#### EU-SPRI CONFERENCE 2019, ROME 5-7 JUNE

#### STI POLICIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS - ACTORS, INSTRUMENTS & EVALUATION

#### INSTITUTIONS MATTER - HOW TO PROMOTE RRI BY SETTING SUITABLE INSTITUTIONAL INCENTIVES

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- 3. Results
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## Motivation



#### Motivation

- For many years, the EC has supported the objective of bringing research and society closer together with the help of its central financial instrument, the Framework Programmes (FPs)
- Doing research and innovation (R&I) in a "responsible" way shall improve R&I processes and outcomes by five so-called RRI keys: open access, science education, public engagement, ethics and gender equality
- However, until now, little is known about the practice and perceptions of RRI among researchers in Europe.
- Based on two large-scale surveys (see below), we were able to
  - to investigate whether the EU funding context makes a difference regarding attitudes and activities towards RRI
  - and how institutional frameworks support the implementation of RRI activities within research organizations



## Methodological Approach and Empirical Basis



#### Methodological Approach & Empirical Basis

- Two large-scale surveys launched in the course of the MoRRI project
  - One survey referred to researchers with EU funding; a control group was established via Scopus author IDs
  - Researchers were asked about their views on the relevance, benefits, barriers and hindrances of RRI within their daily research activities

	EU Researchers	Control Group
Number of contact persons	22,947	25,968
Net sample	22,274	17,723
No. of valid responses	3,117	1,264
No. of completed questionnaires	2,755	723
Response rate	14.0%	7.1%
Completion rate	12.4%	4.1%



## Have you ever heard about the concept "Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)"?





#### Public Engagement Activities





#### Science Education Activities





#### Gender Equality Activities





#### **Open Access Activities**





#### **Ethical Activities**







#### Observed and expected scientific benefits

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#### Observed and expected economic benefits

N(CG) = 366 - 372 N (EU) = 2586-2667

EU funded researchers I expect benefits

Control Group Lexpect benefits



#### Observed and expected democratic benefits





#### Observed and expected social benefits

N (EU) = 2586-2667

N(CG) = 370 - 375





Do you observe any supportive factors for implementing RRI in your institution? Do you observe any barriers to practice RRI?





#### **Observed barriers**





#### **Observed supportive factors**





#### Existence of an institutional strategy





# Gender equality and institutionalised strategy (EU funded researchers)





# Ethics and institutionalised strategy (EU funded researchers)





## Conclusions



#### Conclusions

- The framework programme designed by the European Commission makes a difference to the practice of responsible research and innovation.
- EU-funded researchers are more familiar with the concept of RRI, they also associate more benefits and supporting factors.
- EU-funded researchers are also more likely to practise RRI activities.
- Researchers working in an institutional environment that systematically supports the practice of RRI, through dedicated staff in charge of RRI keys etc., are more active in RRI practices than researchers who cannot rely on such structures.
- The definition of success and/or eligibility criteria for research funding is a further mechanism that encourages a positive attitude towards RRI
- Thus, the institutional environment can positively influence the degree of RRI activities and the general attitudes towards more responsible research and innovation.



# Thank you very much for your attention

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