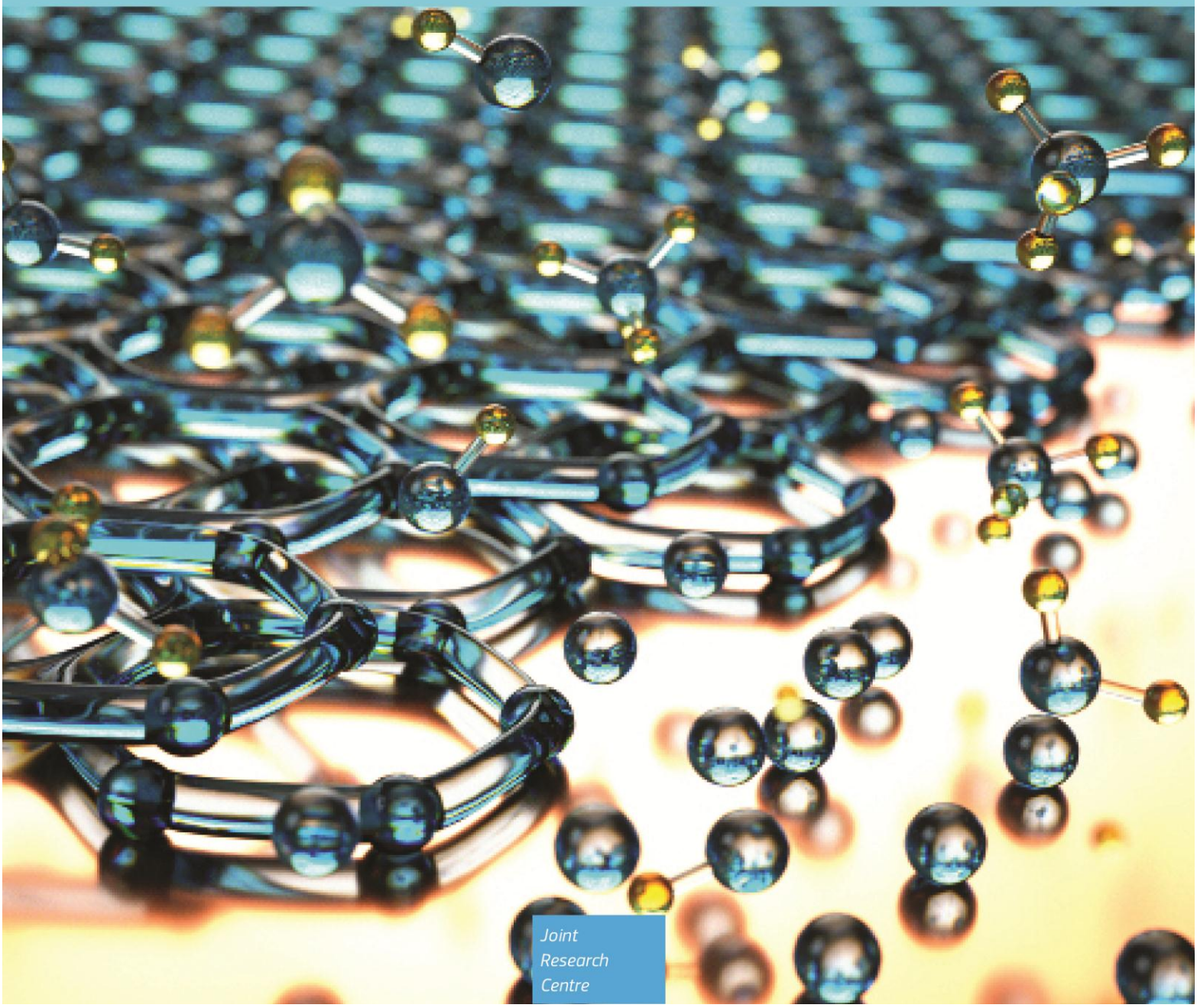
European Commission

Science & Policy:

What's on the EU's agenda?

September 2014



Joint Research Centre

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE

Policy Support Coordination
International, Interinstitutional and Stakeholder Relations

SCIENCE & POLICY: WHAT'S ON THE EU'S AGENDA?

