

Research ethics in Norway – some facts and figures

NORWAY



EUROPE

POPULATION (2018):

 **5,3 million**

GDP/CAPITA (2017):

 **USD 75,500**

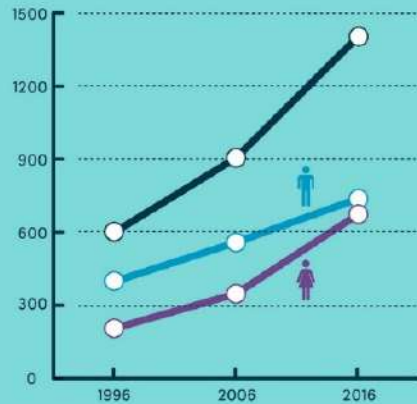
NUMBER OF RESEARCHERS (2016):

 **43,918** full time equivalents

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION WITH PHD:

 **1 %** of population aged 25-64

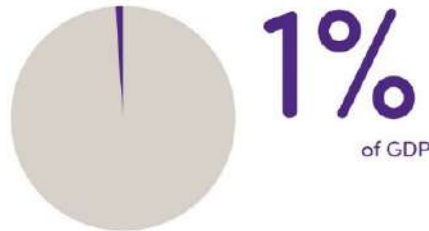
DOCTORATES 1996-2016 :



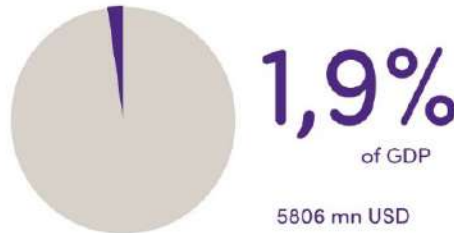
DOCTORATES 2016:

1410

GOVERNMENT-FINANCED R&D (2016):



TOTAL R&D EXPENDITURE (2015):
(All sectors, including corporate.)



RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

34
Universities and university colleges

49
Hospitals / health trusts

48
Research institutes with basic (govt.) funding

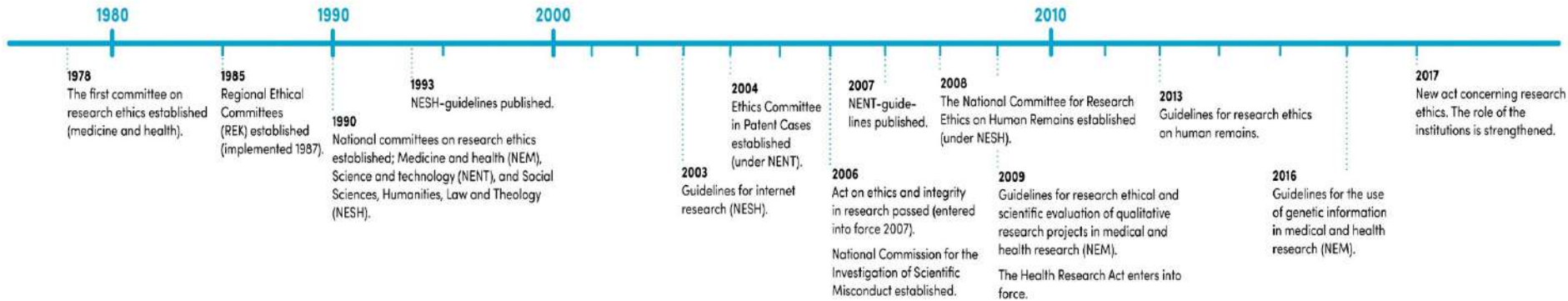
37
Other research institutions (defined by the research council)

A number of administrative agencies undertaking research



The only research council in the country. Distributes approx. 25 percent of public research funding. 4234 applications fully processed in 2016, 29 percent granted (23 percent in 2015).

TIMELINE



1990 – National committees on research ethics are established by the parliament; Medicine and health (NEM), Science and technology (NENT), and Social Sciences, Humanities, Law and Theology (NESH). The committees are part of the academic self regulation system and organised under the Norwegian Research Council as an independent unit.

