

*News on EU Research Policy and Programmes*

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## EU POLICY

### EC Publishes Specific Programmes for FP6

The EC has produced further details of the five research programmes that are intended to form the basis of the European Research Area and the structure of the Framework Programme 2002-2006 for Research and Technological Development and for EURATOM. The programmes are:

- ◆ Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area
- ◆ Structuring the European Research Area
- ◆ Joint Research Centre Activities (EC)
- ◆ Specific Programme on Nuclear Energy (EURATOM)
- ◆ Joint Research Centre activities (EURATOM)

This new document provides an outline of the instruments that will be used to implement the research programmes, as well as the broad objectives of the scientific and technological content. The proposals have 3 central principles: concentration on a selected number of priorities; structuring effect by means of close liaison with national efforts; and the simplification and streamlining of implementation conditions.

#### FURTHER INFORMATION:

The document is available at: <http://www.cordis.lu/rtd2002/fp-debate/cec.htm>

### Luxembourg Research Council

Progress in the implementation of the European Research Area, and the role of the forthcoming Research Framework Programme were the main topics of discussion between EU research ministers which took place in Luxembourg under the Swedish presidency. This debate covered not only the February proposal for an FP6 and the specific programmes adopted later in May, but also included issues related to science and society, the participation of women scientists, research infrastructures, benchmarking, mobility and human resources, and the co-operation with scientists outside the EU and the accession countries.

The Council also discussed other Initiatives in the field of biotechnology, a new inventory of research carried out in the field of transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (such as BSE), and, finally, a European Approach to Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES).

#### FURTHER INFORMATION:

Commission Press Release MEMO/01/241 OF 26/06/2001  
available from <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh>

## **EP Highlights the Shortcomings of the Treaty of Nice**

The EP has adopted a highly critical resolution on the Nice Treaty, following discussion of a report from the Constitutional Affairs Committee. The EP accepts that the Treaty paves the way for enlargement of the EU, but believes that enlargement will require more wide-scale reform of the Treaty to ensure democracy, efficiency and transparency. In order to address this, the EP called for a wide-ranging debate on the future of the EU, in the run-up to the next intergovernmental conference, which is planned for 2004. MEPs also took issue with the plans included in the Treaty of Nice to increase the size of the EP to 732 Members, above the previously agreed maximum limit of 700 MEPs.

The EP has also called on Member States to speed up the talks on enlargement, with a view to ensuring that a number of the new countries are able to participate in the European Parliament elections in 2004. MEPs believed that Ireland's rejection of the Nice Treaty was evidence of their views that a more radical approach for Treaty reform is necessary.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

London Press Parliament News No 49, of 01/06/01 and No.51 of 15/06/01, available at <http://www.europarl.org.uk/news/epnlibmain.htm>

## **Public Health Strategy**

The Council of Health Ministers agreed a common position on the Community Action in the Field of Public Health for the years of 2001-2006. The EC's modified proposal will now be discussed by the EP. It was stressed though that a review of the implementation of the programme would be required with the accession of the new Member States in the next few years.

The three major strands of the public health programme are:

- Development of a database of major health determinants (including tobacco and alcohol consumption)
- Positioning of the EU to counter pan-European health threats (i.e. transmissible disease)
- Identifying policy strategies to combat disease and promote health.

The new programme is intended to replace the existing 8 programmes, moving away from the fragmented, disease-oriented approach of the past.

Further, a recommendation on the 'Drinking of alcohol by children and adolescents' that encourages Member States to address under-age drinking with education and information was adopted by the Council.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Commission Press Release IP/01/783 of 05/06/2001 available from <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh>

## **Network and Information Security**

The EC has issued a Communication setting out a series of policy recommendations to make use of the Internet safer. Tackling cybercrime, network and information security, hacking and data protection are some of the major initiatives announced in the Communication. Although formally, the next stage for the proposals announced in the Communication is discussion by the EP and Member States, the EC has invited feedback from industry and user sources. The deadline for submitting such feedback is the end of August 2001.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

The Communication is available at:

[http://www.europa.eu.int/information\\_society/eeurope/news\\_library/pdf\\_files/netsec\\_en.pdf](http://www.europa.eu.int/information_society/eeurope/news_library/pdf_files/netsec_en.pdf)

