

Taftie Presidency 2023

RECONSIDERING THE
ROLE OF INNOVATION
AGENCIES AND
MUTUAL
LEARNING



Zagreb, 15 - 16 February 2023

**Insight session I - Technology transfer and cooperation between
academia and businesses**

Executive Working Group I

SCHEDULE



Wednesday, 15 February 2023

Insight Session I

**Technology transfer and cooperation
between academia and businesses**

Thursday, 16 February 2023

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Insight Session I

Technology transfer and cooperation between academia and businesses

The Insight Session will look at how Taftie members support technology transfer in their national ecosystems and what should be the role of national innovation agencies in that field, having in mind numerous important stakeholders.

Keynote speakers from France and Croatia will present technology transfer challenges from different stakeholders' points of view, followed by a panel discussion. We will discuss role models of successful technology transfer ecosystems, the role of European institutions/associations in promoting/enhancing technology transfer, stakeholders' expectations from the public sector in the technology transfer, and expected roles of Taftie members in their national ecosystems.

Before the first 2023 EWG meeting and Insight session, HAMAG-BICRO and the Innovation Growth Lab at Nesta (IGL) carried out a survey to gather information on what Taftie agencies currently do in the area of technology transfer. For the survey, we defined technology transfer as the process of transforming discoveries at universities and research centres into market innovations through spinning out, licensing, joint research, contract research, consulting, knowledge transfer or people movement. Previously, HAMAG-BICRO had mapped Taftie experts in member institutions to facilitate the current and future surveys and ensure that experts in Taftie members continue cooperation, mutual learning and exchange after the Taftie events and during the year aided by an IT platform which will be presented during the meeting.



Executive Working Group

Wednesday, 15 February 2023 Insight Session I

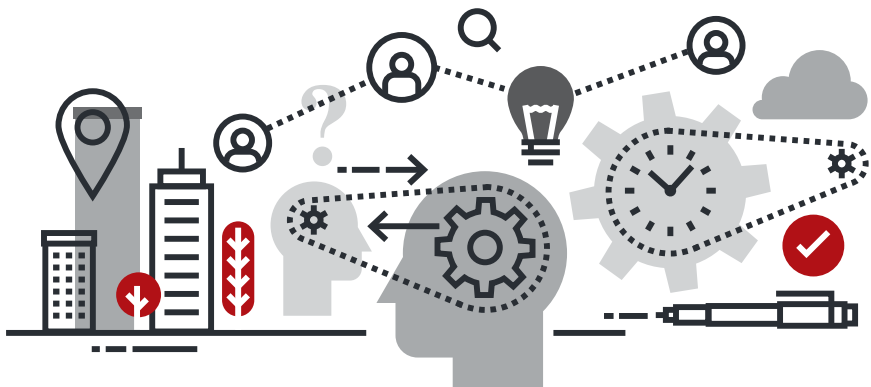
- 11:30** Registration and lunch
- 12:45** Welcome speech **Ante-Janko Bobetko** (Chairperson of the Board, Taftie Presidency 2023; the Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors, HAMAG-BICRO)
- 12:55** Introduction **Neno Rakić** (Executive Secretary, HAMAG-BICRO)
- 13:00** Introductory note by **Innovation Growth Lab**
- 13:15** **Gordan Lauc, PhD** (Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Zagreb and founder and CEO of Genos Ltd)
- 13:35** **Philippe Mariani** (CEO of Sophia Antipolis Foundation)
- 13:55** **Smiljka Vikić-Topić** (Senior Research and Innovation Manager, EURICE)
- 14:15** Coffee break
- 14:30** Panel Discussion and Q&A (**Gordan Lauc**, **Olivier Van der Elstraeten** (Head of Innovation Department at Wallonie Entrepreneurs), **Martina Mak** (Head of Technology Transfer Department at University North in Croatia), **Philippe Mariani**, **Smiljka Vikić-Topić**)
Moderator: **Neno Rakić** (Executive Secretary, HAMAG-BICRO)
- 16:00** Key Takeaways and Closing Remarks - Innovation Growth Lab/**Neno Rakić**
- 16:15** Coffee break/snacks/free time
- 17:30** Visit to CRTA (The Regional Center of Excellence for Robotic Technology) at Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture - guided tour by professor emeritus Bojan Jerbić, PhD
- 19:30** Dinner - Restaurant Vinodol, Teslina 10, 10000 Zagreb

Executive Working Group

Thursday, 16 February 2023 Executive Working Group I

- 08:00** Registration
- 08:30** Executive Working Group meeting
- 10:50** Break
- 11:00** Executive Working Group meeting (continued)
- 12:00** General Meeting
- 12:15** Meeting close and lunch
- 12:50** Visit to Rimac Automobili - producer of hypercars and advanced automotive technology
- 14:35** Bus departs to the airport
- 15:00** Arrival at the airport

Transfer between locations will be organised.



