

# 'HUMAN TOXOME PROJECT'

A NEW EUROPEAN HORIZON FOR RISK ASSESSMENT

LUNCH DEBATE

15TH OF MAY, 12:00 TO 14:00

PHS 1A002

Toxicity testing is not delivering what safety of products demands nor is it sufficiently relying upon the most advanced technologies. It typically involves studying adverse health outcomes in animals subjected to high doses of toxicants with subsequent extrapolation to expected human responses at lower doses. But we are not 70kg rats feeding largely on chemicals. The system is expensive, time-consuming, low-throughput and often provides results of limited predictive value for human health. The toxicity testing methods are largely the same for industrial chemicals, pesticides and drugs, and have led to a backlog of more than 80,000 chemicals to which humans are potentially exposed but whose potential toxicity remains largely unknown.

In the US, a new toxicity testing plan has been launched which includes the use of predictive, high-throughput cell-based assays (of human origin) to evaluate perturbations in key pathways of toxicity, and to conduct targeted testing against those pathways. Mapping the entirety of these pathways (hence the 'Human Toxome Project') could be a large-scale effort, perhaps on the order of the Human Genome Project. It could develop tremendous opportunities for REACH, the testing ban for cosmetics, the pesticide regulation, and the endocrine disruptor screening, while reducing animal suffering. How can Europe contribute to this goal?



Group of the Progressive Alliance of  
**Socialists & Democrats**  
in the European Parliament

## AGENDA

- 12:00 Introduction by Vittorio Prodi, MEP
- 12:05 Prof. Thomas Hartung,  
Johns Hopkins University and former head of ECVAM (European Centre  
for the Validation of Alternative Methods)
- 12:20 Prof. Roberto Dall' Aglio  
Professor of Endocrinology and President of the Chemotherapy / Oncology  
clinic of the University of Milan Italy
- 12:30 Troy Seidle  
Director of Research & Toxicology, Humane Society International
- 12:40 Dr. Simona Bussi  
Test Department Facility Manager, Bracco Group
- 12:50 Prof. Maurice Whelan  
Head of Unit Systems Toxicology, and Validation of Alternative Methods  
Head of Unit responsible for EURAL ECVAM, DG JRC
- 13:00 Q&A
- 13:10 Prof. Jos Kleinjans  
HOD Department of Toxicogenomics, Maastricht University
- 13:20 Dr. Gernot Klotz  
Executive Director Research and Innovation  
The European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC)
- 13:30 Prof. Jim Bridges  
Chair of the Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Risks  
(SCENIHR)
- 13:40 Dr. Roberto Bertollini  
Director, World Health Organization, Brussels
- 13:50 Q&A
- 13:55 Concluding remarks by Dr. Philippe Martin  
Head of Sector, Assessment of New Risks and Research Co-ordination  
DG SANCO

Working Language; English

R.S.V.P before the 8th of May.

If you need an access badge for the European Parliament, please send to [vittorio.prodi@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:vittorio.prodi@europarl.europa.eu) your full name, nationality, date of birth and passport/ID number by the 8th of May.