EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



Scientific and Technological Options Assessment STOA

STOANEWSLETTER MAY 1997

Strasbourg, 15 May 1997

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Directorate General for Research

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NEWS

	Following the Bureau decision of 17 February 1997, the Secretary-General of the European Parliament has inaugurated the new system of scholarships for young scientists and engineers: the Ramón y Cajal Scholarships. They are named after the Spanish Nobel Prizewinner who discovered the neuron.
	STOA was represented by Mr Ismael OLIVARES MARTINEZ, Director, DGIV/B, at the Directors' meeting of the European Parliamentary Technology Assessment network (EPTA) in Helsinki on 10 April. The meeting prepared the annual Conference and Council Meeting, which are to be held in Copenhagen on 25-26 September. Three more countries have expressed interest in EPTA membership: Finland, Greece and Italy.
WC	ORKING DOCUMENTS, REPORTS, PAPERS, BRIEFS
Work in Ma	in Progress - The following Working documents are being presented to the STOA Panel sy:
Worl	kplan 1997
	Virtual libraries and education (97/C12/1) Learning to live in the information society as an older person (97/C12/2) Drug use (97/C12/3) Translations of the Project Briefs of these 3 projects are now available in French, German and Italian.
Worl	kplan 1996/1995
	Multimedia - Information society, by the Institute for Prospective Technological Assessment (IPTS), EC/JRC, Sevilla.
	Nuclear safeguards and safety in the East, Options Brief
	Assessment of dual technologies in the context of European security and defence, Scoping meeting report, by Dr Jordi MOLAS-GALLART and Dr Julian PERRY ROBINSON, of SPRU, University of Sussex, UK

□ Assessment of remedial and preventive measures relating to the damage caused to European monuments by pollution, Working documents for the STOA Panel
 Final Report, by Prof. Dr. Cesareo SAIZ JIMENEZ, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), Sevilla, Spain; and others
 Technical annexes, by Mrs Laura ROMERO VAQUERO, former STOA Scholar Options Brief

DOCUMENTS FROM EPTA PARTNERS

The French EPTA partner, the 'Office Parlementaire d'Evaluation des Choix Scientifiques et Technologiques' (OPECST) has recently published the following studies:
 'Le contrôle de la sûreté et de la sécurité des installations nucléaires', par M. Claude BIRRAUX, Député
 'Les perspectives de développement des productions agricoles à usage non alimentaire', par M. Robert GALLEY, Député
 'Rapport sur la France et la société de l'information; Un cri d'alarme et une croisade nécessaire', par M. Pierre LAFFITTE, Sénateur

PROJECT STEERING GROUPS

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

1996 Workplan

96/E.P.1 - Technologies for control of persons and materials at the external borders of the EU

Date/place: 30 April 1997, Brussels

Participants included: Mr WIJSENBEEK, MEP; Mr CURTIS and Mr HATCH of Smith System Engineering Ltd, UK; Mr OLIVARES MARTÍNEZ, DGIV/B Director; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit.

Main outcomes: This was a scoping meeting at which the execution of the study by the contractor was discussed.

For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.

96/G.P.1 - Assessment of dual technologies in the context of European security and defence

Date/place: 23 April 1997, Brussels

Participants included: Mr ARGYROS, MEP; Mr CALIGARIS, MEP; Mr TINDEMANS, MEP; Mr TINDEMANS, MEP; Mr TITLEY, MEP; Mr TINDEMANS, Assistant to Mr Tindemans; Mr FRANJULIEN, DGII/Secretariat of the Committee on Foreign Affairs; Dr MOLAS-GALLART, SPRU, UK; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit.

Main outcomes: This was a scoping meeting, at which a lively discussion of the issues was held.

For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.

1997 Workplan

97/C01/1 - The use of Internet in the EP's activities for the promotion of human rights

Date/place: 16 April 1997, Brussels

Participants included: Mr NOONAN, DGII/Human Rights Subcommittee secretariat;

Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit; Ms TINUS, STOA Unit.

Main outcomes of the meeting: Agreement on project scope and timing.

For more information places contacts Diels HOLDSWORTH.

For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.

97/C05-C15/1 - Transparency and openness in scientific advisory committees - the American experience

Date/place: 23 April 1997, Brussels

Participants included: Mrs McNALLY, MEP; Mr WARLEIGH, Assistant to Mr Collins; Mrs ALBANI LIBERALI, DGII/Conciliation Committee; Mr LAKE, DGII/Research Committee secreatariat; Mr JACOBS, DGII/Institutional Committee secretariat; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit.

Main outcomes of the meeting: Agreement on project scope and timing.

For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.

97/C05/3 - Operational requirements of a commercial fusion reactor

Date/place: 9 April 1997, Strasbourg

Participants included: Mrs PLOOIJ-VAN GORSEL, MEP; Mr GAUBE, Belgatom; Mr LAKE, DGII/Research secretariat; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit.

Main outcomes of the meeting: Agreement on project scope and timing.

For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.

	97/C05/6 - Survey and evaluation of criticisms of basic safety standards for the protection of workers and the public against ionising radiation
	Date/place: 29 April 1997, Brussels Participants included: Mrs AHERN, MEP; Mrs McKENNA; MEP; Mr HEALY, Green Group - Collaborator CERT; Mr SANCHEZ RODRIGUEZ, DGII/CERT secretariat; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit; Ms SMYKATZ-KLOSS, STOA Unit. Main outcomes of the meeting: Agreement on project scope and timing. For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.
	97/C06/1 - Electronic commerce and secure telecommunications
	Date/place: 17 April 1997, Brussels Participants included: The assistant to Mrs Mann; Mr MOTEL, DGII/Secretary of the Committee on External Economic Relations; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit. Main outcomes of the meeting: Agreement to draft a specification for discussion with the Project Steering Group, especially Mrs Mann. For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.
	97/C10/1 - General influence of speed limiters on the traffic flow, road safety, users and other aspects
	Date/place: 17 April 1997, Brussels Participants included: Mrs LANGENHAGEN, MEP; her assistant; Mr VERVLOET, DGII/Transport Committee secretariat; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit. Main outcomes of the meeting: Agreement on project scope and timing. For more information please contact: Dick HOLDSWORTH.
WC	ORKSHOPS
The	following STOA Workshops are in preparation:
	96/ALP2(v) - Women and the Net: Work, leisure, lifelong learning
	30 June PM and 1 July AM - Room BEL 53 - Brussels
	97/C09/1 - Scientific and technological assessment of the consequences of the information society for the development of the least-favoured regions
	2 June PM and 3 June AM - Room LEO 7C50 - Brussels

	97/C05/3 - Operational requirements of a commercial fusion reactor
	Possibly, 4-5 September - Brussels
	97/C05/6 - Survey and evaluation of criticisms of basic safety standards for the protection of workers and the public against ionising radiation
	Date in Autumn to be finalised.
OT	HER STOA INFORMATION
	STOA is glad to announce that Ms Bettina SMYKATZ-KLOSS, a German geographer and environmental scientist, started as a STOA Visitor mid-April. She will be working on the 1997 project on 'ionising radiation'.
	STOA is sad to announce that Ms Vanessa BIAVA, who performed a secretarial college stage in the STOA secretariat since 27 January 1997, left the Team at the end of April. We wish her good luck with her final exams.
	

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

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