

Work Group 1 Meeting in Sofia

First session, 2017 03 07, 11:30-13:00

Participants:

Michael Ochsner (chair, CH), George Afxentiou (CY), Nelius Boshoff (ZA), Monica Delsignore (IT), Aldis Gedutis (LT), Haris Gekic (BA), Alexander Hasgall (CH), Arleen Ionescu (RO), Marek Hołowiecki (PL), Nina Kancewicz-Hoffman (PL), Karolina Lendák-Kabók (RS), Stéphanie Mignot-Gérard (FR), Miloš Milenković (RS), Boris Mlačić (HR), Elena Papanastasiou (CY), Ginevra Peruginelli (IT), Antun Plenković (HR), Hulda Proppé (IS), Angelo Tramountanis (GR), Dagmar Simon (DE), Jolanta Sinkuniene (LT), Marc Vanholsbeeck (BE), Maja Vehovec (HR), Albena Vutsova (BG), Geoffrey Williams (FR)

The first session served to give an update of what has happened so far in Work Group 1 because many new members joined since the meeting in Poznan and because work is divided into subgroups. Therefore, a first part was devoted to how Work Group 1 is organised and what work has been done so far and what is scheduled (tasks and deliverables due in Grant Period 1 and 2). The second part consisted of presentations of the work completed and in progress in the six sub-groups of the Work Group. Unfortunately, not all sub-group coordinators could make it to Sofia this time, therefore, Michael Ochsner presented the work of these sub-groups. The third part tackled collaboration and communication matters in WG1.

Part 1: Overview of activities of WG1

Michael Ochsner presented a general overview of the activities of WG1 since the start of the Action. He reminded the participants of the tasks and deliverables of WG1 and pointed out the deliverables that are due soon. Deliverable 1 (list of projects on quality perceptions in participating countries) is due in month 14; deliverable 2 (overview of national evaluation systems) is due in month 13 in a first version; deliverable 7 (bibliography) is due in a first version in month 12. Furthermore, Michael Ochsner presented outcomes achieved until the meeting: A publication accepted for publication in Palgrave Communications on European bottom-up initiatives for SSH research evaluation, authored by Michael Ochsner, Ioana Galleron and Sven E. Hug (linked to deliverable 1); a submitted publication presenting amongst other topics the method and first results of a Delphi survey on national evaluation systems authored by Ioana Galleron, Michael Ochsner, Jack Spaapen and Geoffrey Williams (linked to deliverable 2); a presentation of WG1 in the roundtable devoted to ENRESSH at the STI ENID

conference in València; a presentation of the method and first results of the survey on national evaluation systems at the OpenEvaluation conference in Vienna.

Part 2: Report of the sub-groups (see PowerPoint for more detailed information)

SG1: Legal frameworks (Karin Byland, Ineta Kristovska and Yulia Stukalina; presented by Michael Ochsner)

After identifying knowledge gaps concerning the sub-group's topic, a semi-structured questionnaire was designed to gather knowledge on legal rules and policy directives for the evaluation of academic research in the social sciences and humanities in different countries. The questionnaire aims at a comparative analysis of current research evaluation policies and guidelines with regard to the evaluation of academic publications, research projects, researchers and research institutions. The questionnaire will be sent out to the members of the Action to get an accurate description of the state of the art of legal requirements for research evaluation in SSH.

SG2: Evaluation procedures (Michael Ochsner and Aldis Gedutis)

The work has been centred around deliverable 2, overview of national evaluation systems. After the discussions on terminology in Poznan, and the analysis of the results of the first round of the Delphi survey (presentation at OpenEvaluation conference and publication), the sub-group designed the questionnaire for the second round of the survey.

SG3: Peer review (Dagmar Simon and Geoffrey Williams)

In Poznan, the main topics were discussed and issues identified. Due to changes in the professional life and to obligations in WG4, the coordinators of the SG suggested that other participants take over the coordination of the group. Nina Kancewicz-Hoffman and Monica Delsignore volunteered to take over.

SG4: Scholars' notions of quality and impact (Michael Ochsner and Stéphanie Mignot-Gerard)

This SG works closely together with the Special Interest Group "Early Career Investigators" (SIG ECI). In cooperation with the SIG, a questionnaire for qualitative interviews with early career investigators was drafted. It contains amongst other the implicit notions of quality of ECI. A second strand of work included an STSM in January, during which Mišo Dokmanović from Macedonia visited Michael Ochsner at FORS, Switzerland. They drafted a methodology and a survey on quality criteria that will be administered in the second quarter of 2017 to all Macedonian researchers in the social sciences.

SG5: Scholars' attitudes towards and behaviour regarding evaluation (Marc Vanholsbeeck)

Using a questionnaire with open questions, the SG collected experiences of scholars' reactions to evaluations as well as own experiences with evaluation and its problems and advantages. The SG also collected literature on scholars' behaviour. While many opinion papers have been published on the issue, it seems that empirical work is scarce.

SG6: Bibliography (Ewa Rozkosz; presented by Michael Ochsner)

Together with WG4, it was decided that Zotero will be used as software for storing bibliographic data. It was also decided that WG1 has its own Zotero group where

literature relevant for WG1 is collected and an own categorization system is used. Literature that has been considered important will be uploaded to the all-Action Zotero group and categorized according to the joint categorization system. So far, around 600 entries are in the WG1 bibliography. Another 400 are ready to be imported. Members of the SGs are asked to collect their literature and upload it to the Zotero group as soon as a member of the SG is appointed that will get the administrative rights to do so.

