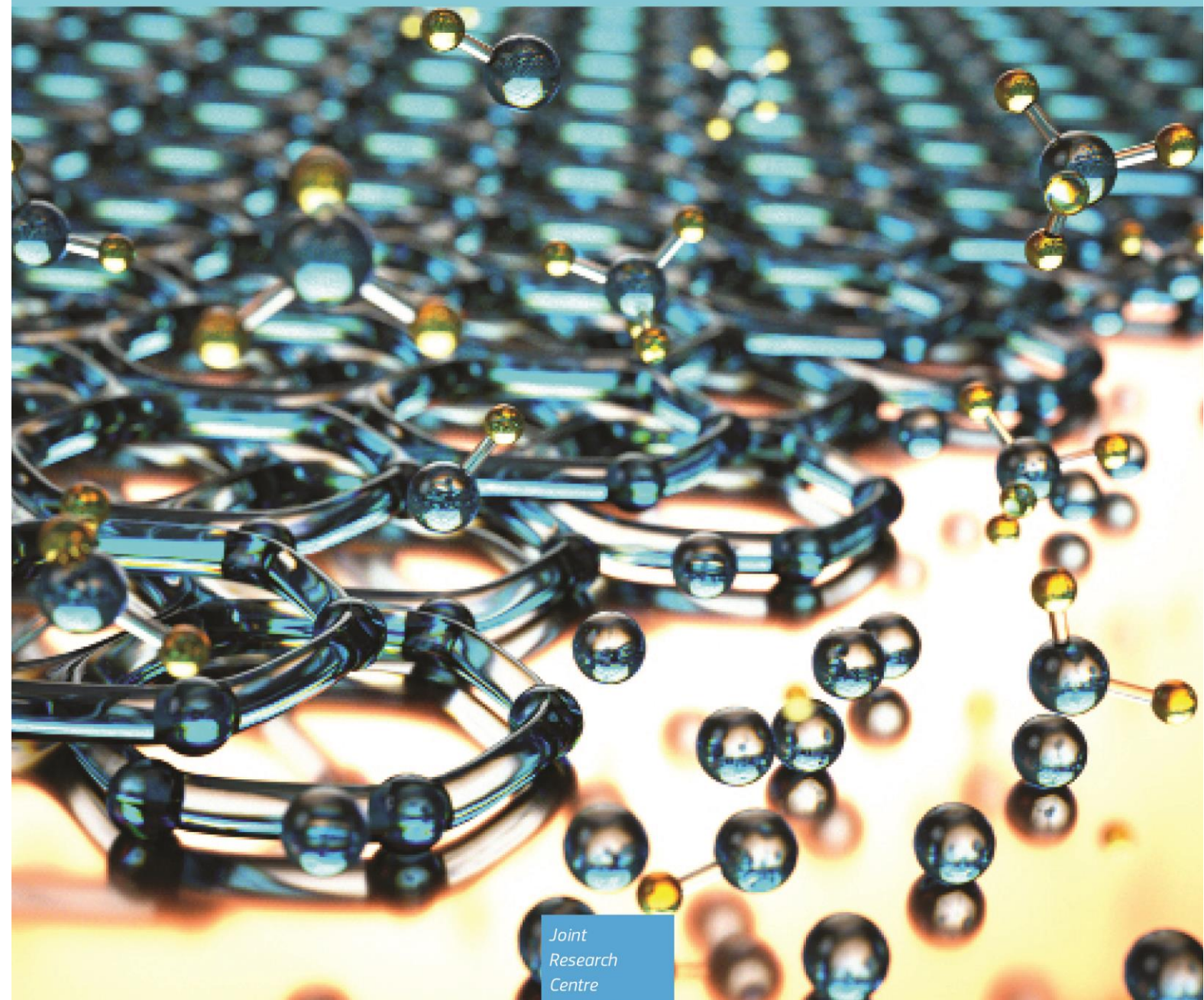




# *Science & Policy:* *What's on the EU's agenda?*

**February 2016**



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?

