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Europe**Co-funded by  
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# VIADUCT **Newsletter I**

In the first newsletter of the VIADUCT\* Interreg Europe project you will find a **short summary of activities from the first semester of the project** (Mar-Aug 2023). From the launch meeting in Zaragoza, to the first Regional Visit in Timisoara, the VIADUCT partners kept busy and active while working on regional spin-off promotion and creation.

*\*The VIADUCT (Valorising public research to drive technology transfer and commercialisation through creation of spin-off) project aims at promoting the creation and development of technology-based spin-offs based. The project tackles the main barriers related to spin-off creation and consolidation through the improvement of Policy Instruments.*

## Kick-off meeting

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**The project was launched in March 2023 with a kick-off meeting hosted by the Leading Partner – the University of Zaragoza, Spain.**

The consortium partners travelled from Finland, Romania, France, Lithuania, Italy, Ireland, and the Netherlands and were welcomed by Vice-Rector of Innovation and Technology Transfer at the University of Zaragoza, Gloria Cuenca Bescós, and Yolanda Sancho Serrano, Head of Universities Department, Government of Aragon. Also in attendance were local business leaders from the Aragon region, many of whom were examples of successful spin-offs and beneficiaries of local government support.

The partners also got to visit the CEMINEM Research and Development lab in Zaragoza and the Spin-up Business Incubator as well as the ground-breaking ETOPIA Center for Art and Technology.

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## 1st Inter-Regional Thematic Workshop

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**In early June 2023, the partners and invited local stakeholders, met in Timisoara (Romania), the European Capital of Culture 2023, for the 1st Inter-Regional Thematic Workshop (IRTW), and 2nd Inter-Regional Study Visit (IRSV). The event comprised of two days of sessions focused on promoting the entrepreneurial culture among key stakeholders of various European regions.**

Multiple sessions and presentations provided a space for discussion among policy makers, university representatives, investors, entrepreneurs and legal experts. The event gave participants a deeper insight into the do's and don'ts of spin-offs. From an 'Ideathon' at the University of Zaragoza, to start-up talks and innovation sessions on translating scientific knowledge into business in Alsace, France, local good practices were shared for an inspiring knowledge exchange between project partners.

The experience was enriched with local cultural activities such as a city tour of Timisoara, the European Capital of Culture 2023 and a tour of the Nokia Romania Headquarters.

[Read more!](#)

## Stakeholder Meetings

**Participating regions held meetings with respective local stakeholders.**

- On June 22nd, the Stakeholder Workshop was organised in Kaunas,
- On 24 August the Romanian stakeholder meeting was organised in Timisoara,

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Economy and Innovation of the Republic of Lithuania expressing their support for boosting technology transfer and the creation of spin-offs, the meeting proved to be a successful information and knowledge sharing session.

- On **29 July, the meeting took place in Zaragoza, Spain**. A number of agents representing the aragonese R&D&I ecosystem were informed about good practices of promoting entrepreneurial culture, which proved successful in other regions.

help of Interreg Europe projects". More than 20 participants, representing universities, public administration, companies, ecosystem builders, attended the event.

- The **French meeting took place on 30 August in Strasbourg**. The SEMIA incubator welcomed around 20 representatives from the regional innovation ecosystem.

## VIADUCT Good Practices



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The project partners agreed to select three Good Practices to represent the first semester of this Interreg Project.

The three selected initiatives include:

- [The Kaunas Startup Awards](#) (Kaunas, Lithuania)
- [The IdeasLab Student Innovation Hub](#) (Galway, Ireland)
- [Aragon Entrepreneurship Week](#) (Zaragoza, Spain)

## Looking forward to...

**Our 3rd Inter-Regional Study Visit and 2nd Inter-Regional Workshop in Italy this November, hosted by one of the VIADUCT partners: the Municipality of Pieve di Soligo.**

Make sure to keep an eye on the project website and social media for all updates. You can find all the links below!

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# Project partners



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