Part 3: Organization and communication

A challenge to the organization of WG1 was the growth of the Action. Michael Ochsner reported that he was occupied with welcoming new members to the WG and directing them to the sub-groups. Communication was another challenge as Slack is very useful exactly if new members join the sub-groups or if sub-group coordinators are temporarily off or ill as it happened during the time between Poznan and Sofia. In this case, not having full information on Slack, the SG risks to come to a full stop as nobody can take over without the information what happened. Several alternatives were discussed (facebook, linkedin etc.) but votations showed that Slack was the preferred option. However, it should be used as a log-file rather than main communication tool as most people are used to email. It was agreed that Slack is updated regularly with what was discussed via email, at least by the sub-group coordinator.

As tasks of the WG are varied, Michael Ochsner suggested to have two different types of contributors to the sub-groups to simplify organisation: researchers and informants. Researchers are involved in conceptual works and design the methodology for answering the research questions and finishing the deliverables. Informants are concerned with information regarding their countries (and other countries for which they have specialist knowledge). They answer to the questionnaires or find specialists in the countries who can give high quality information. Of course, a person can take both roles of contributors or be a researcher in one SG and informant in others.

As a last point regarding organisation, Michael raised again the issue that there is no sub-group yet on ethics or philosophical questions on evaluation and that there might also be other topics such as publication and dissemination practices. Alexander Hasgall volunteered to be the coordinator of a sub-group 7 on philosophical questions on evaluation. Alexander Hasgall and Marc Vanholsbeeck suggested that there could also be a sub-group on open access issues. Michael Ochsner suggested that this issue concerns all sub-groups in one way or another, therefore, a second transversal group could be created. There was a discussion whether it is better to have an SG or a transversal group. Because the two persons most interested in the topic already were coordinators of an SG, it was decided that for the moment there will be a transversal group, co-coordinated by Marc Vanholsbeeck and Alexander Hasgall. If need arises, it still can be transferred into a full SG.

The meeting ended with a call for joint projects between members of WG1 or the Action in general from at least two countries. During the meeting, there will be several spots for brokerage of joint projects.

WG1: second session, 2017 03 08, 11:00-13:00

Participants: Michael Ochsner (chair, CH), Monica Delsignore (IT), Aldis Gedutis (LT), Haris Gekić (BA), Elea Gimenez Toledo (ES), Clémentine Gozlan (FR), Alexander Hasgall (CH), Arleen Ionescu (RO), Arnis Kokorevics (LT), Nina Kancewicz-Hoffman (PL), Stéphanie Mignot-Gérard (FR), Miloš Milenković (RS), Boris Mlačić (HR), Elena Papanastasiou (CY), Hulda Proppé (IS), Elias Sanz-Casado (ES), Dagmar Simon (DE), Jolanta Sinkuniene (LT), Angelo Tramountanis (GR), Marc Vanholsbeeck (BE), Maja Vehovec (HR), Albena Vutsova (BG), Geoffrey Williams (FR)

The second session served the sub-groups to coordinate their work. As there were many new participants, this was a good occasion to start new work.

SG1: Legal frameworks (Karin Byland (absent))

Participants: Jon Holm, Monica Delsignore and Ginevra Peruginelli

As Ginevra Peruginelli had to leave early, Jon Holm, Monica Delsignore and Ginevra Peruginelli met informally before the WG1 session, which gave Jon Holm the opportunity to join SG2 during the meeting. They tested the questionnaire proposed by SG1 and approved it so that it can be sent out to the Action's participants.

SG2: Evaluation procedures (Michael Ochsner and Aldis Gedutis)

Participants: Michael Ochsner (chair, first half), Aldis Gedutis (sub-chair), Elea Gimenez Toledo, Jon Holm, Arleen Ionescu, Elias Sanz-Casado.

The discussion started with Michael's presentation of the state of art in the SG2. The milestones and deliverables for the first grant period were also discussed. The initial survey taken before the COST Action had started was briefly presented. The peculiarities of the survey, such as the question on the existence of national evaluation system, were stressed out. Later on the second questionnaire on the national evaluation systems (prepared by Emanuel, Michael and Aldis) was presented. Some methodological issues were tackled, e.g. it was decided that due to ethno-methodological approach and instruments the differing responses from the same country might provide interesting insights into the nature of the evaluation system analysed. The questionnaire is to be started by the beginning of April, 2017. The results of the survey are to be presented during the Antwerp meeting in July. Then the communication issues within the subgroup were discussed. It was decided to give Slack one more chance and to combine Slack communication with e-mailing. The last part was devoted to short presentations of the SSH evaluation systems in the countries of the subgroup's participants – Norway, Spain, Romania and Lithuania. These systems have both similarities and differences; thus, this might be of great interest for further comparative analysis.

SG3: Peer review (Nina Kancewicz-Hoffman and Monica Delsignore)

Participants: Nina Kancewicz-Hoffman (chair), Monica Delsignore (sub-chair), Boris Mlačić, Angelo Tramountanis, Geoffrey Williams

The subgroup is open and looking for more participants.

