



Science & Policy

What's on the EU's agenda?

June 2017



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

1 June 2017

The DG JRC's monthly briefing to the scientific community, N° 59

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1. Activities of the European Institutions

1.1 European Commission

Date	Event	Subject
6 June	College Meeting	<i>Among others: A strategic approach to resilience in the EU's external action;</i>
All meetings of the College of Commissioners		

1.2 Council

Date	Event	Venue/Location
8-9 June	Informal meeting of the General Affairs Council	Valletta, Malta
8-9 June	Justice and Home Affairs Council	Luxembourg
8-9 June	Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council	Luxembourg
12 June	Agriculture and Fisheries Council	Luxembourg
16 June	Economic and Financial Affairs Council	Luxembourg
16 June	Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council	Luxembourg
19 June	Environment Council	Luxembourg
19 June	Foreign Affairs Council	Luxembourg
20 June	General Affairs Council	Luxembourg

22-23 June	European Council	Brussels
11 July	Economic and Financial Affairs Council	Brussels
17-18 July	Agriculture and Fisheries Council	Brussels
17 July	Foreign Affairs Council	Brussels
18 July	General Affairs Council	Brussels
24 July	Economic and Financial Affairs Council	Brussels
All meetings of the Council		

1.3 European Parliament

Plenary Sessions

Date	Event	Subjects	Venue/Location
1 June	EP Plenary	<i>Among others: Uniform format for visas; protection of vulnerable adults; internet connectivity for growth, competitiveness and cohesion: European gigabit society and 5G; digitising European industry; Multiannual Framework for the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights for 2018-2022; The new European Consensus on Development - our world, our dignity, our future; combating anti-semitism; resilience as a strategic priority of the EU external action; high-level UN Conference to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (UN Ocean Conference);</i>	Brussels

12-15 June	EP Plenary	<p><i>Among others: Participation of the Union in the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area; EU Cohesion policy; Status of fish stocks and socio-economic situation of the fishing sector in the Mediterranean; energy efficiency labelling; European Capitals of Culture for the years 2020 to 2033; Erasmus 30th Anniversary celebration; situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo</i></p> <p><i>Statement by Federica Mogherini, Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy; preparation of the European Council of 22 and 23 June 2017 Council and Commission statements; The refoundation of a Europe based on values, anchored in effective democratic institutions and promoting a prosperous economy in a fair and cohesive society; implementation of the European Fund for Strategic Investments; Assessment of Horizon 2020 implementation; Digital economy; cross-border mergers and divisions; debates on cases of breaches of human rights, democracy and the rule of law;</i></p>	Strasbourg
Committee Meetings			
1 June	Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	<i>Agenda to be consulted on website</i>	Brussels
7 June	Committee on Development and Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	<i>Agenda to be consulted on website</i>	Brussels

8 June	Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	<i>Among others: The EU accession to the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence; Union Code on Visas (recast); respect for private life and the protection of personal data in electronic communications and repealing Directive 2002/58/EC (Regulation on Privacy and Electronic Communications); information exchange, early warning system and risk assessment procedure on new psychoactive substances; minimum provisions on the constituent elements of criminal acts and penalties in the field of illicit drug trafficking, as regards the definition of the term 'drug'; refugees/migrants issue in Italy: state of play and future scenarios; LIBE Mission on Migration and Asylum to Italy, 18 - 21 April 2017; European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA): presentation of the 2017 Drug report (EDR) package including the Trends and Developments report, the 2017 statistical bulletin and 30 Country Drug Reports; TE-SAT (EU Terrorism Situation and Trend) report 2017 by Europol; Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council "The protection of children in migration";</i>	Brussels
8 June	Subcommittee on Human Rights	<i>Among others: Jointly with the Committee on Foreign Affairs and in association with the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly and with the Delegation for relations with the countries of the Andean Community: exchange of views with Evo Morales, President of Bolivia; Impact of international trade and the EU's trade policies on global value chain;</i>	Brussels
8 June	Subcommittee on Security and Defence	<i>Agenda to be consulted on website</i>	Brussels
8 June	Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs	<i>Among others: Report on ongoing interinstitutional negotiations; scrutiny of delegated acts and implementing measures</i>	Brussels

