Short versions of the 30 policy recommendations.

Below is a reformulation of the 30 elaborated recommendations in 2-3 lines to provide a quick overview of all 30.

1. Humanistic research to explore what dignity during the dying process means to contemporary Europeans.

Participatory research (anthropological) of an aging population in modern societies for developing spaces, where citizens can discuss and develop a community around their concerns about dignity during the dying process.

Corresponding vision: 7. Being allowed to die in dignity, a companionship of dying in a network of family and relatives.

The recommendation is also related to:
- vision 11: The death passport.

2. Tools for disabled people.

Investigating the state of the art in the development of tools for disabled people and older adults. Based on the introduction of a balanced multidisciplinary approach to the issue by involving experts from technological and social sciences.

Corresponding vision: 9. Disabled people as fully valuable members of the society.

3. European TV – unity in diversity. A permanent lab for experimentation on building and expressing identity (IdenTVLab).

Establishing TV that contributes to the creation of different forms of European identity and to the cooperation of diverse cultures.

Corresponding vision: 10. TV for the creation of a European identity.

4. Plug and play communication: development of standards for smart gadgets.

To support the vision of a smart society and reduce the risk of wasting resources standardisation of smart gadgets are needed. Standardisation shall ensure a minimum standard of security and privacy and that smart gadgets can communicate with each other regardless brand or type.

Corresponding vision: 12. Smart society.

5. Foresight and research to explore sustainable options of decentralized energy production systems and the resolution of energy related conflicts.

Implement foresight studies* and research in the governance challenges related to different scales and levels of energy production and distribution in order to develop new options for decentralised, sustainable energy production and to avoid future conflicts.

Corresponding vision: 13. Endless energy (independence of fossil fuels. Local and environmentally friendly production of energy).

6. A 'Platform of the future of work' at a local, regional and global level should be considered within upcoming calls of the SSH program*.

Establish a platform within the upcoming calls in the SSH program* about work at local, regional and global level. Including research about redefining work, 'flexicurity'*, work-life balance, basic income, new jobs, and social responsibility. This platform should involve citizen participation.

Corresponding vision: 17. Where there is a will, there is work (Employment for all. A vision about the balance between work and private life, voluntary work and full employment).

7. Stimulate research to expand/augment the human sensory capabilities.

Promote cutting-edge research on bionics and machine-human interface to expanding human sensory capabilities. Main focus on the technological prospective but also focus on the knowledge generated by the recent studies with interdisciplinary research in psychology, ethics and philosophy.

Corresponding vision: 19. Make me human! (A dream about health and wellness, technology and ethics).

8. Enhance the ethical reflection on science based organic and "bionic" production.

The ethical aspects of development of radically new genetic and technological treatments should be systematically approached by ethical research councils and advisory bodies at a European level. Ethical interdisciplinary research programmes should be designed.

Corresponding vision: 19. Make me human! (A dream about health and wellness, technology and ethics).

9. Optimization of urban space: towards dense European eco-cities.

Initiate pilot projects creating eco-cities in Europe with sustainable waste management, transportation, urban space use and energy usage. It should be based on citizens participation.

Corresponding vision: 20. A contemporary European city in the year 2050.

10. From CAP to European Agricultural policy: back to a gardening tradition.

Establish Foresight studies and comparative analyses on the agricultural potentials of the different regions in Europe with the purpose of developing policies for re-establishing a gardening tradition in Europe that would deliver high quality agricultural products.

Corresponding vision: 21. Bulgaria, the garden of Europe.

11. Research to overcome the tension between the use of highly complex materials in products and their recyclability.

Establish research in new materials that deliver technical performance while at the same time are easily recyclable, and research in new processes that allow for the recycling or reuse of high performance materials.
Corresponding vision: 22. Eco-techno future.

12. Increase direct democracy through e-voting.

Citizens should be involved more often and easily in parliamentary elections as well as in special decisions affecting the development of the society through e-voting for
Corresponding vision: 25. Link among the generations, space and time.

13. Recognition policy.

The development of a new research area that is called the 'Politics of Recognition' and that focuses on promoting the inherent uniqueness of an area, country, region, values, traditions etc. The research should include participatory process/action research*.
Corresponding vision: 26. One Bulgaria, one Europe, one world – one whole.