2006 – Following a serious misconduct scandal, the Act on ethics and integrity in research is passed. It establishes the National Commission for the Investigation of Scientific Misconduct. The act states that the committees shall be autonomous in professional matters.

2013 – The Norwegian National Research Ethics Committees are re-organised to become an independent administrative body directly under the Ministry of Education.

2017 – The Act on research ethics is replaced by the Act on the organisation of research ethics.

The Act on the organisation of research ethics - in brief

- **Purpose:** to ensure that research carried out by public and private entities is conducted in accordance with recognised norms of research ethics.
- **National Research Ethics committees:** The ministry shall appoint committees that collectively covers all scientific areas.
- **Independence:** committees appointed shall be independent bodies as regards professional matters.
- **Researchers' duty of care:** researchers shall act with due care to ensure that all research is carried out in accordance with recognized norms of research ethics.
- **Requirements of research institutions - the institution is responsible for:**
 - necessary training of candidates and employees in recognised norms of research ethics
 - ensuring that everyone who conducts or participates in research is familiar with recognised norms of research ethics.
 - handling cases concerning potential breaches and must have a committee on research ethics and integrity



The Norwegian National
**RESEARCH ETHICS
COMMITTEES**

§ Committees and commissions appointed pursuant to the Act are autonomous in professional matters.

CENTRAL DOCUMENTS

ACT ON THE ORGANISATION OF RESEARCH ETHICS

§ Purpose: Ensure that research carried out in the public and private sectors is conducted in accordance with recognised norms of research ethics.

NATIONAL STRATEGY

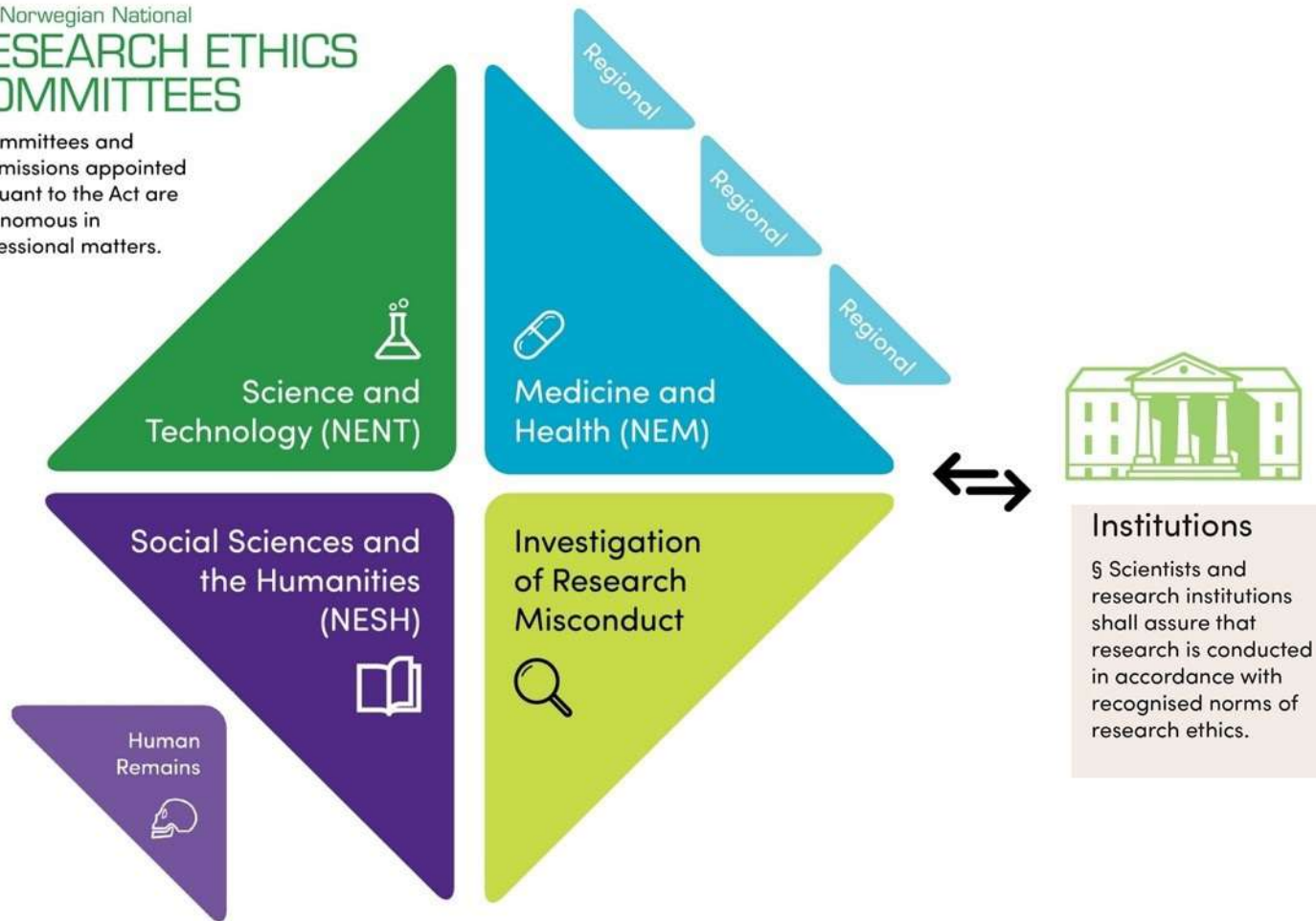
White paper 4 (2018–2019)
«Long-term plan for research and higher education 2019–2028»

