



**Grußwort
des Parlamentarischen Staatssekretärs im
Ministerium für Kultur und Wissenschaft
des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen,
Klaus Kaiser MdL**

anlässlich der Veranstaltung 10th Networking Event, 'Successful
R&I in Europe'

14. Februar 2019
Düsseldorf



I. Introduction

II. Main part

III. Close

I. Introduction

Dear TBA (to be announced EASME, DG Growth)

Dear Dr Janson (Dr Bernd Janson, Zenit GmbH)

Distinguished guests from interstate and abroad

- It is my pleasure and privilege to welcome you, on behalf of North Rhine-Westphalia's Minister for Culture and Science, Isabel Pfeiffer-Poensgen, at the 10th European networking event, 'Successful Research & Innovation in Europe' here in Düsseldorf. Later this evening, the Minister will follow up in person when she joins us for the panel discussion.

We are marking a special anniversary today.



For the 10th time, North Rhine-Westphalia is hosting this major international networking conference to encourage or enable researchers from science and industry to come to Europe.

Our way of doing this is to invite potential European and international partners to Düsseldorf.

Each year, we provide participants with an outstanding forum for establishing and building new contact relationships with a view to the initiation of cooperation projects. Cases in point would include participation in the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, Horizon 2020.

It is also perfect because ZENIT, the Enterprise Europe Network and the National Points of Contact are there with expertise and advice to help with competitive calls or how to form a consortium.

II. Main part

- In North Rhine-Westphalia, we attach the utmost priority to participation in Horizon 2020. Europe uniquely enables our researchers across the higher education, science and business communities to tackle the big challenges today faced by society.



To this end, we need international exchange through networks and cooperation projects, something which is also reflected worldwide in the UN Sustainability Goals.

- Ladies and gentlemen

It is a good tradition for North Rhine-Westphalia-based researchers to get closely involved with the European Union's grant programmes for science and industry. European Research Framework Programmes have now been around for more than 30 years, and Horizon 2020 is a very powerful package that has wide appeal to our researchers.

Few other regions spend as much on research as we do. North Rhine-Westphalia's universities and research institutions are in a very good place and deliver a valuable contribution.

In North Rhine-Westphalia, one of the highlights in this cooperation between research and industry is the integration of innovating businesses into R&I projects with the help of the Enterprise Europe Network.



III. Close

Ladies and gentlemen,

I have outlined that we are ready to bring a lot to the table when it comes to joint research under Horizon 2000.

Over to you now: we are intrigued to learn, today and tomorrow, what you are working on, what keeps you going, and what sort of ideas and solutions you are going to be developing, going forward, for when you work with partners from NRW.

Finally, let me thank all those who have contributed to the success of this anniversary conference, and all the previous events, for their tremendous commitment!

Thank you