



27th FORUM

OF NATIONAL ETHICS COUNCILS - NEC

Online meeting | 19 - 20 May 2021, Lisbon

CONFERENCE PORTFOLIO



Welcome to the 27 NEC Forum, 2021

Emerging challenges in the fields of science, technology and medicine are ever expanding, often in unexpected directions and offering the possibility of profound and lasting changes.

Ethics, as a partner of progress, takes on even greater relevance in areas that seem to require extraordinary prudence at a time when existential choices are to be made, with prolonged impact on individuals, families, societies and the environment.

From the onset, the NEC Forum experts have worked in tandem to generate knowledge that leads to practical wisdom, thinking about how such a platform can contribute to an intellectual, moral and civic ecology, favourable to inclusive and tolerant reflection.

The CNECV, as an independent body working in liaison with the Portuguese Assembly of the Republic, aims to strengthen this collective debate and help prepare the path to our common future.

More on the 27 NEC Forum and the NEC Forum Platform

The National Ethics Committees (NEC) Forum is a network of all European national ethics and bioethics advisory bodies, as a platform for the exchange of information, experience and best practices on issues of common interest within the fields of ethics, science and new technologies. The NEC Forum meetings are hosted by the Member State holding the rotative Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The 27 NEC Forum will be jointly organised by Conselho Nacional de Ética para as Ciências da Vida/The National Council of Ethics for the Life Sciences (CNECV) and the European Commission, within the framework of the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The event will take place from 19 to 20 May 2021 as a non-public fully virtual meeting. The two-day work program will focus on ethical issues of emerging technologies, such as AI and Robotics, social media platforms, environmental ethics and dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic moving forward. A presentation on “Ethics Reviews of Research Projects Outside the Field of Biomedical Research” will close our scientific program.

The NEC Forum engages prominent experts to reflect alongside Ethics Committees representatives, the European Group on Ethics for the New Technologies and the European Commission on ethical issues of global concern. National Councils from non-EU countries are also invited to attend the Forum meetings and share their experience.

27necforumportugal.pt

The background of the page is filled with intricate, abstract line art in a light blue color. The lines are continuous and fluid, creating a complex, organic pattern that resembles a topographical map or a network of paths. The lines vary in thickness and form, creating a sense of movement and depth. The overall effect is a modern, artistic, and somewhat chaotic visual texture.

WELCOME ADDRESSES

Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa

President of the Portuguese Republic



Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa was born in Lisbon, on 12 December 1948. He is a Catholic and has 2 children and 5 grandchildren. A Law Graduate, he received a Doctorate in Legal and Political Science in 1984. He was a tenured professor at the Faculty of Law of Lisbon University, and has taught throughout his career in various institutions of further education, in Portugal and abroad.

He was a journalist, as editor of the Expresso newspaper between 1980 and 1983, and worked on the Seminário newspaper from 1983 to 1987. Subsequently, he appeared on the media as a political commentator on TSF radio and, later, the TV stations RTP and TVI. He works with various civic institutions and associations, as well as in the social sector, as founder, sponsor, director, or simply as a volunteer.

In 1976, he served as a deputy to the Constituent Assembly. He was part of the 8th Constitutional Government as Secretary of State of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and later, as the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

He has supported the PSD (Social Democratic Party) since it was founded and was its president from 1996 to 1999, contributing decisively to government stability as leader of the opposition. In the international realm, he encouraged the PSD to join the European People's Party, in which he attained the position of Vice-President. He has held various positions in local government, including Municipal Deputy, Metropolitan Deputy, Councillor and President of the Municipal Assemblies of Cascais, Lisbon, and Celorico de Basto.

Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa was elected President of the Republic for the first time on 24 January 2016 and took office on 9 March. He was re-elected for a second term on 24 January 2021 and took office on 9 March of the same year.

Jorge Soares

Chair of the National Council of Ethics for the Life Sciences, Portugal



Chair, National Council on Bioethics for the Life Sciences, Portugal; Member of DH-BIO of the Council of Europe; Former Vice-President, Ethics Council of the Champalimaud Foundation, Lisbon; Advisor to the Board of Trustees and Former Director of Innovation in Health Department, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Lisbon; Former Director of the Institute of Forensic Sciences, and Professor of Legal Medicine and Ethics; Professor of Pathology, NOVA Medical School and Lisbon Medical School (retired); Past President, Scientific Council for Health Sciences – Science & Technology Foundation (Portugal); Past President, Portuguese Society of Pathology, Senology and Medical Sciences; Member Emeritus of the Portuguese Academy of Medicine, Diploma Award of the European Society of Pathology, Portuguese Medical Association (gold medal), Ministry of Health (gold medal).

Patrick Child

Deputy Director-General in DG Research and Innovation (R&I) at the European Commission



Patrick CHILD is Deputy Director-General in DG Research and Innovation (R&I) at the European Commission. He leads the policy for implementation, impact & sustainable investment strategies. As a member of the Board of DG R&I, he follows in particular research and innovation in clean energy and climate technologies as well as the R&I dimension of the post-COVID recovery and resilience strategy. He is the Commission representative in Mission Innovation (a coalition 24 countries and the EC working to accelerate global clean energy innovation to make clean energy widely affordable) and currently chairs the MI Steering Committee. He is also the Commission representative in the International Group of Earth Observations (GEO) and lead co-chair of the Executive Committee for 2021, as well as Mission Manager for the Horizon Europe Mission on Cancer.

