



# STOA NEWSLETTER

European Parliament - Directorate-General for Research - Directorate A  
November 1999

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## *New STOA Panel launches seven new 1999 projects in response to urgent requests from Committees*

'Digital technologies in the media', 'Electromagnetic radiation risks', 'PCBs and dioxins' and 'Food safety' are four of the seven new projects launched by the STOA Panel in October at the request of the Legal, Industry and Environment Committees. Further details inside (page 1)

*'Cost-benefit analysis of EU research and technological development programmes', 'GM food', 'Water management', 'Medecines on the Internet', 'GNSS satellite navigation' and 'Women professionals in the media'*

Draft Final or Interim studies are being delivered to the STOA Panel meeting at its meeting on 18 November (pages one and two).

### *'Silicone implants'*

The project on 'Silicone implants' for the Committee on Petitions has been kicked off with a Scoping Meeting held in Brussels on 9 November (page 4).

Strasbourg, 18 November 1999

PE 281.527

EN

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Editorial assistant, Ms Karin SERCU

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## NEWS

□ **New STOA Panel launches seven projects in response to urgent requests from Committees**

At its meeting of 19 October in Brussels the STOA Panel, with its membership freshly constituted after the European Elections of June 1999, immediately responded to urgent requests from three committees for new projects to be started under the 1999 Workplan. The Committee on Legal Affairs and the Internal Market asked for projects on 'Digital technologies and the media' and 'E-commerce and SMEs'. The Committee on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy asked for 'Embryo research' and 'Risks of electromagnetic radiation'. The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy asked for 'PCBs and dioxins in the environment' and 'Recycling of cooking oils'. There is also a joint Industry/Environment project on 'Food safety'. The Panel decided to hold the election of its Bureau at the meeting on 18 November.

□ **Technology Assessment as a re-assessment of modern democracy: Theme of the 1999 EPTA Annual Conference in Rome on 2-3 December**

'Parliaments-to-citizens: TA as a re-assessment of modern democracy' is the theme of the Annual Conference of the EPTA network (European Parliamentary Technology Assessment network) which will be held in Rome on 2-3 December 1999 at the Camera dei Deputati, in the Sala del Mappamondo of the Palazzo Montecitorio. Chairman is Mr Umberto GIOVINE, Member of the Camera dei Deputati. The Conference itself begins at 09.00 on Friday 3 December. It is preceded on Thursday, 2 December by the Annual EPTA Council Meeting, which starts at 16.30 for EPTA member delegations and associates.

## WORKING DOCUMENTS, STUDIES, PAPERS, BRIEFS

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

### Workplan 1999

- **Cost-benefit analysis of EU research and technological development programmes**, by Maurizio PEDRELLI and Daniela TAGLIORETTI, Pragmata, Reggio-Emilia, Italy  
Draft Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/03/01, EN, November 1999, PE168.439/Drft.Fin.St./EN  
Options Brief
- **Genetically-modified food: Objectives for EU funded research and development**, by Jacques BLANCHET, INRA, Grignon, France  
Draft Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/05/01, November 1999, PE168.441/ Drft.Fin.St./EN

- **Use of new technologies and cost of water management in view of the new water directive of the EU**, by George KALLIS, ERN, Athens, Greece  
Draft Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/05/02, EN, November 1999, PE168.440/Drft.Fin.St./EN
- **New technologies for the marketing and sale of medicines on the internet and television networks**, by Dr FERRAN SANZ I CARRERAS, Instituto Municipal de Investigación Médica (IMIM), Departamento de Informática Médica, Barcelona, Spain  
Draft Final Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/07/01, EN, November 1999, PE168.393/ Drft.Fin.St.  
Options Brief
- **Technological options for a community strategy for a system of navigation by satellite (GNSS)**, by Rodney FEWINGS, INECO, Cranfield College of Aeronautics, UK  
Interim Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999, 99/10/01,EN, November 1999, PE 168.392/Int.St.
- **Women professionals in the media in the context of new technological developments**, by Mariagrazia FORCELLA, Bergamo, Italy  
Interim Study, Working document for the STOA Panel, Workplan 1999 - 99/19/01, EN, November 1999, PE168.380/Int.St.
- **In the past months STOA Scholars have produced Briefing Notes on the following topics:**
  - . Renewable Energies in Europe, briefing n°3, WIP/99/02/038, PE168.183
  - . European Development Aid, Human Rights and Democracy, briefing n°5, WIP/99/02/039, PE 168.375
  - . Biotechnology, briefing n°6, WIP/99/06/001, PE168.371
  - . Telework, briefing n°7, WIP/99/06/008, PE168.372
  - . Mental health: EU Activities, briefing n°8, WIP/99/06/002, PE168.373
  - . Catalizadores, briefing n°9, WIP/99/06/003, PE168.374
  - . The International Space Station, briefing n°10, WIP/99/06/004, PE168.376
  - . Technology Assessment, briefing n°11, WIP/99/06/005, PE168.377
  - . Environmental Impact Assessment in Europe, briefing n°13, WIP/99/06/007, PE168.379
  - . Organic farming in the European Union, briefing n°14, WIP/99/11/016, PE168.185