The aim of the Subgroup 3 is to prepare an overview of peer review practices (an expected deliverable of Workgroup 1 in month 36). The overview should cover peer review related to:

- Institutions
- Research project proposals
- Individuals / promotion
- Journal articles
- Monographs and other scholarly books for publications (peer review for publishers)
- Conference submissions
- Reviews of scholarly books published in scholarly journals as peer review

The subgroup suggests the following next steps:

1. Take up contact with the COST Action PEERE – ‘New frontiers of peer review’, aiming to set up collaboration re peer review in SSH; Geoffrey Williams has already been in contact with Dr. Marco Seeber (Belgium) who is a member of both ENRESSH and PEERE and they will discuss now possible specific joint actions.
2. Start collecting bibliography on peer review (an expected milestone in Month 14). Geoffrey Williams will create for sub-group members a Dropbox Folder for relevant documents; the aim is to populate it.
3. Analyze the ESF Survey Analysis Report on Peer Review published in 2011, to consider if it could be a good starting point for the overview.
4. Identify issues in peer review relevant for SSH and reflect how to structure the overview. The topic of peer review is a huge one, ENRESSH should focus on specific issues relevant for SSH and the subgroup will propose them. The participants discussed about some of those issues such as value of impact factors and metrics in peer review, training of reviewers, conflict of interest, transparency, remuneration, costs of evaluation, open access.
5. Reflect how to collect information about peer review in different countries for the overview; one option is to prepare a questionnaire.

Nina Hoffman will propose ways to organize the work of the subgroup on issues 3, 4 and 5.

Nina Hoffman will take up contact with ESF and Geoffrey Williams with the British Academy exploring their interest in taking part to the Action as Observers.

SG4: Scholars’ notions of quality and impact (Michael Ochsner and Stéphanie Mignot-Gérard)

Participants: Stéphanie Mignot-Gérard (chair), Michael Ochsner (joined second half), Elena Papanastasiou, Mimi Urbanc

The work of this sub-group is related to the work in the SIG ECI. Thus, information of early career researchers’ notions of quality will be elaborated in the framework of the work in the SIG. Therefore, the work should be completed by work on the notions of quality of experienced researchers. A qualitative approach as in the SIG was chosen, which complements nicely the quantitative work done in this sub-group (see STSM Mišo Dokmanović). It was discussed how to best evoke quality criteria from experienced researchers. It was decided that the word “quality” should not be used. Rather the

interviewers will ask the researchers to talk about a piece of research they are proud of. The target group was also subject to discussion and it was decided to look for highly visible experienced scholars. For later work, it was suggested to contrast the results with interviews with experienced non-visible scholars to get a more complete picture. Countries present at the meeting included Cyprus, France, Slovenia and Switzerland and the sub-group is very open to include other countries.

SG5: Scholars' attitudes towards and behaviour regarding evaluation (Marc Vanholsbeeck)

Participants: Marc Vanholsbeeck (chair), Clémentine Gozlan, Arnis Kokorevics, Miloš Milenković, Hulda Proppé, Maja Vehovec

The questionnaire was presented to the new members of the SG and its main dimensions were discussed. It appears that, as an exploratory tool and a way to collect bibliography – and particularly about less accessible literature at national level, in vernacular languages – , the questionnaire is very welcome and may be sent to more delegates within the COST action. On the basis of the received answers to the questionnaire as well as the literature (see i.a. Vanholsbeeck 2011), the group also decided to build its further work on the hypothesis that the introduction of performance indicators and other NPM related management tools in the research(ers') assessment procedures leads in many cases to ambivalent attitudes on the researchers' side, who perceive threats (e.g. for the valorization of civic engagement, or the publication in vernacular languages) as well as some opportunities (e.g. for gender equality, limitation of the interpersonal biases in assessment, etc.) We also discussed the factors that impact the attitudes in one direction or the other and that are “beyond the ambivalence”, such as: the disciplinary specificities, the national regulation for evaluation, the socio-professional position and the “position in the field” (see i.a. Gozlan 2016), the role(s) played by the researcher in the evaluation, the specificities of the different situations of evaluation themselves.

The group decided to target senior researchers with relevant experience both as being evaluated and as evaluators. The aim is twofold: to produce complementary material to what is done in the SIG (which is targeting ESR), and to benefit from some diachronic perspectives on the changes that happened (or not) during the last 10-15 years.

Nevertheless, the existing questionnaire was not intended to be sent as such to researchers outside of ENRESSH. Therefore, the group discussed the feasibility of administrating a proper survey. It appeared though that it may be too challenging to get enough respondents and to analyse properly the results of the survey (the core of the SG5 having mainly experience in qualitative research). So, the effort was re-oriented towards the preparation of qualitative interviews that will be conducted in different countries by voluntary ENRESSH delegates.

The SG leader will come back to the SG members and to the people that have sent answers to the questionnaire after the Sofia meeting, via e-mails, and makes some suggestion for the next steps, in order to operationalize the research that is to be done.

SG6: Bibliography (Ewa Rozkosz (absent))

Participants: Geoffrey Williams (chair), Elea Gimenez Toledo, Raf Guns, Clémentine Gozlan, Alexander Hasgall, Arleen Ionescu, Michael Ochsner, Antun Plenković, Elias Sanz-Casado, Angelo Tramountanis, Alesia Zuccala

The sub-group 6 did not meet at the WG1 meeting but had a joint meeting with the WG4 members concerned with the bibliography on March 7th. It was decided that each WG keeps its own bibliography for its work and provides the final, cleaned entries to the WG4 all-Action bibliography. A subcommittee will create a list of tags to organize the joint bibliography (see WG4 minutes).

SG7: Philosophical aspects (Alexander Hasgall)

Participants: Alexander Hasgall (chair), Haris Gekić, Dagmar Simon

Being a new sub-group, the meeting served to constitute the sub-groups aims and goals. The main questions and issues were identified and discussed. The name for the group has still to be defined more clearly. Central to the group's aim is the discussion about concepts and ethics of evaluation. Important terms to discuss and investigate are values and transparency.

