

SPIDER Final Conference: Digital Transformation Beyond Borders

14 April 2026 - Welcome reception

Creative Spark Session



Robert Sanders - Team Leader, European Business and Innovation Centre Network

Robert Sanders is a graduate from Leicester University (UK) with over 30 years multi sector international business development and complex project management experience. He has worked both in the private and public sectors with a proven track record of growing businesses and developing new markets. Robert worked for 15 years in the agribusiness, food, and retail sectors before taking on senior project management roles at EBN for EU and other internationally funded projects supporting entrepreneurship. Robert is currently the Team Leader for an EU-funded initiative supporting business incubation in 5 pilot countries across Sub-Saharan Africa, led by EBN. The project is “BIC Africa”, a Regional Network of Business Incubators, supporting in particular youth and women entrepreneurs. Robert is a Board Member of ENRICH GLOBAL, an association contributing to the development of European scientific, technological and innovation excellence and reinforcing innovation competitiveness and internationalisation.



Martina Desole - Director of the European Network of Living Labs

Director of the European Network of Living Labs, where she promotes globally the Living Lab concept and methodology as well as the network of certified members. She has over 20 years of experience in the international public sphere, working in R&D policy orientation, public engagement, advocacy and science diplomacy with the European Commission, Ministries, and Funding Agencies in more than 15 extra-European countries. She served as Head of Unit for International Cooperation and Innovation at APRE – Agency for the Promotion of the European Research, managing and coordinating over 15 international cooperation projects, with a focus in recent years on Canada, India, South Africa, and the United States. She was appointed National Contact Point for Industrial Technologies from the Sixth Framework Programme to Horizon 2020 (2002–2021). Her work strongly focuses on Public Engagement and Participatory Leadership, particularly in Responsible Research and Innovation, fostering co-creation processes that involve citizens, civil society and diverse stakeholders in shaping research priorities. She holds a degree in International Law, a postgraduate qualification in European Policies and a Second Level Master in Global Environmental Policies.

15 April 2026

Opening Session: Digital Cooperation in a Changing World



Stephanie Splett-Rudolph - Head of Department North, Central and South America, DLR

Dr. Stephanie Splett-Rudolph (female), is biologist (tropical ecology) by training and holds a PhD degree in Biology. She joined DLR Project Management Agency in 1997 and since September 2021 is head of the department “North, Middle and South America”, which supports the bilateral STI activities of German Ministry of Research, Technology and Space (BMFTR) with partner countries in both sub-regions. The unit was and is also involved in more than 15 EU-funded projects targeting South and North America and coordinates the EU-LAC Interest Group. DLR is funding member of the ENRICH GLOBAL Association.



Yolanda Ursa - SPIDER Project Coordinator, INMARK

Yolanda has an extensive experience as project manager and coordinator of research and innovation projects funded by the EC Framework Programmes. Yolanda contributes significantly to the human factors of technological solutions, including gender analysis and intersectional bias. Her research areas cover a wide range of digital and emerging technologies, including Cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence, IoT, Big Data, Digital gaming technologies, Energy Transition, Health and Wellbeing. Yolanda is actively involved in supporting policy dialogues in Science, Technology and Innovation between Europe and strategic partner countries. Currently, she is the coordinator of SPIDER and is the chair of the Secretariat of the European Observatory on Gender in STI.

From Vision to Action: Strengthening EU-LAC Digital Collaboration through SPIDER - Project Overview



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Keynote: Digital transformation beyond borders



Christoph Grundig - Co-founder, GREATECH

Expertise and experience in corporate and product development, as well as brand communication with a focus on innovative electronic systems for a wide range of IoT applications, from in-house development and production to successful international projects with the DLR project management agency (Rural IoT) and ESA (ESA BIC NRW). References: PlusX Young Innovator Award, Sino-German Entrepreneurship Award, Swarm Technologies Inc. (now Starlink® IoT)

