



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE
Programmes and stakeholders relations
Internal and external communication

19 JUNE 2008

INVITATION TO THE PRESS

Research cooperation between the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC) and the Czech Republic

- Who?** Vlastimil Růžička, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
Miroslava Kopicová, Vice-Chairperson, Research and Development Council
Václav Pačes, President, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic
Roland Schenkel, Director-General, Joint Research Centre
- What?** JRC press conference on the occasion of the "Open Day JRC – Czech Republic" at the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic (ASCR) in Prague
- When?** 27 June 2008 at 10h50
- Where?** Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Národní 3, Praha 1 (room 108)

With growing uncertainty about the availability of fossil fuels and rising oil prices, and with nuclear fusion still far away, energy security is currently the talk of the day. Europe is increasing its primary energy imports from abroad. Can we rely on technological developments to reduce our energy import dependency? What are the prospects of developing different energy sources? Is nuclear energy a green option for Europe's energy needs?

There is growing consensus that climate change will have a serious impact on our lives. Environmental concerns are progressively colouring the policy agenda green. This calls for technological solutions. What are we currently doing to mitigate global warming, and to adapt to climate change? How can we improve the quality of our environment?

Insights into the current policy response at EU level and the research being carried out by the European Commission's in-house research arm, Joint Research Centre will be used to address these and other questions.

The "Open Day JRC – Czech Republic" co-organized by the Academy of Sciences and the Technology Centre ASCR, taking place in Prague on Friday, 27 June 2008, brings together key representatives from the Czech Government and scientific community and the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC). Participants will be able to exchange views and review progress under the EU's Seventh Framework Programme for Research (FP7) and to identify possible areas/topics for future cooperation.

The Joint Research Centre is a Directorate General of the European Commission. It comprises seven research Institutes located in five EU Member States (Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Spain). Comprising 2,700 staff, the JRC plays an active role in helping create a safer, cleaner, healthier and more competitive Europe.

Journalists are encouraged to participate in the sessions and to avail themselves of interviewing opportunities with leading EU scientists.

What do this “Open Day JRC – Czech Republic” & Press Conference offer?

Focus will be on two important research areas of high relevance for the Czech Republic where open discussion and questions and answers are welcome:

- Energy
- Environment and Sustainability

What are the kinds of issues likely to be addressed?

Important issues will be tackled such as climate change and the EU Climate Change policy. The latest insights will also be given into research on (renewable) energy and the Czech perspective on this issue.

What is the subject of the press conference?

The press conference will, in particular, highlight success stories to-date and possible ways ahead for future Czech/JRC collaborative projects.

Members of the media are cordially invited to the press conference at 10h50 and networking lunch taking place from 13h00 (see programme link below) and are welcome to attend the sessions (in room 206).

Programme highlights:

- 09h15: Welcome coffee
- 09h30: First round of presentations
- 10h50: Coffee break / Press conference
- 11h10: Second round of presentations
- 12h00: Short round-table on selected projects
- 13h00: Networking lunch

Further information:

Programme: www.jrc.ec.europa.eu/infoday-prague-2008

JRC activities: <http://www.jrc.ec.europa.eu>

Media Enquiries: Ulla Engelmann, JRC Internal & External Communication Unit;
Tel: +32 (0)2 2957624; Fax: +32 (0)2 2996322;
Email: ulla.engelmann@ec.europa.eu;

Note to media: If possible, please confirm your attendance by email.