



High Road or Thorny Trail?

Redesigning EU Innovation Policy for a Turbulent World

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Reports of independant tripartite HLG

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www.highlevelgroup.eu



Reclaiming the EU Innovation Dream

- *Innovation to serve the European Common Good*
- *Need for unfolding an Innovation Ecosystem*
- *“A European Decade of Innovation” – Grand new design beyond the Single Market & Common Currency*
- *Innovative governance and regulatory innovation*
- *Imperative: facilitate and enable, but do not steer (coaching instead of regulating)*



Innovation Ecosystems - multiple interactions and alignments are imperative!



Without innovation we lack ...

...the ability to reform

...the ability to learn

...the ability to adapt
(to new challenges)

...the ability to attract
(capital, knowledge, human resources)

...the ability to sell
(on domestic and foreign markets)





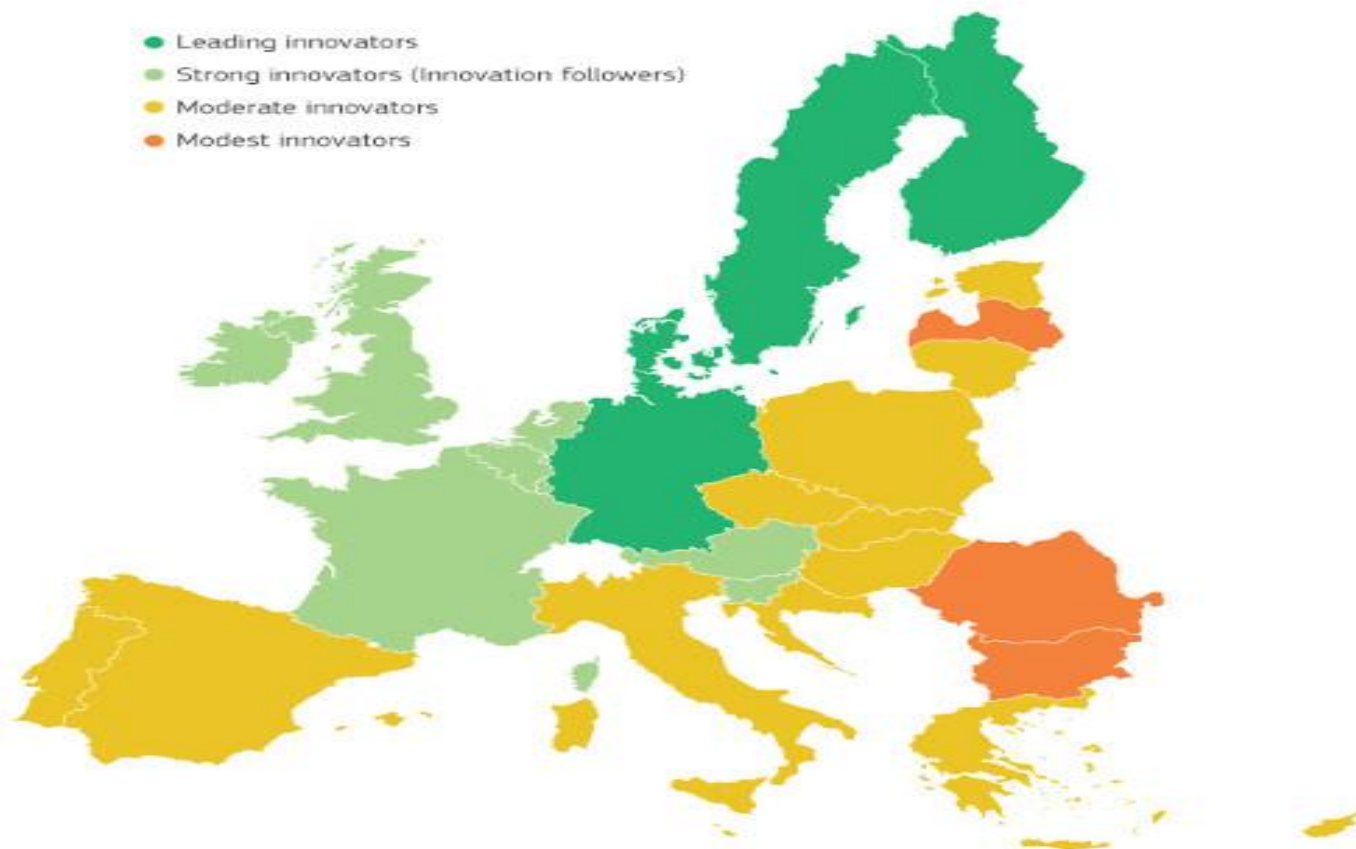
Innovation Union Scoreboard 2015/1

- The overall innovation level of the EU is unaltered.
- However, in the wake of the crisis, the number of innovative firms has declined.
- The fastest growing innovators are Malta, Latvia, and Bulgaria underscoring a gradual convergence of innovation performance across EU Member States.
- At global level, South Korea, the US and Japan defend their positions as top international innovators, whilst the gap between the EU and both the US and Japan is decreasing.