Three primary objectives:

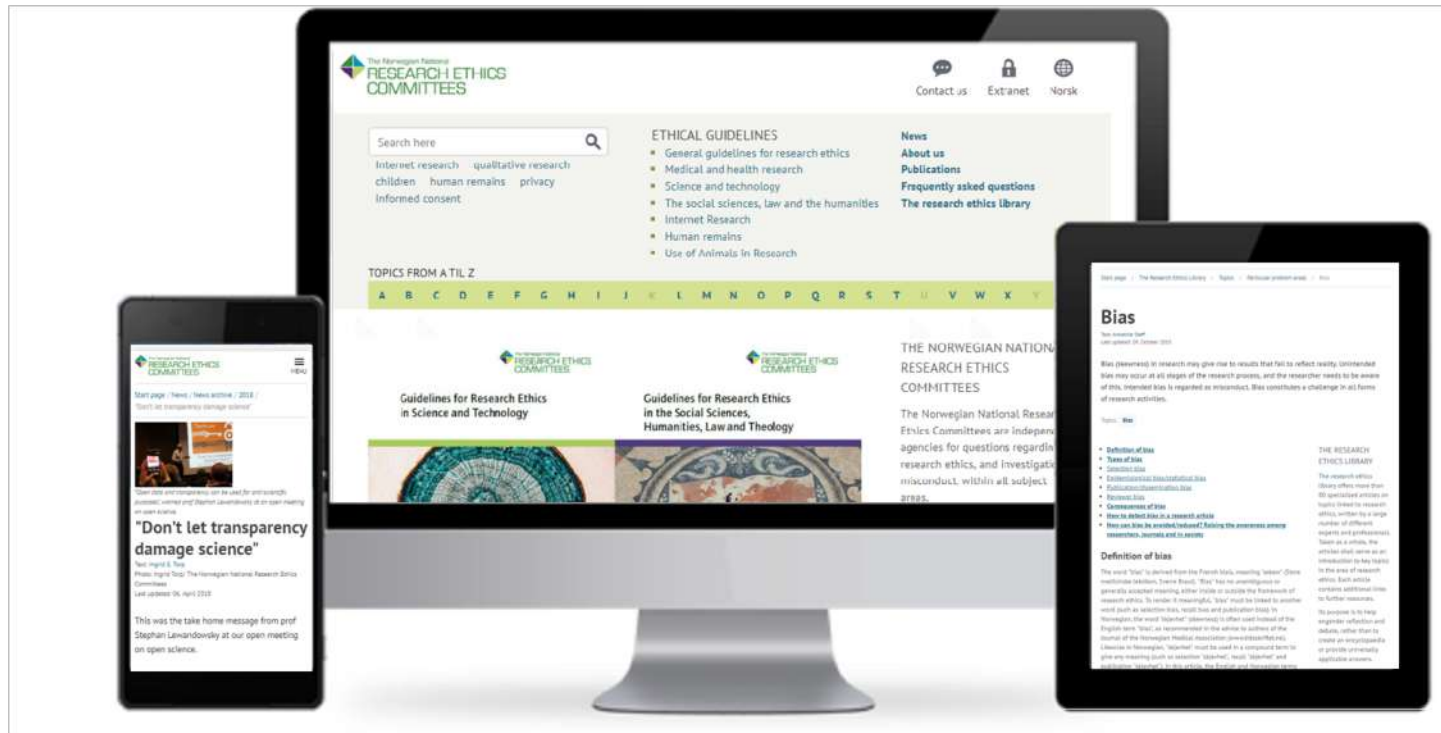
- To strengthen competitiveness and innovation capacity
- To solve major challenges to society
- To develop high-quality research groups