4 February 2016

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# 1. Activities of the European Institutions

## 1.1 European Commission

Date	Event	Subject
2 February	<a href="#">College Meeting</a>	Among others: Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on an Action Plan for strengthening the fight against terrorist financing; Commission Implementing Decision establishing the evaluation report for 2015 on the application by Greece of the Schengen acquis in the field of management of the external borders
<a href="#">All meetings of the College of Commissioners</a>		

## 1.2 Council

Date	Event	Venue/Location
4-5 February	<a href="#">Informal Meeting of Ministers of Defence</a>	Amsterdam
5-6 February	<a href="#">Informal Meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministers</a>	Amsterdam
11 February	<a href="#">Eurogroup Meeting</a>	Brussels
12 February	<a href="#">Economic and Financial Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
15 February	<a href="#">Foreign Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
15 February	<a href="#">Agricultural and Fisheries Council</a>	Brussels
16 February	<a href="#">General Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
18-19 February	<a href="#">European Council</a>	Brussels
24 February	<a href="#">Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council</a>	Brussels
29 February	<a href="#">Competitiveness Council</a>	Brussels
4 March	<a href="#">Environment Council</a>	Brussels
7 March	<a href="#">Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
7 March	<a href="#">Eurogroup Meeting</a>	Brussels
8 March	<a href="#">Economic and Financial Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
10-11 March	<a href="#">Justice and Home Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
14 March	<a href="#">Agriculture and Fisheries Council</a>	Brussels
14 March	<a href="#">Foreign Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
15 March	<a href="#">General Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
17-18 March	<a href="#">European Council</a>	Brussels
11-12 April	<a href="#">Agriculture and Fisheries Council</a>	Luxembourg
12 April	<a href="#">Informal Meeting of Ministers and State Secretaries for European Affairs</a>	Amsterdam
14-15 April	<a href="#">Informal Ministerial Environmental and Transport Meeting</a>	Amsterdam
18-19 April	<a href="#">Foreign Affairs Council</a>	Luxembourg
18-20 April	<a href="#">Informal Meeting of Employment, Social Policy and Health Ministers</a>	Amsterdam
22-23 April	<a href="#">Informal meeting of economic and financial affairs ministers</a>	Amsterdam
<a href="#">All meetings of the Council</a>		

## 1.3 European Parliament

### Plenary Sessions

Date	Event	Subjects	Venue/Location
1-4 February	<a href="#">EP plenary session</a>	<i>Among others: European Central Bank annual report for 2014 in the presence of Mario Draghi, President of the ECB; Council and Commission statements on Refugee emergency, external borders control and future of Schengen; preparation of the European Council meeting of 18 and 19 February 2016; the role of local and regional authorities in the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF); Commission statement - Railways and public services in the Danube and Adriatic macro-regions</i>	Strasbourg
24 February	<a href="#">EP plenary session</a>	<i>Among others: Joint Debate - European Semester 2016, European Semester for economic policy coordination: Annual Growth Survey 2016, European Semester for economic policy coordination: Employment and Social Aspects in the Annual Growth Survey 2016 ;Single Market governance within the European Semester 2016; Commission statement - Commission decision adopted on the European Semester Package - including country reports</i>	Brussels

### Committee Meetings

4 February	<a href="#">Subcommittee on Security and Defence: extraordinary meeting</a>	<i>Among others : Eurocorps: experiences and future perspectives</i>	Strasbourg
15-16 February	<a href="#">Committee on Transport and Tourism</a>	<i>Among others: Announcement of Council's position at 1st reading on 4th Railway Package Technical Pillar: Directive on the interoperability of rail system, Directive on railway safety and Regulation on ERA; an EU strategy for the Alpine region; Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities with special regard to the Concluding Observations of the UN CRPD Committee</i>	Brussels
15-16 February	<a href="#">Committee on Regional Development</a>	<i>Among others: Review of the role of the EIB Group in European Cohesion policy; an EU strategy for the Alpine region; implementation of the thematic objective "enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs" (Article 9(3)) of the Common Provisions Regulation; Cohesion Policy and Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation; new territorial development tools in Cohesion policy 2014-2020: Integrated Territorial Investment (ITI)</i>	Brussels