Comments should be sent to [eeurope@cec.eu.int](mailto:eeurope@cec.eu.int)

## **Climate Change and the Göteborg European Council**

In a recent speech to the Centre for European Policy Studies, against the backdrop of its rejection by President George W. Bush, the European Commissioner for Environment, Margot Wallström expressed her pleasure at the stated commitment of the EU's heads of state and government to the Kyoto Protocol on climate change. The Commissioner also stressed the Council's agreement to adding an environmental dimension to the Lisbon strategy, through a sustainable development strategy based on the EC's proposal. This, she said, placed the environmental dimension of sustainable development on a par with economic and social development. The Commissioner hoped that Göteborg marked the start of a process, not the end, and that the EC and the European Council would from now on consider progress in sustainable development every year.

Mrs. Wallström was, however, disappointed with the lack of concrete actions to promote sustainable development, and the Council's failure to endorse the EC's proposal for a post-Kyoto greenhouse gas reduction target of an annual 1% emission reduction over 1990 levels up to 2020. Ms. Wallström's comments come after a strongly worded statement by EC President Romano Prodi which effectively accuses the US of wanting to go back on 10 years of international efforts on climate change, and indicating that the EU will not compromise on the need for binding targets and timetables.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Commission Press Release SPEECH/01/295 OF 18/06/2001, available from <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh>

Commission Press Release IP/01/849 of 15/06/2001, available from <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh>

## **Communication on the Environment in Candidate Countries**

The EC has adopted a new Communication on the financial challenges that compliance with EU environmental legislation will pose for the countries preparing to join the Union. The Communication describes how Community technical assistance will focus on those areas where preparations for compliance have been lagging behind, such as air pollution projects and directives involving private sector expenditure. The EU will also seek to work closely with Candidate Countries on their financing plans for problem areas in waste and air pollution and training for local authorities.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Commission Press Release IP/01/811 of 08/06/2001,  
available from <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh>

## **MEPs Seek Tougher Curbs on Ozone Pollution**

The EP Committee on the Environment has called for more strict rules to reduce ground levels of ozone, which can cause breathing difficulties and is thought to be a major cause of asthma. MEPs would like to limit the number of days when pollution guidelines are exceeded to a maximum of 20 a year, and name and shame countries that are failing to improve air quality in cities.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

London Press Parliament News No 49, of 01/06/01 and No. 51 of 15/06/01,  
available at <http://www.europarl.org.uk/news/epnlibmain.htm>

## **eEurope Plus Action Plans for CEECs**

Following from the eEurope 2002 Action Plan for the 15 Member States, the EC has now launched the eEurope Plus plan for accession countries. The new plan aims to assist in accelerating the reform and modernisation of the economies in the candidate countries through the use of information society technologies and tools. Accordingly, the objectives, actions and timetables of the eEurope plan have been modified to reflect their economic and social situation.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Commission Press Release IP/01/852 of 18/6/2001,  
available from <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh>

## **Maritime Safety Plan**

MEPs have given their backing to new proposals to improve maritime safety, including the creation of a European Maritime Safety Agency, which would be responsible for ensuring that ships meet EU safety rules. The plans also call for the introduction of 'black boxes' on ships and to set up a fund to provide compensation for damage caused by oil spills. EU Governments will now consider the proposals, which are known as the 'Erika II' package.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

London Press Parliament News No. 51 of 15/06/01,  
available at <http://www.europarl.org.uk/news/epnlibmain.htm>

**Greater Collaboration with Cyprus, Malta and Turkey**

The Council of Ministers has given a mandate to the EC to negotiate "framework agreements" with Cyprus, Malta and Turkey to enhance their participation in EU programmes like the Research & Development Programme or education and vocational training programmes. This comes as the EU and Malta have signed a Scientific and Technological Association Agreement giving the latter full access to FP5 activities.

Although these countries are already participating or preparing to participate in a number of programmes, the framework agreements will, once they are agreed and ratified, allow Cyprus, Malta and Turkey to participate in all programmes open to the candidate countries of Central and Eastern Europe, including those for which they were not previously eligible.