Until April 2016, Patrick Child was Managing Director of the European External Service with responsibility for administration and finance, covering human resources policy, security and the budget. Before he took up this post in 2011, he was director in the EC External Relations Directorate-General in the responsible for managing the network of Commission delegations. He has previously served as head of cabinet for External Relations Commissioners Benita Ferrero-Waldner and Chris Patten.

With a background in the UK Finance Ministry, he joined the European Commission in 1994, where he started in the Economic and Monetary affairs Directorate General before becoming Commission press spokesman for economic and monetary union from 1995-1999. Mr Child studied mathematics at Cambridge University. He is married with two children.



SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS

Paula Martinho da Silva

International Bioethics Committee (IBC) - UNESCO



Born in 1959, in Santarém, Portugal. Lives in Lisbon.

Lawyer since 1984.

- Law Degree, Faculty of Law, Classic University of Lisbon
- Master in Bioethics, Faculty of Medicine, Complutense University of Madrid
- Practising lawyer (since 1984) expertise on intellectual property and life sciences

Since 1986, when she published her first book - “The Artificial Procreation - Legal Aspects” began to specialize in Life Sciences, and later, in 1997 published the annotation to the Council of Europe Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine.

Paula is also co-author of the book “Lei da Procriação Medicamente Assistida Anotada”, about the assisted reproduction legislation in Portugal.

Actually, Paula
is member of the

- UNESCO IBC (International Bioethics Committee)
- Scientific Committee of SIBI (Socied Internacional de Bioética)

is also member of the Ethics Committees of

- Champalimaud Foundation
- Centro Hospitalar de Lisboa Central
- Societal Advisory Board of IMM (Molecular Medicine Institute)
- Ethics Council of Universidade Nova de Lisboa

She has played several positions in the area of Life Sciences such as:

- Chair of the National Council of Ethics for the Life Sciences - CNECV (2003 – 2009), and member (1991-2003).
- Chair of the Ethics Council of José de Mello Saúde.
- Vice Chair of the European Group of Ethics in Science and new Technologies of the EU Commission - EGE (2004-2010).
- Member of the EGE - European Group of Ethics in Science and New Technologies of the EU Commission 1998-2000; 2005-2010; 2011- 2016.
- Member of the COMETH Bureau (European Conference of the National Councils of Ethics, Council of Europe (2003-2005, 2005- 2007 and 2007-2010).
- Member of ORBEA (Animal Well-Being Committee) at the Faculty of Sciences, Lisbon University.

Gerd Leonhard

Keynote Speaker, Futurist & Humanist, Author,
CEO The Futures Agency



Gerd Leonhard is a leading Futurist & Humanist, Keynote Speaker, Author of 5 books (Technology vs Humanity) and Film-Maker. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Arts in London and the CEO of The Futures Agency in Zürich, Switzerland.

Gerd is not just a leading voice on designing the future, he is also a humanist who believes that all scientific and technological progress should further collective human flourishing. **People, Planet, Purpose and Prosperity** is Gerd's credo. As Gerd likes to say, "humanity will change more in the next 20 years than in the previous 300 years" – let's make sure that we can still maintain what makes us human.

The second decade of the twenty-first century may not quite be the world of George Orwell - yet, but living in these times is certainly puzzling. Futurism used to be the study of the future, nowadays it seems hard enough to read the present. Gerd Leonhard has spent his lifetime engaging with change, as a professional artist, internet entrepreneur, author and now as a visionary thinker and speaker. His latest book 'Technology vs Humanity' is now available in 12 languages. Wired Magazine lists him as No 88 of the top 100 influencers in Europe.

ABSTRACT

The Future of Social Media: Re-humanisation and Regulation

The enormous challenge of re-making social media must be seen in the context of 2 general truths: a) technology is morally neutral - until we use it (W. Gibson) b) Too much of a good thing can be a very bad thing (Gerd Leonhard). The very design of social media as we know it is based on algorithmic data-mining (now fuelled by deep learning and mobile-device tracking) that vastly improves and automates advertising sales with very little regard for anything else. It is truly a 'machine' that needs to be rehumanized; and it has become a clear-and-present danger to democracy. There is nothing per se 'human' about algorithms matching what we should (not) see on social media, since binary systems (such as so-called AI) '*know the value of everything, but the feeling of nothing*'. What matters to humans is not a simple match of datasets, but experiences, engagement, relationships, values and trust - all of which is still impossible for a machine to really understand. This has led to a situation where social media is a huge driver of financial gains (see Facebook's stock increases despite) but its negative externalities are utterly ignored, and bumped off to the public institutions. In this talk, Gerd will pinpoint the key issues and delineate possible solutions for what he calls 'The Good Future' of media.

Steffen Steinert

Delft University of Technology, Ethics and Philosophy of Technology Section



Steffen Steinert studied Philosophy, History and Sociology at the Technical University of Dresden (Germany), and the New School for Social Research, New York (USA). He obtained his Ph.D. from the University of Munich (Germany).

Steffen's research expertise is in the area of philosophy and ethics of technology. Steffen has published research papers on, amongst other things, roboethics, agency and brain-computer interfaces, affective brain-computer-interfaces, art creation and technology, the role of art and emotions in technology development, as well as value change and social media.

