

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL OPTIONS ASSESSMENT
STOA

NEWSLETTER

November 1995

Directorate General for Research

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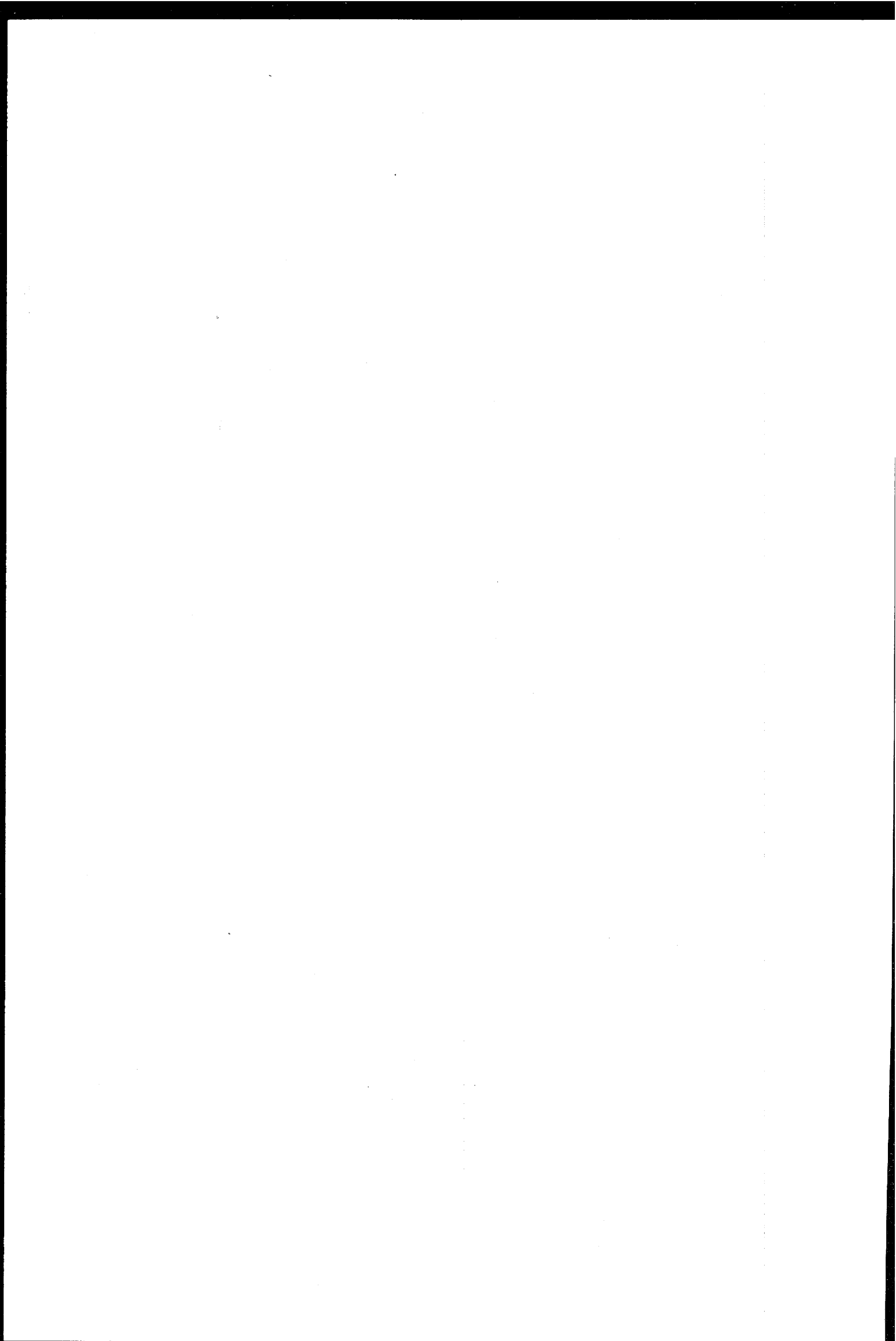
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NEWS