8 June	Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection	Among others: European Electronic Communications Code (Recast); presentation by the Commission of the REFIT Report on Consumer and Marketing Law; access of third-country goods and services to the Union's internal market in public procurement and procedures supporting negotiations on access of Union goods and services to the public procurement markets of third countries; enforcement of the Directive 2006/123/EC on services in the internal market, laying down a notification procedure for authorisation schemes and requirements related to services, and amending Directive 2006/123/EC and Regulation (EU) No 1024/2012 on administrative cooperation through the Internal Market Information System; contracts for the online and other distance sales of goods; copyright in the Digital Single Market;	Brussels
8 June	Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality	Among others: UN CSW 61st session of the Commission on the Status of the Women-mission report 2017; Women's Economic Empowerment in the Private and Public Sectors in the EU; the EU accession to the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.	Brussels
8 June	Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	Among others: Energy efficiency; application of Directive 2004/35/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 April 2004 on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage; implementation of environmental legislation;	Brussels
12 June	Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	Among others: Exchange of views with Mr Frans Timmermans, First Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Better Regulation, Inter-Institutional Relations, the Rule of Law and the Charter of Fundamental Rights as part of the structured dialogue	Strasbourg

12 June	Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development	<i>Among others: Presentation by Commission representatives (DG AGRI and DG SANTE) on the ongoing trade negotiations with Mercosur; presentation by a Commission representative (DG AGRI) on geographical indications (GI) negotiations with China; presentation by a Commission representative (DG AGRI) on the agricultural component of various other ongoing and forthcoming trade negotiations</i>	Strasbourg
12 June	Committee on Employment and Social Affairs	<i>Among others: 2018 Budget - Mandate for the Trilogue</i>	Strasbourg
12 June	Committee on Legal Affairs	<i>Among others: Disclosure of income tax information by certain undertakings and branches; approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States as regards the accessibility requirements for products and services; measures to safeguard the security of gas supply;</i>	Strasbourg
15 June	Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	<i>Agenda to be consulted on website</i>	Strasbourg
20-21 June	Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs	<i>Agenda to be consulted on website</i>	Brussels
21 June	Committee on Fisheries	<i>Among others: Management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Convention Area of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT); multi-annual plan for demersal stocks in the North Sea and the fisheries exploiting those stocks;</i>	Brussels
21-22 June	Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection	<i>Among others: Laying down rules on the making available on the market of CE marked fertilising products; legal and operational framework of the European services e-card and related services; saving lives: boosting car safety in the EU-COM(2016) 787 final;</i>	Brussels
21-22 June	Subcommittee on Human Rights	<i>Agenda to be consulted on website</i>	Brussels

21-22 June	Subcommittee on Security and Defence	<i>Agenda to be consulted on website</i>	Brussels
26 June	Committee on Development	<i>Agenda to be consulted on website</i>	Brussels

[All European Parliament Committee Meetings](#)

1.4 Committee of the Regions (CoR)

Date	Event	Venue/Location
1 June	14th Commission for natural resources meeting and conference "Smart tourism: innovation, partnerships and sustainability"	Palma de Mallorca, Spain
2 June	Europe - What Future? Reflecting on Europe	Gdynia, Poland
6 June	Cross-border cooperation to enhance renewable energy in the EU	Brussels
6 June	An EU Action Plan for nature, people and the economy	Brussels
7 June	Sustainable Fisheries in the Black Sea	Brussels
7 June	Talk to your neighbours! Multilingualism in border regions	Brussels
7 June	Harnessing the Bioeconomy Potential of European Regions	Brussels
8 June	14th Commission for Social Policy, Education, Employment, Research and Culture (SEDEC) Meeting	Brussels
8 June	REVES Excellence Award 2017	Brussels
13 June	Reflecting on Europe from the Heart of Transylvania	Cluj-Napoca, Romania
17 June	EU - What has to change?	Erfurt, Germany
19 June	Athens Citizens' Debate on the Future of Europe	Athens, Greece

