

# 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

*Hosted Online from Brussels, Belgium*

AESIS

NETWORK FOR  
ADVANCING & EVALUATING THE SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SCIENCE

ecoom

Partners

fwo

DEPARTMENT OF  
ECONOMY, SCIENCE & INNOVATION



Flanders  
State of the Art



the  
la COLLABORATIVE



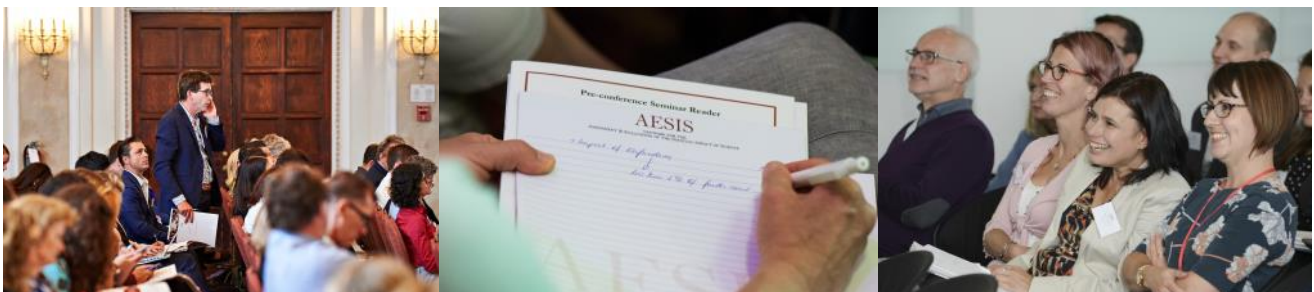
## - IMPACT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES & ARTS -

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 from Brussels, Belgium, in an online format. 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, Humanities & Arts 2021’ conference**.



# - IMPACT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, HUMANITIES & ARTS -

## Programme Advisory Committee

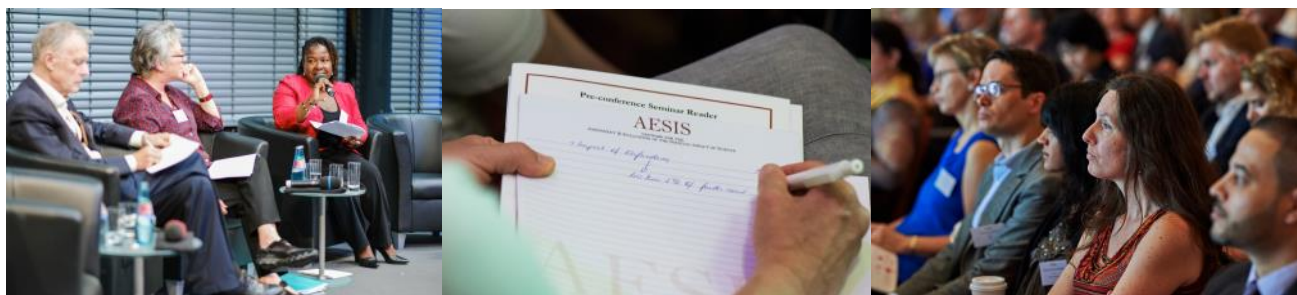
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<b>Walter Ysebaert</b>	Responsible for ECOOM research domain: Evaluation of societal impact of research & Coordinator Data Office - Strategic Information and Analysis, VUB, Belgium
<b>Tom Tournicourt</b>	Head of the Division Enterprise & Innovation at the Flanders department for Economy, Science and Innovation, Belgium
<b>Hans Willems</b>	Secretary General at the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), Belgium
<b>Koen Verlaeckt</b>	Secretary General - Flemish Interuniversity Council
<b>Frank Monteny</b>	Director General Research and Space at Belgian Science Policy Office (BELSPO), Belgium
<b>Sandra Lapointe</b>	Professor of Philosophy and Director of The/La Collaborative, McMaster University,

## 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 for Science Policy & Global Affairs at the Association of American 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



# Wednesday 13 October 2021

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

9.30-10.00

WALK IN



Introducing the platform  
features & guidance for any  
technical issues

—Online—

One on one guidance for any  
technical issues or questions  
attendees might have

