



## KEY RESULTS OF THE ROUND TABLE

# “BIOMEDICAL INNOVATION ECOSYSTEMS: RECIPES FOR SUCCESS”

**Panelists:** Juan de Pablo (New York University, US), Henry Marx (Berlin Senate, DE), Maike Sander (Max Delbrück Center, DE), Ian Walmsley (Imperial College London, GB), Claudia Ulbrich (Moderation) (Cardior Pharmaceuticals, DE)

Creating environments for biomedical innovation requires strong collaboration between universities, research institutions, businesses, and government. Key success factors include sufficient funding, access to advanced technology, supportive regulations, and a culture of openness and risk-taking. Cities with high concentrations of knowledge and talent—especially those with strong universities and research centres—often become innovation hubs, attracting more experts. However, challenges like housing shortages, complex regulations, and limited interaction between academia and industry can slow progress. Fostering a supportive environment for entrepreneurship, where risk-taking and even failure are encouraged, is crucial for nurturing startups and translating research into real-world biomedical solutions. This flexibility is especially important in Europe, where regulatory differences across countries add extra challenges for collaboration and innovation.

## THE EXPERT PANEL ARTICULATES THE FOLLOWING CALLS TO ACTION:

### Focus on areas of unique strength.

- 1 — Identify specific fields where a region or city can excel globally, and concentrate resources there for greater impact.

### Update success metrics.

- 2 — Redefine academic success to include factors like entrepreneurship, risk-taking, and real-world impact, not just research publications.

### Streamline regulations.

- 3 — Especially within Europe, simplify regulatory frameworks to reduce administrative burdens, making it easier for researchers to focus on innovation and development.

### Build a strong reputation as an innovation hub.

- 4 — Raise awareness of local innovation achievements to attract funding and public support.

*This expert panel is supported by Max Delbrück Center and assembled in the framework of the Falling Walls Science Summit 2024 in Berlin. The Falling Walls Science Summit is a leading international, interdisciplinary, and intersectoral forum for scientific breakthroughs. It commemorates the fall of the Berlin Wall and aims to promote dialogue between science and society.*

## CONTACT

### Falling Walls Foundation gGmbH

Dr. Andreas Kosmider  
Managing Director  
[andreas.kosmider@falling-walls.com](mailto:andreas.kosmider@falling-walls.com)






**Phone:** +49 30 609 883 97 28

**Mobile:** +49 172 273 75 77

**Web:** [www.falling-walls.com](http://www.falling-walls.com)

### Falling Walls Foundation gGmbH

Kochstraße 6–7  
10969 Berlin

 [fallingwalls](https://www.facebook.com/fallingwalls)  
 [falling walls](https://www.instagram.com/fallingwalls)  
 [@Falling\\_Walls](https://twitter.com/@Falling_Walls)  
 [falling-walls-foundation](https://www.linkedin.com/company/falling-walls-foundation)  
 [FallingWallsFoundation](https://www.youtube.com/FallingWallsFoundation)