



STOA NEWSLETTER

European Parliament - Directorate-General for Research - Directorate A

April 2000

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STOA Workplan 2000 now totals 18 projects

Further to the 15 projects already adopted by the STOA Panel at its meetings of 20 January and 17 February, and approved by the EP Bureau on 1 March, three more projects were adopted by the STOA Panel on 16 March. The approval by the EP Bureau on these is now being sought. See inside for a full overview.

'Health risks posed by silicone implants' - Draft Final Study available now

The Draft Final Study will be delivered to the Panel meeting on 13 April. A presentation by the contractor, Dr Martín-Moreno of the Spanish School of National Health, Madrid, Spain, is expected at the meeting of the Committee on Petitions on 23 May in Brussels. For more information, see under 'News'.

STOA welcomes new Head of Team

STOA says farewell to Dick HOLDSWORTH, under whose tutelage STOA became what it is today. Dick will be following STOA's work from the Secretariat of the Committee on Industry, Technological Development, Research and Energy of the European Parliament. We wish him well. Graham CHAMBERS took over from Dick in April and his introductory words to the STOA Panel are reproduced on page 3.

Strasbourg, 13 April 2000

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NEWS

- **Introductory words of Graham CHAMBERS to the STOA Panel at the meeting on 13 April in Strasbourg**

Mr Chairman, Vice-Chairmen and Members of the STOA Panel.

It is an honour to address you in my new capacity as head of **STOA**.

Owing to my previous experience as a scientist with the British Ministry of Defence, followed by experience as Head of Meteorology and Upper Air Physics research on a research base in Antarctica, and then as a geology and geophysics analyst with the oil exploration industry, I am very pleased to have been appointed to this post

STOA was set up to provide information, where possible, in the form of concise studies and briefings on scientific and technological policy options, where the European Parliament needs a counterbalance to the often highly technical information provided by the Commission and by various lobby and special interest groups. The interface between science and technology and the political decision-making process is often a minefield where gems of truth lie intermingled with unexploded myths - not to mention the corpses of unwary scientists and decision-makers.

STOA is also the classical Greek for portico and calls to mind the Renaissance painting by Raphael of the classical Greek philosophers - Aristotle, Socrates, Pythagoras, discoursing on the steps of the entrance to the Athenian Acropolis. It is an appropriate image and yet I think it very important to reinforce the substance behind this portico. After all it is the thoughts and words of the philosophers depicted by Raphael which will survive long after the portico itself is reduced to dust.

Reinforcing the substance behind **STOA** requires what I shall call the seven virtues:

- 1) **responsibility** in deciding what projects **STOA** should and should not undertake.
- 2) **relevance** to the work of Parliament and its Committees.
- 3) **rapidity** of execution - for a late study is of use only to historians.
- 4) **rigour** - both scientific and linguistic ensure both accuracy and comprehension.
- 5) **rectitude** - in budgetary matters, to ensure value for money and to avoid needless duplication and waste.
- 6) **respect** for collegiality and cooperation with the other services of the Directorate-General, and finally,
- 7) **relationships** - good ones, both within **STOA**, within the DG for Research and between **STOA** and science and technology organs and academia within and outside the EU.

My responsibility is to ensure that the **STOA** Workplan, once adopted by the Panel, is carried out in the most efficient way possible with the emphasis on speed consistent with quality. I shall try my best to reinforce the identity and spirit of **STOA**, while at the same time ensuring a greater degree of collaboration between **STOA** and the other Research Divisions of DGIV.

I would like here to pay tribute to **Mr Dick Holdsworth**, who held the post I now occupy

since the beginning of **STOA**. He has created in **STOA** a formidable "esprit de corps" and identity which is a considerable asset to any organisation and which contributes greatly to **STOA's** work. It is in no small measure due to his persistence and single-minded determination that **STOA** both survived and thrived.

I would like to pay tribute to the staff of **STOA** - the **STOA Scholars** whose job it is to oversee, coordinate and contribute to particular studies, **Karin Sercu, Jackie Weivers and Frans Schaerlaeken**, the permanent staff who organise the meetings of the Panel and see through the preparation, editing, printing and publication of the **STOA** studies, **Mr Overstall** whose job is to keep us on the narrow path of fiscal rectitude, the **Steering Groups and academic referees** who keep us on the path of academic rectitude and ensure that our publications are of high quality. I would like also to mention **Mr Karapiperis**, the new and highly-qualified deputy, based in Brussels and to his secretary and assistant **Marianne Martinsson**.

