

**SETTING UP A NETWORK ON ETHICS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
WITH THE CANDIDATE COUNTRIES**

- for distribution through the Science Counsellor
at the Mission to the EU in Bruxelles -

Europe is proud of its diverse identity and the manifold cultures co-existing. With the rapid progress in research and science and their applications, the people in Europe are confronted with fundamental changes in their living perspectives, often touching deeply on their traditional value systems. In all countries in Europe ethics committees, research institutes and other initiatives at local and at national level are involved in a public debate.

Within DG Research of the European Commission, the unit on "Ethical issues in science and research" is operating in the framework of the new directorate of "Science and Society". The aim of the unit is to promote "**responsible research**" in Europe, and to keep the rapidly advancing progress in **science in harmony with the ethical values** of all Europeans. For this purpose it will conduct activities in order to establish and support a reference framework on ethics in science and research for DG RTD.

The knowledge on the specific situation in the candidate countries is not yet fully developed. Therefore it is intended to build up a **specific network on Ethics in Science and Research with the Candidate Countries**. A workshop will be organised by mid/end of October 2001. In order to prepare this workshop we would like to collect some information before hand.

We would be pleased if you could send us back the following questionnaire with relevant attachments, if possible in English or another EC language. If this is not possible, a copy of the document in the national language will already be helpful.

We would be pleased if this questionnaire would be circulated to

- 1. Research funding agencies**
- 2. Universities, Institutes of Academy of Sciences and other Research Institutes**
- 3. Experts in the field of Ethics in Science and Technology**

Could you (the science counsellors) please provide us with a list of those persons and institutions to whom the questionnaire was send by **15 July 2001**.

Could you please indicate for each institution/person:

Name, title, function
Institution
Professional address
Tel and fax
e-mail

Please return the questionnaire to:

Barbara Rhode
Commission of the EC
200, Rue de la Loi, SDME 1/138
B-1049 Brussels

Tel: + 322-29 59 888
Fax: + 322-29 66 020
e-mail: Barbara.Rhode@cec.eu.int

QUESTIONNAIRE ON ETHICS IN SCIENCE AND RESEARCH IN THE CANDIDATE COUNTRIES

- to be filled in by competent persons in ethics in science and research
from the candidate countries -

The Questionnaire will consist of the following 3 section:

1. To get contacts and names of **experts and institutes working on the issues**
2. To get to know the **structure of ethical advice and reviews** in the country
3. To get to know what is **regulated** in the country and which are **the main laws**

Could you send back the questionnaire by **15 August 2001**.

Please inform us about you:

Name, title, function

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Institution:.....

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Professional address:

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.....

Tel and fax

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e-mail

Please return the questionnaire to

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1. Experts and Institutes working on Ethics in Science and Research

The European Commission is regularly running ethical reviews of projects from all programmes containing issues of ethical concern, after they have been positively evaluated in the normal scientific evaluation.

1. The experts invited for the ethical review for EC funded projects are taken from the list of experts <http://www.cordis.lu/expert-candidature/> . Until now very few experts from the candidate countries, competent to co-operate in a panel for ethical reviews, are inscribed in the database. We would like to encourage experts to

register as soon as possible. We would be grateful if at the same time when registering you would also send us your CV directly.

2. Could you please name the main institutes in the country working on legal, ethical or social implications of science and research:

2. Structure of Ethical advice and reviews in the country

- 1) Does an Ethics Committee or Council of national relevance exist?

Yes No more than one

- 2) If yes, or more than one, please give more information

- a) on the name,
- b) with what tasks and competence
- c) based on which regulation
- d) Who is the president, chairperson?
- e) How to contact that person?

- 3) Do other kinds of Ethics Committees exist?

Yes No different types

- 4) Can you give more information:

- a) on the type,
- b) with what tasks and competence
- c) based on which regulation
- d) institutional links/geographic organisation

3. What is regulated in the country and which are the main laws related to ethical issues in science and research

- 1) Does any constitutional regulations, laws or opinion of an Ethics Committee exist that regulate or have an impact on **research involving persons**

yes no

- a) If yes,
 - healthy volunteers
 - handicapped or persons unable to consent
 - children
 - others....

- b) If yes, please quote the reference

- c) and attach the opinion/law/article

- 2) Does any constitutional regulations, laws or opinion of an Ethics Committee exist that regulate or have an impact on research involving **Human tissue**?

yes no

- a) please quote the reference

b) and attach the opinion/law/article

3) Does any constitutional regulations, laws or opinion of an Ethics Committee exist that regulate or have an impact on research involving **Human embryos and/or embryonic stem cells**?

yes no

for reproduction for research

a) If yes, please quote the reference

b) and attach the opinion/law/article

4) Does any regulation or opinion of an ethics Committee exist on **the protection of animal welfare and the use of animals for scientific purposes**

yes no

a) If yes, please quote the reference

b) and attach the opinion/law/article

5) Does any constitutional regulations, laws or opinion of an Ethics Committee exist that regulates or have an impact on the **protection of individual data, privacy and/or confidentiality**

yes no

a) If yes, please quote the reference

b) and attach the opinion/law/article

6) Does any regulation or opinion of an ethics Committee exist on **genetically modified organism**

yes no

a) If yes, please quote the reference

b) and attach the opinion/law/article

7) Does any regulation or opinion of an ethics Committee exist on **safety regulations of laboratories and/or on safety of the workplace**

yes no

a) If yes, please quote the reference

b) and attach the opinion/law/article

8) Could you mention **other relevant regulation** that have an impact on ethical issues in science and research ?

a) Please quote the reference and attach the opinion/law/article

9) Which **international or European Conventions concerning ethics in science and research** did your country sign?