



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS, CONTENT AND TECHNOLOGY

The Director-General

Brussels
CNECT/RV

Subject: Nominations for the informal Commission expert group: Quantum Technologies Coordination Group

Your Excellency,

Quantum technologies are of key strategic importance for the EU. Quantum computing, communication and sensing are emerging technologies of global strategic importance that will bring a change of paradigm in technological capacities. They have extensive uses in many different fields including security, critical infrastructures and dual use technologies. For example, they can provide ultra-secure communication systems, extremely accurate sensors that can see under the ground and under water, and powerful computing systems that could break existing encryption methods. In the recently adopted European Economic Security Strategy,⁽¹⁾ quantum is cited as a strategic technology that is fundamental to the EU's economic and security interests.

The development of quantum technologies and infrastructure is a key objective of the 2030 Path to the Digital Decade policy programme announced by the Communication on the Digital Compass. The Commission has set a specific target on quantum (by 2025, the EU should have its first computer with quantum acceleration, paving the way for being at the cutting edge of quantum capabilities by 2030).

In order for the EU to meet these challenges, and to compete with the major advances being made in quantum in other regions, it needs to pool its competences, skills and resources, acting in close cooperation with national and regional quantum initiatives. Member States have already taken a step towards doing by signing the European Declaration on Quantum Technologies, committing to collaborate with each other and with the Commission with the ultimate aim of making the EU the quantum valley of the world. To facilitate this aim and implement the Quantum Declaration, we propose to create a Commission expert group: the Quantum Technologies Coordination. The Terms of Reference of this group are attached.

The members of the expert group will be Member States' competent authorities in the field of quantum technologies. Member States are invited to nominate one representative

⁽¹⁾ JOIN/2023/20 final.

with a high level of expertise. Each representative may be accompanied during meetings by one technical expert.

We would be grateful if you could send the details of the relevant authority and the name and coordinates of the nominated representative for your country to CNECT-QUANTUM@ec.europa.eu by 25 May 2024. The first meeting of the expert group should take place before the summer break.

For any further information please contact Gustav Kalbe, Acting Director – Digital Excellence and Science Infrastructure, DG CONNECT (Gustav.Kalbe@ec.europa.eu) or Pascal Maillot, Deputy Head of Unit – High Performance Computing and Quantum Technology (Pascal.MAILLOT@ec.europa.eu).

Yours faithfully,

Electronically signed

Roberto Viola