



EFFRA

EUROPEAN FACTORIES OF THE FUTURE
RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

EFFRA ANNUAL EVENT & GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2026

14 & 15 April 2026

Sparks, Brussels



14 April 2026 – Agenda Day 1:

08:30 - 09:10 **Welcome Coffee & Registration**

09:10 - 09:20 **Opening - Towards the new EFFRA Manufacturing Roadmap**

Željko Pazin, EFFRA Executive Director

09:20 - 10:35 **WG1: Productive and Flexible Manufacturing**

R&I Paper Presentation: **Andrew Lynch**, Irish Manufacturing Research
& **Sotiris Makris**, LMS, University of Patras

Panel Discussion: Productivity as a Competitive Edge: Transforming
European Manufacturing through Flexibility and Resilience

- **Mikael Haag**, Konecranes
- **Katariina Torvinen**, EU projects, Valmet
- **Jonas Nyvang**, CEO, Stilfold
- **Sotiris Makris**, LMS, University of Patras

10:35 - 10:50 **Coffee Break**

10:50 - 12:05 **WG3: Human-Centric Manufacturing: Tools, Skills and AI**

R&I Paper Presentation: **Enrico Callegati**, Co-Chair of WG3, IMA Group

Panel Discussion: Human-Centric Manufacturing in the Age of AI:
Tools, Skills, and Industrial Transformation

- **Eurico Assuncao**, Deputy Director, EWF; CEO, FAN3D
- **Debora Zanatto**, Human Factors Lead Consultant, Deep Blue
- **Sergio Gusmeroli** - Research Coordinator, Politecnico di Milano
- **Ziga Valic** - EU Affairs Manager, Flanders Make
- **Peter Totterdill** - Director, Workplace Innovation Europe CLG



12:05 - 13:20 **WG 2: Circularity, remanufacturing, and circular products**

R&I Paper Presentation: **Stephanie Harfensteller**, FIR e.V. at RWTH Aachen & **Geraldine Brennan**, IMR

Panel Discussion: Mainstreaming Circular Manufacturing for European Competitiveness and Resilience

- **Girolamo Mincuzzi**, Alphanov
- **Katariina Torvinen**, Valmet
- **Enrico Callegati**, IMA Group (tbc)

13:20 - 14:45 **Lunch Break**

14:45 - 16:00 **WG6: Exploitation of research results**

R&I Paper Presentation: **Philippe Lubineau**, CETIM

SMEs' testimonial and reflections on R&D results' accessibility, uptake, and exploitation:

- **Gaetano Patrimia**, Innovation & IP Manager, AltForm, Italy

Dialogue with the audience: „Beyond the Consortium: Bringing EU Project Results to Thousands of SMEs”

16:00 - 17:00 **WG4: Manufacturing needs of the energy sectors**

R&I Paper Presentation: **Fabio Sgarbossa**, NTNU & **Taha Arbaoui**, Insa Lyon



Panel Discussion: Powering the Transition: Aligning Manufacturing and the Energy Sector

- **Phil Cole**, Wind Europe
- **Beatrice Coda**, Directorate General for Research and Innovation
- **Jean-Marc Jossart**, Bionergy Europe

17:00 - 18:00 **WG5: Transport**

R&I Paper Presentation: **Bert Pluymers**, KU Leuven

Panel Discussion - Shaping the Future of Manufacturing for the Transport Sector: Innovation through Digitalisation and Circularity

- **Matthieu Worm**, Siemens, and Virtual Worlds Association
- **Andrea Haiek**, CEIT
- **Olaf Pannenbäcker**, Voith

18:00 - 18:05 **Closing Remarks**

18:05 - 20:00 **ManuAperitif: Industry, Ideas & Aperitivo Vibes**



15 April 2026 – Agenda Day 2:

08:30 - 09:10 **Welcome Coffee & Registration**

09:10 - 11:00 **EFFRA General Assembly: Welcome, Approval of the Agenda, Minutes, and Overview**

