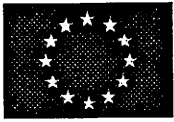


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STOA NEWSLETTER

European Parliament - Directorate-General for Research - Directorate A

March 1999

Customs fraud and the internal market

Are delays in introducing a common computerised customs system undermining the principle and practice of the internal market? A new STOA study examines the situation behind the heavy financial losses caused by customs and VAT frauds that have been reported: 750 million ECU in 1990 to 1995 for transit frauds and 70 billion ECU (1991-1993) for VAT frauds. The study on 'State of play of the inter-state customs computer network' is in its Draft Final form, prepared by the Italian consultancy Pragmata, of Reggio-Emilia.

New work styles for an information age

There has been much general talk about the changes that are taking place in traditional working patterns now that the Information Society has arrived, but often the same small number of examples are quoted over and over again. A new STOA study tries to get at the reality, and the realistic prospects. 'Technology-induced atypical workforms', by Fondation Travail-Université of Namur, Belgium, will go to the STOA Panel on 11 March.

A new STOA product: The Briefing Note

STOA and its sister services within the European Parliament's Directorate-General for Research are now producing a type of document known as a Briefing Note ('Fiche thématique') on topical issues. STOA's Briefing Notes will be on scientific and technological policy issues. The first three, drafted by *Ramon y Cajal* Scholars in the STOA Unit, are on: 'Marine science and technology in the R&TD Framework Programmes', 'Linguistic minorities and the Information Society in the EU' and 'The aerospace industry in Europe'.

Information on STOA on the EP website

A range of information on STOA - such as the composition of the STOA Panel, the agenda of the Panel meetings, the present Newsletter, the Workplan, the list of publications - can be found on the STOA webpage (<http://www.europarl.eu.int/dg4/stoa/en/default.htm>), part of the EP's website. Two studies are also at the STOA site (GMOs and Political Control) with more to follow soon.

Strasbourg, 10 March 1999

PE 167.868

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This document does not necessarily represent the views of the European Parliament.

NEWS

- Presentation of 'Ethics' project at Research Committee meeting**
MM. HEDGECOE and ISAKSEN of the Centre for Professional Ethics of the University of Central Lancashire, UK, will be giving a presentation of the 1999 Interim Study on 'Ethical issues in European research and technology' at the meeting of the Committee on Research, Technological Development and Energy on 17 March in Brussels (Room LEO 3-G-3).
- European Parliamentary Technology Assessment (EPTA)**
A new edition of the EPTA Newsletter, dated February 1999, is available, as well as the Draft Final EPTA Yearbook 1998/99.
- New edition of the STOA Publications List**
A new edition, dated February 1999, is available.
- Presentations to STOA Panel**
Two presentations are foreseen at the STOA Panel meeting on 11 March 1999 in Strasbourg: (1) Prof. Panayotis ASSIMAKOPOULOS of the University of Ioannina, Greece, on the Workshop held on 5 February 1998 on 'Survey and evaluation of criticism of basic safety standards for the protection of workers and the public against ionising radiation', chaired by Mrs AHERN and Mr LANNOYE, MEPs, and (2) MM. Patrick KENIS and Flip MAAS of the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna, Austria, on the Workshop on 23-24 April 1998 on 'Drug use: Scientific and technological contributions to the assessment of policy options on drug use and related treatments, from the level of individual treatment to the national and European policy level', chaired by Mrs HEINISCH, Vice-Chairman of STOA.
- Presentation by representatives of FORATOM**
MM. PROUTEAU and CHAVARDÈS of FORATOM gave a presentation of Foratom's activities to the STOA staff on 24 February in Brussels, in view of possible future collaboration.

WORKING DOCUMENTS, STUDIES, PAPERS, BRIEFS

Work in Progress - The following Working documents are being presented to the STOA Panel in March:

Workplan 1998

- State of play of the interstate customs computer network**, by Maurizio PEDRELLI, Pragmata srl, Reggio-Emilia, Italy
Draft Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1998 - 98/04/01, EN, March 1999, PE 167.793/Drft.Fin.St.

