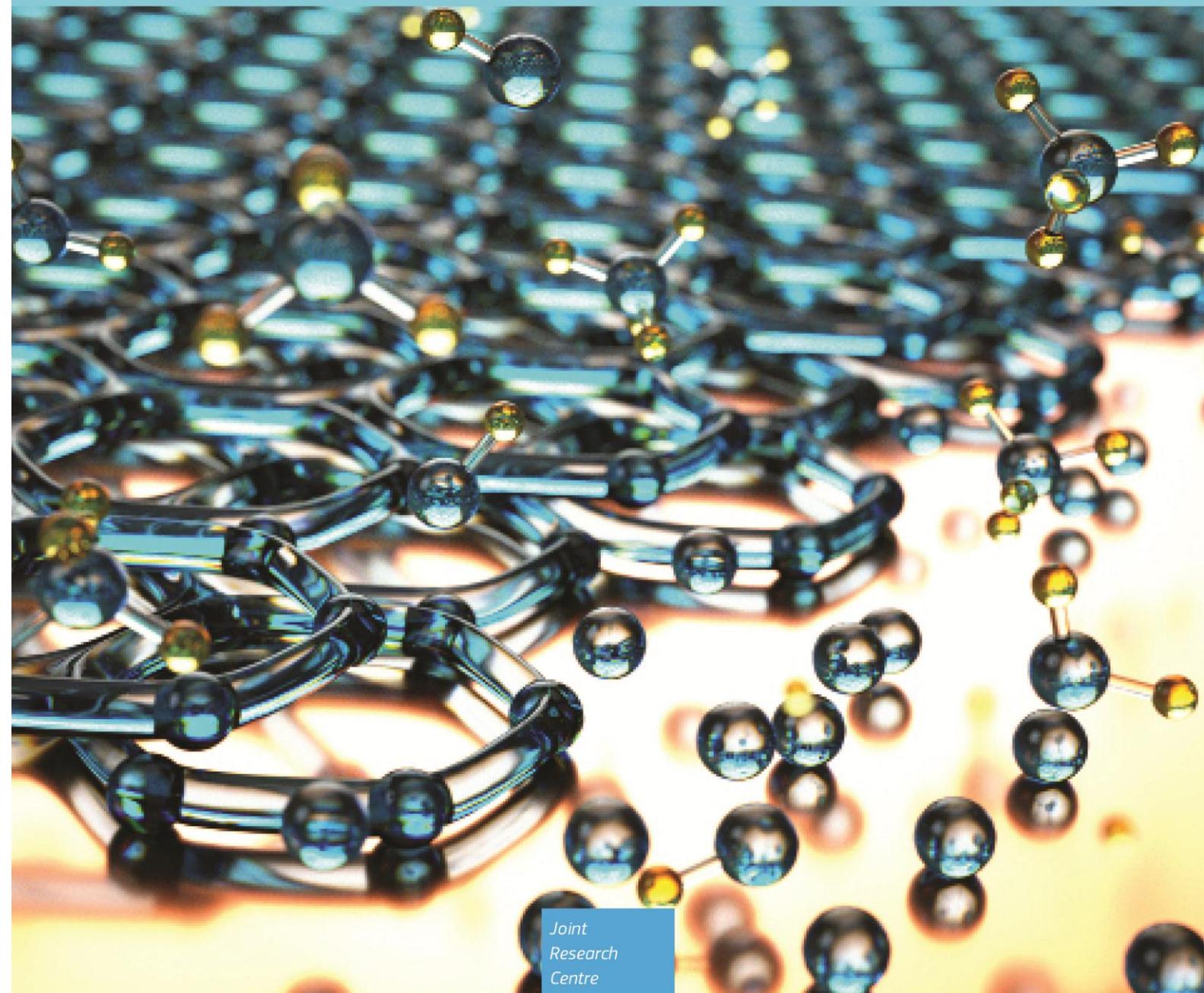




Science & Policy: *What's on the EU's agenda?*

July 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?

