Enterprise Newsletter May 2022

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Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund: Call 5

The fifth call of the Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund is targeting the Advanced and Smart Manufacturing sector and the development of novel and disruptive innovation in conventional manufacturing operations. This is the first time the fund will focus on a specific sector with the aim of delivering radical enhancement in manufacturing systems or supply chains..

There are several changes to the Fund for this call which are aimed at encouraging applications from this highly important sector in the Irish economy:

- Each project must have at least one established manufacturing company in a consortium of three or more project partners, one of which must be an SME and one other enterprise partner. Collaborations with the Irish research sector are encouraged.
- All partners must be based in Ireland and be a client of Enterprise Ireland, IDA Ireland, Údarás na Gaeltachta or an eligible Research Performing Organisation (RPO) at the application deadline.

Enterprise Ireland will host a webinar on 19 May 2022 for those who are interested in learning more about the application process.

All eligible applications must be received by the deadline of 3pm on 14 July 2022.

More: <u>Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund - DETE (enterprise.gov.ie)</u>

Expressions of Interest: Company Law Review Group

The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment invites expressions of interest from suitably qualified persons with significant career experience at an appropriately senior level in the field of company law for consideration for appointment as a Member (Ministerial nominee) to the Company Law Review Group (CLRG) for a four-year period from 2022 to 2026.

The successful candidate must possess expertise in Irish company law which is up-to-date and developed through:

- Legal practice
- Industry experience
- Public policy development
- Academic pursuits

Experience of how company law affects micro, small, and medium sized enterprises is also welcomed.

Expressions of interest must be submitted by email to: clrg@enterprise.gov.ie

The closing date for receipt of applications by email is 3pm, 19 May 2022.

More: <u>Call for Expressions of Interest: Appointment as Ministerial Nominees to the</u> <u>Company Law Review Group - DETE (enterprise.gov.ie)</u>

Consumer Rights Bill 2022

The Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Leo Varadkar TD has received Government approval to publish the Consumer Rights Bill 2022.

The new law consolidates and modernises consumer law and gives consumers new protections, including:

- New rights over digital content and digital services
- More transparency for consumers
- Crack down on dishonest commercial practices
- More redress options

More: <u>Government approves new law strengthening consumer rights - DETE</u> (enterprise.gov.ie)

EU Commission: Survey on health and safety measures at work

The European Commission has issued a survey which aims to collect employers' views on possible changes to occupational safety and health legislation.

The survey will help the Commission to assess the possible economic impact of the policy options for updating EU workplace and display screen equipment directives.

Take the survey: <u>Possible economic impacts of changes to the EU Workplace and Display</u> <u>Screen Equipment Directives (spectos.com)</u>

Public Consultation: Patent Law harmonisation

The Intellectual Property Office of Ireland is seeking your views on proposals for substantive patent law harmonisation in the areas of grace periods, conflicting applications and prior user rights.

The deadline for receipt of submissions is 5pm on Wednesday, 25 May 2022.

More: <u>Common consultation on user proposals for substantive patent law harmonisation -</u> <u>DETE (enterprise.gov.ie)</u>

EU Commission: Public Consultation - Single Market during Emergencies

The European Commission has launched a public consultation on a proposal for a new EU initiative, the Single Market Emergency Instrument (SMEI).

The intention of the SMEI will be to respond quickly to emergencies and crises that threaten the functioning of the single market.

The deadline for receipt of submissions is on Wednesday, 11 May 2022.

More: <u>European Commission public consultation on new EU instrument to guarantee</u> functioning of single market during emergencies - DETE (enterprise.gov.ie)