OUR VISION

To be the foremost resource for ethically sound and responsible research in Norway.

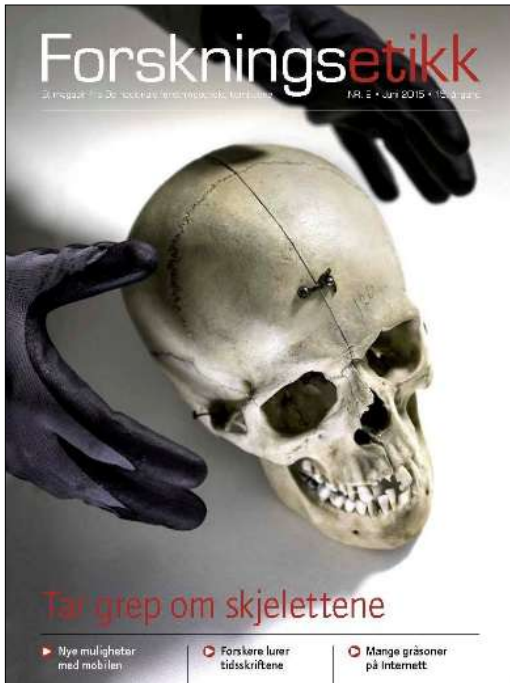


Our web-resources

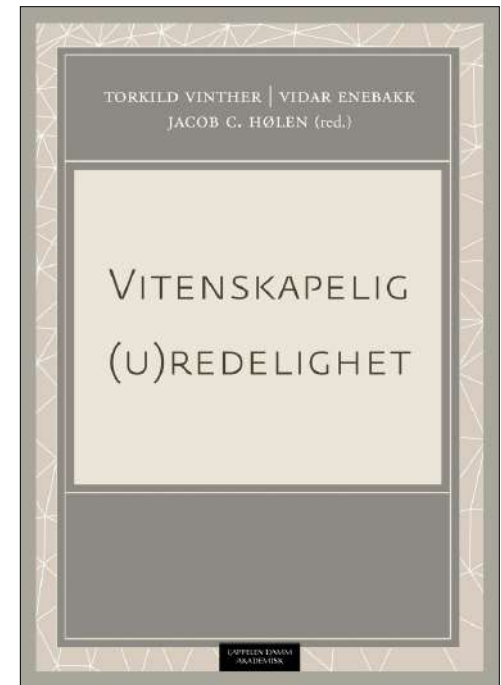
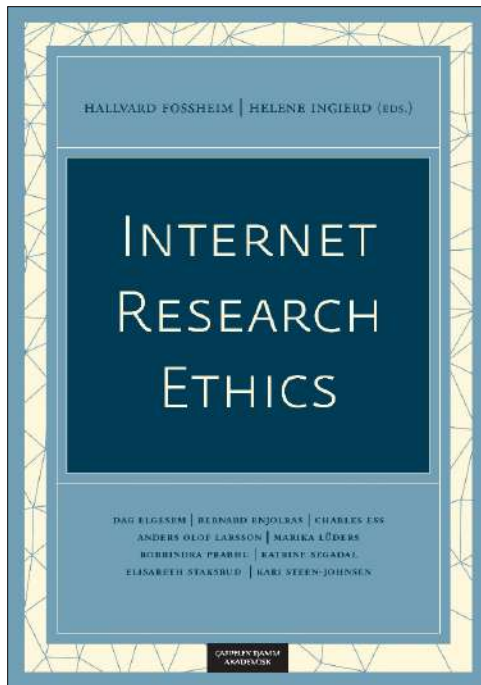