Mapping the State of EU-LAC Digital Cooperation: Spiderhub AI-platform



Johanna Füllmann - Senior Scientific Officer, DLR Project Management Agency

With over 13 years of experience, she supports EU-level joint programs, policy development, and helps innovators go global — notably as Vice-President of ENRICH Global, including the lead of the “Young Researchers for Innovation” thematic group, or former co-coordinator of ENRICH in the USA. She is a certified Business Moderator and Online Trainer, recently moderating DLR/ESA’s Space Talent Day 2025 and hosting DLR’s AI Talk Show on LLMs - exploring AI as a modular learning system. For SPIDER, Johanna co-established the EU-LAC digital dialogue mapping, leading to the AI-powered Spiderhub platform (with CEDIA). Previously, she helped launch the Transatlantic Platform for Social Sciences and Humanities (T-AP) and coordination and support actions strengthening the EU-US and EU-Canada STI partnerships under Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe. She advised Germany’s Federal Ministry on international science diplomacy, including UN collaborations e.g. United Nations University, the European University Institute or the Franco-German Council of Ministers. She holds degrees in Economics and Political Science from the University of Cologne and Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Johanna has delivered countless international presentations, workshops, a keynote on the global innovation ecosystem and multi-week online trainings — including on entrepreneurial skills development.



Cristian Patiño - Specialist in Quality Management and Sustainability, CEDIA

Industrial Engineer with an MSc in Sustainable Development from the University of Surrey (United Kingdom), currently serving as Process Management Coordinator at CEDIA. Professional experience spans both the public and private sectors, with a focus on quality systems, sustainability management, and governance frameworks that strengthen institutional performance. Experience includes leading international cooperation initiatives with national and regional impact, particularly in digital transformation, interoperability, and collaborative innovation. Coordinator of Work Package 1 of the SPIDER project, contributing to the development of a framework for enhancing EU-LAC cooperation on digital transformation. Currently representing CEDIA as Director of Component 3 of TINKUY, a Global Gateway initiative promoting digital interoperability in the public services of Ecuador.

Advancing DEI and Human-Centred Digital Transformation - Insights from the SPIDER Digital Dialogues Implementation Forum - DIF



Maria Fernanda Cabrera - Director of the Life Supporting Technologies

Telecommunication Engineer with a PhD in Biomedical Engineering and Professor of Bioengineering at the Telecommunication Engineering School. She is the Director of the Life Supporting Technologies (LifeSTech) research group and serves as Treasurer of IFMBE and IUPESM, as well as Secretary of the ACTIVAGE association. She holds key roles as project coordinator and technical manager in numerous European and Spanish research-funded projects. Her contributions include serving as project coordinator, technical lead, or quality manager in a portfolio of over 50 European Commission-funded research initiatives. In addition, she has led more than 80 European research projects as Principal Investigator, demonstrating extensive experience in coordinating complex, high-impact research actions. Her expertise spans ICT applications across multiple sectors, particularly in digital health and social inclusion. Her areas of specialization include telemedicine, personalization of health services, user experience, human factors, diversity, equity and inclusion, and digital accessibility, contributing to the development of inclusive and user-centered technological solutions.

1st Panel - EU-LAC Digital Transformation: Cooperation and Key Lessons

Regional cooperation models, lessons learned, and priorities for future EU-LAC digital transformation. The discussion will explore how SPIDER outcomes contribute to the long-term sustainability of the EU-LAC Digital Partnership and the BELLA Network.

Moderator



Carlos Gamboa – Scientific Coordinator, RedCONARE

Carlos Gamboa Venegas is a Computer Engineer holding an M.Sc. in Computer Science (Magna Cum Laude). He currently serves as the Scientific Coordinator for the National Research and Education Network (RedCONARE). Additionally, Mr. Gamboa is a Researcher at the National Collaboratory of Advanced Computing (CNCA) within the National Center for High Technology (CeNAT). With extensive experience in data science, natural language processing, and university-level instruction, his current work focuses on the application of AI and digital twins to healthcare, mobility, and education.



Luis Cadenas - RedCLARA (the Latin American Cooperation of Advanced Networks)

Born in Venezuela, Luis Eliécer Cadenas became the Executive Director of RedCLARA on August 1, 2017. A computer engineer with postgraduate studies in economics, networking, and computer science, he has nearly 30 years of experience in information and telecommunications technologies, both in the public and private sectors. He co-founded and served as President of the National Academic Network of Venezuela, where he led the creation of the first national physical network connecting 17 public universities. He also held leadership roles in Enredo and Cecalcula. In the private sector, he led Cisco's Academic Networking Program and later served as Account Manager for Claro Central America.