ABSTRACT

Value change and social media

On social media platforms people often share emotional content. Importantly, this emotional content and the emotions evoked by it are intimately tied to users' moral values. In my presentation, I will do two things. First, I will outline how moral values, emotions, and social media are related. Second, I will make the case how, under some circumstances, social media can contribute to societal value change. Specifically, emotion sharing via social media can lead to emotional contagion which in turn can facilitate a particular emotional climate in a society. This emotional climate may then influence society's value structure. As a consequence, the emotional climate and the shift in value structure may elicit changes in people's political attitudes – with important implications for rights, freedom, privacy or moral progress. Currently, social media platforms are designed without consideration of emotions or moral values. However, this lack of consideration may be a missed opportunity. Examining the impact of social media by taking into account emotional contagion processes and potential implications for societal value change can foster a deeper understanding of social media technology's ethical long-term impact.

Julian Kinderlerer

IP Law at the University of Cape Town,
School of Law of the University of Kwazulu-Natal



Julian Kinderlerer is a visiting Professor, School of Law, University of KwaZulu-Natal. He is the immediate past President of the European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies (EGE); the Emeritus Professor of Intellectual Property Law, University of Cape Town, a former Professor of Biotechnology and Society at the Delft University of Technology, and former Professor of Biotechnology Law and Director of the Sheffield Institute of Biotechnological Law and Ethics in the University of Sheffield. In addition, he is a former Director in charge of Biosafety at the United Nations Environment Programme. At the request of the Director General of the DG RTD in the European Commission he was one of the two co-authors of a report on the working of the Ethics review system for EU funded scientific projects. He was first involved in the regulation of modern biotechnology as a founder member of the Advisory Committee on Genetic Modification (UK) in the early 1980's (and of the Advisory Committee on Releases into the Environment (ACRE) at the end of the 1980s) and has acted as the specialist adviser to the House of Lords Agriculture Committee when examining the regulation of modern biotechnology. He has never been employed by or received any funding from industry.

ABSTRACT

European Group on Ethics in Science and new Technologies: Opinion on the Ethics of Genome Editing

It was over 3 years ago that the European Commission requested an opinion from the EGE on the ethics of genome editing. The Opinion addresses the profound ethical questions that very obviously arise where it is possible to modify the genetic make-up of living organisms in a precise manner. It questions the meaning of naturalness, humanness and diversity. Should modification of the genetic material of life be allowed at all? If it is, how do we judge whether it is safe or acceptable? What are the responsibilities accepted when profound changes are made? What is the likely impact on society (including psychological, social and environmental dimensions) when technology is available that modifies living systems (including whole ecosystems)?

Modification of the genome of Humans took most of the time in our discussion, We have the ability to modify the genome relatively precisely. What defines us as humans? Should we modify our genome at all – if so, for what reason? What are the responsibilities? We ask how safe is safe enough, and then ask what do we mean?

The section on animals considers the impact of the technology in research as well as commercial use. There is a need for a careful monitoring of the impact of the new technologies on the implementation of the 3Rs. The possible humanisation of animals for research or for clinical purposes needs reflection and constraints. The wellbeing of genome edited livestock must be assured during all stages of the animal's life. Reflection around sustainable food production is necessary.

There is a need to balance the potential and risks of genome edited plants. Use could have positive or negative impacts on product availability (food, feed, fibre and fuel), human and animal health, and the agricultural and natural environment. There is a need for a holistic approach to implementation of these new techniques on agricultural practice to include impacts on ecosystems, agricultural and natural biodiversity, land use, economic impact and food or feed security. The regulatory system should be proportional to the risks (in particular) that might be posed. Concern that the regulatory regime should not simply benefit large companies is expressed, and public concern at the introduction of new products must be taken fully into account.

Romuald Krajewski

Appeal Bioethics Committee,
National Cancer Institute, Poland



Professor Romuald Krajewski is specialist in neurosurgery working in National Research Institute of Oncology in Warsaw, Poland as a coordinator of multidisciplinary team of head and neck oncological surgery and skull base surgery.

He works also in Medical Faculty, Rzeszow University where he teaches neurosurgery and ethics. He is author and co-author of 112 publications in Polish and foreign journals, monographies and chapters in textbooks, 350 communications at scientific congresses.

He is the Liaison Officer of Union Europeenne des Medecins Specialistes, the oldest and the largest non-profit professional organisation of European medical specialists where he served as the President from 2012 till 2019. He is also secretary of National Appeal Bioethics Committee and member of Bioethics Committee in Polish Academy of Sciences.

François Hirsch

Member of the Inserm Ethics Committee



François Hirsch graduated in immunology and in Science & Medical Ethics. He spent 30 years at the French National Institute for Health and Medical Research (Inserm) holding various positions, including Secretary General of the ethics committee and deputy director of the Health Technologies Institute. For three years, he was a national expert seconded to the European Commission, where he contributed to the organization of the ethics evaluation of research projects funded through the EU framework programs. He is currently a member of the Inserm Ethics Committee, Secretary General of one of the French registered IRBs and Secretary General of the International Association for Responsible Research In Genome Editing (ARRIGE) of which he is one of the founders. He is an ethics evaluator for various EC agencies, a member of the European network of research ethics committees (EURECNet) and an ethics expert for the European network of veterinary medicine to combat zoonoses and antibiotic resistance. For many years, he is involved in initiatives aiming at training experts from LMICs in ethics and biomedical research, and at establishing guidelines for the conduct of ethical research with vulnerable populations.

