

Institute of Technology Assessment of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (ITA/OeAW)



The Institute of Technology Assessment is an interdisciplinary research institute that analyses technological change, with a view to its underlying societal conditions, the options available for shaping this change, and the impacts that may result from it. Scientific technology assessment applies a broad array of methods stemming from a multitude of fields. An essential element of technology assessment methodology is the inclusion of various bodies of knowledge, values and interests via participatory procedures. Internal project teams, often in collaboration with external partners, carry out interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary scientific analyses.

The aim of applied and scientifically-oriented technology assessment is to generate knowledge relevant for decision-making and to identify intended and unintended consequences of development options. This knowledge is targeted at supporting politics and administration, on the one hand, and at the general public on the other hand. Our academic work seeks to better understand the societal relevance of technology and to develop further the methodological basis of technology assessment.

Agencia de Protección de Datos de la Comunidad de Madrid (APDCM)*



Agencia de Protección de Datos
de la Comunidad de Madrid

The Data Protection Agency of the Madrid Regional Government is an independently-controlled authority that guarantees and protects the fundamental right to personal data protection. Its competences encompass publicly-owned files created or managed by the Madrid Regional Government, local government bodies within the autonomous region, public universities and public law corporations representing economic and professional public interests, provided these files are created or managed in order to exercise public law powers.

A public law entity is any that is provided for in Article 6 of Law 9/1990, of 8 November, regulating the Tax Agency of the Madrid Autonomous Region, with its own legal personality and full capacity to operate, and a control authority is one that acts objectively and is fully independent of the civil administration of the Madrid Autonomous Region in the exercise of its functions, communicating with the Government of the Madrid Autonomous Region by means of the relevant designated regional ministry.

The Agency is governed by Law 8/2001, of 13 July, and by the regulatory provisions enacting this Law, and by Organic Law 15/1999, of 13 December, on Personal Data Protection, and by its Statute approved by Decree 40/2004 of 18 March. In all matters not provided for in the previously mentioned regulations, and in order to carry out its public functions and for the purposes of its internal organisation, it is governed by Law 30/1992, of 26 November, on the Legal Regime of Public Administrations and the Common Administrative Procedure, and other applicable regulations in the Madrid Autonomous Region.

*APDCM, the Agencia de Protección de Datos de la Comunidad de Madrid (Data Protection Agency of the Community of Madrid) participated as consortium partner in the SurPRISE project till 31st of December 2012. As a consequence of austerity policies in Spain APDCM was terminated at the end of 2012.

Agencia Estatal Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)



The Institute for Public Goods and Policies (IPP) is one of the most important institutes of social sciences of the Spanish Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC). The mission of the Institute is to advance knowledge in a specific domain of the relationship between technology, society, the market and the state. The Institute undertakes research involving comparative analysis and understanding of the nature of specific goods, both public and collective goods, as well as the processes of definition and implementation of public policies and their mutual interactions. It is a major goal of the Institute to produce knowledge that can be used and evaluated by the scientific community, as well as knowledge relevant for social actors, institutions and governments.

Within the IPP, the SPRI_Spain research group focuses on research and Innovation systems and policies. More specifically, the group analyses the transformation of research organizations and institutions with on-going national and international research projects on the processes of innovation, production, diffusion and transfer of knowledge, on the regime of knowledge protection as well as on to the social and political impact of new technologies. SPRI_Spain also focuses on the impact of new knowledge and new technologies on society, both in terms of public assessment of new technologies and in terms of societal reception, use and transformation of new science policy measures and newly implemented technologies. A better understanding of the way and the consequences of how knowledge is communicated, protected and diffused is another key challenge for understanding the dynamics of science. The interaction between science or knowledge and the public is an essential element of the SPRI_Spain research program, which tries to understand not only how science and knowledge is re-elaborated by citizens, but also how a two-way responsible participation in science between scientific and civil society actors can be developed and implemented.

Science as an institution has become a significant element in the democratic rule, as scientists' advice has become integrated in the regular policy process. Besides, democratic principles and citizens' participation are shaping the incentives and requesting changes in the practice of science to reinforce the responsiveness of the scientific institutions.

The Danish Board of Technology Foundation (DBT)



The abolition of The Danish Board of Technology by law was a reality the 22nd of May 2012. The Danish Board of Technology will continue as Foundation The Danish Board of Technology from 15th of June 2012 and many of boards earlier activities will remain the same and focus on disseminate knowledge about technology. The Foundation's connection to the Danish Parliament will be determined during the summer 2012.

The Danish Board of Technology was brought into being in order to disseminate knowledge about technology, its possibilities and its effects on people, on society and on the environment. The Board was supposed to promote the ongoing discussion about technology, to evaluate technology and to advise the Danish Parliament (the Folketing) and other governmental bodies in matters pertaining to technology. The Danish Board of Technology was an independent body established by the Danish Parliament (the Folketing) in 1995 and is the successor of the Technology Board, which was set up as a statutory body in 1986. The Ministry of Research was the supervising

authority for the Board and the Parliament's Research Committee was the Board's steady liaison to the Parliament.

