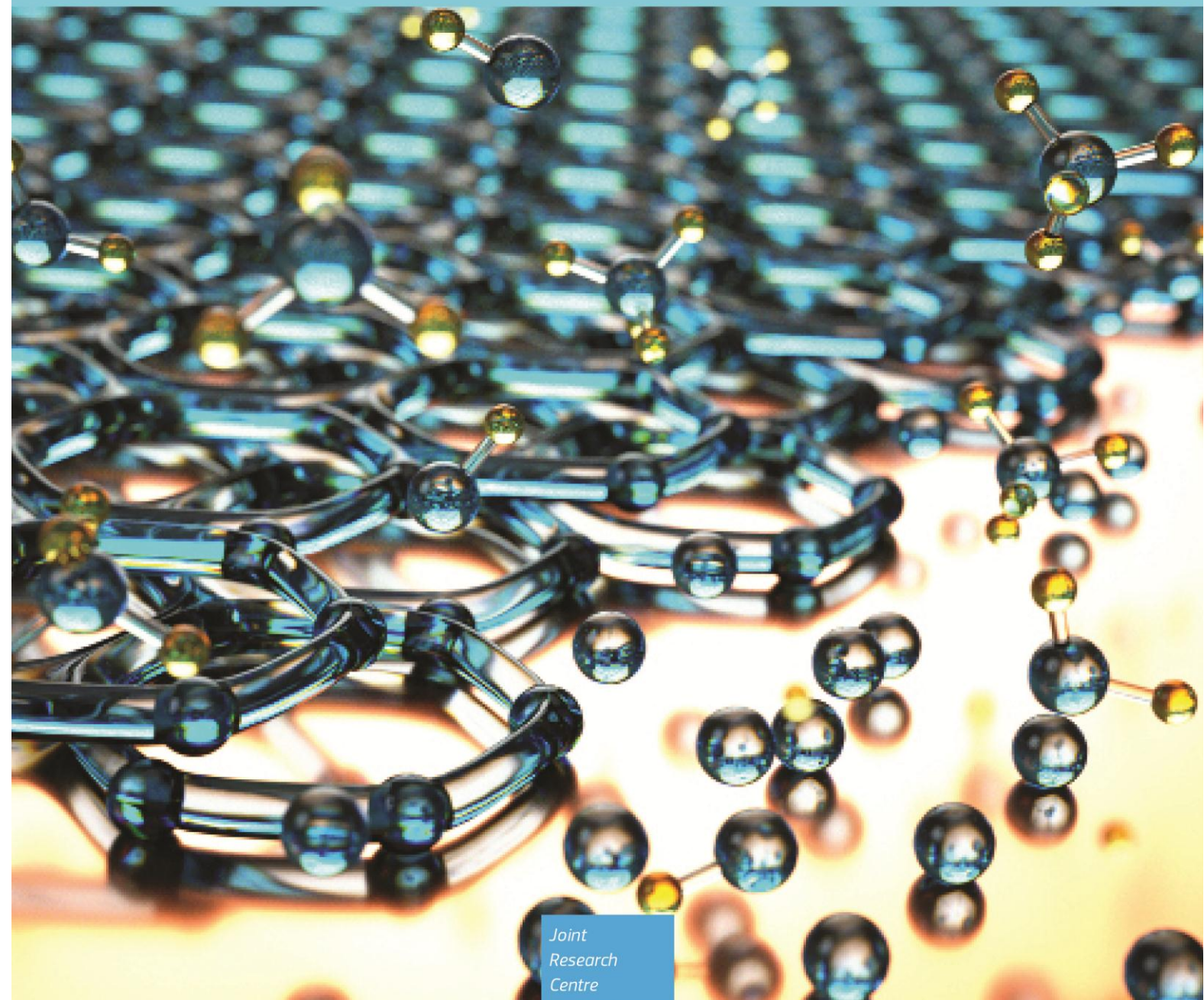




# *Science & Policy:* *What's on the EU's agenda?*

**September 2015**



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?

