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## UAS4Europe presents action plan for European Innovation Area

European universities of applied sciences argue in favor of working towards the European Innovation Area and see an important role for the European universities of applied sciences in this regard. The European umbrella organization UAS4Europe presented an innovation action plan to European Commissioner Mariya Gabriel containing twelve concrete recommendations for applied research.



## Universities of applied sciences as bridge builders

During a [high-level event in Brussels](#), the umbrella organization of European universities of applied sciences UAS4Europe presented an [Innovation Action Plan](#) with concrete recommendations on how universities of applied sciences can help shape a European Innovation Area. In discussions with European Commissioner Mariya Gabriel and Slovenian Minister of Education, Science and Sport Simona Kustec, the umbrella discussed the importance of European universities of applied sciences in regional ecosystems and the role of applied research in this. In addition to being important players in innovation, the attendees also labeled the universities of applied sciences as an important connector between the European Education Area (EEA) and the European Research Area (ERA).

### Concrete recommendations

In the Innovation Action Plan, the universities of applied sciences not only point to the innovative capacity of European universities of applied sciences, but they also give twelve concrete recommendations with regard to a European Innovation Area that has yet to be developed. For example, they advocate better integration of practice-oriented applied research in various EU programs and initiatives such as Horizon Europe, the EIT KICs and the European Universities Initiative, the creation of a network of centers of expertise to better connect European innovation ecosystems. and targeted support for setting up *technology transfer offices* and deploying growth capital.