



# D7.13: Press Release

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<b>0.2</b>	07/02/2022	Lily Teitelbaum	Draft
<b>1.0</b>	22/02/2022	Lily Teitelbaum	Final Version

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## **ABSTRACT**

This deliverable includes the press release 7.13 covering the updated version of the ETHNA System concept: Final Concept of the ETHNA System by ZSI (D4.2).

The press release targets those members of the scientific community that may be interested in the report itself. Target audience is part of academia and well acquainted with pertinent jargon.

We will disseminate the report and accompanying press release via the partners' organisations, but also via all communication channels (website, newsletter, Social Media).

# Press Release

## **ETHNA System Concept to be implemented in Living Labs across Europe**

### ***Latest guide to ethical governance released***

The ETHNA System project is starting off 2022 strong with the release of an updated version of the ETHNA System Concept<sup>1</sup> to be used by the organisations that will pilot its implementation during the lifetime of the project. The Concept acts as a guide to ethical governance of RRI in research and innovation performing organisations (RPOs) and funding organisations (RFOs).

The Guide is the culmination of an extensive multi-stakeholder consultation process involving almost 900 external stakeholders from across the world to help revise and validate the first version of the ETHNA System concept. Key findings from the process pointed to the need to create a more adaptable system that addresses two dimensions essential to the institutionalisation of RRI: top-level leadership support and an existing support base. To successfully adapt to these different institutional characteristics, the ETHNA System foresees different models. Implementers can thus choose the level best suited to their internal structure.

The release of the Guide serves as the basis for the next critical phase of the project - its implementation through Living Labs. The ETHNA System will be demonstrated and verified in four living lab contexts in higher education, research funding, innovation ecosystems, and research centres in 6 different organisations. In the ETHNA Lab, participants will take part in a co-creation and experimentation process to democratise and improve the elements of the ETHNA System.

“On the one hand, the Living Labs will help showcase that positive change is possible with dedicated and thoughtful co-creation with stakeholders,” said Elsa González Esteban, project coordinator and professor of the Department of Philosophy and Sociology of the Universitat Jaume I de Castelló (UJI), “And on the other hand, a diverse stakeholder engagement process in the Living Labs will lead to the inclusion of representatives from each sector in innovation processes, creating results from which all involved stakeholders can benefit.” The outcomes will then feed into the final version of the ETHNA System.

Castelló de la Plana, 22.02.2022

### **About ETHNA**

The EU funded ETHNA System project intends to develop and implement a flexible ethical governance system for the use of responsible research and innovation (RRI) in Research Performing and Funding Organisations.

The system is composed of an ETHNA RRI Office(r) and three Guidance Tools: A Code of Ethics and Good Practices in R&I; An Ethics Committee on R&I; An Ethics Line for safe and secure communication.

These tools are bolstered by performance indicators and work methodologies for RRI. The ETHNA System building blocks are flexible and adaptable and allow for different levels of institutional commitment, depending on the needs and capabilities of each organisation.

The ETHNA System, which will be implemented and validated in six different organisations in five countries, will propose institutional interventions to address the ethical challenges faced during

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<sup>1</sup> Will be added once the report has been finalised as a PDF.

research and innovation activities. The purpose is to develop a governance structure that is sustainable over time and can be transferred to other centres, favouring a more responsible research and innovation based on engagement with citizens and society.

The project, launched in January 2020 and funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 Programme is led by the Universitat Jaume I (Spain) and involves ten partners from eight countries.

More information: <https://ethnasystem.eu>