



Welcome to the May newsletter of Startup Europe Regions Network. We would like to share with you interesting initiatives, news and events about EU regions, as well as information about SERN activities and upcoming events.

Enjoy your reading!



**Innovation Procurement for Startups – with
DG CONNECT**

Webinar
11th June 2020 (10:30-13:00)

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5270795267981668110>

lea Learning Technology Accelerator

LEA Network – The Learning Technology Accelerator

SERN has the pleasure to invite you the webinar '**Innovation Procurement for Startups – with DG CONNECT**', an initiative developed by the **LEA Project H2020** project funded by the European Commission and aimed at **accelerating knowledge transfer, dialog and awareness raising of innovative procurement within the learning technology sector**. This webinar is targeted at European startups and will share what LEA Project has to offer as well as the vision of DG CONNECT about opportunities to European startups in the next programming period.

Register **here**.



Sofia Sandbox: Bulgaria experiments with FinTech Innovation

Bulgaria will implement a Sofia Sandbox. This regards a framework, where small-scale innovations can be tested. The measure is expected to affect local digital businesses. Find more **here**.



EIT Crisis Pandemic Initiative

The European Institute of Innovation and Technology has stepped up SME funding. Answering COVID-19's impact, the new program was launched on the 14th May. The EIT Crisis Pandemic Initiative will add €60 million to existing funds. Click **here** for more information.



EU Commission to Investigate Monopolies of Digital Platforms

The EU Commission will finance studies on the market-domination of digital platforms. They'll precede the Digital Services Act, and involve € 600,000. Find more info **here**.



The EUvsVirus Winners Have Been Announced

We already know the EUvsVirus winners! The award ceremony was live-streamed, on the 30th of May. A total of 117 projects won support. Check out the project winners **here**.



We would like to invite you to become a member of SERN! Membership of the SERN is open to any legal representative of European regions, development agencies, universities or any other legal entities that contribute to the development and implementation of regional policies towards startups and entrepreneurship in Europe.