

Message from The President

Welcome Message from the President of the Eu-SPRI Forum, Matthias Weber



Dear colleagues, partners, and friends of the Eu-SPRI community, It is with great honour and enthusiasm that I step into the role of President of the European Forum for Studies of Policies for Research and Innovation (Eu-SPRI). As we navigate an era marked by profound societal, environmental and technological transformations, the role of science, technology, and innovation (STI) policy has never been more critical. Eu-SPRI stands at the forefront of this evolving landscape, fostering a vibrant, interdisciplinary community committed to advancing knowledge and practice in STI policy.

Our Forum has long been a hub for pioneering research, early-career development and policy engagement. Building on this strong foundation, I am particularly excited to deepen our commitment to transformative and mission-oriented innovation policies. Through our initiative the **TRIP-Eu-Hub**—our joint platform with the Transformative Innovation Policy Consortium—we are strengthening the bridge between academic research and real-world policy experimentation, enabling co-creation and mutual learning between researchers and policymakers across Europe.

Looking ahead, we will continue to support the next generation of scholars through our doctoral schools, conferences and mobility programmes. We will also expand our efforts to anticipate emerging themes and methods in STI policy, ensuring that Eu-SPRI remains a catalyst for critical reflection and forward-looking action.

I invite all of you—researchers, practitioners, and policymakers—to engage with us, contribute your insights, and help shape the future of STI policy in Europe and beyond.

Warm regards,  
**Matthias Weber**  
 (President, Eu-SPRI Forum Head, Center for Innovation Systems and Policy, AIT Professor of Innovation Policy, Université Gustave Eiffel)

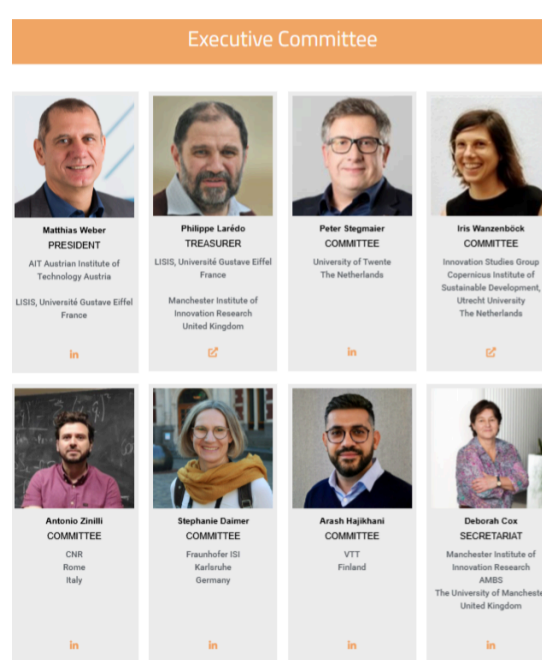
[Find out more](#)

Executive Committee Members 2025-2026

Introducing the Eu-SPRI Forum Executive Committee 2025–2026

The Executive Committee members are selected to serve by the General Assembly. They play a central role in the governance and strategic direction, guiding the overall mission and strategic priorities of the Forum.

- President**  
 Matthias Weber – AIT Austrian Institute of Technology, Austria / Université Gustave Eiffel, France
- Treasurer**  
 Philippe Larédo – LISIS, Université Gustave Eiffel, France / Manchester Institute of Innovation Research, UK



- Committee Members**
- Peter Stagnmaier – University of Twente, The Netherlands
- Iris Wanzenböck – Innovation Studies Group, Utrecht University, The Netherlands
- Antonio Zinilli – CNR Rome, Italy
- Stephanie Dalmer – Fraunhofer ISI, Karlsruhe, Germany
- Arash Hajikhani – VTT, Finland

**Secretariat**  
 Deborah Cox – Manchester Institute of Innovation Research, AMBS, The University of Manchester, UK

This diverse and experienced team brings together leading voices from across Europe's STI policy landscape. Their collective expertise will be instrumental in advancing Eu-SPRI's mission to foster interdisciplinary research, support early-career scholars, and shape transformative innovation policies.