SPEAKERS



Ante-Janko Bobetko

was appointed the Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors in July 2021, after having served as a member of the Board of Directors for two years. Through his work and experience, he has gained specific knowledge and skills in creating development programs intended for the development of entrepreneurship, which include: developing strategies, laws, aid schemes, lending and the use of all forms of aid from national and EU funds. From 2016 to 2019, Mr. Bobetko was the Assistant Director of the Zagreb Innovation Centre, where he participated in the preparation and implementation of projects, the creation of entrepreneurial programs and the building of entrepreneurial infrastructure intended for the innovation of the ecosystem's development.

Neno Rakić



has more than 12 years of experience with European Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds gained in both public and private sectors. Neno is the Head of Department at HAMAG-BICRO and manages the team responsible for monitoring the implementation of more than 300 innovative projects, including famous Croatian startups and unicorns. Neno is the European Commission/TAIEX expert, having assisted numerous institutions in their reform processes through expert missions. He has published a research paper focusing on ESI Funds management and frequently delivers lectures at seminars and international conferences in Croatia and abroad on various innovation-related topics.



Gordan Lauc

is a Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at the University of Zagreb, Director of the National Centre of Scientific Excellence in Personalised Healthcare, Honorary professor at the University of Edinburgh and the Kings College London and a member of the Johns Hopkins Society of Scholars. In 2017, he initiated the launch of the Human Glycome project and is one of its two co-directors. His research team is pioneering high throughput glycomic analysis and the application of glycan biomarkers in the field of precision medicine. In 2007 he founded Genos, a biotech company and currently the global leader in high-throughput glycomics. Research in Genos led to the development of the GlycanAge test of biological age.

Philippe Mariani

is the Head of the Sophia Antipolis Foundation located in France. He advises on regional development strategies, program and project implementation, strategic planning, best practices, public-private partnerships, technology-led economic development, institutional development and governance. Philippe has directed successful cluster-driven strategic Public Private projects for many countries in the world. For ten years, as Senior Advisor of Kuwait Finance House Bahrain, he has successfully spearheaded the innovation agenda for the Kingdom of Bahrain and was appointed by the French Prime Minister as Foreign Trade Advisor for France and the GCC Region to facilitate business and investments between France and the Gulf countries.



Smiljka Vikić-Topić



Senior Research and Innovation Manager, EURICE: RISE - Research and Innovation Services d.o.o., Zagreb, Croatia. Ms. Vikić-Topić is a technology transfer professional with long-term experience as a researcher and contract research and technology transfer manager in academic institutions and the pharma industry. Smiljka established an office for technology transfer at the University of Zagreb School of Medicine in 2009. Smiljka spent four years in the USA working in molecular biology labs at Wake Forest University, NIH and Mayo Clinic and was later trained at NIH Office of Technology Transfer. She is an active member of ASTP, a non-profit member's organisation committed to knowledge transfer among universities and industry with a focus to improve further the quality of impact that public research has on the economy and society. As one of the founding members of ASTP's Europe Committee, Ms. Vikić-Topić joined the Board as Vice President Europe for the term 2022-23.

Olivier Van der Elstraeten

is the Head of the Innovation Department at Wallonie Entrepreneurs (formerly SOWALFIN). Wallonie Entrepreneurs (WE) is the economic and financial tool of Wallonia at the service of companies. WE provides the necessary means for the development of activity in all sectors. The financing responds to a logic of creation, growth, transmission or relaunch of companies. In particular, Olivier's team offers Information, Awareness, Support and Financing for entrepreneurs and their innovative projects: technical feasibility, R&D, intellectual property and many more. He has previously worked in manufacturing companies and for 12 years as a Knowledge Transfer Manager at the University of Liege.



Martina Mak

is the Head of the Technology Transfer Office at the University of North Croatia. She is an expert in the process and methodology for developing innovation, as well as the validation process and commercialisation, with more than 20 years of experience in the tech business. Martina was a fellow of the US State Department programme World Chicago, allowing her to work in US at the University of Chicago with the best experts in the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation. She has consulted and mentored many tech startups and companies as the CEO of Business incubator ENTER. Martina Mak is experienced in creating and executing accelerator programs and business academies, preparing companies for investors like VC, pitch conferences and scaling up business internationally.

Venue

Hotel Dubrovnik in Zagreb is located right on the main city square of Zagreb. This Hotel in Zagreb has a tram station right in front of it with excellent connectivity to the city. Since it is in the centre of Zagreb, everything is within walking distance. Zagreb upper town & St Marks church is only 7 minutes away by foot from Hotel Dubrovnik in Zagreb. Everything you need to see, eat and try is right in front and around this Zagreb Hotel.