9 September 2015

### The JRC's monthly briefing to the scientific community, N° 39

#### Table of Contents

<b>1. Activities of the European Institutions</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1 European Commission	3
1.2 Council	3
1.3 European Parliament	3
1.4 Committee of the Regions (CoR)	4
1.5 European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)	4
<b>2. Conferences &amp; Meetings</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1 European Conferences and Meetings	5
2.2 International Conferences	7
<b>3. JRC News</b>	<b>8</b>

#### Correspondence:

International, Interinstitutional and Stakeholder Relations – JRC

European Commission, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium

Telephone: (32-2) 299 11 11

Office: CDMA 05/155

JRC-CONFERENCE@ec.europa.eu

# 1. Activities of the European Institutions

## 1.1 European Commission

Date	Event	Subject
16 September	<a href="#">Weekly College Meeting</a>	Europe 2020 and Neighbourhood Policy Review
23 September	<a href="#">Weekly College Meeting</a>	Internal Market Strategy for goods and services
30 September	<a href="#">Weekly College Meeting</a>	Labour mobility, Capital Markets Union, securitisation

## 1.2 Council

Date	Event	Venue/Location
11-12 September	<a href="#">Informal meeting of economic and financial affairs ministers</a>	Luxembourg
12 September	<a href="#">Eurogroup meeting</a>	Luxembourg
14-15 September	<a href="#">Informal meeting of agriculture ministers</a>	Luxembourg
14 September	<a href="#">General Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
14 September	<a href="#">Justice and Home Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
18 September	<a href="#">Environment Council</a>	Brussels
22-23 September	<a href="#">Informal meeting of energy ministers</a>	Luxembourg
24-25 September	<a href="#">Informal meeting of employment, social policy and health ministers</a>	Luxembourg
1-2 October	<a href="#">Competitiveness Council</a>	Luxembourg
5 October	<a href="#">Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council</a>	Brussels
8 October	<a href="#">Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council</a>	Brussels
8-9 October	<a href="#">Justice and Home Affairs Council</a>	Luxembourg
15-16 October	<a href="#">European Council</a>	Brussels

## 1.3 European Parliament

### Plenary Sessions

Date	Event	Subject	Venue/Location
9 September 9:00 AM	<a href="#">State of the Union Speech</a>	First SOTU by President Jean-Claude Juncker, follow live under: <a href="http://www.soteu.eu/">http://www.soteu.eu/</a>	Strasbourg
7-10 September	<a href="#">EP Plenary session</a>	Sustainable mobility, performance-based controls in the common agricultural policy, the blue economy, gender issues in science and universities, follow up to the citizens' initiative Right2Water, farm animal cloning, 2016 budget (Council position).	Strasbourg
16 September	<a href="#">EP Mini Plenary session</a>	UN Sustainable Development Summit and development cooperation.	Brussels
5-8 October	<a href="#">EP Plenary session</a>	EEA-Switzerland: obstacles to integration, implementing decisions on control measures on banned chemicals, Capital Markets Union,	Strasbourg

emissions of certain pollutants, gender equality, data-driven economy.

### Committee Meetings

14-15 September	<a href="#">Committee on Transport and Tourism</a>	Safe use of remotely piloted aircraft systems, Sustainable Urban Mobility, The situation in the Mediterranean and the need for a holistic EU approach to migration, Towards a Digital Single Market Act	Brussels
14-15 September	<a href="#">Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development</a>	Agenda not yet published	Brussels
14-15 September	<a href="#">Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs</a>	Agenda not yet published	Brussels
15 September	<a href="#">Committee on Employment and Social Affairs</a>	Agenda not yet published	Brussels
15 September	<a href="#">Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety</a>	Agenda not yet published	Brussels
17 September	<a href="#">Special Committee on Tax Rulings and Other Measures Similar in Nature</a>	Report of the special committee on tax rulings and other measures similar in nature or effect	Brussels
21-22 September	<a href="#">Committee on Development</a>	Agenda not yet published	Brussels
21-22 September	<a href="#">Committee on international trade</a>	Agenda not yet published	Brussels
14-15 September	<a href="#">Committee on Budgets</a>	Agenda not yet published	Brussels
21-22 September	<a href="#">Committee on Budgetary Control</a>	Agenda not yet published	Brussels

