

**Where does U.S. policy stand compared to other Countries regarding embryonic stem cell research and cloning?**

<b>Countries with Bioethics Policies similar to or more restrictive than the Bush Policy:</b>	<b>Countries with Bioethics Policies as permissive or more permissive than the Kerry policy:</b>
<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>Austria</b>  <b>Australia</b>  <b>Canada</b>  <b>Costa Rica</b>  <b>Denmark</b>  <b>Estonia</b>  <b>France</b>  <b>Germany</b>  <b>Greece</b>  <b>Hungary</b>  <b>Ireland</b>  <b>Italy</b>  <b>Latvia</b>  <b>Lithuania</b>  <b>Netherlands</b>  <b>Norway</b>  <b>Poland</b>  <b>Portugal</b>  <b>Russia</b>  <b>Slovenia</b>  <b>Slovak Republic</b>  <b>Spain</b>  <b>Switzerland</b> </p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> <b>United Kingdom</b>  <b>Singapore</b>  <b>China</b>  <b>Japan</b>  <b>India</b>  <b>Sweden</b>  <b>Finland</b>  <b>Belgium</b>  <b>Israel</b>  <b>South Korea</b> </p>

- Germany, home to the one of the largest biotech industries in Europe, and currently governed by some of the strongest left wing elected officials in Europe, has banned the import of all embryonic stem cell lines created after

January 2002. This policy is more restrictive than U.S. policy. Germany has remembered its past to guide its future.

- Austria, Norway, Italy, and Switzerland forbid any research on the human embryo, including embryonic stem cell research and cloning.

- France, Canada, Australia, Germany, Austria, Denmark, Switzerland, Greece, Ireland, and Portugal have each banned all forms of human cloning, including so-called “therapeutic cloning,” or cloning for research purposes. In the process of therapeutic cloning, the cloned embryo is destroyed and its cells extracted for further research.

- In 2003 the EU voted to ban reproductive and therapeutic cloning, a policy that President Bush strongly supports. Legislation banning all forms of human cloning, for reproductive or therapeutic purposes, has passed the House of Representatives twice with an overwhelming bipartisan majority, but has been held up in the Senate.

*In considering the moral and ethical implications of human cloning and embryonic stem cell research, President Bush has strong international allies.*

Some have also claimed that because the U.S. policy is “too restrictive” the best and brightest American scientists will leave the U.S. to perform their research overseas under more “permissive” conditions. Wrong. As recently noted in the Boston Globe, **“none of the scientists contacted by the Globe said they had seen signs of a scientific ‘brain drain’ that some critics predicted” (May 23, 2004).**

Since human embryonic stem cell research is legal in the U.S., states, private foundations, and research institutions have committed more than \$250 million dollars to fund stem cell research in this country on top of the \$25 million that the NIH spent in 2003 on embryonic stem cell research alone. This level of funding vastly exceeds the national research budgets available for embryonic stem cell research in most of the countries in which ESCR is permitted.