		<i>and Community-Led Local Development (CLLD); European Semester for economic policy coordination: Annual Growth Survey 2016; the situation in the Mediterranean and the need for a holistic EU approach to migration</i>	
17-18 February	<a href="#">Committee on Fisheries</a>	<i>Among others: Innovation and diversification in non-industrial coastal fishing in regions dependent on fishing; Fisheries aspects within the international agreement on marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea</i>	Brussels
17-18 February	<a href="#">Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality</a>	<i>Among others: Implementation of the Directive 2011/36/EU of 5 April 2011 on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims from a gender perspective</i>	Brussels
17-18 February	<a href="#">Committee on Culture and Education</a>		Brussels
22-23 February	<a href="#">Committee on Industry, Research and Energy</a>		Brussels
22-23 February	<a href="#">Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection ordinary</a>		Brussels
22-23 February	<a href="#">Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development</a>	<i>Among others: Achievements of the Expo 2015 in the context of challenges ahead for European and world agriculture: exchange of views on the political legacy of Expo Milano 2015 and the performance of the EU pavilion with Dr Franz Fischler, as Chair of the Steering Committee for the EU Scientific Programme for the Expo and Dr David Wilkinson, as Commissioner General for the EU participation</i>	Brussels
<a href="#">All European Parliament Committee meetings</a>			
<b>Other meetings and events</b>			
16 February	<a href="#">Opportunities and threats: EU land and forests in the climate and energy framework for 2030</a>	<i>Among others: How to integrate in the best way Land use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) into the EU's climate framework; information for the European Parliament and other stakeholders about opportunities and challenges of this sector</i>	Brussels
23 February	<a href="#">ENVI Public Hearing on Real Driving Emission Tests</a>	<i>Among others: Reduction of pollutant emissions from road vehicles in relation to real driving conditions; hearing of expert speakers on the development of real driving emissions tests</i>	Brussels

## 1.4 Committee of the Regions (CoR)

Date	Event	Venue/Location
9 February	<a href="#">Boosting entrepreneurial spirit – pioneering regions and cities in Europe</a>	CoR, Brussels
10-11 February	<a href="#">116<sup>th</sup> CoR Plenary</a>	European Parliament, Brussels
11 February	<a href="#">Demographic changes in the Alps: population, employment, education and services. Presentation of the Fifth Report on the State of the Alps</a>	CoR, Brussels
25 February	<a href="#">7th SEDEC Commission Meeting</a>	Brussels
1 March	<a href="#">7th NAT commission meeting</a>	Brussels
3 March	<a href="#">The future of Cohesion Policy beyond 2020 - Final Conference</a>	CoR, Brussels
9-10 March	<a href="#">Local skills matter: entrepreneurial communities and smart territories</a>	CoR, Brussels
20 April	<a href="#">Congress of European Municipalities and Regions</a>	Nicosia, Cyprus
<a href="#">Further events of the Committee of the Regions</a>		

## 1.5 European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

Date	Event	Venue/Location
1 February	<a href="#">Free movement and Schengen: defending workers' rights</a>	EESC, Brussels
4 February	<a href="#">2nd meeting of EU-Serbia Civil Society Joint Consultative Committee</a>	EESC, Brussels
11 February	<a href="#">2nd meeting of EU-Ukraine Civil Society Platform</a>	EESC, Brussels
22 February	<a href="#">European Citizens' Initiative: More Impact, Simpler Rules</a>	EESC, Brussels
22 February	<a href="#">Integrating refugees into the labour market: turning the crisis into an opportunity</a>	EESC, Brussels
10 March	<a href="#">European Consumer Day 2016</a>	EESC, Brussels
<a href="#">Further events of the European Economic and Social Committee</a>		