[All European Parliament Committee meetings](#)

## 1.4 Committee of the Regions (CoR)

Date	Event	Venue/Location
11 September	<a href="#">Active Cities and Urban Agenda: Including physical activity as part of the EU urban agenda</a>	CoR, Brussels
17 September	<a href="#">Territorial Cohesion Policy (COTER) Commission External Seminar</a>	Lieberec, CZ
21 September	<a href="#">Closing the Innovation Divide: Regional Analysis and Policy Initiatives</a>	CoR, Brussels
21 September	<a href="#">5th Commission for Natural Resources (NAT) Meeting</a>	CoR, Brussels

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

## 1.5 European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

Date	Event	Venue/Location
9 September	<a href="#">Nanotechnology for a competitive chemical industry</a>	EESC, Brussels
9 September	<a href="#">Functional economy</a>	New York, United States
10 September	<a href="#">The implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) by the EU - the way forward</a>	Thessaloniki, Greece
16 September – 18 November	<a href="#">Discover the Unexpected Luxembourg - Exhibition</a>	Luxembourg

[Further events of the European Economic and Social Committee](#)



## 1.6 International Relations

Date	Event	Venue/Location
15 September	<a href="#">EU-Republic of Korea Summit</a>	Seoul
25-27 September	<a href="#">United Nations Summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda (Sustainable Development Goals / SDGs)</a>	New York City
28 September – 6 October	<a href="#">United Nations General Assembly: General Debate</a>	New York City
9-11 October	<a href="#">2015 Annual Meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund</a>	Lima, Peru
15-16 November	<a href="#">G20 Leaders Summit</a>	Antalya, Turkey

# 2. Conferences & Meetings

## 2.1 European Conferences and Meetings

Date	Event	Organiser	Venue/Location
9-10 September	<a href="#">Local level food and nutrition security and the role of subsistence/ smallholder farms</a>	JRC – European Commission	Expo Milan, Italy
14-18 September	<a href="#">2nd Danube Innovation Partnership (DIP) Summer School on IP Commercialisation and Technology Transfer</a>	JRC – European Commission	Budapest, Hungary
14-18 September	<a href="#">7th International Summer School on Nuclear Decommissioning and Waste Management</a>	JRC – European Commission	Ispra, Italy
14-18 September	<a href="#">EU PVSEC 2015 (European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition)</a>	Technical Programme coordinator: JRC	Hamburg, Germany

15 September	<a href="#">"Science Meets Parliaments" - annual science-day event in the European Parliament</a>	JRC – European Commission, European Parliament, EASAC, ALLEA, Euro-CASE, CESAER	Brussels, Belgium
18-19 September	<a href="#">Addressing our Emerging Water Futures: The Water-Food-Energy-Ecosystems Security Nexus</a>	JRC – European Commission	Expo Milan, Italy
21-22 September	<a href="#">Reforms of public health systems - insights from behavioural economics</a>	JRC – European Commission	Odessa, Ukraine
22 September	<a href="#">Big Data Workshop</a>	JRC-IPTS – European Commission	Seville, Spain
29 September	<a href="#">JRC Annual Lecture</a>	JRC – European Commission	Brussels, Belgium
30 September	<a href="#">JRC Annual Conference "A safer Europe: Creating Resilience in a globalised world"</a>	JRC, in cooperation with the European Political Strategy Centre, <a href="#">EPSC</a> – European Commission	Brussels, Belgium
27-28 October	<a href="#">JRC event on Scientific Support to the Danube Strategy</a>	JRC – European Commission	Ulm, Germany
29-30 October	<a href="#">4<sup>th</sup> Danube Strategy Annual Forum</a>		Ulm, Germany
<a href="#">Further upcoming JRC events</a>			

