List of

Projects on SSH Scholars' Notions of Research Quality

in Participating Countries

ENRESSH Report

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Executive summary

What does research quality mean? This question becomes important when research is evaluated but remains largely unanswered, especially regarding the social sciences and humanities (SSH). This report gives an overview on empirical projects that explicitly investigate the notions of research quality of SSH scholars. Such projects are scarce and often not much known, yet of high importance as only with knowledge on what is to be measured, we can find adequate indicators for research quality.

The report concludes that there is a growing interest in studies on SSH research evaluation and its methods and thus an increasing number of projects on such topics. However, the question what exactly research quality means in the eyes of the scholars regarding their every-day practice remains under-researched even though it stands at the centre of research evaluation. Therefore, Work Group 1 should fill this gap of knowledge

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Introduction

In the last decades, a shift in university management practices towards accountability and new public management all over Europe came along with the implementation of research assessment and evaluation procedures. While at first, research assessment concerned mainly the natural and life sciences due to the costly character of research in these disciplines (see e.g. Krull & Tepperwien, 2016), lately the social sciences and humanities (SSH) are also subject to systematic evaluation. The methods commonly used for research evaluation, i.e. bibliometric approaches, relate to the practices in the natural and life sciences. However, such bibliometric approaches to research evaluation lead to unsatisfactory results when applied to social sciences and humanities as bibliometric research shows (see, e.g., Hicks, 2004; Glänzel, 1996; Larivière, Gingras & Archambault, 2004; Nederhof, 2006; Nederhof, Zwaan, de Bruin & Dekker, 1989). This is due to several reasons, such as different and more diverse publication practices (Hicks, 2004; Mutz, 2013), different research habits and practices, a regional or local orientation and the use of diverse languages (for an overview, see Nederhof, 2006). But most importantly, there has been more than a hundred years of scientific inquiry on research practices in the natural and life sciences while knowledge on how research is conducted in the SSH is scarce (see, e.g., Hemlin, 1996). Especially what characterizes good SSH research remains largely unknown terrain, even in research exercises that do not resort to bibliometric approaches. What does research quality really mean? This question becomes highly important when research is evaluated but remains largely unanswered (see e.g. Brooks, 2005), especially regarding the social sciences and humanities.

While many stakeholders are involved in research evaluation, the notions of research quality of the SSH scholars themselves are of pivotal importance if the quality of SSH research is to be judged. However, there is a lack of research on quality perceptions of SSH scholars. Given the inadequacy of current methods for research evaluation regarding SSH disciplines, there were a couple of initiatives in Europe focusing on research evaluation practices in the SSH and how to adapt the methods for a more adequate use in the evaluation of SSH research (for an overview, see Ochsner, Hug & Galleron 2017). Many of them investigate how to adapt bibliometric measures to fit to the SSH (e.g. Gimenez-Toledo et al., 2016; Hammarfeldt, 2012; Lauer, 2016; Sivertsen, 2016), others focus on how to improve evaluation of SSH grant proposals (see, e.g., König, 2016; Krull & Tepperwien, 2016). In this report, we focus on empirical projects that explicitly investigate the notions of research quality of SSH scholars. Such projects are scarce and often not much known, yet of high importance as only with knowledge on what is to be measured, we can find adequate indicators for research quality.

This report serves as a starting point for the work in Work Group 1 "Conceptual Frameworks for Research Evaluation Practices in the SSH" of the COST-Action 15137 "European Network for Research Evaluation in the SSH (ENRESSH)". It is based on a list assembled in April-June 2016 and was continuously expanded as new countries joined the Action. It covers recent projects that started between 2000 and

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2015, the fifteen years before the Action started. It will not only provide literature on this central topic of the Work Group but also draw a map on what is done in this regard in the different participating countries. This will help to widen the network as much as to bring together the knowledge gained through these projects. Therefore, this report is not a comprehensive bibliography of research on SSH scholars' notions of research quality, but the list will be continued during the life-time of the Action and will feed into the final reports and bibliography.

Because projects on SSH scholars' notions of quality are very scarce, we also included projects that take a bottom-up approach to describe dissemination practices in the SSH or propose alternative evaluation procedures.

The report is structured as follows: The first part will list projects on quality perceptions of SSH scholars in participating countries sorted by country. The second part will add selected projects on dissemination practices or alternative evaluation procedures. The third part concludes drawing a map of research on notions of research quality in Europe.