6 July 2015

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1. Activities of the European Institutions

1.1 European Commission

Date	Event	Subject
7 July	College Roundtable Meeting	No agenda published yet
8 July	College Meeting	No agenda published yet
15 July	College Meeting	No agenda published yet

1.2 Council

Date	Event	Venue/Location
7-8 July	European Research Area and Innovation Committee	Brussels
20-21 July	Competitiveness Council (informal)	Luxembourg
13 July	Agriculture and Fisheries Council	Brussels
13 July	Eurogroup meeting	Brussels
11 September	Eurogroup meeting	Brussels
14 September	General Affairs Council	Brussels
18 September	Environment Council	Brussels
1-2 October	Competitiveness Council	Luxembourg
5 October	Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council	Brussels
8 October	Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council	Brussels
8-9 October	Justice and Home Affairs Council	Luxembourg
15-16 October	European Council	Brussels

1.3 European Parliament

Plenary Sessions

Date	Event	Subject	Venue/Location
6-9 July	EP Plenary session	Market stability reserve for GHG ETS, S&T cooperation with India and the Faroe Islands, EURATOM-Swiss cooperation, food and feed radioactivity thresholds after radiological emergencies	Strasbourg

Committee Meetings

13-14 July	Committee on International Trade	Agenda not yet published	Brussels
15-16 July	Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs	Agenda not yet published	Brussels
15-16 July	Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	Agenda not yet published	Brussels

15-16 July	Committee on Budgets	Agenda not yet published	Brussels
15-16 July	Committee on Employment and Social Affairs	Agenda not yet published	Brussels
15-16 July	Committee on Industry, Research and Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - European Energy Union - Interoperability solutions - Single Market for electronic communications - Electricity interconnection targets - State of play of European Research Policy (with Commissioner Moedas) - Digital Single Market - Incoming Council Presidency (with Luxembourg Prime Minister Xavier Bettel) 	Brussels
<i>All European Parliament Committee meetings</i>			

1.4 Committee of the Regions (CoR)

Date	Event	Venue/Location
8-9 July	Plenary Session	CoR, Brussels
9 July	Local solutions for a better business environment / Annual Workshop of the Europe 2020 Monitoring Platform	CoR, Brussels
13 July	The Future of Cohesion Policy beyond 2020. Second seminar: "From challenges to models"	Gaia, Portugal
14 July	Monitoring Polycentric Territorial Development In Europe With Novel Indicators: Beyond Gdp and NUTS II	CoR, Brussels
<i>Further events of the Committee of the Regions</i>		

1.5 European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

Date	Event	Venue/Location
6 July	Cyber activism and civil society organisations Public Hearing	EESC, Brussels
7 July	Involving civil society in the implementation of the post-2015 agenda –Side Event	New York, United States
10 July	Social Enterprise: Make It Happen!	EESC, Brussels
15 July	EU-Japan Free Trade Agreement: an ambitious deal to boost both growth and jobs	EESC, Brussels
7 September	4th Round table on the Strategic Implementation Plan of the European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials	Helsinki, Finland
16 June	The implementation of the UN CRPD by the EU - the way forward	EESC, Brussels
10 September	Principles for effective and reliable welfare provision systems	Thessaloniki, Greece
<i>Further events of the European Economic and Social Committee</i>		

1.6 International Relations

Date	Event	Venue/Location
9-11 October	2015 Annual Meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund	Lima, Peru
15-16 November	G20 Leaders Summit	Antalya, Turkey

2. Conferences & Meetings

2.1 European Conferences and Meetings

Date	Event	Organiser	Venue/Location
6 July	Sustainable Food Production and Air Pollution	JRC – European Commission	EXPO Milan, Italy
9-10 July	Public Engagement about science, technology and innovation Training Course	JRC – European Commission	Split, Croatia
13-14 July	Workshop on agro-ecology and ecological intensification	JRC – European Commission	Milan and Ispra, Italy
28 July – 4 August	XIII School of Neutron Scattering (SoNS)	JRC-ITU – European Commission	Erice, Italy
7-9 August	Soil – where food begins!	JRC – European Commission	Ispra, Italy
22-30 August	Sustaining ecosystem services in forest landscapes	JRC – European Commission	Tartu, Estonia
2-4 September	JRC – IIASA Summer School on Evidence and Policy – Call for Expression of Interest	IIASA, JRC – European Commission	Laxenburg, Austria
14-18 September	EU PVSEC 2015 (European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition)	Technical Programme coordinator: JRC	Hamburg, Germany