Finally, I wish to pay tribute to the hierarchy of the Directorate-General for Research - the Head of Division **Mr Van der Perre** (who has now retired after long and distinguished service), and last, but certainly not least, the Director **Mr Silvestro** and the Director General, **Mr Cioffi** who, as the highest officials, are responsible for relations with you, the members and office-holders of the **STOA Panel** and the highest political organs of the Parliament.

I wish to thank you Mr Chairman, the Vice-Chairmen and Members of the **STOA Panel** for your indulgence in listening to this introduction and for your continued support and enthusiasm for **STOA**.

- Presentation on 'Women professionals in the media'**
Mrs FORCELLA of TESEO, Bergamo, Italy, will be giving a presentation on the 99/19/01 **STOA** study on 'Women professionals in the media in the context of new technological developments' at the meeting of the Committee on Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities on Monday, 17 April afternoon, in Brussels (room P7C50).
- Presentation on 'Silicones'**
Mr MARTÍN-MORENO of the Spanish School of National Health, Madrid, Spain will be giving a presentation on 99/20/02 study on 'Health risks posed by silicone implants in general, with a special attention to breast implants' at the meeting of the Committee on Petitions on Tuesday, 23 May, in Brussels (room P7C50).
- Presentation at next **STOA Panel** meeting**
Prof. FERRAN SANZ I CARRERAS and Mr ALONSO of the School of Health and Life Sciences, Barcelona, Spain, have been invited to give a presentation on their study 99/07/01 'New technologies for the marketing and sale of medicines on the Internet and television networks at the next **STOA Panel** meeting on 18 May in Strasbourg (room SDM7)

WORKING DOCUMENTS, STUDIES, PAPERS, BRIEFS

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

Workplan 1999

- Health risks posed by silicone implants in general, with a special attention to breast implants**, by José MARTÍN-MORENO, National School of Public Health, Madrid, Spain
Draft Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/20/02, EN, April 2000, PE168.396/Drft.Fin.St.
- Digital technology and its impact on the EU entertainment and media sectors**, by Helga TREIBER, Teleport Sachsen-Anhalt, Brussels, Belgium; and Mario MARTINOLI, iCons srl, Lodi, Italy
Interim Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/JURI/01, EN, April 2000, PE289.663/Int.St.

Workplan 2000

- Globalisation of the media industry and possible threats to cultural diversity**
Project Brief, Workplan 2000 -00/C13-CULT/01, EN, March 2000
- Environmental and health impact of aviation**
Project Brief, Workplan 2000 -00/C07-ITRE/02, EN, April 2000

Also available are the following briefing notes by the STOA Scholars:

- The precautionary principle: Options for policy making, briefing n°01/2000 by Jim DRATWA, WIP 2000/03/0180, PE168.385/rev., April 2000
- Surrogates species richness: Ecological tools for policy and planning in conservation, briefing n° 02/2000 by Andrea GRILL, WIP 2000/03/0147, PE289.657/rev.
- The potential energy savings in an urban environment, briefing n°05/2000 by Irini KOROMPILIA, WIP 2000/03/0094, PE 289.660/rev.

PROJECT STEERING GROUPS

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

- 00/C10-AGRI/01 - The consequences of enlargement on EU agriculture.** A Project Steering Group meeting with Mr GRAEFE zu BARINGDORF, Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, is planned to be held on 19 April in Brussels.

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

Workplan 2000

- 00/C07-ITRE/02 - Environmental and health impact of aviation**
Date/place: 5 April 2000, Brussels
Participants included: Mrs LUCAS, MEP; Mrs FOSTER, MEP; Mr HEALY, Green Group; Mr KRAUS, DGII/Secretariat of the Committee on Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism; Mr CHAMBERS, Head of STOA; Mr DRATWA, STOA Scholar; Mr BERTRAM, Trainee of Mr Linkohr; Ms BOMMESBACH, Trainee of Mr Kraus
Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Project Brief
For more information please contact: Graham CHAMBERS

- 00/C09-ENVI/02 - A European health card**
Date/place: 23 March 2000, Brussels
Participants included: Mr TRAKATELLIS, MEP; Mr KARAPIPERIS, STOA; Ms HELLARA, STOA; Ms ROMERO DE CÓRDOBA, STOA Scholar
Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Project Brief
For more information please contact: Cristina HELLARA