Tom Fryer - GÉANT (the pan-European Research and Education Network)

Tom Fryer has been a member of the GÉANT International Relations Team since he joined GÉANT in 2008. Up to September 2024, Tom supported GÉANT's dialogue with Latin America, Canada and the USA, in particular leading GÉANT's participation in the BELLA Programme, in which he was a member of the Steering Committee until late early 2025, and was project manager for the EU-funded BELLA-S projects. Today, Tom supports GÉANT's relations with ASREN and the wider Arab REN community, also contributes to the GÉANT GN5-IC1 project which plans and implements intercontinental connectivity.



Ruben Carrandi - EU-LAC Digital Accelerator

Senior Project Manager at European Business and Innovation Centre Network, the European network of business incubators and accelerators. Rubén holds degrees in Economics and in Business Administration and Management, and a Master's degree in International Business Management. With over 19 years of experience in internationalization, innovation, and economic development, he has worked at institutions such as the Spanish Economic and Commercial Office in Buenos Aires and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN in Rome, as well as in research centers specializing in information and communication technologies, business organizations, and corporations. Within the EU-LAC Digital Accelerator project, Rubén leads the creation of a bridge between innovation ecosystems in Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean. He promotes connections between large corporations and innovative startups and SMEs from both regions, facilitating their internationalization and the creation of digital partnerships and connects incubators, accelerators, and other support organizations for entrepreneurs and innovative companies.



Priscila Tie Assahida Moreira - Enrich in LAC

Executive at ENRICH in LAC, where she leads initiatives to connect technology-based organizations with strategic partners to enable global expansion. With more than 15 years of experience in innovation ecosystems, she has directed open innovation programs, startup acceleration initiatives, and international soft-landing projects across Latin America and Europe. She holds a Master's degree in Technology, specializing in technology diffusion, and has completed advanced studies in project management, strategic business design, and innovation culture through ISAE-FGV, Politecnico di Milano, and the Institut Européen de Stratégies Créatives et d'Innovation. Her career includes serving as Program Director at the Founder Institute in Silicon Valley, where she advised hundreds of startups, collaborated with Fortune 500 companies, and participated as a juror in international competitions organized by MIT and NASA. Fluent in Portuguese, English, and Spanish, Priscila brings a multicultural perspective to her work. As a global ambassador for Women in Tech, she continues to promote diversity, digital innovation, and cross-border partnerships, advancing inclusive and sustainable growth.



Anneken Reise - EU-LAC Interest Group, DLR

Senior Scientific Officer at the Project Management Agency of the German Aerospace Center, Division European and International Cooperation, Department North, Central and South America. She holds a PhD in Biology and a degree in Environmental Sciences. Since joining DLR-PT in 2003, she has been dedicated to strengthening science, technology and innovation cooperation between Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean. She serves as Project Manager at the Global Service Facility, a support service funded by the EC, contributing to the strategic development of international cooperation and supporting the EU-CELAC Joint Initiative on Research and Innovation. In addition, on behalf of the German Federal Ministry of Research, Technology, and Space, Dr. Reise coordinates the EU-LAC Interest Group towards the Common Research Area. This network of funding agencies from both regions develops and implements bi-regional joint calls for collaborative projects and fosters structured dialogue among its members. With more than 20 years of experience in international collaboration, she brings strong expertise in policy dialogue, project management and stakeholder engagement.



Claudia Romano - EU-LAC ResINFRA. Ministry of Education and Culture of Uruguay

Manager of International Cooperation and Projects at the Ministry of Education and Culture of Uruguay. She has served as Technical Secretary of the CELAC Working Group on Research Infrastructures since 2017. She collaborates in advancing the EU-CELAC political dialogue on science, technology, and innovation, supporting coordination among national authorities, the European Commission, and regional stakeholders. Her work includes preparing strategic documents, contributing to Senior Officials Meetings and Ministerial processes, as well as identifying areas for research infrastructure cooperation and supporting the development of regional initiatives, such as LACFRI and the ResInfra project. She served as Cooperation Manager at the Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation, Presidency of the Oriental Republic of Uruguay, from 2020 to 2025. Her experience includes direct collaboration with DG Research and Innovation and national science authorities across CELAC, supporting policy alignment, institutional coordination, and international cooperation frameworks. Holds a Master's degree in Public Policy and Management, a Master's in International Development Cooperation, and a Bachelor's degree in Sociology.