## 1.6 International Relations

Date	Event	Venue/Location
29 May	<a href="#">EU-Japan Summit</a>	Tokyo, Japan
14 March	EU-CELAC Joint Initiative on Research and Innovation (JIRI) V Senior Official Meeting on Science and Technology	Brussels, Belgium

## 2. Conferences & Meetings

### 2.1 European Conferences and Meetings

Date	Event	Organiser	Venue/Location
3 February	<a href="#">Composite indicators and scoreboards: sharing best practices</a>	JRC	Brussels, Belgium
4 February	<a href="#">JRC-COST workshop "The Role of City-Regions in the Achievement of a Low Carbon Economy"</a>	JRC and COST	Brussels, Belgium
4 February	<a href="#">European humanitarian roundtables 2016</a>	European Commission	Aix-Marseille, France
4-5 February	<a href="#">Economic advice in fisheries management</a>	European Commission	St Julians, Malta
4-5 February	<a href="#">Understanding and Tackling the Migration Challenge: The Role of Research</a>	European Commission	Brussels, Belgium
5 February	<a href="#">Third EU-Norway energy conference</a>	European Commission	Brussels, Belgium
7-12 February	<a href="#">11th International Symposium on Ecohydraulics</a>	IAHR	Melbourne, Australia
9-10 February	<a href="#">Seminar on the state of stocks in the Mediterranean and on the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) approach</a>	European Commission	Catania, Italy
9-10 February	<a href="#">European Alien Species Information Network (EASIN): enlargement and training</a>	JRC	Ispra, Italy
10 February	<a href="#">EIP Water conference 2016</a>	European Commission	Leeuwarden, The Netherlands
11 February	<a href="#">Mayors &amp; Water</a>	European Commission	Leeuwarden, The Netherlands
15 February	<a href="#">Conference on energy-intensive industries</a>	European Commission	Brussels, Belgium
16 February	<a href="#">High-level Conference on the digital transformation of European industry and enterprises</a>	European Commission	Brussels, Belgium
18-19 February	<a href="#">S3 Design Learning Workshop</a>	S3 Platform based in the JRC in cooperation with The Academy of Sciences of Moldova	Chisinau, Moldova
23-24 February	<a href="#">Citizens' Energy Forum</a>	European Commission	London, United Kingdom
25 February	<a href="#">European social innovation competition 2016: launch event</a>	European Commission and City of Amsterdam	Amsterdam, The Netherlands
25-26 February	<a href="#">Public participation and transparency in the implementation of energy policies</a>	JRC	Belgrade, Serbia
15-17 March	<a href="#">2016 Conference on Big Data from Space - BiDS'16</a>	ESA, SatCen, JRC	Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain
16-18 March	<a href="#">9th International Conference Improving Energy Efficiency in Commercial Buildings and Smart Communities (IEECB&amp;SC'16)</a>	JRC	Frankfurt, Germany

23-27 July	<a href="#">Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF)</a>	EuroScience	Manchester, United Kingdom
<a href="#">Further upcoming JRC events</a> <a href="#">Further upcoming events in the EU Newsroom Calendar</a>			

## 2.2 International Conferences

Date	Event	Organiser	Venue/Location
11-15 February	<a href="#">American Association for the Advancement of Science Annual Conference</a> <a href="#">JRC Session: Integrating Science into Policymaking – What Works, Why and Where</a>	AAAS	Washington DC, USA
12-15 March	<a href="#">Arctic Science Summit Week</a>	ASSW	Fairbanks, Alaska
15-18 March	<a href="#">Arctic Observing Summit</a>	ISAC	Fairbanks, Alaska
31 March-1 April	<a href="#">4<sup>th</sup> Nuclear Security Summit</a>	Government of USA	Washington D.C., USA
23-24 May	<a href="#">World Humanitarian Summit</a>	UN OCHA	Istanbul, Turkey
23-27 May	<a href="#">International Conference on Advancing the Global Implementation of Decommissioning and Environmental Remediation Programmes</a>	IAEA	Madrid, Spain
26-27 May	<a href="#">G7 Summit Japan</a>	Government of Japan	Ise-Shima, Japan
31 May-2 June	<a href="#">OECD Forum 2016</a>	OECD	Paris, France
21-23 June	<a href="#">OECD 2016 Ministerial: Meeting the policy challenges of tomorrow's digital economy. The digital economy, innovation, growth and social prosperity</a>	OECD	Cancun, Mexico



