

Horizon 2020 Policy Support Facility



Mutual Learning Exercise

Research Integrity

Brussels

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MLE: objective

- **Exchange of national practices** regarding four priority areas: stimulating supportive **processes and structures**; promoting **positive incentives**, spreading RI tools through **communication and dialogue**, enhancing **training** in all stages of the research careers.
- RI is an **inherent dimension** of excellent science and quality care in research, a cornerstone of societal trust in research. Advancing RI is part of **quality care** of research relevant to society.

Participating countries:

Austria, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Norway, Spain, Sweden

Independent experts: Chair (Göran Hermerén), external experts (Ana Marušić and Daniele Fanelli, responsible for authoring reports on specific topics) and a rapporteur (Hub Zwart, responsible for authoring the final report).

We prioritises four particular topics:

- Processes and structures
- Positive incentives
- Dialogue and communication
- Training and education

MLE on Research integrity

<https://rio.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/policy-support-facility/mle-research-integrity>

MLE on Research Integrity: Thematic Report No 4 - Training and Education

 [Download the report](#)

MLE on Research Integrity: Thematic Report No 3 - Dialogue and Communication

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MLE on Research Integrity: Thematic Report No 2 - Incentives

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MLE on Research Integrity: Thematic Report No1 - Processes and Structures

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RI portfolio

- Academics should be encouraged to **devote a special section of their CV to relevant RI experience or even develop an RI portfolio** consisting of components such as RI training, participation in RI debate; experiences as research manager and supervisor; integrity coaching and advice. This would be especially meaningful in the context of international collaboration and mobility, to ensure that all universities and academics involved have a solid training and track record for addressing integrity issues.

Public acknowledgement

- We also recommend the development of forms of **public acknowledgement of significant institutional efforts to foster RI**. Inspirational (rather than competitive): acknowledgement of the presence, quality and transparency of integrity policies; activities to promote RI and to foster an environment that supports RI; and activities in the realm of training, coaching and teaching

Platforms of sharing and dialogue

- Universities and other research performing organisations should be encouraged to **shift their focus from reputation damage control to transparency**, sharing of best practices and mutual learning. We recommend the development of platforms for deliberation, where research communities address emerging challenges in a transparent and proactive environment based on mutual learning.



Care for the research ecosystem

- We encourage RPOs to invest in and **care for their research culture**
- Establish forms of **RI coaching**, where experienced colleagues may offer advice to individuals or teams, as RI needs a local voice and a face to become less abstract and more supportive
- An **online platform** where training materials and other instruments are collected and curated in an easily accessible form.



Overall

- We encourage fostering **a supportive research ecosystem** where RI is considered a **joint responsibility** of researchers, funding agencies and research managers. Codes and guidelines are important, but due attention should also be given to an institutional research climate of transparency, honesty, inclusiveness and fairness. Promoting RI a **holistic approach**, seeing RI as an integral dimension of good research, embedded, realised and practiced in a resilient research culture.