Keynote: The role of Latin America's ICT Industry in EU-LAC Digital Cooperation



Paul Fervoy - Vice President, ALETI

Paul Fervoy is CEO of Siftia, a Costa Rica-based health data engineering firm specializing in interoperable data platforms and FHIR-based implementations. With more than thirty years in technology, he works at the intersection of data governance, semantic interoperability, and digital health policy across Latin America. He serves on Costa Rica's Technical Committee on Digital Health (Ministry of Health) and the National Open Data Commission (Ministry of the Presidency), and represents the regional ICT sector as Vice President of ALETI, the Latin American federation of technology chambers. He is Honorary President of CAMTIC, Costa Rica's national ICT industry association. His work centers on a core conviction: that countries and institutions that cannot govern the meaning of their data will be unable to capture value in the AI era. He applies this framework across engineering engagements, national policy processes, and teaching at ULEAD University. Paul holds a degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and writes and speaks on data sovereignty, semantic architecture, and development strategy for Spanish and English-speaking audiences across the Americas.

A Human-Centred Approach: Guidelines for Sustainable Digital Cooperation



Cristian Patiño - Specialist in Quality Management and Sustainability, CEDIA

Industrial Engineer with an MSc in Sustainable Development from the University of Surrey (United Kingdom), currently serving as Process Management Coordinator at CEDIA. Professional experience spans both the public and private sectors, with a focus on quality systems, sustainability management, and governance frameworks that strengthen institutional performance. Experience includes leading international cooperation initiatives with national and regional impact, particularly in digital transformation, interoperability, and collaborative innovation. Coordinator of Work Package 1 of the SPIDER project, contributing to the development of a framework for enhancing EU-LAC cooperation on digital transformation. Currently representing CEDIA as Director of Component 3 of TINKUY, a Global Gateway initiative promoting digital interoperability in the public services of Ecuador.

Leveraging the BELLA Infrastructure for EU-LAC Collaboration - The Way Forward



Leandro Neumann Ciuffo - Associate Director for e-Science and Services for Experimentation in the Directorate of RD&I, RNP

His work includes providing cyberinfrastructure for experimental research in ICT and interacting with scientific communities to support e-Science applications that require advanced IT infrastructure and large data transfers. Between 2006 and 2009, he worked at the Italian Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN), coordinating and supporting Grid Computing applications within the scope of the EELA (E-infrastructure shared between Europe and Latin America, 2006-2008) and its successor EELA-2 (E-science grid facility for Europe and Latin America, 2008-2010) projects, both co-funded by the European Commission under the 6th and 7th Framework Programmes, respectively. Leandro holds a Master's degree in Computer Science from the Federal Fluminense University - UFF. Currently, he is also involved in initiatives related to Blockchain, Open Science, Research Data Repositories and Research Infrastructures for A.I. applications.

2nd Panel- Global Digital Transformation: Cooperation Beyond Regions

International cooperation models, shared infrastructures, and partnership frameworks that support R&I collaboration beyond borders. The discussion draws on SPIDER experiences and collaboration in global initiatives to identify success factors and common challenges.

Moderator



Stefan Wagener - Head of Department "Researcher Mobility and European Higher Education Area", DLR

Head of Department "Researcher Mobility and European Higher Education Area" at DLR Projektträger (DLR-PT). A biologist by training he had a strong focus on Biomedical Research and national and international project management in this field, including temporary appointments at the European Commission and the World Health Organisation. He has been working for more than 10 years in bi- and multilateral cooperation projects between Germany, Europe, Africa and the Middle East, before he now focusses on researcher mobility in the Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions as well as in EURAXESS. He is a committed networker across disciplines and borders and loves thinking out of the box.



EU – Indo Pacific Digital Partnership - Svetlana Klessova, INPACE Project coordinator, ENRICH GLOBAL President, G.A.C Group Research and Innovation Partnerships Director

She holds a PhD in innovation management and has over 25 years of experience in international science, technology, and innovation collaboration, having held leading roles in over 50 projects worldwide and coordinated more than a dozen multi-million European and international initiatives with industrial and academic partners, especially in the digital and environmental sectors. She has worked with policymakers to create environments that foster innovation, including support mechanisms for startups and research initiatives, and has contributed to the development of policies and practices that enhance collaboration across Europe and beyond. Her academic papers have received awards at international scientific conferences. She is also an experienced fundraiser and business development specialist. Her work spans supporting digital partnerships between Europe and the Indo-Pacific, policy dialogues, and stakeholder engagement. She currently coordinates the INPACE project on digital technologies for sustainable wellbeing, supporting EU partnerships with Japan, South Korea, Singapore, and the Trade and Technology Council with India. Within the Service Facility in Support of the Global Approach in R&I.