- 00/C13-CULT/01 - Globalisation of the media industry and possible threats to cultural diversity**
Date/place: 5 April 2000, Brussels
Participants included: Mr GRAÇA MOURA, MEP; Mr SALTER and Mr ORTLIEB, DGII/Secretariat of the Committee on Culture; Mr FISCHER, Green Group; Mrs CORTES, PPE; Mr SKIPPON, DGIII; Mr KARAPIPERIS, STOA; Ms HELLARA, STOA; Mr DRATWA, STOA Scholar; Ms SALVA-GARAU, STOA Scholar; Ms JONES, stagiaire of Mr Hänsch
Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Project Brief
For more information please contact: Cristina HELLARA

Workplan 1999

- 99/JURI/02 - The impact of electronic commerce on the competitiveness of SMEs in the European Union**
Date/place: 21 March 2000, Brussels
Participants included: Mr HARBOUR, MEP; Mr POWELL, PPE; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Team; Ms HELLARA, STOA; Ms ROMERO DE CÓRDOBA, STOA Scholar
Contractors: Mrs TANG of SPRU, University of Sussex, Brighton, UK and Mr POWELL and Ms WORLOCK of EPS, UK
Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Scoping Paper
For more information please contact: Cristina HELLARA

- 99/ENVI/01 - Recycled cooking oils: Assessment of risks for public health**
Date/place: 23 March 2000, Brussels
Participants included: Mr TRAKATELLIS, MEP; Mr KARAPIPERIS, STOA; Ms HELLARA, STOA; Ms ROMERO DE CÓRDOBA, STOA Scholar
Contractors: Prof. CODONY and Dr RAFECAS of the University of Barcelona, Spain
Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Scoping Paper
For more information please contact: Theo KARAPIPERIS

- 99/ENVI/02 - Dioxins and PCBs: Environment and health effects**
Date/place: 28 March 2000, Brussels
Participants included: Mr TRAKATELLIS, MEP; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Team; Mr KARAPIPERIS; STOA; Ms HELLARA, STOA; Mr DRATWA, STOA Scholar; Ms ROMERO DE CÓRDOBA, STOA Scholar; Mr DIETZ, Research Council of Norway
Contractors: Mr POTRYKUS of IRCE, Munchen, and Mr JOAS of BIPRO, Munchen, Germany
Main outcomes: The Interim Study was presented and discussed.
For more information please contact: Theo KARAPIPERIS

OTHER STOA INFORMATION

- STOA is glad to announce that the following has joined the Team in Luxembourg: Fabio BOLOTTI, an Italian Ramón y Cajal Scholar, who is an aerospace engineer.

- STOA shall miss Mr VAN DER PERRE, Head of Division, who has recently retired after long and distinguished service in the European Parliament. We are grateful for the commitment and support he has given to STOA and the STOA Team over the years, and wish him and his family well in retirement.

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 2000 - SUMMARY

Projects adopted at the STOA Panel meetings of 20 January, 17 February and 16 March 2000 and approved by the Bureau of the European Parliament at its meeting of 1 March 2000 (except for those marked ** where a decision by the EP Bureau is still pending)

Committee <i>CHAIRMAN/Head of Division</i>	Project title	Member(s) responsible
01-AFET <i>E. BROK C. Huber</i>	01/01-New technologies in defence policy and conflict management: A challenge for the EU	Mr MORILLON Messrs LAGENDIJK and GAHRTON
05-ECON <i>C. RANDZIO-PLATH J.L. Berton</i>	05/01-Technological feasibility of reducing the costs of small cross-border credit transfers (CBCTs) within the euro-zone	Mrs RANDZIO-PLATH
06-JURI <i>A. PALACIO H.P. Schiffauer</i>	06/01-Security technologies for digital media	Mr HARBOUR
	99/JURI/02(*)-The impact of electronic commerce on the competitiveness of SMEs in the EU	Mr HARBOUR
07-ITRE <i>C. WESTENDORP L. Martin-Oar</i>	07/02-Environmental and health impact of aviation	Mrs LUCAS
09-ENVI <i>C. JACKSON F. Jacobs</i>	09/01-Microbiological threats to food	Mr TRAKATELLIS
	09/02-A European health card	Mr TRAKATELLIS
	09/03-Ecological footprinting (**)	Mr DE ROO
	09/04-Neurotoxicology of environmental pollutants (**)	Mr NISTICO
	99/ENVI/01(*)-Recycled cooking oils: Assessment of risks for public health	Mr TRAKATELLIS
10-AGRI <i>F. GRAEFE G. Comini</i>	10/01-The consequences of enlargement on EU agriculture	Mr GRAEFE zu BARINGDORF
12-RETT <i>K. HATZIDAKIS F. Wiehler</i>	12/01-Meeting demand for sustainable transport and transport infrastructure in the enlarged EU	Mr COSTA
13-CULT <i>G. GARGANI M. Houben</i>	13/01-Globalisation of the media industry and possible threats to cultural diversity	Mr GRAÇA MOURA
	13/02-Communications, culture and access to new information resources: An assessment of cultural and technological obstacles to Europe's transformation into an information society	Mr VANDER TAELEN

