# Promoting Integrity as an Integral Dimension of Excellence in Research

## Dissemination Summary

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University of Bristol  
Leiden University |

This project has received funding from the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 665926.
Introduction

This dissemination summary consist of a collection of short abstracts on the final local dissemination events in the framework of the PRINTEGER project. The events took place between May 2018 and August 2018 and were organised by the project partners.

1. University of Bristol PRINTEGER Final Dissemination Activity

On Wednesday 16th May, the University of Bristol PRINTEGER team (Prof. Ruud ter Meulen, Dr Zuzana Deans and Dr Mari-Rose Kennedy) gave a presentation to the University of Bristol Ethics of Research Committee (UERC) to share some of the findings from the PRINTEGER project. The UERC is the senior committee overseeing research ethics at the university and is Chaired by the Pro Vice Chancellor Prof John Iredale. The committee consists of ‘lay’ members appointed by the Board of Trustees, senior academic representatives from University faculties appointed by Senate, as well as the Deputy University Secretary and the Head of Research Governance, Dr Birgit Whitman.

The presentation included a brief introduction to the core aims and mission of PRINTEGER before focusing on findings from aspects of the project that the University of Bristol team have been involved with in WP3 and WP4. There was immense interest in the PRINTEGER work and the UERC were particularly interested to hear about the findings from WP4, researcher’s experiences from the ‘workfloor’. The UERC were keen to know what practical steps the institution can take to promote research integrity, educate students and support researchers in their work.

2. Local Dissemination Event - Centre for Ethics, University of Tartu

In order to contribute to the promotion of research culture in which integrity is an important part and to raise awareness of the ethical requirements of data processing seminar “Why and from whom do we need to protect personal data? The causes and consequences of the EU data protection reform” was organised on the 7th of June 2018 by the Centre for Ethics at the University of Tartu.

At the beginning of the seminar an overview of the outcomes of the PRINTEGER project and the process of drafting the “Estonian Code of Conduct for Research Integrity” was given. This was followed by lectures given by the invited speaker Tobias Schulte in den Baeumen (adviser to the European Research Council Executive Agency and the Innovative Medicine Initiative) and Prof. Marju Lauristin (former Member of the European Parliament and
shadow rapporteur of data protection regulation) and a general discussion. The programme of the seminar can be found here.

The seminar was open although mainly focusing at early stage researchers. Invitations were sent to the doctoral schools, to the researchers and administrators of the main Estonian research universities, to the Estonian Research Council, to the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research, to the local research and clinical Ethics Committees, to all the signatories of Estonian Code of Conduct for Research Integrity Agreement and to the work group of the “Estonian Code of Conduct for Research Integrity”.

Participants were doctoral students, academic and research staff from the University of Tartu, Tallinn University, Estonian Academy of Arts, and Aalto University (Finland) as well as research administrators from the University of Tartu and the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research. The seminar was recorded on video and is available on the website (here, here, and here) of the University of Tartu and at the Ethicsweb page managed by the Centre of Ethics of the University of Tartu, the dissemination was wide.

3. PRINTEGER Regional Dissemination Event “Workshop IT Tools in Academic Publishing: between Expectations and Challenges” at the University of Leiden

On 5-6 July 2018, a regional dissemination workshop was organized at the University of Leiden to discuss the findings of PRINTEGER regarding the use of IT tools in peer review, such as text similarity (‘plagiarism’) scanners. The workshop was a cooperation between the PRINTEGER project and project IMPER (Improving Peer Review), a follow-up research project funded by ZonMw (The Netherlands Organisation for Health Research and Development). The workshop was a joint project of the Centre for Science and Technology Studies-CWTS (Leiden University) and Radboud University’s Institute for Science in Society.

