

Reach the people who are almost impossible to reach.



Exclusive access to Europe's leading decision-makers in tech and innovation — made possible by Campus Founders for 30 selected startups.

Opportunities to exhibit are typically limited and entry costs reach € 5,000. However, the HOUSE OF STARTUPS offers you a stage that is otherwise out of reach.

Find out how to apply as a startup for our exhibition area.

HOUSE OF STARTUPS

by **CAMPUS FOUNDERS** at **TECH**
by Handelsblatt

31.05. – 02.06
Theresienwiese, Heilbronn



About TECH

More details and full agenda at tech-europe.org

What to expect at TECH 2026

Selected Speakers of 2026

Offering unparalleled expertise and deep insights

1.800 of the continent's most influential leaders from industry, technology, politics, and science come together in Heilbronn to shape the European innovation agenda.

May 31 to June 2, 2026
Fairground Theresienwiese, Heilbronn, Germany.

Three days full of inspiring insights and valuable opportunities for exchange. Top-level speakers from politics, academia, and business. 1:1 networking with the decision-makers of Europe's innovation scene.

Michael Schoellhorn,
CEO at Airbus Defence and Space

Gernot Döllner,
Chairman of the Board at Audi AG

Alex Creely,
Chief Engineer at Commonwealth Fusion Systems

Eléonore Crespo,
Co-Founder and Co-CEO at Pigment

Dirk Häußermann,
Managing Director at SAP

Ilse Henne,
Member of the Executive Board at thyssenkrupp

Ieva Krekovska,
Director of the Cybersecurity Policy Department at the Ministry of Defence of Latvia

Rafael Laguna de la Vera,
Director of SPRIN-D (German Federal Agency for Breakthrough Innovation)

Carlo Ratti,
Professor at MIT

Lennard Schmidt,
Co-Founder and CEO at Langdock

Hauke Stars,
Member of the Board at Volkswagen AG

Su Yang,
Head of AI and Innovation at BNP Paribas

Donya-Florence Amer,
Member of the Executive Board, CIO & CHRO at Hapag-Lloyd

Thierry Breton,
Former Commissioner Internal Market at the European Union

Alexandra Beckstein,
Co-Founder and CEO at QAI Ventures

Rolf Schumann,
Co-CEO at Schwarz Digits
and many more



HOUSE OF STARTUPS

by Campus Founders



About the HOUSE OF STARTUPS

Startups are an integral part of the tech and innovation ecosystem. The House of Startups will bring together innovative founders and startups from across Europe to showcase cutting-edge solutions, foster collaboration with the TECH ecosystem, and help shape a resilient future for Europe.

Campus Founders will add focused layer for startups and founders to TECH: curated startup visibility, high-quality networking, and valuable exchange with researchers, corporates and investors - with a clear goal of enabling startup success stories and accelerating co-innovation.

After four years of successfully organizing Heilbronn Slush'D, we will bring the energy and vibrance of a startup festival to the heart of TECH.



HOUSE OF STARTUPS by Campus Founders

Search Criteria

We are looking for **high-potential startups** operating in **advanced technology fields** that have moved beyond the idea stage and **demonstrate clear market readiness**. This includes a working product, early customer traction or revenue, and a path toward scaling.

A strong application is characterized by a **differentiated, defensible technology**, such as proprietary IP, patents, or unique technical capabilities, rather than funding alone. While companies typically range from Seed to Series B (or strong bootstrapped equivalents), the primary focus is on **real-world validation, growth potential, and technological moat**.



