



**3.10.2019 | 13.30 – 17.00**  
Old City Hall, Keskustori 10, Tampere, Finland

## Speakers' Bios

### **Ariane Rodert, President of the Section for the Single Market, Production and Consumption, European Economic and Social Committee**



Ariane Rodert is President of the Section for the Single Market, Production and Consumption of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and is a EESC Group III member appointed by the Swedish government to represent civil society interests. In this capacity, she represents the Swedish civil society umbrella, *Forum – idéburna organisationer med social inriktning*, bringing together civil society organisations in the social sector, social economy and non-profit welfare stakeholders. She is also Senior Policy Adviser at the Secretariat of the Archbishop and General Secretary for the Church of Sweden.

Ariane Rodert holds a Master of Science degree in Business and Economics from the University of Stockholm.

### **Mihai Ivaşcu, Member, European Economic and Social Committee**



Born and raised in Bucharest, Mihai Ivaşcu is adviser to the President of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Romania and a Group III member of the EESC. He has a degree from the International Relations section of the National Academy for Economic Studies in Bucharest, has an Executive MBA from the Conservatoire National des Arts and Métiers in France, and a PhD Diploma in economics. Since 2015 he has been a member in the Group III of the European Economic and Social Committee, serving as EESC rapporteur for several opinions and speaker at several national and international conferences.

### **Dimitris Dimitriadis, Member, European Economic and Social Committee**



Dimitris Dimitriadis is a member of the EESC from the Employer's Group and former President and Vice-President of the EESC. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of SMEUnited and a member of the Board of Directors of ESEE (Greek Confederation of Commerce and Entrepreneurship).

In addition, he is the CEO of MAKEDONIKI REAL ESTATE.

The European Economic and Social Committee is an institutional consultative body established by the 1957 Treaty of Rome. The Committee has 350 members from across Europe, who are appointed by the Council of the European Union. It represents the various economic and social components of organised civil society. Its consultative role enables its members, and hence the organisations they represent, to participate in the EU decision-making process.

### **Tomas Hedenborg, President, Orgalim**



Tomas Hedenborg is a member of the European Commission's High Level Industrial Roundtable "Industry 2030" and Senior Advisor to the Board of FASTEMS, a supplier of flexible manufacturing systems and robotics-based automation. Mr Hedenborg previously held the position of Group CEO of FASTEMS, and President and CEO of both Finn-Power Oy (machine tools) and HBPO (front-end modules for the automotive industry). -In the last 15 years he has managed companies with high development potential, through times of radical strategic renewal. Born in Finland, Mr Hedenborg holds an MSc in mechanical engineering from Teknillinen korkeakoulu-Tekniska högskolan.

Orgalim represents Europe's technology industries – innovative companies spanning the mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and electronics, and metal technology branches. Together they represent the EU's largest manufacturing sector, generating annual turnover of around € 2 000 billion, manufacturing one-third of all European exports and providing 11 million direct jobs.



### **Tellervo Kylä-Harakka-Ruonala, Member, European Economic and Social Committee**



Tellervo Kylä-Harakka-Ruonala became an EESC member in 2015. She is Vice-President of the EESC Employers' Group and Vice-President of the Sustainable Development Observatory. Previously she worked for the Confederation of Finnish Industries (EK) and held executive positions in business infrastructure, industrial and sustainability affairs. She has served numerous national committees and bodies, and at European level she has been a long-standing member of the Industrial Affairs Committee of BusinessEurope. Before joining industrial organisations, she worked for the Ministry of the Environment and for the National Board of Waters. She holds a D.Sc. from the University of Helsinki.

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### **Peer Haataja, Director, Tampere Chamber of Commerce**



Peer Haataja has worked as a senior adviser and lobbyist for the last 13 years, first in the Confederation of Finnish Industries EK and for the last six years in the Tampere Chamber of Commerce. He mainly works in the area of enterprise, industrial and education policy. The goal is to make the operational environment of companies as competitive as possible. Mr Haataja holds a Master of Social Sciences (economics)

The Tampere Chamber of Commerce and Industry is a leading business organisation in the Tampere Region. It represents over 2 000 companies and members from the private sector, ranging from industry to services and companies of all sizes. Tampere CCI strives towards furthering and promoting the business interests of the community; providing networking opportunities; creating a strong local economy and promoting the Tampere region and its opportunities for businesses of all sizes.