1 September 2014

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Correspondence:

Daniele Tagliavia
Stakeholder Relations Officer – JRC

European Commission, B-1049 Brussels
Belgium. Telephone: (32-2) 299 11 11
Office: CDMA 05/194 –
Tel. direct line +32 2 29-93204
Email address:
Daniele.tagliavia@ext.ec.europa.eu

1. Activities of the European Institutions

1.1 European Commission

Date	Event	Subject
10 September	*College Meeting*	• *Proposal for revision of the medicated feed legislation (Directive 90/167/EEC) – (DG SANCO)* • *Proposal for a revision of the legislation on veterinary medicines (DG SANCO)*
16 September	*College Meeting*	*Not yet publicly available*
24 September	*College Meeting*	*Not yet publicly available*
1 October	*College Meeting*	*Not yet publicly available*

1.2 Council

Date	Event	Venue/Location
25-26 September	*Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry and Research) Council*	

1.3 European Parliament

Schedule of the new Parliament

Date	Event	Subject	Venue/Location
15-18 September	*EP Plenary Session*		*Strasbourg*
22-30 September	*EP Plenary session, chaired by the new EP President*	• Election of the President of the European Commission	*Strasbourg*
20 – 23 October	*EP Plenary session*	• Vote of consent about the new College of Commissioners	*Strasbourg*
24 – 27 November	*EP Plenary session*	• First participation of the new College of Commissioners	*Strasbourg*
15 – 18 December	*EP Plenary session*	• First participation of the new President of the European Council	*Strasbourg*

Committee Meetings

1–11 or 22–30 September	*Hearings of the Commissioners-designate (by the Committees in charge of their respective*		*Brussels*

	portfolio)		
1-2 September	*Committee on Industry, Research and Energy*		*Brussels*
3-4 September	*Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development*		*Brussels*
22-23 September	*Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development*		*Strasbourg*
24-25 September	*Committee on Industry, Research and Energy*		*Strasbourg*
Events organised in the EP			
2 September	*European Energy Forum debate on "**Renewables and gas – the perfect partners in heating**"*	*Heating in the domestic and tertiary sectors in the EU is responsible for nearly a third of energy demand. This is reason enough to find out how both demand and emissions can be reduced cost-efficiently in the heating sector whilst security of supply is maintained.*	*EP, Brussels*
16 September	*European Energy Forum debate on **"Energy perspectives – the outlook for global macroeconomics and energy markets towards 2040"***	*Economic growth, energy security and climate change are amongst the biggest challenges for a Europe emerging from recession. The European Council meeting in October will put forward EU's pledge on the energy and climate strategy towards 2030. This strategy will again be presented in the international climate negotiations in December 2015 in Paris.*	*EP, Brussels*
23 September	*European Energy Forum debate on **"Securing European energy – what role for oil and gas?"***	*Understanding global and European energy trends is absolutely critical for effective energy policy. Europe depends on safe, reliable and affordable energy development to support economic growth and competitiveness. In May 2014, the Commission has published a comprehensive proposal for a "European Energy Security Strategy", catapulting energy security to the top of the political agenda.*	*EP, Brussels*
October (date tbc)	*ITRE Hearing about Energy Security*	*Chaired by **MEP Jerzy Buzek***	*EP, Brussels*
18 November	*STOA Annual Lecture*	*Keynote Speaker: **Thomas C. SUDHOF, 2013 Nobel Prize laureate in Physiology***	*EP, Brussels*

1.4 International Relations

Date	***Event***	***Venue/Location***
8 – 12 September	*4th EU-US-Japan Trilateral Conference on Critical Materials*	*Iowa (US)*
23 September	*United Nations - Climate Summit 2014: "Catalyzing Action"*	*New York, USA*
30 September – 2 October	*Arctic Council - 4th Scientific cooperation Task Force Meeting*	*Tromsø, Norway*
Late September (tbc)	*EU-Canada 2014 Summit*	*Brussels*
5-7 October	*Science and Technology in Society (STS) forum – 11th Annual Meeting*	*Kyoto, Japan*
7 October	EU-JAPAN Space Dialogue	*Tokyo, Japan*

13 October (tbc)	*17th EU-China Summit*	*Brussels*
14-15 October	*Arctic Futures Sympsosium 2014*	*Brussels*
16-17 October	*Asia-Europe Meeting – 10th ASEM Summit, theme: "Responsible partnership for sustainable Growth and Security"*	*Milan, Italy*
3–4 December	*EU-South Africa Joint Science&Technology Cooperation Committee*	*South Africa*
2014 (tbc)	*EU-Mexico Summit*	*Brussels*
End 2014 (tbd)	EU- RUSSIA space dialogue	*Brussels*
June 2015	EU-CELAC Summit	*Brussels*

