

# 3<sup>rd</sup> International Science and Business Conference FUTURE ENGINEERING 2016

29 – 30 September 2016, Hotel "Europa", Starachowice



## THE THINGS WE LEARNED AT FUTURE ENGINEERING CONFERENCE 2016

On September 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, Europa hotel hosted 3<sup>rd</sup> [2016 Future Engineering conference](#), which brought together science and business representatives ready to speak about common projects in the broad theme of manufacturing technologies.

**This year's edition was exceptional** as it broadened the scope of the conference towards foresight through the international [Foresight Europe Network \(FEN\)](#) featured session on the interdependencies between foresight and innovation management.

During the 3,5 hours of speeches, the audience was introduced to best **11 foresight practices** presented by representatives of: Italy, Germany, Slovenia, Greece, Iran, Hungary, Austria, United Kingdom and Poland. We expect the majority of them to be published in the topical collection of [European Journal of Futures Research](#) already this year.



Institute for Sustainable  
Technologies – National  
Research Institute  
[www.itee.radom.pl](http://www.itee.radom.pl)



## CONCLUSIONS FIRST

**Keynote foresight session and a panel discussion** resulted in bringing in on stage crucial needs related to:

- Rebranding foresight itself, **underlining** its practical **value** (especially to corporate beneficiaries and policy decision-makers) and benefits stemming from i.e. trend monitoring, roadmapping, future-oriented technology analysis, technology intelligence, innovation creation etc.;
- **Building** foresight **excellence** through the combination of evidence-based methods (quantitative) and societal needs-tailored approaches (citizen engagement);
- **Increasing** foresight **awareness** and capacity through tailored formal and non-formal educational offer and;
- **Strengthening** the role of foresight as one of the key instruments in the implementation, monitoring and update of **smart specialization strategies** combined with Entrepreneurial Discovery Process.



*Panel experts  
(from the left):  
Krzysztof Mieszkowski  
(IPTS, Spain); Marcin  
Kardas (MNiSW,  
Poland); Piotr  
Jutkiewicz (4CF,  
Poland); Björn Sautter  
(FESTO, Germany);  
Gualtiero Fantoni (Pisa  
University); Blaž Golob  
(GFS Institute,  
Slovenia); and Anna  
Sacio-Szymańska  
(ITeE-PIB, Poland) -  
panel moderator.*

Apart from valuable conclusions derived from the panel discussion, the ITeE – PIB team has collected important **messages of wisdom**, directly from the minds of professionals. Enjoy the read!



1. Foresight constitutes a **powerful mechanism**, able to identify problems in the dynamics of innovation systems, but also to play a catalytic role in repairing such systems, e.g. from innovation process blocks.

**Emmanuel KOUKIOS**

*National Technical University of Athens (Greece)*

2. Foresight provides a framework for a group of people concerned with **common issues at stake** (future of EU manufacturing, R&D and innovation priorities, transport and mobility, the future of work) to jointly think about the future in a structured and constructive way.



**Blaž GOLOB**

*Director of GoForeSight Institute*

*Chairman of the Ljubljana Forum on Future of Cities (Slovenia)*



3. The ecosystem approach has to be in the centre of upcoming vision and constituency building process integrating all relevant relations of the **quintuple helix model**, and broadening the scope with manufacturing as key enabling function in a highly networked, digitizing and circular economy of the future.

**Björn SAUTTER**

*FESTO (Germany)*

4. How to make technology foresight less expensive, while keeping its quality high? More quantitative methodologies, such as the analysis of patents and papers, offer an effective way to **cross-validate expert-based analyses** (and vice-versa).



**Gualtiero FANTONI**

*University of Pisa (Italy)*



5. How is future constructed in the corporate strategy-making practice? The **two approaches to foresight** co-exist in the practice of the company: consciously and deliberately applied future anticipating techniques and so called every-day practices e.g. future-oriented product design, employee selection, supply chain management.

**Judit GÁSPÁR**

*Corvinus University (Hungary)*

6. Current governance structures are increasingly showing inability to address complex issues such as the **Grand Challenges**. Using the tools of anticipatory governance – forward looking and participation – is essential in order to govern innovation actively and responsibly.



**Niklas GUDOWSKY**

*(Institute of Technology Assessment, Austria)*

We would like to thank all the speakers for their valuable contributions and the audience for challenging questions. **THANK YOU!** Let's meet again at 2017 Future Engineering conference!



Institute for Sustainable  
Technologies – National  
Research Institute  
[www.itee.radom.pl](http://www.itee.radom.pl)

