



Newsletter

Focus

By Klaus-Heiner Lehne, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs



Dear Reader,

It is my pleasure to launch the Policy Departments' Newsletter. As Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs, I know that the independent expertise and advice provided by the Policy Departments is invaluable to support Parliaments' legislative and scrutiny responsibilities. It is therefore essential that the high-quality analysis of these

in-house think tanks is widely disseminated within Parliament and among researchers and interested circles.

This newsletter will give you direct access to a selection of topical studies and provide advance notice of projects in preparation and upcoming workshops. This is only a sample of the wide array of research available ranging from quick policy briefings to complex technical analyses. So I encourage you to take advantage of the specialised expertise of the Policy Departments' Network.

Klaus-Heiner Lehne

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Public and Commercial Models of Access in the Digital Era

CULT

Workshop

17 June 2013 - 16:00 to 17:00 - ASP 3E2

Food Crisis

ENVI

Workshop

18 June 2013 - 15:30 to 18:00 - ASP 3G2

Euromed region after the Arab Spring and the new generation of DCFTAs

INTA

Workshop

18 June 2013 - 16:00 to 18:30 - ASP 1G2

[Link to the programme](#)

Legal aspects of free and open source software

JURI

Workshop

9 July 2013 - 15:30 -18:00 - JAN 4Q1

[More workshops](#)



FORTHCOMING STUDIES

Committee	Title	Publication date
AGRI	Possible effects on the EU land markets of new CAP direct payments	June 2013
ECON	Compilation of briefing papers on: - Finance Access of SMEs - Banking Union: Deposit Guarantee Schemes	July 2013
CONT	European initiatives on eliminating tax havens and offshore financial transactions and the impact of these constructions on the Union's own resources and budget	July 2013
CRIM	The cost of organised crime	September 2013
DEVE	Mali: Economic factors of the crisis	November 2013

Link to the studies: www.europarl.europa.eu/studies

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SELECTION OF NEW STUDIES

Data Protection Review: Impact on EU Innovation and Competitiveness

Policy Department A - Economic and Scientific Policy

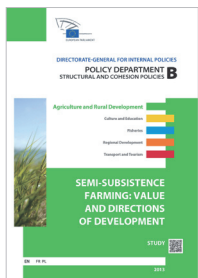


Examining the proposed General Data Protection Regulation (2012/0011(COD)), the study presents a rapid assessment of the innovation and competitiveness impacts of the measures affecting automated processing; control of data processing; and data transfers. It considers a variety of aspects (profiling; big data; cloud computing, privacy-friendly technologies) since data processing has changed extensively over the two decades of the Regulation's existence, while attitudes towards data privacy have undergone considerable evolution as a new generation grew up online.



Semi-subsistence farming: value and directions of development

Policy Department B - Structural and Cohesion Policies

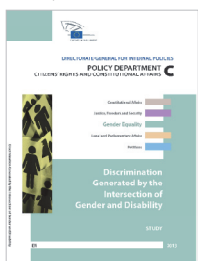


This study discusses current Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) measures and reform proposals for the post-2013 period with respect to EU semi-subsistence farms (SSFs). Based on country case studies and interview evidence, the study assesses the values of SSFs for rural areas and the obstacles they face in using Pillar 1 and 2 measures. It concludes that the fundamental issue of income support to semi-subsistence producers is inadequately addressed by any set of CAP instruments, and puts forward a set of recommendations for strengthening the CAP approach, especially via Pillar 2, for SSFs.



Discrimination generated by the intersection of gender and disability

Policy Department C - Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs



Disabled women are at the intersection of various forms of discrimination on the grounds of gender and disability. This report provides an overview of relevant legislation and its limitations. It examines the ways this discrimination manifests itself in many domains of the private and public spheres. An intersectionality approach is seen as the most appropriate tool to analyse the complexity of this phenomenon and inform future policies and legislation, which will ensure participation and realisation of disabled women's full potential.



Potential for Reorganization within the ITER Project to Improve Cost-Effectiveness

Policy Department D - Budgetary Affairs



The study highlights the specificity of Fusion for Energy (F4E) the Domestic Agency in charge of the EU contribution to the ITER project. The margins to achieve cost-saving are highly limited by inherent characteristic of F4E's operating environment and rigidities coming from direct implementations of European Commission frameworks not fully adapted to F4E. However, identification of these rigidities puts forward some tracks for improvement.



The organisation and functioning of the European External Action Service: Achievements, challenges and opportunities

Policy Department - External Policies



The organisation and functioning of the European External Action Service (EEAS) has met both challenges and opportunities for improvement. These issues are explored from an internal and external perspective, covering both the EEAS at Headquarters in Brussels and the bilateral and multilateral Union Delegations. The new institutional system has created opportunities and working mechanisms that aim to foster coherence, effectiveness and continuity in EU external action. There are examples that show positive developments, but also challenges.

