**EU Commissioner Günther Oettinger supports Crowd Dialog Europe**

**Munich, 23.07.2015 – The first Crowd Dialog Europe in Helsinki on August 27th, 2015 is a meeting of experts from more than 25 countries to discuss the most current findings and developments in the fields of crowdsourcing, crowdfunding and crowdinnovation. In his message to the delegates the European Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society, Günther Oettinger, points out the importance of a meaningful dialog, transparency and trust in regard of crowdfunding. In support to this course, the host of the event, Dr. Michael Gebert, especially welcomes the respective patrons from 23 EU countries to Helsinki, Finland.**

The first international event gathering of Crowd Dialog Europe will take place on August 27th, 2015 at the historic Astoria Sali in Helsinki where selected renowned experts and participants will discuss diverse scenarios of crowdbased disruption in a practical business context. The European Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society Günther Oettinger will deliver an opening speech to the 300 experts from business, science and politics. He points out, that the whole branch will have to work to establish trust in crowdfunding for contributors and for campaigners and that Transparency is a key factor here. Oettinger is also sure, that the Crowddialog conference and debate will enrich this reflection.

Reflecting the commissioner’s speech, the role of the 23 selected country patrons gaines weight and importance. As Michael Gebert comments: „The 23 European Crowd Dialog country patrons are handpicked and renowned experts in their fields of business”. He also explains, that they will provide deep insights into each countries individual challenges, chances and risks in perspective to the issues of crowdbased disruption, true to Crowd Dialog´s main Slogan: united knowledge.

“The new technological and business trends on APIs and crowd economy”

will present the Greek country patron Giorgos Karamanolis. The last seven years Karamanolis has been occupied as a Project Manager, holding various responsibility positions, in both the private and public sector, including Digital Strategy, Application development, Project Management and Team Building. He is member of the Scientific Committee for the Crowdsourcing Platform “labs.opengov” and the Organizational Committee for the Digital Greece 2020 EU Agenda and scientific advisor o**f** GFOSS (Greek Free / Open Source Software Society). Since 2012 Karamanolis is Co-founder and CTO/CIO of Crowdpolicy Private Capital Company (www.crowdpolicy.com). He received his Master of Science in Information Systems from the Athens University of Economics and Business.

For more information, please visit: http://www.crowddialog.eu

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**About CrowdDialog Europe - united knowledge:**

On August 27th the CrowdDialog Europe will take place at the historic Astoria Sali in Helsinki. The conference will provide huge value for future-oriented decision-makers, scientifically sound and comprehensive insights into the phenomenon of crowd-based innovation processes, financing scenarios and working models to identify and evaluate potential new business opportunities and trends in time.

**About Dr. Michael Gebert:**

For more than 20 years Dr. Michael Gebert is working in the context of the internet. As an expert in crowdsourcing and crowdfunding Dr. Gebert has a doctorate from the University of South Wales (UK). He regularly publishes articles on topics related to crowdfunding, -investing, and -sourcing.

Dr. Gebert is the initiator and organizer of the largest German crowdsourcing, crowdfunding- and crowd-innovation conference "Crowd Dialog". The event came into being as a collaboration with the city of Munich, the Bavarian Ministry of Economy, the Chamber of Commerce of Munich and Upper Bavaria and the EU Commission. At the same time he is regularly invited as panelist and keynote speaker for international crowdsourcing and crowdfunding conferences, like the crowdsourcing Week Singapore or Crowdconf San Francisco.

Partner:

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