15 September	"Science Meets Parliaments" - annual science-day event in the European Parliament	JRC – European Commission, European Parliament, EASAC, ALLEA, Euro-CASE, CESAER	Brussels, Belgium
30 September	JRC Annual Conference "A safer Europe: Creating Resilience in a globalised world"	JRC – European Commission	Brussels, Belgium
27-28 October	JRC event on Scientific Support to the Danube Strategy	JRC – European Commission	Ulm, Germany
29-30 October	4th Danube Strategy Annual Forum		Ulm, Germany
Further upcoming JRC events			

2.2 International Conferences

Date	Event	Organiser	Venue/Location
5-10 July	International Association of Landscape Ecology	US-IALE	Portland, Oregon
7-10 July	"Our Common Future Under Climate Change" - International Scientific Conference	Organized under the umbrella of ICSU, Future Earth, UNESCO and major French research institutions, with the support of the French Government.	Paris, France
13-16 July	UN Conference on Financing for Development	UN	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
15 July	JRC side event: Towards better scientific evidence and support for	JRC – European Commission	Addis Ababa,

	policy-making on sustainable development		<i>Ethiopia</i>
2-6 August	27th International Congress for Conservation Biology	<i>The Society for Conservation Biology (SCB), Agropolis International and the French Foundation for Research on Biodiversity (FRB)</i>	<i>Montpellier, France</i>
12-23 October	Twelfth session of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) Conference of the Parties	<i>UN</i>	<i>Ankara, Turkey</i>
4-7 November	World Science Forum 2015 Theme: "The Enabling Power of Science"	<i>Hosted by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in partnership with UNESCO, ICSU, AAAS, TWAS and EASAC</i>	<i>Budapest, Hungary</i>
30 Nov – 11 Dec	United Nations Climate Change Conference COP 21/ CMP 11	<i>UNFCCC</i>	<i>Paris, France</i>
1 May - 31 October	The EU at Expo Milano 2015	<i>European Commission</i>	<i>Milano, Italy</i>

3. JRC News

2014 | [JRC Annual Report](#)

June 2015 | [JRC Newsletter June 2015](#)

Open | [The EU is recruiting researchers - Call for expressions of interest](#)

29 June | [New arrangement with Chinese Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth](#)

On 29 June, at the EU-China Summit, Vladimir Šucha, Director-General of the JRC and Professor Guo Huadong, Director-General of the Chinese Academy of Sciences' Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth (CAS-RADI) signed a new collaborative research arrangement.

26 June | [Marine Anthropogenic Litter – the current state of research](#)

JRC scientist G. Hanke is co-author of a chapter in a recently published open access book on 'Marine Anthropogenic Litter', which summarises the current state of knowledge on all aspects of marine anthropogenic litter.

26 June | [Towards Voluntary Guidelines for the Sustainable Management of Soil Resources](#)

The 3rd annual Plenary Meeting of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP), hosted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) from the 22 to 24 June 2015 in Rome, Italy, endorsed a concept note on developing Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Management of Soil Resources (VGSMS).

26 June | [International day against drug abuse: fast lane to identify new designer drugs](#)

JRC scientists support the EU's fight against illicit drugs with their work on speedy recognition of new psychoactive substances.

25 June | [JRC hosts first meeting of the National Platforms on Nanomedicine \(22-23 June 2015\)](#)

From the 22nd to the 23rd of June, the JRC hosted the first meeting of the National Platforms on Nanomedicine.

25 June | [No invasion of dangerous jellyfish in the Mediterranean this summer](#)

Swimming in the Mediterranean this summer will be safe, according to a scientific article co-authored by the JRC about the potential invasion of the dangerous Portuguese Man-of-War jellyfish.

