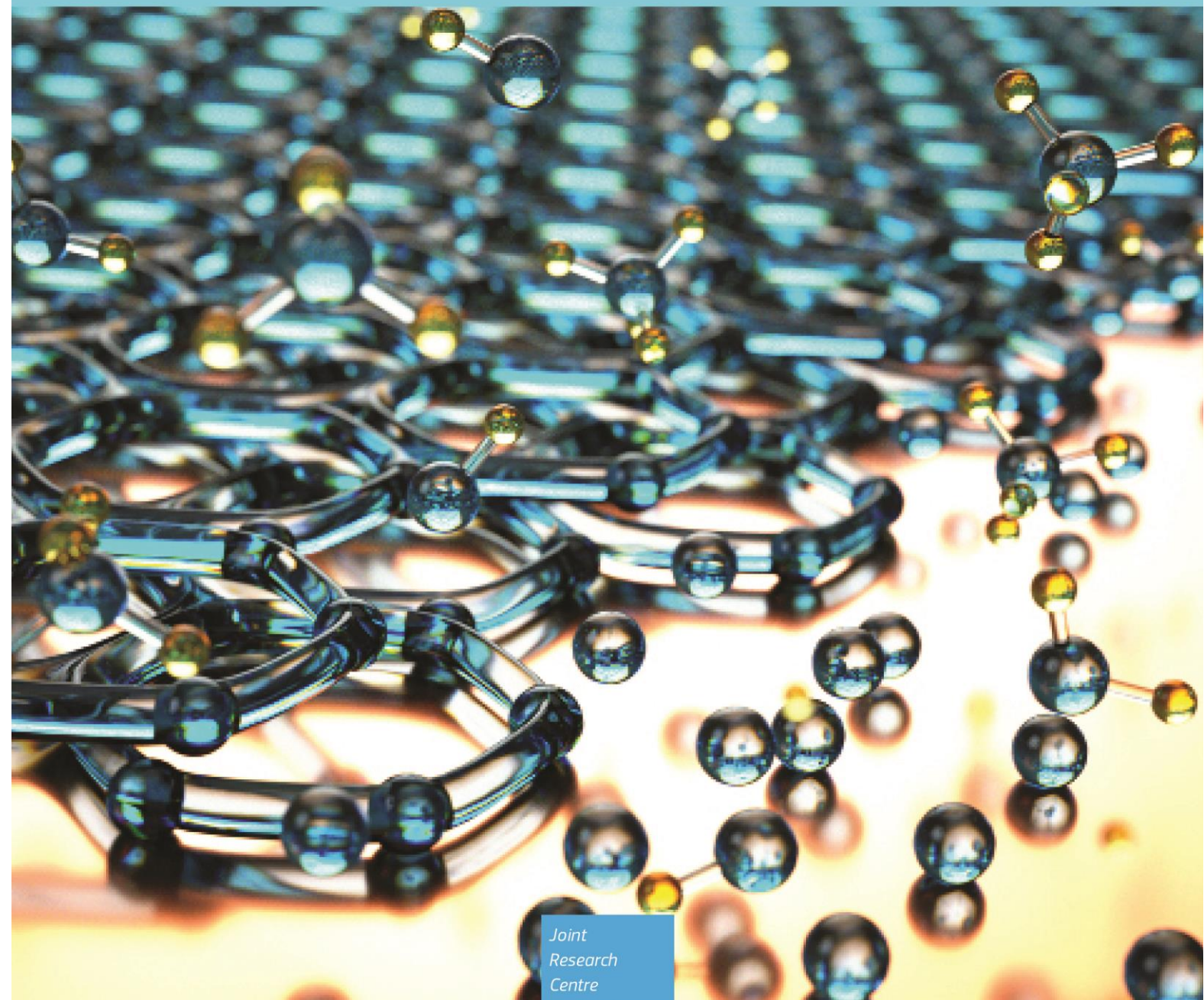




# *Science & Policy:* *What's on the EU's agenda?*

**March 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?

1 March 2016

### The JRC's monthly briefing to the scientific community, N° 45

#### Table of Contents

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Activities of the European Institutions        | 3 |
| 1.1 European Commission                           | 3 |
| 1.2 Council                                       | 3 |
| 1.3 European Parliament                           | 3 |
| 1.4 Committee of the Regions (CoR)                | 5 |
| 1.5 European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) | 5 |
| 1.6 International Relations                       | 5 |
| 2. Conferences & Meetings                         | 6 |
| 2.1 JRC Conferences and Meetings                  | 6 |
| 2.2 Further European Conferences and Meetings     | 6 |
| 2.3 International Conferences                     | 7 |
| 3. JRC News                                       | 9 |

