



## JRC Collaborative Space (Collab)

Do you have a complex policy issue to address? Do you need to work with different bodies of knowledge? Or, do you need peace to carry out a careful and considered policy proposal? The JRC has the space that you have always dreamed of!

The Collab[orative] space, located at the Joint Research Centre's Ispra site, in Italy, is specifically **designed to foster (and experiment with) collaborative ways of working and producing knowledge**. The Collab is a **convivial open space** that aims to overcome disciplinary modes of knowledge organisation by embracing new ways of knowing. It is conceived as a retreat to knowledge-holders relevant to a particular issue of concern.

The Collab is inseparable from the JRC Makerspace, where the idea of "*thinking while tinkering*" has been the foundation of the participatory methods the JRC has been mostly pioneering: material co-creation and deliberation methods.



Agora

## JRC Makerspace

The JRC Makerspace was conceived to support ideas of co-creation, co-design and citizen empowerment. In particular, it is a space to explore new methodologies of citizen engagement, as well as on recent phenomena like citizen science and DIY movements as more profound and care-oriented forms of societal participation in techno-scientific innovation processes. The Makerspace is equipped with a set of tools and fabrication equipment, such as electronics equipment, 3D Printers, Laser Cutter, and CNC Milling Machine, enabling prototyping and low-cost experimentation.

Both the Collab & Makerspace are the physical infrastructure of the **Competence Centre on Participatory and Deliberative Democracy**, representing a turn on the ways the JRC relate to various communities when it comes to produce knowledge for policymaking.

Policymaking is increasingly complex. The spatial arrangement of these two interlinked spaces was conceived to **work within complexity**. The spaces are meant to mobilise all relevant knowledges and knowledge-holders, whether specific actors or ordinary citizens, to address both research and policy challenges. Therefore transdisciplinary knowledge production is core to both the concept and planned use.

## Facilities

The Collab has a **variety of flexible workspaces** to inspire collaborations and promote productive work group sessions. In particular, the Collab offers:

- An Agora, prepared to host hybrid events;
- An open work area with multiple desks for individual or group work;
- Meeting room with videoconference equipment;
- Standing desk area;
- Lounge area for casual conversations;
- Kitchen area;
- Outdoor area with tables;
- Access to the JRC Makerspace’s facilities and equipment.

## Potential uses

The Collab can be **easily adapted to different purposes**, depending on the level and type of collaborative work. Whiteboards, flipcharts, post-its, video conferencing technology and coffee is available to support the activities. For example, the Collab can host:

- Co-creation sessions;
- Brainstorming sessions;
- Working conferences;
- Workshops;
- Hackathons;
- Training sessions;
- Team building sessions;
- Work retreats.

## Who can use the Collab?

The Collab is open to JRC staff and other Commission’s statutory staff, upon reservation. To book the Collab, please send an email with the following information:

- Date of the event / activity;
- Description;
- Services / units involved;
- Number of participants (maximum 60).

to [EU-CITIZEN-ENGAGEMENT@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EU-CITIZEN-ENGAGEMENT@ec.europa.eu).

The Collab is offered as a self-service or, upon agreement, with support from the team managing the Collab (JRC.H.1).

## How to arrive to Ispra?

**By plane:** Milan Malpensa is the closest airport to Ispra and the most convenient to arrive. Direct flights from Brussels are available daily from several airlines.

**By train:** There are several daily non-direct trains, including overnight options, from Brussels-Midi to Milano Centrale.

We can arrange free taxi from the airport or train station to the JRC Collab.

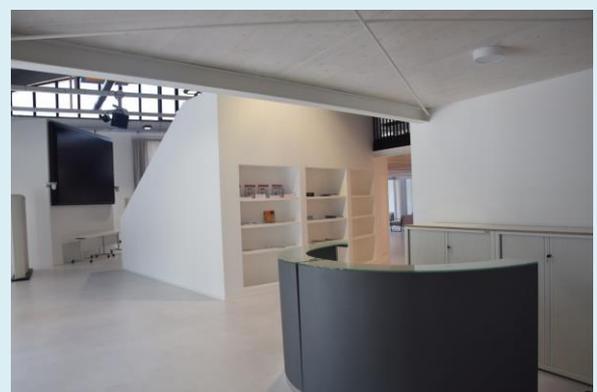
**Looking forward to see you using this space!**



Open work area



Lounge



Reception

## Further information

JRC Collab website:

<https://cop-demos.jrc.ec.europa.eu/jrc-collab>

E-mail contact:

[EU-CITIZEN-ENGAGEMENT@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EU-CITIZEN-ENGAGEMENT@ec.europa.eu)