### **Seppo Orsila, CEO, Modulight Oy**



Seppo Orsila has been Modulight's CEO since 2014, after spending eight years at Nokia. Previously, Mr Orsila served at Modulight as CFO and VP Marketing (2000-2006). He has an MBA from the Helsinki School of Economics and a Master of Science in semiconductor physics from Tampere University of Technology.

Modulight designs and manufactures lasers and optics for personalised medicine. It provides biomedical lasers for oncology, genetics and ophthalmology, supporting laser solutions such as system integration service and laser design & manufacturing. Modulight has over 15 years' experience in designing and manufacturing FDA & CE approved lasers.



### Harri Kulmala, CEO, Dimecc



Dr Harri Kulmala has worked as the CEO of DIMECC Ltd. since 2008. He previously worked as a research professor at VTT and senior researcher at Tampere University of Technology, and has published more than 100 works on industrial economics, leadership and management. Before his academic career, he worked for Metso corporation (Nordberg-Lokomo Oy) in after sales. In 2017, Dr Kulmala was invited to the Lamy Group to increase the impact of the EU's R&I programmes. The outcomes of the group were published in the LAB-FAB-APP report.

DIMECC stands for Digital, Internet, Materials & Engineering Co-Creation. DIMECC is the leading breakthrough-oriented co-creation ecosystem that speeds up time to market. Its innovation platform brings together leaders and winners. Their network consists of 2 000+ R&D&I professionals, 400+ organisations, 69 shareholders and 10+ co-creation facilitators.



### Juho Mäkinen, President, Tampere Entrepreneurship Society



Juho Mäkinen is an ambitious business student from Tampere, Finland. During his studies, Juho has spent two years on building the startup community in Tampere, and is currently President of the Tampere Entrepreneurship Society. Making an impact gets this future changemaker up in the morning.

Tampere Entrepreneurship Society (Tampere ES) is a non-profit, student-led open community where diverse people can meet and create their personal network in real life. Founded in 2014, it consists 100 % of volunteers: ambitious future talents with high enthusiasm, entrepreneurial mindset and the will to make the world a better place. The goal is to inspire and mix people to "make things happen".



### Timo Eklund, Specialist Researcher, the Finnish Industrial Union



Timo Eklund is a Specialist Researcher at the Industrial Union's main office in Helsinki. His work includes analysing the competitiveness of the Finnish economy, industry and companies. He analyses market trends and developments in Finnish industry. Timo also works as a teacher in Economics and Business Economy in the Industrial Union's educational centre in Tampere.

The Finnish Industrial Union is Finland's largest trade union. It has about 220 000 members working in 34 contract sectors. The association is a member of the Confederation of Finnish Trade Unions (SAK). The union negotiates and signs collective agreements, which establish minimum standards of pay and other conditions of employment for workers.



### Violeta Jelić, Vice-President of the Employers' Group, European Economic and Social Committee



Violeta Jelić has been secretary-general of the Croatian Chamber of Trades and Crafts since 2012. Since 2018, she has served as the President of the Single Market Observatory of the EESC. Previously, she was the Secretary of the County Chamber of Trades and Crafts of Sisak-Moslavina County for three years. She worked in the Civil Rights sector for many years as the Programme Coordinator for the Civil Rights Project Sisak (CRP Sisak, 2005 – 2009). Between 2002 and 2004, she worked at the Norwegian Refugee Council in the Balkans. She holds a Master's degree in sociology from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Zagreb. She studied Slovenian language at the Faculty of Education in Maribor and International development at Oslo University.

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### **Anna-Kaisa Heinämäki, Competitiveness Director, City of Tampere**



Ms Heinämäki works as the Competitiveness Director of the City of Tampere in the Growth, Innovation and Competitiveness sector. She holds a Master of Social Sciences (2006) and a Master of Sciences (2013) from the University of Tampere. She is the former Deputy Mayor of the City of Tampere for the Growth, Innovation and Competitiveness sector 2017- September 2019. In 2015 she started as Deputy Mayor with responsibility for local business development, culture, sports and secondary education. From 2013 to 2015 she worked as a Chief Inspector at the Ministry of Interior and at the National Police Board specialising in security planning for urban areas and countering violent radicalisation, hate crimes, and domestic violence.

Tampere is the third largest city in Finland with more than 235 000 inhabitants. It is one of the most vigorously growing and developing cities in the country. Tampere city strategy includes four strategic priorities: Collaborative and Humane; Leadership in Education and Know-How; Creative and Innovative; Urban and Sustainably Growing. The city values reflected in the city strategy have been successfully implemented through important development projects, such as the Five-star City Centre, Hiedanranta and Smart Tampere.