2. Conferences & Meetings

2.1 European Conferences Meetings

Date	Event	Organiser	Venue/Location
7-10 September	50th Congress of European Societies of Toxicology	*European Societies of Toxicology*	*Edinburgh, UK*
7-12 September	International Microscopy Congress 2014	*The Czechoslovak Microscopy Society*	*Prague, Czech Republic*
12-13 September	Conference: The Promise of the EU	*Presidency of the Council of the EU*	*Rome, Italy*
17-21 September	8th European Conference on Pesticides and Related Organic Micropollutants	*European Environment Agency*	*Ioannina, Greece*
18 September	Copernicus for environment and human security – from research to operations	*Agenzia Spaziale Italiana*	*Rome, Italy*
19-20 September	33rd Conference of Rectors and Presidents of European Universities of Technology		*Goteborg, Sweden*
22-26 September	29th European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition (EU PVSEC 2014)	*JRC-IET (JRC coordinates the technical programme)*	*Amsterdam, The Netherlands*
29 September	*A Participatory Model for Energy Efficiency in the Building sector*	*Macif, Institut Jacques Delor, Eesc*	*Paris, France*
29 September – 1 October	*Let's (Leading Enabling Technologies for Societal Challenges 2014) Conference 2014*	*Italian Presidency of the Council of the European Union*	*Bologna, Italy*

30 September	*JRC-EASAC launch event of the joint report on the "Management of spent nuclear fuel and its waste"*	*JRC-EASAC*	*Brussels*
1 October	*Social economy and social innovation as drivers of competitiveness, growth and social well-being*	*EESC*	*Brussels*
2 October	*Conference: What development opportunities does the TTIP bring to Europe?*	*EESC, EFNI (European forum for new ideas)*	*Sopot, Poland*
2-3 October	*High level conference on Roma inclusion on the ground - The ROMACT experience*	*EC/Council of Europe*	*Brussels*
2-3 October	Cohesion Policy and the synergies with the research and innovation funds: Stairway to Excellence (launching event of S2E)	*JRC – DG REGIO*	*Prague, Czech Republic*
6-7 October	*High Level conference "Future of Europe is Science"*	*JRC, BEPA, Office of CSA*	*Lisbon, Portugal*
7-9 October	Conference of the Animal Welfare Intergroup in the European Parliament: "Act4Animals"	*Eurogroup for animals*	*EP, Brussels*
8-9 October	Bioeconomy Stakeholder Conference	*Presidency of the Council of the EU, EC*	*Turin, Italy*
13-17 October	*Climate Symposium 2014*	*World Climate Research Program (WCRP) - European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites (EUMETSAT)*	*Darmstadt, Germany*
15-16 October	*European Conference on Public Communication (EuroPcom)*	*Committee of Regions*	*Brussels*
21-22 October	*6th JRC/ DG AGRI annual conference on "Commodity Market Development in Europe – Outlook"*	*JRC, AGRI*	*Brussels*
5-8 November	*Energising cities – energy intelligent cities of tomorrow"*	*Eurocities*	*Munich, Geramny*
12 – 14 November	*2014 Conference on Big Data From Space (BiDS '14)*	*JRC, ESA, Satcen*	*Frascati, Italy*
12 November	Conference: A new Industrial Policy for Europe	*European Policy Centre, EESC*	*Brussels*
19 - 20 November	*20th MARS (Monitoring Agricultural Resources) annual Conference*	*JRC*	*Dresden, Germany*
19-20 November	20th Annual GeoCAP Conference	*JRC*	*Dresden,*

			Germanyt
20 November	*Europeaid Infopoint Conference*	*Europaid*	*Brussels*
20 November	*European Structural and Investment Funds 2014-2020 Conference*	*Committee of Regions*	*Brussels*
27-28 November	*Counterfactual Methods for Policy Impact Evaluation (COMPIE) Conference*	*JRC / DG EMPL / Centre for Research on Impact Evaluation (CRIE)*	*Rome, Italy*
1 December	*Co-operative banks: a real model to finance the real economy*	*(EESC), the International Confederation of Popular Banks (CIBP) and the European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (UEAPME)*	*Brussels*
December 2014(tbc)	*SET (Strategic Energy technology)-Plan Conference*	*JRC – European Energy Research Alliance*	*Rome, Italy*

