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STOA NEWSLETTER

European Parliament - Directorate-General for Research and Documentation- Directorate A October 2000

STOA WORKPLAN 2000

Despite late adoption of the STOA Workplan this year, due to circumstances beyond our control, hard work by all concerned (including work on weekends and evenings) has resulted in all our year 2000 projects being well and truly launched, as well as the taking on board of two more. The first proposed by Mr. Speroni, is on the need for coordinated civil and military air traffic control in the EU (AFET). The second is a study on some of the more controversial aspects of the effect of electromagnetic radiation on the environment and on human health and has been proposed by the ITRE Committee.

Thanks are due to the heroic STOA Team who, despite all the obstacles put in their way, have succeeded in getting the Workplan launched.

EPTA

EPTA is the association of Parliamentary technology assessment in the EU and exists in order to exchange information, best practice and ideas among its member organisations which range from the German TAB to the UK's POST. The EPTA annual meeting will take place in Berlin at the new Reichstag on November 9th and 10th. STOA will of course be represented and will give an account of the issues surrounding STOA's work on "Silicone gel breast implants" and "Health Effects of Electromagnetic Waves."

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY GROUP

This is the new name given to the former "Quality Control Advisors", who are experts from EPTA members who help STOA assess the value of its studies and offer a critique of our methods. A meeting was held to discuss the modus-operandii of the group in Brussels on September 19th and further visits by the Group are planned, in principle for the November session.

COMINGS AND GOINGS (personnel)

Jackie Weiwers, for long the lynch-pin of the STOA Secretariat in Luxembourg, -secretary, assistant, troubleshooter, "mother" to numerous STOA scholars and shoulder-to-cry-on for frustrated administrators, has had to leave us, owing to her family's moving to Brussels.

Jackie had become an institution in her own right and her incredible capacity for hard work, stoicism in the face of some of the planet's most intractable bureaucracy and invariable good humour will be sorely missed by all of us.

Luxembourg, 5 October 2000

PE 289.893

STOA has however been very fortunate in finding Elza Vorst, from the Netherlands, as a replacement. As well as superb organisational skills, Elza has that enviable capacity to glide serenely like a swan on the surface while paddling furiously underneath. STOA is fortunate to have her.

Troubles come in threes and STOA is no exception to this codicil of Murphy's Law. During the summer Frans Schaerlaeken, our documents man, responsible for organising the publication, translation and distribution of STOA documents, fell victim to a coronary attack while at home. Fortunately he survived, but it is certain that the moving of trunks full of documents will not be looked upon by the medical authorities as wise in the future and so we may also lose Frans in the longer term. STOA welcomes Jean-Charles Flamion, who is replacing Frans on a temporary basis.

To cap it all, our sheet-anchor in Brussels, Karin Sercu, who for years has organised meetings, liased with our contractors, organized the translation and publication on the "net" of STOA studies, troubleshooted, cajoled, persuaded and acted as the collective conscience, random access memory and central processing unit of STOA is also going to leave us for hopefully greener pastures in the ITRE secretariat. She will not be far away from STOA's activities and will be able to help with STOA/ITRE liaison (we hope). STOA wishes her well after 7 years with us. A replacement for Karin will be hard to find.

Paul Engstfeld is the new Head of Division responsible for STOA and has recently joined DGIV from the administration. However, he is an old Environment Committee hand with a wealth of experience and we are looking forward to working with him.

PRESENTATION OF STOA STUDIES

Presentation of STOA projects at Committee meetings

The 99/JURI/01 project on 'Digital technology evolution and its impact on the EU entertainment and media sectors' by Mr MARTINOLI of iCons, Italy, was successfully presented at the meeting of the Committee on Legal Affairs and the Internal Market on 12 September in Brussels.

A joint presentation of the 99/14/01 projects on 'Prison technologies' and 'Crowd control technologies' was made on 29 August, in Brussels before the Committee on Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs. This presentation was also much appreciated by the Committee.

These presentations are in line with STOA's policy of presenting major studies of wide interest before the Committee(s) requesting it, together with other interested Committees wherever possible. Smaller studies and those of more specific interest continue to be presented at the regular STOA Panel Meetings on Thursday afternoons in Strasbourg.

