



STOA NEWSLETTER

European Parliament - Directorate-General for Research - Directorate B
October 1998

The President of the European Parliament opens the EPTA Conference on Technology Assessment and ethics

'Technology assessment was created precisely to help us bridge the worlds of science and technology and politics', said the President of the European Parliament, Mr José Maria GIL-ROBLES GIL-DELGADO, opening the 1998 Annual Conference of the European Parliamentary Technology Assessment network (EPTA) held on 1-2 October at the European Parliament in Brussels under STOA's chairmanship. The theme of the Conference was 'Technological choices in their ethical context'. At the Council Meeting on 2 October, Mr Alain POMPIDOU, Chairman of STOA, handed over the Chairmanship of EPTA to the Italian parliamentary TA agency, VAST

STOA launching study on 'Surveillance technology and risk of abuse of economic information'

As a follow-up to the study on 'Appraisal of technologies of political control' done for the Committee on Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs, STOA is now launching a new study on 'The development of surveillance technology and risk of abuse of economic information', for the same Committee

Committees to consider 1999 project proposals

During the month of October Committees of the European Parliament will have the chance to deliberate on possible new projects for STOA's 1999 Workplan. As in past years, the Chairman of the STOA Panel will write to Chairmen of Committees to inform them of the time-table for drawing-up next year's list of projects

Strasbourg, 8 October 1998

PE 167.602

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Cataloguing data:

Title: STOA Newsletter

Publisher: European Parliament
Directorate General for Research
Directorate B
STOA

Editors: Mr Dick HOLDSWORTH, Head of STOA Unit
Editorial assistant, Ms Karin SERCU

Date: October 1998

PE number: PE 167.602

This document is a Working Document for the 'STOA Panel'. Its contents have not been refereed, and it is not an official publication of STOA.

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NEWS

□ **EP President opens the EPTA conference on technology assessment and ethics**

The 1998 Conference of the European Parliamentary Technology Assessment network (EPTA), chaired by STOA, took place at the European Parliament in Brussels on the afternoon of Thursday, 1 October and the morning of Friday, 2 October 1998. The Conference which was built around the theme 'Technological choices in their ethical context', was opened by the President of the European Parliament, Mr GIL-ROBLES GIL-DELGADO and chaired by the Chairman of the STOA Panel, Prof. POMPIDOU. It was attended by an important number of high-level participants such as: Mrs HEINISCH and Mr BOWE, Vice-Chairmen of the STOA Panel and a number of other MEPs. Among the national MPs were the following distinguished guests: Mr HAVLIČEK, Vice-Chairman of the Senate of the Czech Republic; Mr HOLLERITH, German Bundestag; Mr GIOVINE, Italian Chamber; Mr VAN GELDER, Dutch Parliament; Mr ROSETA, Portuguese Assembly, Mr SARRIS, Hellenic Parliament.

In his opening address the President of the European Parliament referred to the importance that high quality expert advice on science and technology has for policy making and stated that '... the role of STOA acquires greater importance for our institution in order to develop its necessary independence, based in a proper *knowledge management*'.

It was followed on the Friday afternoon by the Annual Meeting of the EPTA Council at which it was decided that the EPTA Chairmanship will be handed over from STOA to the Italian partner, VAST (Comitato per la Valutazione delle Scelte Scientifiche e Tecnologiche) in 1999.

STOA particularly wishes to thank Ms Kathrin PRIESS, EPTA Coordinator and Ramón y Cajal Scholar, for the organisation.

Issue 18 of the EPTA Newsletter (September 1998) was made available.

□ **Presentation on 'fish ranching'**

Dr James MUIR of the Stirling Aquaculture Institute, UK, is giving a presentation of his Workshop Study on 'Aquaculture: Deployment of an open-sea marine park with self-restocking by behaviourally conditioned fish (Free fish farming at sea)' at the meeting of the STOA Panel on 8 October in Strasbourg.

□ **Ecology of sea and economy of land**

Dr FALCK of Berlin gave a presentation of his 1997 Final Study on 'Synergy between the ecology of the sea and the economy of the land' at the meeting of the Committee on Fisheries of 28 September in Brussels.