20 June	The Future of the European Union: The Citizens' Expectations	Thessaloniki, Greece
20 June	Energy Day Conference	Brussels
6 July	14th Commission for Citizenship, Governance, Institutional and External Affairs (CIVEX)	Brussels
12 July	124th CoR plenary session	Brussels
9-12 October	15th European Week of Regions and Cities	Brussels

[Further Events of the Committee of the Regions](#)

1.5 European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

Date	Event	Venue/Location
5 June	World Environment Day International	Prague, Czech Republic
6-7 June	25th meeting of the European Economic Area Consultative Committee (EEA-CC)	Prague, Czech Republic
7 June	Right of persons with disabilities to vote in EP elections	Brussels
19-20 June	7th Low Carbon Technology Partnerships initiative (LCTPi)	Brussels
22 June	Employment of Persons with Disabilities: follow-up on equal treatment directive 2000/78/EC	Brussels
22 June	Black Gold's Legacy	Brussels
23 June	Wealth Inequality in Europe	Brussels
26-27 June	Civil Society Days 2017	Brussels
28 June	2nd European Day of Social Economy Enterprises	Brussels

10-11 July	6th Western Balkans Civil Society Forum	Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Further events of the European Economic and Social Committee		
1.6 International Relations		
Date	Event	Venue/Location
1-2 June	EU-China Summit	Brussels
26-27 October	EU-CELAC Summit 2017	San Salvador, El Salvador
29-30 November	Africa-EU Summit	Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire (tbc)

2. Conferences & Meetings

2.1 DG JRC Conferences and Meetings

Date	Event	Organiser	Venue/Location
4-9 June	14th International Workshop on Separation Phenomena in Liquids and Gases (SPLG 2017)	DG JRC, EC	Stresa, Italy
12 June	Congress on Food Fraud	DG JRC, EC, Federal Office of Consumer Protection and Food Fraud	Berlin, Germany
20 June	Policy impact of knowledge organisations: from understanding impact towards measuring it	DG JRC	Brussels

20-21 June	Transatlantic Knowledge Sharing Conference on Unconventional Hydrocarbons: Resources, Risks, Impact and Research Needs	DG JRC	Amsterdam, The Netherlands
20-21 June	Scientific workshop on nuclear fission dynamics and the emission of prompt neutrons and gamma rays	DG JRC, Horia-Hulubei National Institute for R&D in Physics and Nuclear Engineering, Bucharest (RO) and Institute for Nuclear Research and Nuclear Energy, Sofia (BG)	Varna, Bulgaria
3-7 July	Geospatial Technologies for Sustainable Water Management	Central European University- In-service ICT Training for Environmental Professionals (ISEPEI), United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, DG JRC	Budapest, Hungary
5 July	Estonian Semester Opening Ceremony	DG JRC	Ispra, Italy
4-15 September	International Summerschool on GNSS 2017	DG JRC, ESA	Svalbard-Spitsbergen, Norway
25-26 September	DG JRC Annual Lecture and Annual Conference: EU4FACTS: Evidence for policy in a post-fact world	DG JRC	Brussels
27-29 September	CONCORDi 2017: Innovation and Industrial Dynamics: Challenges for the next decade	DG JRC, DG GROW, OECD	Seville, Spain
Further upcoming DG JRC Events			
Further upcoming events in the EU Newsroom Calendar			