STOA PANEL MEETINGS

The decision by Parliament to curtail the part sessions in Strasbourg in 2001 by finishing the part session on Thursday evening may have implications for the STOA Panel Meeting which has always been held on Thursday afternoons. It seems as though, on the one hand, more Members could remain on Thursday afternoon, but on the other that they may be taken up with other business. The matter will be discussed by the STOA Bureau.

FUTURE PRESENTATIONS

Given the remarkable developments in many EU Member States concerning high fuel prices, the time may soon be ripe to organize a presentation to STOA of an interesting development in local transport. A French Formula One engine builder has developed a version of the internal combustion engine which is capable of running on compressed-air. It is essentially an electric car with a compressed-air battery and has a range of 200km on a tank full of compressed air. This is recharged overnight using a compressor operated on domestic electricity, using 20 kWh at a cost of around 2 €, i.e. a day's local driving for about 80BEF! Statistics show that the vast majority of car journeys are short

The car is being developed near Nice in the South of France as an urban taxi and delivery van and produces exhaust comprising pure clean, cool air. The author has lain down behind a stationary car breathing in the exhaust gases!)

STOA hopes to be able to arrange a presentation of this vehicle to the STOA Panel next Spring.

VISITS

Members of Parliament are reminded that the following visits have been proposed, for Members of the STOA Panel and, if space is available, to other interested Members.

- 1) A second visit to the Joint Research Centre at ISPRA.
- 2) A visit to the Glaxo-Wellcome research laboratories near Oxford, England.
- 3) A visit in Spring 2001 to the IPTS in Sevilla.
- 4) Mr. Harbour, MEP, has proposed a visit to the Porsche research and development facility not far from Strasbourg.

RAMON Y CAJAL (STOA) SCHOLARS

After much lobbying, Parliament's administration saw fit some time ago to extend the length of STOA scholarships to 4 months from 3. It is an improvement, but not much of one. Since the average project should last 6 months, we have a situation in which it is impossible for a scholar to follow a project from beginning to end, which is a disadvantage. Four months is still hardly time to become familiar with the arcane ways of the EU and it is doubtful whether either STOA or the scholars get as much out of the experience as we could.

In addition, STOA is becoming worried about the decline in candidates for STOA scholarships.

There is a particular lack of candidates from the northern European countries, including Denmark, Sweden and Finland, Ireland, England and Scotland, France, Belgium, Netherlands and Germany.

COMINGS AND GOINGS

GOING

From STOA Luxembourg:

Beatriz SALVA-GARAU has left the Team.

Graziella IOSSA has left the Team after a 5 month stay (1 month unpaid).

COMING

To STOA Brussels:

Mr. Jussi KOSKELA (Finland, International security policy)

Mr. Per NILSSON (Sweden, Media Policy and Communications)

Ms Elisabete BELAUNDE PALENZUELA (Spain, Indusrial Engineering (Energy))

Ms Simona MATTEINI (Italy, Languages)

Mr Pedro TIRADO DIAS (Spain, Computer Sciences)

Ms Marina ARIAS ROYO (Spain, Biology)

To STOA Luxembourg:

Ms. Susan RIDHA (San Francisco, via Luxembourg)

Mr Federico BRUCCIANI (Electronic engineer from the land of Volta and Ampere)

Mr Harald SCHMIDT (a philosopher from the land of philosophers).

Ms. Alina ÖSTLING (from Sweden)

Ms. Viviana VALENTINI (from Italy via London)

STOA NEWSLETTER

Your opinion is requested. Having the Newsletter appear once per month in paper form appears excessive, as there is usually not enough information to make it worthwhile. STOA therefore proposes to produce the NEWSLETTER every 3 months, but to put more into it.

