



Understanding Ethics in Tech

irecs and the future of research ethics governance

11th – 12th December, 2025

Venue: Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the European Union,
Rue Montoyer 47, 1000 Bruxelles, Belgium

Day 1 – Thursday, December 11th, 2025

08:30–9:30 Registration: Open Arrival and Coffee

Welcome and Introduction

09:30–10:00	irecs: Improving Research Ethics Expertise	Dirk Lanzerath <i>University of Bonn, Coordinator of irecs</i>
10:00–10:15	From irecs to SAEGE: A new Chapter to Strengthen Europe's Ethical Foundations for Research and Innovation	Joanna Drake <i>Deputy Director-General, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation of the European Commission (tbc.)</i>

Keynotes: Modern Responsibilities

10:15–10:35	Responsible Digital Policy in Europe	Axel Voss <i>Member of the European Parliament for the Electoral District of Middle Rhine</i>
10:35–10:55	Responsible Research and Innovation in Industry	Michael Sahnau <i>Director Health & Life Science, Microsoft Germany</i>
10:55–11:15	Responsible Research and Academic Freedom	Christoph Marksches <i>President of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities</i>

11:15–11:45 Coffee Break

Implementing Research Ethics Governance and Integrity

11:45–12:05	Ethics Governance Structure at Universities	Ana Marusic <i>University of Split, School of Medicine</i>
12:05–12:25	The Future of Research Integrity	Maura Hiney <i>Chair of the ALLEA Permanent Working Group on Science and Ethics (PWGSE)</i>
12:25–12:45	Training Materials: the Challenges of Developing and Using them effectively	Kate Chatfield <i>University of Central Lancashire</i>
12:45–13:00	Training in Research Ethics: Lessons Learned from irecs	Mariette van den Hoven <i>Amsterdam University Medical Center</i>

13:00–15:00 Lunch break		
15:15–16:00	Considering Cultural Sensitivity in Research Ethics <i>Moderation: Eugenijus Gefenas Vilnius University</i>	Wei Zhu <i>Fudan University</i> Francis Kombe <i>EthiXPERT, South Africa</i>
16:00–17:30 (1 hour discussion, 30 minutes Q&A)	Panel Discussion <i>Best Practices in Research Ethics Governance</i> <i>Moderation: Toby Wardman European Network of Research Ethics Committees (EUREC)</i>	Axel Voss Christoph Marksches Michael Sahnau Maura Hiney Wei Zhu Francis Kombe

End of the first conference day

19:00 Joint Dinner: Brasserie Meeus, Rue du Luxembourg 17, 1000 Bruxelles

Day 2 – Friday, December 12th, 2025

09:00–09:30 Welcome Coffee		
Ethics, Law, and Policy: How to use techs?		
09:20–9:30	Welcome and Introduction	Roberta Monachello <i>Project Manager at the Research Executive Agency, European Commission</i>
09:30–10:00	Ethics and Policy in Europe (20 minutes presentation, 10 minutes Q&A)	Barbara Prainsack <i>European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies (EGE)</i> Introduction and moderation of Q&A: Dirk Lanzerath
10:00–10:30	Health-related AI Applications in the Light of Human Rights Law (20 minutes talk, 10 minutes Q&A)	Rafael Vale e Reis <i>University of Coimbra</i> Introduction and moderation of Q&A: Tade M. Spranger, <i>University of Bonn</i>
10:30–11:00	Training Needs for Research Ethics Committees: The Example of AI in Health (20 minutes talk, 10 minutes Q&A)	Alexei Grinbaum <i>French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission, Paris-Saclay Center</i> Introduction and moderation of Q&A: Tom Lindemann <i>Luxembourg Agency for Research Integrity, European Network of Research Integrity Offices (ENRIO)</i>

