INNO-MIL

Re-evaluating the role of defence R&D in the innovation system

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Introduction

The time is right for a re-evaluation of the role of defence R&D in the innovation system.

Dramatic increases in the U.S. budget for defence & security related R&D in recent years have prompted renewed concerns in some European policy circles about the potential implications of such spending for the relative position of European defence & commercial industries as well as the European science base.

The potential role of defence procurement and R&D spending as a stimulus to European innovation is one of the rationales being used for several inter-related European Commission initiatives.

At the same time, the defence sector is looking to open innovation models and commercial technologies as a way of promoting innovation.

Objectives

The objectives of INNO-MIL are:

1. To reappraise the role of military R&D in innovation systems by bringing together "mainstream" innovation researchers and the community of specialists working on defence R&D issues;

2. To test the validity & limitations of established models of innovation & industrial dynamics for our understanding of the nature of the innovation process in the defence sector;

3. To encourage the community of specialists working on defence R&D issues to utilize established models of innovation & industrial dynamics to aid their understanding of the sector.

Outputs of the project

- ✓ An international workshop that brought together 35 academic experts from 10 countries;
- ✓ A Special Issue of *The Journal of Technology Transfer* to be published in November 2006 (in production)
- ✓ An edited book to be published as part of the PRIME series (in production)

Participants

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