7-9 October	<a href="#">Arctic Circle Assembly</a>	Arctic Circle	Reykjavik, Iceland
17-20 October	<a href="#">UN Habitat III– UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development</a>	UN HABITAT	Quito, Ecuador
7-18 November	<a href="#">UNFCCC COP 22</a>	UNFCC	Marrakesh, Morocco
7-13 January 2017	<a href="#">16th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering</a>	WCEE and Chilean Association of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering-ACHISINA	Santiago, Chile

### 3. JRC News

<b>2015</b>	<a href="#">Overview of the scientific process of the EU Agencies network for scientific advice (EU-ANSA)</a>
<b>December</b>	<a href="#">JRC Newsletter January 2016</a>
<b>Open - 11 March 2016</b>	<a href="#">Public survey- Accelerating progress in the Replacement, Reduction and Refinement of animal testing through better knowledge sharing</a>
<b>Open</b>	<a href="#">The EU is recruiting researchers - Call for expressions of interest</a>

#### **9-14 January**      [96th American Meteorological Society \(AMS\) Annual Meeting](#)

This is the world's largest yearly gathering for the weather, water, and climate community. The theme of this year's meeting was Earth System Science in Service to Society. The JRC was represented by precious contributions of IES scientists at the session "Emerging Data Challenges: Big Data, Social Media, and Crowd Sourcing".

#### **25 January**      [Marine sustainability in an age of changing oceans and seas: JRC-EASAC report launch](#)

The JRC and the European Academies' Science Advisory Council (EASAC) will hold a launch event of their joint report on 'Marine sustainability in an age of changing oceans and seas'. The report aims at contributing to the governance challenge of integrating various aspects of marine policy (fisheries management, biodiversity conservation and marine environmental protection) as part of a coherent ecosystem approach. It considers how current scientific knowledge on marine ecosystems and the organization of science can support an integrated approach to management of the seas.

#### **25-26 January**      [Unwrapping the Package - towards a Circular Economy in Europe](#)

Following the publication of the European Commission's new Circular Economy Package on 2 December 2015, the government of the Netherlands, in cooperation with the European Commission, will host the "Unwrapping the Package – towards a Circular Economy in Europe" conference as part of the Dutch EU presidency in 2016. Stakeholders from business, civil society and public authorities across the EU will discuss challenges and opportunities for a circular economy in Europe and the impact of the new proposals from the EU Commission. The JRC shared its expertise based on recent achievement and ongoing activities in support to Circular Economy.

<b>26-28 January</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Proba-V Symposium</a></u></b>
The European Space Agency (ESA) in cooperation with the Belgian Science Policy Office (BELSPO) organised an event dedicated to the scientific and operational exploitation of Proba-V mission. The event, entitled “Proba-V Symposium” was hosted in Ghent.	

<b>26-28 January</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Mapping and assessment of ecosystem services in enlargement countries</a></u></b>
The workshop took stock of the progress made in enlargement countries on mapping and assessment of ecosystems and their services, to analyze gaps in knowledge and to initiate training activities on mapping and modelling ecosystem services using a tiered mapping approach. The workshop will increase the capacity of enlargement countries to meet their international obligations under the Convention of Biological Diversity and increase the role of the MAES activities as crucial input to the IPBES regional assessments.	

<b>28 January</b>	<b><u><a href="#">Pilot peer-review workshop on Integrated Sustainable Urban Development Strategies</a></u></b>
This peer-review workshop was organised in the context of the Urban Development Network, by the Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy and the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission together with the city of Seville.	