PRINTTEGER: An Introduction

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Promoting **Integrity** as an **Integral** Dimension of Excellence in **Research**

**Project period:** September 2015 until 2018

**Action Funding:** EC H2020, Science with and for Society

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Call: GARRI Developing Governance for the Advancement of Responsible Research and Innovation

**TOPIC:** “Ethics in Research: Promoting Integrity”.

**Challenge:** Research misconduct still raises serious questions on the capacity of the concerned actors to adequately address the issue

**Scope:**
- Pros and cons of different methods
- The real benefit of IT tools should be evaluated and put in perspective
- Clear figures on the number and variety of allegations
- In-depth study of some representative cases → socio-economic and psychosocial dimension
- The possibility to unify codes, principles, and methods at EU and international level
- Support the self regulation mechanisms with an adapted legal framework

**Expected impact:** researchers will be conscious of technical principles from their educational years. Improved adherence to high standards in research integrity and thereby increase the return on publicly funded research as well as promote public confidence in science.
The mission of PRINTEGER

To enhance research integrity by promoting a research culture in which integrity is part and parcel of what it means to do excellent research (as an external and restrictive control system)

To promote such a culture an improved governance of integrity and responsible research has to be informed by practice
Additional elements needed to tackle the problem

- Focus on how codes, instruments and measures work out in research practice
- The effectiveness and accuracy of measures to promote integrity highly depends on the connectedness to scientifical practices. Measures can only be perceived as self-evident when they are integrated with the everyday academic virtues and constraints.
- Analysis of how codes, measure and instruments interact with legislation.
- Specific attention for the role of mass media
Target groups PRINTEGER

- Research leaders and managers
- Research policy makers
- Future and early career researchers
- Research support organisations
- Media and opinion makers
- General public
Three phases in PRINTEGER

Phase 1: Systematic review of research integrity and misconduct
- Conceptual clarification
- Overview of policies, procedures
- Inventory IT tools used by journals

Phase 2: Integrity and misconduct in practice: Analysis and evaluation of drivers and reactions to scientific misconduct
- Challenges, pressures and opportunities for research integrity (the ecology of research integrity)
- E-survey and representative in-depth case studies: drivers of integrity from the perspective of researchers and research managers.
- Institutional reactions to misconduct and the operation of organizational procedures in practice
Phase 3: Tool development (see work packages)
WP V Tool Development
Policy advice, research leaders, IT and research support, education

WP III In Practice
In incidence, cases, media, codes, procedures, IT, best practices

WP IV Researchers’ Perspective
E-survey, focus groups

WP II Reconnaissance
Changing research system, normative, legal analysis, deviance, organisations

WP VI: Dissemination and Communication
Including Stakeholder Consultation

Phase 1

Phase 2

Phase 3
WP2 What is integrity? Multidisciplinary Reconnaissance

◦ Inventory of codes, guidelines and procedures
◦ Conceptualization of scientific misconduct and deviance in science
◦ Deviance and current law
◦ Criminological analysis: deviance in science

- Extend of the misconduct
- Extended media analysis
- Inventory in-depth misconduct cases
- Overview and analysis of codes and legislations
- Organizational best practices

- Fair procedures?
WP4 How do Researchers Experience Integrity?

- How do researchers identify, discuss and handle integrity issues
- What conditions researchers view as harmful to integrity
  - Web based survey
  - Focus Groups
WP 5 Advice and Support

- **Advisory tools** for policy makers
- **Tools for reflection and action** for research leaders and research managers (website based)
- **Advice for research support organizations**, especially on IT tools to promote integrity
- **Educational tools** for researchers, notably including future scientists and early stage researchers (interactive web-based)
Local Advisory Board VUB

- Stakeholder panels
- Easy access to stakeholders
- Connectedness to real concerns in research
- Provide a fresh look at the project
- Try-outs for the tools of WP5

Meetings
- 17/11 A scoping consultation
- Half-way consultation: discussing intermediate results
- Near-end consultation: testing tools and advice