etikkom.no/en

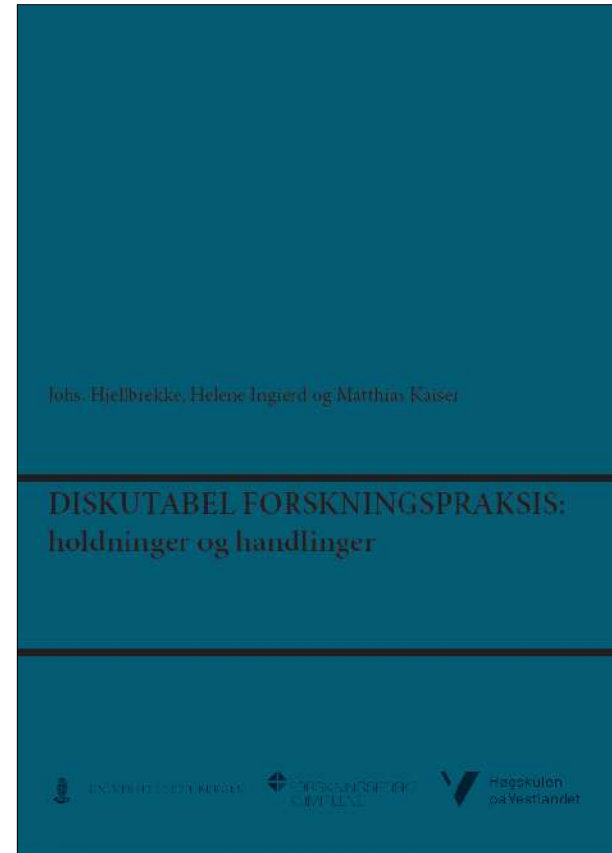
Our magazine: Forskningsetikk (Research Ethics)