—Helpdesk—



10.00-10.15

WORDS OF WELCOME

GRAND PLACE ROOM

10.00

Conference Chair:

**Koenraad Debackere** Executive Director of KU Leuven Research and Development  
& Chair of the AESIS Advisory Board

10.15-12.00

POLICY FRAMEWORKS FOR SSHA IMPACT

GRAND PLACE ROOM

*This plenary session is an introduction into the meaning of research and its ability to transform and impact society for the betterment of all actors involved. The speakers will consider the role of policy on research and society, and the changing relationship between these actors, especially in current times.*

10.15

**Johan Hanssens**

Secretary-General of the Flemish Department  
of Economy, Science, and Innovation

10.30

**Kristin Davidse**

Full Professor, English Linguistics, FunC Research Group,  
KU Leuven

10.45

**Rajesh Tandon**

Founder-President & Chief Functionary, Participatory Research  
in Asia, UNESCO Co-Chair, Community Based Research &  
Social Responsibility in Higher Education, India

11.00

**Ted Hewitt**

President of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research  
Council, Canada

11.15

**Geoff Mulgan**

Professor of Collective Intelligence, Public Policy  
and Social Innovation at University College London

11.30

**Panel and Q&A**

Chaired by Koenraad Debackere, with Johan Hanssens,  
Rajesh Tandon, Ted Hewitt, & Geoff Mulgan



12.00-12.30

BREAK

Interact with fellow participants,  
speakers and partners in 1 on 1  
or group meetings

—Atomium Room—

Learn more about the partners  
of this conference, without  
whom we wouldn't be here

—Exhibition—



Watch interviews on projects  
demonstrating good-practices in  
societal impact

—Royal Park Theatre—

## Wednesday 13 October 2021 (continued)

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

12.30-13.45 I. MAPPING AND ASSESSING SOCIETAL IMPACT OF SSHA

### Quantitative and Qualitative Metrics for SSHA impact on Society

- Waffle Room -

*Which metrics can effectively demonstrate the impact of SSHA research, and what are the differences and challenges in choosing quantitative and qualitative measures*

#### Andrew Plume (Chair)

President, International Center for the Study of Research (ICSR)  
& Senior Director of Research Evaluation, Elsevier

#### Walter Ysebaert

Responsible for ECOOM research domain: Evaluation of  
societal impact of research, Belgium

#### Kara Scally-Irvine

Board Member, Aotearoa New Zealand Evaluation Association

### Evaluation Frameworks including Societal Impact

- Sprouts Room -

*How to assess societal impact and create a structure around it to make it more effective for research and funding institutions*

#### Andrea Bonaccorsi (Chair)

Full Professor of Economics and Management at the School of  
Engineering, University of Pisa, Italy

#### Lin Zhang

Professor at the School of Information Management, Wuhan  
University, China

#### Jelena Angelis

Research Director at EFIS Centre, Belgium

### Institutional Assessment of Impact for Different Disciplines

- Fries Room -

*When can assessment be aligned between disciplines and where are the differences in approach, tools or methods needed?*

#### Gunnar Sivertsen (Chair)

Research Professor, Nordic Institute for Innovation, Research &  
Education (NIFU), Norway

#### Claire Donovan

Professor and Deputy Head of School (Research & Enterprise),  
University of Greenwich, United Kingdom

#### Florian Vanlee

Postdoctoral researcher on evaluating artistic research,  
ECOOM Brussels, Belgium



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13.45-14.30

BREAK

Live interview with our  
conference partner ECOOM  
(13.50-14.00)

—Foyer—



Interact with fellow participants,  
speakers and partners in 1 on 1  
or group meetings

—Atomium Room—

## Wednesday 13 October 2021 (continued)

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

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

#### Using Interdisciplinarity for Societal Impact and Excellence

- Sprouts Room -

*How can gaps between disciplines be overcome to achieve better research and more effective impact?*

##### **Sarah Weicksel (Chair)**

Director of Research and Publications at the American Historical Association, USA

##### **Thomas Alslev Christensen**

Senior Vice-President, Impact, Novo Nordisk Foundation, Denmark

##### **Angelika Zelisko & Tobias Reckling**

'Innovation Matters' project, University of Applied Arts Vienna & University of Vienna, Austria

