



**Opening Speech by Rev. Fr. Talal El Hachem**  
*President of the Holy Spirit University of Kaslik (USEK)*  
**Unlocking Innovation-The power of Technology Transfer**  
**May 12, 2025**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Fathers, Members of the University Council,

Esteemed Partners, Innovators, Friends, and audience,

Welcome to USEK and to this inspiring gathering dedicated to unlocking the full potential of innovation through technology transfer. It is both a privilege and a joy to open today's event a moment that reflects our shared commitment to transforming knowledge into impact and ideas into action.

When we established the USEK Technology Transfer Office two years ago, we planted a seed, a seed of vision, ambition, and responsibility. Today, we are witnessing how that seed is growing into a vibrant ecosystem, where research, creativity, intellectual property, entrepreneurship, and licensing are no longer confined within university walls but are reaching society, industry, and the global community.

Technology transfer is not merely about protecting inventions. It is a mindset, a call to action for universities to become engines of economic growth and agents of societal transformation.

At USEK, our Technology Transfer Office is committed to this mission. It empowers our students, faculty, and researchers by offering clear, structured pathways to protect their innovations and bring them to life whether through licensing

agreements, startup creation, or partnerships with industry. We understand that each innovator's journey is unique, and we are committed to providing the right tools, guidance, and opportunities to support them.

Recognizing that early-stage ideas no matter how brilliant require nurturing, we are cultivating a supportive ecosystem that brings together industry leaders, business support organizations, startups, professionals, entrepreneurs, investors, funding agencies, and other key stakeholders.

This office is not only about economic advancement. It is also about social impact. In a country facing numerous challenges, the ability to turn research into usable, scalable, and accessible solutions across healthcare, sustainability, agrifood, digital transformation, creative industries, and more is a form of resilience. It is how we serve the common good. It is how we embody our role as a Catholic, human-centered institution devoted to the well-being of our people and our region.

We are proud that USEK is becoming a bridge-builder connecting academia and industry, research and societal needs, vision and execution.

Today's agenda reflects that spirit: from a deep dive into academic technology transfer and global IP strategies, to inventor spotlights and networking opportunities. It is a celebration of what is possible when innovation is supported, shared, and scaled.

Thank you for being part of this journey.