24 June | [The JRC promotes Soil activities at the Royal Highland Show](#)

The JRC hosted a very successful awareness-raising event with an EU exhibit on soil at this year's 4-day Royal Highland Show in Edinburgh, which was attended by a record-breaking number of visitors. The exhibit showcased soil-related issues in Scotland and Europe in an informative and engaging manner, and made a real contribution to the International Year of Soils. Feedback from the Commissioner Hogan, the EU Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development, was extremely positive.

23 June | [JRC contributes to major OECD breakthrough on nanomaterials safety knowledge](#)

The JRC has played a central role in the OECD testing programme of representative manufactured nanomaterials. The programme was led by the OECD Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials (WPMN) and had the objective to ensure that the approaches for assessment of hazard, exposure and risk for manufactured nanomaterials "are of a high quality, science-based and internationally harmonised."

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23 June **[JRC expands its cooperation with EARTO](#)**

On 23 June, Maria Khorsand, President of the European Association of Research and Technology Organisations (EARTO), and Vladimír Šucha, Director-General of the JRC, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Brussels.

23 June **[Second Copernicus satellite: better data for JRC research](#)**

On 23 June, Sentinel-2A was launched from Kourou, French Guiana. It is the second satellite in the joint European Union and European Space Agency Copernicus programme, following the launch of Sentinel in April 2014.

23 June **[Scientific cooperation with Latvia strengthened](#)**

During the Latvian Presidency, on 23 June, Māriņa Seile, Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia and Vladimír Šucha, Director-General of the JRC, signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Brussels.

23 June **[The power-moderated mean: a reliable statistical tool to be used for many applications](#)**

JRC scientists developed an algorithm for the calculation of a mean value of discrepant data. This algorithm improves the consistency of reference values and even outperforms the most popular method used in meta-analysis of medical trials.

22 June **[New, simplified system makes EU data for fisheries easily available](#)**

The European Commission has adopted a proposal for a regulation upgrading the EU framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector to support scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). The JRC will maintain its central role under the new regulation - once adopted - and has been instrumental in the conception of the proposal, building on a longstanding experience in collecting and maintaining fisheries data reported by EU Member States.

22 June **[Continued positive outlook at EU-28 level despite drought](#)**

Crop yield forecasts for most winter cereals at EU-28 level have been lowered compared to last month's forecast due to suboptimal weather conditions.

22 June **[JRC-ITU at the EFFEKTE Science Festival, Karlsruhe](#)**

On the 27th June as part of the 300th Birthday of the City of Karlsruhe, EFFEKTE 2015 transforms the palace (schloss) gardens of Karlsruhe into a huge science experience where visitors can enjoy live experiments, demonstrations, science shows and a varied stage program. Taking part in the festival will be a variety of scientific institutions, municipal buildings, cultural institutions and retail stores hosting various events on the subject of science and research.

22 June **[2nd ENCATC Research Award](#)**

ENCATC has launched the call for applications for the 2nd ENCATC Research Award on Cultural Policy and Cultural Management. This annual award is granted to a recently published PhD thesis exploring, through comparative and cross-cultural research, issues at stake and taking a step from evaluative (descriptive) to comparative applied research. In addition, the ENCATC Award is rewarded to a PhD thesis that can inform policymaking and benefit practitioners active in the broad field of culture.

19 June **[Joint Danube Survey - JRC contributes to the river's water quality check](#)**

The results of the Joint Danube Survey 3 (JDS3), the biggest scientific river expedition in the world, are now published by the International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River (ICPDR).

17 June **[Intense aerosols reduction to affect wind and solar energy availability in coming decades](#)**

A strong decline in emissions from human-made aerosols will drive changes to large scale atmospheric circulation and hence affect wind power density off-shore and solar radiation in Europe and northern Africa, according to JRC report analysing these two renewables in 2030-2050.