References

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Giménez-Toledo, E., *et al*. (2016). Taking scholarly books into account: Current developments in five European countries. *Scientometrics, 107*(2), 1–15.

Glänzel, W. (1996). A bibliometric approach to social sciences. National research performances in 6 selected social science areas, 1990–1992. *Scientometrics, 35*(3), 291–307.

Hammarfelt, B. (2012). *Following the footnotes: A bibliometric analysis of citation patterns in literary studies*. Doctoral dissertation. Skrifter utgivna vid institutionen för ABM vid Uppsala Universitet (Vol. 5). Uppsala: Uppsala Universitet.

Hemlin, S. (1996). Social studies of the humanities. A case study of research conditions and performance in ancient history and classical archaeology and English. *Research Evaluation, 6*(1), 53–61.

Hicks, D. (2004). The four literatures of social science. In H. Moed, W. Glänzel & U. Schmoch (eds) *Handbook of Quantitative Science and Technology Research* (pp. 473–496). New York, NY: Kluwer Academic Publishers.

König, T. (2016). Peer review in the social sciences and humanities at the European Level: The experiences of the European research council. In M. Ochsner, S.E. Hug & H.-D. Daniel (eds) *Research Assessment in the Humanities. Towards Criteria and Procedures* (pp. 151–163). Cham: Springer Open.

Krull, W., & Tepperwien, A. (2016). The four 'I's: Quality indicators for the humanities. In M. Ochsner, S.E. Hug & H.-D. Daniel (eds) *Research Assessment in the Humanities. Towards Criteria and Procedures* (pp. 165–179). Cham: Springer Open.

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Lariviere, V., Gingras, Y., & Archambault, É. (2006). Canadian collaboration networks: A comparative analysis of the natural sciences, social sciences and the humanities. *Scientometrics, 68*(3), 519–533.

Mutz, R., Bornmann, L., & Daniel, H.-D. (2013). Types of research output profiles: A multilevel latent class analysis of the Austrian Science Fund's final project report data. *Research Evaluation, 22*(2), 118–133. doi:10.1093/reseval/rvs038

Nederhof, A. J. (2006). Bibliometric monitoring of research performance in the social sciences and the humanities: A review. *Scientometrics, 66*(1), 81–100.

Nederhof, A. J., Zwaan, R., de Bruin, R., & Dekker, P. (1989). Assessing the usefulness of bibliometric indicators for the humanities and the social sciences—a comparative study. *Scientometrics, 15*(5), 423–435.

Ochsner, M., Hug, S. E., & Galleron, I. (2017). The future of research assessment in the humanities: bottom-up assessment procedures. Palgrave Communications, 3, 17020. doi:10.1057/palcomms.2017.20

Sivertsen, G. (2016). Publication-based funding: The Norwegian model. In M. Ochsner, S.E. Hug & H.-D. Daniel (eds) *Research Assessment in the Humanities. Towards Criteria and Procedures* (pp. 79–90). Cham: Springer Open.

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PART I: List of Projects on SSH Scholars' Notions of Quality in Europe

Belgium

La notion de « qualité » des publications dans l'évaluation de la recherche et des chercheurs en SHS.

Marc Vanholsbeeck, Université Libre de Bruxelles
Period: 2008-2016
The project was the PhD project of Marc Vanholsbeeck.
Publications:

Vanholsbeeck, M. (2012). Dépôt numérique des publications et renouveau des relations entre les acteurs de la recherche. In S. Proulx, & A. Klein (Dirs.), *Connexions : communication numérique et lien social* (pp. 119-134). Namur: Presses universitaires de Namur.

Vanholsbeeck, M. (2012). Entre qualité prescrite et qualité souhaitable : l'ambivalence des chercheurs en communication face à l'évaluation de leurs publications. *Quaderni*, 77, 71-84.

Griffioen, D., Hug, S.E., & Vanholsbeeck, M. (2013). Criteria for Research Quality: International Perspectives. In *Forum of the European Association for Institutional Research (EAIR) (Rotterdam, August 2013)*.

