

## BIOTECHNOLOGY AND BIO-TERRORISM: HOW TO NOT SPOIL BENEFICIAL FRUITS OF RESEARCH ON GENETICALLY MODIFIED ORGANISMS

### Summary

Recent years have witness massive growth of basic research and diffusion of modern biotechnology, much more efficient that traditional methods, in production of large quantities of high quality specific proteins. Given examples of new advanced molecular biology and genetical engineering show unprecedented opportunities in medicine and human health care. At the same time manipulation of pathogenic microorganisms may bring some potential risks posed by these living modified organisms. The

benefits of the more precise methods are becoming clear, but the precautionary approach demands that uncertainties and conjectural risks be addressed by corresponding research and legislation. The existing regulations on biosafety in some European countries require strengthening of protocols setting out appropriate procedures, including in particular informed agreement, in the field of safe transfer, handling and use of living modified pathogenic organisms.