- . Les plages d'Europe: Erosion, ecologie, pollution, économie, amiente, briefing n°15, WIP/99/11/017, PE168.186
- . Nuclear Medecine in Europe: Current State of the Art and Future Developments, briefing n°16, WIP/99/11/018, PE168.187
- . Terminological Diversity in the environment, briefing n°17, WIP/99/11/019, PE168.188
- . Fundamental ethical values in scientific and technological research within the European Union, briefing n°18, WIP/99/11/020, PE168.189
- . La termodistruzione dei rifiuti, briefing n°19, WIP/99/11/021, PE168.190
- . The Success in implementing Natura 2000 and the Outlook for the Future, briefing n°21, WIP/99/11/023, PE168.192
- . Les infrastructures routières dans les Réseaux Transeuropéens de Transports (RTE-T), briefing n°22, WIP/99/11/024, PE168.193
- . The Ageing of Society-towards healthy ageing: Role of the EU, briefing n°23, WIP/99/11/025, PE168.194
- . Food Labelling for genetically modified products, briefing n°24, WIP/99/11/026, PE168.195
- . Pollution of the Baltic Sea, briefing n°25, WIP/99/11/027, PE168.196
- . Risk assessment in EU policy, briefing n°26, WIP/99/11/028, PE168.197
- . Environmental protection of the Atlantic coast, briefing n°27, WIP/99/11/029, PE168.197
- . Legal basis of EC Environmental Acts, briefing n°28, WIP/99/11/030, PE168.197
- . Nutraceuticals, briefing n°29, WIP/99/11/031, PE168.200

## PROJECT STEERING GROUPS

**The following Project Steering Group (PSG) will be holding a Scoping Meeting:**

### **Workplan 1999**

- 99/14/01/A-B - Crowd control technologies / Prison technologies.** A combined Interim and Scoping Meeting is planned to be held soon.

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

**Workplan 1999**

- 99/12/01 - Linguistic diversity on the Internet: Assessment of the contribution of machine translation**

**Date/place:** 19 October 1999, Brussels

**Participants included:** Mr SALTER, DGII/Culture Committee Secretariat; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit; Mr DRATWA, STOA Scholar; Ms KOROMPILIA, STOA Scholar; Mr MERCADO, STOA Scholar; Ms RAFFO, STOA Scholar.

**Contractor:** Mr THOMAS, University of Wales, UK.

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

**For more information please contact:** Dick HOLDSWORTH.

- 99/20/02 - Health risks posed by silicone implants in general, with a special attention to breast implants**

**Date/place:** 9 November 1999, Brussels

**Participants included:** Mr MILLER, MEP; Ms RUSTON, Assistant to Mr Perry; Mr VAN DEN BOSCH, Assistant to Mrs Oomen-Ruyten; Ms HOWES, EC/DG ENTR; Mr HÖJDEFORS, EC/DG ENTR; Mr HOLDSWORTH, Head of the STOA Unit; Mr CUGNINI, STOA Scholar; Mr DRATWA, STOA Scholar; Ms KOROMPILIA, STOA Scholar; Mr MERCADO, STOA Scholar; Ms RAFFO, STOA Scholar.

**Contractor:** Mr MARTÍN-MORENO, Spanish National School of Public Health, Madrid.

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

**For more information please contact:** Dick HOLDSWORTH.

## FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- Independence in later life: POST/Commission workshop planned for 31 January 2000**  
A joint workshop is being planned by the UK parliamentary TA body, POST (Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology) and the Directorate-General for Research of the European Commission on 'Independence in later life', to be held on 31 January 2000 in the Grand Committee Room of the Palace of Westminster from 09.00 to 17.00. It will be chaired by Dr Ian GIBSON, MP, Chairman of POST. Mrs Eryl McNALLY, MEP, has accepted an invitation to take part and make a presentation on recent STOA work in this field.

## OTHER STOA INFORMATION

The following Ramón y Cajal Scholars and Visiting Researchers have also left the Team: Shahrar ALI, Xoan Inacio AMOEDO LUEIRO Nacho and Margherita DIGIROLAMO. We wish them all the best for the future.

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

in Brussels:

. Giacomo CUGNINI, an Italian Ramón y Cajal Scholar, who is an electronic engineer;

in Luxembourg:

. Vanessa ALVAREZ RIVERA, a Spanish Ramón y Cajal Scholar, who is a biologist and biochemist;

. Nadia TOPPINO, an Italian Ramón y Cajal Scholar, who is a logistics, production and transportation engineer;

. Liliana Celia VOLSKIS, an Italian Ramón y Cajal Scholar, with a degree in Physical education, physiotherapist and rehabilitation.

