

TOWARDS BRIDGING SCIENCE AND DECISION- MAKING

Science
Meets
Parliaments



Estonian Academy of Sciences (Kohtu Str 6, Tallinn)
31 January–02 February 2019

TIMETABLE

Day 1: Thursday, 31 January 2019

13:00–14:00 Registration, welcome coffee, light lunch

14:00 Opening

Welcome words from Dr Maive Rute (Joint Research Centre)

14:20–18:00 Session 1: Talking to each other

The pool of scientific knowledge is growing explosively but is often limited to the use within academic community. How could it be better used for the benefit of society? How can we drive science to meet policy? How different are the languages and formats used by scientists and policy-makers? Where are the bottlenecks?

14:20–15:00 Sensors, data, decisions. From evidence to policy. Dr Kristjan Vassil, University of Tartu

15:00–15:25 How to serve in the turbulence of science as a minister. Mr Marko Pomerants, Chair of the Constitutional Committee of the Riigikogu (the Parliament of Estonia), former Minister of Environment

15:25–15:50 The need for science in implementing policy. Mr Viljar Lubi, Deputy Secretary General for Economic Development, Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications

15:50–16:10 COFFEE BREAK

16:10–16:50 Cognitive aspects I: collective risk experiments – How human uncertainty affects efforts to influence the climate change problem. Prof Tom Lenaerts, University Libre de Bruxelles, Machine Learning group – Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Artificial Intelligence laboratory

17:00–18:00 Group work: The art of talking to each other

Group A: Uncertainties in policy-making; led by Mr Marko Pomerants

Group B: Using science in implementation of policy; led by Mr Viljar Lubi

Group C: How to create conditions in society where policy- and lawmakers find it useful to use the best knowledge? (in Estonian); led by Dr Aare Kasemets, Adviser in regulatory impact assessment, Ministry of Rural Affairs

Group D: Living together with uncertainty (in English); led by Prof Tom Lenaerts

Group E: From personal hints to systemic advice in a young country; led by Prof Rein Vaikmäe, Tallinn University of Technology and Counsellor to the President of the Estonian Academy of Sciences; former Advisor to the Minister of Education

18:30 ICEBREAKER RECEPTION AND JOINT DINNER

(with table speeches reflecting the group work)

Day 2: Friday, 01 February 2019

9:00–13:00 Session 2: Converting science into advice

Everybody on the academic landscape agrees that we should convert science into perfect advice. The core question is: how can we do that? What are the rules that govern this advice? How complicated or simplified should it be? How do we avoid failures, mistrust and misinterpretations? Who should talk and to whom? How do we build up a sustainable advice mechanism?

09:00–09:40 Evidence for policy 2.0. Dr Maive Rute, Joint Research Centre, Deputy Director General

09:40–10:00 European-wide science advice activities: SAPEA and EASAC. Dr Nina Hobbhahn, Scientific Policy Officer SAPEA (Science Advice for Policy by European Academies)

10:00–10:20 Towards the blue future: European Marine Board. Prof Tarmo Soomere, Estonian Academy of Sciences and Tallinn University of Technology, member and former vice-chair of the European Marine Board

10:20–10:40 Advice on the most radical signs of climate change: European Polar Board, Prof Rein Vaikmäe, Estonian Academy of Sciences and Tallinn University of Technology

10:40–11:00 Science advice in Latvia, Prof Ojars Sparitis, President of the Latvian Academy of Sciences

11:00–11:20 COFFEE BREAK

11:20–11:40 The emerging system of science advisors and coordinators to ministries in Estonia. Dr mult Liina Eek, Estonian Research Council and Dr Angela Ivask, Science Advisor to the Ministry of Social Affairs

11:40–12:00 High-level scenario building in Estonia. Mrs Tea Danilov, Estonian Foresight Centre

12:00–12:20 The pool of science in the university landscape in Estonia. Mr Taivo Raud, University of Tartu, on behalf of University Estonia

12:20–13:00 Presentation of the overview “Science in Estonia 2019” by the team of the Estonian Research Council (Dr Andres Koppel, Prof Ülo Niinemets, Prof Jüri Allik, Prof Erkki Karo, Mrs Kadri Raudvere)

13:00–14:00 LUNCH

14:00–18:10 Session 3: Transferring the advice into momentum

The decision-makers are under pressure from many sides: facts are uncertain, values in question, stakes are high and decisions must be urgent. These imperatives drive the requests for high-quality advice that can be used in decision-making. Which format of advice is usable? How rapid/operational must it be? How do we distinguish between lobbying and advice? Who has the final responsibility?

