



Towards a more competitive industry in Europe

The role of research and skills in driving EU's competitiveness



22 APRIL, 2025



Maison Irene et Frederic Joliot Curie,
100 rue du Trône,
1050 Bruxelles

The **Université de Lorraine (UL)** is organizing an event on the competitiveness of industry in Europe. In a context of heightened tensions, rising customs duties, higher energy prices in Europe than elsewhere, the challenges of industry in Europe are crucial, especially if we are to achieve an industry 5.0 that can also develop in the service of European sovereignty.

AGENDA

| | |
|----------------|---|
| 09:30 – 10:00 | Registration and welcome coffee |
| 10:00 – 10:15 | Welcome remarks , - Fabrice LEMOINE, <i>Europe vice-president at Université de Lorraine</i> |
| 10 :15 – 10:45 | Keynote speech , - Alexander HOBZA, <i>DG Economic and Financial Affairs (tbc)</i> |
| 10:45 – 11:30 | Roundtable 1 : The European Commission's vision for a digital industry 5.0: Which strategy to increase EU's competitiveness? <u>Speakers</u> : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Liviu SIRBAT – <i>Head of Unit AI for Science at DG R&I</i>• Xavier BAILLARD – <i>Director of Strategy, Innovation & Decarbonation at EIT Manufacturing</i>• Representative from academia network, (tbc)• Industry representative (tbc) |
| 11:30 – 12:00 | Coffee break |

12:00 – 12:45

Roundtable 2: The human-centric approach: A model to speed up sustainable digital transformation of industry

Speakers:

- Karel HAEGEMAN – *JRC Team leader at European Commission*
- Zeljko PAZIN - *Executive Director at EFFRA*
- Pr. Damien TRENTESAUX – *UPHF, Laboratory of Automation, Mechanics and Industrial and Human Computing*
- Augustin CATHIGNOL – *Principal Data Scientist, Schneider Electric*

12:45 – 13:30

Roundtable 3: The future of workforce: Addressing the skills gap and workforce needs to advance EU's industrial competitiveness

Speakers:

- *DG representative (tbc)*
- Barbara WASSON - *Director of the Centre for The Science of Learning and Technology (SLATE) at University of Bergen*
- Emmanuel VINCENT- *ENACT AI Cluster Coordinator*
- *Industry representative (tbc)*

Networking lunch

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PROVISIONAL DISCUSSION TOPICS

Round Table 1:

- What Industry 5.0 means for the Commission?
- What is the vision of the Commission for Industry 5.0?
- How to combine industry 5.0 and competitiveness?
- Are there specific industrial sectors the EC prioritises to achieve competitiveness?
- Challenges related to “Industry 5.0 Community of Practice (CoP 5.0)”

Round Table 2:

- The role of research in achieving Industry 5.0
- Links between Industry 5.0 and Human-Centric Approach
- How do technology, organizations, and individual working places need to be adapted to human and societal needs?
- Three aspects to be covered: the new role of humans, and the challenges that I5.0 brings while placing the human perspective as a fundamental industrial pillar

Round table 3:

- How universities can sufficiently support their role as education providers and beyond their research function?
- Skills of the future: What competencies do workers need in digitalised industries? What are the main skills needed?
- What the role of digital technologies will be in up-skilling and re-skilling the employees? e.g development of e-learning modules and platforms
- How can ensure we enhance productivity with AI and other automation technologies without excluding the human factor from the loop?
- Upcoming initiative from the Commission for the establishment of the ‘Union for Skills’

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(duration +/- 20 minutes)

- Take underground metro line 2 or 6, direction ELISABETH
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- 10 minutes walk

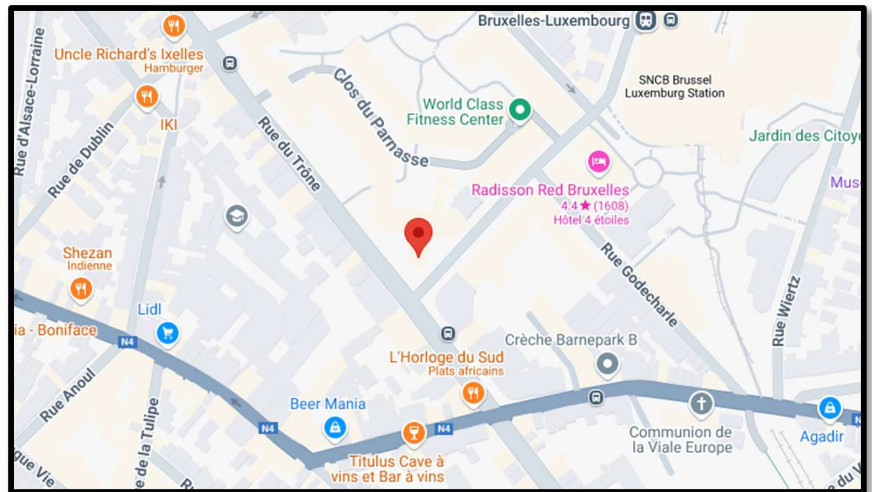
By plane from Brussels National Airport (duration +/- 40 minutes)

- Take bus line 12 at level 0
- Get off at the Luxembourg stop
- 5 minutes' walk

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This document is part of the REIL* project

This consortium brings together partners from the Lorraine site: UL, CNRS, Inria, INRAE and Inserm

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*REIL : Reinforcing the European Impact of the Lorraine academic site