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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 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 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 PROJECT PROPOSALS 1999

Proposals for urgent additional STOA Projects made since the European elections of 13 June 1999 by Committees of the newly elected European Parliament

<b>Committee Ref. n° (*)</b>	<b>PROJECT TITLE</b>
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

*(\*) The numbering of the projects is based on the Committee Number in the way they were named and listed after the elections EP in June*

## STOA Panel

	Committee	STOA Panel Member	STOA Panel Substitute
1	AFET	Philippe MORILLON (FR, PPE)	Francesco SPERONI (IT, TDI) Pedro MARSET CAMPOS (ES, GUE/NGL)
2	BUDG	Alejo VIDAL-QUADRAS ROCA (ES, PPE)	
3	CONT	<i>Brigitte LANGENHAGEN (DE, PPE)</i>	
4	LIBE	Christian VON BÖTTICHER (DE, PPE)	
5	ECON	Alain LIPIETZ (FR, Greens/EFA)	Ioannis MARINOS (GR, PPE)
6	JURI	Malcolm HARBOUR (UK, PPE)	
7	INDU	Paul RÜBIG (AU, PPE) <i>Eryl McNALLY (UK, PSE)</i>	Elly PLOOIJ-VAN GORSEL (NL, ELDR) Yves PIÉTRASANTA (FR, Greens/EFA) Konstantinos ALYSSANDRAKIS (GR, GUE/NGL)
8	EMPL	Pierre JONCKHEER (BE, Greens/EFA)	
9	ENVI	Antonios TRAKATELLIS (GR, PPE) <i>David BOWE (UK, PSE)</i>	
10	AGRI	Friedrich GRAEFE ZU BARINGDORF (DE, Greens/EFA)	
11	PECH	Dominique SOUCHET (FR, UEN)	Glyn FORD (UK, PSE)
12	REGI	Per STENMARCK (SV, PPE)	Brian SIMPSON (UK, PSE)
13	CULT	Cristina GUTIÉRREZ-CORTINES (ES, PPE)	Christa PRETS (AU, PSE)
14	DEVE	<i>Anders WIJMAN (SV, PPE)</i>	
15	AFCO	Johannes VOGGENHUBER (AU, Greens /EFA)	
16	FEMM	Lissy GRÖNER (DE, PSE)	María AVILES-PEREA (ES, PPE)
17	PETI	<i>Jean LAMBERT (UK, Greens/EFA)</i>	Roy PERRY (UK, PPE)

Names in italics to be confirmed at the Panel meeting of 18 November 1999.

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

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

**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
<b>STOA Unit</b>			
HOLDSWORTH, Dick	Head of Unit	4300-22511 28-43747	SCH 04A034 ASP 06D112
WEIWERS, Jackie	Secretary	4300-22623	SCH 04A033
SERCU, Karin	Secretary	28-43748	ASP 06D55
MARTINSSON, Marianne	Secretary	28-42844	ASP 06D48
SCHAERLAEKEN, Frans	Secretariat	4300-23942	SCH 04A035
OVERSTALL, John	Principal Administrator, Budget	4300-22618	SCH 06A006
ALVAREZ RIVERA, Vanessa	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Biologist/ Biochemist	4300-23596	SCH 04A032
CUGNINI, Giacomo	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Electronic engineer	28-43962	ASP 06D46
DRATWA, Jim	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Physicist, Philosopher, Environmental scientist	28-43571	ASP 06D108
KOROMPILIA, Irini	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Geologist/ Environmental Policy	28-42377	ASP 06DBIB
MERCADO VERGNES, Diego Manuel	Visiting Researcher, Agronomist/ Environmental Engineer	28-43571	ASP 06D108
RAFFO, Veronica	Visiting Researcher, Lawyer/Political scientist	28-42377	ASP 06DBIB
TOPPINO, Nadia	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Logistics, Production and Transportation Engineer	4300-23596	SCH 04A032
VOLSKIS, Liliana Celia	Ramón y Cajal Scholar, Physical Education Therapist, Osteopathy	4300-23923	SCH 04A031

	Fax Numbers	Phone Numbers	Addresses
<b>Luxembourg</b> (+352)	4300.22418 or 4300.24167	4300.22511 or 4300.22623	Schuman Building L-2929 Luxembourg
<b>Brussels</b> (+322)	284.9059	284.3747 or 284.3748	Altiero Spinelli Building 60, rue Wiertz B-1047 Bruxelles
<b>Strasbourg</b> (+33)	388.17.9040	388.17.2259 or 388.17.2645 or 388.17.4712	Salvador de Madariaga Building (Offices 702 - 703) F-67070 Strasbourg

**E-mail addresses**

LUX: rholdsworth@europarl.eu.int  
BXL: ksercu@europarl.eu.int

**URL-address**

<http://www.europarl.eu.int/dg4/stoa/en/default.htm>

## **STOA PROGRAMME**

### **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR RESEARCH DIRECTORATE A**

**SCHUMAN 04A034  
L-2929 LUXEMBOURG**

**TEL. 352/4300.22511  
FAX 352/4300.22418  
E-MAIL [rholdsworth@europarl.eu.int](mailto:rholdsworth@europarl.eu.int)**

**ALTIERO SPINELLI 06D55  
60, RUE WIERTZ  
B-1047 BRUXELLES**

**TEL. 32/2/284.3748  
FAX 32/2/284.9059  
E-MAIL [ksercu@europarl.eu.int](mailto:ksercu@europarl.eu.int)**