France's legislative approaches to facilitate inter-sectoral cooperation

Vision and Aims	In the last 20 years, three laws have been adopted by French legislators, with the following goals: - Facilitating exchanges between academia and businesses; - Facilitating the exploitation of results of public research by private organisations; - Promoting business creation and innovation by/with researchers (civil servants).
Target Audience	 Researchers from public research organisations embedded in business creation Public research organisations Companies
Key Features	Three French laws (Allègre in 1999, PACTE in 2019 and Research Programming Law in 2020) have created and progressively increased the possibility for researchers and engineers working in academia (public research organisations or universities) to move to the private sector in order, in particular, to promote the exploitation and transfer of public research results to companies. This system, known as "public/private gateways", has in fact enabled researchers who are civil servants and contractual agents of the State working in a public laboratory to (i) create, (ii) work in a company that exploits the results of their scientific work, or (iii) assist (parttime) this company in exploiting these scientific work. The aim of the legislative evolution was to simplify, step by step, the modalities allowing these researchers to benefit from these schemes, while securing their career path and allowing them to keep a formal link with their academic organization. These laws provide guidance to academic organisations to implement these schemes, including regarding potential issues of conflict of interest.
Launch Date	December 2020 (Research Programming Law)
Partners/Sponsors	Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation – France
Further Information	https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/dossierlegislatif/JORFDOLE000042137953/ [in French]
Contact	OLIVIER MALLET <u>olivier.mallet@recherche.gouv.fr</u> FRANCINE MARCUS <u>francine.marcus@recherche.gouv.fr</u>