The use of MEMS and Si-photonics will become even more important in the near future as new applications such as healthcare, automotive, IoT, industrial, ... require more and more sensor functionality and as a consequence the industry will need more experienced MEMS and Si-photonics designers. Through EUROPRACTICE and its more than 500 European member universities, the European Commission stimulates the European universities to train the students of today in MEMS / photonics design in order to deliver the designers of tomorrow.

After the success of the stimulation actions with ASICs, two new Stimulation Actions for FIRST USER European EUROPRACTICE university members have been defined as a part of the EUROPRACTICE2016 project funded by the European Commission.

1. **Stimulation Action for VERY FIRST USERS in MEMS design**
   For European universities that have never prototyped a MEMS design through EUROPRACTICE since 2005. EUROPRACTICE offers 5 such first users a **FREE prototype fabrication** (excluding packaging) of a minimum block size design on a MPW run in any of the MUMPs technologies from MEMSCAP (PolyMUMPs, SOIMUMPs or PiezoMUMPs) – representing a value of **4000 €**.
   Conditions:
   - Current EUROPRACTICE university member
   - Multiple applications can be submitted, but a maximum of 1 design per university can be approved
   - The design has to be taped out on a run before 30 April 2018

2. **Stimulation Action for VERY FIRST USERS in Si-Photonics**
   For European universities that have never prototyped a Si-Photonics design through EUROPRACTICE since 2005, EUROPRACTICE offers 6 such first users a **prototype fabrication with a reduction of 5000 €** of any block size design on any run in either the ePIXfab technologies from imec and LETI or the PIC technologies from IHP (either SG25_PIC or SG25H_EPIC).
   Conditions:
   - Current EUROPRACTICE member
   - Multiple applications can be submitted, but a maximum of 1 design per university can be approved
   - The design has to be taped out on a run before 30 April 2018

How to apply
- A proposal of 1 page maximum must be submitted on the template via email to Romano.Hoofman@imec.be
- Deadline for proposal submissions is 14 June 2017
- Proposals will be evaluated by an Independent Committee and the selected first users will be informed before 15 July 2017

Evaluation criteria:
- How you intend to evolve your teaching to address the challenges in MEMS or photonics designs
- How this will lead to further research using design and fabrication by your institute
- Clarity of application and credibility of case
- Proposed MEMS/photonics design and proposed design methodology to be used

Universities from the following countries can participate:
- 28 EU countries and Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Liechtenstein, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, Turkey, Serbia and Ukraine