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# 1. Activities of the European Institutions

## 1.1 European Commission

| Date   | Event                           | Subject |
|--|---------------------------------|---------|
|  | <a href="#">College Meeting</a> |         |
| <a href="#">All meetings of the College of Commissioners</a> |                                 |         |

## 1.2 Council

| Date  | Event  | Venue/Location |
|---|--|----------------|
| 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="#">Meeting of the EU Heads of State or Government with Turkey</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 April                                    | <a href="#">Informal Meeting of Energy Ministers</a>                                     | Amsterdam      |
| 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      |
| 12 April                                    | <a href="#">Informal Meeting of the General Affairs Council</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 |
|------------|------------------------------------|---|----------------|
| 7-10 March | <a href="#">EP plenary session</a> | <i>Among others:<br/>Preparation of the European Council meeting (17-18 March), Banking Union Annual report;<br/>Communication on Migration Management;<br/>Interinstitutional agreement on Better Law-making</i> | Strasbourg     |

### Committee Meetings

|         |  |  |          |
|---------|--|--|----------|
| 2 March | <a href="#">Committee of Inquiry into Emission Measurements in the Automotive Sector</a> | <i>Among others:<br/>Election of Chair and Vice-Chairs</i> |          |
| 3 March | <a href="#">Subcommittee on Human</a>  | <i>Among others:</i>                                       | Brussels |

|             |   |   |            |
|-------------|---|---|------------|
|             | <a href="#">Rights</a>  | <i>Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities with special regard to the Concluding Observations of the UN CRPD Committee; Implementation of the 2010 recommendations of Parliament on social and environmental standards, human rights and corporate responsibility.</i> |            |
| 3 March     | <a href="#">Subcommittee on Security and Defence</a>                        | <i>Among others:<br/>With the Council and Commission and EEAS:<br/>EDA and NATO: coherent responses to hybrid threats and challenges</i>  | Brussels   |
| 3 March     | <a href="#">Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality</a>             | <i>Among others: International Women's Day</i>  | Brussels   |
| 7 March     | <a href="#">Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development</a>              | <i>Among others:<br/>Exchange of views with Commissioner Phil Hogan, responsible for Agriculture and Rural Development, on the state of play of the situation on the agricultural markets</i>   | Strasbourg |
| 14-15 March | <a href="#">Committee on Development</a>                                    | <i>Agenda not yet available</i>   | Brussels   |
| 14-15 March | <a href="#">Committee on International Trade</a>                            | <i>Agenda not yet available</i>   | Brussels   |
| 14-15 March | <a href="#">Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection</a>    | <i>Agenda not yet available</i>   | Brussels   |
| 14-15 March | <a href="#">Committee on Transport and Tourism</a>                          | <i>Agenda not yet available</i>   | Brussels   |
| 14-15 March | <a href="#">Committee on Culture and Education</a>                          | <i>Agenda not yet available</i>   | Brussels   |
| 14-15 March | <a href="#">Committee on Legal Affairs</a>                                  | <i>Agenda not yet available</i>   | Brussels   |
| 15 March    | <a href="#">Committee on Foreign Affairs</a>                                | <i>Agenda not yet available</i>   | Brussels   |
| 16-17 March | <a href="#">Committee on Employment and Social Affairs</a>                  | <i>Agenda not yet available</i>   | Brussels   |
| 16-17 March | <a href="#">Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety</a> | <i>Agenda not yet available</i>   | Brussels   |
| 16-17 March | <a href="#">Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs</a>      | <i>Agenda not yet available</i>   | Brussels   |
| 16-17 March | <a href="#">Committee on Industry, Research and Energy</a>                  | <i>Agenda not yet available</i>   | Brussels   |
| 16-17 March | <a href="#">Committee on Regional Development</a>                           | <i>Agenda not yet available</i>   | Brussels   |
| 21-22 March | <a href="#">Committee on Fisheries</a>                                      | <i>Agenda not yet available</i>   | Brussels   |

[All European Parliament Committee meetings](#)

