

# Science and Innovation Exchange at Sofia Tech Park

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**Tuesday, 14 March 2017**

**Address: Sofia Tech Park** (John Atanasoff Hall, 111B Tsarigradsko Shose Blvd)

**09:30** Registration and Coffee

OPENING REMARKS

**10:00** Welcome address by Her Majesty's Ambassador Emma Hopkins OBE

**10:05** Address by H.E Rosen Plevneliev, President of the Republic of Bulgaria (2012-2017)

BULGARIAN SCIENCE AND INNOVATION LANDSCAPE

**10:10** Bulgarian Innovation Strategy by Assoc. Prof Teodor Sedlarski, PhD, Minister of Economy

**10:20** Landscape of Bulgaria's science and education sector and opportunities for bilateral cooperation by Prof. Nikolai D. Denkov, Ph.D., D.Sc, Minister of Science and Education

**10:30** Scientific cooperation between UK and Bulgaria, state priorities and opportunities by Prof Konstantin Hadjiivanov, Vice-President, Bulgarian Academy of Science

**10:40** Overview of Sofia Tech Park/Research, Development & Innovation Consortium by Ivan Simeonov, CEO, Sofia Tech Park

UK PRACTICE IN SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

**11:00** Imperial College White City Campus: Drivers for Co-location (University and private sector collaboration) by Dr Eulian JF Roberts, CEO, Imperial College ThinkSpace

**11:20** Knowledge Transfer: how to get ideas through to commercialisation by Dr Patrick Bonnett, Deputy Director, National Innovation Centre for Ageing (Biomedical Research Centre)

- 11:40** **Linking the local and global: the internationalisation of research** by Ieuan Wyn Jones, Cyfarwyddwr-Director, M-SParc
- 12:00** **Protecting and Managing Intellectual Property in a Collaborative Environment** by Lesley Evans, Chief Executive, Haseltine Lake LLP
- 12:20** **Financing the development and operation of incubators and science and technology parks** by Dr Malcolm Parry OBE, Managing Director & CEO, Surrey Research Park
- 12:40** Q&A
- 13:00** Lunch Break
- 14:00** **Bulgarian Universities' role for development opportunities in the Science and Innovation ecosystem** by the Rectors of Sofia University, Technical University and Medical University
- 14:30** **Strengths and capabilities of UK Science and Innovation Sector** by Otakar Fojt, Senior Science & Innovation Advisor, British Embassy Prague
- 14:50** **Engaging your peers with science and technology – how to sell your great research ideas to potential partners and supporters** by Lyubov Kostova, Director, British Council Bulgaria
- 15:10** Q&A
- CLOSING REMARKS
- 15:30-16:30** **Tour around Sofia Tech Park: Incubator, Laboratory Complex, Experimentarium**
- 17:30** **Networking Reception at the British Residence**  
**Address:** 36 Vasil Levski Boulevard

**Working language:** English

**Moderator:** Anna-Marie Vilamovska, Ph.D.  
Tom Salusbury DIT Regional Director