



**FRANCE:
#1
DESTINATION IN
EUROPE FOR FOREIGN
INVESTMENT**

(EY, 2020)



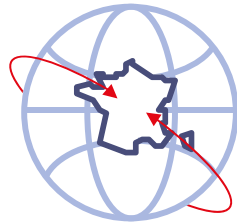
**#1
EUROPEAN
DESTINATION FOR R&D**

(EY, 2020)



**MOST FAVORABLE
R&D TAX TREATMENT
IN EUROPE**

(OECD, 2020)



**FRANCE ATTRACTED
MORE THAN
11%
OF FOREIGN
INVESTMENTS IN 2019**

(BUSINESS FRANCE, 2020)

**FRANCE:
AN INNOVATIVE
POWERHOUSE**

1

MAJOR R&D EXPENDITURE

With gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD) of US\$62.9 billion in 2018, amounting to 2.2% of GDP, France was ranked sixth in the world (OECD, 2019). In 2017, the total amount of BERD nationwide stood at €33 billion. (INSEE, 2020)

2

NEARLY 8,000 PATENTS FILED ANNUALLY

With 7,914 PCT international patent applications in 2018, France was ranked sixth in the world, after Germany (19,883), but ahead of the United Kingdom (5,641). In the same year, France also registered 5,393 trademarks per million inhabitants, more than both the United States (2,896), and Japan (1,926). France is the European country which files the most patents on all inventions concerning artificial intelligence, computer data security and 3D systems. (OECD; WIPO)

3

DRIVING GLOBAL INNOVATION

France remains the third leading country, and the leading country in Europe, in the Clarivate Analytics Top 100 Global Innovators. Five French entities were among the world's 100 most innovative organizations in 2020: one research center (CEA) and four companies (Alstom, Saint-Gobain, Schneider, and Thales).

4

GLOBAL GIANTS

A number of French industrial groups are leading players in their sector, with operations throughout the world: Airbus (aerospace), Total (oil and gas), Orange (telecoms), Sanofi (healthcare), LVMH (luxury goods), L'Oréal (cosmetics), and Danone (agri-food). France is home to 30 of the world's 500 leading companies. (Fortune Global 500, 2019)

5

SUPPORT FOR INNOVATION

Thanks to the research tax credit (CIR) scheme, France offers companies the most advantageous tax treatment for R&D in Europe (OECD, 2017). The innovation support policy is also reflected in numerous measures such as that of young innovative companies (JEI), aid from Bpifrance, measures for future investment programs (PIA) and "La French Tech".

6

OUTSTANDING HUMAN CAPITAL

With 295,800 full-time equivalent researchers, France is the second leading destination for researchers in the EU, after Germany (419,600). However, its ratio of researchers per 1,000 employees is higher: 10.9 per 1,000 employees compared with 9.7 per 1,000 in Germany and 9.5 per 1,000 in the United Kingdom. France has more than 875,000 engineers, with enrollments on engineering courses increasing yearly by 4%. (CDEFI, 2019)

7

LEADER IN R&D ACTIVITIES

France is the leading European destination for investments in R&D activities. Paris has been ranked the number one city in terms of attractiveness for R&D investments, seeing off both Bangalore and Singapore. (EY, 2020)

8

INVESTORS HAIL FRANCE

Eighty-five percent of foreign investors believe that the French ecosystem encourages innovation. Investors surveyed also hailed the quality of R&D personnel (86%), potential for research partnerships (84%), and proximity to French innovation clusters (85%). (Kantar Public/Business France, 2019)

9

EXCELLENCE AND ATTRACTIVENESS

Uber's first research center outside of North America will be based in Paris and will specialize in artificial intelligence and air transport. Google opened its first research center for machine learning in Paris at the end of 2018, and IBM opened a facility in the southern city of Montpellier for quantum computing.

10

"LA FRENCH TECH" GOING GLOBAL

A government-led public/private "La French Tech" initiative is helping French startups to build a solid international reputation in areas such as industry, the sharing economy and artificial intelligence. They include world-renowned driverless shuttles Navya and EasyMile, credit platforms from younited and La Ruche qui dit Oui! ("the hive that says yes"), and artificial intelligence technology experts Prophesee and Snips, the voice assistant that respects your privacy.