



PRINTEGER: An Introduction

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Promoting Integrity as an Integral Dimension of Excellence in Research

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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 scientific 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



Three phases in PRINTEGER

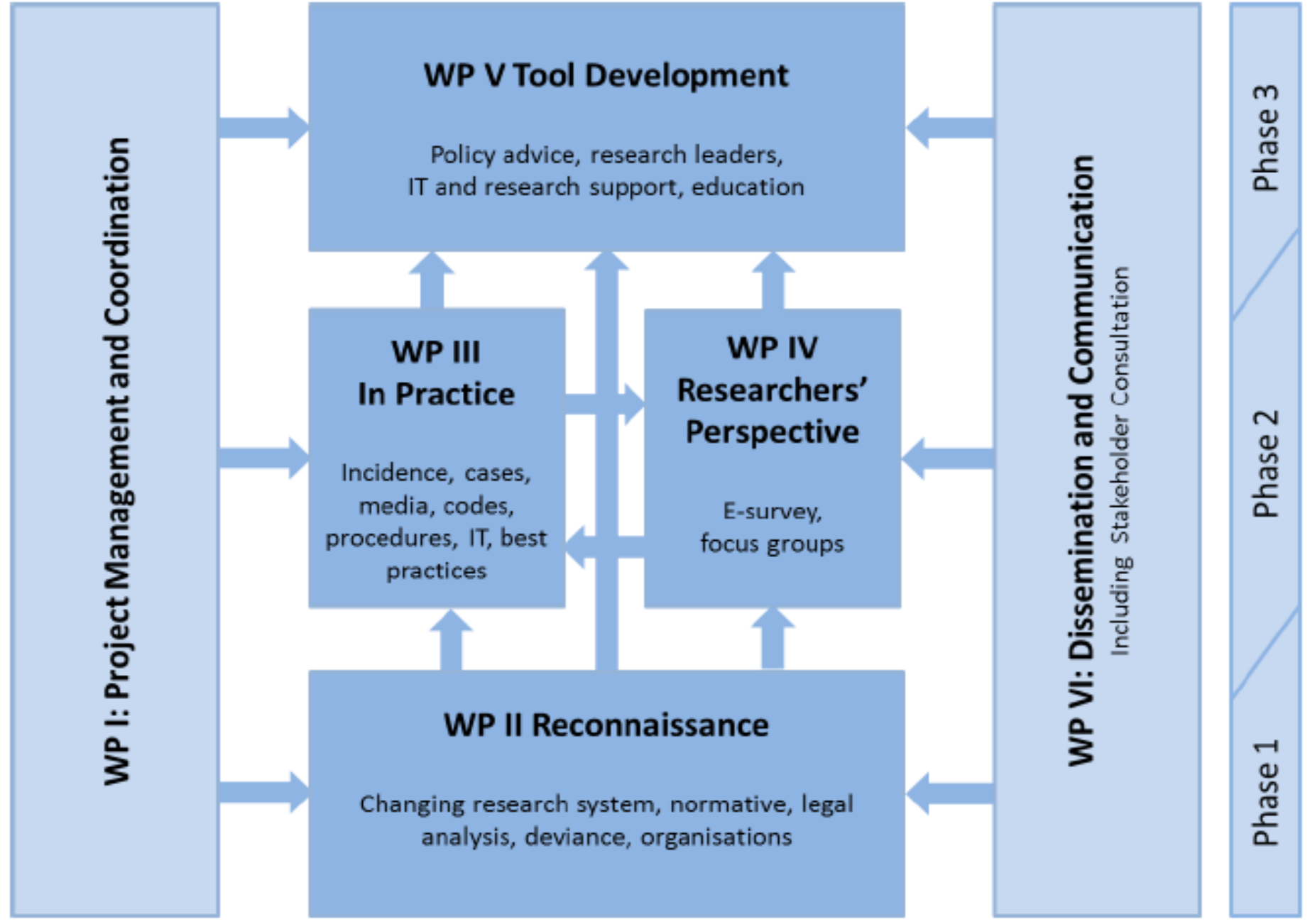
Phase 1: Systematic review of research integrity and misconduct

- 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)



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

WP3 What Happens in Practice? Institutional Responses to Misconduct.

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