**Agreement on Guidelines for a Community Patent**

Ministers meeting at the Internal Market Council on 31 May came to a consensus on several decisive matters regarding the underlying structure of the proposed Community Patent. In summary, the guidelines agreed upon would provide for:

- ◆ a central role for the European Patent Office (EPO) in the granting and administration of Community Patents
- ◆ an important role for the national patent offices, including advising applicants, the reception and forwarding of applications to the EPO and the dissemination of information on Community Patents
- ◆ applicants remaining free to have applications fully processed by the EPO;
- ◆ maintenance of costs at a competitive level
- ◆ a percentage of annual renewal fees being distributed among Member States/national patent offices
- ◆ a jurisdictional system being set up in accordance with Articles 225 a and 229 a of the EC Treaty as adopted at Nice
- ◆ appeals to be heard by the EC's Court of First Instance.

It was also agreed to request a Diplomatic Conference to be convened to revise the 1973 European Patent Convention, in order to accommodate the Community Patent.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

European Commission press release MEMO/01/210 of 01/06/01, available from <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/questen.ksh>

## **EP Suggests Diminishing the Remit of European Food Authority**

In its report on the EC's proposal for a European Food Authority (EFA), the EP has suggested narrowing the scope of the EFA's activities so that these do not cover issues such as animal welfare, plant health or GMOs.

Although the EC has indicated that it is happy to take on board more than half of the amendments suggested in the EP's report – written by British Labour MEP Phillip Whitehead – Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection David Byrne made it clear that the EC sees a wide remit as necessary in order to avoid the weaknesses of the pat, where animal health problems, such as BSE, have become human health problems.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

CORDIS Press Release No. 16927 of 14/06/2001,  
available from <http://dbs.cordis.lu/news/en/home.html>

## **RESEARCH NEWS**

### **New Financial Instruments for FP6**

The EC has published more information on two of the new instruments proposed for the thematic areas of the next Framework Programme (see UKRO European RTD Insight EI 01:05 – 1 May 2001). The new information covers Networks of Excellence and Integrated Projects. UKRO understands that a paper on the third proposed new instrument – EU participation in national research programmes implemented jointly under Article 169 of the Treaty will be published in September.

The EC has asked for comments and suggestions regarding the new instruments, which can be submitted via the Europa web site.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Copies of the papers and the address for submitting comments can be found at:  
<http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/research/nfp/networks-jp.html>

### **Human Stem Cell Recommendations**

The European Science Foundation (ESF) has produced a policy briefing on Human Stem Cell Research, based on a study by its High Level Expert Group for the Biology and Society initiative. The briefing paper summarises the biological and clinical background related to stem cells and therapies, alongside the rising ethical debate, particularly with reference to embryo research, and identifies the regulation of the use of stem cells in all EU Member States (except Luxembourg) and some third countries.

The paper identifies 10 statements and recommendations, although the 2 main recommendations are:

- ◆ to permit studies of stem cells for embryos, foetal tissue and adults to determine the potential of different types of cells, and
- ◆ that although reproductive cloning should not be permitted, therapeutic cloning should be allowed under tightly controlled regulation.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

ESF Policy Briefing No.14 of June 2001, available at:

<http://www.esf.org/ftp/pdf/2001/Espb/ESPB14.pdf>

### **Latest Report of the Framework Programme Monitoring Panel**

The latest report of the FP monitoring panel concludes that the EC is carrying out a good job in managing the 'complex and enormous' FP, but that improvements are needed in co-ordination and in focusing the FP to deliver priorities such as ERA.

The panel concluded that ERA could be more forcefully implemented through the next series of calls for proposals and that it should have a stronger international dimension, which the report claims should be co-ordinated by a specific directorate within DG Research.

The report highlighted the areas of training and mobility, clustering and mapping of excellence as three areas, which require attention. The report also called for greater co-ordination in the actions designed to help SMEs, including better co-operation between innovation relay centres and national contact points. One area that was particularly singled out for enhanced co-ordination was the European research programmes into energy, where it was believed that greater co-ordination was needed.