	13/04-Technological requirements in architectural and archeological restoration	Mrs GUTIÉRREZ-CORTINES
14-DEVE <i>J. MIRANDA</i> <i>G. Friedel</i>	14/01-Developing countries and the ICT revolution (**)	Mr WIJKMAN
	14/02-Technology cooperation in the field of environmentally sound technologies	Mr WIJKMAN
17-PETI <i>V. GEMELLI</i> <i>E. Boaretto</i>	17/01-Comparative study on possibly toxic effects resulting from the reprocessing plants at Cap La Hague and Sellafield	

(*) Projects already approved at the Panel meeting of 19 October 1999 being executed under the 2000 budget

(**) Projects where approval from the Bureau of the EP is being sought

AFET: Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security and Defence Policy BUDG: Budgets BUDC: Budgetary Control LIBE: Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs ECON: Economic and Monetary Affairs JURI: Legal Affairs and the Internal Market ITRE: Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy EMPL: Employment and Social Affairs	ENVI: Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy AGRI: Agriculture and Rural Development PECH: Fisheries RETT: Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism CULT: Culture, Youth, Education, the Media and Sport DEVE: Development and Cooperation AFCO: Constitutional Affairs FEMM: Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities PETI: Petitions
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STOA Workplan 1999: Table of projects

NOTICE: The numbering of the projects is based on the Committee Number in the way they were named and listed during the out-going EP in June 1999.

<i>Committee</i>		<i>Project title</i>	<i>Member(s) responsible</i>
03/01	Budgets	Cost-benefit analysis of EU research and technological development programmes	SAMLAND, WYNN
04/01	Economic	Economic aspects of the development of technologies for the waste treatment industry	VON WOGAU, MALERBA
05/02	Research	Genetically-modified food: Objectives for EU funded research and development	SCAPAGNINI, ADAM
05/02		Use of new technologies and cost of water management in view of the new water directive of the EU	SCAPAGNINI, ESTEVAN BOLEA
06/01	External economic	The impact of rapid technological change in information technology on the stability of world trade and international capital flows	HERZOG, SEPPÄNEN
07/01	Legal	New technologies for the marketing and sale of medicines on the Internet and television networks	DE CLERCQ, MOSIEK-URBAHN
10/01	Transport	Technological options for a community strategy for a system of navigation by satellite (GNSS)	BAZIN, LANGENHAGEN
12/01	Culture	Linguistic diversity on the Internet: Assessment of the contribution of machine translation	PEX, ROBLES PIQUER
13/01	Development	Evaluation of agricultural or other technologies fighting against hunger and poverty	ROCARD, ROBLES PIQUER
14/01	Civil liberties	Crowd control and prison technologies (An appraisal of technologies of political control)	D'ANCONA, FORD
19/01	Women's rights	Women professionals in the media in the context of new technological developments	HAUTALA, McNALLY, HEINISCH
20/01	Petitions	Personal protective equipment at work	FONTANA, CAMISÓN ASENSIO
20/02		Health risks posed by silicone implants	FONTANA, SCHMIDBAUER, MILLER

URGENT ADDITIONAL PROJECTS 1999

Proposals for urgent additional STOA projects made since the European elections of 13 June 1999 by Committees of the newly elected European Parliament and adopted by the new STOA Panel at its meeting of 19 October 1999 in Brussels

NOTICE: The numbering of the projects is based on the Committee Number in the way they were named and listed after the elections of the EP in June 1999.