ABSTRACT

Ethical implication of the enrolment of human healthy volunteers in biomedical research: outlook for an international workshop

Biomedical research frequently requires the use of so-called healthy volunteers for its various studies. Of course, the degree of exposure and the risks are different when donating a biological sample than when testing a vaccine against Ebola. Two emblematic examples have brought to light the risks faced by healthy volunteers living in industrialized countries: the trial conducted by TeGenero in the United Kingdom in 2006 and, more recently, the trial conducted by Biotrial in Rennes, France, in 2016. In France and in the United Kingdom, volunteer registries have been set up to allow traceability, which aims to limit the risks associated with participating in several studies too closely together. In countries with weak regulatory framework, the participation of healthy volunteers is often motivated by economic reasons, but sometimes also by the possibility of accessing a health check-up or care that is often inaccessible outside of this involvement in biomedical research. The ethical issues related to healthy volunteers in clinical research have been the subject of very little research and academic work, particularly in the “South”. After meeting with various stakeholders implicated in this field of research, we identified several ethical tensions that will be elaborated in the presentation.

Laurence Lwoff

Bioethics Unit of the Council of Europe



Mrs Laurence LWOFF holds a MSc. in reproductive physiology from the University of Paris VI – Jussieu (France). She then obtained her degree in agronomy from the Institut National Agronomique Paris-Grignon (France) in 1986 and received her PhD in molecular biology in 1989.

She joined the Council of Europe in 1991, where she was entrusted with the responsibilities of the Secretariat of the Conventions concerning the use of animals in agriculture and science, in the Directorate of Legal Affairs. In 1999, her responsibilities were extended to biotechnology. She was the Secretary of the International Conference of the Council of Europe on Ethical Issues Arising from the Applications of Biotechnology (Oviedo, Spain, May 1999). In 2002, she joined the Bioethics Department where she has been responsible in particular for the activities on human genetics and on the protection of the human embryo and the foetus. She was the Secretary of the Group in charge of the elaboration of the Additional Protocol to the Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine, concerning Genetic Testing for Health Purposes.

She is currently the Head of Bioethics Unit (DGI - Human Rights Directorate) and Secretary of the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO), intergovernmental committee in charge of the activities on the protection of human rights in the biomedical field, at the Council of Europe.

ABSTRACT

Cooperation and competition - equitable access to Covid-19 vaccination

The COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted upon the lives of individuals, families and communities in Europe and beyond and exacerbating inequalities in societies. After a first statement on ["Human rights considerations relevant to Covid-19 pandemic"](#), published on 14 April 2020, the Committee on Bioethics of the Council of Europe focused its work on equity of access to health care with a particular focus on vaccines, leading to the statement published on 22 January 2021 on ["Covid-19 and vaccines – Ensuring equitable a access to vaccination during the current and future pandemics."](#)

The work of the DH-BIO focuses on the situation within countries rather than between countries. However, the notion of "cooperation and competition" is not necessarily irrelevant in this context as well. It could also be relevant when it comes to the so called "vaccination pass" when used for non-medical purposes; an issue on which work is also carried out at the Council of Europe.

Grazia Zuffa

Psychologist



Grazia Zuffa, psychologist, PhD works in the field of drug use, drug addiction, social marginality, criminal justice and prison policies, women's rights.

Former Professor of Drug Addiction Psychology at the University of Florence (2000-2006), she is now president of *La Società della Ragione* (an Italian NGO working in the field of criminal justice and in the advocacy of civil rights). Her recent research activity has focused on patterns of drug use in natural settings, women in prisons, psychiatric patients in detention facilities, alternative measures to incarceration.

From 1987 to 1994, she was member of the Senate of the Republic. She was also member of the National Scientific Committee on Drug Addiction (2006-2008) and of the Regional Committee of Bioethics of Tuscany (1996-2000). Since 2006, she has been member of the National Committee of Bioethics.

Among her books: *L'eclisse della madre* (1998, Pratiche Editrice) co-authored with Maria Luisa Boccia; *I drogati e gli altri* (2000, Sellerio); *Recluse. Lo sguardo della differenza femminile sul carcere* (2014, Ediesse) and *La prigione delle donne* (2020, Ediesse), co-authored with Susanna Ronconi.

Among her recent publications in English: "Cocaine, towards a self regulation model. New developments in Harm Reduction" (2014), in *TransNational Institute-Series on Legislative Reform of Drug policies*, nr. 24; *Italian Drug Policy* (2017), in R. Colson and H. Bergeron (eds). *European Drug Policies. The ways of Reform*. New York: Routledge, 114-127

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ABSTRACT

Covid-19: Public Health, individual freedom, social solidarity

In May 2020, at the peak of the COVID pandemic, the Italian Committee for Bioethics drafted a document to address the ethical implications of both the pandemic and the public policies to fight the virus <http://bioetica.governo.it/en/opinions/opinions-responses/covid-19-public-healthindividual-freedom-social-solidarity/>. There was a growing awareness not only that the pandemic was exacerbating inequalities among citizens; but also, "extraordinary" measures, such as a hard lockdown with mandatory home confinement, though aimed at protecting public health, were having a detrimental impact on the psychosocial welfare of many people and of vulnerable groups in particular (such as elderly people, children, marginalized groups, prisoners). Moreover, most of the "extraordinary" measures are in breach of individual freedoms, as established in the Constitution. This controversial situation has led the Committee to distinguish between "emergency" and "standard" public health interventions. Though the former may be justified on account of the social solidarity principle and the protection of public health, nevertheless they should rigorously meet the criteria of efficacy, proportionality, and be limited in time so as to be ethically viable. As for "standard" policies, far from limiting individual freedom, they pursue the public health goals by empowering individuals and helping them to protect themselves as well as the health of other people. Today, a year after the outbreak of the pandemic, as many emergency measures are still effective, the issue is more urgent than ever.

