SP12 Overview

Ethics and Society is part of the Human Brain Project's research core. Through research and ethics management, SP12 promotes Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) practices within the HBP to help shape the direction of the HBP in ethically sound ways.

SP12 focuses on foresight, neuroethics, philosophy, public engagement, and researcher awareness. By carrying out research to identify and address conceptual, social, ethical, legal and cultural implications and challenges raised by HBP research.

Activities:

- Creating connections across the HBP to work on community-building for HBP infrastructures.
- Carrying out systematic foresight exercises to identify and evaluate the potential impact of the new knowledge and technologies produced by the HBP.
- Analysing conceptual underpinnings and implications of HBP research, to identify and articulate philosophical, ethical (notably neuroethical), issues raised by such research.
- Embedding frameworks in the HBP through works on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), data policy manual, data governance working group, compliance and ethics rapporteurs programs.
- Organising public engagement and citizen dialogues across Europe (online and face-to-face), including meetings, online consultations and Stakeholder Forums.
- Collaborations with SP6 on the concept of simulation, SPs 3 and 4 on the topic of consciousness, SP1, 2 on cultural impact on brain architecture and neuronal epigenesist, and SP2, SP3 and SP8 on stakeholder engagement in clinical practise.
SP12 Progress

- Development of Briefing Reports on Dual Use, contributing to the forthcoming Opinion Report on Dual Use:
  - Stahl., B & Rainey, S. (2017) Dual Use Background Reports. HBP Ethics Management (SP12) De Mont University


- Development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for ethics compliance (e.g. research integrity), and establishment of collaboration with SCOPE for monitoring compliance of partnering projects

- Management of the Data Governance Working Group (DGWG) and Data Policy Manual

- Coordination and management of the Ethics rapporteur program and Point of Registration (PORE)
P12 SGA1 Publication Highlights

  http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/23299460.2017.1331101

  25(166):1084-102


- Evers K., Changeux JP. (2016) Proactive epigenesis and ethical innovation: A neuronal hypothesis for the genesis of ethical rules. EMBO Reports
  17 (10): 1361-1364


  Nicotine reverses hypofrontality in animal models of addiction and schizophrenia. Nature Medicine. 23(3): 347-354


- Rose, N., D. Fitzgerald & I. Singh (2016). Revitalizing sociology: urban life and mental illness between history and the present. British Journal of Sociology,
  67(1), 138-160.

SP12 Engagement Highlights

SP12 endeavours to engage with researchers across the HBP and public audiences through webinars, workshops, ‘brown bag lunches’, and other channels of engagement.

Engagement Activities:
- HBP-wide survey on implementation and gaps in terms of Opinion recommendations; SP5, SP8, SP11, SP12, DGWG
- Pilot Citizen online survey in Denmark: on robotics and supercomputing
- Citizens newsletter: Use of personal data in research projects and on use of personal data to the HBP.

Highlight SGA1 Events:
- Webinar on IC co-organised, including internal and external stakeholders, to provide feedback and validation of SOP
- Webinar on Informed Consent in the HBP, co-organised by 12.1.2 and 12.3.2, 20 registered participants. Held: 2017/02/06
- Rose, N. Masterclass on neurosciences, biopsychiatry and resilience, University of New South Wales, Sydney, 2 March 2017
- SP12, EAB and Ethics Rapporteurs joint workshop with the scope to provide input for the Dual Use Opinion
- Co-organizing HBP’s first science conference Workshop on Consciousness with SP03, SP04, CDP03.
- Participated the HBP Open Day at the 2016 Summit in Florence
- Supported SP11 in the November 28-29, 2016 STOA exhibition at the European Parliament Brussels - advising on reaching high-level policy-makers