The Regional Center of Excellence for Robotic Technologies - **CRTA** is the reference center for research, development and educational activities in the field of robotics and artificial intelligence of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture of the University of Zagreb. The center was financed by EU grants in the total amount of 5 million EUR. CRTA is the first center of excellence for robotics in Croatia, and it unites laboratories for autonomous systems, computer intelligence and medical robotics. In terms of its content and advanced equipment, it represents a unique scientific and technological infrastructure on a European scale and provides a strong incentive for development and educational activities in the Republic of Croatia. CRTA is open to the public and regularly organizes various presentations and tours of the laboratory with the aim of promoting science and technology, so that all generations can better understand the digital and cultural transformations we are experiencing.



Rimac Automobili is a technology powerhouse manufacturing electric hypercars and providing complete technology solutions to global automotive manufacturers. The **Rimac Group** became an umbrella company that incorporates **Bugatti Rimac** and **Rimac Technology** business. The Group brings together the most advanced hypercars in the world with a globally renowned team developing high-performance electrification systems for other renowned automotive manufacturers. **Rimac Technology** is focused on the engineering, development, production, and supply of high-performance battery systems, electric drive units, electronic systems, control systems and user interface components that Rimac is known for, having established a reputation as a leading provider of advanced performance electrification technologies.

Vinodol Restaurant is the first place to go when searching for traditional continental and Mediterranean cuisine. The restaurant is in the very heart of downtown Zagreb; encircled with fresh, green plants on our spacious outdoor terrace, and a warm, inviting interior. Vinodol has always been a meeting place. It is equally appealing to business people as it is to families with children and tourists seeking a taste of genuine Croatian cuisine. It will dazzle you with the vigour and cheerful merriments of its laidback guests, who, served by our commendable staff, feel at home and always want to return.



ABOUT ZAGREB

Zagreb is the cultural, scientific, economic, political and administrative centre of the Republic of Croatia, and is home to the Croatian Parliament, Government and President. Its favourable location between the Pannonian plain, the edge of the Alps and the Dinaric range has allowed it to become a crossing point for mass international communication. The city is protected from the cold northern winds by the mountain of Medvednica and opens up to the rest of the world thanks to a spacious plain and the Sava River. Zagreb, with a population of nearly one million, contains almost a quarter of the entire population of Croatia. Over the centuries, the city was inhabited by people coming from all over Europe; and, in recent years, by people coming from different parts of Croatia, ensuring a rich cultural life. Zagreb is a safe city whose doors are always open; a city with a tumultuous history teeming with interesting personalities. A city that warmly invites all those who wish to get to know it, and a city that will surely fulfil your expectations. In this city, you can easily meet remarkable people, make new friends and enjoy special moments. The façades of Zagreb's buildings reflect the ebb and flow of history, while its streets and squares bear witness to the coming together of the many cultures that have shaped the identity of this laid-back capital. The best thing to do when you first arrive is to take in Zagreb's wonderful atmosphere, which, as claimed by many, is only surpassed by the legendary beauty of the local womenfolk.



TRAVEL LOGISTICS

Zagreb has one airport **Zagreb International Franjo Tuđman Airport** located in the vicinity of Velika Gorica (Ulica Rudolfa Fizira 1), just 17 km from the centre of Zagreb, 20-25 minutes by car.

There is an organized **Airport Shuttle transport** from and to the Airport. The scheduled airport shuttle "**Pleso prijevoz**" operates between the Airport and the Zagreb Central Bus Terminal. This shuttle service is organized so that it follows the Zagreb Central Bus Airport Timetable. All additional information regarding the airport shuttle timetable, prices and tickets can be found on website. From the Zagreb Central Bus Terminal to the centre, there is public transport by tram line 6 will take you directly to Ban Josip Jelačić Square, where hotel Dubrovnik is located.

Regarding **public transport** there is a bus line **ZET Line 290 ZAGREB (Kvaternikov Trg) - FRANJO TUĐMAN AIRPORT - VELIKA GORICA** Route within the 19 kilometres long route. It will cover two tariff zones and will stop at a total of 20 stations. Departures are scheduled every 35 minutes. Detailed information is available in the timetable. The first departure on weekdays and Saturdays from Kvaternik Square is at 04:20 AM and on Sundays at 05:20 AM, while the last departure from Velika Gorica is every day at 00:15 AM. From Kvaternik Square, there is public transport by tram line 11 and 12, which will take you directly to Ban Josip Jelačić Square, where hotel Dubrovnik is located.

Taxi can take around 20-25 minutes, starting from around 30€ to 50€ depending on traffic. International taxi companies Uber and Bolt are available in Zagreb.

More details can be found on the [Franjo Tuđman Airport webpage](#).

OTHER INFORMATION

- Currency is Euro. Please take note that it is not always possible to pay by credit/debit card in taxis.
 - Weather in Zagreb in February can be mixed, with temperatures generally between 0 - 10°C with a possibility of snow.
 - In an emergency, call 112 and ask for the fire department/police/ambulance.
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FURTHER INFORMATION

Please get in touch with Dunja Margeta if you have any questions:
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www.taftie.eu