T1: Gender (Hulda Proppré)

Participants: Hulda Proppré (chair), Monica Delsignore, Jon Holm, Karolina Lendák-Kabók, Michael Ochsner

This transversal group met informally as all participants are active in other sub-groups. Until now, only Hulda Proppré and Michael Ochsner were part of the group, so the recruitment of new members from different sub-groups was important. It was briefly discussed that only a balanced approach to gender can lead to gender equality. Therefore, also a balanced composition of the group regarding gender is an aim. So far, the group was in action within SG2 and implemented an additional dimension "gender" in the overview of evaluation systems and in SG5. Similar interactions are to be established with all SGs.

T2: Open Access (Marc Vanholsbeeck and Alexander Hasgall)

Participants:

Due to restrictions of time, this transversal group did not yet meet. Its constitutional meeting will be at an upcoming WG meeting.

Work Group 2 Meeting in Sofia

First session, March 7

Participants:

Chair: Jack Spaapen; co-chair: Reetta Muhonen

The main aim of the WG2 session 1 – discuss the typology of modes of SSH engagement

The main idea of the session 1 of the WG2 in Sofia was to discuss the work that STSM candidate Reetta Muhonen, had done with the close assistance with the WG2 leader Paul Benneworth and vice-leader Julia Olmos Penuela for the WG2's main aim of the GP1 – typology of modes of SSH engagement.

After opening words by Jack Spaapen, the session continued with the presentation “SSH pathways to societal impact” presented by Muhonen. After the presentation, the group was divided into subgroups for giving feedback of suggested typology of modes of SSH engagement by discussing the following questions:

Groupwork

1. What do you think about the (implicit) idea of impact here?
 - focus is now on interactions/mechanisms
2. Are there missing pathways/missing elements? Is there stuff not captured?
3. Which of these models are the most attractive for policy makers and why?
4. How applicable are these models generally e.g. to STEM fields?
 - are we capturing the essence of SSH?

After working in subgroups, we gathered together and one person of each subgroup presented their views on the discussed questions.

Subgroups thoughts on the discussed questions:

1. What do you think about the (implicit) idea of impact here?
 - Did we also consider cases where lots of effort was put into having an impact, but without any impact in the end?
 - Can we use the pathways to design impact in future projects?
 - We prefer to emphasize the pathways, not the impact. Isolating impacts often makes them look quite insignificant; the context provides the significance. Also, academics can be hold responsible for the effort they put

into having an impact, but not for the impact itself which depends on other factors as well .

- Should we also consider spill-overs, in a positive sense, of the pipeline? For example, unintended impacts like people who feel empowered by being involved in research?
- What is the intended use of the list?
- Linking up the pathways to impacts or audiences would help to assess the effectiveness of the pathways in different contexts
- For the first question our group focused more on the topic of the impact, which was missing in the fiche. We discussed what would be the social impact of SSH research and we could not agree upon the two possible impacts: Change and Relevance.
- not uni-directional relation between research and impact
- society needs to be ready to accept innovation, research can be good and also be very relevant but not have an impact yet, because society is not ready to take it yet. However, research might still be seen many years later as having a huge impact (also time dimension)
- models are good to describe or trace impact but they cannot measure it. The conception of impact is that there is already impact. However, different qualities of impact can be identified but it is not scalable in the sense of project one = impact 5 and project two = impact 7 (is that needed in the first place?)
- impact can be intentional or coincidental. models do not differentiate between them nor acknowledge that there is something like coincidental impact. Impact is conceptualised as something that must be treated in research (impact is one of the most important criteria) but it might be that impact can happen out of mere coincidence (something happens that makes research relevant that wouldn't have been considered relevant when project started), nor has it (impact) been handled by project.
- context matters: society (or even ministry) wants something. That does not mean that it is good for society (e.g. in the early 2000s ethanol has been promoted as that solution to CO2 and individual mobility (societally relevant technological research). Some years later it has been shown that it is detrimental for society at large (humanities and social sciences as well as NGOs showed that it led to hunger in some countries and environmental sciences showed it is even not sustainable; diesel is more environmental friendly).
- The implicit idea is that you can define impact. But CAN you define it universally in the SSH?

2. Are there missing pathways/missing elements? Is there stuff not captured?

- What are the assumptions about science, ssh, science society relationships behind the models?
- Knowledge creeps: is this an independent pathway? Or is this pathway coinciding all other pathways? (See the work of Carol Wiss)
- What do we miss? A pathway from society to science, n b naar a, education/teaching pathway, commercialisation pathway, people mobility/embodied knowledge pathway, pathway via other disciplines,
- We would like to know more about contextual factors for each case (the social position of the involved academic, the country from which the case originates). Also, the types of used interactions should receive more attention to better understand the pathways.
- For the second question, we thought that from the fiche it was missing the following question:
How to put SSH knowledge into practice? (for example: We were discussion how to engage SSH scholars in politics?)
- -scientific progress cannot always be neatly separated from societal progress (except for the situation where there is no societal progress and no impact).
- -non-linearity. Impact often comes in an erratic way: research is done, reaction of consumers/society, more research is done etc. sometimes, impact is only visible for the last step of research. But what has been (scientifically) important for this last project is maybe not considered as having had an impact. But maybe there wouldn't have been this project with an impact without research before that does not have a visible impact.
- One missing element is determining a way to measure impact in terms of scalability. But there could also be categories of impact that will be created, and those can defer from discipline to discipline.
- The open access of information is missing. We need to address this issue with a focus on policy makers and others (e.g. researchers, society, practitioners).
- The business/economic model as well as the model of the commercialization of services is missing.
- A distinction between co-creation and citizen science is missing.

