

Public Affairs Council, European office
www.pac.org/europe

*Disclaimer: this does not bind the EP in any way whatsoever –
it is a brief summary of the presentations at the event*

1. Joe Dunne - Acting Director, Directorate for Impact Assessment and European Added Value: **"Ex-Ante Impact Assessment in the European Parliament"**

European Parliament -> Parliament's Secretariat -> Directorate-General for Parliamentary Research Services -
> Directorate for Impact Assessment and European Added Value

2011: Niebler report on "guaranteeing independent impact assessments"

2012: Creation of a dedicated Directorate for Impact Assessment and European Added Value

2013: incorporated into the new European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS)

Global Trends Unit [foresight]

Scientific Foresight Unit (STOA) [foresight]

European Added Value Unit [ex-ante]

Ex-Ante Impact Assessment Unit (Alison Davies) [ex-ante]

Ex-Post Impact Assessment Unit [ex-post]

Policy Performance Appraisal Unit [ex-post]

European Council Oversight Unit [ex-post]

- **Interinstitutional Agreement (IIA) on better law-making**
- **Interinstitutional Agreement (IIA) on Better Regulation**
- **Better regulation tools** - http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/index_en.htm

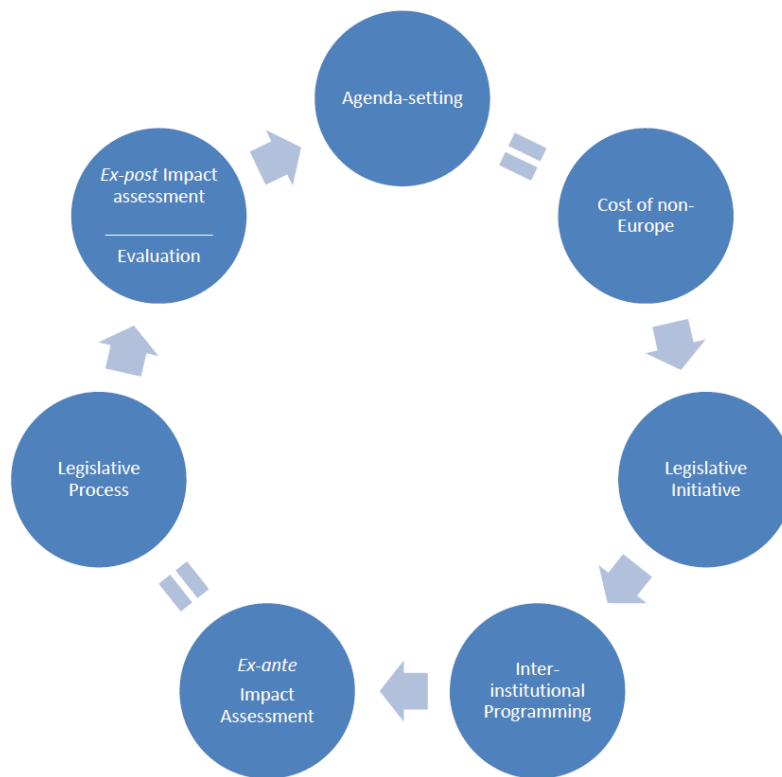
Better Regulation is about designing EU policies and laws so that they achieve their objectives at minimum cost. It ensures that policy is prepared, implemented and reviewed in an open, transparent manner, informed by the best available evidence and backed up by involving stakeholders.

To ensure that EU action is effective, the Commission assesses the expected and actual impacts of policies, legislation and other important measures at every stage of the policy cycle - from planning to implementation, to review and subsequent revision.

Source: http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/index_en.htm

- relatively new way of law making , legislative approach in research; Regulatory Scrutiny Board - closing the loop between ex-ante and ex-post impact assessment
- Schematic representation of the Policy Cycle, an integrated continuous impact assessment:

Agenda setting = Cost of non-Europe -> Legislative Initiative -> Interinstitutional Programming -> Ex-ante Impact Assessment = Legislative Process -> Ex-post Impact assessment / Evaluation



1.1 **Alison Davies** - Head of Unit, Ex-Ante Impact Assessment, DG EPRS, European Parliament

- They are working for committees and examine impact assessment of legislative proposals produced by European Commission.
- **Initial Appraisals** (4-8 page briefings) of the quality of Commission IAs (scrutiny)
 - summary, stakeholder consultation, SMEs..., Monitoring/evaluation indicators
 - **Regulatory Scrutiny Board (RSB)** - The Regulatory Scrutiny Board provides a central quality control and support function for Commission impact assessment and evaluation work. It was set up on 1 July 2015 and replaced the Impact Assessment Board (IAB).
 - June 2012- June 2015: **100 initial appraisals** of Commission IAs
- If requested by committees complementary or substitute impact assessments, economic model analysis, expertise contracting.
- **Examples of ex-ante impact assessment work**
 - Detailed Appraisals of Commission Impact Assessments:
Common European Sales Law ; Statutory audits of public accounts ; Third-country public procurement; Consumer product safety; TTIP
 - Substitute /Complementary IAs:
Anti-Discrimination Directive; Novel Foods; Air Quality
 - IAs on substantive amendments:
Ship recycling; Transfer of motor vehicles; Public Procurement (SMEs); EU « safety tested » marking; Money Market Funds

Value of ex-ante IA work in EP: contributes to improved quality of Commission IAs and to understanding of the evidence base, provides evidence base for amendments and ensures that Members can take a political decision in full knowledge of the facts;

Better Regulation package: Increased focus on public consultation; Increased independence of the IAB/RSB; Increased attention to administrative burden

The Scientific Foresight Unit (STOA) carries out interdisciplinary research and provides strategic advice in the field of science and technology options assessment and scientific foresight. It undertakes in-depth studies and organises workshops on developments in these fields, under the guidance of the STOA Panel of 15 MEPs. The STOA panel is an official body of the European Parliament.

Source: <http://epthinktank.eu/author/stoablogger/>

Theo Karapiperis (Head of Unit, Scientific Foresight Unit (STOA), DG EPRS, EP)

Studies of technology assessment should provide an answer to medium to long-term, complex, interdisciplinary problems relating to the impact of science and technology developments on society.

The proposals submitted for that purpose are approved by the STOA Panel on the basis of the following criteria:

- relevance of the subject to Parliament's work,
- scientific and technological nature of the proposal,
- strategic importance of the proposal and its alignment with priorities defined by the STOA Panel, and
- availability of scientific evidence covering the subject.

Selection of STOA studies:

- E-public, e-participation and e-voting in Europe - prospects and challenges (November 2011)
- Making Perfect Life - European governance challenges in 21st century bio-engineering (December 2012)
- Technology options for feeding 10 billion people (September - November 2013)
- Potential and impact of cloud computing and social networks (January 2014)
- Science Metrics - Measuring scientific performance for improved policy-making (April 2014)
- Mass surveillance of IT users (January 2015)
- New learning and teaching technologies (March 2015)

Other STOA activities like:

- workshops - for example: The Ebola outbreak - Challenges and perspectives, 4 March 2015
- collaboration with EC - especially: Joint Research Center, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation and the scientific community
- MEP-Scientist Pairing Scheme
- STOA Annual Lecture

STOA mission: Permanent EP body with an explicit foresight role in Science and Technology, firmly anchored in the agenda-setting phase of the policy cycle.