MEDIA ADVISORY

Informal meeting of Research Ministers (COMPET)
24-25 July 2017, Tallinn Creative Hub, Estonia

On Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th of July, the informal meeting of Research Ministers will be held at the Tallinn Creative Hub.

The discussions will focus on the Horizon 2020 and the future of European research and innovation funding. Ministers will discuss how to strengthen the impact and relevance of research in reference to the recommendations of the High Level Group on maximising the impact of EU Research and Innovation Programmes. They also share their views on the question, how to make the EU research and innovation funding landscape simpler and more accessible to potential applicants.

On Monday, 24th July there will be a special programme for journalists (detailed information below). On Tuesday, 25th there will be opportunities for doorstep interviews and an official press conference will be held after the meeting.

Monday, 24 July 2017

The delegations will arrive in the afternoon.

At 18.00 the Ministers attend the Estonian e-Government presentation at the Tallinn Creative Hub and other delegates will have a guided tour in Tallinn Old Town.

Later there will be gala dinner at the Seaplane Harbour with keynote speech by Mr Lars Heikensten, Executive Director of the Nobel Foundation.

Programme for Journalists

On Monday, 24 July at 16.30 we invite you to join a Media Tour at the Energy Discovery Centre that is a unique electricity and energy themed science centre located in the 103-year-old power plant next to the main Presidency venue, Tallinn Creative Hub. You will have a chance to see how the Centre connects science with everyday life and learn about their partnership with schools.

At 18.00 we offer an exclusive opportunity for up to five journalists to join the Ministers at the Estonian e-Government presentation. Mr Siim Sikkut from the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications will introduce Estonian e-services and e-Residency. Mr Oliver Väärtnõo from Cybernetica will speak about cyber security. Prof Rein Ahas from Tartu University will give a presentation about mobile positioning. Mr Mait Müntel, co-founder and developer of Lingvist shows how to make language learning faster with the help of science.

To participate in the media program on 24 July, please contact Sandra Fomotškin from the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research: Sandra.Fomotskin@hm.ee
Tuesday, 25 July 2017

08.25-09.15 Arrivals and doorstep Tallinn Creative Hub

09.30-12.00 Session 1: Impact and value of research: providing rationale for investing in research and innovation
The Ministers will discuss how to strengthen the impact and relevance of research in reference to the recommendations of the High Level Group on maximising the impact of EU Research and Innovation Programmes.
- Welcome address by Mailis Reps, Minister of Education and Research
- Introduction by Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation
- Presentation by Pascal Lamy, President Emeritus, Jacques Delors Institute
- Presentation by Heikki Mannila, President, Academy of Finland
- Round table discussion
- Closing remarks by Carlos Moedas and Mailis Reps

12.00 Family Photo

12.15-14.00 Lunch

14.00-16.30 Session 2: Increased coherence and openness of EU research and innovation partnerships
The ministers will discuss how to make the EU research and innovation funding landscape simpler and more accessible to potential applicants.
- Introduction by Mailis Reps and Carlos Moedas
- Presentation by Jana Kolar, Executive Director of CERIC-ERIC
- Presentation by Luc Soete, Professor, UNU-MERIT
- Round table discussion
- Closing remarks by Carlos Moedas and Mailis Reps

16.40-17.15 Press Conference with Mailis Reps and Carlos Moedas

Accreditation

Please accredit yourself through the presidency website https://eu2017ee/accreditation

After selecting your preferred meetings, you will receive an accreditation confirmation via email, which must be presented with your ID at the accreditation desk in the press centre, when collecting up your badge.

We recommend registering for accreditation as soon as possible. The possibilities for last-minute accreditations are limited and could include delays.
Accreditation badges can be collected at the press centre of the Tallinn Creative Hub (Kultuurikatel) as of 13.00-17.00 on 24 July and of 7.00 on 25 July.

Arrival and departure
You are kindly asked to organize your own transport to and from the Tallinn International Airport (Lennart Meri). A taxi stand can be found just outside the arrivals hall. The fare from the airport to the city centre is between 5 and 10 euros.

Venue
The meeting will be held at the Tallinn Creative Hub, Kultuurikatel (Põhja pst 27a, Tallinn). Kultuurikatel is the venue where all ministerial meetings during the Estonian Presidency of the EU Council will be held. Historically it used to be the Tallinn city central power station, which began operating in 1913 and closed in 1979. Nowadays it is a creative centre hosting a variety of cultural events and activities focusing on the creative industry.

Further information
Accreditation: media.accreditation@eu2017.ee
Press centre: infodesk@eu2017.ee

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General information about Estonia and Tallinn
For more information on attractions and sights in Tallinn and Estonia please go to:
https://www.visittallinn.ee/eng
https://visitestonia.com/en

We look forward to welcoming you to Tallinn!