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The European Commission and euRobotics AISBL has launched the world's largest civilian research and innovation programme in robotics. The initiative – called Sparc – is to maintain and extend Europe's leading position in this strategic area, whose overall market volume could reach more than EUR 60 billion by 2020. The Partnership for Robotics in Europe Sparc is expected to create over 240,000 jobs in Europe.

The European Commission will invest EUR 700 million in Sparc under its new research and innovation programme Horizon 2020. The European industry's overall investment will amount to EUR 2.1 billion. This public-private partnership (PPP) will increase Europe's competitiveness in the production and use of robotics in industry, agriculture, health, transport, civil security and households. Europe is already a leader in the area, with an overall market share of 35%, but efforts are needed to follow the pace of this rapidly evolving sector and making the most of it. Sparc aims to increase the European market share to 42% in 2020.

euRobotics AISBL represents the private side in the PPP and gathers more than 180 European companies, universities and research institutions, ranging from traditional industrial robotics manufacturers to producers of agricultural machinery and innovative hospitals. The members of euRobotics AISBL are developing a "roadmap for robotics in Europe" to achieve the objectives of Sparc. This roadmap is turned into concrete work programmes and calls for proposals.



The Public-Private Partnership in Robotics is based on a contract between the European Commission and euRobotics AISBL, signed by Commissions Vice-President Neelie Kroes and Bernd Liepert, President of euRobotics, on 17 Dec 2013 (figure: euRobotics AISBL)

In 2012, the European Commission, industry and academia agreed to launch a public-private partnership in robotics. The European Commission signed the contract with euRobotics AISBL on 17 December 2013. During the last six months, both sides have been working intensively on many details of the partnership leading to the recent launch of Sparc. The partnership is governed by a committee of representatives from the EU Commission and the euRobotics AISBL. It is open to all European companies and research institutions.

ADDITIONAL LINKS

🔗 [Sparc Homepage](http://sparc-robotics.eu/) <URL:http://sparc-robotics.eu/>

 [euRobotics AISBL Homepage](http://www.eu-robotics.net/) <URL:http://www.eu-robotics.net/>