



## S RTP Publications

S RTP produces books and reports on a wide variety of topical issues, including:

**End of Life issues.** This report expands previous work done by SRT on this topic and concentrates on the palliative care option as an alternative to assisted suicide.

**Ethics of Defence.** An ethics of defence that allows the church to both challenge political decisions that deal with defence issues and at the same time support service men and women through our chaplain services: a task that is full of tension.

**Justice and Markets.** A theological critique of economic thinking arguing for a fundamental review of the values that underpin economic decision-making.

**Energy for a Changing Climate.** The main focus of the report is on electricity supply and energy saving.

**Embryo Research, Human Stem Cells and Cloned Embryos.** A detailed paper examining many aspects of this important but controversial area of research.

**Engineering Genesis.** Widely acclaimed as one of the most balanced books available on genetically modified food, crops and animals, the product of S RTP's expert working group study.

**Biotechnology as a Social Contract.** What conditions will future developments of biotechnology have to fulfil to be accepted by civil society?

Credits. Thanks are due to the following artists for their artwork facilitated under Creative Commons. Technology Perspective = Ruty. Ethernet connector = Olivander

**Cloning Animals and Humans : An Ethical View.** Ethical issues of animal and human cloning, drawn from S RTP's knowledge of the issues.

**Cloning and Stem Cells.** A discussion paper drafted for the Conference of European Churches on embryonic stem cells.

**Ethical Concerns about Patenting Genes and Living Organisms:** Informed views on a hot debate.

**The Dominant Economic Model and Sustainability - Are they Compatible?** Report of a European Churches Expert Working Group, on the tension between environmental care and economic growth.

### 40th Anniversary in 2010

A series of events are planned to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the project. If you want to be updated please email [srtp@cofscotland.org.uk](mailto:srtp@cofscotland.org.uk)

### The Church and Society Council

The Church and Society Council's remit is to continue the tradition of engaging on behalf of the Church, in the national, political and social issues affecting Scotland and the world today– from asylum seekers to ecological concerns. We can provide speakers on many current topics for your congregation. To receive our monthly e-newsletter please email

[icrosthwaite@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:icrosthwaite@churchofscotland.org.uk)

Our website is available at  
[www.churchofscotland.org.uk/churchsociety/](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/churchsociety/)

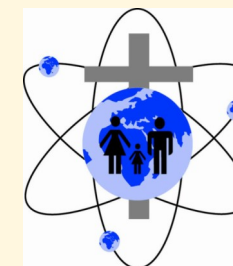
Themed Blogs are available at  
[www.endoflifeissuesdebate.blogspot.com](http://www.endoflifeissuesdebate.blogspot.com)  
[www.ecocongregationscotland.blogspot.com](http://www.ecocongregationscotland.blogspot.com)  
[www.addictedlifestyle.blogspot.com](http://www.addictedlifestyle.blogspot.com)



Church of Scotland

SRT's  
40th Anniversary 2010

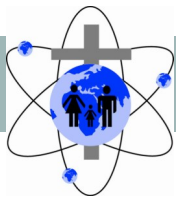
## Today's Church looking at Tomorrow's Technology



Society, Religion and Technology Project  
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Scottish Charity Number SC011353



## Society, Religion and Technology Project– Church and Society Council

### Tomorrow's Technology...

Technology is changing the face of our society. Often it happens unseen. It's hard to stand back and grasp the impact of the car, electricity, telephones, TV, computers, the Internet. They're now part of our life - things we could hardly imagine being without. Yet ethical challenges like cloning and GM food, and environmental impacts like global warming have made us aware of the risks of letting our skills run ahead of our judgement. There is now a recognition that we need to take wider ethical and social values into account in technology. This has been the aim of the Society, Religion and Technology Project (SRTP) for almost 40 years.



### Today's Church

The SRT Project was set up in 1970 by the Church of Scotland to examine the implications of new and emerging technologies. Its multidisciplinary working groups provide a forum for interaction between scientists and specialists in ethics, theology, sociology, ecology, and other fields, to look at the wider dimensions of emerging technologies. The project also acts as a catalyst for public debate on current issues and promotes practical environmental action through the Eco-Congregation programme.

### Eco-congregation programme

In 1978 SRTP set up the world's first energy saving scheme for churches. Since 2001 the ecumenical Eco-congregations programme in Scotland enables local churches to practise environmental care in their community.

Over 200 congregations participate in this expanding scheme. Their website is available at

[www.ecocongregation.org/scotland/](http://www.ecocongregation.org/scotland/)

### SRTP's Aims

To foster an informed understanding in society of the issues confronting it as a result of emerging technologies; to bring a voice of balance into complex issues.

To engage with scientists and technologists to reflect on ethical, environmental and societal implications of their work; to promote ethics teaching to science students.

To respond with considered judgment to Government and national bodies on technology and environmental issues, and to be active in their European and global dimensions.

To inform the churches of Scotland and the UK about key developments.

To act as a Christian witness to the world of science and technology.

To stimulate good environmental practice in the churches and in wider society.

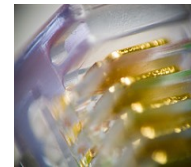
### Become an SRTP Associate

SRTP is looking to expand its work and its spheres of communication. It invites any who identify with its aims to become associates, receiving news, articles, and invitations to special events. If you are interested please contact the SRTP Office. **Dr Murdo Macdonald** took up the position of Policy Officer in March 2008. He trained as a molecular biologist, studying at

Glasgow and St Andrews Universities. Murdo has significant international work experience having spent 8 years as head of a leprosy research laboratory in Kathmandu, Nepal.

### Communication

**Public debate:** SRTP is a catalyst for public engagement on current issues in science, technology and the environment, through talks, conferences and publications. We have worked with a variety of agencies, including the New Economics Foundation's Democs project to promote public debate. SRTP has run popular ethical debates at the annual Edinburgh International Science Festival and the BA Science Festival. We can also provide speakers on many of the issues covered here. Please email [srtp@cofscotland.org.uk](mailto:srtp@cofscotland.org.uk)



**Media:** Through the Church of Scotland media office, we work closely at all levels with the media in national and local press, TV and radio. Through the Scottish Churches Parliamentary Office (SCPO) we also communicate with politicians in Scotland, the UK and Europe. The SRTP also produces short papers and information leaflets on a wide range of topics. These materials can be downloaded from the Church of Scotland website.

**Website:** SRTP information can be downloaded from the Church of Scotland website:

[www.churchofscotland.org.uk/churchsociety/](http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/churchsociety/)

**SRTP Bulletin:** our free newsletter is produced 3 times a year with a wide circulation. To subscribe please email [srtp@cofscotland.org.uk](mailto:srtp@cofscotland.org.uk)