

DRAFT NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION

Proposed STOA hosted symposium

Symposium Title:

“The Changing Face of Risk Governance: Moving from Precaution to Smarter Regulation?”

Description:

Risk governance has changed remarkably over the last 100 years or so and continues to evolve from a purely reactive process based on demonstrated, significant levels of harm, to processes which attempt to counter future harm by making the risk governance more precautionary in nature.

However, the current EU regulatory tendency is to move from precaution towards better or smarter regulation as part of the regulatory impact assessment programme and evidence-based policy-making. The reform of comitology (new article 291) and the inter-institutional agreement have changed the dynamic and the regulatory interplay between the EU institutions.

This workshop includes contributions from STOA and the JURI and ENVI committees of the European Parliament, as well as from the European Commission and external experts on risk governance.

Date:

29 September 2011 (09:30 – 11:30)

Venue:

European Parliament, Strasbourg

09:30	Opening Comments: Inter-Institutional Cooperation	Paul Rübig MEP, STOA Chairman (tbc)
09:45*	Risk Management: The Move towards Smarter Regulation	Marianne Klingbeil, Dep. Secretary-General, European Commission (tbc)
10:00*	The Problem of Low and Uncertain Risks: Balancing Risks and Benefits	Dirk Hudig, Chairman European Risk Forum
10:15*	Risk Governance and Legal Certainty	Angelika Niebler MEP, Rapporteur on ‘Guaranteeing independent impact assessments’ (tbc)
10:30*	Science Advice: Improving the Science Base through Targeted Research	Michael Rogers
10:45*	Risk Governance and Precautionary Principle: Recent Cases in the ENVI committee	Jo Leinen MEP, ENVI Chairman (tbc)
11:00	General discussion	
11:20	Concluding remarks	Malcolm Harbour MEP, STOA Vice-Chairman (tbc)
11:30	End	

* Presentations will be limited to max. 10 minutes in order to allow a discussion after each presentation.