2.2 Further European Conferences and Meetings

1 June	High-level event in skills needs in an evolving maritime green economy	EC	Brussels
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1 June	Workshop on climate action in agriculture and forestry	EC	Brussels
1-2 June	Energy infrastructure forum	EC	Copenhagen, Denmark
1-2 June	Urban Development Network (UDN) peer review	EC	Athens, Greece
1-2 June	Smart regions 2.0 conference: Maximising Europe's innovation potential	EC	Helsinki, Finland
2 June	Conference on strategic public procurement: Procuring sustainable, innovative, and socially responsible solutions	EC	Paris, France
5 June	World circular economy forum 2017 (WCEF 2017)	EC	Helsinki, Finland
6 June	Innovative financing for cross-border transport	EP	Brussels
6 June	EU Code of Conduct Awards	EC	Monte Carlo, Monaco
6-8 June	3rd World Reconstruction Conference	EC, UNDP, Worldbank Group, GFDRR, ACP	Brussels
6-7 June	Next generation internet summit	Atomium – European Institute for Science, Media and Democracy, EC, EP	Brussels
7 June	COFUND 2016 Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) beneficiaries' day	EC	Brussels
7 June	Cohesion policy in mountain areas: How to increase the contribution from mountains and benefits for mountain territories?	EC	Brussels
7-8 June	European Development Days 2017	EC	Brussels
7-8 June	Annual privacy forum 2017	EC, Law Faculty-Vienna University	Vienna, Austria

8 June	Health systems for the future-Making EU health systems resilient and innovative	EP	Brussels
9 June	Forum: Health research in a connected and participative society	EC	Brussels
12-14 June	International workshop on materials resistant to extreme conditions for future energy systems	EC	Kyiv, Ukraine
12-15 June	European Conference on Networks and Communications EUCNC 2017	EC	Oulu, Finland
12-15 June	European biomass conference and exhibition	EC	Stockholm, Sweden
13-21 June	European Research Council (ERC) 10th anniversary celebrations	EC	Brussels
15 June	Financing energy efficiency in Spain and Portugal	EC, IDEA, UNEP, Ministry of Energy, Tourism and Digital Agenda of Spain	Madrid, Spain
15-16 June	Digital assembly 2017 in Valletta: Digital Europe – Investing in the future	EC, Maltese Presidency of the Council	Valletta, Malta
15-16 June	Maritime Spatial Planning Conference: Addressing Land-Sea Interactions	EC, Maltese Presidency of the Council	St. Julian's, Malta
15-16 June	A sustainable Arctic: Innovative approaches	EC	Oulu, Finland
15-16 June	Urban Development Network (UDN) workshop 'Smart cities'	EC	Plovdiv, Bulgaria
16 June	Workshop for public procurers in the sectors of transport and mobility	EC	Brussels
20 June	International forum on women and trade	EC	Brussels
20 June	Crowdfunding4Culture conference	EC	Brussels

20-21 June	Transatlantic knowledge sharing conference on unconventional hydrocarbons: resources, risks, impact and research needs	EC	Amsterdam, The Netherlands
20-22 June	EU Sustainable Energy Week 2017 (EUSEW2017) – policy conference	EC	Brussels
22-23 June	International IP Enforcement Summit 2017	EC, European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO), Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection of Germany	Berlin, Germany
26 June	EU corporate governance in XXI Century: Shareholder rights directive II and beyond	EC	Brussels
28-29 June	Fourth European Nuclear Safety Regulators Group (ENSREG) Conference on Nuclear Safety	EC, ENSREG	Brussels
29-30 June	CompNet annual conference - Innovation, firm size, productivity and imbalances in the age of deglobalisation	EC	Brussels
3 July	Research & innovation – shaping our future	EC	Brussels
7 July	The CAP: Have your say	EC	Brussels
4-5 September	INSPIRE Conference 2017: INSPIRE a digital Europe – Thinking out of the box	EC	Kehl, Germany
16-22 September	European Mobility Week	EC	across the EU
5-6 October	Our Ocean. An Ocean for life	EC	Valletta, Malta
16 October	INNOVEIT 2017: EIT's Innovation Forum	EC	Budapest, Hungary

2.3 International Conferences

Date	Event	Organiser	Venue/Location
5-9 June	The Ocean Conference: United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 14	UN	New York, USA