Alena Buyx

Chair of the German Ethics Council



Director of the Institute of History and Ethics of Medicine and Professor of Ethics of Medicine and Health Technologies at the Technical University of Munich (since September 2018); Professor of Biomedical Ethics and Head of the Department of Biomedical Ethics at the Institute of Experimental Medicine at the University of Kiel (since 2014); Senior Research Fellow at the School of Public Policy at the University College of London (2012–2015); Head of the DFG-Emmy Noether Research Group “Bioethics and Political Philosophy” at the University of Münster (2012–2014); Habilitation and *venia legendi* in Ethics, History and Theory of Medicine at the University of Münster (2013); Assistant Director of the Nuffield Council on Bioethics in London (2009–2012); Visiting Scholar of the Harvard University Programme in Ethics and Health at the Harvard Medical School (2008–2009); Assistant Professor at the Institute for Ethics, History and Philosophy of Medicine at the University of Münster (2006–2008); Medical Licensure, Medical Doctor; *Magistra Artium* in Philosophy & Sociology (2005).

Virginia Dignum

Professor of Responsible Artificial Intelligence at Umeå University, Sweden and associated with the TU Delft in the Netherlands



Virginia Dignum is Professor of Responsible Artificial Intelligence at Umeå University, Sweden and associated with the TU Delft in the Netherlands. She is the director of WASP-HS, the Wallenberg Program on Humanities and Society for AI, Autonomous Systems and Software, the largest Swedish national research program on fundamental multidisciplinary research on the societal and human impact of AI. She is a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences, and a Fellow of the European Artificial Intelligence Association (EURAI). Her current research focus is on the specification, verification and monitoring of ethical and societal principles for intelligent autonomous systems. She is committed to policy and awareness efforts towards the responsible development and use of AI, as member of the European Commission High Level Expert Group on Artificial Intelligence, the working group on Responsible AI of the Global Partnership on AI (GPAI), the World Economic Forum's Global Artificial Intelligence Council, lead for UNICEF's guidance for AI and children, the Executive Committee of the IEEE Initiative on Ethically Aligned Design, and as founding member of ALLAI, the Dutch AI Alliance. Her book "Responsible Artificial Intelligence: developing and using AI in a responsible way" was published by Springer-Nature in 2019.

ABSTRACT

Responsible AI: from principles to action

Every day we see news about advances and the societal impact of AI. AI is changing the way we work, live and solve challenges but concerns about fairness, transparency or privacy are also growing. Ensuring an ethically aligned purpose is more than designing systems whose result can be trusted. It is about the way we design them, why we design them, and who is involved in designing them. If we are to produce responsible trustworthy AI, we need to work towards technical and socio-legal initiatives and solutions which provide concrete instructions, tools, and other means of dictating, helping, and educating AI practitioners at aligning their systems with our societies' principles and values.

Philip Brey

Professor of philosophy and ethics of technology at the Department of Philosophy, University of Twente, the Netherlands



Philip Brey is professor of philosophy and ethics of technology at the Department of Philosophy, University of Twente, the Netherlands. In his research, he investigates social, political and ethical issues in the development, use and regulation of technology in society. His focus is on new and emerging technologies, with special attention towards artificial intelligence and digital technologies. He was one of the first to study the ethical implications of many emerging technologies, including social media, virtual reality, care robots, smart surveillance systems, Internet-of-Things and 3D printing. He has also (co)developed novel approaches for the ethical study of emerging technology ethics. Brey is former president of the International Society for Ethics and Information Technology (INSEIT) and of the Society for Philosophy and Technology (SPT). He coordinated the EU H2020 SIENNA project on the ethical and human rights dimensions of emerging technologies. He currently coordinates the 10-year research programme Ethics of Socially Disruptive Technologies that includes seven universities in the Netherlands and over fifty researchers.

ABSTRACT

Ethics guidelines for AI and robotics and their operationalisation

In this presentation, prof. Philip Brey will review developments of the past two years in the development of ethical guidance for AI and robotics. He will discuss and compare ethics guidelines, such as those proposed by the EU High-Level Expert Group on AI, OECD and IEEE. Next, he will discuss operationalisations of such guidelines, in research ethics for AI and in Ethics by Design for AI and robotics. He will also discuss recent efforts to develop standards for ethical dimensions of AI by IEEE, ISO and CEN, and other efforts to support ethical guidance for AI. A point that Prof. Brey will be trying to make is that ethical guidance of new technologies like AI is a multi-actor process that involves a variety different methods and tools besides ethics guidelines, and can only be successful if actors collaborate and use specialized tools to guide and implement ethics.

Taiwon Oh

Professor of the department of police and administration at Kyungil University



Taiwon Oh is a professor of the department of police and administration at Kyungil University. He also serves as the president of the Korea Society of Internet Ethics in 2021. Prior to his appointment to the current position, he served as a public researcher in Korea Information Society Development Institute(KISDI).

He participated as a consultant in the several projects for the establishment of e-government and ICT policy for the African developing countries including Cameroon and Rwanda.