2.2 International Conferences

Date	Event	Organiser	Venue/Location
31 August – 4 September	*5th EuCheMS Chemistry Congress*	*European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences, Turkish Chemical Society*	*Istanbul, Turkey*
31 Aug - 5 Sep	*World Water Week*	*Stockholm International Water Institute*	*Stockholm, Sweden*
7-20 September	128th AOAC International Annual meeting	*AOAC*	*Boca Raton, USA*
7-12 September	Plutonium Futures Conference	*Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory*	*Las Vegas, USA*
8-12 September	*7th Annual Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP) Conference*	*Ecosystem Services Partnership (ESP)*	*Costa Rica*
9 September	International Conference on Consumer Research	*Verbraucherzentrale Nordrhein-Westfalen*	*Bonn, Germany*
14-19 September	4th International Nuclear Chemistry Congress	*International Nuclear Chemistry Society*	*Maresias, Brazil*
17 September	International Association for Engineering Geology and the Environment XII Congress	*International Association for Engineering Geology and the Environment*	*Turin, Italy*
22-26 September	58th IAEA General Conference	*IAEA*	*Wien, Austria*
23-25 September	Fourth International Conference on Lignocellulosic Ethanol (4ICLE)	*DG ENER*	*Munich, Germany*
24-29 September	*First Joint International and European conference on Intelligence and Security Informatics (IEEE ISI & EISIC)*	*Delft University of Technology / Police academy of the Netherlands / Netherlands Forensic Institute / University of Arizona (USA)*	*The Hague, the Netherlands*
24-26 September	*International conference on food contact Compliance*	*The Italian Institute of Packaging*	*Stresa, Italy*
25-26 September	*NuAct 2014 conference*	*KAERI, Nuclear Chemistry Research Division*	*Daejeon, Korea*
5-8 October	HUPO 13th Annual World Congress	*Human Proteome Organization*	*Madrid, Spain*
5-11 October	*XXIV International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) World Congress 2014*	*IUFRO*	*Salt Lake City, UT, United States*

8-10 October	*Ninth International Life Cycle Assessment of Foods Conference*	*American Center for Life Cycle Assessment*	*San Francisco, USA*
13-16 –October	*16th International Conference on Thin Films*	*Rudjer Boskovic Institute, Div. Materials Physics*	*Dubrovnik, Croatia*
13-17 October	*Climate Symposium 2014*	*WCRP / EUMETSAT*	*Darmstadt, Germany*
20-21 October	*International Conference ECO-MOBILITY 2014*	*Austrian Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology (bmvit) and the Austrian Agency for Alternative Propulsion Systems (A3PS)*	*Vienna, Austria*
21 October	*Conference: ''Continuing Vocational Training in Eastern Europe: mobilising the demand, enhancing the supply''*	*ETF and CoR/CORLEAP*	*Kiev, Uckraine*
26-30 October	NuMat (Nuclear Materials) Conference 2014	*DoE-INL, Elsevier*	*Clearwater (FL), USA*
9-15 November	*20th Latin American Soil Science Congress*	*IASS (Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies) / Global Soil Forum*	*Cuzco, Peru*
12-19 November	*International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Parks Congress*	*IUCN*	*Sydney, Australia*
17-21 November	*2nd International Ocean Research Conference*	*Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO and the Oceanography Society*	*Barcelona, Spain*
19-21 November	*Global Energy Storage Conference*	*EASE (European Association of Storage of Energy ESA (US Energy Storage Association) – JRC (day one sessions tbc)*	*Paris, France*
27-28 November	*5th International Conference Future-Oriented Technology Analysis (FTA) "Engage today to shape tomorrow"*	*JRC*	*Brussels*
1-12 December	*United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (NFCCC) Convention of the Parties COP-20*	*UN*	*Lima, Peru*
2-5 December	*1st Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative (GSBI) Conference*	*JRC (EcoFINDERS project) / Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative (GSBI)*	*Dijon, France*
18-23 January 2015	*9th Arctic Frontiers Conference*		*Tromsø*
14 – 18 March 2015	*3rd world Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction*	*Coordinating body: United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR)*	*Sendai City, Japan*
23-30 April 2015	*Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW) 2015*		*Toyama, Japan*

3. JRC News

Date	News
2013	*Annual Report 2013*

June - July 2014	*JRC Newsletter*

26 August Progress towards ensuring safety without animal testing

The EU's biggest ever initiative on alternative testing, SEURAT-1, presented its latest progress report at the World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences. As a key partner in this major research consortium, the JRC has contributed to achievements which include well characterised biological models for in vitro high throughput assays, novel 'omics' and high throughput in vitro based approaches for the identification of toxicity pathways.