□ **STOA delegations to top European research centres**

STOA delegations will visit the European Bioinformatics Institute (EBI) in Cambridge on 5-6 November; TNO, the major Netherlands research centre at Delft on 29 October, at the initiative of Mr WIJSENBEEK, MEP; and the Institute for Prospective Technological Studies

(IPTS) in Sevilla on 15-16 October 1998, at the invitation of its Director, Mr Jean-Marie CADIOU.

- **STOA Publications Catalogue Updated**
A new edition of the STOA Publications List (updated till end of August 1998) is also available.

WORKING DOCUMENTS, STUDIES, PAPERS, BRIEFS

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

Workplan 1998

- **State of play of the interstate customs computer network**, by Ing. Maurizio PEDRELLI, PRAGMATA Srl, Reggio-Emilia, Italy
Scoping Paper, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1998 - 98/C04/01, EN, October 1998, PE 167.793/Scop.Pap.
- **Technology-induced atypical work-forms**, by Mr Gérard VALENDUC and Mrs Patricia VENDRAMIN, Fondation Travail-Université asbl, Namur, Belgium, in association with Mr Andrew GILLESPIE and Mr Ranald RICHARDSON, CURDS, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
Scoping Meeting Report, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1998 - 98/C08/01, EN, October 1998, PE 167.794/Scop.Meet.Rep.
- **The selection of indicators for the evaluation of programmes of regional assistance in the EU**, by Dr Loucas GOURTSOYANNIS and Mr Nikos MAROULIS, Logotech, Athens, Greece
Interim Study, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1998 - 98/C09/01, EN, October 1998, PE 167.699/Int.St.
- **Sustainable use of pesticides**, by Dr A.F.M. VAN VELSEN, MTI Institute for Environmental Technology, Nijmegen, the Netherlands
Interim Study, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1998 - 98/C11/01, EN, October 1998, PE 167.326/Int.St.
- **Orphan drugs**, by Mr Claude ALLARY and Mr Stéphane LAMY, STRATCARE, Paris, France
Scoping Meeting Report, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1998 - 98/C11/03, EN, October 1998, PE 167.780/Scop.Meet.Rep.

- SMEs, technology and development**, by Mr Luciano d'ANDREA, CERFE, Roma, Italy
Interim Study, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1998 - 98/C13/01, EN,
October 1998, PE 167.795/Int.St.
- New options for renewable energy sources, including solar power, in the developing world**, by Mrs Anjali SHANKER and Mr Edgard BLAUSTEIN, IED, Paris, France
Scoping Paper & Scoping Meeting Report, Working Document for the STOA Panel,
Workplan 1998 - 98/C13/02, EN, October 1998, PE 167.792/Scop.Pap.&Scop.Meet.Rep.
- Ways to facilitate the European Parliament's work by the use of new technologies**
Project Brief, Workplan 1998 - 98/C18/01, EN, 21 September 1998

PROJECT STEERING GROUPS

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

Workplan 1998

- 98/C04/01 - State of play of the interstate customs computer network**

Date/place: 1 October 1998, Brussels

Participants included: Mrs PEIJS, MEP; Mr EKHART, Assistant to Mrs Peijs; Mr VERGNOLLE, EC/DGXXI; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit; Mr SOSA, Projects Administrator; Ms DANTE, Ramón y Cajal Scholar; Mr GARCÍA PRIETO, Ramón y Cajal Scholar; Ms RODRIGUEZ GARCÍA, STOA Visiting Researcher.

Contractors: Mr PEDRELLI and Mrs TAGLIORETTI, Pragmata, Italy

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

For more information please contact: Marcelo SOSA.

- 98/C18/01 - Ways to facilitate the European Parliament's work by the use of new technologies**

Date/place: 23 September 1998, Brussels

Participants included: Mr WIJSENBEEK, MEP; Mr PAPPAMIKAIL, DGI/Cabinet of the SGA; Mr NAEGEL, DGI/DIT; Mr BALSBY, DGI/DIT; Mr JACOBS, DGII/Secretariat of the Institutional Committee; Mr BACKLUND, DGIV/PDG; Mr BÄVERSTRÖM, DGIV/PDC; Mr VAN DER PERRE, DGIV/Head of Division, Environment/Energy/STOA; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit; Mr SOSA, STOA Projects Administrator; Mr TAÏR, STOA Visiting Researcher; Mr GARCÍA PRIETO, Ramón y Cajal Scholar.

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

For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.

