



Simon Joss & Sergio Bellucci EDITORS

Participatory Technology Assessment

EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVES



Since the early 1990s, an increasing number of citizens, stakeholders and user groups have become involved in assessing new scientific and technological developments. This involvement has taken various forms, including citizens' panels, scenario workshops, round tables and consensus conferences. The aim of such 'participatory technology assessment' is to provide advice to policy-makers and to encourage wider public debate about socio-technological developments.

This volume gives a comprehensive overview of recent developments in participatory technology assessment in a variety of European national and institutional contexts. It includes a research framework that provides a basis for both theoretical and practical analysis; contains studies of 16 participatory initiatives in Austria, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom; and offers in-depth, cross-country comparisons focusing on important issues such as the methodological design, political role and impact of participatory technology assessment.

This book is based on a two-year European Commission-funded research project (EUROPTA).

CONTRIBUTORS

AUSTRIA

Petra Grabner
Michael Nentwich
Walter Peissl
Helge Torgersen

*Institute of Technology Assessment,
Austrian Academy of Sciences*

DENMARK

Lars Klüver

Danish Board of Technology

GERMANY

Fritz Gloede
Leonhard Hennen

*Institute of Technology Assessment
and Systems Analysis,
Karlsruhe Research Centre*

THE NETHERLANDS

Wilma Aarts
Anne Loeber
Josée van Eijndhoven
Rinie van Est

The Rathenau Institute

SWITZERLAND

Michel Baeriswyl
Sergio Bellucci
Danielle Bütschi

*Swiss Centre for Technology
Assessment*

UNITED KINGDOM

Simon Joss

*Centre for the Study of Democracy,
University of Westminster*





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