

Concept Programme

# Impact of Social Sciences, Humanities & Arts

*The international conference on approaches for assessing and stimulating  
Impact of Social Sciences, Humanities & Arts on Society*

13-15 October 2021

Brussels, Belgium (and online available)

AESIS

NETWORK FOR  
ADVANCING & EVALUATING THE SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SCIENCE

ecoom

Partners



DEPARTMENT OF  
ECONOMY, SCIENCE & INNOVATION



Flanders  
State of the Art



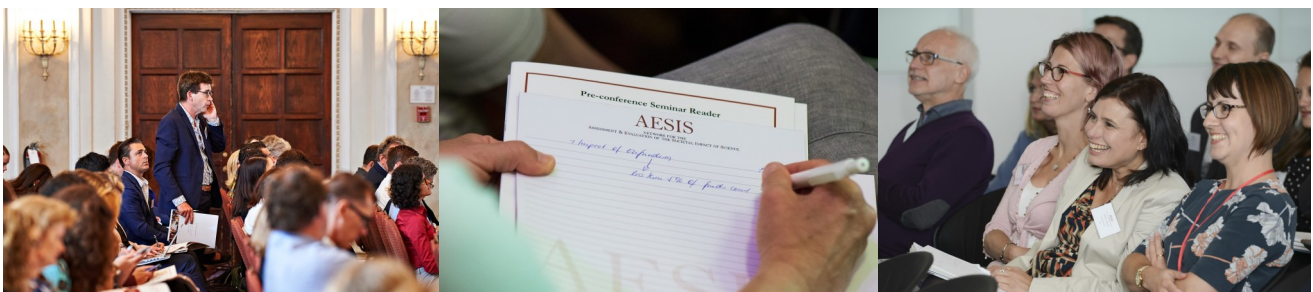
## - IMPACT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES -

There might not be a more timely moment to discuss the societal impact of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts (SSHA) than this fall. The persisting global COVID-19 pandemic is posing societal challenges that call for interdisciplinary research evidence that can be transformed into practical knowledge for societal stakeholders. In the broader sense the importance of SSHA impact on society is still too often underestimated and is in need of improved supporting structures, policies and strategies. In order to generate a profound impact of SSHA on society, a strong impact framework for assessing and stimulating impact, as well as collaborations with parties from business, government and not-for-profits, and engaging with the broader public, are all vital aspects.

To facilitate this aim, AESIS is proud to announce that its next edition on **'Impact of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts on Society'** will be hosted Brussels, Belgium, but also broadcasted available for online participation. In this conference we bring together research managers, science policy makers, funders, knowledge exchange experts, and other relevant professionals from all parts of the world, to tackle topics such as: What does impact mean in the context of different segments of society, and through which robust and valid indicators can you assess it? How can the path to impact be made more accessible, and which skills can enable one to optimise impact for the sake of the public as a whole? Which opportunities of collaborations with societal stakeholders are there, and how may co-creation of knowledge with other disciplines and sectors play a role in stimulating impact?

In order to offer the most insightful programme to our audience, AESIS will be collaborating with ECOOM. ECOOM is the Flemish Expertise Centre committed to mapping the R&D and innovation landscape and they have teams working on gaining a better understanding of and methods for measuring the social impact of research in all disciplines, as well as developing indicators and evaluation mechanisms for non-written research output. Working with them and other partners involved in the Belgian Science-Eco-system provides an excellent and indeed inspirational context to foster the worldwide discussion on impact. At the same time, several international perspectives can offer valuable and critical evaluations to the current progress and obstacles in Belgium.

After editions in Cardiff, Copenhagen, Washington and Toronto, we are thrilled to be bringing this cross-sectoral conversation on the Societal Impact of Social Sciences, Humanities and Arts to Brussels. AESIS, ECOOM and their other partners are excited to (virtually) welcome you to the **'Impact of Social Sciences and Humanities 2021' conference**.