OTHER STOA INFORMATION

- STOA is sad to announce that Ms Florencia NAVA VALLEJO and Ms Kathrin PRIESS have left the Team.

We wish them all the best for the future.

- STOA is however glad that the following have joined the Team:

in Luxembourg:

- Mr Jens HINKMANN, a German Ramón y Cajal Scholar, who studies Philosophy and Economy, and who will be continuing the work on the 1998 project on 'Ethical issues';
- Mr Philippe OUDIN, a French Ramón y Cajal Scholar with a background in biochemistry;
- Ms Gaby RENARD, a German Robert Schuman Scholar with a degree in Economy;
- Ms Giorgia TOSSI, an Italian Visiting Researcher, with a degree in Industrial chemistry;
- Ms Silvia ZÁRATE CARLIER, a Spanish Visiting Researcher, who studied law, and who will be continuing the work on the 1998 project on 'New energy sources';

in Brussels:

- Ms Roberta DANTE, an Italian Ramón y Cajal Scholar, who is an Aeronautical engineer;
- Ms Carla María RODRÍGUEZ GARCÍA, a Spanish Visiting Researcher, who studied economy and sociology.

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 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

BUREAU

CHAIRMAN

Mr Alain POMPIDOU (F, UPE)

VICE-CHAIRPERSONS

Mrs Renate HEINISCH (D, PPE)

Mr David BOWE (UK, PSE)

EP BUREAU REPRESENTATIVE (non-voting)

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

Committee

MEMBERS

| | | |
|---------------------------|------------|--------------------------------------|
| Mr Leo TINDEMANS | (B, PPE) | Foreign Affairs, Security |
| Mr Lutz GOEPEL | (D, PPE) | Agriculture |
| Mr Tommy WAIDELICH | (SV, PSE) | Budgets |
| Mr Fernand HERMAN | (B, PPE) | Economic and Monetary Affairs |
| Mr Rolf LINKOHR | (D, PSE) | Research/Energy |
| Mrs Erika MANN | (D, PSE) | External Economic Relations |
| Mr Stéphane BUFFETAUT | (F, I-EDN) | Legal Affairs |
| Mr Nikolaos PAPAKYRIAZIS | (GR, PSE) | Social Affairs and Employment |
| Mr Antoni GUTIÉRREZ DIAZ | (E, GUE) | Regional Policy |
| Mrs Brigitte LANGENHAGEN | (D, PPE) | Transport and Tourism |
| Mr Roberto SPECIALE | (I, PSE) | Development and Cooperation |
| Mr Glyn FORD | (UK, PSE) | Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs |
| Mr Andrea MANZELLA | (I, PSE) | Institutional Affairs |
| Mr Ulf HOLM | (SV, V) | Budgetary Control |
| Mr Gordon ADAM | (UK, PSE) | Fisheries |
| Mr Florus WIJSENBEK | (NL, ELDR) | Rules of Procedure |
| Mrs Eryl McNALLY | (UK, PSE) | Women's Rights |
| Mr Felipe CAMISÓN ASENSIO | (ES, PPE) | Petitions |

SUBSTITUTES

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| Mr Joe WILSON | (UK, PSE) | Agriculture |
| Mr Esko Olavi SEPPÄNEN | (FIN, GUE/NGL) | Budgets |
| Mr Franco MALERBA | (I, PPE) | Economic and Monetary Affairs |
| Mr Christof TANNERT | (D, PSE) | Research/Energy |
| Mrs Elly PLOOIJ-VAN GORSEL | (NL, ELDR) | External Economic Relations |
| Mr Julio AÑOVEROS TRIAS DE BES | (E, PPE) | Legal Affairs |
| Mr Friedrich WOLF | (D, V) | Social Affairs and Employment |
| Mr Jaime VALDIVIELSO DE CUÉ | (E, PPE) | Regional Policy |
| Mr Ulrich STOCKMANN | (D, PSE) | Transport and Tourism |
| Mr Hans-Peter LIESE | (D, PPE) | Environment |
| Mr Aldo ARRONI | (I, PPE) | Culture/Youth |
| Mr Bernd POSSELT | (D, PPE) | Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs |
| Mr Jonas SJÖSTEDT | (SV, GUE/NGL) | Institutional Affairs |
| 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
STOA PANEL MEETINGS.

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| RENARD, Gaby | Robert Schuman Scholar, Economist | 4300-24342 | SCH 4/62 |
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