- A nuclear amplifier for energy for electricity production**, by Jean-Pierre HUSSON and Philippe DE MONTGOLFIER, ESSOR Europe, Paris, France
 Interim Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1998 - 98/05/04, EN, March 1999, PE 167.954/Int.St.
- Technology-induced atypical workforms**, by Gérard VALENDUC and Patricia VENDRAMIN, Fondation Travail-Université (FTU) asbl, Namur, Belgium, in association with Andrew GILLESPIE and Randal RICHARDSON, CURDS, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK
 Draft Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1998 - 98/08/01, EN, March 1999, PE 167.794/Drft.Fin.St.
- Sustainable use of pesticides**, by Lood VAN VELZEN, MTI Institute for Environmental Technology, Nijmegen, the Netherlands, in association with Froukje BALK, Haskoning, Nijmegen, the Netherlands
 Draft Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1998 - 98/11/01, EN, March 1999, PE 167.326/Drft.Fin.St.
 Options Brief, PE 167.326/O.B.
 Executive Summary, PE 167.326/Exec.Sum.
- Orphan drugs**, by Stéphane LAMY, StratCare, Paris, France
 Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1998 - 98/11/03, EN, March 1999, PE 167.780/Fin.St.
 Options Brief, PE 167.780/O.B.
 Executive Summary, PE 167.780/Exec.Sum.
- Ways to facilitate the EP's work by the use of new technologies**, by Eric SUTTER, Bureau Van Dijk, Paris, France
 Scoping Paper and Scoping Meeting Report, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1998 - 98/18/01, FR, March 1999, PE 167.956/Scop.Pap.&Scop.Meet.Rep./FR
- EPTA Yearbook 1998/99**, by Nikos BOGONIKOLOS, ZEUS, Patras, Greece
 Draft Final, EN, March 1999, PE 168.217/Drft.Fin.
- Several Project Briefs for 1999 projects are also available.
- New**
 Several STOA Scholars have written briefing notes on a variety of subjects which we will be making available as from now on. These have been published so far:
 - Marine science and technology in the R&TD Framework Programmes**, by Kathrin PRIESS, Ramón y Cajal Scholar
 Briefing Note: STOA/N°1/99, March 1999, PE 168.181
 - Linguistic minorities and the information society in the EU**, by Sari RAUTIO, Ramón y Cajal Scholar
 Briefing Note: STOA/N°2/99, March 1999, PE 168.182

The aerospace industry in Europe, by Roberta DANTE, Ramón y Cajal Scholar
Briefing Note: STOA/N°4/99, March 1999, PE 168.184

PROJECT STEERING GROUPS

The following Project Steering Groups (PSG) will be holding PSG or Scoping meetings:

Workplan 1999

- 99/12/01 - Linguistic diversity on the Internet.** A Project Steering Group meeting with Mr ROBLES PIQUER, MEP, will be held on 11 March 1999 in Strasbourg.

The following Project Steering Groups (PSG) have held meetings in the past months:

Workplan 1999

- 99/03/01 - Cost-benefit analysis of EU RTD research**

Date/place: 10 March 1999, Strasbourg

Participants included: Mr ADAM, MEP; Mr CRUVEILLE, Assistant to Mr Adam; Mrs SARVARANTA, DGII/Secretariat of the Committee on Research/Energy; Mr OFFERMANN, DGIV; Mr BÖHNE, DGIV; Mr SEVILLA, DGIV; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit; Mr SOSA, STOA Projects Administrator; Mrs ZIANGA, STOA Scholar; Ms LUEGINGER, STOA Scholar.

Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Project Brief and a set of overheads.

For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.

- 99/05/01 - Genetically modified food**

Date/place: 25 February 1999, Brussels

Participants included: Mr ADAM, MEP; Mr PIBERHOFFER, Assistant to Mr Tannert; Mr WILKINSON, Assistant to Mr Bowe; Mr MASSOT, DGIV/Agriculture Division; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit; Mr SOSA, STOA Projects Administrator; Ms DANTE, STOA Scholar; Ms CORDÓN, STOA Scholar; Ms LUEGINGER, STOA Scholar; Mrs ZIANGA, STOA Scholar.

Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Project Brief.

For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.

- 99/13/01 - Evaluation of agricultural or other technologies against hunger and poverty

Date/place: 25 February 1999, Brussels

Participants included: Mr ROBLES PIQUER, MEP; Mr MAURIN DE FARIÑA, Assistant; Mrs CAUS, DGII, Committee on Development and Cooperation; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit; Mr SOSA, STOA Projects Administrator; Ms VIGNERON, STOA Scholar.

Contractors: Mr BOUSSARD and Mr SASSI, INRA, France

Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Scoping Paper.

For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.

- 99/14/01 - Crowd control and prison technologies

Date/place: 16 February 1999, Brussels

Participants included: Mr FORD, MEP; Mr VAN DER PERRE, Head of Division Environment/Energy/STOA; Mr SOSA, STOA Projects Administrator; Ms DANTE, STOA Scholar; Ms LUEGINGER, STOA Scholar; Mrs ZIANGA, STOA Scholar.

Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Project Brief.