Websites, Further information:
http://difusion.ulb.ac.be/vufind/Record/ULB–
DIPOT:oai:dipot.ulb.ac.be:2013/226291/Holdings

Croatia

Research activity, collaboration and orientation in social science in Croatia and other post-socialist European countries

Institute of Social Research, Institute of Economics, Faculties of Law, Psychology, Political Science and Education of the University of Zagreb
Period: 2015-2019
The project studies many aspects of SSH research production using quantitative (bibliometrics, survey, social network analysis) and qualitative (interviews) methods. To provide a comprehensive comparative description of the state of social sciences in Croatia, the project includes 10 EU post-socialist countries (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, and Slovenia) as well as ex-Yugoslav countries (Bosnia and Hercegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia).
Publication(s):

Letina, S., Robins, G., & Maslić Seršić, D. (2016). Reaching Out from a Small Scientific Community: The Social Influence Models of Collaboration across National and Disciplinary Boundaries for Scientists in Three Fields of Social Sciences. *Revija za sociologiju, 46*(2). doi:10.5613/rzs.46.2.1.

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Jokić, M.; Petrušić, I. (2016). Neki od uzroka slabe zastupljenosti hrvatskih sveučilišta na svjetskim rang ljestvicama sveučilišta [Some of the Reasons for Poor Represenation of Croatian Universities in World University Rankings]. *Medijska istraživanja, 22*,1, 5-40.

Letina, S. (2016). Network and actor attribute effects on the performance of researchers in two fields of social science in a small peripheral community. *Journal of Informetrics, 10*(2), 571–595.

Jokić, M. & Sirotić, G. (2015). Do the International Editorial Board Members of Croatian Social Sciences and Humanities Journals Contribute to their Visibility? *Medijska istraživanja, 21*(2), 5-33.

Websites, Further information:

http://www.idi.hr/racoss/index_en.html

Germany

European Educational Research Quality Indicators (EERQI)

Ingrid Gogolin, University of Hamburg

The mission of this project was to develop new approaches for the evaluation of quality of educational research publications. EERQI aimed to develop a prototype framework for the intelligent combination of new indicators and methodologies for the assessment of quality in educational research texts, make this framework operational on a multilingual basis (starting with English, German, French and Swedish), test the transferability of the EERQI framework to another field of social sciences and the humanities.

Publications:

Gogolin, I. (2016). European Educational Research Quality Indicators (EERQI): An Experiment. In M. Ochsner, S. E. Hug & H.-D. Daniel (eds.) *Research Assessment in the Humanities* (pp. 103-111). Cham: Springer Open.

Gogolin, I., Astrom, F., & Hansen, A. (eds.) (2014). *Assessing Quality in European Educational Research*. Springer VS: Wiesbaden, Germany.

Italy

OLTRE - The evaluation of legal research monographs

Ginevra Peruginelli, Sebastiano Faro & Tommaso Agnoloni, Institute of Theory and Techniques of Legal Information of the National Research Council

Period: 2015-2016

The project is focused on assessment of legal studies with a particular attention to the role of research monographs. The aim is to describe the state of the art in Italy in this discipline and to determine the variables and indicators that have greater consensus among Italian researchers. To achieve this goal, a national survey (all Italian legal scholars) and a comparative analysis of different countries have been carried out.

Websites, Further information:

http://www.ittig.cnr.it/progetti/valutazione-monografia-giuridica/

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ROBINA - The Role of Book in non-bibliometric areas

Tiziana Lipiello, Antonella Basso, Università Ca' Foscari Venezia, Italy
Ioana Galleron, Geoffrey Williams, Université de Bretagne-Sud, France
Period: 2015-2017
The definition of book/monograph in non-bibliometric areas, based on perception of scholars in Italy and in Europe and on Quantitative (databases, statistical analyses) and on Qualitative (Questionnaires, Focus Groups, Computer assisted Qualitative Data Analysis Software). The impact of research evaluation protocols on publication habits, and more precisely on book publishing.
Publication:
Williams, G., Basso, A., Galleron, I., & Lipiello, T. (forthcoming). More, less or better: the problem of evaluating books in SSH research. In A Bonnaccorsi (ed.) *The Evaluation of Research in Social Sciences and Humanities*. Springer.