3. Which of these models are the most attractive for policy makers and why?

- All! We should prevent some models become the preferred or prescribed impact pathways
- We discussed that in different countries different models are applicable for policy makers, for example: Serbia and Italy: Media Dissemination Model and The Public Engagement Model, Netherlands: Cocreation Model, Bosnia and Herzegovina: The expertise and evaluation model
- all of them (and more) should be of interest to policy makers as they should be happy with any form of impact resp. research-impact relation.
- we feel that co-creation might be the one most appealing to policy makers as consumers can be included in the process.

- we discussed that policy makers might prefer aesthetically attractive models (nice graphs). The middle way of complication might be most appealing: easy to understand but nevertheless making the impression of a „scientific“ model (e.g. some feedback loops but not too complicated).
- We did not place a lot of emphasis in this because we do not have control over whether a policy maker will adopt your results or your ideas. So we need to focus beyond that. However, a way of creating more impact in policy making is when one person acts also as a policy maker and as a researcher.

4. How applicable are these models generally e.g. to STEM fields? – Are we capturing the essence of SSH?

- On the one hand we see a danger in considering all SSH disciplines as one set as there are many differences between them. On the other hand, we see a danger in isolating SSH disciplines, as there is also much overlap with STEM concerning the pathways (the anniversary model could apply to the birthday of Sartre, but also to the annual flu epidemic or the passing of Halley's comet; the seize the day pathway could apply to migration, but also to hiv). However, a difference could be the wording used to label the pathways.
- We agreed that Cocreation model could be applicable for STEM research and Driving societal challenge is more applicable on SSH research, whilst it is not applicable for STEM research
- they should? why should there be a difference?
- the models are more complicated or complex than the ones already applied in STEM-fields. More complex always applies if the less complex apply already.
- from other projects, it is our experience that while they opt for a simple model, if presented with a more sophisticated one, they would say that this would also work for them (e.g. catalogue for quality criteria in the humanities spurred interest of chemists)
- SSH is a different discipline so we cannot directly compare the two. Moreover, in most cases people are trying to adapt the STEM methods to SSH rather than the other way around.

Second session, March 8

Participants:

Chair: Jack Spaapen; co-chair: Reetta Muhonen

On Wednesday the group continued its work based on the WG2's discussions on the previous day. The session started with the summary of the previous day's discussions under subgroups:

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COST action 15137. www.enressh.eu

- Is this a biased picture? All the cases had impact – how about those which didn't?
- What should we say about the research where it is not that clear if it has an impact or not?
- Arrows in the visualizations – do they give an unintended impression of linearity?
- Are we able to take into account the differences inside SSH?
- Now the focus is on mechanisms – do we want to include also outputs/impacts?
- Who decides what impact is? Can impact be also bad?
- Society could be more included, what they are expecting from researchers
- STEM fields might also be interested in our models.

After the summing up the discussion of the previous day, extra attention was still paid to the question: Are there missing pathways/missing elements in our typology of SSH engagement. WG2 group came together with the following check list:

- cocreation and **citizen science, social responsibility, open access**
- SSH in making an economic impact, **commercialization**
- experts moving from one institution to another, **mobility**
- political involvement? could this go together with the “mobility” model
- pathway to societal **impact via other disciplines**
- **teaching**, updating training
- a pathway **from society to science**

The WG2 discussed that if there is not cases dealing with the missing elements in our data, participants are willing to deliver some more cases. Vice-chair of the session, Reetta Muhonen, promised to come back to this after reading through the data again. In the end part of the session of the day 2, WG2 was divided into two subgroups. The idea was to change experiences of country-specific practices in relation to supporting, evaluating and measuring the societal impact of SSH research by discussing the following questions. Extra attention was paid to the last question to discuss concerned the future work of the WG2.

1. What kind of approaches/models do you have in your country in relation to societal impact? Whether you work with case studies, bibliometrics etc.?

2. In your country - how do you perceive the differences inside SSH in relation to societal impact of research?
3. In your country how policy-makers are supporting societally relevant research?
4. What are the most important topics for WG2's future work?

Finally, the subgroups came up with the following notions in relation to the aims of the WG2:

a) We should increase *understanding* of impact – how is it **realized**?

- How is it **organized**? (example discussed in the session: 80 Norwegian journals subsidized)
- How is it **institutionalized**? (policy to stimulate societal impact)

b) How can we help researchers to tell their story, to visualize impact?

- Increase systematization of documentation
- Increase understanding of impact, contextuality

c) Do research on social media, electronic traces (not yet fit for evaluation, but information)

- Altmetrics, Contextual Response Analysis

d) Consider the question about the relationship of global and local in relation to impact

Work Group 3 Meeting in Sofia

First session, March 7, 2017, 11:30 – 13:00

Participants:

Tim Engels (chair, Belgium), Raf Guns (vice-chair, Belgium), Emanuel Kulczycki (Poland), Janne Pölönen (Finland), Jolanta Sinkuniene (Lithuania), Alesia Zuccala (Denmark), Elea Giménez (Spain), Elias Sanz (Spain), Rahman Nurkovic (Bosnia Herzegovina), Jovan Gardasevic (Montenegro), Stevo Popovic (Montenegro), Sven Hug (Switzerland), Pantelis Papadopoulos (Denmark), Nikolaus Obwegeser (Denmark), Alexis Dewaele (Belgium), Marlene Iseli (Switzerland), Arnis Kokorevics (Latvia), Gunnar Sivertsen (Norway), Andrea Bonaccorsi (Italy).

