



## Research Integrity approaches in European countries An overview

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*ESF-CSIC Workshop: "From Principles to Practice: How European Research Organizations implement research integrity guidelines?", Madrid 17-18 November 2008*

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## What is ESF?

The ESF provides a common platform for its Member

Organisations in order to:

- Advance European research
- Explore new directions for research at the European level

Through its activities, the ESF serves the needs of the European research community in a global context

80 MOs in 30 countries

Research funding organisations

Research performing organisations

Academies

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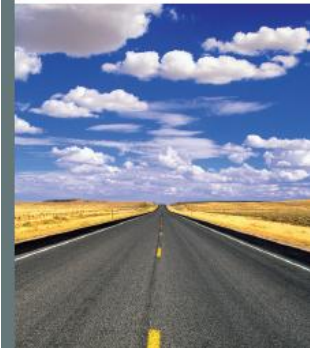


Strategic Plan  
2006-2010

## Instruments

- Forward Looks
- Exploratory Workshops
- **Member Organisation Fora**
- ESF Research Networking Programmes
- EUROCORES
- Conferences
-  Actions
- EuroBioFund
- Standing Committees
- Expert Boards

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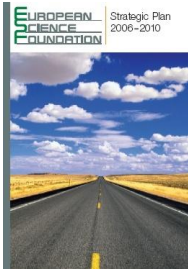
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## ESF Member FORA: Rationale



Strategic Plan 2006-2010

**ESF Member Organisation FORA** were developed in response to clearly expressed needs of MOs in the consultation on the Strategic Plan 2006-2010

*MO Fora are ... output-oriented, issue-related venues for MOs, involving others as appropriate, to exchange information and experiences and to develop joint actions.*

*"ESF aims to be the actor of choice and preferred partner when national research organisations develop joint activities."*

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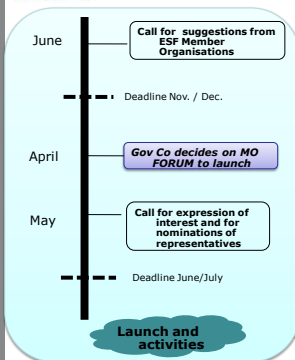
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## Choice of Topics



### Four FORA running

1. Peer Review
2. Research Careers
3. Evaluation of funding schemes and research programmes

### 4. Research Integrity

### Two FORA in preparation

1. ESF member Forum on Medium Size Research Infrastructure
2. Data sharing policies

### One FORUM completed

Promoting Internationalisation of Social Sciences in Central and Eastern Europe

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## ESF MO Forum on Research Integrity



Outcome of the **1st World Conference on Research Integrity**, Lisbon 16-19 September 2007

### Objectives

- Exchange information on good research practices and approaches to dealing with malpractice.
- Act together to promote workable approaches and structures where they do not (yet) exist.
- prepare European input to the 2nd World Conference on Research Integrity (June 2010 in Singapore)

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## Survey on policies and mechanisms to promote research integrity

- Revisiting the ESF Science Policy Briefing No. 10 (Dec 2000), recommending ESF member organisations to act as stewards of research integrity.
- Targeted **32 European Countries**
  - All 27 EU member States
  - Plus:
    - Croatia
    - Iceland
    - Norway
    - Switzerland
    - Turkey

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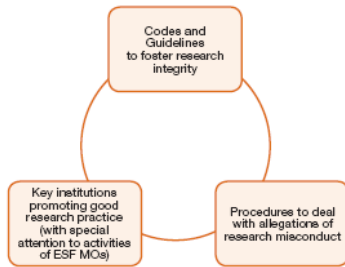
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## Approach of the survey



Focus on good research practice and on procedures to deal with allegations of research misconduct

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## Limitations of the survey

- European countries not included in this report do not necessarily lack explicit guidelines to promote good research practice and written procedures to handle allegations.
- Key actors in promoting good research practice such as universities; research institutions; scientific societies (other than academies), private research-supporting organisations were not included.
- Concrete measures taken to promote good research practice such as training programmes and mentoring programmes were not included

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## Research Integrity : the key actors



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## Research Integrity : the key actors



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## Actors : roles and responsibilities

