



Press Release

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The Lisbon Council to Serve as Founding Member of New Alliance of Global Think Tanks

Dedicated to Spurring Innovation and Deepening Global Trade Relations

(BRUSSELS, Belgium – 12 July 2016) – **The Lisbon Council for Economic Competitiveness and Social Renewal** today announced that it is a founding member of the newly launched [Global Trade and Innovation Policy Alliance](#), an international network of think tanks dedicated to encouraging governments to play proactive roles in spurring innovation and promoting greater global trade integration. The Alliance includes 10 founding members from Europe, the Americas and Asia. It will continue to add new members in coming months.

Says **Paul Hofheinz**, president and co-founder of the Lisbon Council: “In the developed world – as indeed everywhere else – innovation will be the key to future prosperity. It is high time the world stops turning its back on the important achievements of the last 100 years, and takes steps to make sure our

policies remain smart and focused. The Global Trade and Innovation Policy Alliance is an important first step.” All Alliance members have signed a [Statement of Shared Principles](#), with the goal of advancing a global agenda that encourages greater market- and rules-based global competition and trade liberalisation, while at the same time championing a vital, constructive role for governments to create environments accelerating growth and prosperity through greater innovation.

The founding members of the Global Trade and Innovation Policy Alliance include:

- C.D. Howe Institute (Canada)
- Center for Social and Economic Research (Poland)
- Fundación Idea (Mexico)
- ICRIER (India)
- Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (United States)
- The Legatum Institute (United Kingdom)
- The Lisbon Council (Belgium)
- Shanghai Institute of Science and Technology Policy (China)
- Swedish Agency for Growth Policy Analysis (Sweden)
- TicTac de la CCIT (Colombia)

The Alliance will highlight and cross-pollinate member organisations’ work on trade, globalisation and innovation policy, and create opportunities to collaborate on events, research, reports and policy development on related topics.

Adds **Stephen Ezell**, vice-president for global innovation policy at the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation, which is spearheading this effort: “Globalisation can generate lasting, worldwide prosperity, but only if all countries share a commitment to playing by the rules and fostering across-the-board, innovation-based growth strategies. We are launching the Alliance to help address these issues, which we view as the great economic challenge of our times. We hope that by joining together, the Alliance will be a one-stop-shop for policymakers looking to seize the benefits of

maximising global innovation: improved standards of living in more-developed and less-developed countries alike.”

About Global Trade and Innovation Policy Alliance

The Global Trade and Innovation Policy Alliance (GTIPA) is a global network of independent think tanks that are ardent supporters of greater global trade liberalisation and integration, deplore trade-distorting “innovation mercantilist” practices, but yet believe that governments can and should play important and proactive roles in spurring greater innovation and productivity in their enterprises and economies. Member organisations advocate and adhere to research and policy consistent with a core Statement of Shared Principles. The Alliance represents a network of like-minded think tanks who will have opportunities to collaborate on events, research, and reports while enjoying a platform that highlights and cross-pollinates member organisations’ work on trade, globalisation, and innovation policy. Its website is www.gtipa.org.

About the Lisbon Council

The Lisbon Council for Economic Competitiveness and Social Renewal asbl is a Brussels-based think tank and policy network. Established in 2003 in Belgium as a non-profit, non-partisan association, the group is dedicated to making a positive contribution through cutting-edge research and by engaging politicians and the public at large in a constructive exchange about the economic and social challenges of the 21st century. Its website is www.lisboncouncil.net.

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