	Conference		
6 June	OECD Forum 2017: Bridging Divides	OECD	Paris, France
6-7 June	Second Mission Innovation (MI-2) High Level Meeting	Government of the Republic of China	Beijing, China
6-8 June	Clean Energy Ministerial 8 (CEM8)	Government of the Republic of China	Beijing, China
6-8 June	United Nations Statistical Commission's Expert Group Meeting on international trade and economic globalization statistics	Eurostat, United Nations Statistical Commission	Luxembourg
6-8 June	Offshore wind energy 2017	WindEurope, RenewableUK	London, United Kingdom
6-8 June	The World Reconstruction Conference	EC, UNDP, World Bank Group, et al.	Brussels
6-9 June	European HTCondor workshop 2017	Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY)	Hamburg, Germany
7-8 June	Meeting of the OECD Council at Ministerial Level	OECD	Paris, France
8-9 June	STEM Gender Equality Conference	Science Impact Ltd	Berlin, Germany
12-14 June	EuroMedLab Athens 2017	EuroMedLab Athens, International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC), European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM), Balkian Clinical Laboratory Federation (BCLF)	Athens, Greece
12-14 June	9th Trondheim Conference on CO2 Capture, Transport and Storage	International CCS Research Centre (NCCS) under auspices of NTNU and SINTEF	Trondheim, Norway
15-17 June	Western Balkans Process- 1st Joint Science Conference	Leopoldina- Nationale Akademie der Wissenschaften	Berlin, Germany
15-19 June	Life everywhere: Ecsite Annual Conference 2017	Natural History and Science Museum of the University of Porto and Ciência Viva	Porto, Portugal
18-23 June	STARMUS IV Festival	Norwegian University of Science and Technology, The Research Council of Norway	Trondheim Norway

26 June-7 July	European University Institute (EUI) Migration Summer School: Thinking beyond the crisis	EUI	Florence, Italy
27-29 June	Summer Davos: Annual Meeting of the New Champions-Technological Innovation and Sustainable Development	World Economic Forum	Dalian, China
28-30 June	International Migration, Integration and Social Cohesion (IMISCOE) Annual Conference: Migrations, Diversity and the City	IMISCOE	Rotterdam, the Netherlands
7-8 July	G20 Summit of Heads of State and Government	G20	Hamburg, Germany
19-21 July	3rd Worldwide Meeting of Young Academies 2017	South African Young Academy of Science (SAYAS), Global Young Academy (GYA)	Johannesburg, South Africa
24-28 July	Innovations in Disaster Risk Reduction	Central European University- In-service ICT Training for Environmental Professionals (ISEPEI), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	Budapest, Hungary
7-8 November	Euro-CASE Annual Conference 2017	Euro-CASE	Poznan, Poland
7-11 November	World Science Forum 2017	Royal Scientific Society of Jordan	Dead Sea, Jordan
16-18 November	2017 EU-US Frontiers of Engineering Symposium	National Academy of Engineering	Davis, USA
25-28 November	World Bosai Forum IDRC 2017	Sendai City, the Tohoku University, IRIDeS, Global Risk Forum GRF Davos	Sendai, Japan
7-8 December	Science Forum South Africa 2017	Department of Science and Technology of the Republic of South Africa	Pretoria, South Africa

3. DG JRC News

2015	DG JRC Annual Report
2015	Overview of the scientific process of the EU Agencies network for scientific advice (EU-ANSA)
May	DG JRC Newsletter May 2017
Open	The EU is recruiting researchers - Call for expressions of interest
Open	Call for Expression of Interest to participate to JRC's Institutional History Project (iHiP): Arts-booklet, Story-telling and Exhibition initiatives

May Highlights

3-4 May

[JRC-DG SANTE Symposium on nanomaterials in food: reliability of measurement results](#)

The Directorate General Joint Research Centre (JRC) and the Directorate General Health and Food Safety (SANTE) organised a symposium on nanomaterials in food: reliability of measurement results. It aimed at creating a forum where challenges of the enforcement of the relevant EU legislation on food and food contact materials requiring detection and quantification of nanomaterials can be identified, discussed and best practices exchanged. It is structured around the following sessions:

- EU legislation, risk assessment and consumer and industry perspectives
- Analytical challenges on the identification, characterization and quantification of (engineered) nanomaterials
- Development of analytical methods and reference materials
- The way forward. Collaboration and networking

This initiative with the involvement of Member States and stakeholders aimed at facilitating the work of official control laboratories and competent authorities.