26 August Customs risk management: can transport logistics data improve the analysis of shipping containers?

The European Commission adopted a new strategy and action plan to improve customs risk management, responding to the need for better knowledge on cargo movements and supply chains. In this effort, the JRC provides scientific and technical support by evaluating the potential benefits of integrating information on shipping container movements and events in pre-arrival customs risk analysis.

25 August High cereal yields forecast for EU-28

The latest MARS crop monitoring in Europe bulletin, published on 25th of August, reports that overall EU-28 cereal yield forecasts for 2014 remain favourable, at the level of last year and above the average of the past five years (+6.1%). Yield prospects for grain maize are excellent at the moment, with forecast yields 11% above the level of last year and the past five years' average.

19 August New thematic report: Science for Nuclear safety and security

The JRC has released a new report giving a comprehensive overview of its research on nuclear safety and security, including their policy background and context. The nuclear activities of the JRC are aimed at supporting the implementation of EU legislation, giving priority to the highest standards for nuclear safety and security in the Union, and internationally.

14 August The ups and downs of solar energy potential in Europe and Africa in 2030

A global reduction of aerosols emissions in 2030 will likely result in up to 10% increase of photovoltaic energy (PVE) potential in western Europe and the eastern Mediterranean while a reduction of up to 7% would affect northern Africa and eastern Europe. These are some of the findings published in a recent JRC article which investigates the likely availability of photovoltaic energy (PVE) in Europe and Africa in 2030, under a scenario of reduced anthropogenic emissions, such as greenhouse gases and aerosols

12 August The potential triple win in smart tax reforms: competitiveness, jobs and the environment

A new study estimates that EU Member States could make their business sectors more competitive by changing the way taxes are collected from companies. The study suggests that by reducing the business tax burden linked to labour costs (social security contributions, payroll taxes, etc.) and shifting the expected tax revenue to the energy consumption facet instead, Member States could lower companies' overall production costs.

8 August	*How are breast cancer care services organised in Europe?*
The JRC published a comprehensive report of breast cancer care services in Europe based on a survey which analysed the current situation in 25 countries that voluntarily participated in the study. This report is a major step towards the development of a European quality assurance scheme for breast cancer services, which is part of the European Commission Initiative on Breast Cancer coordinated by the JRC.	

5 August	*Severe forest fire in Sweden*
The largest forest fire in Sweden's recent history raged through the Sala and Surahammar municipalities in Västmanland County, Sweden. *Nearby villages have been evacuated, and the fire has been declared a national emergency. The JRC's European Forest Fire Information System (EFFIS) closely monitored the situation. On the request of the Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC), it delivers daily EFFIS reports based on the latest satellite imagery available and meteorological weather forecasts.*	

4 August	*Healthy eating – healthy ageing?*
Nutritional shortcomings are a key driver of age-related decline and disability whereas proper diet can increase years of healthy life. In support of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (the Partnership), JRC scientists have reviewed the evidence on the role key nutrients and diet plays in promoting healthy ageing. *JRC scientists collected evidence on the prevention and treatment of age-related diseases with a focus on under-nutrition in older people, a main cause as well as a consequence of functional decline. The resulting report "The role of Nutrition in Active and Healthy Ageing" provides an important contribution to the overall target of the Partnership which is to increase the average healthy lifespan by two years by 2020, to enable EU citizens to lead healthy, active and independent lives while ageing and to improve the sustainability and efficiency of social and health care.*	

30 July	*JRC analyses and modelling support the 6th Cohesion Report*
JRC analysis of EU human settlements, land-use and resource efficiency, as well as modelling work addressing options for urban and regional development have fed into the 6th Report on Economic, Social and Territorial Cohesion, released on 23 July by the European Commission.	

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