

# FALLING WALLS SCIENCE SUMMIT



## KEY RESULTS OF THE ROUND TABLE

### "A QUANTUM FUTURE: JOINING FORCES OF ACADEMIA AND INDUSTRY"

— Accelerate what works: align policy, capital and talent so quantum moves from lab demos to error-corrected, useful systems.

Quantum research is celebrating its centenary. But turning today's prototypes into reliable, error-corrected machines that deliver short-term wins in sensing, timing and networks requires closer collaboration between universities, start-ups and investors. The panel's recommendations are to simplify transfer, finance the costly middle ground and provide training for large-scale implementation.

Europe, Canada and the UK have built credible ecosystems including hubs, testbeds and healthy spin-outs. Yet the sticking points are familiar: slow access to intellectual property and facilities, thin late-stage capital, diffused strategies, and too narrow a talent funnel. The conversation highlighted practical fixes already in use such as low-friction equity-for-IP or user-facing national centres. It also became clear that bolder decisions are needed to align investments with regional strengths and create regulatory scope for larger funds.

## THE PANEL CALL TO ACTION:

### 1 — Create a one-stop tech-transfer path for quantum.

Standardise low-friction IP terms (e.g., equity-based licences), shared templates and a single front door for startups to access university know-how and tools. This cuts spin-out time and gets teams building faster.

### 2 — Open shared infrastructure beyond research use.

Convert select academic facilities into dual-use scale-out sites and expand neutral testbeds where companies and users can trial hardware and applications under production-like conditions, with clear access rules.

### 3 — Build a broader, faster talent pipeline across roles.

Back conversion master's programmes, technician training and industry residencies, and co-fund PhD projects with companies so graduates are productive on control, benchmarking and application teams from day one.

### 4 — Focus national bets where strengths exist and review ruthlessly.

Cluster investment around regional advantages, avoid spreading small amounts of money thinly across many areas so nothing reaches critical mass. Run time-boxed portfolio reviews to double down or stop. Interoperability efforts should link hubs without diluting focus.

*This event is supported by Munich Quantum Valley and assembled in the framework of the Falling Walls Science Summit 2025 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.*



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