- Sweden has confirmed its innovation inside the EU leadership, followed by Denmark, Finland, and Germany.
- Compared to 2014, innovation performance has increased in 15 EU countries, while it declined in 13 others.

Innovation Union Scoreboard 2015/2

EU MEMBER STATES' INNOVATION PERFORMANCE

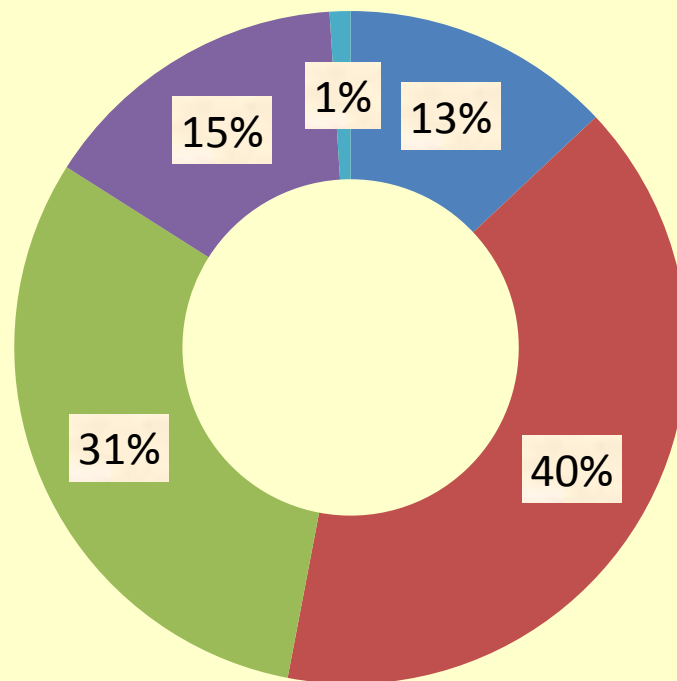
- Leading innovators
- Strong innovators (Innovation Followers)
- Moderate innovators
- Modest innovators



Citizens' Interests and Preferences

Science & Technology Survey 2014 – 27 MS – 28 000 respondents

Answers %



- very interested
- interested
- not interested
- not the least
- don't know



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- *Unfold the embryonic European innovation ecosystem*
- *Improve policy coherence (inside COM) + Lack of coordination between different administrative levels (EU, MS, Regional, Local)*
- *Reduce regulatory complexity, rigidity and the high degree of diversity and complexity in ERA governance structures*
- *Eliminate obstacles & provide new funding to innovation (I-bonds)*
- *Facilitate industrial cooperation & relax EU competition law*
- *Take an encompassing and inclusive view of intellectual property (beyond patents, e.g. trademarks, brands, etc.)*
- *Work for a quantum leap in simplification*
- *Establish an Independent Impact Assessment Institute, as current Impact Assessment procedures are biased*



TRAILBLAZING THE FUTURE



„Your task is not to foresee the future, but to enable it“

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry



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