Since there are several new attendants, the meeting starts with each participant introducing themselves. The WG chair then introduces the working group and the agenda for the Sofia meetings.

Database survey

It was decided in Poznan that WG3 would carry out a survey on national databases and repositories for SSH research output across European countries. This was carried out by Linda Sile; the results are presented by Tim Engels. At the time of the meeting, responses had been gathered from 36 countries, with the aim of getting to 41 countries in total. Contrary to common misperceptions, the results show that East Europe is in fact better represented than West Europe. For the purposes of the survey, a national database was defined as a database that is (or aims to be) comprehensive, valid and reliable, and is governed by a legal framework. Various insights from the survey are highlighted. The publications covered in most databases date back to 2000 or before. When it comes to data collection, it is mostly institutions that report the data to the national system (with a few exceptions, like Italy).

Four groups of database usage were delineated. One of the main conclusions is that almost all databases are used for evaluation and/or funding allocation purposes. Linda is currently finalizing per-country fact sheets, which will be sent to representatives of each country for a final check. Representatives will also be given access to the fact sheets of the other countries, which may also help in harmonizing the results as much as possible. The final report will be approved at the next ENRESSH meeting on July 5 (Antwerp, Belgium). To disseminate the results, a report will be written. In addition, this will lead to presentations at RESSH and STI, as well as a publication in an international journal.

The question is raised if the report will also contain guidelines for countries that want to implement such a database. While guidelines are indeed important (and one of the planned deliverables of the WG), it is still too early to set normative instructions. This will be work for later grant periods for the WG.

A discussion is opened on the importance of technical and metadata standards. While the survey asked for these, the responses are rather varied. The main conclusion is that most – but not all – systems support OAI-PMH. It is suggested that the WG should work towards suggesting standards for technical formats and bibliographic description. This raises the question how far one should go: while a framework like FRBR has the advantage of capturing very rich relations between, e.g., editions, this also complicates description. Hence, it may be more realistic to focus on uses in the context of research evaluation rather than library systems. It is also mentioned that the way of working towards a European system might benefit from taking into account the most recent technological and ontological developments in relation to databases. An alternative method would be to start from lists of researchers and try to disambiguate based on Web resources. This is more akin to Google Scholar's way of working. It can be expected that, if ENRESSH does not build a European overview, some other player will try to do it this way. Indeed, this is what Google Scholar but also Microsoft Academic does. The difference is that the national databases covered in the survey have a responsibility regarding research evaluation, and it is an open question to what extent such commercial databases can be used for similar purposes. Still, the WG agrees that these are important evolutions that should be tracked.

STSM Janne Pölönen

Janne Pölönen presents the results from his STSM stay in Antwerp in the context of WG3, where he worked on two tasks: comparison of the Flemish VABB-SHW database with the Finnish VIRTATA database, and definition of key metrics for European cross-country comparison.

First, Janne explains the Finnish PRFS, which is an adaptation of the Norwegian model. The comparison with Flanders has mainly focused on journal articles in both countries in the period 2011–2014. Overall, publication patterns in both countries are quite similar, with some differences. The share of publications indexed in WoS and Scopus has increased in Finland but seems to stabilize in Flanders. Co-authorship is more common in Flanders than Finland but inter-university collaboration in Flanders is slightly decreasing.

WG3 meeting, March 7, 14:00 – 16:00

Attendance: Tim Engels (chair, Belgium), Raf Guns (vice-chair, Belgium), Emanuel Kulczycki (Poland), Marek Hołowicki (Poland), Hulda Proppé (Iceland), Ginevra Peruginelli (Italy), Nina Kancewicz-Hoffmann (Poland), Hanna-Mari Puuska (Finland), Janne Pölönen (Finland), Jolanta Sinkuniene (Lithuania), Alesia Zuccala (Denmark), Elea Giménez (Spain), Elias Sanz (Spain), Rahman Nurkovic (Bosnia Herzegovina), Jovan Gardasevic (Montenegro), Stevo Popovic (Montenegro), Sven Hug (Switzerland), Pantelis Papadopoulos (Denmark), Nikolaus Obwegeser (Denmark), Arnis Kokorevics (Latvia), Gunnar Sivertsen (Norway), Andrea Bonaccorsi (Italy).

STSM Emanuel Kulczycki

Emanuel Kulczycki presents the results from his STSM stay in Antwerp in the context of WG3, where he worked on comparing the Flemish VABB-SHW database with PBN, the Polish Scholarly Bibliography for the period 2009–2014. The disciplinary structure used in Poland is complex: one needs to distinguish between scientific units, fields of science, and Joint Evaluation Groups. After careful analysis, four Joint Evaluation Groups were found that could be compared to disciplines in the VABB-SHW.

The results show that the publication patterns in both countries are remarkably different, with Polish researchers having a strong preference for publishing book chapters and publishing in Polish. The results also exhibit a very strong increase in the share of journal publications around 2012–13, which reflects a policy change. Overall, the evolutions in both countries are mostly similar but they are at very different starting positions.

Proposal for integrated data infrastructure for SSH

Hanna-Mari Puuska presents a proposal for developing an integrated data infrastructure for the SSH. After outlining the great variety of national systems and data models, she presents the Finnish VIRTAsystem as a potential solution. VIRTAsystem is a data warehouse that can integrate data from different sources. It is currently used to aggregate publication data from Finnish research institutions (with automatic duplication and error detection) and transfer the data to funder systems and other services. Data are imported as XML, with an optional CSV converter available. The proposal is to expand VIRTAsystem's use and apply it at the European level to integrate data from various countries. This would of course require work on finding the right subset of metadata that is attainable for all involved partners. The benefits include aspects like availability, quality, transparency, and usability.

