



STOA NEWSLETTER

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

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High level of interest in STOA studies

There is an increasing interest in the work of STOA, as shown by world-wide enquiries on some key studies: release of genetically-modified organisms (for the Environment Committee: Rapporteur, Mr David BOWE), and technologies of political control (Civil Liberties Committee, Mr Glyn FORD). The Chairman of STOA, Prof. Alain POMPIDOU, has been interviewed on French television and other mass media. Another study still in much demand is that on 'Women and the Internet'.

EPTA Directors meet

The Directors of the European Parliamentary Technology Assessment (EPTA) network met on 30 April in Brussels at the new Leopold building, under the chairmanship of STOA.

Recent Workshops: Drugs and Fish

STOA held interesting and mind-opening events in Brussels on 'Drugs abuse' and 'Sea ranching'.

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NEWS

- A presentation of the 1997 project on 'General influence of speed limiters on the traffic flow, road safety, users and other aspects' will be made to the Committee on Transport and Tourism at its meeting in Brussels on 19 May by the STOA contractor, ASTECO of Bilbao, Spain.
- The EPTA (European Parliamentary Technology Assessment) Directors' meeting, preparing the Annual Conference and Council meeting on 1-2 October, took place in Brussels on 30 April. Issue 17 of the EPTA Newsletter was made available.
- DGXVII of the European Commission is organising a Conference on 'The City of Tomorrow - The Energy dimension'. STOA has been invited to present its recent work in this area, which includes the current project on 'Building regulations as a means of requiring energy saving and use of renewable energies', as well as earlier projects such as 'The technological city'.

WORKING DOCUMENTS, STUDIES, PAPERS, BRIEFS

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

Workplan 1997

- Quality in parliamentary technology assessment: The European dimension (Proceedings of the STOA Workshop in Marseille, 12 December 1997)**, by Prof. Jean-Louis ARMAND, IDEP/GREQAM, Marseille, France
Draft Study, Working Document for the STOA Panel, EN, April 1998, PE 167.530
- European Parliamentary Technology Assessment (EPTA) Yearbook 1996-1997**, by Dr Maria CAPARIS, Integrated Environmental Management (IEM), Athens, Greece
Draft Study, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1997, EN, April 1998
- Transparency and openness in scientific advisory committees: The American experience**, by Dr Josephine Anne STEIN, PREST, UK
Draft Interim Study, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1997 - 97/C05-C015/1, EN, May 1998, PE 167.327/Int.St.
- Prospects for the application of superconductivity in the storage and transport of electricity**, by Prof. Richard ARTLEY and Dr Trevor CLIFTON, Scientific Generics Ltd, Cambridge, UK
Final Study, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1997 - 97/C05/5, EN, May 1998, PE 167.153/Fin.St.

- Survey and evaluation of criticism of basic safety standards for the protection of workers and the public against ionising radiation**, by Prof. Panayotis ASSIMAKOPOULOS, The University of Ioannina, Greece
 First Draft Workshop Study + Technical Annex, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1997 - 97/C05/6, EN, March 1998, PE 167.161/Drft.Worksp.St. + PE 167.161/Tech.Anx.
- Electronic commerce and secure telecommunications**, by Mrs Sylvie FEINDT, Teleport Sachsen-Anhalt, Brussels, Belgium, in cooperation with Mr Ian CULPIN, Martech International
 Draft Final Study, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1997 - 97/C06/1, EN, May 1998, PE 167.057/Drft.Fin.St.
- The Fifth Framework Programme on Research and Technological Development: A scientific and technological assessment of its contribution to economic and social cohesion (article 130b) and of options for promoting this contribution**, by Mr Henri ZIBETTA, Agency for Natural Resources, Energy and Technology (ANETEC), Brussels, Belgium
 Final Study, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1997 - 97/C09/2, EN, May 1998, PE 167.230/Fin.St.
- General influence of speed limiters on the traffic flow, road safety, users and other aspects**, by Mrs Leire BARRIUSO, ASTECO Expertos en Temas Europeos, Bilbao, Spain
 Final Study, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1997 - 97/C10/1, Spanish, May 1998, PE 167.147/Fin.St.. The French, English and German version of the Draft Final Study are also available.
- An appraisal of the working in practice of Directive 90/220/EEC on the deliberate release of genetically modified organisms**, by Dr René VON SCHOMBERG, ICHPA, Tilburg, The Netherlands
 Final Study (revised), Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1997 - 97/C11/1, EN, May 1998, PE 166.953/Final/Rev.
- Virtual libraries and education: A prospective technology assessment**, by Mr Eric SUTTER, Bureau Van Dijk, Paris, France
 Final Study + Executive Summary, Options Brief & Annex, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1997 - 97/C12/1, French, May 1998, PE 167.117/Fin.St. + 167.117/Exec.Sum./Opt.Brff/Anx. The English translation of the Draft Final Study is also available.
- Learning to live in the information society as an older person**, by Dr Helga TREIBER and Ms Sharon BECKWITH, Teleport Sachsen-Anhalt, Brussels, Belgium
 Draft Workshop Study + Technical Annex, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1997 - 97/C12/2, EN, May 1998, PE 167.127/Drft.Wop.St. + PE 167.127/Tech.Anx.