EU - LAC Digital Partnership (SPIDER) - Paola Arellano, Chilean Research and Education Network- REUNA

Paola Arellano holds an MBA from the University of Chile and completed graduate studies in Industrial Engineering at the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile. She has more than 25 years of experience in senior leadership at REUNA, Chile's national research and education network, where she has led initiatives that strengthen scientific collaboration, advanced digital infrastructure, and innovation across the academic and research ecosystem in Chile and internationally. Since 2005, she has served as Executive Director of REUNA, playing a key role in positioning Chile as an important hub for global research connectivity. She is also a board member of RedCLARA, the Latin American advanced network, and a member of the Global Research and Education Network CEO Forum, which brings together the leaders of the world's major research and education networks.



EU – Africa Digital Partnership (SEADE) - Fredy Ríos Silva, Steinbeis

Digital transformation and innovation ecosystem expert working at Steinbeis Europa Zentrum in Karlsruhe. His work focuses on designing and implementing international cooperation frameworks that connect research, industry, startups, and policy actors across regions. With a strong engineering background from KIT and Universidad Austral de Chile, Fredy contributes to European initiatives in AI, industrial digitalisation, and emerging technologies, ensuring that technical innovation translates into sustainable and scalable impact. He has extensive experience structuring multi-stakeholder partnerships and aligning diverse actors, from startups and SMEs to research institutions, Digital Innovation Hubs, and policymakers, within cross-border collaboration programs. Fredy has engaged over 100 startups across Europe, mentoring founders on funding access, ecosystem navigation, and international collaboration, while connecting them with corporates, investors, and research partners and actively supported the integration of Latin American startups and institutions into European innovation ecosystems, contributing to international cooperation extending to Africa, including the conceptualization of digital innovation hubs and cross-regional collaboration models.



EU - Australia, Canada, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, and the USA Digital Partnership - Rute Sofia, Research Institute of the Free State of Bavaria for software-intensive systems- fortiss

Invited Associate Professor at Universidade Lusófona de Humanidades e Tecnologias and an Associate Researcher at Instituto Universitário de Lisboa. Her career bridges academia and industry. Her research spans network architectures and protocols, IoT, edge and in-network computing, and AI-driven networking. She has authored 90+ peer-reviewed publications and holds nine patents. Rute is an ACM and IEEE Senior Member, served as ACM Europe Councilor, IEEE ComSoc N2Women Awards co-chair, and is a member of the IEEE WIE Industry Experts Network. She is a board member of the Datacom Industry Association and leads the 6G CONASENSE initiative, together with Prof. Ramjee Prasad. In the INSTAR, Rute leads the 6G workstream. She previously co-founded the ULHT COPELABS research unit, serving as its Scientific Director and Senior Researcher, and co-founded the Portuguese startup Senception Lda. Before joining Fortiss, she was an Associate Professor at COPELABS/ULHT. Earlier, she co-led the Internet Architectures and Networking area at INESC-TEC. From 2004 to 2007, she was a Senior Research Scientist at Siemens AG and Nokia-Siemens Networks, working on fixed-mobile convergence, carrier-grade Ethernet, QoS, and IPv6 interoperability.



Next Generation Internet Transatlantic Fellowship Program between EU-US and Canada - Blandine Chantepie-Kari

International strategist with 20 years of experience in trade, foreign direct investment attraction, and innovation ecosystem development. She launched the International Business Bootcamp and the ENRICH in the USA J-1 soft-landing program at Temple University, and now advises its Global Innovation Nest to support deep-tech founders in raising capital and scaling globally. She is co-founder of GiiiX, dba ENRICHers, which operates a North American network of soft-landing hubs backed by sovereign innovation agencies. The organization also developed the Global Innovation and Impact Platform (Gi2), enabling ecosystem stakeholders and corporations to track venture growth and measure economic and social impact. Blandine is an experienced consortium grant strategist, contributing to major U.S. and European programs including EDA, NSF, and Horizon Europe. She holds a Master's in Economics and International Business from IESEG Business School, completed research at UTEP in El Paso, and studied at Corvinus University in Budapest through the Erasmus program. Her sector expertise includes Biotech, MedTech, CleanTech, Mobility, and SaaS. She serves as Vice President of the French American Chamber of Commerce in Philadelphia and as an elected French Consular Councilor. She actively mentors global entrepreneurs and innovation leaders.



