



Science, Research and Innovation Performance of the EU Report 2026

Launch event

Thursday, 1 October 2026

Skyline Venue & Meeting Rooms | Rue de Trèves 74, 1040 Bruxelles

Agenda

09:00–09:30		Registration and welcome coffee
		Opening remarks
09:30–09:40		<i>Pauline Rouch, Director of the Common Policy Centre (European Commission, DG RTD)</i>
09:40–10:00		The Science Research and Innovation Performance of the EU report 2026 <i>Paolo Pasimeni, Chief Economist (European Commission, DG RTD)</i>
		Session 1- Excellent Science for an innovative Europe Chaired by Dominique Foray (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne) This session examines the state of Europe's scientific performance, drawing on key findings from SRIP 2026 report. Discussions will focus on the EU's scientific performance and collaboration patterns as well as researcher mobility.
10:00–11:15	10:00- 10:30	<i>Presentation by Athina Karvounaraki and Nicola Francesco Dotti (European Commission, DG RTD)</i>
	10:30 – 11:00	<i>Roundtable discussion with Amanda Crowfoot (European University Association), Maria Leptin (European Research Council) and Nicolás Robinson-García (University of Granada)</i>
	11:00 – 11:15	<i>Q&A</i>
11:15–11:45		Coffee break
		Session 2- Leveraging the EU's assets to boost competitiveness Chaired by Emily Sinnott (European Investment Bank) Europe's long-term competitiveness can be strengthened by increasing investment in research and innovation and improving its capacity to translate knowledge into technological leadership. Drawing on SRIP 2026, this session will focus on the R&D investment gap and reducing regional disparities in innovation performance.
11:45–13:00	11:45- 12:15	<i>Presentation by Florence Benoit and Haya Al-Ajlani (European Commission, DG RTD)</i>

	12:15- 12:45	Roundtable discussion with Ron Boschma (Utrecht University), Vicky Kefalas (InvestEU & European Institute of Innovation & Technology) and Reinhilde Veugelers (KU Leuven)
	12:45- 13:00	Q&A
13:00–14:30		Lunch break
14:30–15:15		Keynote speech <i>Philippe Aghion, Nobel Laureate in economics 2025</i>
15:15–16:30		Session 3 – Addressing the innovation gap from research to scale Chaired by Erik Canton (European Commission, DG RTD) As global competition in strategic technologies intensifies, Europe must strengthen its capacity to turn scientific excellence into innovation. Based on the SRIP 2026 report, this session will discuss the EU’s knowledge valorisation process, tech deployment, startup and scaleup landscape and the enabling conditions for innovation.
	15:15 – 15:45	<i>Presentation by Valentina Di Girolamo and Bianca Cavicchi (European Commission, DG RTD)</i>
	15:45 – 16:15	<i>Roundtable discussion with Albert Bravo-Biosca (Innovation Growth Lab, Nesta, Barcelona School of Economics), Chiara Criscuolo (OECD) and Debora Revoltella (Bruegel)</i>
	16:15 – 16:30	Q&A
16:30–17:00		Coffee break
17:00–17:30		Closing reflections and outlook <i>Bart van Ark (The Productivity Institute at University of Manchester and University of Groningen)</i>
17:30–17:45		Concluding remarks <i>Marc Lemaître, Director-General (European Commission, DG RTD)</i>
17:45–19:00		Networking drinks