Professor Oh received B.A. degree in law and M.A. degree in law from Yonsei University, and LL.M. degree in law from American University, Washington College of Law. He received Ph.D. degree in law from Yonsei University. He has the license of an attorney at law of New York State, USA.

ABSTRACT

Regulation by Ethics on AI and Intelligent Government

The Korean government is pushing to implement intelligent government through the use of artificial intelligence. We are considering legal and ethical responses to the use of artificial intelligence. We talk about ethics in artificial intelligence because we know that regulations on artificial intelligence cannot be completed just by regulations under the law. As an alternative to that, artificial intelligence ethics that build consensus around the world should work. What can be noted in this respect is the European Union's move. The European Union is forming a framework for regulations that lead to the "White Paper on Artificial Intelligence", "Ethics guidelines for trustworthy AI" and "The Assessment List for Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence" regarding artificial intelligence ethics. In Korea, I think it is necessary to form a new framework of regulation that are organically linked to legal norms, ethical guidelines and specific assessments in relation to artificial intelligence ethics.

Julia Prieß-Buchheit

Professor of Education and Didactics at the
University of Applied Sciences Coburg, Germany



Julia Prieß-Buchheit (Dr. phil., University Kiel, Germany, 2008) is an expert in learning ethics and integrity, as well as in social technologies.

Currently, she is a professor of Education and Didactics at the University of Applied Sciences Coburg (Academic Centre for Sciences and Humanities), where she implements an interdisciplinary study program for all faculties. In 2020, she became the Dean of Studies at the Academic Centre for Sciences and Humanities and founded the (German-speaking) Teaching and Learning Scientific Practice network.

Since 2018, she has chaired the board of the Zentrum für Konstruktive Wissenschaft e.V. (ZKE), an interdisciplinary research group with a fifty-year tradition. She is one of the few coordinators of a Horizon2020 project (€ 2.5 million) associated with a university of applied sciences in Germany (and Europe).

In 2015, University Kiel awarded her the prize for Innovative and Trendsetting Teaching, and in 2019, she won the Genius Loci-Preis, together with the Coburger Weg team. Her latest digital learning settings for students and pupils are open source and won both the #WeForSchool Hackathon (Germany) and the #EUvsVirus Hackathon in 2020.

ABSTRACT

Ethics and Integrity Education in Higher Education – the Path2Integrity Project

My talk discusses why emerging technologies lead many higher education institutions to intensify their ethics and integrity education programmes. I will outline that sensitivity, choice of action (reasoning), and motivation (commitment) are three different learning goals in such educational programmes. Higher education programmes can foster ethics in emerging technologies with formal and informal learning settings. Particularly, I will highlight how dialogical methods can foster sensitivity, reasoning, and commitment towards ethics in emerging technologies by using examples from the Path2Integrity project.

Klaus Peter Rippe

Chair of Federal Ethics Committee on Non-Human Biotechnology (ECNH)



Prof. Dr. phil. Klaus Peter Rippe studied philosophy, history and ethnology at the University of Göttingen (D). After receiving his doctorate in 1989 with a thesis, he was a research assistant at the universities of Saarbrücken (D), Mainz (D) and Zurich (CH). He habilitated at the University of Zurich in 2004. In 2008, he was appointed professor of practical philosophy at the University of Education Karlsruhe (D) and in 2016, he was elected University rector. Since 2015 he is Chair of the Swiss Federal Ethics Committee on Non-Human Biotechnology (ECNH). He already held this office from 2000 to 2011. Klaus Peter Rippe lives in Zurich (CH) with his wife.

Eva Gelinsky

Coordinator of the Initiative for GE-free Seeds an Breeding (IG Saatgut)



Dr. agrar., Coordinator of the Initiative for GE-free Seeds an Breeding (IG Saatgut), independent scientist (semnar / saatgutpolitik & wissenschaft). Member of the Federal Ethics Committee on Non-Human Biotechnology ECNH.

ABSTRACT

The idea of precaution and the role of an ‘innovation principle’ – presentation of two ECNH reports

The precautionary principle (PP) is an established legal principle in environmental law. However, critics claim it focuses solely on uncertainties and risks, ignoring potential benefits. In its first report, the ECNH concludes that the idea of precaution is ethically justified and must therefore be consistently implemented and strengthened in law.

In its second report, the ECNH reacts to a claim that the PP needs to be supplemented by an ‘innovation principle’ (‘IP’). Potential benefits should be considered on a par with risks. Failing to do so holds back scientific and technological progress and impedes the solving of pressing global problems. The ECNH argues that this claim is based on misconceptions about the PP.

Precautions must be taken to protect against serious possible harm. However, even if the focus is the harm aspect, it is clear that potential benefits matter as well.

There is no irreconcilable contradiction between the PP and the development of new technologies. Nevertheless, the process of authorisation of new technologies and products cannot be compromised, even if this means that it takes longer for novel technologies and products to reach the market.

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ABSTRACT

Environmental ethics and the question of inter-generation justice: It's origins and ethical foundation

In this brief presentation I intend to discuss the right to an open future, first introduced back in 1980 by Joel Feinberg; I will deal with the right to an open future as a principle of justice that substantially exceeds Feinberg's initial aspirations and go far beyond the scope Feinberg was willing to acknowledge to it, that is, children. I will suggest that the right to an open future could also be discussed as incorporating not only existing minors, but equally future generations, and in a sense, existing adults – to wit, as a principle of intergenerational justice. I will further assume that the principle of justice, and in particular the right to an open future, serves us the ultimate and soundest possible foundation of two dominant and allegedly conflicting principles in environmental ethics, the precautionary principle, and the principle of innovation. I will claim that both these principles are two sides of the same coin, that is, the moral imperative to be just and fair to existing and future generations alike by securing equal opportunities to an open future for both.