The report also called for more training and clearer roles for EC project officers, better management methods and more delegation. It also suggested a review of management tools and of the Technological Implementation Plan (TIP), one of the end-of project requirements in EC research contracts. The panel also recommended that the EC improved the flow of information to proposers, with a state of the art information system for the next FP. Finally, the report calls for an evaluation of the causes of bottlenecks in the signing of contracts, with a view to significantly reducing delays.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

The monitoring report is available on-line at:

[http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/monitoring/rep\\_2000.htm](http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/monitoring/rep_2000.htm)

### **Kyoto Targets Are Affordable**

A new report from the European Climate Change Programme (ECCP) indicates that the EU's target of reducing emissions of greenhouse gas by 8% on 1990 levels, as agreed in the Kyoto Protocol, is achievable through the use of cost-effective measures.

The ECCP was set up by the EC in 2000 to study any additional measures necessary to reach the Kyoto emissions targets. The new report identifies a

number of cost-effective options costing less than 20 Euro per metric tonne of CO2 equivalents (a measure used to refer to all greenhouse gases). These are either immediately available, such as EU directives on emissions trading or energy performance in buildings, whilst others are either in the pipeline or require more research and development before becoming economically viable.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Commission Press Release IP/01/816 OF 11/06/2001,  
available from <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh>

### **New Space Telescopes for ESA**

The European Space Agency, ESA has awarded a contract covering the design, development, manufacture, test, launch and in-orbit commissioning of two new ESA astronomy satellites, Herschel and Planck, to a consortium headed by Alcatel Space of France, along with Astrium GmbH of Germany and Alenia Spazio of Italy

This contract, for a total of 369 MEuro, is the largest ever in the history of European space astronomy and is intended to provide European astronomers with unprecedented view of the very early stages of the universe. Planck is the first European mission to study the birth of the Universe; it will be the most sensitive telescope ever designed for that purpose. Herschel is the largest imaging space telescope ever built, with a primary mirror 3.5 m in diameter and will unveil how the first stars and galaxies formed in the early Universe, more than 12 billion years ago. The launch is planned for 2007.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

ESA Press Release of 22/06/2001,  
available from <http://www.esa.int>

### **Academic Network on Standardisation**

To promote awareness for standardisation amongst future business professionals, the EC intends that standardisation should receive more attention in academic training, or be the subject of other forms of higher learning. Therefore information exchange and knowledge dissemination between universities as well as between them, the EC and other institutes should be enhanced.

To this effect, the EC's Enterprise DG has set up a catalogue of academic institutions involved in research and training related to standardisation. The catalogue should be a starting point for a possible closer co-operation between universities as well as universities and the EC. It will be up to the institutes involved to take over the initiative. The EC is therefore seeking to extend the catalogue with information on other universities/institutes active in the field of standardisation.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

[http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/standards\\_policy/academic\\_network/catalogue.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/enterprise/standards_policy/academic_network/catalogue.htm)

or

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Tel: +32 2 29 56833

## **Collaboration Between Top Infrastructures**

Some of the major European research infrastructures have joined forces in order to play a more active and constructive role in promoting the quality and impact of European research. The 'EIROFORUM' group consists of CERN (particle physics), EMBL (molecular biology), ESO (astronomy and physics), ESA (space activities), ESRF (synchrotron radiation), ILL (neutron source) and EFDA (fusion). These organisations believe that collaboration will:

- ◆ Facilitate discussions on research areas of common interest.
- ◆ Optimise the use of resources by sharing developments and results.
- ◆ Co-ordinate education and outreach activities including technology transfer and public understanding.
- ◆ Consider the development of new large-scale research infrastructures.
- ◆ Simplify interactions with the EC.
- ◆ Provide co-ordinated representation to the community.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

ESO Press Release available at:

<http://www.eso.org/outreach/press-rel/pr-2001/pr-12-01.html>

## **EDUCATION, TRAINING AND CULTURE**

### **Study on the State of Young People and Youth Policy in Europe**

The EC has published a report outlining the findings of a study on the state of young people and youth policy in Europe, conducted by the IARD Institute in Milan. The study identifies the main problems and challenges faced by the young generations and focuses on particular issues such as education and training, well-being, the labour market, health and values and organisational and political participation. The study also contains some additional policy reflections and recommendations to help foster initiatives in the field of youth policy.