For more information please contact: Marcelo SOSA.

- 99/19/01 - Women professionals in the media

Date/place: 9 March 1999, Strasbourg

Participants included: Mrs HEINISCH, MEP; Ms BURKHART, Assistant to Mrs Heinisch; Mr SOSA, STOA Projects Administrator; Ms VIGNERON, STOA Scholar; Ms LUEGINGER, STOA Scholar.

Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Project Brief.

For more information please contact: Marcelo SOSA.

- 99/20/01 - Personal protective equipment at work

Date/place: 11 February 1999, Strasbourg

Participants included: Mr CAMISÓN ASENSIO, MEP; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit; Mr SOSA, STOA Projects Administrator; Ms ROSSI, STOA Scholar; Ms CORDÓN, STOA Scholar; Ms HAUTAMÄKI, STOA Scholar, Mr MOURAO, STOA stagiaire.

Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Project Brief.

For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.

Please address your requests for any of the documents listed above to Mr Frans SCHAERLAEKEN by fax (+352-4300.22418) or e-mail (fschaerlaeken@europarl.eu.int).

STOA Workplan 1999: Table of projects

<i>Committee</i>		<i>Project title</i>	<i>Member responsible</i>
03	Budgets	Cost-benefit analysis of EU research and technological development programmes	SAMLAND, WYNN
04	Economic	Economic aspects of the development of technologies for the waste treatment industry	VON WOGAU, MALERBA
05	Research	Genetically-modified food: Objectives for EU funded research and development	SCAPAGNINI, ADAM
		Use of new technologies and cost of water management in view of the new water directive of the EU	SCAPAGNINI, ESTEVAN BOLEA
06	External economic	The impact of rapid technological change in information technology on the stability of world trade and international capital flows	HERZOG, SEPPÄNEN
07	Legal	New technologies for the marketing and sale of medicines on the Internet and television networks	DE CLERCQ, MOSEK-URBAHN
10	Transport	Technological options for a community strategy for a system of navigation by satellite (GNSSI)	BAZIN, LANGENHAGEN
12	Culture	Linguistic diversity on the Internet: Assessment of the contribution of machine translation	PEX, ROBLES PIQUER
13	Development	Evaluation of agricultural or other technologies fighting against hunger and poverty	ROCARD, ROBLES PIQUER
14	Civil liberties	Crowd control and prison technologies (An appraisal of technologies of political control)	D'ANCONA, FORD
19	Women's rights	Women professionals in the media in the context of new technological developments	HAUTALA, McNALLY, HEINISCH
20	Petitions	Personal protective equipment at work	FONTANA, CAMISÓN ASENSIO

STOA Workplan 1998: Summary of projects

<i>Committee project n°</i>	<i>Committee</i>	<i>Project title</i>
0201	Agriculture	Consequences of climate change for agricultural production
0401	EMAC	State of play of the interstate customs computer network
0501	CERT	Ethical issues in European research and technology
0502		Comparative study into coalmining technology and costs between the EU (including countries of C. and E. Europe) and major competitors in USA, Australia, S. Africa
0503		Building regulations as a means of requiring energy saving and use of renewable energies: current status and future potential at Member State and EU level
0504		A nuclear amplifier for energy for electricity production
0505		Bio-informatics: a technology assessment of recent developments in bio-informatics and related areas of research and development including high-throughput screening and combinatorial chemistry
0801	ASOC	Technology-induced atypical work-forms: Existing and proposed regulatory strategies concerning social agents (state, employers, trade unions) dealing with technologically-induced a-typical forms of work (tele-work, stand-by work, 24-hour-office-operation)
0901	Regional	The selection of indicators for the evaluation of programmes of regional assistance in the European Union: Classification of criteria for an empirical assessment principally based on research and development, technological innovation and technology transfer indicators
1001	Transport	Revitalising railways: Examples of failures and successes in the revitalisation of railways outside the European Union
1101	Environment	Sustainable use of pesticides
1102		Biodiversity strategy
1103		Orphan drugs
1201	Culture	Cultural diversity in the new media
1301	Development	SMEs, technology and development
1302		New options for renewable energy sources, including solar power, in the developing world
1401	Civil liberties	Development of surveillance technology and risk of abuse of economic information (Appraisal of technologies of political control)
1402		Use of modern technology for the purpose of setting up a European juridical network
1701	Fisheries	The problem of discards in fisheries
1801	Rules	Ways to facilitate the EP's work by the use of new technologies

STOA PANEL

Committee

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Mr David BOWE (UK, PSE)

EP BUREAU REPRESENTATIVE (non-voting)

