



**Innovation in Action
Joint Technology Initiatives at the
European Parliament**

**Opening address by Michel Goldman, Executive
Director of the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI)
Given on behalf of all JTI Executive Directors**

Brussels, Tuesday 1 October 2013

**** Check against delivery ****

Honourable Members of the European Parliament, Madam Carvalho [addressed if present], Mr Correia de Campos [addressed if present], ladies and gentlemen, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to this second 'Innovation in Action' week at the European Parliament.

My name is Michel Goldman and I am Executive Director of the Innovative Medicines Initiative, but tonight I have the honour to address you on behalf of all my fellow JTI directors – Bert De Colvenaer of the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen JU, Andreas Wild of ENIAC JU, Eric Dautriat of Clean Sky, and Alun Foster of ARTEMIS.

Tonight I am going to tell you a story – the story of the JTIs, from their origins, through their development, to the present day and our latest successes. Some of you know this story well, but it bears repeating because as we all know, important decisions will soon be made, many of them here in these corridors and meeting rooms, regarding the future of the JTIs.

The JTIs were born in 2008, the brainchildren of far-seeing European Commissioners, strongly supported by the European industries and, in the case of ARTEMIS and ENIAC, by the Member States.

They were created to ensure that Europe remained at the forefront of innovation in sectors that are key to European competitiveness and quality of life – fuel cells and hydrogen, aviation, nanoelectronics, embedded computing, and of course, innovative medicines.

They were created because the scale of the challenges in these sectors required all stakeholders to come together – not only universities and large-scale industries, but small and medium-sized enterprises, regulatory bodies, and many more.

The early childhood of the JTIs was often challenging! As well as hiring staff and getting our offices up and running as quickly as possible and launching our first Calls for proposals, we faced the delicate task of bringing together groups that were not always used to working with one another.

Because the JTIs are not just another research funding scheme – they are pioneers of a new, open, more collaborative approach to research and innovation.

Today, I think we can say with confidence that the JTIs have reached maturity and are recognised as world leaders in the creation of collaborative, market-driven networks that bring together experts from academia, research establishments, small

and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), industry, and other groups such as regulatory authorities and consumer organisations.

As such, they cover the full innovation chain and contribute to the creation of the European Research Area and Innovation Union.

The JTIs are also leveraging further investments in research and development and proving to be flexible instruments capable of providing a rapid response to new policy and technology developments.

I would also like to emphasise the JTIs' impact on SMEs, which are the 'the lifeblood of the economy' and key players in research and innovation. SMEs receive €517 million in funding through the JTIs and make up 31 per cent of our project participants.

Most importantly, the JTIs are delivering results that are set to make a very real difference to the quality of life of Europe's citizens and the competitiveness of our industries.

For example, in the Fuel Cells and Hydrogen JU, the '*ene.field*' [pronounced 'eenee field'] project has finalised the installation and commissioning of the first of 1 000 micro Combined Heat and Power units in family homes.

The units replace conventional gas boilers and produce both electricity and heat at the same time with an overall efficiency of over 90%. Furthermore, by developing a strong supply chain, by understanding the appropriate new market routes and by stimulating cost reductions, this project will allow European industry to reinforce its position on the international stage.

In ENIAC JU, key emerging technology pilot projects engaged an unprecedented €730 million for research and development to drive breakthrough nanoelectronic technologies towards industrial maturity. These technologies have applications in sectors as diverse as healthcare, the internet, LED lighting, e-mobility, energy efficiency, high performance portable computing, and equipment for next generation high volume/low cost manufacturing.

In ARTEMIS, the CESAR project has created a 'Reference Technology Platform', which is a sophisticated toolkit that allows designers to manage the plethora of tools needed when developing software-intensive products for markets that demand the highest in safety and reliability standards, such as the transport and medical sectors. CESAR and the cluster of projects around it set the scene for the 'CRYSTAL' ARTEMIS Innovation Pilot Project, creating possibly the largest programme on high-reliability systems in Europe, if not the world.

Taking to the air, Clean Sky is Europe's largest aeronautics research programme ever. It is dedicated to the demonstration of new technologies for all sectors of the civil aircraft market, aiming at a dramatic reduction of CO₂ and noise footprints. For instance, the Open Rotor, a new engine architecture, the propeller blades of which have already been successfully tested in aero-acoustic wind tunnels, will go through a full scale engine testing. The objective is a 30% CO₂ reduction with respect to the current fleet. Other examples include improved wing aerodynamics, lighter composite structures, smart trajectories, and more electric on-board energy.

And finally, the Innovative Medicines Initiative is tackling the scourge of antimicrobial resistance, which kills 25 000 people in Europe every year and costs the economy and society €1.5 billion. Despite the urgent need for new antibiotics, the reality is that only two new classes of antibiotics have been brought to the market in the last three decades. IMI's 'New Drugs for Bad Bugs' programme is tackling the many scientific, regulatory and business challenges that are hampering the development of new drugs in this field.

This is just a snapshot of our achievements – there are many, many more, and I would encourage anyone who is interested to visit our exhibition and talk to our staff, who would be more than happy to tell you more about our activities and achievements.

As is traditional, I would like to close with some thank yous. Firstly, thank you ladies and gentlemen for your presence here tonight and for your interest in the JTIs. I truly hope that the events this week will provide you with a fresh insight into our work.

Secondly, I would like to thank all the colleagues from the five JTIs who have made these events possible – I know that a lot of work goes into putting these things together, and your efforts are much appreciated.

Finally and most importantly, I would like, on behalf of all the JTI directors, to thank our hosts for their support, not only in the organisation of this event, but also in our work - Ms Carvalho and Mr Correia de Campos.