HOUSE OF STARTUPS by Campus Founders

Search Fields

Quantum + Compute

- Quantum Software Stacks
- Quantum Sensing
- Error Correction Solutions
- Quantum Secure Communications

Climate + Energy Tech

- Grid Optimization with AI
- Battery Technology
- Carbon Removal / Monitoring
- Industrial Decarbonization

AI - Infrastructure + Sovereign AI

- Foundation Models
- AI Agents + Enterprise Automation
- AI Infrastructure
- Data Governance / AI Security Tools

Space Tech

- Orbital Infrastructure
- Space Logistics
- Launch Platforms
- Satellite Constellations
- Earth Observation Analytics

Cyber Security + Digital Sovereignty

- Post Quantum Cryptography
- AI-Driven Threat Detection
- Privacy-Preserving Analytics
- Zero Trust Enterprise Security

Defence + Security Tech

- Autonomous Drones
- AI for Battlefield Intelligence
- Cyber Defence Platforms
- Satellite Surveillance

Industrial Deeptech / Industry 4.0

- Industrial AI for Manufacturing
- Predictive Maintenance
- Robotics + Autonomous Production
- Edge AI for Factories



HOUSE OF STARTUPS by Campus Founders

Process & Application

Limited spaces. Unlimited opportunity.
Short timeline — so apply early.

Fill out the application form in order to be considered. We will request general information about your venture and your progress as well as a pitch deck.

Deadline “asap”: Since the event date is already close, we will be choosing candidates on a weekly rolling basis until all 30 exhibition slots are full.

TECH is a 3-day event from Sunday 31.05. at noon until Tuesday 02.06. in the afternoon. We will assign the chosen startups with either an exhibition slot from 31.05 noon to 01.06 noon or 01.06. noon to 02.06. noon. Exhibiting entitles you to also access the event but without full access to the TECH Membership*.

If you are accepted and confirm you participation, we will require a € 500,- contribution toward the expenses for setting up the exhibition infrastructure and logistics.

APPLY NOW



[Go To Application Form](#)



*find out more about the TECH Membership model at tech-europe.org/membership

Heilbronn loves Founders

Over the past years, Campus Founders has played a central role in Heilbronn's emergence as an internationally recognized innovation hub. Our Heilbronn Slush'D startup festival became a defining catalyst in that journey: it attracted thousands of founders, investors, and industry leaders, created international visibility for Heilbronn, and helped establish a culture of ambitious entrepreneurship and collaboration between startups and established companies.

The Heilbronn-Franken region is emerging as one of Europe's most dynamic innovation hubs, driven by the development of the Innovation Park Artificial Intelligence (IPAI), a 23-hectare campus dedicated to accelerating applied AI. It brings together startups, global companies, researchers, and investors to collaborate on real-world AI solutions in close proximity.

The region benefits from a strong industrial backbone, with numerous global market leaders and highly innovative family-owned companies across sectors such as automotive, manufacturing, electronics, and IT—creating ideal conditions for startup collaboration and scaling. At the same time, a unique concentration of academic excellence on the Heilbronn Education Campus—including institutions such as the Technical University of Munich (TUM), ETH Zurich, Hochschule Heilbronn, DHBW, as well as Fraunhofer and Max Planck institutes—ensures direct access to talent, research, and cutting-edge knowledge.

At the center of this ecosystem is GRAVITY, a 7,000 m² innovation space by Campus Founders, designed to bring together entrepreneurs, researchers, and investors in an environment built for co-creation and growth. With a rapidly expanding student population and a dense network of research and innovation institutions, Heilbronn offers exceptional conditions for startups to build, test, and scale frontier technologies.



Campus Founders

Campus Founders is the startup and co-innovation hub based in Heilbronn. Designed to support all phases of the entrepreneurial journey – from initial idea generation and validating problem-solution fit to achieving product-market fit and scaling sustainably – Campus Founders empowers early-stage startups to accelerate their progress and drive international growth.

As a platform, Campus Founders unites students, founders, investors, and companies to promote meaningful collaboration and co-innovation. Its vibrant community of over 1,000 members regularly engages in events and networking formats.

Campus Founders is a part of the NXTGN Startup Factory, which further strengthens the collaboration among Baden-Württemberg's most research- and startup-intensive locations.



is one of Europe's leading start-up hubs 2026. Campus Founders is part of NXTGN.



As part of the RISE Europe network – linking 20 leading startup ecosystems across 14 countries – Campus Founders builds vital bridges to international markets and experts.