14. Develop Sofia into an eco-model for European capitals.

Establishment of an interdisciplinary "Eco City" European programme with significant funding for supporting the transition of European cities to eco-models and the exchange of good practices*.
Corresponding vision: 27. Sofia – the green capital.

15. Agreements with farmers organizations on avoiding antibiotics and hormones.

Implement research on ethical, legal and philosophical status of animals in FP8*. Develop agreements on avoiding antibiotics and hormones to be implemented at the local or regional level but that are harmonized at the European level.
Corresponding vision: 31. Responsible animal production in the EU.

16. Innovative participatory structures.

Implement innovative experiments with citizens participation. Large scale explorative action research* based on trying new methodologies and including new communication technologies for citizens political communication debates.
Corresponding vision: 32: EU for the people.
The recommendation is also related to:
  - vision 36: Mass communication replaced by masses communicating (by providing communication technologies to facilitate the participatory structures)
  - vision 42: Europe TV (by providing a medium for these methods)

17. Social innovations for aging societies are needed.

Research should be done to investigate the effect that a transition period between full-employment and full-retirement would have on the labour market. The aim of this

would be to re-evaluate the rigid retirement age/pension system that currently characterizes pension policy.

Corresponding vision: 33. The ageing man/woman is a resource.

The recommendation is also related to:
- vision 17: Where there is a will, there is work.
- vision 50: Support for starting and maintaining a family - and the EU.

18. Promote technical and social innovations that can enhance people's access to and use of public transportation.

Promote technical and social innovations to improve people's access to transportation schemes, through an intelligent and interactive network*. This network should cover and integrate both local and trans-national travel in a flexible, user friendly and environmentally sound way.

Corresponding vision: 35. Environmentally sound transportation throughout Europe.

19. Develop avatars that are able to act as a remote physical representation of myself.

Start research on the many aspects of creating avatars, including research in brain-machine interface, technical research, research in legal and insurance issues and research in social consequences.

Corresponding vision: 36. Mass communication by masses communicating.

20. Select or develop plants and techniques for areas with extreme climate conditions.

Increased research, development and use of plants adapted to extreme wet and dry areas and capable of resisting extreme climate conditions.

Corresponding vision: 39. Food production in the EU is sustainable.

21. Policies towards immigrants and refugees appreciation.

Policies towards immigrants and refugees should become less threat-focused. A new immigrant positive approach to educative, cultural, immigration and media policies is needed for changing the mental framework of citizens as well as bureaucracy towards the appreciation of immigrants.

Corresponding vision: 40. Strengthening of language and culture.

22. Foster the use of biorefineries*.

Implement a research program on biorefineries* that are able to produce natural based, biodegradable chemicals that can replace fossil-based chemicals, both on the European and national level, with focus on the interplay between local and international biorefineries*.

Corresponding vision: 44. The worst environmental threats have been beaten.

23. Project for Finnish best practices to be disseminated and used in other countries.

Finland's success in innovation should be presented by Finnish science and technology policy makers, while other EU countries comment on it, identify its weak points, suggest complementary and/or alternative solutions.
Corresponding vision: 45. Finland as a pioneer of innovations.

24. Go and re-appropriate countryside!

Foresight studies* should be conducted to develop new visions of the future for establishing attractive, contemporary life in the countryside. Foresight studies* should include mobility, cultural and political life, employment and balance between production and recreation in the countryside.
Corresponding vision: 49. Go countryside!

25. European integrated policies on sharing work.

The need for new ways of working demands European level integrated policies on new models of work and employment. New integrated European models of work should be based on interdisciplinary research and overview of existing international studies of different work models.
Corresponding vision: 53. A happy day – Tuesday, 16th of April 2045.

26. Develop effective urban infrastructures supporting a multigenerational lifestyle.

Support the development of communication and mobile technologies that support multigenerational families. Support urban design and infrastructural development that provide a friendly environment for large families and their changing needs during familial life cycles.
Corresponding vision: 56. Traditional, multigenerational family model in the EU.

27. Encourage alumni work in corporate governance*.

European companies should be stimulated to establish Elderly Councils for using the knowledge and know-how of the former employees as advisory teams.
Corresponding vision: 59. Tranquil elderly period – actively.