Keywords: intergenerational justice; precautionary principle; innovation principle; principle of justice; environmental ethics; environmental policies; right to an open future.

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Deborah H. Oughton is professor in Nuclear Chemistry/Environmental Chemistry and Director of the NFR Centre of Excellence for Environmental Radioactivity (CERAD) at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. She is adjunct Professor at the University of Oslo, where she teaches philosophy of science and research ethics to PhD students in the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. She has worked for more than 20 years on the social and ethical aspects of radiation risks, including the Chernobyl and Fukushima accidents. She is currently a member of UNESCO's World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST) who have been working on the ethical and sustainability implications of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since 2019, she has been a member of the All European Academies (ALLEA) Permanent Working Group on Science and Ethics.

ABSTRACT

Environmental impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic

The coronavirus has important ethical implications for sustainability and sustainable development, as well as the interactions of humans with nature and ecosystems. The zoonotic source of the virus has underlined concerns about human use and exploitation of natural resources, and raised fundamental questions about the way humans value other species and ecosystems. Reductions in mobility brought about by the pandemic have led to significant decreases in global carbon emissions, and reductions in air pollution have been documented many cities. The pandemic, and especially access to vaccines, has exemplified the differences in vulnerability, both within and between nations, and measures such as covid passports may further hamper development in countries of the global south. It is important that both sustainability and the ethical challenges posed by coronavirus are addressed as part of present and future pandemic measures, not least the interconnectedness and interdependency of humans and nature.

Dirk Lanzerath

Professor of Ethics and Research Ethics



Professor of Ethics and Research Ethics, graduated in biology, philosophy and education; PhD and *venia legendi* (habilitation) of the faculty of philosophy of the University of Bonn; Secretary General of the European Network of Research Ethics Committees (EUREC); managing director of the German Reference Centre for Ethics in the Life Sciences (DRZE), Bonn (Central Research Institute of the University of Bonn and Research Centre of the Northrhine Westfalian Academy of Sciences, Humanities and the Arts); member of the board of the Central Ethics Committee at the German Physician Association; member of the Ethics Committee of the North-Rhine medical association; member of the Ethics Committee of the University of Maastricht, member of the Editorial Board of the Journal "Research Ethics Review"; study abroad professor for ethics/bioethics/environmental ethics/research integrity/ethics and the arts at the Study Abroad Program of the Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, Ca. (USA) at the Academy of International Education (AIB), Bonn.

ABSTRACT

Position of the European Network of Research Ethics Committees (EUREC) on Ethics Reviews of Research Projects involving Persons outside Biomedical Research

Outside the biomedical field ethics reviews for studies that involve human participants or personal data is not required either by national or by professional laws in all of the EU Member States. However, funding organisations and peer-reviewed journals are often requesting ethics review for any studies with human research participants. In some jurisdictions it is difficult for these researchers to find an ethics committee that will review their projects. In contrast, there is a well-established structure for ethics reviews of biomedical research projects. In some European countries medical RECs have taken on the additional task of reviewing projects outside the field of biomedicine, in other countries specific RECs are available. But there is no uniform picture in this respect. EUREC is the European representation of national networks of medical research ethics committees in the European states. Therefore, the experience gained by this networking process during the last decades can support the establishment of ethical review procedures outside the field of biomedical research. If we understand ethics reviews not essentially as some bureaucratic control procedure, but as a support for researchers to reflect ethically on their own work, then RECs can be very supportive here. EUREC is going to make more use of its experience in linking RECs in Europe to establish better communication links and forms of exchange for RECs outside biomedical research.

Isidoros Karatzas

European Commission's Directorate-General
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Head of the Research Ethics and Integrity Sector, European Commission, DG Research & Innovation

Isidoros Karatzas is a biochemist and psychologist by training. After joining the European Commission, he was responsible for the ex-post evaluation of the Framework Programme. Isidoros managed the risk governance research file and was the scientific secretary of the European Research Advisory Board (EURAB), a high-level body that advised the Commission on research policy and research priorities. Currently, he is the head of the Research Ethics and Integrity Sector in DG Research and Innovation. As head of the Sector, he established the Ethics Appraisal process for the research Framework Programmes, initiated advanced training courses on research ethics for Commission staff and the research community and has set up the first European system on ethics checks and follow-up. In addition, the sector oversees the research integrity policy activities, including the relations with relevant stakeholders such as ALLEA, LERU, Science Europe and the business community.

