



ECCIR'S INTERNATIONAL INNOVATION MASTERCLASS



Innovate with Catalonia

Resource Package

May 15, 2023

European-Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research

The European-Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research (ECCIR) is a non-profit organization that facilitates innovative collaboration between European and Canadian SMEs, government agencies, and research institutions. ECCIR's funding comes from the Government of Alberta and Alberta Innovates. We offer a range of solution-driven services to corporates with international ambitions, including:

- Matchmaking
- Grant Writing & Finding Funding Opportunities
- Coordinating Incoming Delegations

As the Network Coordinator for the Enterprise Europe Network Canada, ECCIR connects corporations through a comprehensive partnerships database, brokerage events, and company missions to help turn innovative ideas into international commercial successes.

Contact

Website: <https://eccir.ca/>

Social Media: [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#)

Reference contact: Laura Intemann

E-Mail: info@eccir.ca

City: Edmonton, Alberta, Canada



Subscribe to [ECCIR's monthly newsletter](#) to stay up-to-date on global partnering opportunities, funding sources, and events designed to help you innovate internationally

Enterprise Europe Network Canada



The Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)

With over 470 partner organizations in more than 60 countries, the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN) is the world's largest support network for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with international ambitions. The European Commission launched the EEN in 2008 to help European businesses innovate and grow on an international scale.

The Network connects SMEs with:

- International Partnerships
- Expert advice for international growth
- Support for business innovation

Website: <https://een.ec.europa.eu/>

EEN Canada

Established in June 2020, EEN Canada is an International Network Partner of the EEN. The EEN Canada offers insight, informational resources, and access to brokerage events to both European and Canadian companies, as well as the opportunity to share proposals and requests through the [Partnership Opportunities Database](#).

ECCIR coordinates the Canadian consortium of EEN, which also comprises the EU Chamber of Commerce in Canada, the EU Chamber of Commerce in Canada West, NGen, and the Ocean Technology Council of Nova Scotia.

Website: <https://een-canada.ca>

Co-Organizers



ACCIÓ

ACCIÓ, Agency for Business Competitiveness, is located in Barcelona and is the public-facing organization of the Ministry of Business and Labour. Their mission is to provide support for companies and to increase their competitiveness through internationalization and innovation. Some of the services they provide are:

- Advice and support on international expansion and securing foreign investment
- Co-funding and grants for research and development
- Offering region-specific export advisory services through their network of over 40 international offices

ACCIÓ is a member of the Enterprise Europe Network Catalonia consortium.

Contact

Gisela Muñoz
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Address

Pg. de Gràcia, 129,
08008 Barcelona, Spain

Catalonia Trade & Investment



Catalonia Trade & Investment

Catalonia Trade and Investment is a public agency from the Catalan Government that assists international firms and companies with investment and expansion of their business in Catalonia. The agency offers free and tailor-made solutions for businesses and investors designed to facilitate economic growth and development. In 2022, Catalonia Trade and Investment had attracted over 620 million euros in foreign investment with 94 investment projects by foreign companies.

Contact

Geneviève Abbott
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Address

Pg. de Gràcia, 129,
08008 Barcelona, Spain

Agenda

Moderator: **Gisela Muñoz**, Senior Consultant - Tech Business Development at ACCIÓ

Introduction

1. **Britta Baron**, *President of the European-Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research*

Part 1: Catalonia's Innovation Ecosystem

2. **Noemí Conde**, *Trade and Innovation Consultant, Catalonia Trade & Investment in Canada*

Part 2: Success Stories

3. **HEC Montréal**, *Summer School on the Management of Creativity*
Laurent Simon, *Director, Department of Entrepreneurship and Innovation*
4. **UniSCool**, *spin-off from Université de Sherbrooke and University of Llieda*
Monte Vilarrubí Porta, *COO* & **Luc Fréchette**, *Co-founder*

Part 3: Resources

5. **Mazen Mahfouz**, *Commercial Counsellor and Senior Trade Commissioner, Financial and Insurance Services at the Embassy of Canada to Spain*
6. **Eric Holdrinet**, *Industrial Technology Advisor Eurostars, National Project Coordinator Eureka, and Deputy National Project Coordinator at the National Research Council of Canada's Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC-IRAP)*
7. **Laura Intemann**, *Project Manager at ECCIR*

Part 4: Q&A

1. Speakers

Gisela Muñoz is the Senior Consultant for Tech Business Development at ACCIÓ. With more than 6 years of experience working in the international trade and innovation sector, Gisela has expertise in both the Canadian and Catalan innovation ecosystem.