28 Digital. Alessandra Zini

Project Lead at 28DIGITAL, Europe's largest digital innovation ecosystem. With multistakeholder partnerships and collaboration as foundational pillars of her work, she delivers impactful projects that drive innovation across European and international levels. Following 28DIGITAL's recent launch of its Global branch, Alessandra leverages her expertise to identify and foster collaboration opportunities beyond Europe, with particular emphasis on Latin America and the Caribbean and South Asia. Through her leadership in key projects, Alessandra contributes to building bridges between research, education networks, and international partners, reinforcing the importance of shared dialogue and forward-looking collaboration in an increasingly interconnected digital landscape.

Connecting Innovation Communities Across Regions - The SPIDER Twinning Programme



Carolina Turcato - Manager, EurA Innovation Ecosystems

Carolina Turcato brings over ten years of experience in innovation ecosystems, public-private partnerships, and EU-level programmes. She acts as Manager at EurA Innovation Ecosystems, where she works with startups and ecosystem builders to access funding, connect internationally, and scale impact. At the SPIDER project, Carolina is responsible for the implementation of the Twinning Programme and international cooperation between EU and LAC in implementing bilateral dialogues in digital technologies.

Looking Ahead: A Roadmap for EU-LAC Cooperation on Digital Transformation



Luciana Ayciriex - Manager of the Innovation Unit, INMARK

Luciana Ayciriex has more than 20 years of experience in international relations, development cooperation and public policy, with a strong focus on STI cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean. She worked with national and international authorities promoting dialogue between main actors responsible for national Science and Technology policy. She coordinated the Technical Secretariat of the EU-CELAC Senior Officials Meetings in STI and the Bi regional Working Group in Bioeconomy for over 8 years. She has strong expertise in integrating gender equality & DEI perspective through design thinking and co-creation process. She also works on inclusive digital transition strategies ensuring that digital advancements are aligned with equity and social inclusion. She has experience in supporting the implementing Open Responsible Research and Innovation approaches within institutions and across territories.

Closing and Final Remarks



Eugenia Peñaloza - Communication and Dissemination Manager, INMARK

Strategic communications specialist with extensive experience leading communication strategies for international and EU-funded initiatives within public-private ecosystems. She works at the intersection of policy, innovation and social impact, aligning communication with institutional objectives and funding frameworks to strengthen visibility, stakeholder engagement and long-term sustainability. Her work spans multicultural consortium coordination, stakeholder engagement design and narrative positioning for complex projects in sustainability, entrepreneurship and digital transformation. With a strong understanding of public-sector communication dynamics, she supports initiatives in translating policy priorities into compelling, results-oriented communication strategies that amplify impact and foster cross-sector collaboration.



Johanna Füllmann - Senior Scientific Officer, DLR Project Management Agency

With over 13 years of experience, she supports EU-level joint programs, policy development, and helps innovators go global — notably as Vice-President of ENRICH Global, including the lead of the “Young Researchers for Innovation” thematic group, or former co-coordinator of ENRICH in the USA. She is a certified Business Moderator and Online Trainer, recently moderating DLR/ESA’s Space Talent Day 2025 and hosting DLR’s AI Talk Show on LLMs - exploring AI as a modular learning system. For SPIDER, Johanna co-established the EU-LAC digital dialogue mapping, leading to the AI-powered Spiderhub platform (with CEDIA). Previously, she helped launch the Transatlantic Platform for Social Sciences and Humanities (T-AP) and coordination and support actions strengthening the EU-US and EU-Canada STI partnerships under Horizon 2020 and Horizon Europe. She advised Germany’s Federal Ministry on international science diplomacy, including UN collaborations e.g. United Nations University, the European University Institute or the Franco-German Council of Ministers. She holds degrees in Economics and Political Science from the University of Cologne and Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. Johanna has delivered countless international presentations, workshops, a keynote on the global innovation ecosystem and multi-week online trainings — including on entrepreneurial skills development.