PROMOTION of SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY: the ROLE of ACADEMIES of SCIENCES

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Introduction

• Workshop on scientific integrity timely and opportune
• Misconduct is anything but rare
• Integrity in international collaborative research

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• Important actors (policy briefing ESF 2002)
• Survey 2005: national standards and procedures
• Survey 2007: international collaboration; harmonization and coordination; Code of Conduct
What do we need at European level?

- Definition of values and norms to be complied with: honesty, reliability, objectivity, impartiality and independence
- Agreement on the definition on unacceptable violations of these norms: fabrication, falsification, plagiarism; borderline cases
- Rules of procedure and good practices for proper research conduct: data management, experimentation and data-collection, publication, communication; cultural differences
- Processes of dealing with allegations of misconduct
- Processes of handling such cases

Roles of Academies

- General advisory
- Sponsor of Council for Scientific Integrity
- Process monitor
- Consultant in specific cases
- Investigative body
- Court of Appeal

Real contribution relates to roles 1, 2 and 4: reflective, contemplative, consulting and advisory. In dialogue with other relevant actors in the field

Role of ALLEA

- Much of the preceding applies mut. mut. to ALLEA
- Standing Committee on Science and Ethics; advisory to the President and the Board
- Broader platform (representatives of Member Academies)?
- Advice, analysis, contemplation, reflection
- Promotion of agreement, harmonisation, European Code of Conduct
- In consultation with other major players in the field: ESF, EUA or Research Universities, European platform of RI Offices, European Union.
International research: for the time being

- 1. Partners should commit themselves to an agreement to conduct research according to standards of research integrity, and to deal properly with any suspected deviation from these standards.

- 2. In sponsored research norms and rules of main sponsor should be observed. Sponsor should be requested to formulate and to provide such norms and rules.

- 3. In other cases (no external funding, only national funding for partners) standards, rules and procedures should be discussed and accepted on beforehand. Should be laid down in bi- or multilateral Memoranda of Understanding.