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Mission of Switzerland to the European Union



**Maria da Graça Carvalho** - Member of the Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) Committee of the European Parliament (EP)

A member of the Group of the European People's Party (EPP) Maria da Graça Carvalho is very engaged on issues linked to science policy and the EU research programmes. She is a Full Professor at Technical University of Lisbon and she has a 30 years research experience in the areas of energy, environment and climate change. She has been Minister of Science, Innovation and Higher Education in Portugal.



**Dieter Imboden** - President, Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)

Dieter Imboden is Professor of Environmental Physics at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich. His research revolves around the study of physical processes in aquatic systems as well as energy and climate politics. He is President of the Research Council of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF). He is also President of the European Heads of Research Councils (EUROHORCs).



**Dirk Helbing** - Chair of sociology, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ)

Dirk Helbing has been based at ETHZ since 2007. He is Professor of Sociology, in particular of Modeling and Simulation, and holds a founding chair of the newly created "Risk Center" of the ETHZ. Before joining ETH Zurich, he was Managing Director of the Institute for Transport & Economics at Dresden University of Technology, Germany. He is also Scientific Coordinator of the FuturICT Future Emerging Technologies (FET) flagship proposal of ETHZ and the University College of London.

kindly invite you to a

## Swiss Science Briefing

on

### Policy versus science:

### Who is in the driving seat?

With

**Maria da Graça Carvalho**  
European Parliament (EP)

**Dieter Imboden**  
Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)

**Dirk Helbing**  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ)

Tuesday 11 October 2011, 12:00 – 14:30

Mission of Switzerland to the European Union  
Place du Luxembourg 1, 1050 Brussels

# Programme

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## Policy versus science: Who is in the driving seat?

As Europe strives towards smarter, greener and more inclusive growth within the Europe 2020 strategy the role of science and innovation is greatly emphasised. The flagship initiative Innovation Union, the further implementation of the European Research Area (ERA) and the future programmes between 2014 and 2020 will play a major role in realising these ambitions. Much attention currently goes to solving grand societal challenges like demographic or climate change. It is clear that science can provide major contributions tackling these challenges. But this also poses fundamental questions around the interaction between researchers and politicians, the organisation of science systems and the programming of research and innovation funding. This Swiss Science Briefing raises the questions of who (state or science) is and should be in the driving seat when it comes to the contribution of science in tackling the grand societal challenges.

**Dieter Imboden** will present the Swiss experience in this respect. A new wave of the National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCR) that promote long-term research programmes in areas of vital strategic importance for the development of science in Switzerland has just been launched. Is Switzerland moving away from its 'bottom-up' governance of science?

**Dirk Helbing** will elaborate on the potential and consequences of scientific modelling and simulation for policy formulation in general and in the case of the FuturICT flagship proposal in particular. How do new technologies change the relationship between policy and science?

**Maria da Graça Carvalho** will reflect on her experience regarding the interplay between politicians and researchers and the programming of European research and innovation funding instruments from 2014 to 2020. Which balance of bottom-up and top-down instruments will best serve Europe?

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12:00	Sandwich lunch
12:30	<b>Welcome and introduction</b> Jacques de Watteville Ambassador Mission of Switzerland to the EU
12:40	<b>Which governance of science for Switzerland?</b> Dieter Imboden President Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
13:00	<b>Scientific evidence and policy formulation</b> Dirk Helbing Chair of sociology Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich (ETHZ)
13:20	<b>Programming European research and innovation funding</b> Maria da Graça Carvalho Member Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) Committee European Parliament
13:40	<b>Panel discussion</b> moderated by Danièle Rod Science & Technology Counsellor Mission of Switzerland to the EU
14:00	Coffee

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**Please register until 4.10.2011 at:**

**Email:** [infodesk@swisscore.org](mailto:infodesk@swisscore.org)

**Phone:** +32-2-549 09 80; **Fax:** +32-2-549 09 89