Mr Guido PODESTÀ (I, PPE) Vice-President of the EP

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.....	(.....,)	Budgets
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Mr Gordon ADAM	(UK, PSE)	Fisheries
Mr Florus WIJSENBEEK	(NL, ELDR)	Rules of Procedure
Mrs Eryl McNALLY	(UK, PSE)	Women's Rights
Mr Felipe CAMISÓN ASENSIO	(ES, PPE)	Petitions

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Mr James PROVAN	(UK, PPE)	Fisheries
Mrs Renate HEINISCH	(D, PPE)	Women's Rights

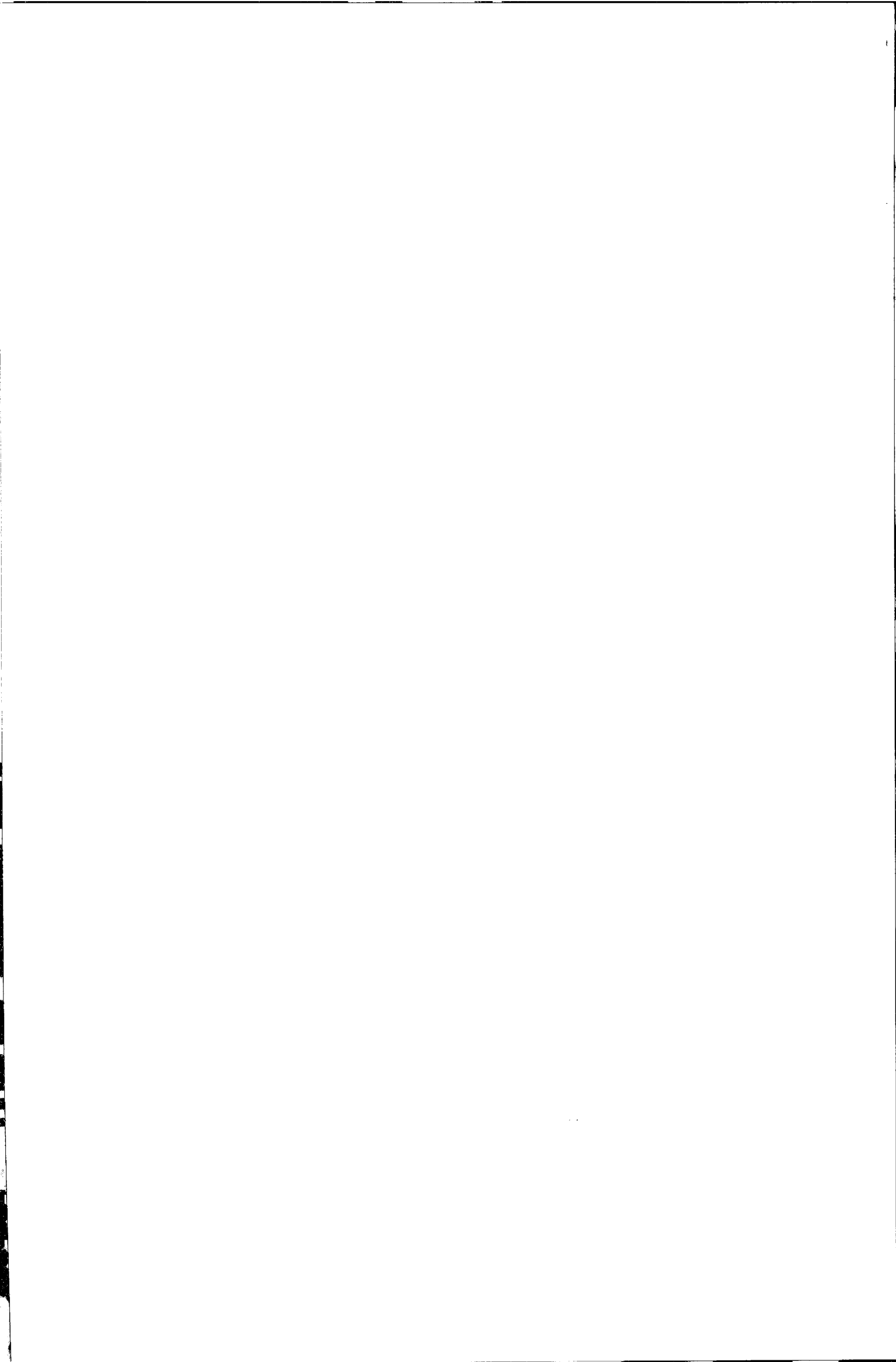
ONLY THE MEMBERS NAMED ABOVE HAVE THE **RIGHT TO VOTE** AT THE
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