

Dear speakers,

Dear colleagues,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning

In my name and on behalf of Ms. Sartori, President of ITRE Committee, I would like to thank the invitation to participate in this lunch debate organised by STOA and E.MRS.

This lunch debate aims at bringing together people from across the European Parliament, Commission, policy makers, scientists, entrepreneurs and industry representatives to debate the research and innovation potential of advanced materials in order to accelerate the development of the economy in Europe.

Advanced Materials R&D provides an opportunity to reinforce the science-industry dialogue, offering an attractive

scenario where new models of collaboration and synergy between industry, R&D and Academy can be implemented.

Horizon 2020 covers the whole innovation cycle and aims at an enhanced Industry participation in the R&D framework, a participation that has been dropped significantly over the last years.

Pillar II of the Horizon 2020 is entirely dedicated to industrial leadership based on R&D and innovation agendas defined by industry, including SMEs. Industry plays also a crucial role in the various Societal Challenges of Pillar 3.

By giving determined support to innovation, Horizon 2020 will ensure a business-driven approach where research results are effectively converted into innovative products and services that reach the market.

Similarly, by supporting the industrial potential of policies of innovation, research and technological development, Horizon 2020 will reinforce the leveraging effect of public and private investment. This will create new

job opportunities and ensure Europe's long-term sustainability, economic development and industrial competitiveness.

To this end, the PPP instrument pursues ambitious common research objectives at European level, involving industry, the research community and public authorities.

Indeed, PPPs are a very useful instrument that will allow us to boost innovation and research at European level through the crucial involvement of key stakeholders. In this respect, PPPs have already demonstrated their potential as a mobilising force for converting aspirations into action. Their ability to contribute to a more dynamic and competitive European industry and economy is something, I hope, that will extend to the case of the advanced materials industries.

At the crucial stage in which we currently find ourselves – in which the rapporteurs from the Parliament are negotiating the final details of Horizon 2020 with the Council and Commission – it is important to learn the lessons of the past as these will help us to develop new PPPs on the basis of simplification and transparency.

It is equally important that we furnish ourselves with the opportunity to listen to your views on the advantages and disadvantages from the different forms of PPPs - contractual PPPs and JTIs. Indeed, this is something of the *raison d'être* for today's meeting. It is with this goal in mind, as a result, that I hand you over to M. Falzetti.