11:00–11:30	Ethical Challenges of Manufactures (20 minutes talk, 10 minutes Q&A)	Karl-Heinz Land <i>neuland GmbH & Co. KG</i> Introduction and moderation of Q&A: Rajkumar Roy <i>City St George's, University of London</i>
11:30–12:00	Coffee Break	
12:00–13:15	Panel Discussion <i>The Sustainable Use of Cluster Networks: irecs as a Cluster of the Clusters</i> <i>Moderation: Mariette van den Hoven Amsterdam University Medical Center</i>	Eleni Spyrakou (irecs) Ana Marusic (Changer) Dominic Lenzi (RE4Green) Alexei Grinbaum (AIOLIA) Isidoros Karatzas (Active Senior, European Commission)
13:15–13:35	From Awareness to Implementation: A Practical Framework for Research Ethics Governance in Academia	Sandra Scholl <i>University of Bonn</i> Amalia Kallergi <i>Radboud University</i>
13:35–14:00	Bridge to the Future Ethics Governance: Advice, Review and Training	Dirk Lanzerath
14:00–14:15	Concluding Remarks	Dirk Lanzerath

List of Speakers, Panelists, and Moderators

Kate Chatfield, PhD	Deputy Director, Centre for Professional Ethics (PEALS) School of Health, Work and Sport, University of Central Lancashire, United Kingdom
Joanna Drake, PhD	Deputy Director-General Directorate-General for Research and Innovation (DG RTD), European Commission, Brussels
Eugenijus Gefenas, Prof. Dr.	Professor of Bioethics, Centre for Health Ethics, Law and History, Vilnius University, Lithuania
Alexei Grinbaum, PhD	Research Director, French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) Paris-Saclay Center, France
Maura Hiney, PhD	Chair, Permanent Working Group on Science and Ethics (PWGSE), ALLEA Adjunct Professor at University College Dublin Institute for Discovery, Ireland
Amalia Kallergi, PhD	Postdoctoral Researcher, Science in Society Studies Radboud University, Netherlands
Isidoros Karatzas, PhD	Former Head of the Research Ethics and Integrity Sector in Research and Innovation of the European Commission
Francis Kombe, MPH, MSocSc	Executive Director, EthixPERT Cape Town, South Africa
Karl-Heinz Land	Founder and CEO, neuland GmbH & Co. KG Cologne, Germany
Dirk Lanzerath, Prof. Dr.	Professor of Ethics, University of Bonn; Director, German Reference Centre for Ethics in the Life Sciences (DRZE) Coordinator of the irecs Project, Germany
Dominic Lenzi, PhD	Assistant Professor of Ethics and Political Philosophy University of Twente; Partner in RE4Green Project, Netherlands
Tom Lindemann, PhD	Director, Luxembourg Agency for Research Integrity (LARI); Representative, European Network of Research Integrity Offices (ENRIO), Luxembourg
Christoph Marksches, Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult.	President, Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities Germany

Ana Marušić, Prof. MD, PhD	Professor of Anatomy and Chair, Department of Research in Biomedicine and Health University of Split School of Medicine, Croatia
Roberta Monachello	Project Manager, European Research Executive Agency (REA) European Commission, Brussels
Barbara Prainsack, Prof. Dr.	Professor for Comparative Policy Analysis University of Vienna; Member, European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies (EGE), Austria
Rajkumar Roy, Prof. PhD	Executive Dean of the School of Science & Technology City St George's, Professor of Design and Manufacturing, City St George's, University of London, United Kingdom
Michael Sahnau	Director, Health & Life Sciences, Microsoft Germany
Sandra Scholl, M.A.	Research Associate at the German Reference Centre for Ethics in the Life Sciences (DRZE), University of Bonn, Germany
Tade M. Spranger, Prof. Dr. Dr.	Professor of Law, University of Bonn Germany
Eleni Spyarakou, PhD	Senior Researcher, National Technical University of Athens, Greece
Mariette van den Hoven, Prof. Dr.	Professor, Department of Ethics, Law and Medical Humanities Amsterdam University Medical Center, Netherlands
Rafael Vale e Reis, Prof. Dr.	Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law University of Coimbra, Portugal
Axel Voss, MdEP	Member of the European Parliament for the Electoral District of Middle Rhine, Committee on Legal Affairs (JURI), European People's Party (EPP), Germany
Toby Wardman, PhD	Senior Policy Officer, European Network of Research Ethics Committees (EUREC), Brussels, Belgium
Wei Zhu, Prof. Dr.	Associate Professor, Department of Philosophy Fudan University, Shanghai, China