



European  
Commission

# Collaboration with the European Commission's in-house science service, **Joint Research Centre**

© stockxchng



As the Commission's in-house science service, the Joint Research Centre's mission is to provide EU policies with independent, evidence-based scientific and technical support throughout the whole policy cycle.

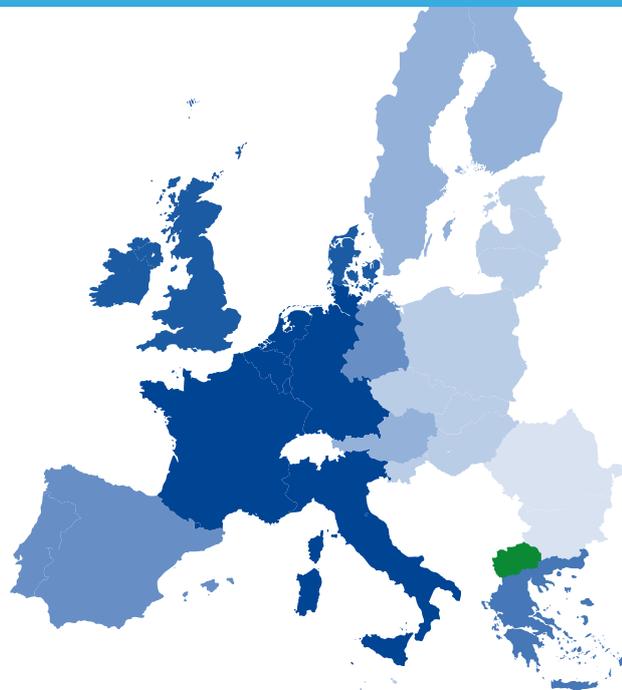
Working in close cooperation with policy Directorates-General, the JRC addresses key societal challenges while stimulating innovation through developing new methods, tools and standards, and sharing its know-how with the Member States, the scientific community and international partners.

- 2 800 personnel
- 7 scientific Institutes
- 5 sites in Germany, Italy, Spain, Belgium and the Netherlands.

Across Europe, the JRC has built up successful partnerships with a large number of public and private organisations under the EU Research Framework Programmes.

Under its Enlargement and Integration Action (E&IA), the JRC provides scientific and technical support to Candidate countries for EU accession. It supports the transfer of the *acquis communautaire* to national legislation, and facilitates scientific and technical exchanges.

The JRC promotes close cooperation through a wide range of expert exchange possibilities, such as job opportunities, workshops, training courses and research projects. They currently work together on three Framework Programme projects on the regional coordination of scientific and technical cooperation policies, seismic engineering research and wireless communication technologies in



addition to contributing to chemical accident prevention research within the EU.

## Key policy areas

**Environment and climate change**

**Energy and transport**

**Agriculture and food security**

**Health and consumer protection**

**Information society and digital agenda**

**Safety and security (including nuclear)**

## Examples of JRC partners

### National authorities and laboratories

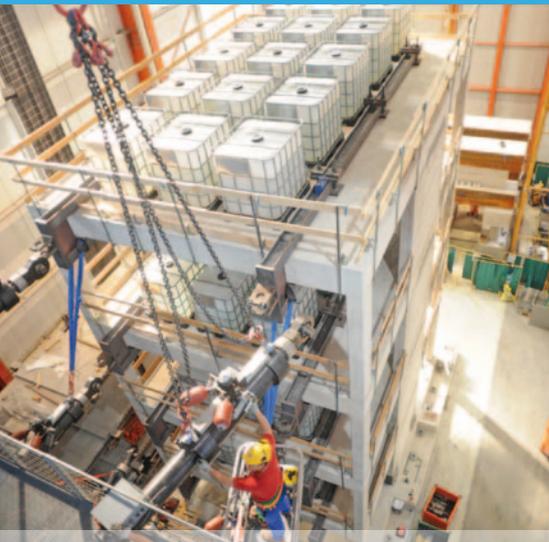
- Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology (IZIIS), Skopje
- Ministry of Education and Science, Skopje
- Ministry of Economy, Skopje

### Academia

- Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technologies, Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje

Joint  
Research  
Centre

## Examples of collaboration



Under the SERIES project, selected authorities have access to the JRC's European Laboratory for Structural Assessment (ELSA).



The Steering Platform on Research for Western Balkan countries and WBC-INCO.NET project met in Tirana, Albania in June 2012.

### SERIES stimulates progress in seismic research

Fragmentation of research infrastructures in the area of European seismic engineering research results in limited access to facilities by the scientific and technical community, especially in Europe's most seismic regions.

The 7th Framework Programme Project SERIES (Seismic Engineering Research Infrastructures for European Synergies) aims to address this problem by bringing together a 23-strong consortium of key actors in Europe's seismic engineering research to stimulate progress in seismic research.

The Institute of Earthquake Engineer-

ing and Engineering Seismology (IZIIS) with its Dynamic Testing & Informatics Laboratory (DYNLAB & INFO) plays an active role in SERIES. In particular, IZIIS contributes to the creation of a very large virtual European research laboratory, and through its expertise in experimental testing, is improving the design of testing equipment and shaking table test set ups. IZIIS also participates in the qualification of research infrastructures, and hosted the 2010 International SERIES Workshop in Ohrid addressing the role of research infrastructures in performance-based earthquake engineering.

### Helping Western Balkan countries to integrate into the European Research Area

The JRC works with the Ministry of Education and Science as well as the Ministry of Economy on the WBC-INCO.NET project.

WBC-INCO.NET (Coordination of Research Policies with the Western Balkan Countries) enhances the integration of the Western Balkan countries into the European Research Area. The consortium comprises 29 institutions from 17 countries, and is supported by the European Commission under the 7th Framework Programme for Research.

The project aims to support the bi-regional dialogue on science and technology

in the frame of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan countries.

It identifies research and development potential and priorities, and enhances participation of researchers from the region in European projects of mutual interest and benefit.

The JRC provides analytical support to the shaping of common research and innovation strategies and support measures for the benefit of the whole region as well as implementing smart specialisation activities.

### Training on implementation of Seveso Directive

The Seveso Directive is a European Union law to improve the safety of sites containing large quantities of dangerous substances. The inspection function has always been considered one of the most powerful tools available to EU Member State authorities for enforcement of the Seveso Directive. The JRC works together with competent authorities responsible for

Seveso implementation to increase the effectiveness of inspection practices and to ensure a consistent approach with respect to interpreting Seveso requirements. At the TAIEX (Technical Assistance and Information Exchange) workshop held in Skopje in May 2012, the JRC gave training on the evaluation of safety reports and the inspection of establishments. Repre-

sentatives from the national authorities, the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning and the Directorate for Protection and Rescue, as well as representatives from industry, attended the workshop. The organisers showed interest for future collaboration with JRC once the Seveso II Directive has been implemented, planned for 2013.

## Contact the JRC

### European Commission

Joint Research Centre (JRC)  
External Communication Unit  
SDME 10/78  
B-1049 Brussels  
Belgium  
Tel: +32 2 29 74181  
Web: <http://www.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>  
Email: [jrc-info@ec.europa.eu](mailto:jrc-info@ec.europa.eu)

### National Contact Point

Marina Nikolovska  
Ministry of Education and Science  
Blvd.Mito Haxivasilev Jasmin BB  
1000 Skopje  
Tel: +389 2 3140-186  
Web: [www.mon.gov.mk](http://www.mon.gov.mk)  
Email: [Marina.Nikolovska@mon.gov.mk](mailto:Marina.Nikolovska@mon.gov.mk)