### **Antti Peltomäki, Head of the European Commission Representation in Finland**



Antti Peltomäki is the Head of the Commission Representation in Finland. He was previously Deputy Director-General in the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs. He joined the European Commission in 2006. After graduating from Helsinki University (Master of Laws), he started his professional career at Helsinki University of Technology in 1986. He successively held, amongst others, the positions of Counsellor of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Finnish Parliament, Officer in the EFTA Brussels office, Special Adviser in the Finnish Ministry of Justice, State Under-Secretary in the Finnish Prime Minister's office and finally State-Secretary for EU Affairs in the Prime Minister's office.

The Commission has Representations in all EU Member States as well as Regional Offices in European cities. The Representations are the Commission's eyes, ears and voice on the ground in all EU Member States. They interact with national authorities and stakeholders and inform the media and the public about EU policies. The Representations report to the Commission's headquarters on significant developments in the Member States.



### **Kari Kankaala, Chief Sustainability Officer, Sustainable Tampere 2030 programme, City of Tampere**



Kari Kankaala is the Director for Environment and Sustainable Development of the city of Tampere. He is currently most actively involved with smart and sustainable city development and with the city's strategic initiatives on urban and economic development. Prior to joining the city in 2007, Kari had a career in the private and public sectors in Finland and in the US, including as CEO of a service business consultancy, director of a fund for high tech venture capital investments and technology transfer, as well as a brief career in physics. Kari is a current and past board member of over twenty companies.

Smart Tampere is the strategic development programme of the City of Tampere for 2017–2021. The programme is building a sustainable and smart Tampere region in which housing, living and mobility are carbon neutral and in which services are user-oriented and work digitally and flexibly. It also aims to boost Tampere as an internationally recognised hub of expertise, an attractive place for talent, students, companies and new business initiatives.



### **Aleksi Arpiainen, CEO, TT Gaskets Oy**



Aleksi Arpiainen is CEO and board member of TT Gaskets since 2018. Before joining his family's company, he worked as an analyst at HSBC Banque Privée in Geneva and as a tax consultant for Grant Thornton in Helsinki. He graduated from Aalto University in Helsinki with a M.Sc. degree in Business Law in 2011. Aleksi is a member of the Industry Committee at the Tampere Chamber of Commerce and is the Chairman of the Board at the Tampere Business Campus, an organisation aiming to fuel growth among Tampere companies. His and his family business' achievements were awarded the Subcontractor of the Year prize in Finland in 2016.



As the leading Nordic manufacturer of gaskets and shims, TT Gaskets designs and delivers high-quality, technically accurate products and sealing services to the world's major industries. TT Gaskets is an independent family-owned company with a family made, value added approach—designed to maximize the efficiency of the value chain. The company was founded in 1943.

### **Juha Beurling-Pomoell, Secretary General, Kuluttajaliitto, The Consumers' Union of Finland**



Juha Beurling-Pomoell is the Secretary General of the Consumers' Union of Finland. He has worked in his current position for almost eight years. He previously worked at the same organisation as an expert on sustainable consumption. Mr Beurling-Pomoell has represented consumers on several national ministerial committees such as the National Committee on Sustainable Development led by the Prime Minister of Finland. He has also represented Finnish consumers at the ECCG committee (European Consumer Consultative Group) of the European Commission.



The Consumers' Union of Finland is a non-governmental organisation aimed at promoting the interests and rights of Finnish consumers. It has the following objectives: encouraging consumers to work actively for their interests and promoting this kind of co-operation; promoting and advancing consumer interests in society and on the market by means of informal action; furthering the principles of fairness and sustainable consumption; promoting consumer awareness; protecting the environment.

### **Lauri Muranen, Head of Industrial Affairs, SAK**



Lauri Muranen has an MSc degree in environmental technology from Imperial College in London. Mr Muranen has over ten years experience in various positions within the Finnish energy sector. Before his current position as the Chief economic policy advisor at the Central Organisation of Finnish Trade Unions, he worked as the Executive Director of the Finnuclear Association. Mr Muranen has also advised the Social Democratic Party of Finland in various policy fields such as energy policy and economic policy.



SAK is the central organisation of Finnish Trade Unions. It is a confederation of 17 trade unions in industry, the public sector, transport, private services and culture. These unions have a total of over 900 000 members, and promoting the emotional and material welfare of these members is the prime concern of SAK. SAK is the largest lobbying organisation in Finland.