We would also like to remind you that, each month, the Newsletter can be found at http://www.europarl.eu.int/dg4/stoa/en/default.htm

We would also prefer to save needless paper and limit the number of copies we still send out. So if you have access to the Web and do not wish to receive a paper copy any longer, please let us know. We welcome this and any other opinions on these ideas, at: evorst@europarl.eu.int

WORKING DOCUMENTS, STUDIES, PAPERS, BRIEFS

The following documents have been presented to the STOA Panel over the last months:

Wo	orkplan 1999
	Technological options for a community strategy for a system of navigation by satellite (GNSS) Rodney FEWINGS, INECO, Cranfield College of Aeronautics, UK Options Brief, translated in all languages, Executive Summary, translated in DE and FR PE168.392/O.B.
	Prison technologies Luc MAMPAEY, GRIP, Belgium Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/14/01/B, FR/EN, July 2000, PE289.666/Fin.St./FR + PE289.666/Fin.St./EN
	Digital technology and its impact on the EU entertainment and media sectors Helga TREIBER, Teleport Sachsen-Anhalt, Brussels, Belgium; and Mario MARTINOLI, iCons srl, Lodi, Italy Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/JURI/01, EN, September 2000, PE289.663/Fin.St./EN
	The impact of electronic commerce on the competitiveness of SMEs in the EU Puay TANG, SPRU, University of Sussex, Brighton, UK Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/JURI/02, EN, September 2000, PE292.025/Fin.St./EN
	The ethical implications of research involving human embryos Tony McGLEENAN, Queen's University, Belfast, UK Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/INDU/02, EN, July 2000, PE289.665/Fin.St./EN Executive Summary, DE/FR Options Brief, DE/EL/NL/FI
	Recycled cooking oils: Assessment of risks for public health Jose BOATELLA RIERA and Rafael CODONY, Department of Nutrition, University of Barcelona, Spain Interim Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/ENVI/01, EN, September 2000, PE289.889/Int.St./EN Draft Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/ENVI/01, ES, September 2000, PE289.889/Fin.St./ES
	European policy on food safety Antonia TRICHOPOULOU, National Centre for Nutrition, University of Athens, Greece, with the cooperation of Tim LANG, Centre for Food Policy, Thames Valley University, London,

UK, and Erik MILLSTONE, SPRU, University of Sussex, UK
Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/INDU/ENVI/03,
EN, September 2000, PE292.026/Fin.St.
Options Brief

Please note that several of the above studies can be downloaded in PDF format from STOA's web site (http://www.europarl.eu.int/dg4/stoa/en/default.htm).

- ☐ Also available are the following briefing notes by the STOA Scholars:
 - Aumento de las Enfermedades Tropicales en Europa, briefing note 2000/08 by Isabel ROMERO DE CÓRDOBA, July 2000, PE294.121 (original in Spanish, translation in English 'Increased incidence of tropical diseases in Europe')
 - Advanced technologies of the civil aviation and space systems, Briefing Note N° 2000/09 by Fabio BOLOTTI, July 2000, PE289.890/EN
 - NATURA 2000 network and the future of natural parks as seeds of sustainable development, Briefing Note N° 2000/10 by Graziella IOSSA, August 2000, PE289.891/EN

PROJECT STEERING GROUPS

The following Project Steering Groups (PSG) will be meeting:

00/C01-AFET/02 - Civil and military air traffic control in the EU. A PSG meeting with Mr SPERONI, MEP, is planned to take place on 10 October, at 14.30, in Brussels (room A3H-1).
00/C10-AGRI/01 -The consequences of enlargement on EU agriculture. A Scoping Meeting with Mr GRAEFE zu BARINGDORF, MEP, is planned to take place on 17 October, at 15.00, in Brussels (room A3H-1).
00/C14-DEVE/01 - Developing countries and the ICT revolution. A Scoping Meeting with Mr WIJKMAN, MEP, is planned to take place on 9 October, at 12.30, in Brussels (room A1E-3).

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

Workplan 2000

□ 00/C01-AFET/01 - New technologies in defence policy and conflict management: A challenge for the EU

Date/place: 5 July 2000, Strasbourg

Participants included: Mr MORILLON, MEP; Mrs LALUMIÈRE, MEP; Mr GAHRTON, MEP; Mrs NUNNARI, Visitor; Mr KARAPIPERIS, Deputy Head of STOA; Mr BOLOTTI, STOA Scholar.

Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Project Brief For more information please contact: Theo KARAPIPERIS

00/C05-ECON/01 - Technological feasibility of reducing the costs of small cross-border credit transfers (CBCTs) in the euro-zone Date/place: 5 July 2000, Strasbourg Participants included: Mrs PEIJS, MEP; Mr TOD, DGII/ECON secretariat; Mrs HELLARA, STOA Project Manager, Mr PARSA-PARSI, 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/C09-ENVI/01 - Microbiological threats to food Date/place: 20 September 2000, Brussels Participants included: Mr TRAKATELLIS, MEP; Mr CHAMBERS, Head of the STOA Team; Mr NILSSON, STOA Scholar; Mr KOSKELA, STOA Scholar. Contractor: Mr HARRAP, Science Connections Ltd, Wiltshire, UK Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Scoping Paper. For more information please contact: Graham CHAMBERS 00/C09-ENVI/04 - Neurotoxicology of environmental pollutants Date/place: 22 June 2000, Brussels Participants included: Mr NISTICO, MEP; Mr CHAMBERS, Head of the STOA Team; Mr DRATWA, former STOA Scholar Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Project Brief For more information please contact: Graham CHAMBERS 00/C13-CULT/04 - Technological requirements in architectural and archaeological restoration Date/place: 27 June 2000, Brussels Participants included: Mrs GUTIÉRREZ-CORTINES, MEP; Mr BARDAUTO, Assistant to Mrs Gutiérrez-Cortines; Mr SALTER, DGII/CULT Committee secretariat; Mrs CEVEDO, EC/DG Research; Mr SILVESTRO, DGIV/A Director; Mr KARAPIPERIS, Deputy Head of STOA; Mrs HELLARA, STOA Project Manager; Ms BARDIAU, Scholar. Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Project Brief For more information please contact: Cristina HELLARA 00/C14-DEVE/02 - Technology cooperation in the field of environmentally sound technologies Date/place: 11 July 2000, Brussels Participants included: Mr WIJKMAN, MEP; Mr ERICSSON, Assistant to Mr Wijkman; Mr TINCANI, EC/DG DEV.B.3; Mr CHAMBERS, Head of the STOA Team; Mr KARAPIPERIS, Deputy Head of the STOA Team; Ms IOSSA, STOA Scholar; Mr DRATWA, former STOA Scholar. Main outcomes: Agreement on project scope and timing on the basis of a Project Brief For more information please contact:

00/C17-PETI/01 - Comparative study on possibly toxic effects resulting from the reprocessing plants at Cap La Hague and Sellafield.

Date/place: 5 July 2000, Brussels

Participants included: Mr STEVENSON, MEP; Mrs HELLARA, STOA Administrator

For more information please contact: Graham CHAMBERS

EP - STOA Workplan 2000 - Progress Table

Situation on 5 October 2000

(1)PSG: Project Steering Group. (2)RCT: Restricted Call for Tenders

Comm.	Project title	PSG	RCT(2)	Financial Control	Int. Study Due /Rec	Final Study Due/Rec.	(Estimated) Costs
Project		(1)	Out/Close	To/Back	Duo / Roo	200/100	Costs
01-AFET	01/01- New technologies	05.7.2000	01.08.2000				
	in defence policy and		close:				42.600
	conflict management: A		15.09.2000				
	challenge for the EU				100		
	01/02- Civilian and military						
	air traffic control in the EU						40.000
05-ECON	05/01- Technological	05.7.2000	02.08.2000				
	feasibility of reducing the						35.400
	costs of small cross-border		close:				
	credit transfers (CBCTs)		15.09.2000				
	within the euro-zone						
06-JURI	06/01- Security techno-	08.6.2000	27.06.2000 close:	To: 27.09.2000	Due 15.12.2000	Due 30.03.2001	36.000
	logies for digital media	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	14.8.2000	27.09.2000	15.12.2000	50.00.2001	30.000
	99/JURI/02-The impact of	Scoping	28.10.1999	Back:	Due	Due	
	electronic commerce on	Meeting 21.3.2000	close 18.11.1999	11.01.2000	17.04.2000	31.07.2000	48.440
	the competitiveness of	21.5.2000	rec. 3		Int. rec.	Final rec.	10.770
	SMEs in the EU				27.04.2000	31.07.2000	
07-ITRE	07/02- Environmental and	05.4.2000	26.5.2000	To:	Due	Due 01.03.2001	
	health impact of aviation		close	02.08.2000 Back:	15.12.2000	01.03.2001	38.555
			04.07.2000	12.09.2000			
	07/03- Evaluation of						
	alternative scientific						40.000
	hypotheses and results						
	concerning the						
	physiological and						
	environmental effects of						
·	non-ionising						
	electromagnetic radiation						
09-ENVI	09/01- Microbiological	29.2.2000	31.3.2000	To : July 2000	Due 10.11.2000	Due 29.12.2000	
	threats to food		close	Back:	10.11.2000	27.12.2000	31.650
			11.5.2000	11.07.2000			
	09/02- A European health	23.3.2000	07.06.2000	To: 02.08.2000	Due 30.11.2000	Due 15.02.2001	
	card		close	02.08.2000 Back:	30.11.2000	12.02.2001	34.000
			19.07.2000	12.09.2000			