Marjeta Terčelj

Associate Prof. PhD, internist and pneumologist

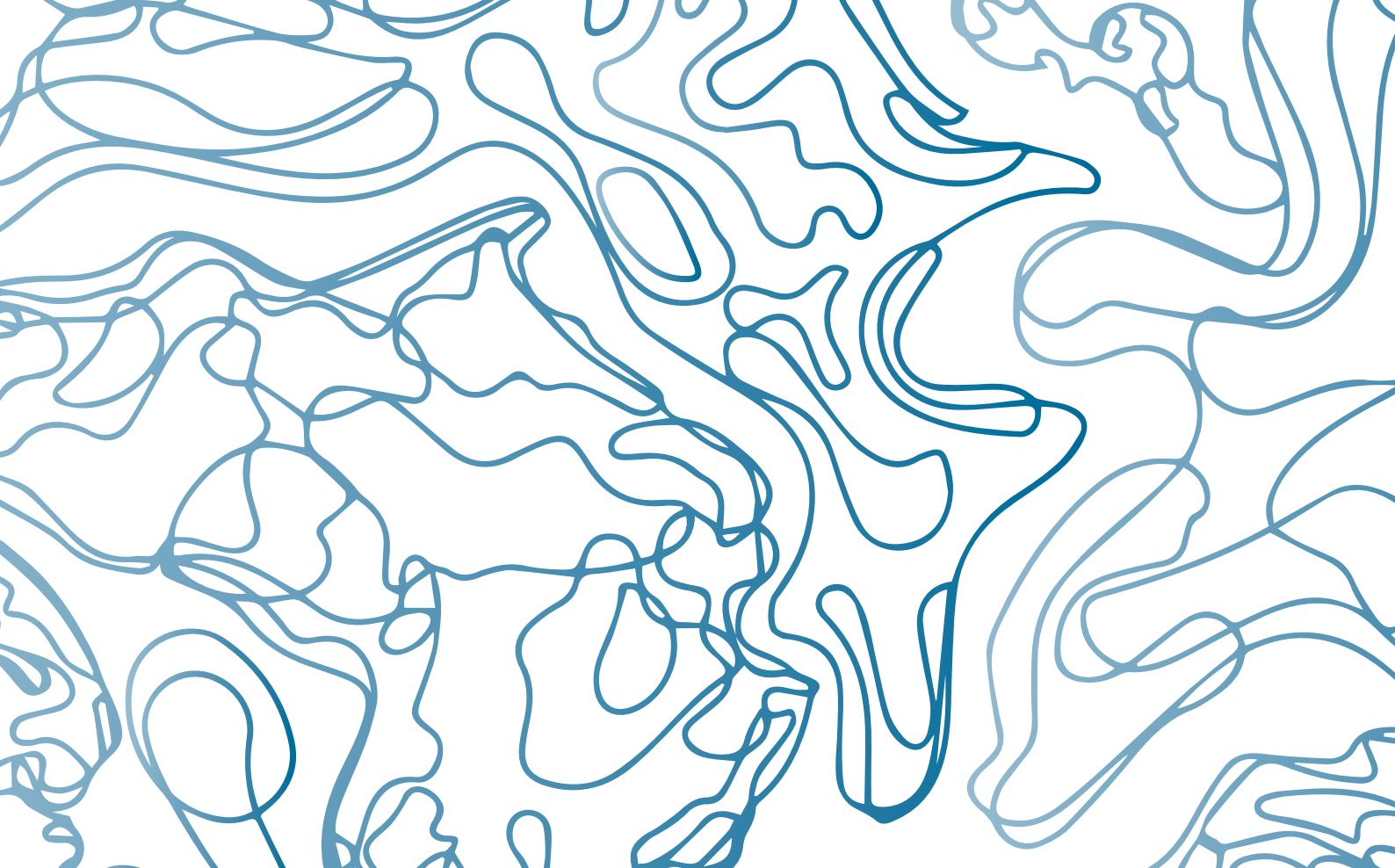


Associate Prof. Marjeta Terčelj Zorman, PhD, internist and pneumologist, is currently vice president (2010-2021) of KME RS and a head of the Clinical Department of Lung Diseases and Allergy UKCL until 2020. She completed medical studies in 1978, specializing in internal medicine and in pneumology in 1984. In 1991, she defended a master's thesis and in 2001, she successfully defended the doctoral thesis entitled at the University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Medicine.

In 1998, she moved to the newly established Department for patients with lung disease and allergy in the University Medical Centre Ljubljana (UMCL), which it until then did not exist. After several years, with its expert clinical and research work, it became the Clinical Department for Respiratory and Allergic Diseases, UMCL.

In 1998, she was elected to the title of assistant to the subject of internal medicine and pulmonology at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Ljubljana and she became Associate Professor in 2012. She conducted research and introduced several methods for early detection of lung cancer, she introduced many new diagnostic and therapeutic methods of interventional bronchology in Slovenia. She has researched in the field of sarcoidosis in the last 15 years. She has over 40 published original scientific articles, 2 chapters, 3 invited lectures, over 35 published abstracts. She was coordinator of postgraduate seminars in the field of difficult intubation using endoscopy with bronchoscope for residence, specialists for anesthesiologist and run the school of bronchology for doctors in intensive care.

She lectured on ethics in biomedical research in postdoctoral study for several years. She has been a delegate for DH-BIO for many years and for the NEC Forum.



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COORDINATION**

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RTD.03.001- Research Ethics and Integrity Sector



Edyta SIKORSKA, a clinical psychologist by background, a specialist in Solution-Focused Brief Therapy (SFBT). For several years, she worked as psychologist-counsellor for NGOs and local government in Gdansk, Poland. As from 2009 she has been working for the EU Institutions. Prior to her current position, she was responsible for public procurement in the Science in Society Unit. Currently, she is working in the Ethics and Research Integrity Sector, DG Research & Innovation, European Commission. She is responsible for operational issues in the ethics appraisal process, experts' support and ethics helpdesk. In addition, she is responsible for the cooperation with the representatives of National Ethics Councils and organization of the NEC Forum meetings.

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