WELCOME TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENTARY TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT (EPTA) COUNCIL MEETING and ARCTIC SEMINAR

## 22.-24.9. 2013 in Kittilä Lapland, Finland

**NOTHING ORDINARY**

* **The Arctic Boom**

You need to see this: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCm5630kE-M>

Registration: <https://www.lyyti.fi/ilmoittaudu/eptameeting_2425>

Venue: Levi Summit, Kittilä Lapland <http://www.levisummit.fi/index.php/en>

## Programme

**Sunday 22.9.2013**

Arriving and Check-In

The Samiland Exhibition, part of UNESCO Observatory Cultural Village programme

in the Hotel Levi Panorama/Summit (open every day)

17.00 Get Together Event, Hotel Levi Panorama “Summit”

18.30 Busses /walk up to “Tuikku” Restaurant

19.00 Welcome Party in “Tuikku” Restaurant.

21.00 Busses back to the hotel or/and the village

**Monday 23.9.2013**

9.00 EPTA-Council meeting Levi “Summit”, Hotel Levi Panorama

Chair: MP Päivi Lipponen, Committee for the Future

Agenda:

1. Welcome and opening

Chair of the Committee for the Future Päivi Lipponen, Parliament of Finland

The Big Jump of Lapland, Secretary general Seppo Tiitinen, Parliament of Finland

Sami Parliament (tbc)

1. Approval of the agenda and minutes EPTA Council 2012
2. New and “renew” EPTA members, associate members and observers
3. What’s new in member countries?
4. Evaluations in different member-countries
5. EU-project PACITA
6. EPTA-Journal, EPTA web-page etc
7. Any other matters
8. EPTA Presidency 2014
9. Closing of the meeting

The only remaining indigenous people of EU, the Sami.

13.30 Busses to the Reindeer Farm

14.00 Lunch and activities: Arctic presentations, stories of reindeers, fishing, walking and admiring ground foliage, picking mushrooms, sauna etc

17.30 Busses to the Hotel

19.00 Busses to 20-years Jubileum Dinner of Committee for the Future, “Sami-Kammi” Lappish Restaurant

19.30 Dinner ; Exotic Lappish songs and “Singing Senators”

21.30 Busses to the Village (where all kind of discussions, singing and dancing) and to the Hotel

Northern Lights if possible

**Tuesday 24.9.2013**

**Main hall**

09.00 Welcome to the Seminar, MP Päivi Lipponen: Is the Arctic Boom a Black Swan? Release of the new publication of the Committee for the Future

09.15 Arctic Boom, Arctic Center

09.45 Arctic Marine Industries, Arctech Helsinki Shipyard Inc.

10.15 Arctic Mining Industries, Agnico-Eagle Finland Oy (Kittilä Gold Mine)

10.45 Atmosphere/Terrestrial Infrastructure at Sodankylä, Finnish Meteorological Institute

11.15 Sodankylä Geophysical Observatory, University of Oulu

**Auditorio**

09.15 Arctic Design, University of Lapland

09.45 Ice Laboratory, Aker Arctic

10.15 Arctic Testing Environments, Wintertestcenter Oy

10.45 "Russia's Future Arctic Strategy".The Arctic and Geopolitical Interests, Mr Aleksandr Sergunin, St.Petersburg State University (Russia)

11.15 Radical Finnovations: MP Ville Vähämäki Committee for the Future with experts Mr Osmo Kuusi, Mr. Risto Linturi and Mr. Toni Ahlqvist Release of the newt publication of the Committee for the Future

**All Together**

11.45 Lunch at the Main Hall

12.45 Busses to the Airport and 13.35-15.05 Flight to Helsinki

**Seminar Hotel:** Hotel Levi Panorama (<http://www.levipanorama.fi/2009/index.php/en>)

Prices: Standard single 81 €,,Standard twin 108 €, Superior single 95 €, Superior twin 122 €,

Jr Suite 1-2 persons 155 €, Standard Suite 1-2 persons 127 €, Deluxe Suite 1-2 persons 255 €

**Flights: Finnair**

Sunday 22.9.2013 Monday 23.9.2013 Tuesday 24.9.2013

Helsinki- Kittilä 11.30 -12.55 10.40-13.10 Kittilä–Helsinki 13.35–15.05

16.25 – 17.55

More Information: [TuV@eduskunta.fi](mailto:TuV@eduskunta.fi)

See you all in Lapland!

