

Science and Society Workshop

EU Research Infrastructures: tackling societal challenges

14th - 15th January 2019
Milano-Bicocca University
Via R. Bicocca degli Arcimboldi, 8
Milano, Italy.

Brief presentation of the workshop

Research and innovation lie at the heart of Europe's economic strategy and make a critical contribution to the development of its society and cultures. They are a key source of new jobs, growth and competitiveness and underpin a wide range of policy priorities including digital Europe, energy efficiency and sustainability.

Following its ambition of creating a European Research Era, the EU commission has developed a number of Research Infrastructures, as part of a bigger vision of EU harmonization. These are expected to be financially sustainable, to measure their performance and socio-economic impact.

There are multiple ways in which research achieves impact and creates value. The aim of this workshop is to explore ways in which the return on investment in Research can be assessed and evaluated. We will focus in particular on investment in Research Infrastructures implemented by the European Union, following the recommendation of ESFRI group. We will also address the question of the future of RI, the conditions of their success and the effectiveness of their dialogue with society.

Monday 14th January

12:30 Welcome

13:00. Session 1:

Social impact and sustainability

Interest in the sustainability of Research Infrastructure has increased over the last few years. These entities are designed to foster scientific excellence and address social challenges. They are therefore expected to produce social impact but also create economic wealth to remain viable and sustainable. These two objectives are not mutually exclusive.

In this session we will address these two expectations by exploring the conditions of financial sustainability as well as the different approaches to evaluate the social impact.

13:00. Jan Hrusak: Chair of ESFRI.

13:30. Claire Donovan: Assessing Research Impact. Health Economics Research, Brunel University London.

14:00. Chris Henshall: The Social and Economic Impact of Health Technology Assessment. Health Economics Research Group, Brunel University London.

14:30. Don Husereau: Changing health technology assessment paradigms. (Institute of Health Economics, University of Ottawa, University for Health Sciences, Medical Informatics and Technology.

15 :00 Coffee brake

Show cases

15:30. Antonio Ereditato. CERN: science and society.

16:00. Mary Barlow. EMBL-EBI: Science and society

Issues & prospects

16 :30. Martin Yuille. Action Research Infrastructure: Building the European Health Society. Manchester University.

17:30. End of the session

Tuesday 15th January

9:00-11:00 Session2

The reproducibility crisis and its impact on science and health.

In this session we will address these issues focusing in particular on the reproducibility of results and the robustness of diagnosis. Speakers will discuss the importance of sample quality, validation of methods, international standards and their implementation in improving the quality of research and diagnosis and the development of biomarkers.

9:00. Leonard Freedman, The Global Biological Standards Institute,

9:30. Uwe Oellmuller, Standardized improved pre-analytical workflows: the bridge to good quality samples for reliable analytical test results. coordinator of the SPIDIA4P project, Qiagen, Germany.

10:00. Kurt Zatloukal, National Coordinator, BBMRI-Austria.

10:30. Maria Grazia Daidone . Challenges in using liquid biopsies for precision medicine. Fondazione IRCCS, Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori, Milan, Italy

11 :00 Coffee Brake

11:30-12:30. Session 3.

Round table: the future of RI, horizon scanning.

With the participation of different speakers

12:30 End of the workshop