France

The social sciences and humanities in the face of standards for quality research A study of academic judgment in a French evaluation agency

Clémentine Gozlan, Science Po, Paris, France
Period: 2012-2016
Based on qualitative and quantitative data, this project analysed how evaluators in the disciplines of literature and geography mobilise a set of heterogeneous resources to build their judgment in evaluations of a national evaluation agency, the AERES, and how they enforce their disciplinary standards within a very constrained evaluation framework. Analysing the mechanisms by which the members of two disciplines tend to invalidate the Agency's norms or conform to its value scale, this paper reflects on the way academics (re)define the legitimacy of their professional practices when the rules of scientific consecration are subject to normalization.
Publications:
Gozlan, C. (2016). Les sciences humaines et sociales face aux standards d'évaluation de la qualité académique Enquête sur les pratiques de jugement dans une agence française. *Sociologie, 7*(3), 261-280. doi:10.3917/socio.073.0261
Websites, Further information:
http://www.cso.edu/cv_equipe.asp?per_id=187

QualiSHS – Critères de qualité de la recherché dans les sciences humaines et sociales : perceptions et pratiques

A project supported by the "Réseau national des MSH". Coordinating MSH: MSHB; participating MSH: ISH Lyon and MSH Alpes. Research units involved: LICORN, PACTE, LAHRA, UPEC. PI: Ioana Galleron, Geoffrey Williams, LICORN, France
Period: 2013-2014
The project aimed at:
(1) collect perceptions and identify concepts of quality about SSH research in the SSH community; (2) identify disciplinary differences between SSH disciplines with regards to the conceptualisation of research quality; (3) understanding how

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research quality concepts are generated; (4) explore the relationship between concepts of quality and evaluation practices in France.

Considering the timeframe and the awarded financing, the project concentrated particularly on the fourth goal. It gathered and analysed evaluation reports produced by AERES about SSH research units. These reports show that the main criteria for quality during the evaluation exercise taken into consideration was the „coherence" of the considered research units; there was no attempt to qualify what a „publication de qualité" means, even if the expression came out often in the reports.

Publications:

Short description of the project in:

Ochsner, M., Hug, S. E., & Galleron, I. (2017). The future of research assessment in the humanities: bottom-up assessment procedures. Palgrave Communications, 3, 17020. doi: 10.1057/palcomms.2017.20

Spain

Opinion of researchers in Social Sciences and Humanities about the evaluation systems. Qualitative approach

Elea Giménez-Toledo, Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)

Period: 2011-2013

Content analysis of answers from a survey where researchers gave their opinion on different aspects of evaluation processes

Publications:

Giménez-Toledo, E. (2016). *Malestar: los investigadores ante su evaluación* [Discontent. Researchers facing their evaluation]. Madrid: Iberoamericana Vervuert.

Websites, Further information:

https://www.iberoamericana-vervuert.es/FichaLibro.aspx?P1=109703

Switzerland

Developing and Testing Research Quality Criteria in the Humanities, with an emphasis on Literature Studies and Art History

Michael Ochsner, Sven E. Hug & Hans-Dieter Daniel, University of Zurich and ETH Zurich

Period: 2009-2014

The project served to develop a framework for quality criteria for SSH research based on scholars' notions of quality. The output was a catalogue of generic discipline-specific quality criteria for three humanities disciplines, including a collection of indicators for research performance linked to quality criteria.

Publications:

Hug, S. E., & Ochsner, M. (2014). A framework to explore and develop criteria for assessing research quality in the humanities. *International Journal of Education Law and Policy, 10*(1), 55–68.

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Hug, S. E., Ochsner, M., & Daniel, H.-D. (2013). Criteria for assessing research quality in the humanities: a Delphi study among scholars of English literature, German literature and art history. *Research Evaluation, 22*(5), 369–383. doi:10.1093/reseval/rvt008

Ochsner, M. Hug, S. E., & Daniel, H.-D. (2012). Indicators for Research Quality in the Humanities: Opportunities and Limitations. *Bibliometrie – Praxis und Forschung, 1*, 4.

Ochsner, M., Hug, S. E., & Daniel, H.-D. (2013). Four types of research in the humanities: Setting the stage for research quality criteria in the humanities. *Research Evaluation, 22*(2), 79–92. doi:10.1093/reseval/rvs039

Ochsner, M., Hug, S. E., & Daniel, H.-D. (2014). Setting the stage for the assessment of research quality in the humanities. Consolidating the results of four empirical studies. *Zeitschrift für Erziehungswissenschaft 17*(6), 111–132.

