfer and commercialisation for the European Green Deal sets out to answer these questions.

## Coffee Break

15:45 - 16:00

## TECHNICAL SESSION 1.4

# SMART SPECIALIZATION & TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER: THE EXPERIENCE OF THE FRIULI-VENEZIA GIULIA (FVG) REGION

16:00 - 17:30

Moderator: **Elisabetta Reja**, *Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region*

Presentations:

Smart Specialisation strategy of the FVG 2021-2027: strategies to overcome innovation bottlenecks  
**Annalisa Viezzoli**, Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region

The ARGO System project: the Industry Platform for FVG (IP4FVG) asset dedicated to digitalization  
**Stefano Salvador** and **Paolo Panjek**, Area Science Park

Regional cooperation for TT in the countries of the Central European Initiative  
**Alessandro Lombardo**, Central European Initiative (CEI)

Q&A session

In this session, the updated Smart Specialisation Strategy of the FVG region will be presented, more specifically interventions planned to overcome the bottlenecks to innovation, with particular regard to the twin (digital and green) transition. With this as background, two particular system actions aimed at creating an effective innovation ecosystem will be presented: (1) the Scientific and Innovation System of Friuli Venezia Giulia (SiS FVG) and (2) the ARGO System project. The meeting will end with an overview on experiences on regional cooperation for technology transfer and promotion of innovation in a transnational perspective as well.

## CLOSING REMARKS DAY 1

17:30 – 17:45

**Networking cocktail**  
18:30

# 18 November

## CHAIR SESSIONS DAY 2 INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Martina De Sole, Director, European Network of Living Labs (ENoLL)

### TECHNICAL SESSION 2.1 HOW TO BUILD INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS 09:30 - 10:30

Moderator: **Alessandro Fazio**, Head of Competence Centre of Technology Transfer (CC TT), Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Panellists:

**Filippo Addarii**, CEO, PlusValue

**Ebba Lund**, CEO, International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation (IASP)

**Paris Kokorotsikos**, CEO, Euroconsultants

**Gordana Danilovic Grkovic**, Acting Director, Naučno-tehnološki park Beograd/Science Technology Park Belgrade

**Stephen Taylor**, Deputy Director General

Fostering the growth of dynamic innovation eco-systems and attracting innovators to contemporary urban environments generates unarguable benefits for cities and urban Areas.

Innovation can have economic and social benefits and cities are keen to capitalise on the opportunity offered by attracting innovators and the related potential for economic growth and jobs. Successfully attracting innovators can also grant cities a competitive advantage in the co-creation of technology based solutions to address emerging urban challenges from mobility to healthcare and social care provision. From Lisbon to Paris and from London to Berlin - via Milan, the proliferation of urban innovation clusters in Europe is becoming a continental phenomenon with cities aggressively competing to set-up integrated innovation districts – on greenfield or legacy sites – intended to attract and propel innovative businesses forward. Creating a dynamic innovation support system requires the proper orchestration of a variety of stakeholders ranging from government – both local and national, to academia, large corporates, the early stage investment sector, civil society and regulators.

This session will explore the importance of strategic planning and design to transform cities into attractive destinations for innovators offering critical mass, adequate support services for both businesses and individuals (e.g. affordable housing) and a friendly business environment, complemented by robust public services and amenities. Best practices for structuring collaborations between the public and private sector will also be explored and the benefits of city authorities co-creating technological innovations with start-up companies will also be considered.

### Coffee Break 10:30 - 10:45

### TECHNICAL SESSION 2.2 RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURES AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER 10:45 - 11:45

Moderator: **Patricia Postigo McLaughlin**, Research Infrastructures, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission

Panellists:

**Natasa Skoko**, Group Leader, Biotechnology Development, ICGEB (TBC)

**Sergio Bertolucci**, Professor, University of Bologna & former scientific director at CERN

**Fabio Taucer**, Scientific Officer, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission

**Kaia Kert**, Policy Officer, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission

**Jana Kolar**, Executive Director, CERIC-ERIC

In this session an overview of the key issues on Research Infrastructure (RI) and traditional technology transfer models will be discussed, in addition to novel approaches regarding technology transfer from RIs (that e.g. focus on their very particular public-private ecosystems, with industry as supplier and not user).

