
Risk Regulation Culture Clash: The Scientific vs. Precautionary View

“Whereas a scientific rationality political culture accepts and respects scientists’ ability to calculate a novel technology’s risks, a precautionary political culture is more inclined to stress the limits of scientific knowledge and to view scientific claims as indeterminate and uncertain, and not necessarily a reliable basis for decisions on how to manage a technology’s risks.”

Skogstad, Contested Accountability Claims and GMO Regulation

On the Global Stage: Internationalization of GMO Policy


A Developing Country’s Perspective:

“Loopholes in the Oversight of GMOs: Majority of Grains Cannot Be Distinguished as Genetically Modified.”

Xinhua News Agency “转基因监管存漏洞: 多数粮食收购点不能测转基因” 8/4/2014

Past

● Attempts at Harmonization: Directive 90/220/EEC.
● Late 1990s food scandals.
● GMO moratorium.
● US-EU Biotech WTO case: a narrow win--“undue delays.”
● Safeguard clauses---effective national bans on GMOs.


Policy Gridlock: European Commission obligated to take decisions in face of national opposition in response to EFSA rulings.

Future

● A National Opt-out in EU GMO cultivation?: Proposed Amendment Article 26b to the 2001 Directive
● U.S. Trade Strategy Shift: forced compliance to open dialogue.
● TTIP Negotiations: Regulatory Convergence?