Ochsner, M., Hug, S. E., & Daniel, H.-D. (Eds.). (2016). *Research Assessment in the Humanities*. Cham: Springer Open. doi:10.1007/978-3-319-29016-4

Websites, Further information:

http://www.performances-recherche.ch/projects/entwicklung-und-erprobung-von-qualitaetskriterien-fuer-die-forschung-in-den-geisteswissenschaften

Application of Bottom-Up-Criteria in the Assessment of Grant Proposals of Junior Researchers

Sven E. Hug, Michael Ochsner & Hans-Dieter Daniel, University of Zurich and ETH Zurich

Period: 2015-2017

Based on quality perceptions of all scholars in the humanities disciplines in Switzerland, an evaluation sheet for peer review for grant applications is created.

Websites, Further information:

http://www.psh.ethz.ch/en/research/anwendung-von-bottom-up-kriterien-zur-beurteilung-von-geisteswis.html

Assessment of legal research in Switzerland

Andreas Lienhard, Fabian Amschwand & Eva Herrmann, University of Bern
Thierry Tanquerel, Alexander Flückiger & Karin Byland, University of Geneva

Period: 2013-2016

This project is exploring the field of assessment of legal research in Switzerland. The exploratory study is based on an analysis of legal norms, a survey amongst the relevant stakeholders (legal scholars, editors of law journals, law school deans, lawyers) in Switzerland and an international comparative analysis. Seven "situations" in which legal research is being assessed were defined. Within this framework, methods and criteria for assessing the quality of legal research were identified and analysed.

Publications:

Lienhard, A., Tanquerel, T., Flückiger, A., Amschwand, F., Byland, K., & Herrmann, E. (2016). *Forschungsevaluation in der Rechtswissenschaft: Grundlagen und empirische Analyse in der Schweiz*. Bern: Stämpfli.

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Lienhard, A., Tanquerel, T., Amschwand, F., Herrmann, E., & Byland, K. (2015). L'évaluation de la recherche en droit en Suisse. In T. Tanquerel & A. Flückiger (eds.) *L'évaluation de la recherche en droit: enjeux et méthodes* (pp. 373-407). Brussels: Bruylant.

Tanquerel, T., & Flückiger, A. (eds.) (2015). *L'évaluation de la recherche en droit: enjeux et méthodes*. Brussels: Bruylant.

Lienhard, A., Amschwand, F., & Herrmann, E. (2013). Forschungsevaluation in der Rechtswissenschaft: Ausgangslage, Entwicklungen und Ausblick. *LeGes, 2013*(2), 411-435.

Lienhard, A., & Amschwand, F. (2010). *Forschungsevaluation, Fachtagung der rechtswissenschaftlichen Fakultäten der Schweiz vom 25. Juni 2010. Bericht*. November 2010. Bern: Universität Bern.

Websites, Further information:
http://www.rechtswissenschaft.unibe.ch/ueber_uns/qualitaetssicherung/qualitaet_in_der_forschung/index_ger.html
http://www.unige.ch/droit/cetel/recherches/evalRecherche.html

Resource-oriented instrument for the visualisation of humanities research on the example of theology

Wolfgang Schatz, Silvia Martens, University of Luzern
Désirée Donzallaz, University of Fribourg
Period: 2013-2016

The project's goal is the adequate visualisation and positioning of theological research as an example for a humanities discipline. Firstly, quality criteria and indicators are developed in close collaboration with the scholars in the field. Secondly, a technical instrument will be developed in the form of a web-based software.

Websites, Further information:
http://www.performances-recherche.ch/projects/ressourcen-basiertes-instrument-zur-abbildung-geisteswissenschaftlicher-forschung-am-beispiel-der-theologie

Quality of research

Judith Czellar, Jaques Lanarès, University of Lausanne, Switzerland
Period: 2009-2013

Traditional bibliometric indicators are considered too limited for some research areas such as humanities and social sciences because they mostly reveal a specific aspect of academic performance (quantity of publications) and tend to ignore a significant part of research production. The project investigated the links between practices for assessing academic performance, bibliometric methods' use and underlying values of research quality within the scientific community of University of Lausanne, Switzerland.

