D7.9: Newsletter 3

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Abbreviation	
AB	Advisory Board
AP	Associated Partners
CA	Consortium Agreement
CM	Communication management
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
GA	Grant Agreement
IM	Innovation Management
IP	Intellectual Property
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
PC	Project Coordinator
PMC	Project Management Committee
PO	Project Officer
STC	Scientific and Technical Coordinator
TL	Task Leader
TMC	Technical Management Committee
WPL	Work Package Leader

ACKNOWLEDGMENT & DISCLAIMER

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ABSTRACT

This deliverable includes a newsletter that informs the interested public (those subscribed to our newsletter) about the state of the project.

Newsletter

The newsletter consists of the following sections:

- Introductory Text on a Open Access and the role of institutions, by Ramón Feenstra, Associate Professor in the Department of Philosophy and Sociology at the Universitat Jaume I of Castellón
- Latest News: Review of March Workshop on "Research and Innovation in and for a Good Society"
- Spotlight on… Open Access
- Update from the workpackages: WP3
- Our sister projects: Editors' pick: GEECCO
- Event overview

It also includes multiple possibilities to follow the project on social media as well as the mandatory Unsubscribe-Link.

The newsletter was sent to everybody who has subscribed to the newsletter on the website by the end of October. It is also displayed on the website and will be disseminated by the partner organisations.

Open Access and the role of institutions

by Ramón Feenstra, Associate Professor in the Department of Philosophy and Sociology at the Universitat Jaume I of Castellón (Spain)
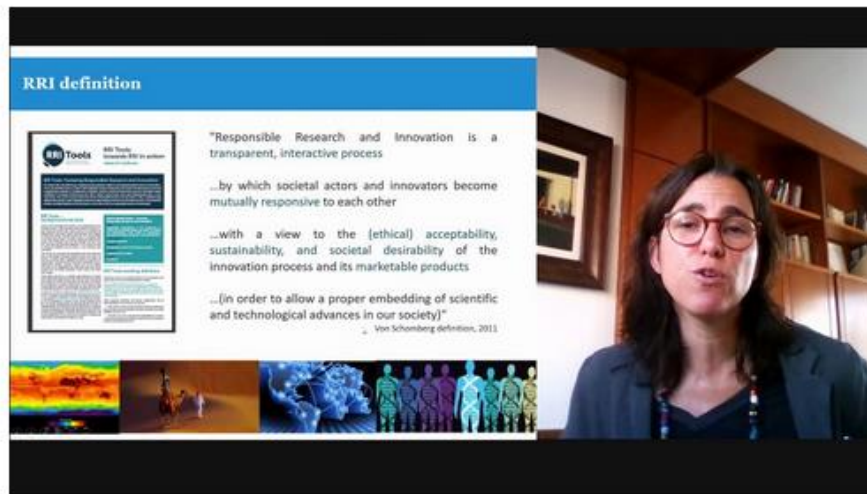
Since the widely known Budapest Open Access Initiative declaration, published at the beginning of 2002, open access has become increasingly relevant and more and more present in academic debates, as well as in political decision-making spaces. The ideal that advocates for open access research not only attracts the support of researchers, but is also starting to be promoted by several administrative institutions. In this regard, the particularly well-known cOAlition Plan S was launched by the European Research Council along with national research funding agencies in twelve European countries. The main objective of said plan is to implement open access in all publicly funded research and publications.

The debate on open access has largely focused on one central aspect: its financing model. More specifically, the difficulty of delimitating the cost or finding a way for the information to reach the reader free of cost. The classic model of the publishing business has consisted of the reader subscribing to the journal to have access to scientific research. With open access, diverse and plural models are now emerging, and some of them propose to move from a model based on 'publish-for-free and pay-to-read' to one based on 'pay-to-publish and read-for free'. That is, by paying for what is known as an article processing charge.

