



## LAUNCHING AN INTERGROUP ON STARTUPS AND SCALEUPS

It's 2019 and it's about time to create an **Intergroup on Startups and Scaleups in the European Parliament** to discuss specific policies which can guarantee the full-scale development of such innovative companies.

Startups are the lifeblood of tomorrow's European economy. These companies dot the landscape from Porto to Sofia, Stockholm to Valletta. Because startups create innovative solutions and products that cut across sectors, they are relevant across various committees of the European Parliament. **Startups are different in many ways from SMEs and typical businesses**. Are you wondering how?

**Startups are driven by innovation, agility and growth, and always having the user at heart.** Startups embody a generation of self-made entrepreneurs, wowing us with new ways to improve our lives, communities and economies. These unique traits, mindset and culture are something that **political institutions are still becoming acquainted with**. We need a closer dialogue between both worlds in order to create a policy environment that helps startups in Europe thrive.

Europe is looking to find a common vision on how to enable the next big thing. In 2017, Allied for Startups initiated an **Informal Intergroup on Startups and Scaleups in the European Parliament** to better understand how startups and policymakers can work together to **make sure startups have a seat at the table** and can **jointly shape policies** that **empower Europe's norms and values as part of a thriving startup ecosystem**.

With the knowledge we've obtained and the partnerships we've created through the Informal Intergroup we've gained invaluable experiences which we want to formalise in 2019: **the Intergroup on Startups and Scaleups in the European Parliament** – a format for startups and policymakers to work together to build Europe's future.

We want our conversations to evolve around **jobs and growth, the single market, access to finance, venture capital, skills, education and to bring Europe's industries to the forefront of the digitisation revolution**. **Good things happen when Members of the European Parliament speak to entrepreneurs** – and we're excited to help keep that dialogue going and to give it a permanent structure. Join our mission by:

1. Engaging with your local startup community, reading a startup manifesto, going to a meetup and understanding what Europe can do to strengthen your local ecosystem.
2. Working with a growth mindset, keeping the user at heart and working hand in hand with your local startup community.
3. Supporting an **Intergroup on Startups and Scaleups in the European Parliament**. Become a Startup Champion and enable entrepreneurs to have a seat at the policy table!

We hope you will join us in supporting startups in Europe by supporting the creation of an Intergroup on Startups and Scaleups in the next term of the European Parliament because **Europe♥Startups**.

**Europe and its citizens benefit immensely from the work of startups. Having the right policy environment will create a permanent home for startups in Europe.**

## **STARTUPS CONTRIBUTE TO EUROPE'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

1. Startups accelerate economic growth, expanding and creating jobs faster than the rest of the economy. *We ask policymakers to commit to enabling startups to multiply their contribution to the European market.*
2. Startups rely on open access to the internet and an unobstructed digital market to grow. *We ask policymakers to commit to keeping the internet an open marketplace for everyone.*
3. Startups are global from day one and need a regulatory framework that enables them to conquer the world, starting in Europe. *We ask policymakers to commit to fostering a global mindset that enables startups to compete in the European single market and beyond.*

## **STARTUPS SUPPORT USERS, CITIZENS AND THEIR COMMUNITIES ACROSS EUROPE**

1. Startups embrace diversity and inclusiveness as part of their business' success. *We ask policymakers to commit to encouraging entrepreneurship for all and to be a champion for accessible and inclusive technologies.*
2. Startups put users at the heart of their innovations. They can only succeed with the trust and satisfaction of their users. *We ask policymakers to commit to seeing new legislative proposals through the perspective of citizens and users as well as the products and services they benefit from.*
3. Startups are education labs. *We ask policymakers to commit to supporting startups to educate the next generation of entrepreneurs and innovators, we want to improve the development of digital skills at all levels and ages.*

## **STARTUPS KEEP EUROPE INNOVATIVE, COMPETITIVE AND FORWARD-LOOKING**

1. Startups fail and that failure creates value. *We ask policymakers to commit to promoting an environment in Europe where entrepreneurs are encouraged to take risks.*
2. Startups drive new technologies such as Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain. *We ask policymakers to commit to making sure that Europe spearheads efforts in AI and Blockchain, facilitating investment in R&D to create innovation and value – while not over-regulating the sector, ensuring it can evolve.*
3. Startups aspire to be the next European tech champion. *We ask policymakers to commit to ensuring that Europe is open to startups and offers the right regulatory and entrepreneurial conditions to build the next big thing.*