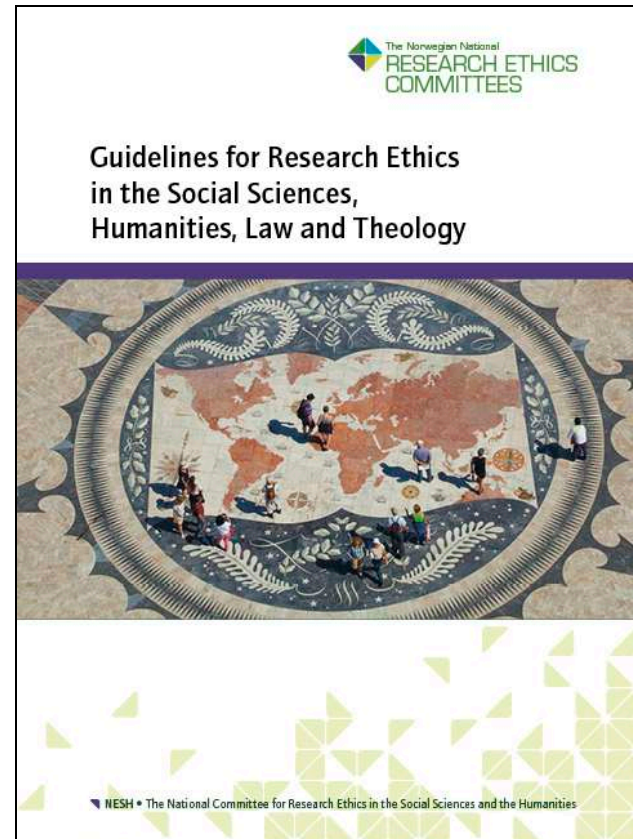
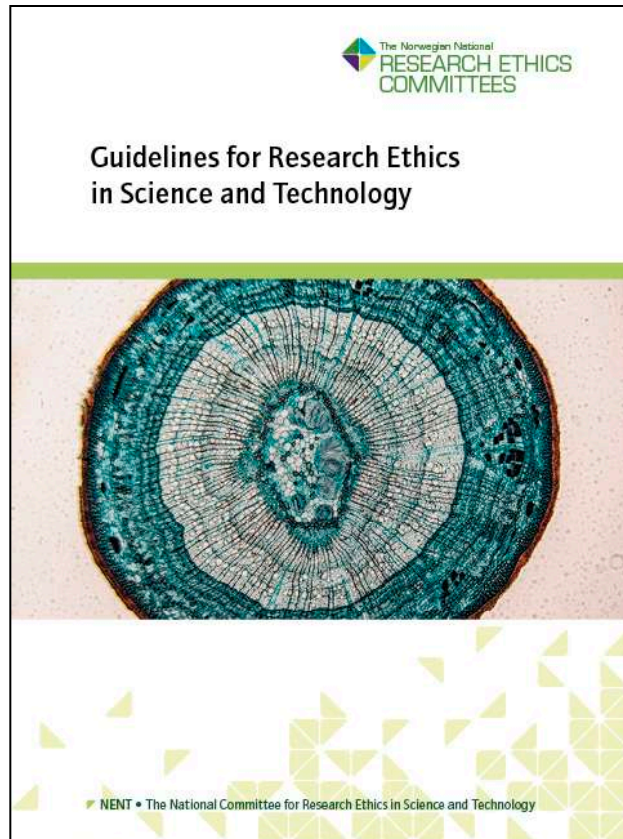
Publications



RINO-project



Guidelines for research ethics



Social Sciences and
the Humanities
(NESH)



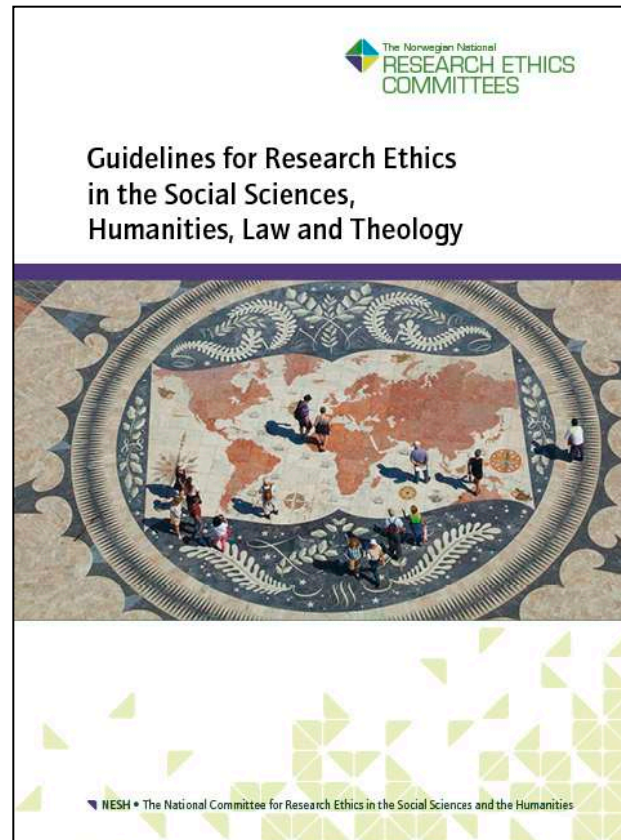
Human
Remains




NESHs Guidelines for research ethics in the social sciences, humanities, law and theology