17 June **[Importance of correctly mapping deforestation](#)**

A case study published by the JRC, in collaboration with CIFOR (Center for International Forestry Research), found

significant differences in the values of forest change estimates in Tanzania reported by American researchers, the JRC and the United Nations (UN) Food and Agriculture Organization.

16 June **[JRC researchers contribute to CERN experiments on two main uranium isotopes](#)**

Scientists from the JRC-Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements contributed to experiments at CERN, studying neutron induced fission reactions on the two main uranium isotopes, U-235 and U-238. These reactions are fundamentally important in the field of nuclear technology, particularly for the development of new systems for energy production and nuclear waste transmutation.

12 June **[Changes in shipping routes and speed as piracy declines in the Western Indian Ocean](#)**

With the decline of piracy incidents in the Western Indian Ocean, vessels have gradually returned to travelling along the shortest route, closer to Somalia, and to sailing again at normal speed, according to a JRC report.

11 June **[Presentation of the joint JRC-EASAC report on the management of spent nuclear fuel and its waste](#)**

On 10 June 2015, in Budapest, the JRC and the European Academies' Science Advisory Council (EASAC) organised an event, hosted by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, member of EASAC. The event was part of the regional promotion of a joint JRC-EASAC report on the "Management of Spent Nuclear Fuel and its Waste".

10 June **[EU-CELAC summit: launch of the JRC Soil Atlas of Latin America and the Caribbean](#)**

On the occasion of the EU summit with the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), the English and Portuguese versions of the JRC Soil Atlas of Latin America and the Caribbean are launched.

9 June **[Towards the development of matrix reference materials for silver nanoparticles in meat](#)**

Scientists from the JRC in close collaboration with various European Institutions, successfully completed a feasibility study for a reference material of silver nanoparticles in chicken meat. Despite the fact that some challenges regarding method development, stability and characterisation have been identified, the materials developed in this study can serve as a first step towards improving analytical methods and developing certified reference materials.

5 June **[World environment day: consume with care](#)**

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) motto for this year's world environment day is "Seven billion dreams. One planet. Consume with care".

5 June **[JRC and Slovakia strengthen co-operation](#)**

Today at the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava, Prof. Pavol Šajgalík, President of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, and Vladimír Šucha, Director General of the JRC, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

5 June **[Call for ideas on how to increase tax compliance](#)**

Together with the European Commission's Directorate-General Taxation and Customs, the JRC invites researchers in behavioural economics to submit proposals for projects aiming at improving tax compliance and enforcement. This competition of ideas will select the best proposals and winners will be invited to present their projects at a workshop which will take place at the JRC's site in Ispra, Italy, on 24 and 25 September 2015.

4 June **[Certification of a reference material for monitoring of leukaemia treatment and its contribution to standardisation](#)**

In collaboration with scientists from more than 60 European and pan-European research institutions, JRC scientists developed and certified a set of 6 plasmid reference materials (CRMs) for the standardisation of chronic myeloid leukaemia treatment.

3 June **[Commission replies to European Citizens' Initiative against animal testing](#)**

The European Commission today issued a Communication in response to the European Citizens' Initiative Stop Vivisection.

3 June **[On emergency preparedness – radioactivity in food](#)**

A group of scientists at the National Physical Laboratory (UK), K&E Innovations (USA), JRC-IRMM and the US Food and

Drug Administration examined in depth the need for reference and performance testing materials required to pre-empt a nuclear emergency situation.

2 June **[JRC co-ordinates the technical programme at European Biomass Conference](#)**

From 1st to 4th June, the global bioenergy community gathers in Vienna to participate in the 23rd European Biomass Conference & Exhibition.

1 June **[Over 31 million jobs across Europe supported by EU exports to the world, EU report says](#)**

In a new report released on 1 June by the European Commission, the increasing importance of EU exports for job opportunities in Europe and elsewhere is highlighted.

1 June **[JRC studies feasibility of cucumber reference material for pesticide residue analysis](#)**

Scientists from the JRC's Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements (IRMM) performed a feasibility study for a cucumber reference material containing a mixture of 15 pesticides. Different aspects such as the type of material processing, homogeneity and stability were considered.