

# VANGUARD INITIATIVE REGIONAL CONFERENCE NEW GROWTH OF INDUSTRIAL REGIONS THROUGH SMART SPECIALIZATION

THURSDAY, 25TH MARCH 2021

Norte and Galicia regions developed the Galicia-Norte de Portugal Smart Specialisation Strategy (RIS3T), the first European cross-border RIS3. The RIS3T defines a strategic cooperation framework to provide a coordinated response to shared challenges that, within the scope of innovation policies, can be dealt jointly in a more effective and efficient manner, mobilizing new initiatives and projects and increasing the deployment of community funds at European level.

Within the scope of the activities of the RIS3T implementation project, called IMPACT\_RIS3T, approved under the Interreg VA Spain Portugal 2014-2020 Cooperation Program, one of the strategic dimensions is to promote the participation of actors from the Euroregion Galicia - Norte de Portugal in European networks associated to smart specialisation.

The Vanguard Initiative - New Growth Through Smart Specialization is an association of 39 regions from the European Union, among which are the regions of Norte and Galicia, which seeks to stimulate industrial modernization through a more effective employment of new technologies based on complementarity between its smart specialisation strategies (RIS3), as well as stimulating and supporting a strategic dialogue between its members and the European institutions.

In this context, a Vanguard Initiative Regional Conference will be held, in virtual format, on March 25, 2021, between 9:30 am and 12:00 am (Portuguese time), aiming to present the activities of this interregional network, with particular focus on its pilot projects and their financing, namely the most relevant to the strategic area of RIS3T related to Industry 4.0. Pilot projects are interregional demonstration and cooperation initiatives between companies and scientific and technological entities in a specific technology field or application domain, that have the objective of facilitating the emergence / construction and strengthening of European industrial value chains in markets of future high potential.

# AGENDA

- 9h30 **Greetings**  
*António M. Cunha, President of CCDR-N*
- 9h40 **Welcome**  
*Raquel Meira, CCDR-N*  
*Luisa Boquete Pumar, GAIN*
- 9h45 **Galicia-Norte de Portugal Crossborder Smart Specialisation Strategy (RIS3T): Framework and priorities**  
*Paulo Santos, CCDR-N*
- 9h55 **Vanguard Initiative: New growth of industrial regions through Smart Specialisation**  
*Farha Brahmi, Vanguard Initiative*
- 10h05 **Financing of Interregional Innovation Projects: Challenges and recommendations for 2021-27**  
*José Carlos Caldeira, Co-Funding and Financing Task Group of Vanguard Initiative*
- 10h15 **Pilot Projects of Vanguard Initiative: Demonstrating Cases and Cooperation Opportunities in Industry 4.0**
- Vanguard Initiative Pilots: Approach, results and future priorities**  
*Wim De Kinderen, Vanguard Pilot Monitoring Task Group*
- ESM - Efficient and Sustainable Manufacturing**  
*António Almeida, INESC TEC*
- 3DP - High Performance Production through 3D-Printing**  
*Margarida Machado, INEGI*
- AI - Artificial Intelligence**  
*Domenico Guida, ART-ER*
- 11h15 **Digital Innovation Hubs: Digital transformation of the manufacturing industry and smart specialisation**  
*Pedro Rocha, PRODUTECH*  
*To be confirmed, Galicia Digital Hub*
- 11h45 **Q&A**
- 12h00 **Closure of the Conference**  
*Raquel Meira, CCDR-N*