Committee for the Future, Finnish Parliament

# European Parliamentary Technology Assessment

## Objectives

The EPTA Partners advise parliaments on the possible social, economic and environmental impact of new sciences and technologies.

The common aim is to provide impartial and high quality accounts and reports of developments in issues such as for example bioethics and biotechnology, public health, environment and energy, ICTs, and R&D policy.

Such work is seen as an aid to the democratic control of scientific and technological innovations, and was pioneered in the 1970s by the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) of the US Congress.

EPTA aims to advance the establishment of technology assessment as an integral part of policy consulting in parliamentary decision-making processes in Europe, and to strengthen the links between TA units in Europe.

## Organisation

The EPTA network was formally established in 1990 under the patronage of the President of the European Parliament, Mr Enrique Baron Crespo. The network has a light structure, guided by the EPTA Council and by meetings of the Directors of the EPTA partner organisations.

The EPTA Council is the steering committee of the EPTA network, and consists of members of Parliament or representatives of the advisory boards for the respective EPTA organisation. The council decides on organisational matters such as co-operation within the network and the status of members and associates.

The presidency of EPTA moves each year. The tasks of the EPTA member organisation holding the presidency are to coordinate the EPTA network activities and to host the annual EPTA Conference, Council Meeting and Directors' meeting.

## Members

The members of the EPTA network are European organisations, which carry out TA studies on behalf of parliaments.

The following criteria for full EPTA membership were accepted at the Council Meeting in Helsinki in October 2001:

"Regular EPTA membership can be obtained by a unit that pursues TA activities and

* Operates in Europe,
* Is devoted to TA or related activities,
* Serves the parliament,
* Has its own budget and secretariat,
* Has a competence regarding issues with a scientific and technological component, and
* Submits a written membership application."

Europe is by EPTA regarded as the geographical Europe as defined by The Council of Europe. Associate membership can be granted to salient TA units, which have a TA programme and resources to realise it, but do not fully live up to other criteria for full membership. Associates are involved in all EPTA activities but are not represented in the EPTA council. Further, units interested in the work of EPTA can act as observers.

Parliamentary TA is institutionalised in different ways, ranging from permanent parliamentary committees for TA; separate TA units as part of the parliamentary administration; to independent institutions with a mandate to serve as a permanent consulting institution for the parliament.

## EPTA projects

EPTA can decide to make 'common EPTA projects', in which EPTA members and associates can join forces and make trans-European TA activities. EPTA projects are based upon the ['Joint EPTA Project Framework'](http://eptanetwork.org/documents.php), which makes use of a bottom-up principle, according to which three or more members can initiate a project if it is open for active participation from other EPTA members. The project is decided during a Directors' meeting or Council Meeting after being scrutinised by the boards of the members. The outcome of an EPTA project is the sole responsibility of the participating members.

### Member Organisations of the EPTA Council

* Scientific and Technological Options Assessment (STOA), European Parliament
* Teknologirådet - Danish Board of Technology (DBT)
* Committee for the Future, Finnish Parliament - Tulevaisuusvaliokunta
* Instituut Samenlevingen technologische (IST) - Institute Society and Technology, Flemish Parliament, Belgium
* Office Parlementaire d'evaluation des choix scientifiques et technologiques (OPECST) - Parliamentary Office for Evaluation of Scientific and Technological Options, French Parliament
* Büro für Technikfolgen-Abschätzung beim Deutschen Bundestag (TAB) - Office of Technology Assessment at the German Parliament
* Committee on Technology Assessment, Greek Parliament
* Comitato per la Valutazione delle Scelte Scientifiche e Tecnologiche (VAST) - Committee for Science and Technology Assessment, Italian Parliament
* Rathenau Institute, Netherlands
* Teknologirådet - Norwegian Board of Technology (NBT)
* Zentrum für Technologiefolgen-Abschätzung - Centre for Technology Assessment at the Swiss Science and Technology Council (TA-Swiss)
* Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology (POST), UK
* CAPCIT (Consell Assessor del Parlament sobre Ciència i Tecnologia) - The Advisory Board of the Parliament of Catalonia for Science and Technology
* The Parliamentary evaluation and research unit, Swedish Parliament

### Associate members

* Sub-Committee on Science and Ethics of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Strassbourg
* Institut für Technikfolgenabschätzung (ITA), Austria
* Belgian Federal Office for Scientific, Technological and Cultural Affairs (OSTC), Belgium
* The Bureau of Research (BAS), Polish Parliament
* U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), USA