## Coffee Break

11:45 - 12:00

### TECHNICAL SESSION 2.3

## EMPOWERING ENTREPRENEURS AND INNOVATORS WITH EIT IN WESTERN BALKANS

12:00 - 13:00

Moderator: **Mattias Dinnetz**, Programme Manager, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Presentations:

The EIT and its offer to the Western Balkans

**Luke Incorvaja**, Strategy Officer, European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)

The EIT Western Balkans Cross-KIC Project and the EIT Jumpstarter

**Mila Krivokapic**, Developer – Western Balkans, EIT Climate-KIC

EIT Western Balkans innovator testimonials:

**Sofija Bogeva**, Programme Coordinator at SmartUp - Social Innovation Lab (Skopje, North Macedonia)

**Milan Veselinov**, Founder and Director at CirEkon (Belgrade, Serbia)

Q&A session

In this session, the possibilities of EIT for students, researchers and entrepreneurs will be brought forward by description of activities and case studies.

## Lunch Break

13:00 - 14:00

### TECHNICAL SESSION 2.4

## HOW TO GET INVESTOR READY AND ACCESSING FINANCE FOR INNOVATION

14:00 - 15:15

Moderator: **Elena Andonova**, Policy Officer, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Panellists:

**Veronica Beneitez Pinero**, Deputy Head of Unit, EIC Transition Activities and BAS

**Joerg Wamser**, Managing Partner, Fraunhofer Technology Transfer Fund

**Andrea Basso**, Advisor, Progress Tech Transfer Fund

**Shiva Loccisano**, Head of Technology Transfer, Politecnico di Torino

During this session, participants will learn where they can find capital (e.g. EIC and/or private money) and what needs to happen before they can make a pitch for capital.

## Coffee Break

15:15 - 15:30



## TECHNICAL SESSION 2.5

# SUCCESS STORIES IN ACCESSING FINANCE FOR INNOVATION

15:30 - 16:30

Moderator: **Stoyan Kaymaktchiyski**, *Project Officer, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission*

Panellists:

**Claudio Sponchioni**, *Co-founder & CEO, Jobiri (Italy)*

**Bojan Blažica**, *Co-founder, Tomappo (Slovenia)*

**Tatyana Mitkova**, *Co-founder & CEO, Claimcompass (Bulgaria)*

**Ognjen Kurtić**, *Co-founder & CTO, Finspot (Serbia)*

**Marius Mitroi**, *Co-founder & CEO, Ridesafe (Romania)*

During this session young European companies from South-East Europe will share their experience in accessing finance for innovation - be it in the form of grants and/or equity investments, be it from public programmes and/or from private funds. The co-founders and innovators will share not only how they managed to secure financing for their companies, but also how they utilised this funding to develop their businesses and enhance their technologies, and ultimately what difficulties they experienced throughout the process. Finally, they will provide advice on how to prepare and deliver a pitch in a successful way.

## CLOSING REMARKS DAY 2

16:30 - 16:45

## VISIT TO SCIENCE LAB FACILITIES IN THE REGION

17:00 - 18:30

## Networking Dinner

20:30 - 22:30



# 19 November

## CHAIRS SESSIONS DAY 3 PROOF OF CONCEPTS AND THE WESTERN BALKANS

**Elena Andonova**, Policy Officer, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission  
**Zeljka Babic**, Western Balkan expert, Science and Technology Park Belgrade

### INTRODUCTORY VIDEO OF JRC IN THE REGION 09:15 - 09:30

### POLICY DIALOGUE ON R&D&I 09:30 - 11:00

Moderator: **Miroslav Veskovc**, Scientific expert, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission

High-level panel:

**Adrienn Kiraly**, Advisor for Western Balkans, Directorate-General for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations, European Commission

**Ruta Zarnaускаite**, Head of Unit, Horizon Europe Association, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission

**Monika Matusiak**, Head of Sector, Smart Specialisation – Global Outreach, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission

**Tanja Mišćević**, Deputy Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)

**Jelena Begovic**, Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering, University of Belgrade & Member S3 working group, University of Belgrade, Serbia

This introductory session will touch upon the tools, actions & funding needed, and their policy implications, to enable scientific excellence and technology transfer in the Region. These tools & funding needs will then be discussed in detail during the technical sessions planned throughout the day.