Comm. Project	Project title	PSG (1)	RCT(2) Out/Close	Financial Control To/Back	Int. Study Due /Rec	Final Study Due/Rec.	(Estimated) Costs
•	09/03- Ecological footprinting	17.5.2000	08.06.2000 close 20.07.2000	To: 02.08.2000 Back: 12.09.2000	Due 30.11.2000	Due 15.02.2001	32.900
	09/04- Neurotoxicology of environmental pollutants	28.6.2000	18.09.2000 close 30.10.2000				34.800
	99/ENVI/01 Recycled cooking oils: Assessment of risks for public health	Scoping Meeting 23.3.2000	29.10.1999 close 18.11.1999	Back: 26.01.2000	Due 20.04.2000 Int. rec. 05.07.2000	Due 17.07.2000 Dft Final rec. 29.08.2000	21.000
10-AGRI	10/01- The consequences of enlargement on EU agriculture	19.4.2000	14.06.2000 close 20.07.2000	To: 03.08.2000 Back: 12.09.2000	Due 30.11.2000	Due 15.02.2001	30.500
12-RETT	12/01- Meeting demand for sustainable transport and transport infrastructure in the enlarged EU	14.6.2000	05.07.2000 close 16.08.2000		Due: 15.12.2000	Due: 30.03.2001	40.500
13-CULT	13/01- Globalisation of the media industry and possible threats to cultural diversity	05.4.2000	31.05.2000 close 12.07.2000	To: 19.09.2000 Back: 21.09.2000	Due 30.11.2000	Due 15.03.2001	37.469
	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	23.5.2000	02.08.2000 close: 15.09.2000				36.600
	13/04- Technological requirements in architectural and archeological restoration	27.6.2000	02.08.2000 close: 15.09.2000				39.000
14-DEVE	14/01- Developing countries and the ICT revolution	10.5.2000	14.06.2000 close 20.07.2000	To: 02.08.2000 Back 25.09.2000	Due 07.12.2000	Due 28.02.2001	39.500
	14/02- Technology cooperation in the field of environmentally sound technologies	11.7.2000	03.08.2000 close: 15.09.2000				36.600

Comm. Project	Project title	PSG (1)	RCT(2) Out/Close	Financial Control To/Back	Int. Study Due /Rec	Final Study Due/Rec.	(Estimated) Costs
17-PETI	17/01- Comparative study on possibly toxic effects resulting from the reprocessing plants at Cap La Hague and Sellafield	05.7.2000	02.08.2000 close: 15.09.2000	·			33.000
						TOTAL:	728.514

STOA Panel

STOA Bureau

Antonios TRAKATELLIS, Chairman

David BOWE, Vice-Chairman

Yves PIETRASANTA, Vice-Chairman

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

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02	BUDG	Alejo VIDAL-QUADRAS ROCA (ES, PPE)	
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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)
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12	RETT	Per STENMARCK (SV, PPE)	Brian SIMPSON (UK, PSE)
13	CULT	Cristina GUTIÉRREZ-CORTINES (ES, PPE)	Christa PRETS (AU, PSE)
14	DEVE	Anders WIJKMAN (SV, PPE)	

15	AFCO	Johannes VOGGENHUBER (AU, Greens /EFA)	
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17	PETI	Jean LAMBERT (UK, Greens/EFA)	Roy PERRY (UK, PPE)