We look forward to an exciting year ahead under their leadership!

[Find out more](#)

General Assembly representatives

Meet the Eu-SPRI General Assembly Representatives for 2025–2026

We are pleased to introduce the members of the Eu-SPRI Forum General Assembly for the 2025–2026 term.

Representing our member institutions in the Forum. These individuals play a vital role in shaping the strategic direction of the Forum and ensuring the dissemination of information from Eu-SPRI and enhancing network collaboration.

General Assembly Representatives:

- Carlos Montaño – TNO, The Netherlands
- Cristina Di Stefano – Politecnico di Milano (Polimi), Italy
- Magnus Gulbrandsen – TIK, Norway
- Arash Hajikhani – VTT, Finland
- Laurens Hessels – Rathenau Instituut, The Netherlands
- Michael Hopkins – SPRU, University of Sussex, UK
- Jürgen Howaldt – TU Dortmund University, Germany
- Matthijs Janssen – Utrecht University, The Netherlands
- Helka Kalliomäki – InnoLab, University of Vaasa, Finland
- Kornelia Konrad – University of Twente, The Netherlands
- Henning Kroll – Fraunhofer ISI, Germany
- Mart Laatsit – CIRCLE, Lund University, Sweden
- Mireille Matt – LISIS, Université Gustave Eiffel, France
- Jordi Molas-Gallart – Ingenio/CISIC, Spain
- Lucio Morettini – CNR, Italy
- Mabel Sanchez-Barrioluengo – MIOIR, UK
- Espen Solberg – NIFU, Norway
- Matthias Weber – Austrian Institute of Technology, Austria

These representatives bring a wealth of experience and insight from their respective institutions and countries. Their collective efforts will help guide Eu-SPRI's mission to foster interdisciplinary research, support early-career scholars and advance transformative innovation policies across Europe.

We thank them for their commitment and look forward to a productive and inspiring term!

[Find out more](#)

Upcoming Events

Eu-SPRI Early Career Research Training School 7–10 October 2025 | Utrecht University



The Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development is hosting a fully subscribed Eu-SPRI Early Career Research Training School focused on science systems in and for transitions. The event brings together early career researchers to explore how science can better respond to grand societal challenges like climate change, global inequality, and planetary health.

- Participants will dive into topics such as:
- The evolving science–society contract
  - Societal impact and evaluation of research.
  - Transdisciplinary and transformative research.
  - Third-generation STI policy.
  - Science–policy interfaces and knowledge security.

The school is designed for PhD candidates and early-career researchers in STI studies and sustainability transitions. It features faculty from Utrecht University, the Rathenau Institute, and beyond—including Prof. Magnus Gulbrandsen, Prof. Laurens Hessels, and Dr. Lotte Krabbenberg. Although this edition is fully booked, it's a great example of how the Eu-SPRI community is fostering policy-relevant research on the future of science systems.

[Find out more](#)

Second Joint Eu-SPRI Training on Mission-Oriented Science-Policy Dialogues



Building on the success of the inaugural event in January 2025, the Second Joint Eu-SPRI Training on Mission-Oriented Science-Policy Dialogues will take place 27–30 January 2026 in Vienna, Austria, with online pre-events scheduled for 2, 9, and 16 December 2025.

Co-organised by LISIS and the Austrian Institute of Technology (AIT), this training brings together early-career researchers (ECRs) and early-career policy professionals (ECPs) to foster meaningful engagement at the science-policy interface. The programme is designed to promote mutual learning, co-production of knowledge, and collaborative innovation in addressing complex societal challenges.

**Why Mission-Oriented Dialogues?**  
 As transformative and mission-oriented science, technology, and innovation policies (TIP and MOIP) gain traction, there is a growing need for professionals who can navigate the intersection of research and policy. This training responds to that need by:

- Encouraging bidirectional learning between researchers and policymakers.
- Exploring themes such as net-zero, agriculture, mobility, health, energy, cities, digitalisation, AI, and defence.
- Equipping participants with tools to understand each other's values, constraints, and professional cultures.