Current roadmap:

- Dec 2016: presented to VIRTAsystem Steering Group
- Feb 2017: presented to euroCRIS board
- Spring-Autumn 2017: small pilot with limited number of countries
- 2018-...: wider implementation project

It is suggested that a document could be written to disseminate the initiative to other countries and to individual institutions.

Book evaluation survey proposal

Elea Giménez presents an initiative to extend a previous study on assessment of scholarly books in European countries to other COST countries and to deepen the comparison of book evaluation systems. To this end, a survey has been launched at <http://ilia.cchs.csic.es/encuestas/EuropeEval/>, which should be filled out by March 15. The analysis of the results and the drafting of the resulting paper will then take place over the period March – May.

Elea clarifies that, although public outreach books are important in themselves, the survey is focused on scholarly books. To get access to the survey, participants should contact Elea.

Survey proposal for SSH metrics

Janne Pölönen presents a proposal to launch a European survey with basic indicators to assess cross-country differences in SSH publishing patterns, developed together with Linda Sile. In several studies, a great variation in SSH publishing patterns has been observed across national, institutional, and disciplinary contexts. The idea of the survey is to get a better picture of the variation across national boundaries, while acknowledging that some difficulties will remain (such as the delineation of disciplines).

Participants from countries with a national database for research output that is suitable for (basic) bibliometric analysis will be invited to take part in the survey in March and April. It is anticipated that this work will lead to a presentation at the Nordic Workshop for Bibliometrics and Research Policy as well as a peer-reviewed journal article.

Predatory publishers

Raf Guns introduces the current problems relating to the question how to deal with so-called predatory open access publishers and journals in databases for SSH research output: the main data source (Beall's list) is controversial and has, moreover, disappeared in January 2017. This raises the question which other data sources can be used.

Emanuel Kulczycki provides an overview of the situation in Poland, where in 2013 about 600 journals were added to the B list; many of these were predatory open access journals. This highlights that in some countries the phenomenon is not marginal.

Gunnar Sivertsen explains the solution developed by the Nordic countries and ERIH PLUS, which have started collaborating with the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). In exchange for financial support, DOAJ shares internal information on their evaluation procedures: this way, it becomes possible to recognize those journals that have, for instance, engaged in editorial misconduct.

Finally, it is pointed out that there is a WG1 subgroup on open access. This could be a topic for inter-group discussion at a next meeting.

Proposal for estimating the total volume of SSH output in Europe

Due to lack of time, this agenda item will be introduced and discussed through email.

Work Group 4 Meeting in Sofia

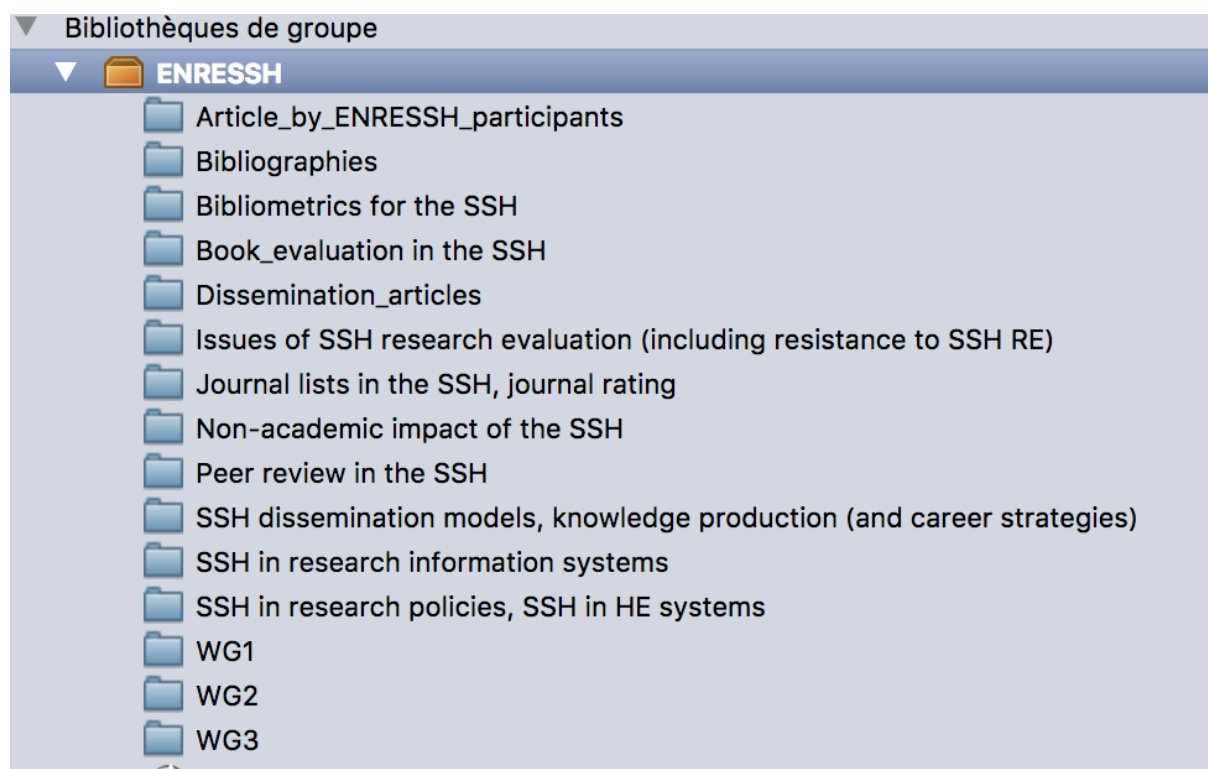
First session, Tuesday 7th March 2017-03-13