Other meetings and events

|          |   |  |          |
|----------|---|--|----------|
| 3 March  | <a href="#">European Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month</a>    | <i>Among others: Maltese MEP Alfred Sant is hosting the launch of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month (ECCAM) at the European Parliament in Brussels with the participation of leading experts in this field. The theme of the meeting is 'Making Noise – Saving Lives!'</i> | Brussels |
| 15 March | <a href="#">Brain awareness week 2016 - The importance of</a> | <i>Among others: Research on neuroscience in Europe: where we are, where we should go;</i>   | Brussels |



|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  | <a href="#">research in neuroscience</a> | <i>the importance of the brain diseases in elderly population in Europe: presentation of the Dementia Commission Paper on Alzheimer's Disease; the importance of brain disorders in childhood in Europe.</i> |  |
|--|--|--|--|

## 1.4 Committee of the Regions (CoR)

| Date       | Event  | Venue/Location       |
|------------|--|----------------------|
| 1 March    | <a href="#">7th NAT commission meeting</a>   | Brussels             |
| 1 March    | <a href="#">GREEN SKILLS Final Conference</a>  | CoR, Brussels        |
| 2 March    | <a href="#">7th COTER Commission Meeting</a>   | CoR, Brussels        |
| 3 March    | <a href="#">The future of Cohesion Policy beyond 2020 - Final Conference</a>           | CoR, Brussels        |
| 8 March    | <a href="#">Connecting European Chambers</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      |
| 8-9 July   | <a href="#">7th European Summit of Regions and Cities</a>                              | Bratislava, Slovakia |

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

## 1.5 European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

| Date        | Event   | Venue/Location             |
|-------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 March     | <a href="#">5th meeting of the EU Advisory Group under the EU-Central America Association Agreement</a> | EESC, Brussels             |
| 2 March     | <a href="#">The state of the Energy Union – governance and implications for civil society</a>           | EESC, Brussels             |
| 4 March     | <a href="#">Evidence-informed policy-making: What's on the TEN Section's agenda?</a>                    | EESC, Brussels             |
| 8 March     | <a href="#">The UK in the EU: What Matters to You?</a>  | Manchester, United Kingdom |
| 9 March     | <a href="#">EU-Japan cooperation in comparative perspective: trade &amp; migration policies</a>         | EESC, Brussels             |
| 10 March    | <a href="#">European Consumer Day 2016</a>  | EESC, Brussels             |
| 11 March    | <a href="#">Building a more sustainable European food system</a>  | EESC, Brussels             |
| 17-19 March | <a href="#">Your Europe, Your Say! 2016</a>   | EESC, Brussels             |
| 22 March    | <a href="#">The European Energy Union – its impact and consequences on civil society in Bulgaria</a>    | Sofia, Bulgaria            |
| 22 March    | <a href="#">Maximising the contribution of ESI Funds</a>  | EESC, Brussels             |
| 30 March    | <a href="#">External dimension of the EU's energy policy</a>  | EESC, Brussels             |
| 6-7 April   | <a href="#">European Migration Forum – 2nd meeting</a>  | EESC, Brussels             |
| 20 April    | <a href="#">ECI DAY 2016: Forging Change</a>  | EESC, Brussels             |

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

## 1.6 International Relations

| Date | Event | Venue/Location |
|------|-------|----------------|
|------|-------|----------------|

|          |  |                   |
|----------|--|-------------------|
| 14 March | <a href="#">5th EU-CELAC Senior Officials Meeting (SOM) for the Joint Initiative on Research and Innovation (JIRI)</a> | Brussels, Belgium |
| 30 March | EU-India Summit  | Brussels, Belgium |

## 2. Conferences & Meetings

### 2.1 JRC Conferences and Meetings

| Date        | Event   | Organiser                                    | Venue/Location          |
|-------------|---|--|-------------------------|
| 2 March     | <a href="#">S2E - National Event of Prague - Czech Republic: The Synergies with Research and Innovation Funds: Stairway to Excellence</a> | JRC, Government Office of the Czech Republic | Prag, Czech Republic    |
| 3-4 March   | <a href="#">New Currents in Science: The Challenges of Quality</a>  | JRC  | Ispra, Italy            |
| 4 March     | <a href="#">Evidence-informed policy-making: What's on the TEN Section's agenda?</a>  | JRC, EESC                                    | Brussels, Belgium       |
| 7-11 March  | <a href="#">COSINUS 2016 - COoperation Simulation of Nuclear Security</a>   | JRC  | Ispra, Italy            |
| 8-9 March   | <a href="#">Annual Clearinghouse Meeting</a>  | JRC  | Petten, the Netherlands |
| 8-10 March  | <a href="#">Counter Nuclear Smuggling Workshop 2016</a>   | JRC, US Government                           | Karlsruhe, Germany      |
| 11 March    | <a href="#">S2E National Event - Estonia: The Synergies with Research and Innovation Funds: Stairway to Excellence</a>                    | JRC, Estonian Research Council               | Tallinn, Estonia        |
| 16-18 March | <a href="#">9th International Conference Improving Energy Efficiency in Commercial Buildings and Smart Communities (IEECB&amp;SC'16)</a>  | JRC, Messe Frankfurt                         | Frankfurt, Germany      |

