

**EPP-ED HEARING ON
EUROPEAN INNOVATING MINDS
Thursday 29 January 2009, from 09.00-12.30 hrs in room A3E-2
DRAFT PROGRAMME**

09.00	<p>OPENING SESSION Welcome speech by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jaroslav ZVĚŘINA MEP <p>Role that creativity and innovation play in fostering economic and social prosperity through benefits to the individual and society</p>
<p>SESSION 1: Who has to take the lead - governments or the private sector?</p> <p>Governmental policies in science and research - are EU national governments doing enough? What is the difference with the USA for example? Are allocated financial resources sufficient? What about at regional level? How is the private sector involved? Should EU governments focus more on creating an environment favourable to creativity and innovation?</p>	
09.15	<p>What Europe could and will do? Ján FIGEL, European Commissioner for Education, Training, Culture and Youth</p>
09.25	<p>Research and innovation: what about the private sector? Jack LANG, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom</p>
09.35	<p>How to increase innovation capacity in the new Member States? Miroslava KOPICOVÁ, Director of the National Educational Fund, Czech Republic</p>
09.45	<p>Debate with participants</p>
<p>SESSION 2: Innovating Universities: What is wrong?</p> <p>Less and less students are interested in scientific careers in Europe, half of all postgraduate students going to the US for research fellowships do not come back to Europe. More than 70% of all Nobel Prizes are either American or have worked in the USA. What is wrong?</p>	
11.15	<p>How can universities best contribute to economic and cultural innovation? Prof Klaus LANDFRIED, German University Association and Selection Board of the Erasmus Mundus programme, Germany</p>
11.25	<p>University-business dialogue: could this be a solution? Associate Prof Dr Borut LIKAR, MBA University of Primorska, Faculty of Management Koper, Slovenia</p>
11.35	<p>Debate with participants</p>
<p>SESSION 3: European minds</p> <p>Contests for young scientists promoting cooperation and interchange, encouraging young people to pursue their interest in science and embarking on careers in science and technology</p>	
12.00	<p>Success stories or marginal projects? Marta ŠTĚPÁNKOVÁ and Stanislav ŠTĚPÁNEK, Czech Minds Foundation, Czech Republic</p>
12.10	<p>European Research, European projects? Prof Helga NOWOTNY, European Research Council, Austria</p>
12.20	<p>Closing remarks by Jaroslav ZVĚŘINA MEP</p>