The workshop brought together two dozen professionals from the scientific publishing sector (chief editors, managing editors, publishing companies) and researchers, to discuss findings of research on integrity in light of the role of scientific journals. The workshop made extensive use of a world café formula, to stimulate detailed discussion on current problems and future research needs. Apart from disseminating research results and bringing publishing professionals together around the topic of research integrity, the participants also articulated a research agenda for integrity in publishing and a statement calling for more openness about peer review procedures, to be published later this year.
4. PRINTEGGER Regional Dissemination Event Nijmegen

On 23 August 2018, the Nijmegen PRINTEGGER team organised a workshop together with the Netherland Research Integrity Network at Radboud University. The workshop brought together practitioners and researchers interested in research integrity from The Netherlands and Belgium, with a large participation from research integrity officers from universities and non-university higher education. The aim was to present some of the findings of the PRINTEGGER project and related research projects to regional practitioners, but also to gather input on future needs for research and networking activities.

The PRINTEGGER Bonn statement was the over-arching theme, raising the question of how research organisations can generate a research climate that fosters research integrity, rather than just presenting research integrity as an obligation of the individual researcher. The Bonn statement received acclaim from some of the key members of the Dutch research integrity policy world. The workshop also presented Upright, the PRINTEGGER research integrity teaching tool, together with the Leiden University film and MOOC On Being A Scientist and the dilemma game developed at Erasmus University Rotterdam.

Among the topics for future research and policy, participants expressed a need to identify successful organisational strategies to foster integrity and to find ways to address senior researchers in these policies.

5. PRINTEGGER Regional Dissemination Event in Oslo

Title: How to work with integrity in research organisations?

Time and place: Tuesday, August 28 2018 in OsloMet

Theme: Researchers at OsloMet has conducted empirical studies of research misconduct from a workplace perspective, i.e. how it manifests itself in researchers’ everyday work life and under the benefits and constraints of universities and other research organisations. In addition, researchers at OsloMet have conducted a European consensus conference and facilitated the development of recommendations regarding how to work with integrity in research organisations. These recommendations have been translated from English into Norwegian (see https://printeger.eu/bonn-printeger-statement/). PRINTEGGER is now in the final phase and this meeting conveys important insights from the project in general, and the consensus recommendations in particular.

Program:

14.00 - 14.10: Short welcome and introduction to the afternoon, by Ellen-Marie Forsberg, AFI, OsloMet
14.10 - 14.40: Consensus statement. Presentation by Frank Anthun, Researchers’ Union

14.40 - 15.10: Other results from the PRINTEGER project, focusing on management tools, by Eric Breit, AFI, OsloMet

15.10 - 16.00: Panel: How to develop integrity in research organizations? What resources are available and how can these be applied? Panel and discussion with the audience. Panelists: Torkild Vinther (National Research Ethics Committees), Frank Anthun, Eric Breit, Trine B. Haugen (OsloMet). Moderator: Ellen-Marie Forsberg (AFI).

16:00: Ending

6. PRINTEGER Regional Dissemination Event Vrije Universiteit Brussel

On 29th August 2018, the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) team celebrated a local dissemination event under the title ‘Data protection for scientific research: Which preliminary findings under the GDPR?’. The event, co-organised with the Brussels Privacy Hub (BPH), took place at VUB’s Institute for European Studies (IES) between 12:00 and 14:00, and consisted of a panel preceded by a light lunch. It was fully booked, with an audience composed of interested participants (approx. 40) emanating from both regional and EU-level stakeholders. It aimed to give more visibility and further impetus to the findings and recommendations of the PRINTEGER project, in particular by focusing on those related to the connections between excellence, research integrity, and data protection law. Additional pre- and post-event dissemination was carried out through Twitter.

The panel’s speakers were Gloria González Fuster (PRINTEGER), Marlon Domingus (Data Protection Officer (DPO), Erasmus University Rotterdam), Audrey Van Scharen (DPO, VUB), and Jef Ausloos (Legal Researcher, KU Leuven). It was chaired by Serge Gutwirth, who introduced PRINTEGER to the audience before González Fuster presented some of the project’s results. Domingus and Van Scharen shared their views and experiences on the challenges for research organisations and researchers related to the implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), whereas Ausloos examined the perspective of data subjects. The presentations and the open discussion that followed brought to the fore as particularly significant issues: the cooperation between research ethics committees and DPOs, the possibilities for structural interinstitutional coordination of DPOs, the responsibilities of DPOs in the support of researcher’s good scientific practices, and the possible role of data protection authorities in clarifying appropriate safeguards for data processing for scientific purposes.