

NEWS ALERT

Embargo: 12 December 2019, 18.00 Brussels time

EuroTech Universities Alliance committed to ‘strive for more’ in support of the new EU Commission’s ambitions

Earlier this month, on 1 December, the new European Commission embarked on its ambitious journey, striving for a healthy planet and a new digital world. Yesterday, the EC unveiled the cornerstones of its ambitious European Green Deal. Committed to excellence in research and education, the EuroTech Universities Alliance is dedicated to make a difference and help pave the way to a climate-neutral future based on smart game-changing technologies.

To increase their impact, the Presidents of the six EuroTech Universities jointly defined new Focus Areas for their collaboration: ‘Sustainable Society’, ‘AI for Engineering Systems’ and ‘Additive Manufacturing’. These new fields with a strong sustainability focus will complement the successful existing Focus Areas ‘Health and Bio Engineering’ and ‘Innovation and Entrepreneurship’.

During a dialogue with the Vice President of DTU’s Student Union on the occasion of the Alliance’s Annual High Level Event held in Brussels on 12 December, the EuroTech Universities Alliance President Thomas F. Hofmann (Technical University of Munich) underlined the important societal value of the Alliance’s ambitions:

“Uniting leading technical universities in Europe, the EuroTech Universities Alliance is in a unique position to support the new Commission’s goals towards a climate-neutral future. Technology is not a means to its own ends but needs to embody our European values and ethical principles. Human-centred engineering for responsible and trustful innovation aimed at protecting our mother nature lies at the bottom of our search for novelty. Our new Focus Areas demonstrate this joint commitment for research, education and innovation across the alliance partner institutions.”

Since 2015, the EuroTech Universities Alliance has anchored its activities in fast developing research and innovation areas, where the partner universities offer complementary strengths in education and research and which are of high relevance to Europe’s industrial leadership and address the grand societal challenges. Each of the six member universities have established internationally renowned educational programmes, research centres and infrastructures in these areas, involving key industrial players and creating a significant number of high-tech start-ups. Combining excellent talent and unique learning and research environments, the EuroTech Universities engage in establishing dynamic, interdisciplinary networks with active participation of faculty, students and industrial partners.

The Alliance Focus Areas

Sustainable Society

Under the umbrella of this Focus Area, the Alliance will be embracing multiple, interdisciplinary topics such as Polar Climate, Integrated Energy Systems and Decarbonisation, building on the successful collaborations on smart urban mobility ([EIT Urban Mobility](#)) as well as recently kicked-off [exchanges on Circular Economy](#).

Additive Manufacturing

In this field, the ambition is to bundle expertise and research strengths around the crucial topic Industry4.0, covering aspects such as automation, simulation and new materials and involving external stakeholders of the six high-tech innovation ecosystems in which the universities are embedded.

Artificial Intelligence for Engineering Systems

All EuroTech Universities are hotspots for education and research in Artificial Intelligence. In joining forces, they have the critical mass and unique joint perspective to deliver new approaches at the intersection of AI and Engineering systems.

Health & Bio Engineering

This Focus Area has spawned a series of successful research projects over the last five years, including the €6-million [Horizon2020 project REACH](#) and several Innovative Training Networks. A successful [event on the future European research mission on cancer](#) highlighted the Alliance's expertise in the field earlier this year.

Innovation & Entrepreneurship

As a network of Universities of Science and Technology firmly rooted in their regional industrial ecosystems, innovation and entrepreneurship have been high on the Alliance agenda from day one. Activities range from, inter alia, [joint PhD courses](#), the [European Venture Programme](#) for aspiring entrepreneurs and the [Horizon2020 project SCALINGS](#) to policy dialogue e.g. through a [high-level Round Table on the European Innovation Council](#) in autumn 2018.

About the EuroTech Universities Alliance

The EuroTech Universities Alliance is a strategic partnership of six leading universities of science and technology: Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Ecole Polytechnique (I'X), Technion Israel Institute of Technology, Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e) and Technical University of Munich (TUM). Committed to excellence in research and education, the Alliance combines the complementary strengths of its partner universities to jointly achieve multi-scale initiatives of high impact to society and to industry in an international context.

 [@EuroTechUA](#) #Engineering4EU

For further information, please contact:

Tatiana Panteli, Head of Brussels Office, EuroTech Universities Alliance

Mob: +32 474 168 960

tatiana-panteli@eurotech-universities.eu