



INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY
ASSESSMENT



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Process, product or both?

Double role of TA: better procedures – better society

- TA at Parliament: honest broker, equidistant
- TA in R&D: constructive, agenda-driven

Can both be reconciled (to regain trust in politics, democracy, science, ...)?

Different requirements

- Process: agenda-free, keep political prerogative, neutral / equidistant
- Product: agenda-driven, influence on R&D, sustainability / progressive

Four questions

- As TA is always a hybrid, how to find a practical balance between product and process orientation despite contradicting requirements?
- May the honest broker pursue an agenda if the value basis is generally accepted, and how to establish this in the future?
- How to develop a set of TA research agendas that are focused on the respective purpose, theoretically informed and normatively reflexive?
- What are the institutional consequences of different orientations, and how to speak of TA in a generic way?



Thank you for your attention!

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