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EUROPEAN STARTUP NETWORK ANNOUNCES THE ELECTION OF NICOLAS BRIEN AS PRESIDENT TO ITS BOARD

The European Startup Network (ESN) is excited to announce that Nicolas Brien, CEO at France Digitale, was elected as president of its board. He will succeed founder Karen Boers and lead the board in pursuit of ESN's mission to create a common voice for European startups so that more can start, scale and succeed in the EU.

Nicolas Brien runs France Digitale, the largest national startup organization in Europe with over 1.700 members. He previously was the Director of Studies of Kantar-TNS Sofres (WPP) and a senior advisor to the French Government. Nicolas is currently a lecturer at Sciences-Po Paris and HEIP (Institut des Hautes Études Internationales et Politiques). He holds a master's degree from Columbia University SIPA.

“The European Startup Network is the leading platform for European startups. As the European Commission shows its willingness to accelerate Europe's digital transformation, our organization should become a key stakeholder in shaping recovery plans. The past weeks of lock-down have been the triggers for a 'Great Digital Leap Forward': there are ten times more remote workers, two times more goods bought online and four times more cyberattacks. Europe may harness its thriving startup ecosystems if it wants to achieve technological sovereignty” says Nicolas. “ESN is the right arena to bring stakeholders together and make this happen.”

Jan Bormans, CEO of ESN notes “The appointment of Nicolas Brien shows that ESN is an evolving organization with growth ambitions, shifting into a higher gear to strengthen further its engagement with startups, policy makers, corporates and investors, I am looking forward to exciting days ahead.”

ESN and its new president are already working on future common goals, such as expanding the network beyond its current geographical coverage and forging strategic alliances in order to bolster the effectiveness of the European startup ecosystem.

Other board members include Matthias Zwingli (Switzerland), Markus Raunig (Austria) and Nils Beers (The Netherlands).

About European Startup Network (ESN)

ESN, established in September 2016, unifies national startup associations to create a common voice for European startups. The organization has grown from a handful of national associations to become a major pan-European player, with 22 national startup associations as full members. ESN is often the reference contact point for policymakers such as for the European Commission for whom ESN conducted the most recent pan-European Startup Monitor.

Inquiries

Interested to discover how we can collaborate?

Please direct your inquiries to nicolas.brien@europeanstartupnetwork.eu or

jan.bormans@europeanstartupnetwork.eu (press contact).

Pictures: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ayhDvbUjloTDmHOdR0fIYR2jFucZrd-W?usp=sharing>