

Parallel session: Skills for smart specialisation and industrial clusters



Moderator: John Edwards
Secretary General European Association of Institutions in Higher Education (EURASHE), Belgium



Silvia Alvarez-Santos
Policy officer DGREGIO, European Commission, Belgium



Peter Czaga
Policy officer DGGROW, European Commission, Belgium



Gregorio Cañavate Cruzado
ALLVIEW CoVE, International R&D Project Manager at Centro Tecnológico del Mueble y la Madera de la Región de Murcia (CETEM), Spain



John Edwards is Secretary General of EURASHE, the European association representing institutions that deliver professional higher education and conduct applied research. In this role he acts as an interface between European policy makers and EURASHE members in the fields of higher education, vocational education and training, research, enterprise, and regional policy. John previously worked for the European Commission's Joint Research Centre between 2011 and 2020, managing projects on the role of higher education and vocational excellence in Smart Specialisation. He is currently coordinating an Erasmus+ project on mapping the regional impact of Universities of Applied Science. John holds degrees from the University of St Andrews, the College of Europe in Bruges, and Newcastle University, where he completed his PhD in economic geography. He is a dual Portuguese/UK national.

John Edwards

Secretary General

EURASHE

www.linkedin.com/in/edwardsjh/

2022 FORUM ON VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR VOCATIONAL SKILLS

#2022ForumVET

#EUVocationalExcellence





Silvia Alvarez Santos works on smart growth policy, in particular innovation and smart specialisation, SME support and skills, at the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG REGIO) in the European Commission since 2020. She joined the European Commission, Directorate General for Research and Innovation (RTD) in 2008 and has been managing research and innovation projects under FP7, Horizon 2020, as well as the first generation of clusters internationalization under the COSME programme.

She previously worked in the Regional Government of Galicia (Spain) and, in the early years of her career, in CEDEFOP and the NGO sector in the UK.

Silvia Alvarez Santos

Policy Officer

DG REGIO, European Commission

#2022ForumVET

#EUVocationalExcellence

2022 FORUM ON VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR VOCATIONAL SKILLS





Peter Czaga works on cluster policy at the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW) in the European Commission since 2019.

He joined the European Commission in 2005. First, he worked for seven years for the Directorate-General for External Trade and then for seven years for the Directorate-General for the Environment.

Before 2005, he worked on trade policy at the OECD and for the Hungarian Government. He is an economist by training.

Peter Czaga

Policy Officer

European Commission

www.clustercollaboration.eu/

#2022ForumVET

#EUVocationalExcellence

2022 FORUM ON VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR VOCATIONAL SKILLS





Since 2013, Gregorio is international project 's manager at CETEM, the wood and furniture innovation Centre of Murcia Region (Spain), where has coordinated different European initiatives related to research and training. He holds a telecommunication engineering degree and is currently performing his PhD about Key Enabling Technologies applied to vocational training. He has worked as software developer in sectors such as e-health or online marketing. Recently, he is coordinating the Platform of Centres of Vocational Excellence in the Furniture and Wood sector: ALLVIEW. This project encompasses 22 partners from 8 European countries with the aim of building the first international platform of vocational excellence in the sector.

Gregorio Cañavate

ALLVIEW CoVE, International R&D Project Manager
Centro Tecnológico del Mueble y la Madera de la Región de Murcia (CETEM), Spain
www.linkedin.com/in/gregoriocanavate

#2022ForumVET #EUVocationalExcellence

2022 FORUM ON VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS FOR VOCATIONAL SKILLS