Contact: g.munoz@gencat.cat

Britta Baron, a founding member of the European Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research (ECCIR), serves as the Board Chair, President and CEO of the organization. Britta has a distinguished career working in internationalization and higher education.

Contact: info@eccir.ca

Noemí Conde is an International Trade and Innovation Advisor at Catalonia Trade and Investment. In this capacity, she promotes innovation programs between Catalan and Canadian researchers and organizes innovation missions to Canada and Catalonia.

Contact: NConde@catalonia.com

Laurent Simon is a Professor and Director of the Department of Entrepreneurship and Innovation at HEC Montréal.

Contact: laurent.simon@hec.ca

Monte Vilarrubí Porta is the COO and Co-Founder of UniSCool, a company which provides an innovative cooling technology to increase the data processing capacity of data centres.

Contact: montse.vilarrubi@uniscool.tech

Luc Fréchette is the Co-Founder of UniSCool, a company which provides an innovative cooling technology to increase the data processing capacity of data centres.

Contact: Luc.Frechette@usherbrooke.ca

Mazen Mahfouz is a Commercial Counsellor and Senior Trade Commissioner at the Embassy of Canada in Spain. In this role, he supports international trade, global affairs and development assistance.

Contact: Mazen.Mahfouz@international.gc.ca

Eric Holdrinet is the leader of the EUREKA program at the National Research Council of Canada's Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP).

Contact: Eric.Holdrinet@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

Laura Intemann is the Project Manager for ECCIR. In this role, Laura helps Canadian companies establish partnerships with European businesses in various sectors.

Contact: lintemann@eccir.ca

2. Where can you find support for innovating with Catalonia?

In Canada

European-Canadian Centre for Innovation and Research (ECCIR)

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Website: <https://een-canada.ca>

The National Research Council of Canada

As the Government of Canada's largest federal research and development organization, the National Research Council (NRC) has a mandate to take research from the lab to the marketplace, intersecting in academia, industry, and government. With 14 research centres covering numerous disciplines and technologies, the NRC encourages research excellence, engages with the ecosystems that bring together scientific knowledge, innovation support, and industrial capabilities, and expands the ways to help companies grow and scale.

NRC Website: <https://nrc.canada.ca/en>

NRC's "Doing Business in Spain" Resource Guide: [Doing business in Spain](#)

Alberta Innovates

Alberta Innovates is Alberta's largest public research and innovation agency. From generating new ideas through applied testing, commercialization, and end use, Alberta Innovates supports high-potential, high-growth technology, and knowledge-based companies to bring novel innovations to market. They provide [applied research services](#), [expertise](#), [technical connections](#), [advice](#), and [funding programs](#) to stimulate and grow research and innovation across Alberta.

Contact: Sandra Candie

Email: sandra.candie@albertainnovates.ca

Website: <https://albertainnovates.ca/>

In Catalonia, Spain

Canadian Trade Commissioner Service

The Canadian Trade Commissioners in Barcelona provide support for Canadian SMEs to access funding and expand their business in Spain. Additionally, the Trade Commissioner Service produces reports and other key sector information for Canadian companies to assist them in their internationalization and trade.

Contact: Mazen Mahfouz

Email: Mazen.Mahfouz@international.gc.ca

ACCIÓ

ACCIÓ is a public agency under the Catalan government which promotes innovation and business internationalization. They are also the Network Coordinator of the EEN Catalonia consortium and can assist with facilitating partnerships between Canadian SMEs and those in Catalonia.

Contact: Gisela Muñoz

Email: g.munoz@gencat.cat

Website: <https://www.accio.gencat.cat/en/inici/index.html>

Catalonia Trade and Investment

Catalonia Trade and Investment provides services for investors and businesses in setting up their company, connecting to local partners, and accessing support for funding in Catalonia. Their team of experts guides stakeholders through the process of investing or expanding their business into Catalonia.

Contact: Geneviève Abbott

Email: gabbott@catalonia.com

Website: <https://catalonia.com/>



Success Story Example: Summer School on the Management of Creativity

The Summer School on the Management of Creativity is a program co-organized by HEC Montréal and the University of Barcelona. For the past 15 years, both schools have collaborated to bring together students, professionals, and teachers and to spend a week in each city exploring best practices, exchanging ideas, and participating in real case studies.