# - IMPACT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES & ARTS -

## Programme Advisory Committee

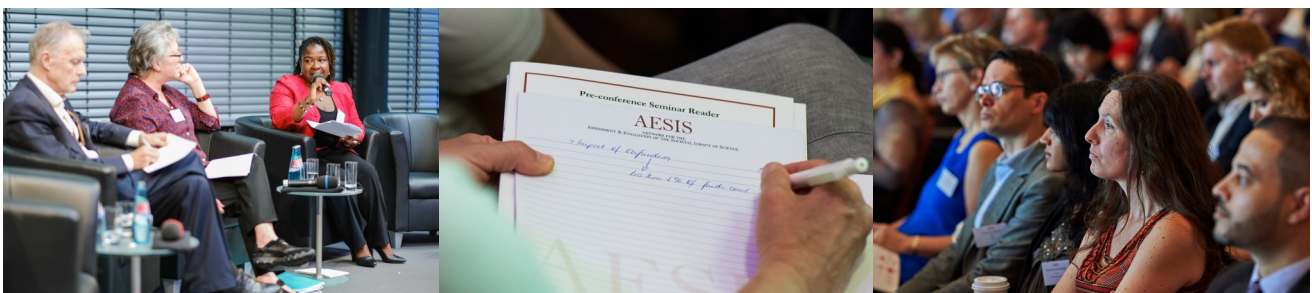
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<b>Walter Ysebaert</b>	Responsible for ECOOM research domain: Evaluation of societal impact of research & Coordinator Data Office - Strategic Information and Analysis, VUB, Belgium
<b>Tom Tournicourt</b>	Head of the Division Enterprise & Innovation at the Flanders department for Economy, Science and Innovation, Belgium
<b>Hans Willems</b>	Secretary General at Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), Belgium
<b>Koen Verlaeckt</b>	Secretary General - Flemish Interuniversity Council

## AESIS Advisory Board

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<b>Koenraad Debackere</b>	Executive Director of KU Leuven Research and Development & Chairman of Board of Directors of KBC Group NV
<b>Beverley Damonse</b>	Executive of Science Engagement and Corporate Relations, National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa
<b>Luke Georghiou</b>	Vice-President for Research and Innovation and Professor of Science and Technology Policy at the University of Manchester, United Kingdom
<b>Barend van der Meulen</b>	Professor Institutional Aspects of (Higher) Education, Director CHEPS, Twente University, the Netherlands
<b>Andrew Plume</b>	Senior Director of Research Evaluation at Elsevier, United Kingdom
<b>Susan Renoe</b>	Assistant Vice Chancellor, University of Missouri & Executive Director of the NSF Center for Advancing Research Impact in Society
<b>Toby Smith</b>	Vice President of Policy at the American Association of Universities, USA
<b>David Sweeney</b>	Executive Chair, Research England, United Kingdom
<b>Paul Wouters</b>	Dean of Social and Behavioural Sciences & former Director of CWTS, Leiden University, The Netherlands



# Wednesday 13 October 2021

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

9.30-10.00 Registration & Coffee/Tea

## 10.00-10.30 WORDS OF WELCOME

- 10.00 Conference Chair:  
**Koenraad Debackere\*** Executive Director of KU Leuven Research and Development & Chairman of Board of Directors of KBC Group NV
- 10.10 **Representative** Hosting University

## 10.30-12.00 POLICY FRAMEWORKS FOR SSHA IMPACT

- 10.45 **Ted Hewitt\*** President of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Canada
- 11.00 **David Mair** Head of Unit Knowledge for Policy (Concepts and Methods), Joint Research Centre of the European Commission
- 11.15 **Representative** Norwegian Research Council
- 11.30 **Panel & Q&A**

12.00-12.30 Break

## 12.30-13.45 MAPPING AND ASSESSING SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SSHA

### Indicators for SSHA impact on Society

**Walter Ysebaert\***  
Responsible for ECOOM research domain: Evaluation of societal impact of research, Belgium

### Mapping the Science Impact Landscape

**Alis Oancea\***  
Director of Research in the Department of Education and Special Advisor on Research Impact, University of Oxford

### Impact Assessment through Narratives

**Paul Wouters**  
Dean of Social Sciences & former Director of CWTS, Leiden University, The Netherlands

*Attendees may freely choose to join any of the **Parallel Sessions in RED**, which will contain 3 to 4 presentations and an interactive discussion or Q&A*

*Please note that the **Roundtable session in PURPLE** accept only 20 participants (pre-registration is advised)*

More sessions on the next page

## Wednesday 13 October 2021 (continued)

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

### 12.30-13.45 MAPPING AND ASSESSING SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SSHA (continued)

Assessment for Impact Profile

Evaluation Frameworks

Impact Assessment  
for the Arts

#### Rutger Engels

Rector Magnificus of the Erasmus  
University of Rotterdam and  
Professor at Erasmus School of  
Social and Behavioural Sciences  
(ESSB), Netherlands

