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# Invitation & Programme

02.03.2026, 5 PM

## Next MFF – From Policy to Practice

How Technical Universities Drive Europe's  
R&I Impact

### Venue

AT60 - House of the Austrian Economy  
Avenue de Cortenbergh 60 | 1000  
Brussels

Please register here



[https://sweapevent.com/TU9\\_TUAustria](https://sweapevent.com/TU9_TUAustria)

In 2026, decisive choices at the European level will shape the future of European research and innovation policy. The two alliances of technical universities in Germany and Austria, TU9 and TU Austria, play a pivotal role in enhancing Europe's competitiveness and fostering impactful collaboration between academia and industry for the benefit of society and the economy. This high-level event focusses on the next EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (FP10) and the Competitiveness Fund (ECF). It addresses the opportunities, challenges, as well as strategic priorities, paying particular attention to the needs of technology-oriented universities.

Welcome (5 PM)

**Karin Sommer**

Deputy Head of Innovation and Digitalization, Austrian Federal Economic Chamber

Opening Remarks

**Peter Middendorf**, Rector of University of Stuttgart and TU9 Co-President

**Jens Schneider**, Rector of TU Wien and President of TU Austria

Keynotes  
with Q&A

**"The European Competitiveness Fund: Links between Research, Innovation and Industrial Leadership"**

**Maive Rute**, Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), European Commission

**"FP10: Addressing Europe's R&I Ambition"**

**Anastasios Kentarchos**, Adviser to the Director at the Common Policy Centre, Directorate-General for Research & Innovation (DG RTD), European Commission

Fishbowl Discussion

**Maive Rute | Anastasios Kentarchos | Angela Ittel**, President of TU Braunschweig and TU9 Co-President |

**Jens Schneider | Audience**

Panel Moderation: **Mattias Björnmalm**, Secretary General of CESAER

Networking Reception (from about 7 PM)

**TU Austria:** TU Wien | Graz University of Technology | TU Leoben  
and associate members BOKU University | Johannes Kepler University Linz | University of Innsbruck

**TU9 – German Universities of Technology:** RWTH Aachen University | Technische Universität Berlin | Technische Universität Braunschweig | Technical University of Darmstadt | TUD Dresden University of Technology | Leibniz University Hannover | Karlsruhe Institute of Technology | Technical University of Munich | University of Stuttgart