

DOCUMENT ON THE ETHICAL ASPECTS OF THE SCIENCE AND SOCIETY DIALOGUE


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Document sobre els aspectes ètics del diàleg entre ciència i societat

Documento sobre los aspectos éticos del diálogo entre ciencia y sociedad

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CONTEXT

Over the last few years, the governance of science and innovation has been rethinking in order to address it towards an **open and inclusive model** where different actors can participate.

In this context, the dialogue between science and society is fundamental because of:

Intrinsic interest of the results of scientific research

Impact of research in various areas of politics

Sources of public origin that feed the investigation

GOALS

- To analyze the **ethical aspects of the science and society dialogue**
- To review some **examples of success and failure** between the research community and citizen
- To propose a **set of recommendations** to the agents involved (the scientific community, the media and the public authorities)

RECOMMENDATIONS to avoid biases in the science-society dialogue

To the scientific community

- Research results must be published in open access
- The publications should be evaluated beyond the numerical criteria of impact
- At once, they should flee from conflicts of interests and should always clearly explain any condition that may be relevant when interpreting the results

To the mass media

- It is important to follow the Deontological Code of the profession in order to prevent the dissemination of results of studies that are not rigorous, ensure the reliability of the sources and explicitly mention the origin of the information

To the public powers

- To create consultative structures in which policy makers can collect information on scientific issues
- Provide tools to promote bi-directional dialogue between scientists and multiple social actors
- To encourage citizen participation in research
- To promote the presence of scientific methodology in different educational levels as a tool to critically interpret the information transmitted by the media

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Casado M, Puigdomènech P (coord.). (2018), *Document on the ethical aspects of the science and society dialogue*. Barcelona: Edicions de la Universitat de Barcelona.

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