NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS in some EU countries regularly organise meetings between national parliamentarians and scientists. The policy-makers appreciate the opportunity to enhance their scientific knowledge. For scientists, this is a valuable experience to understand the complexities of decision-making processes and to interact effectively with politicians and inform them about fields of mutual interest.

European regions and cities are key partners in the implementation of European legislation, policies and financial instruments. About 70% of the EU legislative initiatives and 80% of EU funds are implemented at subnational level, giving EU regions and cities the leverage to act as catalysts of change and enablers of citizens’ involvement. SCIENCE MEETS REGIONS aims to mobilise the potential of the local scientific community for policy making, also involving businesses and citizens.

In a first pilot phase in 2016, policy-makers, scientists and citizens in six regions discussed regionally relevant topics like the future of transport, sustainable energy, smart cities, active healthy-ageing, food safety and reforming the education system. A targeted SCIENCE MEETS REGIONS thematic session with representatives of participating regions will be organised within the SCIENCE MEETS PARLIAMENTS event in Brussels on 28 November 2017.

Organisers:
European Commission’s Joint Research Centre (JRC)
European Parliament’s Science and Technology Options Assessment (STOA)

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The European Parliament’s Science and Technology Options Assessment (STOA) Panel will be launching the sixth edition of STOA’s very successful MEP-SCIENTIST PAIRING SCHEME, on the same day. The main goals of the MEP-SCIENTIST PAIRING SCHEME are to enhance knowledge-based decision making, facilitate a better understanding of EU policies among scientists, foster a greater mutual understanding between scientists and parliamentarians, and contribute to closing the gap between researchers and policy-makers.

Selected scientists will be invited to Brussels, from 28 to 30 November 2017, where they will be given an opportunity to follow MEPs in their daily political activities and gain an understanding of the EU science, technology and research policy framework and, in particular, of the work of the European Parliament in this area.

Every year the European Parliament opens its doors to the SCIENCE MEETS PARLIAMENTS initiative highlighting the importance of building closer links between scientists and EU policy-makers through regular dialogue and establishing and improving a culture of evidence informed policy-making. The European Commission Joint Research Centre’s flagship initiative organised in collaboration with the European Parliament’s Science and Technology Options Assessment (STOA) Panel has become a key annual event at the European Parliament in Brussels featuring high level European and national policy-makers and scientists, a series of dynamic round table debates and bilateral meetings between MEPs and leading scientists.

The 2017 edition will take place on 28 November 2017 in the European Parliament in Brussels (venue: PHS 7C050) with the main topic The role of science in a post fact society.

Organisers:
European Commission’s Joint Research Centre (JRC)
European Parliament’s Science and Technology Options Assessment (STOA)