

# Rödl & Partner

## PRESS RELEASE

### **SmartStart by Rödl & Partner – a new technology business incubator inaugurated at the 2025 European Economic Congress in Katowice**

Warsaw, 29 April 2025 – The law firm of Rödl & Partner officially launched its SmartStart scheme – a technology business incubator – at the 17th European Economic Congress in Katowice. The new initiative will provide end-to-end support for nascent businesses encompassing legal, tax and accounting advice, as well as assistance in expanding business to international markets.

#### **SmartStart's mission and objectives**

“At Rödl & Partner we believe that the future of the economy is shaped by companies at the crossroads of industry, technology and sustainable development,” says Renata Kabas-Komorniczak, Managing Partner at Rödl & Partner and tax adviser.

SmartStart is on the mission to support innovative businesses by sharing expert knowledge, networking capabilities and tools indispensable to dynamic growth and expansion abroad.

“As a global consulting firm with more than 50 years of experience on the market we recognise the role start-ups play in the economic transition. Our business incubator will support innovators by giving them access to expert knowledge, a vast network of contacts and resources to scale up their business abroad”, adds Kabas-Komorniczak.

Start-ups in industries such as smart manufacturing, new energy sources, future transportation, green construction or process automation, may count on Rödl & Partner's full range of legal, tax, audit and business advisory services, including on compliance, intellectual property protection, international expansion and preparation for M&As.

#### **CEE's start-up ecosystem is growing – led by Poland**

Rödl & Partner's SmartStart is the answer to the fast-growing start-up market in Central and Eastern Europe. The CEE start-up ecosystem reached the record-high **243 billion euro** at the end of 1st quarter 2025, with the lion share taken by Poland.

More than 25% of the start-ups in the region are based here. Despite the optimistic trend, new companies continue to struggle with limited access to funding at later stages of growth. This makes initiatives such as SmartStart particularly significant.

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## Inaugural participants in SmartStart

Rödl & Partner has invited to the scheme's launch two companies distinguished in the prestigious **ECC Startup Challenge 2025** in the category of "Modern Economy":

- **Spaceform sp. z o.o. (INNOAGH)** – a Warsaw start-up that develops 3D printer that uses metals, ceramics and polymers, and is capable of working also in microgravity.
- **Gekko Photonics** – a Wrocław expert in tailor-made Raman spectroscopy solutions used in e.g. chemical, cosmetics and medical diagnostics industries.

## Why the "Modern Economy"?

The **Modern Economy** start-ups – Industry 4.0, renewable energy industry, automation, sustainable construction are the strategic pillars of the future. With its global reach and comprehensive portfolio of advisory services Rödl & Partner is an ideal partner for "born global" companies – those that plan to scale up their business worldwide from the get-go.

## New collaboration platform for technology start-ups

The SmartStart initiative fits the broad trend of building a strong ecosystem of innovation in Poland and Central-Eastern Europe. Start-ups will have access not only to consulting support, but also a networking platform and international knowledge and business practice – the foundations necessary for building globally competitive business.