



REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA  
Ministry of Innovation and Growth



REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA  
Ministry of Science and Education

## European Innovation Council Info Day Sofia *Support for Deep Tech Innovators and Researchers* Agenda

29 January 2024, Hyatt Regency Sofia

09:00-09:30	Registration
09:30-10:00	<b>Opening Remarks</b> Ms. Iliana Ivanova, Commissioner on Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, European Commission Ms. Milena Stoycheva, Minister of Innovation and Growth, Bulgaria Mr. Galin Tzokov, Minister of Science and Education, Bulgaria (TBC) Mr. Michiel SCHEFFER, President of the EIC Board
09:30 –10:00	<b><i>The European Innovation Council: Support for Deep Tech Innovators and Researchers</i></b>  <i>Ms. Anna Panagopoulou, Director for ERA &amp; Innovation, DG Research and Innovation, European Commission</i>
10:00-10.20	<b><i>Testimonial from EIC Accelerator beneficiary (Dronamics/Transmetrics)</i></b>
10:20-10:40	<b><i>Deep tech – solving business or societal problems by companies, utilizing applied research results: view from an EIC Programme Manager (inspiration speech)</i></b>  <i>Ms. Stela Tkatchova, EIC Programme Manager for Space</i>
10:40-11.10	Coffee break

Session 1 and Session 2 (run in parallel)

<b>Session 1: EIC Pathfinder: applied research towards novel technologies</b>	
11:10-12:10	<b><i>EIC Pathfinder: What, How and Why? With Q&amp;A Session</i></b> <i>Rumen Borisov, Project Adviser, Programme Managers' Office, European Innovation Council and SME Agency</i>
12:10-12:30	<b><i>EIC Pathfinder Challenges 2024</i></b>
12:30-12:40	<b><i>Support for applicants: EIC National Contact Point</i></b>
12:40-13:00	<b><i>Testimonials from EIC Pathfinder beneficiary</i></b> (SMARTCOM BULGARIA AD/ INSTITUTE OF OPTICAL MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGIES, BAS)
<b>Session 2: EIC Accelerator: scaling up deep tech companies</b>	
11:20- 12:00	<b><i>Accelerator: What, How and Why? EIC Accelerator Challenges 2024</i></b> <i>Cornelius Schmaltz, Head of Unit, EIC Accelerator, European Innovation Council and SME Agency</i>
12:00-12.15	<b><i>Complimentary funding through national schemes</i></b> <i>Lora Yosifova (SoE scheme), Ministry of Innovation and Growth</i>
12:15-13:30	<b><i>Tips and Tricks on How to Become Successful Applicant of the EIC Accelerator Funding Opportunities with Q&amp;A</i></b> (testimonials from EIC Beneficiaries, experts, EIC National contact point)  <b><i>Moderator: TBC</i></b>  <i>Ms. Tsvetelina Yorgova, EIC National Contact Point</i> <i>4 Accelerator beneficiaries + EIC Jury member, evaluator</i>
13:30-14:30	<b><i>Lunch break</i></b>
<b>Session 3</b>	
14:30- 15:30	<b><i>Panel discussion: EIC as the investor of choice for European innovators with visionary ideas and the role of the EIC Fund</i></b>  <i>Moderator: Mr. Michiel SCHEFFER, President of the EIC Board, DG RTD European Commission</i>  <i>Ms. Svetoslava Georgieva, Chair, EIC Fund Board</i>  <i>Mr. Jussi HÄTÖNEN, Head of EIC Division, European Investment Bank</i>  <i>Co-investor with EIC</i>
15:30-17.00	Meeting with investors (closed session)