The report is divided into three main sections:

- ◆ Conditions of youth in the 18 countries of the EEA (the 15 Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway)
- ◆ Youth policy in the EEA countries
- ◆ Education and training of youth workers in Europe.

The report will be formally presented at an EC event to be held in Brussels on 26 June.

### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

A copy of the report can be downloaded from the DG Education and Culture web site at: <http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/youth/studies.html>

### **European Year of Languages – Results**

The EC has selected 142 projects for a total of 4.2M EURO of funding following the second deadline for proposals for the European Year of Languages. A total of just over 1300 applications were received in response to the call. The projects selected are from all eighteen countries of the EEA (all Member States, together with Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) and cover all eleven official Community languages, as well as Irish, Luxembourgish, Icelandic, Norwegian and a wide range of lesser-used European languages, migrant languages and sign language.

The projects include a wide variety of innovative projects, such as a language learning carriage on a commuter train and the creation of a replica European town populated with native speakers of various languages.

A European Day of Languages, including a Europe-wide balloon launch and a host of national and local activities will be held on 26 September.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

A full list of the projects selected for funding is available from:

<http://www.eurolang2001.org>

### **On-line eLearning Survey**

The CEDEFOP Electronic Training Village (ETV) has launched a new on-line survey to find out more about the level of interest and activity in the area of eLearning for people with disabilities.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Available from

[http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/elearning/surveys/questions/2001\\_05\\_en.asp](http://www.trainingvillage.gr/etv/elearning/surveys/questions/2001_05_en.asp)

### **High Level Task Force on Skills and Mobility**

As part of the EC's initiative to open up the New European Labour Markets by 2005, the Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs, Anna Diamantopoulou, has instituted a High Level Task Force on Skills and Mobility. This group is tasked with looking at ways in which to remove barriers to mobility and to raise the skill levels of the European workforce. The Task Force is chaired by Ulrich Schumacher, president and CEO of German semiconductor manufacturers Infineon, and includes Mr John Monks, the General Secretary of the UK Trades Union Congress (TUC).

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Commission Press Release IP/01/881 of 20/06/2001,

available from <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/questen.ksh>

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/employment\\_social/key\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/dgs/employment_social/key_en.htm)

## **EXTERNAL COLLABORATION**

### **EU Proposals on WTO Rules on Access to Drugs**

At a recent meeting of the Council on Trade-Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPs), the EC tabled a set of proposals designed to clarify existing rules in order to facilitate access to life-saving drugs by needy countries. The proposals concentrate on a clarification of the implementation of those provisions in the TRIPs agreement which provide some flexibility for countries to implement an intellectual property regime that serves wider policy objectives. The proposals form a central part of the EU's recently approved Action Plan to combat communicable diseases (see EI01:06, 1<sup>st</sup> June 2001).

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Commission Press Release IP/01/862 of 19/06/2001,  
available from <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/guesten.ksh>  
[http://europa.eu.int/comm/trade/pdf/med\\_trips.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/trade/pdf/med_trips.pdf)

### **Australian Collaboration in FP6**

Increased collaboration between Australian and European researchers in the EU's next FP was one of the main items in the agenda of the sixth Australia-European Community joint science and technology cooperation committee (JTSCC) meeting in Canberra.

The meeting followed the first meeting of FEAST (the forum for European-Australian science and technology cooperation), which involved researchers and industry and government representatives to analyse further opportunities for cooperation. There was also discussion of how the respective centres of excellence in both Europe and Australia could cooperate and connection of an Australia -Europe high speed research network. Further discussions of the results of the first FEAST meeting will take place over the coming months.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

CORDIS Press Release No. 16955 of 19/06/2001,  
available from <http://dbs.cordis.lu/news/en/home.html>

### **Canada Submits Application to Host ITER**

Canada has formally submitted an application to host the international fusion test reactor, ITER. The ITER project plans to bring together the fusion programmes of Europe, with Canada, Japan and Russia. The cost of the installation is estimated at 3.7 billion Euro. Further bids from France and Japan are expected.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Available from <http://www.itercanada.com>

## **EVENTS and AWARDS**

### **Social Science and Humanities in the ERA**

The Belgian EU Presidency, together with the EC's Research DG, is organising a conference on the topic of "Unity and diversity: The contribution of the social sciences and the humanities to the European Research Area" for October 2001.