Publications:
Czellar, J., Lanarès, J. (2013). Quality of research: Which underlying values? *Scientometrics, 95*(3), 1003-1021.

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United Kingdom

Expressions of Excellence in applied and practice-based research

Critics of education research in the recent years have pointed the finger at what they saw as its low quality, impact, and 'value for money'. In the context of the Research Assessment Exercise, particular concerns have been raised about applied and practice-based educational research and how best to assess its quality. argues that quality in applied and practice-based research cannot be reduced to narrow definitions of 'scientificity', 'impact' or economic efficiency. It proposes an account of quality in applied and practice-based educational research which encompasses methodological and theoretical solidity, use and impact, but also dialogue, deliberation, participation, ethics and personal growth.

Publications:

Furlong, J., & Oancea, A. (2005). Assessing quality in applied and practice-based educational research: A framework for discussion. Oxford: Oxford University Department of Educational Studies. Retrieved from http://www.esrc.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/Images/assessing_quality_shortreport_tcm6-8232.pdf

Oancea, A., & Furlong, J. (2007). Expressions of excellence and the assessment of applied and practice-based research. *Research Papers in Education, 22*(2), 119–137. doi:10.1080/02671520701296056

Definitions of Originality, Significance and Rigour

The various panels and sub-panels convened to undertake the evaluations in the 2008 United Kingdom Research Assessment Exercise were asked to provide their own interpretations of both the criteria and the categories. The paper analyses those, and finds that they are no less subjective than the generic descriptions provided by the central organisation.

Publications:

Johnston R (2008) On structuring subjective judgements: Originality, significance and rigour in RAE 2008. Higher Education Quarterly; 62 (1/2): 120–147.

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PART II: Projects and publications on SSH dissemination practices and SSH-specific evaluation (selection)

Austria

Specifities of law studies and their effect on research assessment

Maier, E. (submitted). Besonderheiten in den Rechtswissenschaften und ihre Auswirkungen auf die Forschungsbewertung. Qualität in der Wissenschaft (QiW).

Belgium

A critical discussion of the tendency to align the (performance based) funding of the humanities on the bibliometrics in usage in the STEM.

De Langhe, R. (2007). Naar een Pluralistisch Model van Onderzoeksfinanciering in de Humane Wetenschappen. In P. Loobuyck, G., Vanheeswijck, W., Van Herck, E., Grieten, E., & K., Vercauteren (eds.), *Welke universiteit willen we (niet)?* (pp. 205-216). Gent: Academia Press.

Centre for Research & Development Monitoring (Expertisecentrum Onderzoek en Ontwikkelingsmonitoring, ECOOM)

Engels, T., Ossenblok, & T., Spruyt, E. (2012). Changing publication patterns in the social sciences and humanities, 2000-2009. *Scientometrics, 93*(2), 373-390.

Ossenblok, T., Engels, T.C.E., & Sivertsen, G. (2012). The representation of the social sciences and humanities in the Web of Science. A comparison of publication patterns and incentive structures in Flanders and Norway (2005-09). *Research Evaluation, 21*(4), 280-290.

Verleysen, F., & Engels, T.C.E. (2012). A label for peer reviewed books. Journal of the *American Society for Information Science and Technology, 64*(2), 428-430.

Website:

https://www.ecoom.be/nl/research/publications/Sociale%20en%20Humane%20 wetenschappen

Colloques de l'Institut Iacchos

Servais, P. (ed.) (2011). *L'évaluation de la recherche en sciences humaines et sociales. Regards de chercheurs*. Louvain-la-Neuve: Academia-Bruylant, coll. "Intellection – 14"

Dufays, J.-L., & Servais, P. (eds) in collab. de Gourbin, C., Laurent, P.-J., Marquet, J., & Zune, M. (2013). *Publier en sciences humaines - Quels enjeux, quelles modalités, quels supports, quelle diffusion ?* Louvain-la-Neuve: Academia L'Harmattan, coll. "Intellection – 20".

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Penser la Science – Séminaires Ilya Prigogine

Zaccai, E., Timmermans, B., Hudon, M., clerbaux, B., Leclercq, B., & Bersini, H. (2016). *L'évaluation de la recherche en question(s)*. Bruxelles: Académie royale de Belgique.