Although this event is now fully subscribed, the key dates are

- Online pre-events:**
- 2 December 2025 (09:30–12:30)
  - 9 December 2025 (12:00–13:30)
  - 16 December 2025 (12:00–13:30)

**Main training:** 27–30 January 2026

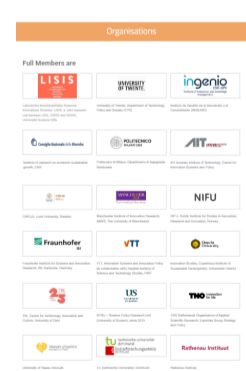
**Post-events:** February–June 2026 (TBD)  
 This training is a result of the Policy Dialogues Demonstrator (P2D) initiative, which aimed to pilot new formats of engagement between STI policy research and policymaking practice across Europe.

The training will focus on mission-oriented science-policy dialogues, offering a platform for participants to work across disciplines on real-world challenges. Activities will include group-based work, guidance from experienced mentors, and the chance to develop and pitch policy proposals.

[Find out more](#)

Open Calls

Call for Applications: Eu-SPRI Early Career Researcher Scheme



**Deadline: 11th November 2025**

The Eu-SPRI Forum is pleased to invite applications for its **Early Career and PhD Researcher Circulation Scheme**, designed to support short- and long-term mobility between member institutions across Europe.

This scheme offers a unique opportunity for doctoral candidates (in their second year or beyond) and early career researchers (within 36 months of completing their PhD) to undertake research visits at partner organisations, collaborate with leading scholars in science, technology, and innovation (STI) policy, gain exposure to new institutional and national research environments, and advance their academic and professional development.

Two visit options are available: **short-term mobility (minimum 1 month)** and **regular mobility (minimum 3 months)**.

Applicants must be affiliated with an Eu-SPRI member institution, with the host and home institutions located in different national systems, and their research topics must relate to **STI policy, innovation processes, or entrepreneurship with policy relevance**.

Applications should include a completed **application form**, a CV, letters or emails of support from host and home supervisors, and one additional academic reference.

All submissions should be sent to: **Deborah.cox@manchester.ac.uk**

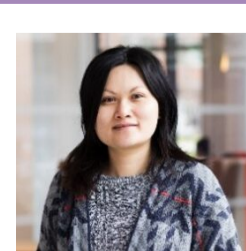
Successful applicants will be notified within one month of submission. We encourage all eligible researchers to apply and take advantage of this valuable opportunity to expand their networks and enrich their research.

For full guidelines and application materials click the button below:

[Find out more](#)

Blogs

Exploring Gender, Technology, and Climate Innovation: My Eu-SPRI Research Exchange at Politecnico di Milano



An Yu Chen, a final-year PhD researcher at Alliance Manchester Business School, investigates how scientific knowledge flows across disciplines to support the development of emerging green technologies. Her work draws on science-of-science studies, innovation studies, and sustainability transitions, with a particular interest in the role of gender in shaping innovation pathways.

Supported by the Eu-SPRI PhD Circulation Award, An Yu spent a month at the Entrepreneurship, Finance & Innovation (EFI) group at Politecnico di Milano. The exchange allowed her to refine her conceptual framework, sharpen a research paper exploring gender dynamics in green technology innovation, and gain hands-on skills in building disruptiveness and novelty indicators for her doctoral work.

Beyond research, she immersed herself in EFI's collaborative environment, presented at seminars, and attended the META Workshop on machine learning in climate change mitigation scenarios. These experiences broadened her methodological toolkit, deepened her understanding of sustainable innovation, and fostered valuable international collaborations. Reflecting on her time in Milan, An Yu highlights how the circulation award strengthened her research, expanded her network, and offered personal growth through cultural exchange—making it a transformative milestone in her PhD journey.

[Read the blog](#)