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### 13.45-14.30 Lunch break

### 14.30-15.45 DEVELOPING STRONG INFRASTRUCTURES FOR SOCIETAL IMPACT

Using Interdisciplinarity for  
Impact and Excellence

Science Funding for Impact

Training and Skills

#### Representative FWO

Vivian Tseng  
Senior Vice President, William T.  
Grant Foundation

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## Wednesday 13 October 2021 (continued)

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

14.30-15.45 DEVELOPING STRONG INFRASTRUCTURES AND SUPPORT FOR SOCIETAL IMPACT (continued)

Academic Collaboration

Impact support and leadership

Science Parks for SSHA

*Representative VLIR, Belgium*

**Toby Smith\***  
Vice-President for Policy,  
Association of American  
Universities, U.S.A.

**Sally O'Conner\***  
Programme Manager Social  
Science Research Park (SPARK)  
at Cardiff University, Wales, UK

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### SOCIAL PROGRAMME



\*Confirmed

# Thursday 14 October 2021

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

09.30-10.00 Registration & Coffee/Tea

10.00-10.15 WORDS OF WELCOME

10.00 Conference Chair

10.15-11.45 MODELS, APPROACHES & LESSONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A RESEARCH IMPACT AGENDA

10.15

10.30 Sue Thomas CEO of the Australian Research Council

10.45

11.00

11.15 Panel and Q&A

11.45-12.15 Break

12.15-13.30 BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR IMPACT OF SSHA ON SOCIETY

Science and Business  
Collaboration

Evidence-informed  
Policy making

Science Communication  
for Impact

Tracy Brown  
Director of Sense about Science

Antti Pelkonen\*  
Science Advisor, Prime Minister's  
Office Finland

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\*Confirmed

# Thursday 14 October 2021 (continued)

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

## 12.15-13.30 BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR IMPACT OF SSHA ON SOCIETY (continued)

### Public Engagement

### Short vs Long term commitments

### Cross-border alliances in transdisciplinary research

#### Malinda Smith

Vice-Provost Equity, Diversion & Inclusion, University of Calgary, Canada

#### Tom Postmes\*

Faculty of Behavioural and Social Sciences, University of Groningen, Netherlands

#### Magnus Gulbrandsen

Head of the Innovation Group, TIK Centre, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Oslo, Norway

#### Otto Bruun\*

European Advisor for Innovation, Swisscore

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## 13.30-14.15 Lunch break

## 14.15-16.00 INTERACTIVE CLOSING DEBATE

14.15

14.35

**AESIS**

Presenting the Recommendations from parallel sessions

14.45

Closing panel

*At the start of the debate the audience can vote between 8 to 10 questions. The top 3 will be debated.*

Chair

Panel members:

15.45

Closing remarks by **Conference Chair**

16.00

End of the conference day followed by the Conference Dinner at 18.00



# Friday 15 October 2021

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

09.30-10.00 Registration & Coffee/Tea

10.00-10.15 WORDS OF WELCOME

10.00 Conference Chair

*What did we achieve on the first days and how does it relate to the last day's programme?*

10.15 EXPLORING (NEW) PATHWAYS TO IMPACT FOR SSHA

10.15

10.30

10.45

11.00

11.15 Panel and Q&A

11.45-12.15 Break

12.15-13.30 PARALLEL SESSIONS (THEME TBD)

Innovation &  
Entrepreneurship

SDG's & Grand  
Challenges

*The role of Open Science  
(Roundtable)*

Larissa Best\*  
Director, Equilibre, Luxembourg

Representative ECOOM

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# Friday 15 October 2021 (continued)

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

## 12.15-13.30 PARALLEL SESSIONS (THEME TBD) (Continued)

Regional collaboration  
& clusters for impact

Team Science & Research  
Development

*Impact through Education  
(Roundtable)*

### **Rick Delbridge\***

Professor of Organizational  
Analysis at Cardiff Business  
School & co-convenor of the  
Centre for Innovation Policy,  
Wales, UK

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interactive discussion or Q&A

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*PURPLE* accept only 20  
participants (pre-registration is  
advised)

## 13.30-14.15 Lunch break

## 14.15-16.15 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE BELGIAN SCIENCE SYSTEM, AND BEYOND

- 14.15 Ranking the Recommendations
- 14.45 Audience - Remaining Questions and Debates
- 15.00 Closing panel

Chair:

Conference Chair

Panel members:

- 2 more Representatives of the Regional Science Agencies, Belgium
- 3 International experts

- 16.00 Closing remarks

- 16.15 Closing reception