[Further upcoming JRC events](#)

[Further upcoming events in the EU Newsroom Calendar](#)

### 2.2 Further European Conferences and Meetings

| Date    | Event                             | Organiser           | Venue/Location    |
|---------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1 March | <a href="#">EU Refining Forum</a> | European Commission | Brussels, Belgium |

|             |   |                                     |                               |
|-------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2 March     | <a href="#">European Humanitarian Roundtables 2016</a>  | European Commission, Noha           | Warsaw, Poland                |
| 3 March     | <a href="#">From ISA to ISA<sup>2</sup> — new challenges and opportunities</a>                        | European Commission, Noha           | Warsaw, Poland                |
| 3 March     | <a href="#">Meeting of the European Electricity Regulatory Forum</a>                                  | European Commission                 | Florence, Italy               |
| 9 March     | <a href="#">Celebrating 35 years of European Commission – IAEA co-operation on nuclear safeguards</a> | European Commission, Japan, Hungary | Vienna, Austria               |
| 15-17 March | <a href="#">2016 Conference on Big Data from Space - BiDS'16</a>                                      | ESA, SatCen, JRC                    | Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain |
| 23-27 July  | <a href="#">Euroscience Open Forum (ESOF)</a>   | EuroScience                         | Manchester, United Kingdom    |

## 2.3 International Conferences

| Date        | Event  | Organiser | Venue/Location    |
|-------------|--|-----------|-------------------|
| 7-9 March   | <a href="#">The world in 2050</a>                | IIASA     | Vienna, Austria   |
| 12-15 March | <a href="#">Arctic Science Summit Week</a>       | ASSW      | Fairbanks, Alaska |
| 15-17 March | <a href="#">Senior Arctic Officials' meeting</a> | SAO       | Fairbanks, Alaska |

|                  |   |                     |                            |
|------------------|---|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 15-18 March      | <a href="#">Arctic Observing Summit</a>   | ISAC                | Fairbanks, Alaska          |
| 22-23 March      | <a href="#">Innogrid2020+</a>   | ENTSO-E, EDSO       | Brussels, Belgium          |
| 31 March-1 April | <a href="#">4<sup>th</sup> Nuclear Security Summit</a>  | Government of USA   | Washington D.C., USA       |
| 4-5 April        | <a href="#">A Joint Africa – EU strategy on Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture</a>   | RTD                 | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia      |
| 5-6 April        | <a href="#">Stakeholder Forum to implement the Africa-EU R&amp;I Partnership on Food and Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture</a>                       | RTD                 | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia      |
| 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 &amp; Ministerial Meeting</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             |
| 4-9 July         | <a href="#">Bridging ICTs and the Environment. Geospatial Technologies and Remote Sensing for Monitoring SDGs.</a>  | CEU, UNOOSA         | Budapest, Hungary          |
| 11-15 July       | <a href="#">Bridging ICTs and the Environment. Innovations in Disaster Risk Reduction</a>   | CEU, UNDP           | Budapest, Hungary          |
| 23-27 July       | <a href="#">EuroScience Open Forum 2016</a>   | ESOF                | Manchester, United Kingdom |
| 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<br>November        | <a href="#">UNFCCC COP 22</a>                                   | UNFCC  | Marrakesh,<br>Morocco |
| 7-13<br>January<br>2017 | <a href="#">16th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering</a> | WCEE and Chilean<br>Association of Seismology<br>and Earthquake Engineering-<br>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>February</b>             | <a href="#">JRC Newsletter February 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>  |

### 3 February

#### [Composite Indicators and Scoreboards: Sharing Best Practices](#)

The purpose of this half day event was to bring together policy analysts and researchers from the European Commission, international organisations, think tanks and the academia, to foster a practical exchange of experiences across a wide range of key policy areas that are monitored through composite indicators and scoreboards. During the event the Competence Centre on Composite Indicators and Scoreboards (COIN) was launched.

### 3-4 February

#### [Protection of CBRN facilities: EU and Serbia share best practices on their CBRN Action Plans](#)

The workshop aimed at facilitating EU CBRN experts and the Serbian CBRN national team to share best practices, views and methodologies on actions identified within their respective CBRN Action Plans with a focus on the protection of CBRN facilities against natural disasters.

