

European Innovation Council: A Unique Opportunity to gain insight

Research-driven innovation is increasingly important to Aarhus University—and to the EU. A key instrument for supporting transformative research and innovation is the **European Innovation Council (EIC)**, whose budget is expected to triple with the next Horizon Europe programme from 1 January 2028.

Join us for a session with **Ivan Stefanic**, former EIC Programme Manager and current EIC Ambassador, and gain first-hand insights into the EIC funding instruments, with a particular focus on **EIC Pathfinder and EIC Transition**. Drawing on his experience working with EIC calls and projects, as well as applicants' perspectives, Ivan will discuss what it takes to develop a successful application and secure EIC funding. While the case example is from the agrifood sector, the discussion will focus on the EIC as a funding instrument and the broader principles for success.

Programme

11:00-11:15 Registration and coffee

11:15-11:25 Welcome and introduction by Jeppe Dørup Olesen, Head of Innovation, AU.

11:25- 11:55 Introduction to the European Innovation Council and how to approach the EIC instruments by Ivan Stefanic, EIC Ambassador.

11:55-12:10 From idea to application by Ivan Paponov, Associate Professor and EIC Grantee at AU.

12:10-12:40 Panel debate on setting yourself up for success with the EIC with Ivan Stefanic, Ivan Paponov and Stella Spanou, Fundraiser at AU.

12:40-12:45 Closure of open session by Jeppe Dørup Olesen.

12:45-13:00 Possibility to meet and greet the EIC team from the Central Research Support Office.