



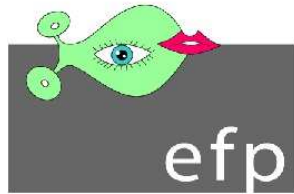
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# Policy options for surprising and emerging futures in Europe

EFP Policy Workshop  
Brussels, October 26, 2011



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# Surprising and emerging issues: approach to the workshop

***Translating the emerging and surprising issues to policy actions: what are the implications of emerging and surprising issues for policy and why and how should policy manage these issues?***

- Bringing together emerging and surprising issues from Blue Sky projects (Block 2)
- Prioritising these emerging and surprising issues (Block 3)
- Identifying and assessing potential policy implications (Block 4)
- Discussing policy requirements and policy actions (Block 5)
- Presenting and discussing national early warning and surprise management systems and potential for European approaches (Block 6+7)

# Emerging issues, wild cards and weak signals

**Wild card:** a surprising, unexpected event with a potentially high impact and strategic consequences for society (low probability, high impact)

**Weak signal:** unclear and ambiguous events providing 'hints' about potentially important changes, discontinuities or shifts in society (seeds of change)