28. Worldwide collaboration on space technology.

Create popular support for worldwide research cooperation in the form of a new mega-programme along the lines of the space programme in the 1960s and to ensure the democratic way of the process. Funded internationally with the overall objective of ensuring the longer term survival of human culture when the world is burned out.
Corresponding vision: 60. Outer space exploration for future solution.

29. Project to explore global governance.

Explore conditions for trans-national governance working for global justice and peace. The 8th Framework Programme* should begin with educational and exchange programmes for creating world citizenship identity.

Corresponding vision: 63. A brighter future – or just a dream?

30. Stimulate research on human-machine interfaces.

New interfaces between humans and machines need to be developed to allow for a broader perception of sensory information. This raises a lot of technical, but also societal and ethical (health and safety) issues to be examined.
Corresponding vision: 69. Natural access to ICT everywhere!

Glossary

Action research:
"Action research... aims to contribute both to the practical concerns of people in an immediate problematic situation and to further the goals of social science simultaneously. Thus, there is a dual commitment in action research to study a system and concurrently to collaborate with members of the system to change it in what is together regarded as a desirable direction. Accomplishing this twin goal requires the active collaboration of both researcher and client, and thus stresses the importance of co-learning, as a primary aspect of the research process." O'Brian, Rory, An Overview of the Methodological Approach of Action Research.

Best practices:
Methods and techniques that have consistently shown results superior to those achieved with other means, and which are used as benchmarks to strive for. There is, however, no practice that is best for everyone and in every situation, and no best practice will remain the best for very long, since people always keep on finding better ways of doing things. http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/best-practice.html.

Biorefinery
The technology behind a biorefinery is similar to that of an oil/petroleum refinery, but it produces fuel, chemicals, or heat from biomass, e.g. wood or sugar cane. It decreases the volume of waste and makes agriculture and industry sustainable. It also contributes to the replacement of fossil fuel and energy, which are limited/finite.

Closed cycles
A closed cycle means that the system is self-sustainable and reuses all or most of the things it produces. In agriculture it refers to the procedure whereby garbage (plants and animal slurry) is reused in farming, to decrease or eliminate the amount of waste produced, the energy consumption, and the use of pesticides.

Corporate governance
Corporate governance is the set of processes, customs, policies, laws, and institutions affecting the way a corporation (or company) is directed, administered, or controlled. Corporate governance also includes the relationships between the many stakeholders involved and the goals for which the corporation is governed. The principal stakeholders are the shareholders, the board of directors, employees, customers, creditors, suppliers, and the community at large.

Flexicurity:
Flexicurity is "*...a degree of job, employment, income, and combination security that facilitates the labour market careers and biographies of workers with a relatively weak position and allows for enduring and high quality labour market participation and social inclusion, while at the same time providing a degree of numerical (both external and internal), functional, and wage flexibility that allows for labour markets' (and individual companies') timely and adequate adjustment to changing conditions in order to maintain and enhance competitiveness and productivity*" (Wilthagen and Tros, 2004). Employment in Europe, 2006, European Commission.

Foresight analysis

A foresight analysis is a method to try to describe what might happen in the future by lowering the level of uncertainty. Past and present trends have to be foresight-analysed and not only the big trends, but the seeds of change, the weak signals as well.

FP7, FP8
The Framework programmes (FP) are the European Union's most important funding programme/instrument to support research and technological development, with the aim of increasing growth, competitiveness, and employment in Europe. All research-related actions of the EU are incorporated in the FPs. There are different topics and fields in an FP and both research groups or individual researchers can apply for funding from the budget of an FP. FP7 is designed for the period of 2007 to 2013, while FP8 will cover the following period.

Organic, intelligent and living (self-adapting) network:
In most cases, a self-adapting network is an adaptive system that changes its structure based upon external or internal information that flows through the network during the learning phase. (Wikipedia)

Political culture: the orientation of the citizens of a nation toward politics, and their perceptions of political legitimacy and the traditions of political practice.

SSH
SSH stands for 'social sciences and humanities' and it constitutes a thematic part of FP7*. SSH aims at supporting common European research in the field of social sciences and humanities. These research activities are funded by the European Union and some key fields of research are defined in advance, to promote common European solutions for the common challenges. It makes the European research infrastructure less expensive and more efficient, since resources are harmonized and researchers gain common knowledge about the research culture of other Member States.