- The deadline for the receipt of proposals for the 1996 workplan of STOA is the 15 January 1996. To make a proposal, for a potential STOA project, members should make the proposal to the relevant committee(s). The committee(s) will then make the proposal to the STOA Panel. A form has been prepared for making project proposals and is available from STOA and also committee secretariats. The procedure will be discussed at the STOA Panel meeting in Strasbourg, 16 November.
- The next EPTA Newsletter will be available at the end of November and will cover technology assessment in Eastern European countries. The proceedings of the EPTA conference held in The Hague 28-29 September will be included together with a summary of the projects completed by EPTA partners on water quality issues.
For more information please contact Christine WENNRICH, EPTA Coordinator.
- The conference on 'Renewable Energies for the Mediterranean Area' held in Athens, 9-11 November, organised by the European Commission, European Parliament and the Greek Ministry for Industry, Energy and Technology, European Energy Foundation (EEF) and the European Forum for Renewable Energy Sources (EUFORES) and was attended by Mr Rolf LINKHOR, MEP, President of the European Energy Foundation (EEF) and Mrs Eryl McNALLY, MEP, Vice-President of the Committee on Research, Technological Development and Energy and Mr ROBLES PIQUER, MEP, President of the European Forum for Renewable Energy Sources (EUFORES). STOA was also represented by Juan MASARNAU, STOA Fellow and Javier FERNANDEZ CORTÉS, STOA Scholar.
- A plenary meeting of the EUROSCREEN project, funded by the European Commission's BIOMED programme, was held 3-5 November, York, U.K. The discussion concerned the ethical aspects of genetic screening for disease. STOA was represented at this conference by Adam HEDGECOE, STOA Scholar.
- The European Information Technology Conference 1995 (EITC'95) organised by DGIII-Industry of the European Commission will be held 27-29 November in Brussels. The conference is concerned with the debate on social, societal and cultural issues of the information society. Attending this conference on behalf of STOA will be Ineke MALSCH, STOA Scholar; Caroline RAY, STOA Scholar and Christine WENNRICH, STOA Scholar.
- An international conference is being organized by the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin (WZB) in cooperation with the European Commission, on 'Public Understanding of Science and Technology - A critical examination of current research results and methods'. The conference will be held 30 November - 2 December 1995, Berlin. The aims of the conference are to assess the conceptual, empirical and methodological aspects of current research on the public understanding of science and technology and to initiate a discussion on this matter between politicians and academics. STOA will be represented at this conference by Christine WENNRICH, EPTA Coordinator and Dick HOLDSWORTH, STOA Head of Unit.

- The STOA project 'Sustainable Development in the Mediterranean Region: The Challenges and the Policy Instruments' will be the subject of a presentation to the STOA Panel, 16 November, Strasbourg. The STOA Team will present the structure, content and progress of the project.
 For more information please contact Juan MASARNAU, STOA Fellow, Javier FERNANDEZ CORTÉS, STOA Scholar and George KALLIS, STOA Scholar.
- The Secretariat-General of the National Plan for R&D of Spain is holding a Seminar on 'Research, Technology and Employment' within the context of the Spanish Presidency of the EU in Madrid on 6-8 December 1995. STOA will take a role in the parallel session on 'Foresight studies' through the participation of Dick HOLDSWORTH, STOA Head of Unit.
- The Forward Studies Unit (Cellule de prospective) has written to Mr Robert RAMSEY, Director-General for Research, to inform him about their latest studies. Further information from the STOA Unit.

REPORTS, PAPERS, BRIEFS

- . Work in Progress - The following working documents are currently in the process of being submitted to the STOA Panel:
 - 'Siberian Forests and Timber Trade' Working document and Options Brief for the STOA Panel.** This document was written by Giovanni ROMOLI, STOA Scholar, and was refereed by Mr George CHABRZYK, Ecosystems Ltd, and Mr Nicolas TAVITIAN, Globe Europe Network.
 - 'Nutrition in Europe. Nutrition policy and public health in the European community and models for european eating habits on the threshold of the 21st century' Working document for the STOA Panel.** This draft report has been written by an international team headed by Prof. A. TRICHOPOULOU, National Nutrition Centre/WHO Collaborating Centre, National School of Public Health, Athens. Pilar ROZA MANZANO, STOA Scholar coordinated the project and Georges MEZELAS, former STOA Administrator, contributed to the report.
 Please refer to the Workshop section of this newsletter for details about the workshop on 'Nutrition in Europe'.
 - 'The First International Partnership Meeting on the Cooperation between the European Union and the CIS and Baltic States in the Field of Nuclear Safeguards, St. Petersburg 10 -11 April 1995'.** The editors of this document are Dick HOLDSWORTH, STOA Head of Unit, and Oxana SELSKA, Contractor.
 - 'Cultural Theory and Technology Assessment', A working document for the STOA Panel.** This document was written by Michael THOMPSON of The Musgrave Institute, London.

- 'Esquisse pour une Etude du Systeme de la Comitologie Communautaire' Document de travail pour le STOA Panel. This document was written by Mariagrazia FORCELLA.
- 'Additionality as a Principal of European R&D Funding' working document for the STOA Panel. The authors of the publication are P.A. DAVID, All Souls College, Oxford and A. GEUMA and W.E. STEINMUELLER, MERIT, University of Limburg. STOA acknowledges the guidance and support of Glyn FORD, MEP, the comments of Mrs Ros HERMAN, and the data supplied by the services of the European Commission.

