The Joint Research Centre
EU policy-making based on facts

The Joint Research Centre is the European Commission’s science and knowledge service, carrying out research and providing independent scientific advice in support of EU policies. Its work has a direct impact on the lives of European citizens through its research on societal challenges such as creating a healthy and safe environment, secure energy supplies or sustainable mobility.

The Joint Research Centre’s work helps the European Commission achieve its political priorities in areas such as Jobs, Growth and Investment; Digital Single Market; Security Union and the Energy Union.

JOBS, GROWTH AND INVESTMENT
Sustainable growth through research into the circular economy and regional competitiveness.
• Platforms to help European regions to deepen cooperation and build on their strengths.
• Analytical tools underpinning EU financial markets regulation and the construction of the Banking Union.
• Specific services to authorities and businesses include:
  > Satellite based crop monitoring and forecasting
  > The European Reference Centre to ensure wine authenticity

DIGITAL SINGLE MARKET
• Research on cybersecurity, radio spectrum, digital surveillance
• In depth analysis of the characteristics of online markets
• SELFIE tool to help EU schools assess their digital capabilities
• Online and mobile applications to citizens:
  > Happy Onlife, a game for children and adults promoting safe and responsible use of the internet
  > The NetBravo app helping travellers in Europe see the availability and quality of Wi-Fi and mobile internet in their area

SECURITY UNION
• Research on crisis management, safety, security and privacy
• Tools to secure and monitor EU borders, for example for detecting ships engaged in illicit activities
• Real time alerts and assessment services to authorities responding to crises and natural disasters
• Strengthening the physical protection of critical infrastructures against explosions, impacts and blast waves

ENERGY UNION
Research in energy efficiency and sustainable transport
• The EU Interoperability Centre for e-Vehicles and Smart Grids underpinning the EU’s work on standardisation in these fields
• Managing the monitoring and reporting system of the EU’s Strategic Energy Technology Plan, aimed at making energy production and use more efficient
• Supporting EU efforts in international climate negotiations with detailed assessments and climate change scenarios
In policy making, the problem is no longer that we have too little information and data, but that we have a lot, and making sense of it all is challenging. The Knowledge Centres operated by the Joint Research Centre bring together experts and knowledge from different sources inside and outside the European Commission. They help policy-makers to understand the latest scientific evidence in a transparent, tailored and concise way.

The Joint Research Centre operates five Knowledge Centres, with one more scheduled to launch in 2018:

- **Knowledge Centre for Territorial Policies**
- **Knowledge Centre on Migration and Demography**
- **Knowledge Centre for Disaster Risk Management**
- **Knowledge Centre for Food Fraud and Quality**
- **Knowledge Centre for Food and Nutrition Security**

*Coming 2018*

**KNOWLEDGE CENTRES**

The European Commission’s science and knowledge service

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DID YOU KNOW...

- that you can find your favourite tree in the first ever *European Atlas of Forest Tree Species*, alongside a wealth of information on their habitat and qualities and how threats such as climate change may affect them? The Atlas is both a source of rigorous and up-to-date information for researchers and policy makers, and a publication suitable for education about the richness of our forests.

- that the Joint Research Centre can help you save fuel and the planet with its online *Green Driving tool*? This tool enables you to estimate fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions for your car journeys on the basis of car size, engine power or driving style, and can help you make more informed mobility decisions.

- that you can go back in time and watch lakes and rivers on the Earth’s surface appear, disappear and change over the past three decades using the *Global Surface Water Explorer* developed by the Joint Research Centre and Google? The tool, featured in “Nature” magazine, is particularly useful for climate science, risk management, infrastructural planning and water management.

- where your city ranks in Europe on culture and creativity? You can check it out in the *Cultural and Creative Cities Monitor* that shows how well 168 selected cities in 30 European countries perform on a range of measures related to culture and creativity. The Monitor helps cities harness culture to drive social and economic development — by enabling them to identify local strengths and opportunities and learn from other cities thanks to both quantitative and qualitative data.