- Drug use: Scientific and technological contributions to the assessment of policy options on drug use and related problems - from the level of individual treatment to the national and european policy level**, by Dr Patrick KENIS, European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna, Austria
 Workshop Paper, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1997 - 97/C12/3, EN, April 1998, PE 167.174/wop

- Synergy between the ecology of the sea and the economy of the land**, by Dr W. Eberhard FALCK
 Final Study, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1997 - 97/C17/1, EN, May 1998, PE 167.228/Fin. St.

- Aquaculture: Deployment of an open-sea marine park with self-restocking by behaviourally conditioned fish (Free fish farms at sea)**, by Dr James MUIR, Stirling Aquaculture, Institute of Aquaculture, University of Stirling, UK
 Workshop Paper, Working Document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1997 - 97/C17/2, EN, April 1998, PE 167.198/wop

Several translations of previous studies are also available.

PROJECT STEERING GROUPS

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

Workplan 1998

- 98/C11/02 - Biodiversity strategy**

Date/place: 23 April 1998, Brussels

Participants included: Mr SJÖSTEDT, MEP; Mr TAMINO, MEP; Ms HUTJES, Assistant to Mrs van Putten; Mr PEGAZZANO, DGII/Environment Committee secretariat; Mr KRAUS, DGIV/Environment; Mrs ANGELINI, Green Group; Mrs RAUM-DEGRÈVE and Mr DE HEMPTINNE of EURECO, Contractors; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit; Mr SOSA, STOA Projects Administrator; Ms SCHIRMER, STOA Scholar.

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

For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.

WORKSHOPS

The following STOA Workshops took place:

- **97/C12/3 - 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**

Date/place: 23-24 April 1998, Brussels

Main outcomes:

This Workshop was organised by STOA following a project request by the Committee on Culture, Youth, Education and the Media under the 1997 Workplan. It was chaired by Mrs HEINISCH, MEP, Vice-Chairperson of STOA, and attended by the Chairman of the STOA Panel, Mr POMPIDOU, MEP.

The aim of the Workshop was to analyse in depth all the facets emerging from the complex issue of drug use.

The use of illegal drugs as well as its personal and social consequences have caused substantial problems in each of the EU Member States and several facts demonstrate that drug use is still on the increase. In such a situation it becomes imperative to pose the question how Europe and its various policy instruments should respond to the challenge of effectively avoiding this scourge. An effective response to drug use implies that the complexity and dimensions of the problem are recognised and that one has the relevant knowledge and understanding of the numerous relationships involved in the issue.

During the Workshop specific scientific information was presented by high-level scientific experts on:

1. The epidemiology of drug use
2. Risks of the use of drugs and dependency
3. Why do people take drugs?
4. Primary prevention
5. Treatment for drug users
6. Social services for drug users
7. Drug policies
8. Social, economic and other consequences
9. Supply of drugs (production, trafficking)
10. Detection of drugs and drug profiling

The Workshop was organised in cooperation with the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Vienna, Austria. It brought together, amongst others, officials from the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), based in Lisbon, including its Director, as well as a representative of Europol, the European police coordination office from The Hague. A Workshop Study is expected to be available in 1-2 months.

For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.

- **97/C17/2 - Aquaculture: Deployment of an open-sea marine park with self-restocking by behaviourally conditioned fish with the objective of exploitation by traditional fishing methods**

Date/place: 27-28 April 1998, Brussels

Main outcomes:

This Workshop was organised by STOA following a project request by the Committee on Fisheries. It was chaired by Mr d'ABOVILLE, MEP, and Member of this Committee.

The aim of the Workshop was to examine in its multiple technical and economic dimension the new trend towards 'sea ranching'.

Free Fish Farms at Sea (FFFS) is a concept (sometimes called 'Aquacapture') which integrates many of the contemporary techniques used in fisheries and aquaculture and addresses the need for creative collaboration between these two sectors. The concept relies on conditioning fish in association with feeding. The fish are kept in an enhanced habitat in open sea area and remain within the local area by transmitting an acoustic signal at feeding times. Once mature, the fish are then recaptured by traditional fishing methods.

The Workshop discussed topics such as:

- . FFFS and 'sea ranching' - French developments
- . Hatching, restocking of appropriate species
- . Japanese experience
- . Artificial reefs, aggregation and enhancement
- . Acoustic barriers and recall mechanisms
- . Economics macro/micro
- . Legal aspects global/local
- . Environmental aspects
- . Recapture of marine fish
- . Consumer/Market aspects

The Workshop involved parliamentarians, EC officials, and invited specialists with experience in the field. The discussion generated at the Workshop will be used as the basis for a study which will be made available later.

