10th International Conference on Nanosciences & Nanotechnologies (NN13)

9 - 12 July 2013, Porto Palace Conference Centre & Hotel Thessaloniki, Greece

SUNANIVERSARY

NN13 ABSTRACT BOOK

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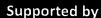
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EUROPE SPEAKS WITH TWO VOICES, CoE and EU: CAN WE HARMONIZE European NanoLaw?

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In 2012, the Council of Europe (CoE) Parliamentary Assembly began the first steps towards nanotechnology regulation with a view to respecting the scientific precautionary principles. T CoE is the health and human rights vanguard for law governing the right to health, public health and consumer protection throughout Europe, and its human rights court has remained a leading model for jurisprudence throughout the world. The CoE has 47 (forty seven) Member nations. Its jurisdiction therefore embraces 800 million people. Switzerland is a member of the CoE, as is Greece. The human rights voice of the Council of Europe differs in its emphasis and force from the European Union. What is the content of their proposed initiatives, and what should Europe do in those areas where the content is conflicting, not the same?

The CoE commissioned an expert report, "Nanotechnology: balancing benefits and risks to public health and the environment" prepared by author of this presentation. This presentation outlines the report in its legal, scientific and political context, and concludes with suggestions for participation in the forthcoming public debates April 26, 2013.

http://www.assembly.coe.int/Communication/Asocdoc27rev 2012.pdf

This expert report on nanotechnology was enthusiastically accepted at the CoE meeting of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development in Moscow, Russian Federation on November 19, 2012. The same report is now slated for public debate before the entire Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly in the main headquarters at Strasbourg France, on or before April 26, 2013. The report is an essential part of understanding the future public discourse concerning nanotechnology safety and the regulation of nanotechnology in commerce for three reasons:

- 1. First, the report was praised because of its excellent synthesis of leading issues in nanotechnology regulation confronting all civil society, including but not limited to bioethics issues, impact on human and non-human health, environmental impact ant the promising impact of nanomedicine for improving quality of life.
- 2. Second, the CoE is using the report as one of several resources for determining which path it will follow regarding possible treaties or international agreements governing the use and monitoring of nanotechnology, in its view correcting what EU regulations ignore.
- 3. Third, CoE legal instruments frequently are the basis of juridical determinations in the Court of Human rights and serve as influential models for the entire world.

DISCUSSION END OF SECOND DAY

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