Up-to-date information

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www.tab-beim-bundestag.de/englisch

Foresight Report 2024
Results of the Resilience Radar Analyses
https://foresight.tab-beim-bundestag.de

TAB in the media
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EPTA Report 2024
Artificial Intelligence and Democracy
https://eptanetwork.org

Our English-language publications
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As of: February 2025

About us

The TAB has been operating as an independet scientific unit at the Institute of Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis (ITAS) of the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) since 1990. It is based on a contract with the German Bundestag.

KIT Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

itas Institute for Technology Assessment and Systems Analysis

Since September 2013, the KIT has been cooperating with the IZT – Institute for Futures Studies and Technology Assessment gGmbH and the Institute for Innovation and Technology (iit) of the VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH.

izt Institute for Futures Studies and Technology Assessment

INSTITUTE FOR INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Contact us

Office of Technology Assesment
at the German Bundestag (TAB)
Head: Prof. Dr. Armin Grunwald
Neue Schönhauser Straße 10 | D-10178 Berlin
+49 30 28491-0 | buero@tab-beim-bundestag.de

TAB Office of Technolgogy Assessment at the German Bundestag


Image: TAB/Bernd Stegmann

Assessing the impact of technology – for parliament and society

www.tab-beim-bundestag.de/english

Scientific Advice to the German Bundestag

The Office of Technology Assessment at the German Bundestag (TAB) has been a permanent scientific advisory body to the German Bundestag since 1990. It supports the parliament in its legislative and governmental control functions with regard to shaping the framework conditions of scientific and technological change.


Image: TAB/Markus Breig

Knowledge and orientation for parliament and society

The central task of technology assessment (TA) for Parliament is to analyse the scientific and technological developments and socio-technical trends comprehensively and forward looking, and to explore the associated social, economic and ecological opportunities and risks. On this basis, the need for (legislative) action and viable options for political decision-makers and societal actors are identified.

This orientation function of parliamentary TA is complemented by our extended foresight activities with a focus on resilience and innovation.

With our activities and information events in the Bundestag, we promote the dialogue between science and politics as well as the public debate on technological innovations and their shaping.

A wide range of topics – from climate change to quantum technologies

TAB covers a broad spectrum of topics, including biotechnology and health, the digital society and economy, energy and the environment, infrastructure and security, as well as agriculture and food.

In the 20th parliamentary term, TAB produced reports on how to improve the climate balance in particularly CO_2-intensive sectors such as the construction materials industry and aviation, or how to strengthen cybersecurity in the food sector.

TAB is currently working on artificial intelligence in education and decentralised electricity systems, on technologies to remove plastics from the oceans and on the military use of quantum technologies, to name but a few.

TAB's topics and projects arise from requests by committees and parliamentary groups. They are selected by consensus in the TA Rapporteur Group and approved by the Committee on Education, Research and Technology Assessment, following an assessment of their technical, political and social relevance.


Image: Office- Kai Gehring

The final reports are accepted by the committee and published as TAB reports. As printed papers of the German Bundestag, they become part of the parliamentary deliberations and debates.

The more than 400 publications from over 200 projects are available for download on the TAB website.

Our foresight activities focusing on resilience and innovation

Horizon scanning is used to identify potentially promising socio-technical innovations and scientific trends. The more than 70 thematic briefs produced so far provide a concise overview of the potential and risks of new technologies.

The Resilience Radar identifies trends and hazards that pose systemic risks and challenges to critical infrastructure systems. Annual Foresight Reports present relevant trends and their impact on the vulnerability and resilience of selected infrastructure systems and discuss systemic risks and potential hazards.

The aim of the Resilience Check is to develop viable strategies for selected infrastructure systems and key issues using a scenario-based and participatory approach. The results are published annually in a Resilience Dossier.

International dialogue und networking

As a founding member of the European Parliamentary Technology Assessment (EPTA) network, TAB works closely with the 26 member institutions and thus makes an important contribution to international parliamentary technology assessment. It is also an active member of the German-speaking Network for Technology Assessment (NTA).


Image: TAB/Konstantin Börner