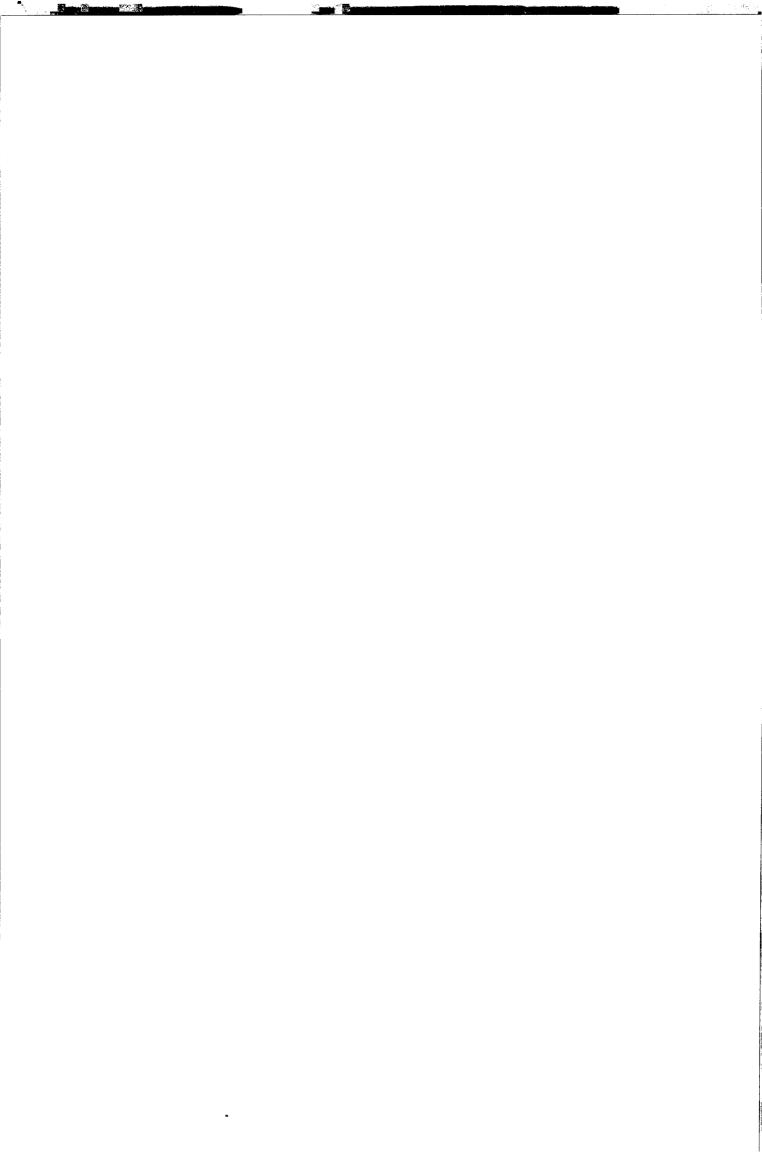
ONLY THE MEMBERS NAMED ABOVE HAVE THE **RIGHT TO VOTE** AT THE STOA PANEL MEETINGS WHICH ARE HELD EVERY THURSDAY OF STRASBOURG PART-SESSIONS.

AFET: BUDG: CONT: LIBE: ECON: JURI: ITRE: EMPL:	Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security and Defence Policy Budgets Budgetary Control Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs Economic and Monetary Affairs Legal Affairs and the Internal Market Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy Employment and Social Affairs	AGRI: PECH: RETT: CULT: DEVE: AFCO: FEMM: PETI:	Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy Agriculture and Rural Development Fisheries Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism Culture, Youth, Education, the Media and Sport Development and Cooperation Constitutional Affairs Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities Petitions
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ENGSTFELD, Paul	Head of Division	4300-22558	SCH 06B019
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KARAPIPERIS, Theo	Deputy Head of STOA	28-43812	ASP 06D046
HELLARA, Cristina	National expert	28-43571	ASP 06D108
VORST, Elza	Secretary	4300-22623	SCH 04A033
SERCU, Karin	Secretary	28-43748	ASP 06D055
MARTINSSON, Marianne	Secretary	28-42844	ASP 06D048
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BRUCCIANI, Federico	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Electronics engineer	4300-23596	SCH 04A032
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