### Coffee Break 11:00 - 11:15

### TECHNICAL SESSION 3.1 IMPLEMENTING SMART SPECIALIZATION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS (FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE) 11:15-12:30

Moderator: **Monika Matusiak**, Head of Sector, Smart Specialisation – Global Outreach, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Panellists:

**Jasmina Majstoroska**, Head of Unit, Ministry of Economy, North Macedonia

**Adnan Ahmeti**, Senior Strategic Planning Officer, Government of Kosovo\*

**Viktor Nedovic**, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, Serbia

**Florensa Haxhi**, Director General, Unit for Development Programs and Cooperation, Prime Minister Office, Albania

**Tanja Lucic**, Head of Department, Directorate for Economic Planning, Bosnia and Herzegovina

**Marijeta Barjaktarovic**, Head of Directorate for Digital Economy and Technological Development, Ministry of Economic Development, Montenegro

Smart specialisation strategies are about enabling focus in a region and turning their competitive advantages, strengths, and needs into marketable goods and services. Recognised competitive advantages and strengths should be additionally supported and developed thus to achieve and establish scientific excellence centres in WB responsible to share its competences in the region and beyond. The achieved scientific excellence should lead, through specific projects including private-public partnership, to technology development and commercialisation.

\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

## Lunch Break

12:30 - 13:30

### TECHNICAL SESSION 3.2

## IMPACT OF THE POC PROJECT SCHEME IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

13:30 - 14:30

Moderator: **Elena Andonova**, Policy Officer, Directorate-General Joint Research Centre, European Commission

Panellists:

**Alan Barrell**, Professor, Cambridge Learning Gateway

**Iztok Lesjak** and **Davorka Moslavac Forjan**, EU4TECH PoC Key experts

**Enzo Damiani**, EU Delegation, Albania

**Mladjan Stojanovic**, Enterprise acceleration project officer, Innovation Fund, Serbia

**Katarina Kreceva**, Head of Department for Development of Programs (Strategic Planning), Fund for Innovation and Technology Development (FITD)

The EC along the project team will present major findings and policy recommendations from the implementation and progress of the PoC project.

## Coffee Break

14:30 - 14:45

### TECHNICAL SESSION 3.3

## LEARNING THROUGH POC ACTIVITIES: HOW TO MOVE A PROJECT ON THE TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVELS (TRLs)

14:45 - 16:00

Moderator: **Lisa Cowey**, Team Lead, EU4TECH Proof of Concept for the Western Balkans

Co-moderator: **Milan Banic**, Lead Mentor of Component 1: Technology Development and Prototyping, EU4TECH Proof of Concept for the Western Balkans

Panellists:

**Elva Leka**, Project: BT-CertAL, Polytechnic University of Tirana, Albania

**Silvana Andric**, Project: Mito-Fert-Signature, Faculty of Sciences, University of Novi Sad, Serbia

**Filip Kostadinovski**, Project: InnoPod, Fixigo DOO

**Arbnor Pajaziti**, Project: Mechanical Ventilator, University of Prishtina, Kosovo\*

The PoC beneficiaries will present their experience in participating in the PoC support scheme and will share their advancements in commercialisation in the Western Balkans.

## CLOSING REMARKS DAY 3

16:00 - 16:15

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Joint Research Centre

### JRC Mission

As the science and knowledge service of the European Commission, the Joint Research Centre's mission is to support EU policies with independent evidence throughout the whole policy cycle.



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