



European Foresight Platform

supporting forward looking decision making

Newsletter 07/2016

July 12, 2016

Dear members of the European Foresight Platform,

it has been a while since we informed you about the latest developments and events in the European Foresight community. After a time of changes and restructuring we are happy to present you the seventh edition of the EFP Newsletter. In this issue we would like to inform you about:

1. **Foresight Film Festival in Halle, Germany**
2. **Call for Papers: Futures of a Complex World in Turku, Finland**
3. **Latest Foresight Briefs**
4. **FRESHER Survey Online up to 15th of July**
5. **Call for Briefs: Present Your Foresight Project**
6. **Upcoming Events**

Enjoy reading!

André Uhl

1. Foresight Film Festival in Halle, Germany – Where Foresight Meets Vision



FORESIGHT
Filmfestival
science meets vision

Foresight is looking into new ways of connecting to a wider public audience and one of the alternatives to lengthy and academic reports are movies. The second [Foresight Film Festival](#), took place in the small university town of Halle (near Leipzig, Germany), and displayed poetic, fascinating yet disruptive film clips in three categories: “digital competence”, “from do-it yourself to do-it-

together”, and “the future is open space”. A jury composed of university lecturers, artists, policy makers, journalists and scientists selected 16 out of the 56 submitted works. The selected clips were presented to a large audience in Halle, June 30, followed by the nomination of winners for each of the three film categories.

The first prize in “digital competence” was awarded to “OmnisFi – the upgrade for quality of life,” by the Austrian filmmaker Dominik Bücheler. The clip placed emphasis on the aestheticization of today’s commercials, zooming into a perfect-world where everybody is happy and successful by consuming beauty. Appalling and alluring. The first prize for the second category, “from do-it yourself to do-it-together,” went to “Comfortable Protest” by the Russian artist Elena Artemenko. Ironic and political, in her work Artemenko explains how to make public rallies ecologically feasible and more comfortable for protesters (the “make a protester comfortable kit” included a reusable whiteboard (for signs/slogans), an umbrella and three table legs to be used with the banner as a stool)). During an interview the artist pointed out that the Russian government would prefer all protesters to be comfortable. We understand her contribution as an artistic reflection of that preference. In the third category “the future is open space” the first prize went to a documentary on cooperative wind energy production on a northern German island, named “Pellworm open landscape” and produced by the German team Dokworkers Filmproduktion (Wolfgang Gaube, Uta Kolano, Vincent Kolano).

This year, two additional prizes were awarded, one for young talents, and one audience award. The young talents’ award was sponsored by the DASA Arbeitswelt Ausstellung Dortmund and went to the movie “Step One”. A very aesthetic and lyrical documentary was presented by the young German filmmaker Lea Dinger on a Panamanian volunteer grass-root initiative for turtles’ conservation. Last but not least, the audience selected “Joco 2034” as the most innovative Foresight film of 2016. This is a documentary about the future of a local store where customers and producers work together on custom-made products and services. Its predecessor actually exists in the city center of Nuremberg. The documentary was produced by Patricia Petsch and Christina Müller.

Although it was not always clear what the criteria for the award nomination were, for example: artistic design, originality, foresightedness, etc., the 16 clips presented an extensive variety of reflections of our present and their culmination, at times, in quite near future. Despite the announcement of one of the major sponsors, the German Ministry of Education and Research, to terminate their financial contributions towards the festival, the audience’s overall reaction was positive, bringing hope for the future of the event. Local supporters of the film festival and the co-sponsor Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg are confident that there will be a third festival next year. More international flair in terms of reach and contributions would definitely help to promote this grand idea of merging film and foresight.

All selected 16 films can be streamed online: <http://foresight-filmfestival.de/>

2. Call for papers: Futures of a Complex World in Turku, Finland



The call for papers, posters and performances for the next Finland Futures Research Centre's conference happening on the 12th and 13th of June 2017 in Turku is now open. The conference will be focusing on the guiding theme "Futures of a Complex World". In order to meet this theme the organisers ask academics, researchers and professionals to present their work which preferably deals with the following questions: What are the main challenges in an era of an uncertain world? How to create sustainable futures based on empathy? What is the role of futures research in identifying opportunities for action that are fair and resilient while remaining agile in a global and complex world?

