

**Conference On**

**COORDINATING FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME AND STRUCTURAL FUNDS TO  
SUPPORT R&D**

Thursday, 3 May 2007, Brussels

Venue: Centre Albert Borschette, rue Froissart, 36, 1040 Brussels

This conference on "Coordinating Framework Programme and Structural Funds to support R&D" has been co-organised by the Directorate General for Research of the European Commission and the German Presidency.

The objective of the conference is to present and discuss the guidelines that are currently being developed by CREST (the Scientific and Technical Research Committee of the EU) in the context of the 3rd cycle of the Open Method of Coordination in favour of the 3% Barcelona objective.

The suggestions and recommendations of the guidelines will be delivered to national and regional authorities and relevant actors who seek further information and guidance on how to make better coordinated use of the Framework Programme and the Structural Funds in support of R&D.

The conference will provide an excellent opportunity to discuss how the synergies between both funding schemes can be best achieved in support of the development of the infrastructure, the excellence and the internationalisation of the R&D and innovation system, including the economic utilisation of the research results. A session will also particularly look at the coordination of funds from the governance perspective.

The conference will count with the participation of **Ms Danuta Hübner**, European Commissioner for Regional Policy, **Mr Janez Potocnik**, European Commissioner for Research, and former Finnish Prime Minister **Mr Esko Aho**. Furthermore, the Secretary of State, **Mr Michael Thielen**, from German Federal Ministry for Education and Research will open the conference.

The conference will target audience of national and regional policy makers, national contact points for the Framework Programme, representatives of managing authorities, industrialists, academics and representatives of other EU institutions and European associations. Approximately, 200 participants from different European countries are expected to take part.

Due to the limited number of places available, only personal invitations have been foreseen.

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