Czech Republic

Ethnography of University Departments: Mass higher education in institutional settings

Stöckelová, T. (2012). Immutable mobiles derailed: STS and the epistemic geopolitics of research assessment. *Science, Technology & Human Values, 37*(2), 286-311.

Šima, K. (2015). Evidence in Czech research evaluation policy: measured and contested. *Evidence & Policy, 13*(1), 81-95. doi:10.1332/174426415X14467432784664.

The changing structure of academic time

Vostal, F. (2016). *Accelerating Academia*. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan.

Denmark/the Netherlands

Metric Assessment of Monographs

Zuccala, A. A., & Cornacchia, R. (2016) Data matching, integration, and interoperability for a metric assessment of monographs. *Scientometrics, 108*(1), 465–484.

Book Reviews in Evaluations

Zuccala, A. A., & van Leeuwen, T. (2011). Book reviews in humanities research evaluations. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology, 62*(10), 1979–1991.

Estonia

Bibliometric analysis of Estonian folklore research

Lauk, K. (2016). Bibliometric analysis of Estonian folklore research and folklore: Electronic Journal of Folklore. TRAMES, 20(70/65), 1, 3-16.

Bibliometric analysis of Estonian historical sciences

Must, Ü. (1999). Estonian historical science in the 1990s. *Research Evaluation, 8*(2), 77–81.10.3152/147154499781777531.

Finland

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Spain /the Netherlands

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Switzerland

Measuring Research Output in Communication Sciences and Educational Sciences between international benchmarks, cultural differences and social relevance

Buhmann, A., Ingenhoff, D., Leopori, B., & Wise, M. (2015). Analyzing research patterns in media and communication. *Communication - The European Journal of communication Research, 40*(3), 267-293.

Probst, C., Lepori, B., Filippo, D., & Ingenhoff, D. (2011). Profiles and beyond: constructing consensus on measuring research output in communication sciences. *Research Evaluation, 20*(1), 73–88.

Décrire et mesurer la fécondité de la recherche en sciences humaines et sociales à partir d'études de cas

Perret, J-F., Sormani, P., Bovet, A., Kohler, A., & Poglia, E. (2011). Décrire et mesurer la « fécondité » des recherches en sciences humaines et sociales. Aperçu d'un projet. *Bulletin de la SAGW, 2*, 40-42.

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Hoffmann, C-P., Lutz, C., & Meckel, M. (2016). A relational Altmetric? Network Centrality on ResearchGate as an Indicator of Scientific Impact. *Journal of the American Society of Information Science & Technology, 67*(4), 765-775.

Switzerland/the Netherlands

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Website:
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PART III: Conclusion

There is not a lot of current research on the SSH scholars' notions of research quality in participating countries (see figure 1). There is a focus on Western European countries, in which projects on the investigation of scholars' notions of quality were funded: Spain, France, UK, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Italy build a block of neighbouring countries with Croatia almost sharing a border with this block.
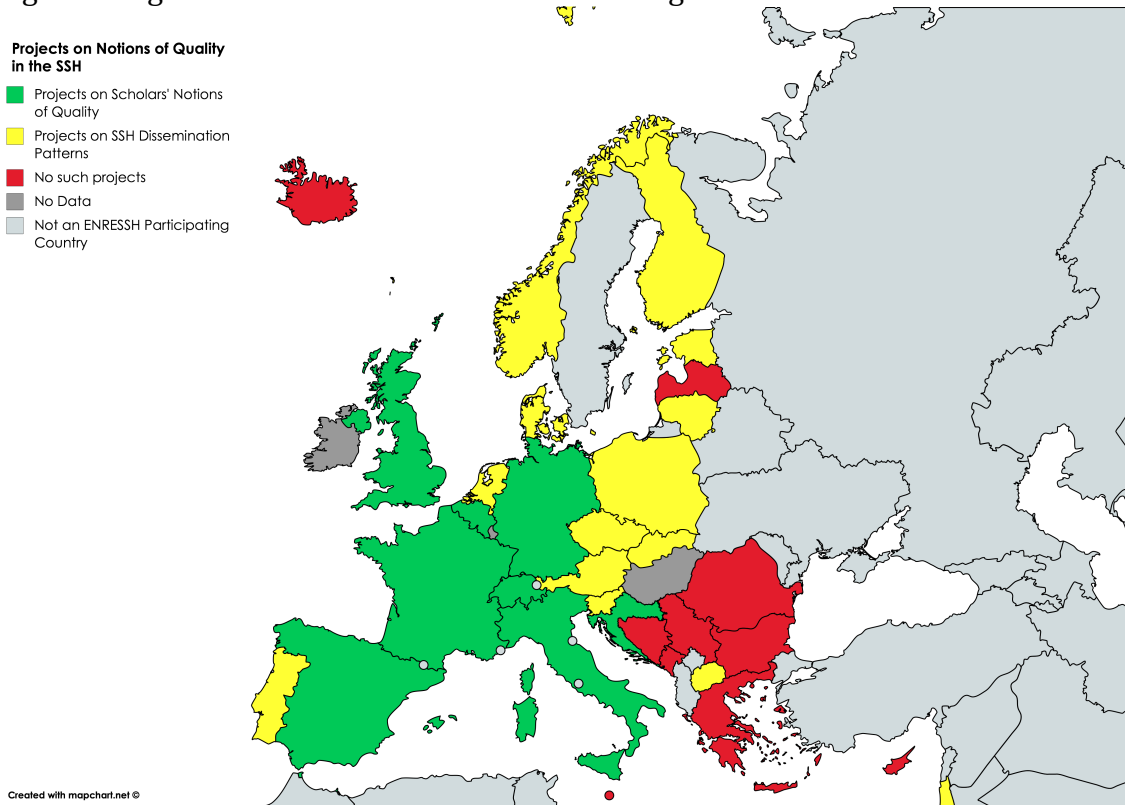
Projects on Notions of Quality in the SSH