This conference aims to highlight the role and the potential of the social sciences and humanities to assist in the realisation of the EU's strategic goals for the period 2000-2005 in areas such as governance, enlargement, the economic and social agenda and the quality of life of European citizens.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

CORDIS Press Release No. 16884 of 06/06/2001-06-26  
available from available from <http://dbs.cordis.lu/news/en/home.html>  
or contact Mr. Koen Verlaeckt, [diversity@vlaanderen.be](mailto:diversity@vlaanderen.be)

## **NEW PUBLICATIONS and ON-LINE RESOURCES**

### **Easy Information on European Research**

DG Research has introduced a new web site of the activities being undertaken at European level in areas deemed to be of public interest. The new site, 'European Research in Action', currently hosts leaflets outlining the major threats and challenges - and European actions - in the fields of disasters, global changes, heritage, water, health and employment. Papers are also in preparation on topics including recycling of cars, anti-doping, renewable energy and Marie Curie Fellowships.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Available at <http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/leaflets/>

### **eSafety**

The EC has launched a new web site for Internet safety awareness. The web site is designed to be a key tool in the fight against cybercrime, paedophilia and racism on the Internet and a key resource for awareness raisers and teachers and others wanting to be informed about what is happening in Europe to address this issue.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

Available from: <http://www.saferinternet.org>

### **Belgian Presidency Web Site Launched**

The official website of the Belgian Presidency of the EU (for the period 1 July - 31 December 2001) was launched on 1 June. Available in four languages - Dutch, English, French and German - the site introduces the policy issues, agenda, press releases and other information relating to the Belgian Presidency.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

The Belgian Presidency of the EU web site is available at:

<http://www.eu2001.be/>

### **New Patent Protection Guides**

The 'Patent protection of computer programmes' study, funded by DG Enterprise of the EC and conducted by intellectual-property-rights experts from the University of Sussex and University of Sheffield, has now been published. A complementary guide on software protection for SMEs (Small and Medium-sized Enterprises) is also available for download from the link below.

The results of this study will be presented at the next Patinnova conference, to be held in Cardiff, 15-17 October 2001 where a special session will be dedicated to patents in the digital era.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

'Patent protection of computer programmes' (PDF file) available at:

<ftp://ftp.ipr-helpdesk.org/softstudy.pdf>

'Your Software And How To Protect It' (PDF file) available at:

<ftp://ftp.ipr-helpdesk.org/software.pdf>

Details on the Patinnova conference available at:

[http://www.european-patent-office.org/epidos/conf/pat\\_eac01/index.htm](http://www.european-patent-office.org/epidos/conf/pat_eac01/index.htm)

### **University Technology Directory**

Association for University Research and Industry Links (AURIL), in partnership with the Engineering Council, has created a website listing patented technologies developed in universities throughout the UK and Ireland. The University Technology Directory is a free service and is intended to attract the attention of potential investors, whilst requiring a minimum of effort on the part of the universities.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

IP-Wire Issue 28, available from:

[http://www.ipr-helpdesk.org/t\\_en/n\\_003\\_en.asp?issue=28](http://www.ipr-helpdesk.org/t_en/n_003_en.asp?issue=28)

Directory available at: <http://www.auril.org.uk/technology.htm>

### **New Web Site for Water Research**

A new site on the "Sustainable Management and Quality of Water" Key Action of the EESD Thematic Programme in FP5, offers information on many innovative solutions developed through research projects in FP 5.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION:**

<http://www.cordis.lu/eesd/ka1/home.html>

### **New Reports on EU Energy Projects**

Two new reports, on "Clean and Efficient Energies for Europe" and the "Qualitative Assessment of Non-nuclear Energy Proposals Selected in FP5". Both reports

provide an assessment of the quality of energy-related projects in FP 4 and 5, together with feedback on experience and exploitable results.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

The reports can be downloaded from the EESD Programme web pages at [http://www.cordis.lu/eesd/src/lib\\_misc.htm](http://www.cordis.lu/eesd/src/lib_misc.htm)

**Public Health Projects Funded in 2000**

The EC has published details of the projects funded in 2000 under the Public Health Programmes in Pollution Related Diseases and the Drugs Programmes.