## 2.2 International Conferences

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Organiser</b>	<b>Venue/Location</b>
16-18 October	Third Assembly of the Arctic Circle	Arctic Circle / Iceland	Reykjavík, Iceland
8-9 October	International Fisheries Stakeholders Forum	FAO (Food and Agriculture Organisation)	Vigo, Spain
9-11 October	<a href="#">Workshop on Space Technology for Socio-Economic Benefits on the theme "Water Resources Management"</a>	UNOOSA, International Astronautical Federation, Israeli Space Agency	Jerusalem, Israel
12-23 October	<a href="#">Twelfth session of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Conference of the Parties</a>	UN	Ankara, Turkey
1 May - 31 October	<a href="#">The EU at Expo Milano 2015</a>	European Commission	Milano, Italy
4-7 November	<a href="#">World Science Forum 2015</a> Theme: "The Enabling Power of Science"	Hosted by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in partnership with UNESCO, ICSU, AAAS, TWAS, EASAC	Budapest, Hungary
16-17 November	Global Young Academies meeting	Global Young Academy, Young Academy of Sweden, co-organised by JRC	Stockholm, Sweden
18-21 November	The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) Annual meeting	TWAS	Vienna, Austria
30 Nov – 11 Dec	<a href="#">United Nations Climate Change Conference</a> COP 21/ CMP 11	UNFCCC	Paris, France

## 3. JRC News

<b>2014</b>	<a href="#"><b>JRC Annual Report</b></a>
<b>September</b>	<a href="#"><b>JRC Newsletter September 2015</b></a>
<b>Open</b>	<a href="#"><b>The EU is recruiting researchers - Call for expressions of interest</b></a>
<b>24 August</b>	<a href="#"><b>Quality standards of breast cancer services differ across Europe</b></a>
A JRC survey on the use of ISO standards in breast cancer care services in Europe finds that in 76% of the countries examined at least one healthcare organisation is accredited or holds an accredited certificate of conformity to the respective standard.	
<b>20 August</b>	<a href="#"><b>Europe hit by one of the worst droughts since 2003</b></a>
Much of the European continent has been affected by severe drought in June and July 2015, one of the worst since the drought and heat wave of summer of 2003.	
<b>18 August</b>	<a href="#"><b>Foresight food security: from hunger and poverty to food system approach</b></a>
Food security policy should be moving towards a much broader landscape and focusing on regular access to food, while addressing food insecurity for a fraction of communities.	
<b>12 August</b>	<a href="#"><b>Average EU consumer wastes 16% of food; most of which could be avoided</b></a>
A new study analysing available statistics on consumer food waste has estimated that Europeans waste an average of 123 kg per capita annually, or 16% of all food reaching consumers.	
<b>11 August</b>	<a href="#"><b>Sun tourism in 2100: climate change to lower revenues in Mediterranean regions</b></a>
Climate change could affect tourism demand in EU regions as altered climatic conditions may influence the relative allure of many regions.	
<b>7 August</b>	<a href="#"><b>The 9th edition of the Karlsruhe Nuclide Chart is out</b></a>
The JRC, together with Nucleonica GmbH, has released a new edition of the Karlsruhe Nuclide Chart, an extended periodic table which displays all known isotopes of every element and their radioactive data.	
<b>6 August</b>	<a href="#"><b>Increased use of renewables results in growing GHG emission savings in the EU</b></a>
Greenhouse gasses (GHG) emission savings due to final renewable energy consumption in electricity, cooling/heating and transport sectors rose at a compound annual growth rate of 8.8% from 2009 to 2012, confirming renewables' great potential in climate change mitigation.	
<b>4 August</b>	<a href="#"><b>Global Forest Trade Model to assess the development of the forest-based sector</b></a>
A newly designed economic equilibrium model based on international trade will help policymakers to examine the impact of policy options on the economic development of the forest-based industry.	
<b>31 July</b>	<a href="#"><b>First Watch List for emerging water pollutants</b></a>
A JRC report short-lists seven potential aquatic pollutants to complete a first Watch List which will provide high-quality information on the concentrations of emerging or little-known pollutants across the EU.	
<b>29 July</b>	<a href="#"><b>Satellite imagery analysis quantifies heavy vegetation losses in Brazilian drylands</b></a>
Over two decades, agricultural expansion and neglect have reduced natural vegetation cover in the Brazilian eco-regions Cerrado and Caatinga to 47% and 63% of the original area respectively, according to a study led by the JRC.	
<b>24 July</b>	<a href="#"><b>Science helps to reduce flood risk around the world</b></a>