Committee Ref. n°	PROJECT TITLE
JURI 01	Digital technology evolution and its impact on the EU entertainment and media sectors
JURI 02	The impact of electronic commerce on the competitiveness of SMEs in the European Union
INDU 01	Physiological and environmental effects of electromagnetic radiation
INDU 02	Ethical implications of research involving human embryos
INDU/ENVI 03	European policy on food safety
ENVI 01	Recycled cooking oils: Assessment of risks for public health
ENVI 02	Dioxins and PCBs: Environment and health effects

STOA Panel

STOA Bureau

Antonios TRAKATELLIS, Chairman

David BOWE, Vice-Chairman

Yves PIÉTRASANTA, Vice-Chairman

Alejo VIDAL-QUADRAS ROCA, Vice-President of the EP, Member ex-officio of the STOA Bureau

	Committee	STOA Panel Member	STOA Panel Substitute
01	AFET	Philippe MORILLON (FR, PPE)	Francesco SPERONI (IT, TDI) Pedro MARSET CAMPOS (ES, GUE/NGL)
02	BUDG	Alejo VIDAL-QUADRAS ROCA (ES, PPE)	
03	CONT	Brigitte LANGENHAGEN (DE, PPE)	
04	LIBE	Christian VON BÖTTICHER (DE, PPE)	Glyn FORD (UK, PSE)
05	ECON	Alain LIPIETZ (FR, Greens/EFA)	Ioannis MARINOS (GR, PPE)
06	JURI	Malcolm HARBOUR (UK, PPE)	
07	ITRE	Paul RÜBIG (AU, PPE) Eryl McNALLY (UK, PSE)	Elly PLOOIJ-VAN GORSEL (NL, ELDR) Yves PIÉTRASANTA (FR, Greens/EFA) Konstantinos ALYSSANDRAKIS (GR, GUE/NGL)
08	EMPL	Pierre JONCKHEER (BE, Greens/EFA)	
09	ENVI	Antonios TRAKATELLIS (GR, PPE) David BOWE (UK, PSE)	Emilia MÜLLER (DE, PPE) Minerva MALLIORI (GR, PSE)
10	AGRI	Friedrich GRAEFE ZU BARINGDORF (DE, Greens/EFA)	
11	PECH	Dominique SOUCHET (FR, UEN)	
12	RETT	Per STENMARCK (SV, PPE)	Brian SIMPSON (UK, PSE)
13	CULT	Cristina GUTIÉRREZ-CORTINES (ES, PPE)	Christa PRETS (AU, PSE)
14	DEVE	Anders WIJMAN (SV, PPE)	

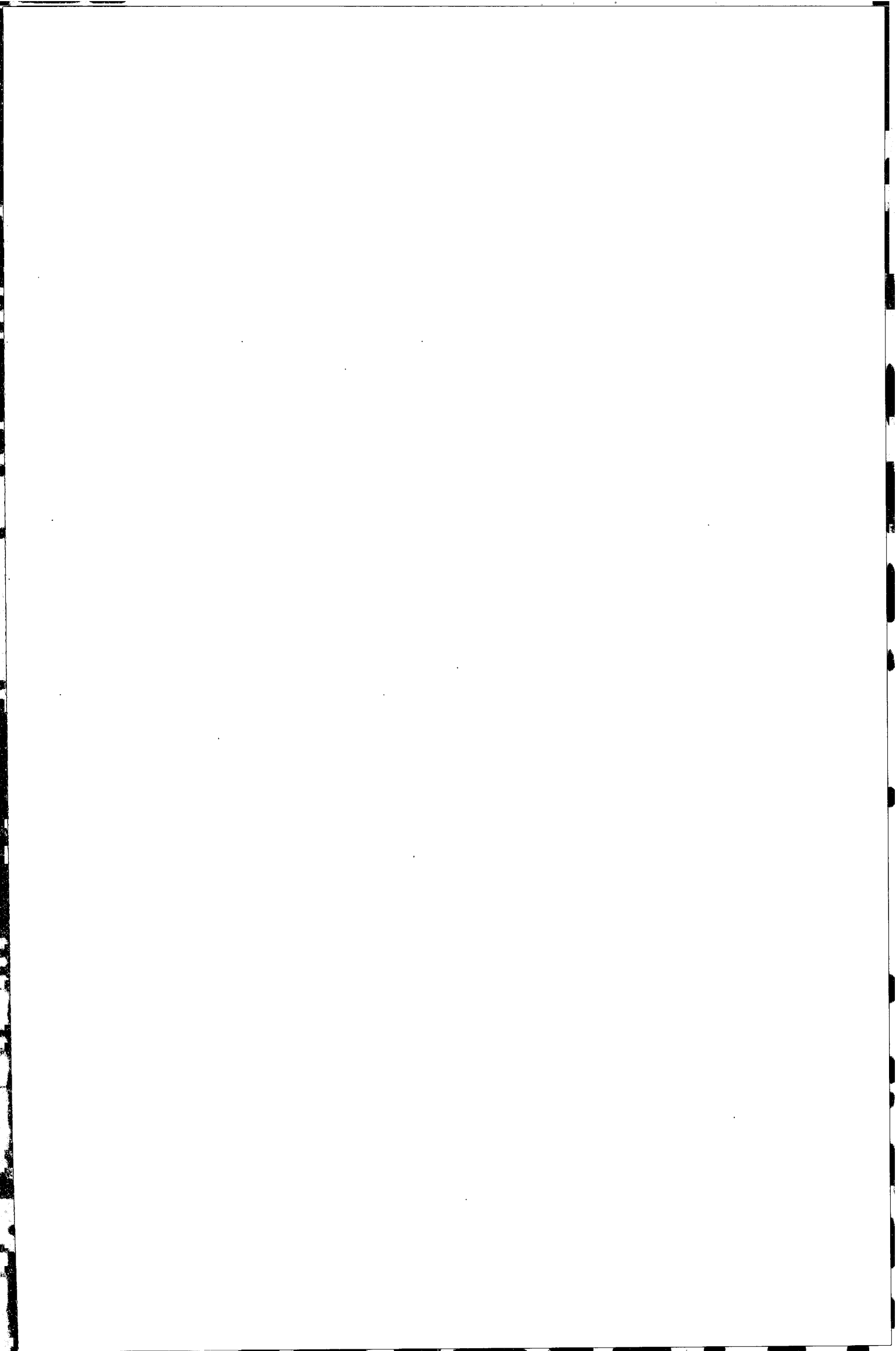
15	AFCO	Johannes VOGGENHUBER (AU, Greens /EFA)	
16	FEMM	Lissy GRÖNER (DE, PSE)	María AVILES-PEREA (ES, PPE)
17	PETI	Jean LAMBERT (UK, Greens/EFA)	Roy PERRY (UK, PPE)