The Workshop was organised in cooperation with the Stirling Institute of Aquaculture, University of Stirling, UK.

For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.

OTHER STOA INFORMATION

- STOA is sad to announce that the following left the Team:

Mr Nicolas COTTIS, who worked on the projects 'The sustainable use of pesticides' and 'Renewable energies in developing countries'. He has returned to France.

Mrs María Luisa GUERRA, who has helped the STOA secretariat for 8 months as an auxiliary. We thank her for her positive input.

We wish them both all the best for the future.

- STOA is however glad to announce that Mrs Alice MARINO has taken over from Mrs Guerra at the secretariat in Luxembourg.
- Ms Maria CASTELLANO who was due to start as a Scholar in Brussels (cf. April Newsletter) has not joined STOA.

Please address your requests for any of the documents listed above to Mr Frans SCHAERLAEKEN by fax (for details see list at the end).

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	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

		<u>Committee</u>
BUREAU		
<i>CHAIRMAN</i>		
Mr Alain POMPIDOU	(F, UPE)	
<i>VICE-CHAIRPERSONS</i>		
Mrs Renate HEINISCH	(D, PPE)	Culture/Youth
Mr David BOWE	(UK, PSE)	Environment/Public Health
<i>EP BUREAU REPRESENTATIVE (non-voting)</i>		
Mr Guido PODESTÀ	(I, UPE)	Vice-President of the EP
 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 WIJSENBECK	(NL, ELDR)	Rules of Procedure
Mrs Eryl McNALLY	(UK, PSE)	Women's Rights
Mr Felipe CAMISÓN ASENSIO	(ES, PPE)	Petitions
 SUBSTITUTES		
Mr Joe WILSON	(UK, PSE)	Agriculture
Mr Esko Olavi SEPPÄNEN	(FIN, GUE/NGL)	Budgets
Mr Franco MALERBA	(I, UPE)	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, UPE)	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.

Directorate-General for Research, Directorate B, Division for Environment, Energy and STOA

RAMSAY, Robert	Director-General	4300-22535	SCH 6/01
OLIVARES MARTÍNEZ, Ismaël	Director	4300-22845	SCH 6/83
VAN DER PERRE, Lieven	Head of Division	4300-22558	SCH 6/64

STOA Unit

HOLDSWORTH, Dick	Head of Unit	4300-22511 28-43747	SCH 4/81 LEO 6D112
SOSA IUDICISSA, Marcelo	Projects Administrator	28-43962	LEO 6D108
WEIERS, Jackie	Secretary	4300-22623	SCH 4/82
SERCU, Karin	Secretary	28-43748	LEO 6D110
SCHAERLAEKEN, Frans	Secretariat	4300-23942	SCH 4/37
MARINO, Alice	Secretary	4300-24342	SCH 4/83
OVERSTALL, John	Principal Administrator, Budget	4300-22618	SCH 6/07
KRAGE, Jens	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Environmental Engineer	4300-23596	SCH 4/84
RESTIVO, Francesco	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Business Management	4300-24226	SCH 4/84
RUESS, Werner	Visiting Researcher, Lawyer, EPTA Coordinator	4300-24226	SCH 4/84
SANTORO, Sabrina	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Psychologist, Journalist	4300-22027	SCH 4/84a
SCHIRMER, Nina	Visiting Researcher, Business Administration	28-42373	LEO 6D

	Fax Numbers	Phone Numbers	Addresses
Luxembourg (+352)	4300.22418 or 4300.24167	4300.22511 or 4300.22623	Schuman Building L-2929 Luxembourg
Brussels (+322)	284.9059	284.3747 or 284.3748	Leopold Building 60, rue Wiertz B-1047 Bruxelles
Strasbourg (+33)	388.17.9040	388.17.2259 or 388.17.4712	Palais Building (Offices 2078 - 2079) F-67070 Strasbourg

E-mail addresses

LUX: rholdsworth@europarl.eu.int
or: stoa@europarl.eu.int

URL-address

BXL: msosa@europarl.eu.int
or: ksercu@europarl.eu.int
<http://www.europarl.eu.int/dg4/stoa/en/default.htm>

STOA PROGRAMME

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR RESEARCH
DIRECTORATE B

SCHUMAN 4/81
L-2929 LUXEMBOURG

TEL. 352/4300.22511
FAX 352/4300.22418
E-MAIL rholdsworth@europarl.eu.int

LEOPOLD 6D110
60, RUE WIERTZ
B-1047 BRUXELLES

TEL. 32/2/284.3748
FAX 32/2/284.9059
E-MAIL ksercu@europarl.eu.int