PROJECT STEERING GROUPS

- The following Project Steering Group meeting has recently taken place:

Research

Nanotechnology

Date/Place: 7 November 1995, Brussels

Participants: Mr J. McNALLY, assistant to Mrs McNALLY, MEP; Mrs B. KOWALKOWSKA, assistant to Mr CHICHESTER, MEP; Mr R. GARRELFs, consultant of Van der Meer & Van Tilburg, Netherlands; Mr K. GINOS, CEC, DGIII-F2, Long Term Research; Mr F. STEWARD and Mr Stephen KEITH, Aston Business school, UK, Mrs I. MALSCH, STOA Scholar.

Any Other Information: The topics of discussion were the first draft of Chapter One entitled 'Nano-Technology: Social Map and State of the Art' and relevant issues which should be addressed in the rest of the project, notably in the areas of likely future technological development, expected social effects and consequences for the competitive position of European Industry.

For more information please contact the following STOA member(s):
Ineke MALSCH

WORKSHOPS

Workshops to take place in December, 1995

- Life Sciences

Nutrition in Europe. Nutrition policy and public health in the European community and models for european eating habits on the threshold of the 21st century.

The workshop will be held on Monday 4th December, 14h00-19h00, Room Leo 07C50, Brussels and will be chaired by Mr Georgios ANASTASSOPOULOS, Vice-President of the European Parliament. Simultaneous interpretation will be available, until 17h30, in English, French and Greek.

For further information, please contact Pilar ROZA MANZANO

Research

The Information Society

A Workshop concerning the Lead Project 'The Information Society' will be held on Wednesday, 6th December, 09h00-18h00, Room Leo 07C50, Brussels. Simultaneous interpretation will be available, until 17h30, in English and French.

For further information, please contact Ineke MALSCH, Caroline RAY and Christine WENNRICH.

Workshop planned for January 1996

Life Sciences

New Biomedical Technologies: A Prospective Assessment

It is proposed to hold a Workshop concerning Chapter 4 'Ethical, Legal, social and Economic Aspects' of this project in January 1996. Preliminary planning actions are being taken.

For further information, please contact Pilar ROZA MANZANO, Adam HEDGECOE and Caroline RAY.

OTHER STOA INFORMATION

- Please address your requests for any of the documents listed above to Ms Caroline RAY by fax (for details see list at the end).

STOA TEAM MEMBERS

NAME	FUNCTION	PHONE	OFFICE
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OFFICIALS

HOLDSWORTH, Dick	Head of Unit	4300-2511	SCH 4/81
		284 -3747	EAS 113
SERCU, Karin	Secretary	284 -3748	EAS 112
WEIWERS, Jackie	Secretary	4300-2623	SCH 4/82
BATAZZI, Davide	Secretariat	4300-2829	SCH 4/82

STOA Fellows, Scholars and Visitors

MASARNAU, Juan	TA & Energy Specialist, Senior STOA Fellow	4300-3923	SCH 4/36
FERNÁNDEZ CORTÉS, Javier	Mining Engineer, STOA Scholar	4300-4342	SCH 4/83
DEL PANTA, Andrea	Engineer, STOA Scholar	4300-4342	SCH 4/83
HEDGECOE, Adam	Philosopher, STOA Scholar	4300-3486	SCH4/104a
KALLIS, George	Environmental Engineer, STOA Scholar	4300-4333	SCH 4/84a
MALSCH, Ineke	TA Specialist, STOA Scholar	4300-4226	SCH 4/84
RAY, Caroline	Computer Scientist/Ergonomist, STOA Scholar	4300-4333	SCH 4/84a
ROZA MANZANO, Pilar	Biologist/Nutritionist, STOA Scholar	284 -2473	EAS 125
WENNRICH, Christine	Social Scientist, EPTA Coordinator, STOA Scholar	4300-3596	EAS 4/84

Financial Administration (DG IV)

OVERSTALL, JOHN	Administration	4300-2618	SCH 6/07
DROZDOW, Friedel	Administration	4300-2676	SCH 6/25
DAVIES, Ellen	Secretary	4300-3424	SCH 6/27

	Fax Numbers	Phone Numbers	Addresses
Luxembourg (+352)	4300-2418 or 4300-4167	4300-2511 or 4300-3596	Schuman Building L-2929 Luxembourg
Bruxelles (+322)	284 -9059	284 -3748 or 284 -3752	Eastman Building B-1047 Bruxelles
Strasbourg (+33)	8817-9040	8817-2259 or 8817-4712	Palais Building (Offices 2078 - 2079) F-67070 Strasbourg

