

# European Health Risk Assessment Network on Electromagnetic Fields Exposure: The EC Project EFHRAN

Paolo Ravazzani, Elisabeth Cardis, Guglielmo D'Inzeo, Peter Gajšek, Joachim Schüz, Zenon Sienkiewicz, Gyorgy Thuroczy, Bernard Veyret

Europe is facing the burden of environmental exposures to new agents, potentially detrimental to health. Among them, electromagnetic fields (EMF) are one of the most diffuse and ubiquitous, especially as many new EMF-based technologies are being developed and commercialized. Research on possible EMF health effects is being carried out by many research centres supported by international and national public or private funding bodies. The extent and diversity of research activities makes it difficult to provide relevant, authoritative and timely input for policy development.

The European Commission will now provide an answer to this need, by establishing the project EFHRAN as the first risk assessment network on EMF and health issues. EFHRAN started on February 1, 2009 and will last 36 months.

## Objectives

- ✦ Monitor and search for evidence of health risks related to EMF exposure
- ✦ Characterize and, where appropriate, quantify potential health risk posed by EMF exposure
- ✦ Enhance the EC's ability to respond rapidly to health issues and concerns related to EMF using scientifically sound advice and analyses
- ✦ Improve the compilation of knowledge and its dissemination on issues related to EMF and health

## Activities

- ✦ Risk analysis of exposure to EMF: human, in vitro and in vivo (animals) studies
- ✦ Exposure Assessment in Europe
- ✦ Dose-response assessment and related metric on EMF exposure
- ✦ Health risk characterization related to EMF exposure
- ✦ Inputs on the future risk management phases

## Partners

- ✦ Istituto di Ingegneria Biomedica Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy - *P. Ravazzani* (Coordinator)
- ✦ Kraeftens Bekaempelse, Institute of Cancer Epidemiology, Denmark - *J. Schüz*
- ✦ Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France - *B. Veyret*
- ✦ National "Frédéric Joliot-Curie" Research Institute for Radiobiology and Radiohygiene, Hungary - *G. Thuróczy*
- ✦ Università degli Studi di Genova (ICEmB), Italy - *G. D'Inzeo*
- ✦ Institute of Nonionizing Radiation, Slovenia - *P. Gajšek*
- ✦ Fundació Centre de Recerca en Epidemiologia Ambiental, Spain - *E. Cardis*
- ✦ Health Protection Agency, United Kingdom - *Z. Sienkiewicz*

Project funded by  
The Executive Agency for  
Health and Consumers  
(EAHC)

### Contact

#### Scientific Coordination

Paolo Ravazzani

**Istituto di Ingegneria Biomedica  
Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche**

piazza Leonardo da Vinci, 32 - 20133 Milano (Italy)

Tel: +39 02 23993344 Fax: +39 02 23993367

e-mail: [paolo.ravazzani@polimi.it](mailto:paolo.ravazzani@polimi.it)

website: <http://efhran.polimi.it>