12 May

[Stakeholders conference on the Digital Competence Framework for citizens \(DigComp\) and the Entrepreneurship Competence Framework \(EntreComp\)](#)

The event was hosted by DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission in the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Brussels on Friday, 12 May 2017. Since 2015, DigComp has become a well-regarded reference framework for establishing a shared understanding of digital competences and supporting development of digital

competences in the work place, in education and training, policy-making and more widely. EntreComp, launched in 2016, has already had positive uptake by stakeholders and is supporting new thinking and understanding of what it means to be entrepreneurial and to have a sense of initiative in today's challenging and ever changing society. The event brought together stakeholders from every sector with an interest in these two key competences and sought to create a community around the frameworks to explore and advance the use of both. A key feature of the event was an exhibition session run during part of the day which allowed stakeholders to present information on how they have applied or used the frameworks in their work. The event contained also a number of interactive sessions and presentations.

16-19 May

[JRC Summer School on Alternative Approaches for Risk assessment](#)

The JRC's Chemical Safety and Alternative Methods Unit, which incorporates the EU Reference Laboratory for Alternatives to Animal Testing (EURL ECVAM), organised a JRC Summer School from the 16-19 May 2017, at the JRC Ispra site, on the topic of "Alternative Approaches for Risk Assessment". The overall aim was to provide comprehensive training on state-of-the-art alternative (non-animal) approaches to predictive toxicology and to promote their use within modern chemical risk assessment practice. The Summer School was specifically tailored for post-graduate students (PhD/Masters) and early-career scientists working in relevant fields. It provided valuable insights into principles and methodologies of human health and environmental risk assessment using non-animal approaches, drawing from scientific, regulatory, and industrial perspectives. Presentations didn't only outline the typical risk assessment process in widespread use today but also explored options for modernisation through greater incorporation of new scientific tools and thinking. Topics that were covered include; exposure assessment, hazard identification and characterisation, in vitro methods and computational modelling, validation principles and practice, and analysis of uncertainty. The programme was varied and engaging, combining lectures from experts in the field with a range of other activities to facilitate exchange between students and lecturers and students and their peers. Each participant was asked to contribute to a poster session to present aspects of their own studies, interests or work area, and some abstracts may be selected for oral presentation. A world café-type session, a quiz, games and visits to the EURL ECVAM laboratories and the JRC Visitors Centre were also planned to enrich the Summer School experience and to maximise learning opportunities through different means.

16-31 May

[Science meets Arctic](#)

The Arctic is a rich and unique ecosystem which is under threat from the effects of global warming, changes to the environment, pollution, globalisation and hunger for resources. These changes threaten both the environment and the indigenous population and their way of life. The JRC has been highlighting these issues and is increasingly bridging the gap between science and the EU Arctic Policy in an area of geo-political relevance . The Arctic environment is emblematic in terms of current concerns with climate change, and it provides the focus of much scientific work that tries to understand the processes at play, and their significance. In this context, the artist Jane Rushton has become interested in drawing on the knowledge and methodologies of science as a means of expanding her approach to material investigations, with the ultimate aim of making visually poetic work that provokes a different type of engagement: of seeing, valuing, knowing and understanding. The interaction between art and science on this fascinating theme is the key focus area of this event, jointly organized by the JRC and the artist Jane Rushton.