- ■ (green) Projects on Scholars' Notions of Quality
- ■ (yellow) Projects on SSH Dissemination Patterns
- ■ (red) No such projects
- ■ (grey) No Data
- ■ (light grey) Not an ENRESSH Participating Country

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Figure 1: Projects on SSH scholars' notions of quality in Europe.

Collecting the projects, we found that there is a growing interest in studies on SSH research evaluation and its methods and thus an increasing number of projects on such topics. However, the question what exactly research quality means in the eyes of the scholars regarding their every-day practice remains under-researched even though it stands at the centre of research evaluation. Therefore, Work Group 1 should fill this gap of knowledge and focus on this important topic, investigating notions of research quality of SSH scholars in Europe, thus helping to increase the validity of research evaluations.

Regarding the fact that there are several projects in many European countries on how SSH research is disseminated, on how SSH research is evaluated and on research practices in general from a descriptive point of view, this report will be expanded during the life-time of the Action by including a wider range of projects that relate to research quality in the SSH and its relation to research evaluation.

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Appendix: Projects on SSH scholars' notions of quality that started in 2016 after the launch of ENRESSH

Czech Republic

In search of lost time: Temporal pressure and its epistemic implications in contemporary Czech academia

Filip Vostal
Period: 2016-2018
There is an apparently pervasive sense in the contemporary scientific world that things are speeding-up incessantly. Scientists report chronic busyness and insufficient time for research, they need to publish more papers, meet deadlines and press ahead. Engaging with sociological analyses of time this project scrutinizes the texture and implications of such experience. It will do so by examining causes and manifestation of temporal pressure in the lives of early career scientists in the Czech Republic. It aims to explore the personal, and particularly, epistemic implications of changing academic temporalities as they relate to broader shifts in contemporary organization and management of science. The ethnographic investigation will focus on the ways in which temporal pressure affects knowledge production within selected disciplines (physics and economics) of Czech scientific institutions. Overall, the project aims to tackle the question of whether scientific hyper-productivity and its associated temporal demands have progressive conservative consequences for science.

Norway

Centre for Research Quality and Policy Impact Studies (R-QUEST) at NIFU

NIFU, Oslo with six other institutions from Denmark, Sweden, the Netherlands and UK
Period: 2016-2024
R-QUEST constitutes an 8-year commitment to explore the nature and mechanisms of research quality – funded by the RCN FORINNPOL initiative. The centre will address three closely related questions:
What is research quality? How are notions of research quality negotiated, established and practiced, and what are the mechanisms through which these notions affect policy?
What are the drivers of high quality research, and what is the role of policy in developing outstanding research?
What are the effects of high quality research on the society?
Websites, Further information:
http://www.r-quest.no/research-partners/

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