ONLY THE MEMBERS NAMED ABOVE HAVE THE **RIGHT TO VOTE** AT THE
STOA PANEL MEETINGS WHICH ARE HELD EVERY THURSDAY OF STRASBOURG PART-SESSIONS.

AFET: Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security and Defence Policy BUDG: Budgets BUDC: Budgetary Control LIBE: Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs ECON: Economic and Monetary Affairs JURI: Legal Affairs and the Internal Market ITRE: Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy EMPL: Employment and Social Affairs	ENVI: Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy AGRI: Agriculture and Rural Development PECH: Fisheries RETT: Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism CULT: Culture, Youth, Education, the Media and Sport DEVE: Development and Cooperation AFCO: Constitutional Affairs FEMM: Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities PETI: Petitions
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Directorate-General for Research, Directorate A, Division for Industry, Research and Energy			
CIOFFI, Enrico	Director-General	4300-22535	SCH 06A011
SILVESTRO, Massimo	Director	4300-22902	SCH 06B023
VAN DER PERRE, Lieven	Head of Division	4300-22558	SCH 06B001
STOA Unit			
CHAMBERS, Graham	Head of Unit	4300-23957 28-43747	SCH 04A034 ASP 06D112
KARAPIPERIS, Theo	Administrator	28-43812	ASP 06D046
HELLARA, Cristina	National expert	28-43571	ASP 06D108
WEIWERS, Jackie	Secretary	4300-22623	SCH 04A033
SERCU, Karin	Secretary	28-43748	ASP 06D055
MARTINSSON, Marianne	Secretary	28-42844	ASP 06D048
SCHAERLAEKEN, Frans	Secretariat	4300-23942	SCH 04A035
BOLOTTI, Fabio	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Aerospace Engineer	4300-22291	SCH 04A031
HILTON, Adam	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Chemist	4300-22923	SCH 04A030
HOPPER, Eva	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Electronics engineer	4300-22027	SCH 04A030
LUC, Patrick	Visiting Researcher, Communication studies	4300-23596	SCH 04A032
PIBERNAT REIXACH, Teresa	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Food hygiene biologist	4300-24226	SCH 04A032
ROMERO DE CORDOBA, Isabel	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Pharmacist	28-42377	ASP 06DBIB
SALVA-GARAU, Beatriz	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Computer scientist	4300-24226	SCH 04A032

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