Website: <https://www.ub.edu/business-school/summer-school-on-management-of-creativity/>

Contact: Laurent Simon

Email: laurent.simon@hec.ca



Success Story Example: UniSCool

UniSCool is a university spin-off from the University of Lleida and the Université de Sherbrooke, which have developed a liquid cooling system to increase the data processing capacity of data centres with reduced energy consumption. This process is sustainable and environmentally friendly as the technology is based on an adaptive heat sink.

Website: <https://uniscool.tech/home>

Contact for the University of Lleida: Montse Vilarrubi

Email: montse.vilarrubi@uniscool.tech

Contact for the Université de Sherbrooke: Luc Fréchette

Email: Luc.Frechette@usherbrooke.ca

3. Funding Sources for Innovating with Catalonia

The National Research Council of Canada Industrial Research Assistance Program (NRC IRAP)

NRC IRAP is Canada's leading innovation assistance program for small and medium-sized businesses. IRAP is a funding program designed by the Canadian government to increase innovation and speed of research and development projects. NRC IRAP helps innovative small or medium-sized businesses in Canada to build innovation capacity and take ideas to market through financial assistance, advisory services, and connections to the best business and R&D expertise in Canada.

Reference contact: Eric Holdrinet

Email: Eric.Holdrinet@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

Website: <https://nrc.canada.ca/en/support-technology-innovation/nrc-irap-International-collaboration>

NRC IRAP international calls for proposals: <https://nrc.canada.ca/en/irap/about/international/>

Subscribe for weekly alerts from NRC IRAP: <https://nrc.canada.ca/en/subscribe/>

Joint NRC IRAP Funding Programs for R&D Co-Development Projects between Canada and Catalonia, Spain

Eureka Network [Eureka Network | \(eurekanetwork.org\)](http://eurekanetwork.org).

The Eureka Network is mostly used to set up calls for proposals whether bilateral, multilateral, or national. Spain funds and accepts Eureka Network proposals year-round from SMEs, large firms, universities, and research centres. Canada has also participated in many bilateral and multilateral Calls, where NRC IRAP reserves funding for Canadian SMEs.

Spanish participants should contact their national funding authority for details, using the tool at the bottom of the page: <https://www.eurekanetwork.org/countries/spain/>

➤ Eurostars [Eureka | Eurostars \(eurekanetwork.org\)](http://eurekanetwork.org).

Eurostars is the largest international funding programme for SMEs wishing to collaborate on R&D projects that create innovative products, processes, or services for commercialization. This programme is funded by the national budgets of 35 countries and the European Union. Generally, Canada and Spain have funding for each semi-annual Call. Project selection is made centrally, however, the funding criteria are decided at a national level.

Canadian participants can contact NRC-IRAP for support on the Eurostars program: <https://nrc.canada.ca/en/support-technology-innovation/eurostars-program>

➤ Eureka Clusters [Eureka | Clusters \(eurekanetwork.org\)](https://eurekanetwork.org).

Eureka Clusters are industry-led international communities focused on strategic technology areas that aim to meet market needs and solve economic, technological, and societal challenges. Both Spain and Canada currently fund all five Clusters: **CELTIC-Next** (next-generation communications), **EUROGIA2030** (sustainable energy solutions), **ITEA 4** (software innovation), **SMART** (advanced manufacturing), and **Xecs** (electronics components and systems and applications).

4. Research, Development, and Innovation Mobility Support Financing

ERASMUS+

Erasmus+ is the EU's programme to support education, training, youth, and sport. An estimated budget of €26.2 billion for 2021 provides opportunities for over 4 million participants to study, train, gain experience, and volunteer abroad. Canada is eligible for certain actions, as well as Erasmus Mundus scholarships.

Website: <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/>

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions Postdoctoral Fellowships 2023

Funded by Horizon Europe, MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships enhance the creative and innovative potential of researchers holding a PhD and who wish to acquire new skills through advanced training, international, interdisciplinary and intersectoral mobility. MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships are open to excellent researchers of any nationality.

Deadline: September 13, 2023

Website: <https://marie-sklodowska-curie-actions.ec.europa.eu/calls/msca-postdoctoral-fellowships-2023>

ECCIR's International Innovation Masterclass



Bavaria
September 15, 2022



The Czech Republic
December 13, 2022



Northern Sweden
March 22, 2023

Find previous webinar recordings [here](#).



Subscribe to ECCIR's [monthly newsletter](#) to stay up to date on our upcoming "International Innovation Masterclass" webinars.

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