Opening by the Chairman & Executive Director and overview of the day

Olaf Pannenbäcker, EFFRA Chairman & **Željko Pazin**, EFFRA Executive Director

Association Management

a) Financial report, presented by Herman Derache, EFFRA treasurer:

realised financial year 2025 & updated budget proposal for 2026 and new proposal for 2027; discharge of the Board

b) EFFRA Board of Directors: election of one new Board member; election of the EFFRA Chairman, Vice-Chairs, and the Board

c) EFFRA membership: approval of new members

EFFRA activities

Presentation of the past 12 months, current focus, and future activities and events-

Presentation by the EFFRA Office

Overview of the six EFFRA Working Groups

Update on yesterday's Working Group meetings & next steps


11:00 - 11:30 **Coffee Break**

11:30 - 12:45 **EFFRA Roadmap for Framework Programme 10: Five Pillars to reshape the European Manufacturing landscape – EFFRA's proposal for a renewed Made in Europe Partnership**

Presentation of the new EFFRA Roadmap: **Marco Taisch**, EFFRA Vice-Chair

Interactive Panel Discussion: Ensuring the Continuation of the Made in Europe Partnership

EFFRA has long contributed to identifying research priorities that support



productivity, competitiveness, and circularity in European manufacturing. As the industrial and geopolitical context evolves, new questions emerge.

This panel will discuss whether the Partnership has identified the right priorities to strengthen Europe's **strategic autonomy**, how to address **dual-use technologies**, and what actions are needed to tackle the **shortage of skilled professionals** essential for the future of manufacturing innovation.

Panellists:

- **Olaf Pannenbäcker**, Voith
- **Johan Peeters**, Bosch Rexroth
- **Andrew Lynch**, IMR
- **Riikka Virkkunen**, VTT

12:45 - 14:00 **Lunch Break**

14:00 - 15:00 **From Vision to Action: Made in Europe in FP10 - Dialogue with the European Commission**

Keynote speech: **Cyril Robin-Champigneul**, DG RTD, European Commission

Proposal of the five pillars: EFFRA's suggestion for the next manufacturing partnership in FP10

Panel discussion:

As discussions on the next EU Framework Programme (FP10) advance, important questions arise about the future of manufacturing research and innovation in Europe. This panel will explore the expected role and scale of manufacturing in FP10 and discuss how the **Made in Europe Partnership** could continue and evolve.

The discussion will also address how the policy windows of **Pillar 4** may interact with the proposed **Competitiveness Fund**, the emerging challenges linked to **AI in manufacturing**, and possible ways to reduce the high oversubscription and "kick-out rate" currently seen in **Cluster 4 manufacturing calls**.



Moderated by **Herman Derache**

Panellists:

- **Cyril Robin-Champigneul**, DG RTD, European Commission
- **Cecile Huet**, DG Connect, European Commission
- **Marco Taisch**, Politecnico di Milano
- **Olaf Pannenbäcker**, Voith
- **Sotiris Makris**, LMS

15:00 - 16:00 **Member State Roundtable on Manufacturing Research and Innovation: how to manage the co-existence and develop better links between the European Partnership Made in Europe and national manufacturing initiatives**

Panel discussion:

The **Made in Europe Partnership** has benefited from constructive interaction between EU-level initiatives and national manufacturing programs.

How can this cooperation be further strengthened? Should collaboration be more formalized, and what might a **national ministries mirror group** look like in practice?

What are the potential **benefits** of closer cooperation? Are there any **drawbacks**?

What lessons can be drawn from other initiatives such as **Joint Undertakings, ERA-Net, Missions, and EUREKA**?

Moderated by **Željko Pazin**, EFFRA

Panellists:

- **Alexander Pogany**, BMIMI (Austria)
- **Sergio Fernández-Ceballos**, Enterprise Ireland (Ireland)
- **Nieves González López**, CDTI (Spain)
- **Patricia Wolny**, PTKA (Germany)

16:00 - 16:30 **Farewell Coffee**



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