The 18th International Futures Conference of the Finland Futures Research Centre is organised in co-operation with the Finland Futures Academy, the National Foresight Network, Finland and the Foresight Europe Network, FEN. It is targeted to academics, authorities, policymakers and representatives from governmental organisations and NGOs, students and all interested in futures research. Deadline for the abstracts is the 2nd December 2016, registration opens in January 2017. By the way, the Finland Future Research Centre also celebrates its 25 anniversary next year – one more reason to join and celebrate!

Download the call for papers here:

<http://www.futuresconference.fi/2017/cfp-futures-2017.pdf>

For more information on the Futures Conference please visit:

<https://futuresconference2017.wordpress.com/>

3. Latest Foresight Briefs

Have you recently asked yourself, which are the latest foresight briefs published on the EFP site? Here they are: Vilja Varho discusses the complex issues of characterising expertise and taking full use of it in expert-based futures projects in [Brief No. 258](#). He argues that transparency of the chosen expertise must often be combined with upholding anonymity. Marianne Hörlesberger explains the approach and results of the Austrian Materials Foresight in [Brief No. 259](#), dealing with the role of high-performance materials in future manufacturing. In [Brief No. 260](#) Mikko Dufva describes a

foresight programme as part of a broader joint project with the objective to enhance innovation-driven sustainable economic development of the Antofagasta region in Chile. Doris Schartinger presents the Success Scenario Method in the context of the Health Systems Foresight in [Brief No. 261](#). The project was part of the 7th EU Framework Programme to explore options for integrating Personal Health Systems (PHS) into the health care system. The latest [Brief No. 262](#) comes from Niklas Gudowsky, who provides insights from experiences with a forward looking multi-actor engagement method that supplies policy advice for framework conditions of research and development: CIVISTI – Citizen Visions on Science, Technology and Innovation.

To download more briefs and to browse through the EFP brief database please [visit the EFP website](#).

4. FRESHER Survey Online up to 15th of July



What will impact your health the most? Have your say and support the [FRESHER](#) project by taking the survey which will be online until the 15th of July! FRESHER is an interdisciplinary research and foresight project funded by the EU programme Horizon 2020 and stands for “Foresight and Modelling for European Health Policy and Regulation”. The overall objective of the FRESHER project is the representation of alternative futures where the detection of emerging health scenarios will be used to test future research policies to effectively tackle the burden of non-communicable chronic diseases (NCDs).

The Scenarios Building process adopted by the FRESHER team is highly participatory, and relies heavily on the inputs provided by the project partners and by a wide community of experts through online surveys and a series of dedicated workshops. The team identified eight trends with strong implications on citizens’ health and the future evolution of NCDs. The current survey is intended to elicit your opinion as regard:

- the uncertainty of the trend at 2050;
- the importance of the trend in reducing the incidence of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) at 2050;
- the most suitable indicator to capture the evolution of identified trends.

The survey is composed by three closed questions for each of the eight trends and will take approximately 25 minutes to complete. [Click here to take the survey](#).

5. Call for Briefs: Present your Foresight Project

Over the past five years the open access EFP brief database proved to be a useful information and dissemination tool for the Foresight community as well as for policy-makers searching for forward-looking projects within their field. From theoretical considerations and new methodical approaches through to implemented projects – the topics featured in the EFP briefs are as diverse as the issues discussed in the Foresight community. In addition to a comprehensive overview of these topics, the brief database also shows who is playing an active role in the various fields.

The EFP brief database depends on fresh input by its contributors. Therefore we would like to revisit our call for briefs. If you want to promote your foresight project or forward-looking activity and display your example in the EFP online database, just [download the current brief template](#) and send us a 4-pages draft version of your project. We are looking forward to your contribution!

To receive more information about the EFP briefs please contact the EFP editors [Susanne Giesecke](#) or [André Uhl](#).

6. Upcoming Events

22-24 July, 2016, Washington DC [World Future 2016](#)

19-21 September, 2016, Ghent [OECD Blue Sky III](#)

29-30 September, 2016, Starachowice [Future Engineering 2016](#)

7-9 June, 2017, Vienna [EU-SPRI Vienna 2017](#)

12-13 June, 2017, Turku [Futures of a Complex World](#)

We are always interested in featuring events in the field of foresight, forward-looking activities and futures research. If you would like to share any new and exciting conferences, seminars or lectures concerning foresight related topics, feel free to contact the EFP editors [Susanne Giesecke](#) or [André Uhl](#).

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