**FURTHER INFORMATION:**

General information on each of the projects and the consortium involved can be found at:

[http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph/programmes/drugs/projets\\_2000/proj00index\\_en.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph/programmes/drugs/projets_2000/proj00index_en.htm) (Drugs)

[http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph/programmes/pollution/ph\\_poll\\_fp00\\_en.html](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph/programmes/pollution/ph_poll_fp00_en.html) (Pollution Related Diseases)

**Cordis**

Cordis is the Community Research and Development Information Service. It is a web-based service, which provides information on EU R&D programmes and related issues. Web site: <http://www.cordis.lu>

**EUR-Lex (Official Journal C and L Series)**

This web site provides information on European Union Law. It includes electronic copies of the Treaties and recent copies of the Official Journal of the European Communities (OJ). The OJ, published daily in eleven languages, consists of two related series, the L series (Legislation) and the C series (Information, notices and preparatory EU legislation), a supplement and an annex. EUR-Lex provides free access to the C and L series of the Official Journal for a period of 45 days following publication. (The OJ issue with the Euro exchange rates (L 359, 31/12/1998) is permanently available in PDF format in EUR-Lex).

Web site: EUR-Lex <http://www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/index.html>

Official Journal C & L <http://www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/oj/index.html>

Treaty of Amsterdam <http://www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/treaties/index.html>

**Europa**

Europa is the European Union's official Server. It contains links to the European Council, the EP, the EC and other EU institutions, and contains information on EU policies listed by subject area.

Web site: <http://www.europa.eu.int/index-en.htm>

## Rapid

RAPID is a database giving a daily view of the activities of the European Union as presented by the Institutions in their press releases.

Commission Press Releases are available at:

<http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/start/cgi/questen.ksh>

## GLOSSARY

COST	European Cooperation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research is a framework for scientific and technical cooperation, allowing the coordination of national research on a European level. <a href="http://www.netmaniacs.com/cost/">http://www.netmaniacs.com/cost/</a>
'Council'	'Council' refers to the 'Council of Ministers', the principle decision-making body within the European Union. It has both executive and legislative powers, the latter in some cases exercised jointly with the European Parliament (co-decision procedure). The Council is composed of one representative at ministerial level from each Member State. Which Ministers attend each Council meeting varies according to the subject discussed, e.g. The Minister of Science in the UK attends the Research Council. <a href="http://ue.eu.int/en/summ.htm">http://ue.eu.int/en/summ.htm</a>
Culture 2000	First European Community Framework Programme in support of culture, which runs from 2000-2004 (inclusive). <a href="http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/culture/index_en.html">http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/culture/index_en.html</a>
CVCP	Formerly, Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals (UK) <a href="http://www.cvcp.ac.uk/">http://www.cvcp.ac.uk/</a> (now, Universities UK)
EC	The European Commission - made up of 20 Commissioners nominated by the Member States - both initiates proposals for EU legislation and executes EU policies and actions. <a href="http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/index_en.htm">http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/index_en.htm</a>
EESD	Energy, Environment and Sustainable Development (FP5) <a href="http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/">http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/</a>
eEurope	eEurope A political initiative of the EC to allow Europe to benefit fully from the Information Society. <a href="http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/information_society/eeurope/documentation/index_en.htm">http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/information_society/eeurope/documentation/index_en.htm</a>
EP	The European Parliament - which is made up of elected representatives (MEPs) from all the Member States. It shares decision-making power with the Council in a number of areas including research and education. <a href="http://www.europarl.eu.int/sg/tree/en/default.htm">http://www.europarl.eu.int/sg/tree/en/default.htm</a>

