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News

Business

Economy

Technology

Sport

Entertainment & Arts

Viewpoint

Video



**Recovery
Continues as
Eurozone Adds
Jobs and Widens
Trade Surplus**



**President Sisi
Calls on
Egyptians to
Reduce Fuel
Subsidy Burden**



**Construction
Output Grows but
UK Experiences
Biggest Quarterly
Fall in Public
Housing Orders
since 1960s**



**Isis Crisis:
Islamist
Insurgency
Threatens Iraq's
'Vast' Oil
Potential**

June 4, 2014 13:23 BST



A robot at a grocery store. With the European Union having invested big time in robotics, more and more robots are expected to storm various sectors. Reuters



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Crisis: George
Osborne Forces
Planning
Approvals on
Brownfield Sites**

The European Commission **has entered** into a partnership with over 180 robotic technology companies (collectively called euRobotics) in a bid to cement Europe as a major player in robotics, and to outperform other major robotic sector markets across the world.

This initiative termed **SPARC** is expected to create approximately 240,000 jobs in Europe which in turn is estimated to provide a tremendous boost to Europe's economy.

SPARC targets innovation in robotics, and aims at covering various sectors such as manufacturing, health, agriculture, transport, households and civil society.

The European Commission (EC), which is the executive body of the European Union (EU) that deals with implementation of policies and legislation, will invest approximately 700 million euros in addition to

euRobotics' 2.1 billion euros.

The massive investment is seen as an initial surge by the European Union to outdo countries such as Japan and United States which also fall in the league that has taken to robotics in a big way.

"SPARC will ensure the competitiveness of European robotics industries. Robot-based automation solutions are essential to overcome today's most pressing societal challenges - from demographic change to mobility to sustainable production," said Bernd Liepet, President of euRobotics.

The SPARC initiative was launched at the ongoing **AUTOMATICA conference**, at Munich. The initiative also has its roots in a deal that was struck between the European Union and euRobotics in December last year.

The entire concept of robotics has been taken up intensely as a subject of study both by students and researchers across the world. Today, robotics finds applications in various vital areas such as education, research and most importantly **healthcare (medicine and surgery combined)**.

With the EU moving positively in developing robotics, citizens can look forward to an exciting future, both in terms of career and service.

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