New computer models that estimate the social and economic impacts of flooding help to protect communities from devastating floods and to reduce the economic losses associated with them.

**23 July**      **[Wind energy provides 8% of Europe's electricity](#)**

EU's grid connected cumulative capacity in 2014 reached 129 GW, meeting 8% of European electricity demand, equivalent to the combined annual consumption of Belgium, the Netherlands, Greece and Ireland. According to a JRC report, the impressive growth of the industry will allow at least 12% electricity share by 2020, a significant contribution to the goal of the European energy and climate package of 20% share of energy from renewable sources.

**22 July**      **[ICT innovation: SMEs make best use of EU research funding](#)**

Innovation Radar survey finds that small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are champions of EU research programmes.

**15 July**      **[Towards better scientific evidence and support for policy-making on sustainable development](#)**

On 15 July, the European Commission organised a side event to the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, taking place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

**14 July**      **[New strategy to track how chemicals behave in the human body](#)**

The JRC-run EU Reference Laboratory for Alternatives to Animal Testing (EURL ECVAM) has just published its strategy to promote ways of integrating data obtained through non-animal tests with computer models of the human body.

**10 July**      **[Options for the review of the EC nanomaterial definition published](#)**

The JRC has published science-based options to improve the clarity and the practical application of the EC recommendation on the definition of a nanomaterial.

**9 July**      **[Cooperation with UCAR on atmospheric and climate change research](#)**

On 9 July, during an official trip to the US, Vladimir Šucha, Director-General of the JRC and Professor Antonio Bussalacchi, representing the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR) signed a new research arrangement.

**7 July**      **[Tundra study uncovers impact of climate warming in the Arctic](#)**

The JRC has contributed to "Climate sensitivity of shrub growth across the tundra biome", the biggest study to date of tundra shrub growth.

**7 July**      **[Science supporting climate change negotiations](#)**

On 7 July, the international scientific conference "Our Common Future under Climate Change" - the largest scientific forum ahead of the 21st session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 21) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) - starts in Paris.

**6 July**      **[New project tests sharing of radio spectrum for mobile broadband](#)**

The JRC has started a pilot project in collaboration with the Italian Ministry for Economic Development to test the sharing of radio spectrum.

**3 July**      **[Database of digital services for carers of the elderly launched](#)**

The JRC partnered with EUROCARERS to launch a new online database of digital services for carers of older people to assist carers in fulfilling their activities.

**3 July**      **[Winners of young scientists' competitions visit the JRC](#)**

Six winners of the German "Jugend forscht" competition and two of the European Contest for the Young Scientists (EUCYS) joined the project which gave the two groups the opportunity to meet and discuss their works collectively.

**1 July**      **[European Nanomedicine Characterisation Laboratory is born](#)**

On 1 July, the European Nano-Characterisation Laboratory funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme was launched.