

EUROPEAN COMMISSION SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE 2021

“Towards replacement of animals for scientific purposes”

Date: 2-3 February 2021

Duration: 2 days

Venue: Virtual meeting

Europe takes strategic action on multiple fronts to reach the ultimate goal of full replacement of animal use. Discover the new transparency on the use of animals in science – Experience new education and training tools on alternative technologies – Gain confidence in using non-animal approaches – Share your progress!

Date & Time (CET)	Topic	Speaker
2 February		
9:30	Introduction	Moderators
9:40	Opening speech Commissioner	Virginijus Sinkevicius - European Commissioner for the Environment, Oceans and Fisheries
Topic 1	How transparency can accelerate transition to non-animal science	
9:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Animal Statistics - Public access to data - Non-technical summary database - Research open data / open access platforms 	Susanna Louhimies - DG Environment, EC / Pierre Deceuninck - Joint Research Centre, EC Jean-François Dechamp - DG Research and Innovation, EC
10:40	Break	
11:00	Transparency in communications	Serban Morosan - Sorbonne University (League of European Research Universities)
11:15	Pre-Registration of Research	Chris Chambers – Cardiff University
11:30	<i>Moderated discussion on Topic 1 Transparency</i>	Moderators
12:15	Lunch Break <i>(opportunity to view e-modules on Three Rs training)</i>	
Topic 2	Education & Training with focus on non-animal approaches and implementation of the Directive	
13:00	- Open access training e-modules, ETPLAS	Katrin Schutte - DG Environment, EC

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plastinated anatomical models for Education and Training - Learnings from JRC Summer School on Alternatives - EURL ECVAM activities (3Rs in school curricula, training materials, MOOC) - How to choose New Approach Methods (NAMs) 	<p>Claudia Wolschrijn - Utrecht University</p> <p>Julia Malinowska – University of Birmingham</p> <p>Marcelle Holloway - Joint Research Centre, EC</p> <p>Lindsay Marshall – Humane Society International</p>
14:00	Technical break to move to breakouts	
14:15	<p>Breakout groups: <i>(in separate virtual rooms)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High school: 3Rs in schools in Europe - University: Teaching to promote knowledge on and implementation of the 3Rs. Example from the Karolinska Institutet’s Master’s programme in toxicology. - PhDs/young professionals: JRC Summer School, how to build an AOP 	<p>Eleni Myrtsioti, Antoine Bilgin - European Schoolnet</p> <p>Annika Hanberg, Charlotte Nilsson, Elin Törnqvist - Karolinska Institute</p> <p>Elisabet Berggren, Adelaide Dura, Brigitte Landesmann, Marcelle Holloway – Joint Research Centre, EC</p>
15:15	Break	
15:30	<i>Moderated discussion Topic 2 Education & Learning</i>	Moderators
16:15	End of Day 1	

Date & Time (CET)	Topic	Speaker
3 February		
9:30	Introduction	Moderators
Topic 3	Cutting edge science: latest scientific advances to improve research and testing tool box	
9:40	Gaining confidence in physiologically based kinetic (PBK) model predictions for quantitative <i>in vitro</i> to <i>in vivo</i> extrapolations	Ans Punt – Wageningen University
9:55	How <i>in silico</i> methods and data reuse can help reduce the number of animal experiments.	Maddalena Fratelli - Mario Negri Institute
10:10	Speeding up the development of Organ-on-Chip technology	Peter Loskill - Fraunhofer Institute Stuttgart
10:25	Break	
10:45	ReproTracker, <i>in vitro</i> assessment of developmental toxicology	Giel Hendriks - Toxys

11:00	3D human tissues for drug testing and <i>in vitro</i> disease modelling	Christodoulos Xinaris - Mario Negri Institute
11:15	JRC project on alternatives in biomedical research Interview of 3 scientists from different fields, Alzheimer's disease, respiratory tract diseases and breast cancer, focusing on non-animal models in their research and the benefits	Francesca Pistollato / Laura Gribaldo - Joint Research Centre, EC Erwin Roggen - ToxGenSolutions Anne van der Does - Leiden University Joan Montero - Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia
12:00	<i>Moderated discussion Topic 3 Cutting Edge Science</i>	Moderators
13:00	Lunch Break (opportunity to view e-modules on Three Rs training)	
Topic 4	Gaining trust in using new alternative approaches	
13:45	Industry point of view highlighting experiences using alternative approaches, like Organ-on-Chip, <i>in vitro</i> and <i>in silico</i> methods	Ard Teisman – Janssen Pharmaceuticals
14:00	Consistency approach IMI project Vac2Vac: quality testing approaches for both human and veterinary vaccines using non-animal methods	Shahjahan Shaid - GSK
14:15	Developmental Neurotoxicity: showcasing confidence building approaches for new test methods	Marcel Leist – University Konstanz
14:30	Case studies of assuring safety without animal testing	Carl Westmoreland - Unilever
14:45	Break	
15:00	Using Organs-on-Chip model to replace animals in drug development	Rhiannon David - Astra Zeneca
15:15	Role of Alternatives in Covid-19 research	Tamara Zietek - European Coalition to End Animal Experiments (ECEAE)
15:30	EU research programme support of alternatives / Covid-19	Christian Desaintes – DG Research and Innovation, EC
15:45	Learnings from the JRC initiative BEAMS – Bridging Across Methods in bioSciences	Maurice Whelan - Joint Research Centre, EC
16:00	<i>Moderated discussion Topic 4 Gaining trust</i>	Moderators
16:45	Closing remarks & end of the conference	