14:00–14:20 How to give advice if even scientists disagree? Dr Innar Liiv, Board Member of the Estonian Young Academy of Science, Associate Professor of Data Mining, Tallinn University of Technology

14:20–15:00 General To-do's and Never-do's of science advice. Prof Kari Raivio, Chancellor emeritus of the University of Helsinki, Finland. Prof Raivio has also served as Vice President of the International Science Council, Chair of the League of European Research Universities, and the President of the Finnish Academy of Science and Letters

15:00–15:40 Cognitive aspects II – Agent-based approaches for policies, Prof Mario Paolucci, coordinator of the Flag-ERA network FuturICT2.0, Laboratory of Agent-Based Social Simulation (LABSS), Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies (ISTC) of the National Research Council of Italy (CNR), Rome, Italy

15:40–16:10 COFFEE BREAK

16:10–17:25 Group work: The basics of converting science into advice

Group A: How does science advice work via science advisors in ministries (in Estonian); led by Dr mult Liina Eek, Estonian Research Council and Dr Angela Ivask, Science Advisor to the Ministry of Social Affairs

Group B: Is it possible to model policy-making? (in English); led by Prof Mario Paolucci

Group C: Science advice as an input for local policy (in English); led by Prof Kevin Parnell, James Cook University, Townsville, Australia and Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia

Group D: How to get your message across to policy-makers? (in English); led by Mrs Milena Raykovska, Joint Research Centre

Group E: Does science in private enterprises have an advisory role; led by Mr Oliver Väärtnõu, AS Cybernetica. The foundations of time-stamping technology were developed in this institute and its predecessor, Institute of Cybernetics, Estonian Academy of Sciences

17:30–18:10 Panel discussion: results of the day & reflection of the group work

19:00 JOINT DINNER

Day 3: Saturday, 02 February 2019

Session 4: Practical skills

09:00–09:50 Synergy of scientists and editors as a tool to communicate sparkling science to saturated audience. Prof Tarmo Soomere

10:00–12:30 Group work: Hands-on training and in-depth discussions, with a short break for coffee 10:50–11:00

Group A: Why is it so difficult for scientists to participate in the policymaking? (in English); led by Mrs Milena Raykovska, Joint Research Centre

Group B: Training on presentation skills: enunciation, tongue-twisters, speaking to a microphone or camera (mostly in Estonian); led by Mr Kaspar Kaljas and Mr Indrek Simm

Mr Kaspar Kaljas is the chief producer of the TV channel Kanal 2 and co-owner of Kopli Kinokompanii OÜ. He has been the chief producer of several fiction and documentary movies, and many TV broadcasts and series; incl. the popular science broadcast *Rakett69*, and has an extensive coaching record.

Mr Indrek Simm is a freelance movie and TV producer who has served in this domain over 30 years. He has been the producer of both fiction and documentary movies. During the previous year he has focused on TV serials (e.g. *Pilvede all*, *Lõks*) as well as on the popular science broadcast *Rakett69*. He has also an extensive coaching record.

Group C: Preparation for a short and concise (elevator) speech (in Estonian), led by Mr Urmas Vaino, Estonian Public Broadcasting

Group D Science meets journalists: What does a journalist expect from scientists? How to distinguish between good and lousy journalists? (in Estonian); led by Mr Rainer Kerge, a columnist to the daily newspaper *Õhtuleht* (Evening News)

12:30–13:30 FAREWELL LUNCH

Afternoon (optional): a guided tour in the Old Town of Tallinn



FORESIGHT CENTRE