European University Institute (EUI)



The European University Institute (EUI) is a doctoral and postdoctoral academic institution, created in 1972 by the founding Member States of the European Communities. Today, the EUI is an international organization composed of 20 of the EU member states. Its main objective is to provide advanced academic training to PhD students and to promote research at the highest university level. It carries out research from a European perspective in history, law, economics, political and social science. Its full-time teaching staff, fellows and research students are recruited from all countries of the European Union and from further afield.

SurPRISE participants come from the Law Department, which is committed to study law in a comparative and contextual manner, and with special focus on European and international law. Issues such as the protection of fundamental rights and the development of constitutional values in the law of the EU, and the impact of new modes of governance on EU law, are a prominent part of the Department's curriculum and research.

Verein für Rechts-und Kriminalsoziologie (IRKS)



Since its inception in 1973 the Institute has been a platform for critical analysis of law and control. The interdisciplinary research teams focus on different aspects of regulating deviance and on the uses of law in social processes. The working results address an academic audience as well as the general public and those institutions subjected to critical scrutiny.

Median Opinion and Market Research Limited Company (Median)



Medián was founded in 1989 as the first independent research company in Hungary after the regime change. Medián is acknowledged home and abroad by hundreds of clients and by the media as one of the leading research institutions in Hungary. Medián has a remarkable experience in polling large segments of the population, in audience and readership research, in content analysis, and it provides full scale of market research. Medián has a countrywide interviewer network and a well-equipped research studio available for focus groups and in-hall tests. Medián uses a large scale of research methods, has a strong competence in public participation research, and lives up to strict project execution as a basic standard for private companies. Medián complies with requirements of ISO 9001 and ISO 20252. Medián is highly recognised for its experiences on the field of empirical social research and for being an excellent partner in comparative intercultural inquiries.

The Norwegian Board of Technology (NBT)



The Norwegian Board of Technology (NBT) is an independent body for technology assessment established by the Norwegian Government in 1999, following an initiative by the Norwegian Parliament. The Board aims to assess impacts and options of technology in all areas of society; to stimulate public debate on technology; and to support the political decision-making process and shaping of technological change. The Board furthermore monitors international technological trends and methods for technology assessment and foresight. The Board uses a variety of methods for assessing technology, ranging from participatory methods such as citizens' panels, consensus conferences, scenario workshops and open hearings, to interdisciplinary working groups on the expert level.

The Open University (OU)



The Open University (OU) is the largest university in the UK with more than 250,000 students, 1,200 full-time academic staff and 1,300 research students. It is a world class provider of distance learning education, and is consistently ranked among the top UK universities for teaching quality and research, climbing 23 places to 43rd in the rankings of the UK's 2008 Research Assessment Exercise. The Open University Business School (OUBS) is the biggest business school in the world to be triple-accredited (by AACSB, AMBA and EQUIS). It undertakes research that is intellectually leading and which meets international standards of excellence, attracting funding from the EU Framework 7 Programme, RCUK, NIHR, The Leverhulme Trust and a wide range of private sector funders.

Centre for Technology Assessment, Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences (TA-SWISS)



The Swiss Centre for Technology Assessment (TA-SWISS) is the parliamentary technology assessment institution of Switzerland, established by law by the Federal Government. It is an independent, non-profit, public institution, committed to technology assessment, foresight and parliamentary advisory activities on science, technology and innovation. Its publications are aimed at decision-makers in the realms of politics, business and administration as well as at a general public. TA-SWISS hereby provides the basis for political decision-making in the field of technology. TA-SWISS is affiliated to the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences. It works with a national, as well as an international perspective. It is specialized in interactive methodologies, comprising interdisciplinary research, stakeholder involvement, citizen participation, political debates and advice, and public communication.

Unabhängiges Landeszentrum für Datenschutz (ULD)



The Unabhängiges Landeszentrum für Datenschutz (ULD, Engl. Independent Centre for Privacy Protection) is the Data Protection Authority of Schleswig-Holstein, the northernmost Federal State of Germany. The office

is located in Kiel, Germany. The Privacy Commissioner of Schleswig-Holstein, Dr. Thilo Weichert, is head of ULD. ULD's tasks cover both data protection in the public and private sector as well as freedom of information.

The basis for the work of ULD is laid down in the State Data Protection Act Schleswig-Holstein. This act is one of the most progressive ones worldwide and includes among others provisions on a seal of privacy for IT products and on privacy protection audits for public authorities. In addition to the privacy seal based on German national and regional law, ULD is coordinating the European Privacy Seal initiative "EuroPriSe" which grants privacy seals on the European level in case of a successful evaluation of compliance to European regulation.