WP7. Ethics
Barcelona Summit, 30.01.2019
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Goals and tasks

• Take research ethics and gender into account in all developments (WP7, Task 4, Project description)

• To support the partners in conceptualizing and carrying out activities in correspondence with ethical standards;

• To generate lessons learned that may be of value to the project as a whole.
  (Guidelines and principles for self-evaluation and formative evaluation, deliverables 7.1&7.3)
Why (research) ethics and integrity?

• Research ethics is a subfield of practical ethics which focuses on how research with human subjects (incl. data) should be done, which principles should be followed in order the dignity, rights, safety and well-being of human subjects is respected and safeguarded.

• Research integrity is a general and abstract concept, which refers to responsible conduct of research. In a narrower sense this refers to following rules and regulations, proper design of research and avoiding misconduct. In a broader sense research integrity refers to all the different aspects of responsible conduct, including public accountability and social responsibility. Integrity is ascribed to research in general or to individual researchers. (Juurik 2019)
Research ethics in SSH – starting point

- How should be regulated? Which framework?
  - Contextual approach
- Diversity of methodological approaches: questionnaires, focus groups, interviews, observations, ethnography, field research etc.
What does the funder require? (e.g. EC)

Information about:

• Target groups and their recruitment
• Informed consent form and procedures
• Data management plan
• Data collection by each partner
• Publicly available data, usage of existing data
• Ethics approvals (RECs, national DP authorities)

• See „Guidance Note for Researchers and Evaluators of Social Sciences and Humanities Research“ (European Commission, 2010)
Lessons learned – what co-creation requires

• Change of emphasis. No longer research on, but research with, more focus on participatory approaches
• The role of researcher may be adopt by all parties involved during the process
• Moving towards seeing researcher as ethical practitioner, ethical practice in co-creation and valorisation
• All co-creators as ethical practitioners
  – shifting focus to virtues
• Movement from (research) ethics to broader (research) integrity
Take home message

- Recommendation: take time to be at the same (ethics) page!
  - Conceptual issues
    - Similar idea, different concepts (e.g. integrity, rigour, excellence and competence)
    - Values: virtues or basis for principles for good conduct (e.g. honesty, accuracy)
  - Conflicting values
  - Conflicting principles
  - Which codes are followed
Thank you for your attention!