Read more

Latest news

Why strive for research and innovation in and for a good society? This was the critical topic at hand discussed by over 80 participants at the ETHNA System's latest workshop on March 24th.

Main findings from the ETHNA System on RRI state of the art, best practices, societal needs assessment, and stakeholder involvement were presented to the public for discussion. Keynote speaker Rosina Malagrida, head of the Living Lab for Health at IrsiCaixa, kicked off the debate by highlighting the central questions (why, how and with whom) that must be investigated in order to transform R&I to make it more open and inclusive. Malagrida spoke to the urgency of connecting with societal needs and using a system thinking approach.

Read more

Spotlight on... Open access

Open access provides the user with unrestricted access to research articles. In other words, they are allowed to access the document free of charge, with the only requirement being having internet connection.

Update from the work packages

WP 3: Concept and community

The partners in **work package 3** have been busy preparing three guides for Higher Education Funding and Research Centers which plan to implement the ETHNA System. **The three guides focus, respectively, on mapping stakeholders, assessing social needs to which research and innovation may respond and on holding workshops with stakeholders with deliberative methods to give them a say in RRI activities.** The results have been obtained through literature research and stakeholder-inclusion activities and are based on the state-of-the-art findings from WP 2.

Stakeholder mappings help institutions get an overview of the actors with whom to cooperate when creating an ethical governance system. ETHNA System offers guidance to this end. The second deliverable guides institutions on how to consider societal needs, assuming that Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) is the "on-going process of aligning research and innovation to the values, needs and expectations of society", as defined in the [Rome Declaration on Responsible Research and Innovation in Europe](#).

This dialogue with the civil society should, according to the theoretical foundation of the ETHNA System, be based on deliberative methods for which the third deliverable will provide guidance.

In February 2021, two workshops were held at which WP 3's findings were discussed with the project partners, members from associated partner institutions and advisory board members as well as with stakeholders from the field of RRI. The results have also been presented and discussed at the ETHNA System workshop on "Research and innovation in and for and good society" in March 2021. The discussions with the workshop participants highlighted the importance of the ETHNA System and the relevance of its findings.

While answering to societal needs is crucial for RRI, **several aspects have to be taken into account**: Freedom of research should not be jeopardised by stakeholder inclusion. Also, excellence and ethics do not have to be opposed to one another, but can be achieved at the same time. Last but not least,the researchers' reality has to be taken into account when expecting them to „do" RRI. It must, for instance, be taught how to accomplish public engagement, to which end WP 3 analysed dos and don'ts of stakeholder mapping from the public participation community. Furthermore, taking into account ethics might be „uncomfortable" – after all, one has to question oneself and one's own research. At the same time, researchers are under pressure to publish, get financing and create outstanding results.

Our sister projects: Editors' pick

GEECCO aims to establish tailor-made Gender Equality Plans (GEPs) in four European universities and to implement the gender dimension in two research funding organisations in funding schemes, programmes and review processes. All participating universities are located in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) field, where gender equality is still a serious problem and whose innovations are increasingly important in the knowledge-based economies. It is thus a question of excellence, competitiveness and justice to achieve gender equity within STEM-institutions, including policy and decision making bodies. Concerning the gender dimension in research programmes research funding organisations are the key to substantial changes and thus a crucial part of the aspired transformation. GEECCO will develop the "GEECCO Experience: Dos and Don'ts while Degenderising the STEM Field", a guideline for RPOs and RFOs in the STEM field how to promote gender equality in the STEM field and intends to participate in standardisation processes at EU level to measure "gender balance performance" of RPOs and RFOs.

All related initiatives

Upcoming Events

Please note that due to the COVID-19 crisis, these events are subject to change. Please make sure to verify event dates and venues with the organisers!

European Research and Innovation Days
23. June - 24. June 2021
+++ virtual +++

Future of Science Communication Conference
24. June - 25. June 2021
+++ Berlin and virtual +++

EurSafe Conference 2021
24. June - 26. June 2021
+++ virtual +++

View all events