- **Academies/ Learned and Professional Societies** : define the standards of good research practice
- **Universities and Performing Organisations**: ensure that the younger generations of researchers are acquainted with the standards of research integrity in their respective fields and establish mechanisms to deal with allegations of misconduct (as employers of researchers)
- **National Research Integrity Offices**: deal with research misconduct at national level
- **Research Funding Agencies** : promote good research practice by ensuring that the research they support is in line with the highest standards of good research practice. Support research integrity offices

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## Documented Codes or Guidelines for conduct and handling allegations

- Code/structures identified
- In preparation

1	Austria	●	17	Latvia	●
2	Belgium	●	18	Lithuania	○
3	Bulgaria		19	Luxembourg	
4	Croatia	●	20	Malta	
5	Cyprus		21	Netherlands	●
6	Czech Rep.	●	22	Norway	●
7	Denmark	●	23	Poland	●
8	Estonia	●	24	Portugal	○
9	Finland	●	25	Romania	
10	France	●	26	Slovakia	●
11	Germany	●	27	Slovenia	
12	Greece		28	Spain	○
12	Hungary	○	29	Sweden	●
14	Iceland		30	Switzerland	●
15	Ireland	●	31	Turkey	●
16	Italy		32	U.K	●

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## Overview individual countries

	Codes/Guidelines	Investigation of allegations
Austria	FWF requests researchers to comply with DFG Guidelines	Since 2003, Universities have had Ombudsman. Currently a National research integrity office is being established
Belgium	FNRS Directives relatives à l'intégrité dans la recherche scientifique	Universities
Croatia	Ethics code and guidelines of the Committees for Ethics in Science and Higher Education (CESHE)	CESHE examines cases of alleged research misconduct
Czech Republic	"Code of Ethics for Researchers of the Academy of Science of the Czech Republic"	Academy institutes
Denmark	National law defines research misconduct	The allegations of research misconduct are dealt with by the three Danish Committees on Scientific Dishonesty (DCSD)

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## Overview individual countries

	Codes/Guidelines	Investigation of allegations
Estonia	The Estonian Academy of Science published in 2002 a Code of Ethics for Estonian Scientists	No structures
Finland	The National Advisory Board on Research ethics: "Good Scientific Practice and Procedures for Handling Misconduct and Fraud in Science". Adopted by Universities and Academy of Finland	Universities. The National Advisory Board can provide an opinion on a specific case
France	System in transition (see presentation J-P Alix)	
Germany	DFG: "Recommendations for Safeguarding Good Scientific Practice"; Max Planck and Leibniz association have also rules of Good Scientific Practice.	Office of Ombudsman advises and assists scientists on issues related to research integrity MPG: Institute Director
Ireland	Health Research Board requires universities to have standards of Good Research Practice	Universities (requested by HRB) No national coordinating body

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## Overview individual countries

	<b>Codes/Guidelines</b>	<b>Investigation of allegations</b>
Latvia	The Latvian Academy of Science issued in 1997 a "Scientist's Code of Ethics"	No structures
Netherlands	Scientific Integrity Memorandum by KNAW, NWO and VSNU	Universities but the National Board for Scientific Integrity (LOWI) acts as second instance (court of appeal)
Norway	The National Ethics Committees on Research Ethics issued guidelines for research ethics (Medicine; Science and Technology; Social Sciences and Humanities) See also a national law defining research misconduct	National Commission for the Investigations of Scientific Misconduct
Poland	The Polish Academy of Sciences published "Good Manners in Science: The Committee on Ethics in Science has also published Good Research Practice"	The Committee on Ethics in Science (now within the ministry, next year to be transferred to the Academy of Sciences)

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## Overview individual countries

	<b>Codes/Guidelines</b>	<b>Investigation of allegations</b>
Slovakia	Good Research Practice Recommendations of the Council of the Slovak Research and Development Agency (SRDA)	Ethics committees of SRDA (if research funded by SRDA)
Sweden	Swedish Research Council „Good Research Practice – what is it?“	National Research Integrity office to be established
Switzerland	Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences ; „Integrity in scientific research: principles and procedures“	A law amendment allows funding agencies to investigate and sanction research misconduct
Turkey	TÜBİTAK ethical guidelines for funded research	TÜBİTAK
U.K.	Research councils have explicit guidelines UK Research Integrity Office promotes research integrity	Universities <i>UK Research Integrity Office provides advice and guidance</i>

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## What is missing: sufficient international interaction

Initiatives by ESF/ORI and OECD

- Create clearing house
- Exchange best practices
- Develop common approaches
- Deal with misconduct in trans-frontier research projects

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