

Joint Statement: Leveraging European Technology Platforms to boost Europe's public and private R&I outcomes

31 October 2024

We, the undersigned European Technology Platforms (ETPs), call on the European Commission to reaffirm their support for the strategic role of ETPs in the next EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation succeeding Horizon Europe (FP10).

ETPs are public-private multi-actor fora around key technology and innovation areas, aiming at aligning the research priorities needed to tackle complex issues and with a particular emphasis on implementation and innovation transfer of research outputs. ETPs were established in 2003 as the first type of public-private R&I partnerships at the European Union level.

Our platforms have mobilised a broad range of EU-wide actors and developed and disseminated joint visions and strategic R&I agendas and roadmaps for action at EU and national level. In this process, we gratefully acknowledge the European Commission's support in helping us to establish and develop the ETPs and to steer initiatives to improve coordination between us.

ETPs have contributed to the definition of the crucial R&I priorities, including those under the EU and national Framework Programmes. One of the main benefits of ETPs is our ability to provide wide, objective, coherent and strategic advice that replaces reliance on multiple, often competing and contradictory, interactions. Our advisory role was referenced for the Horizon 2020 programme but not for Horizon Europe. Whilst we fully recognise the need to foster the role of Member States in building EU R&I priorities, ETPs provide an additional and broader perspective of those.

The role of ETPs remains vital: ensuring that EU research has a high impact and that results are leveraged for the benefit of both industry and society as a whole. As highlighted in the EU Council conclusions (May 2024) on "A competitive European industry driving our green, digital and resilient future", where the role of ETPs is noted, the EU's R&I does not sufficiently translate into marketable products or services. ETPs play an important role in helping bridge this gap, given our strong networks of experts and sectoral expertise.

We, the undersigned ETPs, look forward to further discussing how to best consolidate our role in FP10 with the European Commission. Our platforms will support Europe's untapped potential to translate the strong knowledge base of the EU into concrete outcomes, practices and solutions that can be implemented on the ground, boosting Europe's growth, competitiveness and sustainability.

List of signatories



ALICE brings together leading companies and experts in implementing logistics and supply chain innovation fostering a pan-European ecosystem for R&I to achieve an affordable transition towards competitive and decarbonized freight transport and logistics operations.



The European Aquaculture Technology and Innovation Platform (EATiP) seeks to support and promote a sustainable European aquaculture sector, across all aspects of the value chain and all concerning all types of aquatic production both freshwater and marine.



EPoSS is the European Association leading the development and integration of Intelligent and Green Smart Systems technologies and solutions for a sustainable society. Bringing together European key players, public and private, in the value chain from more than 15 Member States, EPoSS defines R&D and innovation needs as well as policy requirements related to Smart Systems Integration and integrated micro- and nanosystems. A main objective is to develop a joint vision and to set up a Strategic Research Agenda facilitating collaborative innovation.



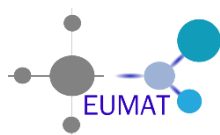
ERTRAC represents the road transport sector. It gathers automotive manufacturers and suppliers, academia and research providers, as well as public authorities from national and local levels. It publishes joint European research roadmaps on key topics for mobility e.g. decarbonisation, road safety, digitalisation, automation, urban mobility, circularity, resilience, etc.



The European Technology & Innovation Platform on Geothermal (ETIP-Geothermal) is an open stakeholder group with the overarching objective of enabling geothermal technology to proliferate and reach its full potential everywhere in Europe.



ETP4HPC is the European Technology Platform for High-Performance Computing (HPC). We are the catalyst of the European Advanced Computing ecosystem. We are one of the private partners of the EuroHPC Joint Undertaking, having representatives on its Research and Innovation Advisory Group. We issue a European HPC Strategic Research Agenda, the Bible of European HPC technology development.



EuMaT – European Technology Platform for Advanced Engineering Materials and Technologies was launched in order to assure optimal involvement of industry and other important stakeholders in the process of establishing of R&D priorities in the area of advanced engineering materials and technologies.



The Farm Animal Breeding and Reproductive Technology Platform (FABRE TP) is a forum led by knowledge institutes and academia collaborating with the private sector. It provides a platform to define research priorities for animal breeding, genetics and reproduction sector to accelerate the sustainability and resilience of all animal farming systems. The Platform is also active in promoting R&I in Aquaculture and Livestock Breeding and Reproduction.



ETP 'Food for Life' represents the food processing sector. It brings together experts from industry, academia and research centers to identify the R&I actions needed to achieve a more sustainable and resilient food system.



FTP represents the stakeholders in the forest-based value-chain. From forest owners to woodworking industries, biorefineries and pulp & paper industries, researchers and beyond. We are a community for a more sustainable and profitable EU through R&I driven by a common vision and SIRA.



The mission of the European Technology Platform MANUFUTURE is to propose, develop and implement a strategy based on Research and Innovation, capable of speeding up the rate of industrial transformation to high-added-value products, processes and services, securing high-skills employment and winning a major share of world Manufacturing output in the knowledge-driven economy.



ETP Nanomedicine represents the healthcare sector, uniting leading experts from industry, academia, and research institutions across 27 European countries. Together, we leverage nanotechnology to drive transformative advancements in diagnostics, targeted therapies, and medical devices. As a strategic think tank and accelerator of clinical translation, we focus on converting cutting-edge research into practical healthcare solutions, ultimately enhancing patient care and driving innovation in the medical field.



The European Technology Platform Photonics²¹ represents the photonics community of industry and research organisations. Jointly with the European Commission our members develop and implement a common photonics strategy in a Horizon Europe Photonics Partnership to realise Europe's digital and green transformation goals and to secure European sovereignty.



Plants for the Future ETP (Plant ETP) is a multi-stakeholder platform representing the plant sector from fundamental research to crop production and distribution. Plant ETP brings stakeholders from the plant sector together to consider the challenges and opportunities of agricultural value chains in a holistic way, while developing a vision for future systems spanning food, feed, and biobased raw materials.



SusChem is the European Technology Platform for Sustainable Chemistry. It is a forum that brings together industry, academia, policy makers and the wider society. SusChem's vision is for a competitive and innovative Europe where sustainable chemistry and biotechnology together provide solutions for future generations. SusChem's mission is to initiate and inspire European chemical and biochemical innovation to respond effectively to societal's challenges by providing sustainable solutions.



Textile ETP is the largest Community of Textile Research & Innovation Professionals in Europe. Its objective is to ensure long-term competitiveness of the EU Textile & Clothing Industry through collaborative and market-oriented research & innovation. It enables EU-wide networking, information sharing and joint research priority identification and facilitates access to EU funding.



TP Organics is the ETP for R&I into organics and agroecology. Representing the whole value chain from production, input & supply to food processing, marketing, and consumption, it integrates views of the organic and agroecological sector and of civil society to put forward research priorities that can leverage organic food and farming's potential to address contemporary challenges. TP Organics mission is to shape R&I for organic and other agroecological approaches that contribute to sustainable and resilient food and farming systems.



ETP 'Water Europe' (WE) is the recognized voice and promotor of water-related innovation, research, and technology development in Europe. WE is a purpose-driven multi-stakeholder association with over 280 members, representing the entire range of actors in the innovative water value chain. WE is guided in all its activities by its Water Vision with the ultimate ambition of achieving a Water-Smart Society.