ERA	<p>European Research Area. On 18 January 2000, the EC issued a Communication entitled "Towards a European Research Area" which proposed ways in which research in Europe could be more effectively organised and coordinated.</p> <p><a href="http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/research/area.html">http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/research/area.html</a></p>
ESC	<p>European Economic and Social Committee is a consultative body made up of representatives of Europe's employers' organisations, trade unions, farmers, consumer groups and professional associations.</p> <p><a href="http://www.ces.eu.int/">http://www.ces.eu.int/</a></p> <p>Press <span style="float: right;">Releases:</span></p> <p><a href="http://www.ces.eu.int/en/acs/fr_acs_press_rels.htm">http://www.ces.eu.int/en/acs/fr_acs_press_rels.htm</a></p>
ESF	<p>European Science Foundation.</p> <p><a href="http://www.esf.org/">http://www.esf.org/</a></p>
ESF	<p>The European Social Fund</p> <p><a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg05/esf/en/index.htm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg05/esf/en/index.htm</a></p>
Eureka	<p>Eureka is a Europe-wide network for Industrial Research and Development.</p> <p><a href="http://www3.eureka.be/Home/">http://www3.eureka.be/Home/</a></p>
FP (FP5, FP6)	<p>The EU's Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development. The Fifth Framework Programme (FP5) was adopted in 1998 and will run until 2002, when the next framework programme (FP6) is expected to supersede it.</p> <p>FP5 is composed of four thematic programmes (see QoL, IST, Growth, EESD) and three horizontal programmes (see INCO II, Innovation and SMEs, and IHP).</p> <p><a href="http://www.cordis.lu/fp5">http://www.cordis.lu/fp5</a></p>
Green Paper	<p>Green Papers are communications published by the European Commission on a specific policy area. Primarily they are documents addressed to interested parties who are invited to participate in a process of consultation and debate. In some cases they provide an impetus for subsequent legislation.</p>
Growth	<p>Competitive and Sustainable Growth (FP5)</p> <p><a href="http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/">http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/</a></p>
IHP	<p>Improving Human Potential Programme (FP5)</p> <p><a href="http://www.cordis.lu/improving/home.html">http://www.cordis.lu/improving/home.html</a></p>
INCO II	<p>Confirming the International Role of Community Research (FP5)</p> <p><a href="http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/">http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/</a></p>
INDU	<p>The European Parliament Committee on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy (FP5)</p> <p><a href="http://www.europarl.eu.int/committees/en/default.htm">http://www.europarl.eu.int/committees/en/default.htm</a></p>

INNOVATION and SME	Promoting of Innovation and Encouragement of SME Participation (FP5) <a href="http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/">http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/</a>
INTAS	International Association for the promotion of cooperation with scientists from the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union. <a href="http://www.intas.be/mainfs.htm">http://www.intas.be/mainfs.htm</a>
IST	Information Society Technologies Programme (FP5) <a href="http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/">http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/</a>
MEDIA	The MEDIA Plus Programme (2001 - 2005) is to be introduced as a follow-up to the Media II programme which ends in December 2000. The programme aims to strengthen the competitiveness of the European audiovisual industry. <a href="Http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/dg10/avpolicy/media/index_en.html">Http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/dg10/avpolicy/media/index_en.html</a>
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation <a href="http://www.nato.int/">http://www.nato.int/</a>
PHARE	The Phare Programme is the European Union's instrument for financial and technical cooperation with the countries of central and eastern Europe. <a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/pas/phare/index.htm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/pas/phare/index.htm</a>
QoL	Quality of Life Programme (FP5) <a href="http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/">http://www.cordis.lu/fp5/</a>
RTD	Research and Technological Development
TACIS	The Tacis Programme aims to forge closer economic and political links with the former republics of the Soviet Union and Mongolia (also known as New Independent States (NIS)) <a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg1a/tacis/index.htm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/dg1a/tacis/index.htm</a>
Treaty of Amsterdam	The Treaty of Amsterdam was signed in October 1997 and entered into force on 1 May 1999. <a href="http://www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/treaties/index.html">http://www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/treaties/index.html</a>
UUK	Universities UK. Formerly, the Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals (CVCP). <a href="http://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk">http://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk</a>
White Paper	White Papers are documents containing proposals for Community action in a specific area. They often follow a Green Paper.

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