
 <p>EUROPEAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION SETTING SCIENCE AGENDAS FOR EUROPE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">From Principles to Practice: How European Research Organisations implement research integrity guidelines?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1st Workshop of ESF Member Forum on Research Integrity</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Madrid, ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN, 17–18 November 2008</p>	 <p>CONSEJO SUPERIOR DE INVESTIGACIONES CIENTÍFICAS</p>
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JOINT ACTIONS AND NEXT STEPS

A formal workshop report, summarising the contribution by the speakers and capturing salient discussion points will be published at a later stage. This document presents the joint actions identified by the workshop and proposes how to take them forward.

The Forum's primary focus is the ESF membership (research councils, research performing organisations and academies), however it was agreed, that the success of its activities will require working closely with other key actors in the research integrity arena.

The Forum will seek to work with:

- The European Federation of the National Academies of Sciences and Humanities (ALLEA)
- University associations both at national (Rectors' conferences etc ..) and European level (European University Association- EUA and the League of European Research Universities - LERU).
- National research integrity offices or other national monitoring and advisory bodies for research integrity (where such exists and are not part of ESF membership, in which case they are part of the Forum anyway).
- Scientific publishers and editors (Committee for Publication Ethics – COPE, European Association of Science Editors – EASE).
- European Commission, international organisations (such as ICSU, UNESCO, OECD) as well as sister institution outside Europe.

In its activities, the Forum will also take into consideration activities of other organisations to avoid duplication of efforts and ensure that the approaches developed / proposed are compatible with and complementary to each other. Notably, it will build on the activities of the *OECD Global Science Forum* on research integrity and its recommended *Procedures to facilitate international research misconduct investigations* will be promoted in the forum.

IDENTIFIED JOINT ACTIONS

There was a consensus among workshop participants that ***the Forum needs first to define more precisely the domain of its activities***. This will involve also agreeing on what “research integrity” encompasses; a working definition which will determine the scope of further activities of the Forum.

The following actions requiring joint efforts at the European level were identified as most promising to promote research integrity and will be undertaken by the Forum.

1	To continue raising awareness and sharing information on good practices to promote research integrity
	<p>The level of attention “research integrity” receives varies from country to country. Continued efforts to raise the awareness both in EU new member states as well as old EU member states is required.</p> <p>The Forum will initiate activities to continue raising awareness on research integrity involving all stakeholders and develop platforms for continuous exchange of information on the various approaches to promote and safeguard research integrity (including efforts to promote research integrity in education and training).</p> <p>Discussions should also include which are the most economic and adequate means to exchange information and keep the collected information basis updated. The need, feasibility and desired contents of a <i>web-based clearing house</i> will be discussed.</p>
2	Develop a code of conduct that can be used as a template for national codes
	The Forum will develop a code of conduct which defines core values to be pursued and norms to be complied with in responsible research. It could be used as template for national or institutional codes of conducts (at least in Europe).
3	Develop a check list for setting up national (and institutional) structures to promote good research practice and deal with research misconduct
	<p>Countries (and institutions) which have no yet established mechanisms to promote and safeguard good research integrity can profit from the experiences of others which have tested structures.</p> <p>While national frameworks will be based on the specificities of each national research system, the forum will develop a check list of what it considers best practices in terms of tested approaches and structures needed to promote research integrity and one hand and handle allegations of research misconduct on the other hand.</p>
4	To develop and promote “research on research integrity”
	There is a need to know the magnitude of research misconduct, its causes and which are the best ways to address it. The Forum will develop and promote research programmes to take stocks of what is already known and better understand research misconduct (occurrences, contributing factors, effectiveness of measures in place etc.). This should help formulate evidence-based policy.

Other actions, which were discussed but seen as not being of high priority are:

- Discussions on whether there is a need to create a European coordinating structure
- Identifying existing and preparing teaching material on research integrity

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Working Groups will be established to take each of the action items. They will define clear statements of tasks and define the envisaged outputs. ESF will provide office support to the activities of the Working Groups and they will interact mainly through emails, telephone conferences and small meetings. *In defining their statements of tasks, the Working Groups should carefully assess the costs of activities and structures they propose in order to ensure their implementation.*

TIMELINE

The Working Groups will present the first draft of their results to a plenary workshop of the Forum. The plenary workshop of the forum will presumably be coordinated with the European regional meeting preparing the European input to the second World Conference (presumably mid 2009).

The results of the activities of the Forum with concrete proposals (for action or endorsement) will be presented to the ESF Governing Council (September/October 2009).

The outcomes will be presented during the 2nd World Conference on Research Integrity (Mid 2010).