NESHs Guidelines for research ethics in the social sciences, humanities, law and theology



Public statements



The Norwegian National RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEES

The National Committee for Research Ethics in the Social Sciences and the Humanities

Korgens gate 14
NO-163 Oslo
Telefonnummer +47 22 31 83 00
post@ettkom.no
www.ettkom.no
ORG.NO 222 140 902

Our ref.: Your ref.: Date: 13 December 2018

Statement on ethical evaluation in EU-projects

Based on various inquiries recently concerning challenges related to ethics evaluation in EU-projects, NESH has decided to give a general advice which might be applicable for others. The aim is to clarify, translate and harmonize the different approaches to ethical evaluation in the Norwegian system and H2020's Ethics Appraisal Procedure respectively. Hopefully, the statement will be helpful for the administration of the Participant Portal for H2020, when processing applications from Norway.

Regulation in the Norwegian system

In Norway, research ethics in general is regulated in The Research Ethics Act of 2017, originally introduced in 2007. The act provides a legal basis for three independent National Research Ethics Committees, initially established as advisory bodies in 1990, covering all fields of research in both private and public sector:

- The National Committee for Medical and Health Research Ethics (NEM)
- The National Committee for Research Ethics in Science and Technology (NENT)
- The National Committee for Research Ethics in the Social Sciences and the Humanities (NESH)

Since 2007, with The Research Ethics Act, we also have a fourth national body:

- The National Commission for the Investigation of Research Misconduct (GRU)

NEM • The Norwegian National Committee for Medical and Health Research Ethics • NENT • The Norwegian National Committee for Research Ethics in Science and Technology • NESH • The National Commission for Research Ethics in the Social Sciences and the Humanities • GRU • The National Commission for the Investigation of Research Misconduct

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Norwegian universities consider the ethics of oil and gas research


If Norway, one of the most oil-dependent countries in the world, can question petroleum research, will others follow?

Ragnhild Freng Dale
Monday 10 February 2014 14:08 GMT

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Offshore gas platform, Osterguttitunet, from Bergen, Norway. Photograph: Bloomberg/Getty Images

The debate flared up after Norwegian oil giant Statoil renewed its contract with the University of Bergen (UiB) last year. The contract is intended to finance independent research at the baseline level, teaching and PhD scholarships, and commits Statoil to give 55m Norwegian Kroner (roughly £5.5m) to the University of Bergen over a five-year period.

Though the contact is question is not explicitly linked to fossil fuels, there is an expectation it will be used for research that is "strategically important" both for Statoil and for UiB. Previous years' reports clearly show that nearly all the money has been invested in petroleum-related research; the 2012 report (pdf) also lists carbon capture and storage as a "renewable energy", making it difficult to determine whether any significant amount of money went to research that is not in some way geared towards extended oil or gas production.

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 North Korea defence minister executed by anti-aircraft gun, says report

 Cate Blanchett reveals many 'past relationships with women

 A picture of loneliness you are looking at: the last male northern white rhino | Jonathan Jones

 Migrant crisis: EU plan to strike Libya networks could include ground forces

The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity



Possibilities

- International collaboration > National
- Inter-disciplinary > Field-specific
- Ethics and integrity in funding -> H2020



A kutatási integritás európai magatartási kódexe

Hungarian translation

Published in 2018



Il codice di condotta europeo per l'integrità della ricerca

Italian translation

Published in 2018



Europos elgesio kodeksas mokslinių tyrimų etikos klausimais

Lithuanian translation

Published in 2018



Europeiske retningslinjer for forskningsintegritet

Norwegian translation

Published in 2019



Código Europeu de Conduta para a Integridade da Investigação

Portuguese translation

Published in 2018



Európsky kódex etiky a integrity výskumu

Slovak translation

Published in 2018



Evropski kodeks ravnanja za raziskovalno integriteto

Slovenian translation



Código Europeo de Conducta para la Integridad en la Investigación

Spanish translation

