

Coordinated approaches to Research Integrity perspectives of research funding agencies and research performing organisations

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

Outline of the presentation

Focus (*but not exclusively*)



Research performing organisations (*and universities*)



Research funding agencies

- Mandate, Role and Responsibilities in Promoting Research Integrity
- Horizontal and Vertical Coordination
- Some action items to foster Coordination



Research Funding Agencies

- Have a responsibility to ensure that the research they support meet highest standards of Good Research Practice
- Their mission to "support research" include also supporting a "healthy" research environment
- They have a "leverage" to enforce standards of good research practice
- Their procedures (such as Peer Review, submission of proposal) are vulnerable to research misconduct cases
- Have the means to support (also financially) national efforts to promote research integrity

Research Funding Agencies : examples of activities

- **Slovak Research and Development Agency**
 - Issued clear recommendations on "Good Research Practice"
 - Is bringing together key stakeholders in Slovakia to debate a national framework
- **DFG, Germany:**
 - Supports the office of Ombudsman
- **NWO, Netherlands**
 - Work closely with the Academy, the University association to promote research integrity (see. Memorandum)

Research Performing Organisations

- Have a responsibility to ensure that the research they perform are at the highest standards of Good Research Practice
- They have mission to train researchers (Doctoral and Post-doctoral programmes)
- As employers
 - Enforce standards of "Good Research Practice" guidelines
 - Mechanisms to handle allegations
 - Have a "leverage" to enforce standards of good research practice
- As "trainer"
 - Include "good research practice" in training

Research Performing Organisations : examples of activities

- **Max Planck Society**
 - Has clear rules of Good Research Practice
 - Developed explicit procedures to deal with allegations of research misconduct
- **Czech Academy of Sciences**
 - Has its own research integrity committee

Coordination : Horizontal and Vertical*

EUROPEAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION

	Univer- sities	Research Perform. Org.	Academie s	Research funding agency	Research integrity office
Austria	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Belgium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bulgaria	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Croatia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cyprus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Coordination : Horizontal *

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	Univer- sities	Research Perform. Org.	Academie s	Research funding agency	Research integrity office
Austria	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Belgium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Only codes and guidelines which have a broad national consensus are likely to be successful
- "National conventions" to discuss national frames
 - Engage the national research community
 - Define role and responsibilities of different organisations
 - Agree an codes and guidelines and
 - Establish a national body with national mandate

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Coordination : Vertical*

EUROPEAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION

	Univer- sities	Research Perform. Org.	Academie s
Austria	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Belgium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bulgaria	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Croatia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cyprus	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Help develop "common minimum" in national systems
- Jointly conduct activities
- Exchange of best practices

My Opinion:
European codes/guidelines are less likely to be successful if not built on national efforts

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Coordination : Vertical

1. Continue exchange of information and identification/ recommendations of best practices in promoting research integrity and in handling research allegations (e.g. national research integrity offices seem to be a trend. Should other countries be recommended to establish them ?

2. Expanding what we know on Research Integrity

(a) Other surveys (e.g. research integrity in training, experiences in handling allegations

(b) Research on Research Integrity

Initiate and support research programs to better understand research misconduct (occurrences, contributing factors, effectiveness of measures in place etc.)

Proposition of Action Items

1. "National Conventions" on Research Integrity to reach a consensus on appropriate national structures

2. Continue exchange of information

- Web-based clearing house to keep the "Stewards of Integrity report" update
- Additional surveys on institutional approaches (incl. Universities)
 - Research integrity in training
 - Experiences of universities in handling research misconduct

3. Identification and recommendations of best practices in promoting research integrity and in handling research allegations (e.g. national research integrity offices seem to be a trend. Should other countries be recommended to establish them?

4. Support Research on Research Integrity

Initiate and support research programs to better understand research misconduct (occurrences, contributing factors, effectiveness of measures in place etc.) and formulate evidence-based recommendations on how to best promote research integrity.



Next Steps: resources

There is a need to discuss the required resources for the next steps

ESF can provide support staff, but joint activities will require additional resources

For example

- Additional surveys (e.g. research integrity in training)
- Web-based platform for continued exchange of information
- Contribution to the 2nd World Conference
- Programme "research on Research Integrity"

**Thank you for your
attention**

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