



Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire

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PPSD (2016) 05 rev. 2
8 September 2016

SEMINAR ON “PARLIAMENTS AND TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT CAPABILITIES”

hosted by the Austrian Parliament

and

organised by the

Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Vienna, 20 October 2016

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Venue

Room VIII
Austrian Parliament
Dr.-Karl-Renner-Ring 3
1017 Vienna

Background and rationale

Technology Assessment (TA) is a scientific, interactive and communicative process, which aims to contribute to the formation of public and political opinion on societal aspects of science and technology. It explores the relationship between science, technology and society, i.e. how current technological developments affect the world we live in.

The seminar will bring together parliamentarians from different European countries and experts from the European Parliamentary Technology Assessment (EPTA) network. Key objectives would be:

1. to raise awareness of the importance of knowledge-based policy making on issues involving science, technology and innovation;
2. to provide guidance on evidence/knowledge-based policy making; and
3. to encourage pro-active measures by parliaments themselves intended to enhance their institutional capacity in this direction.

1. Participants

The seminar will bring together parliamentarians from different European countries. Some of these parliamentarians will be members of the PACE; others will be designated by their own parliaments. In this respect synergies could be sought so that parliaments (if appropriate) could designate the same parliamentarians to the seminar and to the EPTA conference of 21 October. Participants will have a possibility to discuss with experts and with parliamentarians from national parliaments which are already attentive to PTA.

Participants are also welcome to attend the annual EPTA Conference, which will take place in the Austrian Parliament (Meeting Room VI of the Parliament) on 21 October.

2. Languages

The documents will be available in English. Working languages will be English and French with simultaneous interpretation provided.

3. Facilitators / Resource Institutions

National institutions having a full member status within the EPTA network

4. Background documents

Resolution 1083 (1996) Parliaments and the assessment of scientific and technological choices

Thursday, 20 October 2016

8.30 am Registration of participants

9.00 – 9.45 am

Opening session

Welcome by:

Ms Gisela WURM, Head of the Austrian Delegation to the PACE

Ms Ruperta LICHTENECKER, Chairperson of the Research, Innovation and Technology Committee of the Austrian Parliament and EPTA Chairperson

Mr Jean-Yves LE DEAUT, Chairperson of the French Parliamentary Office on the Evaluation of Scientific and Technological Choice (*Office Parlementaire d'Evaluation des Choix Scientifiques et Technologiques* - OPECST), PACE General Rapporteur on Science and Technology Impact Assessment

General presentation on “Parliamentary Technology Assessment (PTA): rationale and added value”

Mr René LONGET, former Swiss parliamentarian and former member of the TA Swiss Board

9.45 – 11.00 am

Session 1 - Key issues and Interactive practices in Parliamentary Technology Assessment

Moderator: **Mr Stefan SCHENNACH**, Chairperson of the Committee for Innovation, Technology and the Future of the Austrian Bundesrat and member of the PACE Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media

Speakers: **Mr Lars KLÜVER**, Director of the Danish Board of Technology Foundation:

Mr Sergio BELLUCCI, Director of the Swiss Center for Technology Assessment (TA-SWISS)

Discussion

11.00 am – 12.15 pm

Session 2 - The Institutional landscape of Parliamentary Technology Assessment

Moderator: **Mr Paul RÜBIG**, Chairperson of the Scientific and Technology Options Assessment Panel (STOA) of the European Parliament

Speakers: **Mr Tore TENNØE**, Director of the Norwegian Board of Technology:

Mr Michael NENTWICH, Acting EPTA President 2016, Director, Institute of Technology Assessment (ITA), Austrian Academy of Sciences

Discussion

12.15 – 12.30 pm

Conclusions

Mr Jean-Yves LE DEAUT, Chairperson of the OPECST, PACE General Rapporteur on Science and Technology Impact Assessment

The meeting will be followed by a luncheon