Participants:

Elea Gimenez, Clémentine Gozlan, Raf Guns, Alexander Hasgall, Arleen Ionescu, Michael Ochsner, Elias Sanz, Angelo Tramountanis, Geoffrey Williams, Alessia Zuccala

Matters in hand:

- Organisation of members area on website
 - Organisation of the Zotero bibliography
1. The current members' area was introduced and the relationship between that and the hidden part of the download area was discussed. It was decided that the downloads would be used mostly for publically available documents or documents that did not require linking to a specific page. In all cases cross-linking would be carried out. The members' area would have a separate page for each WG and the ECI SIG with the leaders and vice leaders of each WG being given rights to that page. It was agreed that a meeting would be held between Geoffrey Williams, Antun Plenkovic and Angelo Tramountanis to work out the practical means of putting this into effect.
 2. The second issue was the internal organisation of the Zotero bibliography and its links to the website. Currently, three Zotero sites exist, those of WG1, WG2 and the main database. It was decided to create a subcommittee to standardise between the two WG bases so that data could more easily be transferred to the public database. A simplified system of tags would be prepared to ease information extraction in the public database. A series of sub-collections would also be used to ease access to areas of specific interest. Amongst these would be a list of all papers by COST members and a section for papers that count as action deliverables, the latter would be available on the download section. Current structure is as below. In the members area, published articles by WG members would be stocked; these are not necessarily open access but they can be shared amongst members for academic purposes. This is envisaged as a small repository of papers in high demand. The implementation of the public database would be discussed through an email exchange.



In the afternoon, Geoffrey Williams, Antun Plenkovic, Angelo Tramountanis, Arleen Ionescu and Boris Mlacic to look at implementation of the members area. Antun Plenkovic and Angelo Tramountanis, both ECI, accepted to be deputy work group leaders. The structure was designed and tested. Prof. Williams will implement the structure under better WIFI conditions.

Post meeting exchange on Zotero

As many publications do not cover just one or a few disciplines but the whole of SSH (e.g. national DB of SSH research in country x), it is agreed to omit discipline of investigation in tag lists so as not to list every single discipline since many may never be discussed as such in the publication, only the aggregated whole.

All multiword tag names would be linked using the underscore as in ENRESSH_author.

Tags would include:

- ENRESSH_author
- ENRESSH_deliverable

Concerning countries and languages, the ISO-shortnames (countries: 3166-1; languages: ISO 639-1 will be applied, thus the tag for the Netherlands and Dutch

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COST action 15137. www.enressh.eu

language would be nl and differentiated by c for country and language. The Wikipedia lists of codes would be used:

- languages: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_ISO_639-2_codes
- countries: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO_3166-1

Thus, in practice we would find

- Country c_nl
- Language l_nl

The coding of disciplines is still under discussion

SIG ECI Meeting in Sofia

First session, March 08 (Wednesday), 09:00 - 10:30

Participants:

Emanuel Kulczycki, Marc Vanholsbeeck, Stéphanie Mignot-Gérard, Haris Gekic, Clémentine Gozlan, Geoffrey Williams, Michael Ochsner, George Afxentiou, Reetta Muhonen, Stevo Popovic, José Gabriel Andrade, Antun Plenkovic, Karolina Lendak-Kabok, Jovan Gardasevic.

The meeting started with goals, plans and deliverables of the SIG for ECI once again presented with the nearest goal of doing 2 pilot interviews per country until Antwerp meeting in July 2017. However, in the joint discussion it was decided to do **one** interview per country until Antwerp meeting so as to be able to decide on the optimal length of the interview, best methodology and the most important topic areas to be addressed in the other interviews.

The profile of the respondent: for the pilot interview it was decided to have as much of the disciplinary diversity as possible. The participants present at the meeting discussed potential disciplinary fields they would like to approach for the pilot interview:

Researcher	Country	Disciplinary field
Reetta Muhonen	Finland	Higher education studies
George Afxentiou	Cyprus	Business Innovation
Michael Ochsner, Alexander Hasgall	Switzerland	Psychology, Sociology
José Gabriel Andrade	Portugal	Communication Sciences
Antun Plenkovic	Croatia	Psychology / Sociology
Karolina Lendak- Kabok	Serbia	Law
Stevo Popovic	Montenegro	Physical education
Clémentine Gozlan	France	Emerging fields: Gender studies / Climate change
Haris Gekic	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Geography
Stéphanie Mignot- Gérard	France	Sociology
Marc Vanholsbeeck	Belgium	Interdisciplinary field
Emanuel Kulczycki	Poland	Philosophy
Jolanta Sinkuniene	Lithuania	Literature

For the pilot interview, the respondent should have 4+ years after PhD to make sure s/he has wider experience with evaluation.

It was decided to do the pilot interview in national languages, transcribe it and translate it into English.

The content areas that the interview should address were also supplemented with the following points:

1. How evaluation policies are communicated to ECI, i.e. how do they learn about the evaluation specifics?
2. What did they learn from evaluation experience? For example, did they change publication habits taking into account evaluation aspects?
3. Are ECI concerned with societal impact / social impact of their activities/production?

Information to be agreed upon in the near future:

1. Final areas for interview questions and their priority.
2. More specific research questions the SIG would attempt to address.