17-19 May

[Dresden Nexus Conference 2017 - SDGs and NEXUS Approach: Monitoring and Implementation](#)

The Dresden Nexus Conference is a platform to discuss current research and initiatives applying the Nexus Approach and the benefits for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. It is a key pillar for advancing the nexus approach to the integrated management of resources. Bringing together scientists, implementers, decision-makers and donors, the Conference has and will continue to connect UN entities, first-class research institutions,

governmental institutions and nongovernmental organisations under the umbrella of Sustainable Development Goals and the Water-Soil-Waste Nexus. JRC scientist and Chair of the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS) and the IPBES thematic assessment on land degradation and restoration (LDR), Luca Montanarella, is a keynote speaker at the Conference.

18 May

[STS Contro-Corrente Seminars: Brian Wynne](#)

Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), has become a pillar of European Research Development and Innovation (RDI), as is immediately apparent from its presence for example in Horizon 2020, its guidance and Call For Projects texts. Despite its conceptual birth within and close to the European Commission's Directorate-General for RTD, and a substantial effort to give it practical force in Research and Development and innovation cultures, after several years' promotion and broadly sympathetic debate, its principles remain legitimate abstractions rather than practical descriptions of EU and member-state RDI, indeed even more so when we consider global RDI in all its variety. Was the original idea just too naively idealist and unrealistic? It is difficult to hear anyone claiming or proposing to do irresponsible research and innovation; yet it is also clear that research and innovation remain a long way from the honourable- and maybe essential- goals this programme has laid out. In the paper some examples from both global and EU research science were introduced to show how political-economic commercial forces bear down on and shape scientific research, including a domain which has been neglected in RRI analysis and discussion, namely (what is claimed to be) scientific regulation of the products of scientific research. Some of this analysis will focus on The European Food Safety Authority, and its role in the EU regulation of Genetic Modified Organisms and chemical pesticides.

23-24 May

[Workshop on the role of Science/ Technology Parks and Incubators in Innovation Ecosystems](#)

The main focus of this workshop was the exchange of good practices for the development and management of Science and Technology Parks (STPs) and Incubators in the Danube and Adriatic-Ionian Macro Regions. Issues related to the optimal ownership and operational structure of such facilities were discussed as well as approaches in terms of sectoral or technological profile. Exchange of best practices will be facilitated through the exploration of case studies from the region and beyond. The role of STPs and incubators in supporting smart specialisation strategies were also considered.

Objectives:

The objectives of this workshop was to exchange know-how among practitioners from the region on successful practices in science parks and incubators development and management and to explore and understand the role that these can play in creating value and developing innovation ecosystems. The workshop aimed to explore the different models for STPs and incubator development and financing as well as management. It also considered the role that various stakeholders, both private and public (industry, academia, government, the investment community, etc.) can play to generate a virtuous circle that can accelerate local economic development and drive regional competitiveness. The focus of the workshop was on exploring best practices that can help to tackle issues and bottlenecks that are specific to the Danube and Adriatic-Ionian macro regions. This workshop was expected to assist in streamlining the technology commercialisation and technology transfer system in all the countries concerned including member states, candidate and neighbourhood countries.

The conclusions of this meeting are also expected to feed into broader political developments, in particular in relation to the Berlin process, and the development and further integration of the economies of the Western Balkan countries. In this respect, it is expected that the outcome of this meeting will feed into discussions to be held at the Berlin Process Summit scheduled to take place in Trieste in July 2017.

30 May-1 June

[Scientific guidance to help prevent and mitigate chemical accidents](#)

The symposium was jointly organised by the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission and Kanazawa University. It was held from 30 May to 1st June 2017 in Kanazawa, Japan.

The event offered a forum for presentations on the latest developments in radiotherapy with alpha emitters in cancer treatment and provided the opportunity for scientific exchange and networking. Potential topics for presentations and discussions include clinical experience of treatment with alpha emitters, preclinical research, radionuclide production, instrumentation and dosimetry. residential areas, transport infrastructure or other public spaces.

[All DG JRC news](#)