There is no excellence without research integrity

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Trust comes on foot and leaves on horseback
The Research Integrity Pyramid

- Policy
- Funders
- Researchers
- RIOs
- Research Institutions

"The Research Integrity Pyramid"
PROMOTING RESEARCH INTEGRITY IS A WIN-WIN POLICY

Adherence to the highest level of integrity is in the interest of all the key actors of the research and innovation system:

1) The scientific community

As underlined by different codes produced by scientific organisations: breach of integrity is a threat to the society trust in science and jeopardises the research system.
2) The research funders and governments

Breaches of integrity is a huge waste of public money;

◊ it significantly reduces the return on research investments and can be a threat to citizens’ well-being.

◊ it can still have tremendous impact on public policies and public budgets such as on health care (e.g. misconduct in clinical trials) or on environment (e.g. impact of chemicals).
It can also impact political decisions that can be taken on wrong/biased scientific advice (e.g. climate change) and puts in doubt what we consider as accepted scientific knowledge; ‘a fact’ ...

3) For private/industrial actors
Risk of fines, legal responsibility and loss of reputation, possible impact on stock prices

4) For society
Mistrust and rejection of scientific findings
Dealing with misconduct/integrity; Shared experiences

A “Kubler-Ross” type scale for integrity

A number of countries are still in some form of denial.

Newcomers in misconduct are angry.

More advanced countries are still struggling with bargaining.

The champions have passed to a depressed acceptance but their systems’ resilience needs to be tested in the next big case.

Denial, Anger, Bargaining, Depression, Acceptance
Common transcultural realities

1. Young researchers claim RI ignorance (education?)
2. Research as a career
3. Personalities count
4. Fear of failure (Research Governance)
5. Inclusiveness/co-creation/benefit sharing
6. Hate to love ‘our’ scandals
7. Dominance of the biomedical (ethics) model
"it is not true that good can follow only from good and evil only from evil, but that often the opposite is true. Anyone who fails to see this is, indeed, a political infant."

Max Weber, Essays in Sociology
New roles and governance of institutions

From principles and ideas to actions and processes
Institutional stewardship
Shared responsibility (distributive integrity)
Lessons Learnt experiences:
(Sweden/Italy, France/Switzerland.....)

MUST use behavioural sciences to affect culture and attitudes
Transcultural dialogue principles
(EU year of transcultural dialogue)

- Developing social and personal habits that will equip us for a more open and complex cultural environment (e.g. the new Lab)

And

- Better understanding of diverse perspectives and practices (informed consent)
- Having a ‘seat on the table’ (benefit sharing, codesign and shared ownership of research agendas)
- A new approach to the creative process (RI by design)

The TRUST CODE on conducting research in resource poor settings
The Treaty on European Union

Article 2

The Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights...
Horizon Framework Programmes

...it is the European Union’s leading initiative to support Research and Innovation from concept to market complementing national and regional funding....
HORIZON Europe (2021-2027) Regulation

Article 15: Confirmation that all activities comply with the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity

AND

Request by the legislator to provide training in research ethics and integrity
from the Univ. of Gent research integrity committee site...

https://hochstenbach.wordpress.com/2017/02/17/ugent-commission-on-research-integrity/
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!