### 4 February

#### [66. Öffentliche Hochschultagung](#)

IES scientist L. Montanarella was an invited keynote speaker at the opening of the conference, at which he spoke on "EU-Agrarpolitik aus Sicht der Welternährungssicherung und Ressourcenschonung".

### 4 February

#### [The Role of City-Regions in the Achievement of a Low-Carbon Economy](#)

The COST Association and the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) hosted a Joint Workshop which aimed at revisiting the importance of both bottom-up and top-down solutions in accelerating the penetration of low carbon policies into practice.

### 9-10 February

#### [European Alien Species Information Network: enlargement and training](#)

Invasive alien species (IAS) - i.e. species that are not native to Europe and have a severe negative impact on native flora and fauna - are one of the main pressures on biodiversity in the EU and at global level. The workshop focused on the expansion of EASIN, especially by including offline databases that exist in institutes or national repositories which are not accessible to the scientific community. The workshop addressed data standardisation issues and protocols for sharing information.

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>7-12 February</b>  | <b><a href="#">11th International Symposium on Ecohydraulics</a></b>   |
| Ecohydraulics is central to many challenges facing river and water resource management around the world. It links the disciplines of hydraulics with aquatic ecology, water engineering, fluvial geomorphology and biogeochemistry. The International Symposium on Ecohydraulics is the premier international meeting for scientists and innovative practitioners working across these disciplines focussing on the underpinning science and its application.   |  |
| <b>15-17 February</b>   | <b><a href="#">Modern Spectrum Management - Experience with License Shared Access</a></b>                                    |
| The radio spectrum policy programme is a cornerstone for Digital Europe– to promote innovation, growth and competitiveness by creating a Digital Single Market in the EU. With the growing demand for broadband wireless services today and for the development of 5G technologies for the societal needs beyond 2020, new policy orientations and innovative approaches are needed to spectrum management and its efficient use.   |  |
| <b>22 February</b>  | <b><a href="#">Behavioural Insights Applied to Policy: European Report 2016 (BIAP 2016)</a></b>                              |
| There is growing recognition that behavioural insights (BIs)–by shedding light on how people actually make choices– help deliver more effective policies and complement traditional forms of intervention. BIAP 2016 covers 32 European Countries (EU + EFTA) and presents a wealth of policy interventions either implicitly or explicitly informed by BIs. It also reviews institutional developments and puts forward a comparative framework (PRECIS) describing national teams applying BIs to policy-making. BIAP 2016 comes at an important point in time. The European Commission (EC) has been a front-runner in bringing BIs into legislation and regulatory intervention. In the coming years, BIs will certainly have a broader role in supporting the EC's Better Regulation Agenda. Commissioner Navracsics opened the event and Prof. Madrian (Harvard Kennedy School) delivered a speech about the added value of linking academic research to policy-making. The event gathered mainly policy-makers from European Institutions and from around 26 national governments in Europe. A few NGOs, businesses, think tanks, researchers and journalists also attended. The purpose is to share knowledge on how BIs are being applied to diverse policy fields, promote links among the different actors, and inspire new applications of BIs to policy. |  |
| <b>23 February</b>  | <b><a href="#">European Science and Technology Network on Unconventional Hydrocarbons Extraction - Annual Conference</a></b> |
| The Network on European Science and Technology on Unconventional Hydrocarbons Extraction organised its Annual conference in Brussels.   |  |
| <b>23-25 February</b>   | <b><a href="#">International Conference on Ocean Energy</a></b>  |
| The ICOE 2016 was organised and hosted by Renewable UK. The JRC was present at the exhibition with a stand at booth 72, promoting the SET-Plan and JRC work on ocean renewable energy. JRC colleagues were also involved as speakers and chair persons in the conference, which was opened by Commissioner Vella.   |  |
| <b>25-26 February</b>   | <b><a href="#">Public Participation and Transparency in the Implementation of Energy Policies</a></b>                        |
| The workshop is part of the JRC activities on collecting and sharing diverse practices for public participation and developing a knowledge centre for transparency governance, in particular for The 'Energy– Transparency Centre of Knowledge' (E-TRACK). E-TRACK is a joint initiative agreed between the Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) and the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission (EC) for the promotion and enhancement of public participation in the implementation of energy policies. The objective of E-TRACK is to become a central point of reference for monitoring, disseminating and sharing information on good practices of public participation in energy policy implementation across the EU.  |  |