#### Training and Skills

- Fries Room -

*How can training be integrated to help researchers gain skills for partnerships, collaboration, and interdisciplinary research in SSHA, and achieving better impact?*

##### **Sandra Lapointe**

Professor of Philosophy and Director of The/La Collaborative, McMaster University, Canada

##### **Anika Duut van Goor**

Director of the international AESIS Network, the Netherlands

#### Science Policy and Funding Schemes

- Chocolate Room -

*Can and should science policy and funding agencies help research to have more impact on society?*

##### **Jenny Björkman (Chair)**

Director of Collaboration, Riksbanken Jubileumsfond, Sweden

##### **Frederik Van Acker**

Senior Policy Advisor at the Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), Belgium

##### **Frans Nauta**

Founder ClimateLaunchpad & Innovation Policy Expert, the Netherlands

#### Impact Support and Leadership

- Waffle Room -

*What are the best approaches, strategies and their execution to make sure excellent research outcomes are utilised by society?*

##### **Toby Smith (Chair)**

Vice President for Science Policy & Global Affairs at the Association of American Universities, USA

##### **Rick Delbridge**

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

##### **Antonia Caro Gonzalez**

Impact Senior Advisor & Practitioner, Spain

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15.45-16.30

### SOCIAL PROGRAMME

Get up from your seat & relax with movement exercise:

**Qi Gong**

(15.45-16.15)

—Foyer—

Relax & move around with Qi Gong instructor

**Eline Kieft!**

Interact with fellow participants, speakers and partners in 1 on 1 or group meetings

—Atomium Room—

# Thursday 14 October 2021

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

9.30-10.00

WALK IN



Interact with fellow participants, speakers and partners in 1 on 1 or group meetings

—Atomium Room—

Interview with our valuable partner EWI (9.45-9.55)

—Foyer—



10.00-10.15

WORDS OF WELCOME

GRAND PLACE ROOM

10.00

Conference Chair:

**Koenraad Debackere**

Executive Director of KU Leuven Research and Development & Chair of the AESIS Advisory Board

10.15-11.45

TRANSFORMING POLICIES AND STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT SOCIETAL IMPACT

*In this plenary opening session experts will give their view on which national or regional policies, or institutional strategies will incentivise and optimise the societal impact of scientific knowledge and data. Viewing the current situation, what is needed to transform current regulations to incentivise more attention to valorisation of science for the world.*

10.15

**James Wilsdon**

Director, Research on Research Institute (RoRI), Sheffield University, United Kingdom

10.35

**Beverley Damonse**

Executive of Science Engagement and Corporate Relations, National Research Foundation (NRF), South Africa

10.55

**Otto Bruun**

Chair of UAS4EUROPE Management Committee and Senior Innovation Advisor at SwissCore

11.15

**Panel and Q&A**

Chaired by Koenraad Debackere, with James Wilsdon, Beverley Damonse & Otto Bruun



11.45-12.30

BREAK

Interact with fellow participants, speakers and partners in 1 on 1 or group meetings

—Atomium Room—



Live interview with our conference partner FWO (11.50-12.00)

—Foyer—

Learn more about the partners of this conference, without whom we wouldn't be here

—Exhibition—

## Thursday 14 October 2021 (continued)

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

### 12.30-13.45 III. BUILDING ALLIANCES FOR IMPACT OF SSHA ON SOCIETY

#### Evidence-informed Policy Making

- Fries Room -

*What are the best structures to allow informing policymakers of the most important and accurate scientific data and knowledge, as well as have them utilise this?*

#### Nicola Francesco Dotti (*Chair*)

Senior Researcher in the ECOOM unit,  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Belgium

#### Antti Pelkonen

Science Advisor, Prime Minister's Office in Finland

#### Tracey Brown

Director of Sense about Science, London, United Kingdom

#### Lorenzo Melchor Fernandez

Policy Analyst at European Commission

#### Science Communication and Public Engagement

- Chocolate Room -

*How can more effective societal impact be achieved by integrating science communication skills and expertise in your institutional strategy?*

#### Jenny Björkman

Director of Collaboration,  
Riksbankn Jubileumsfond, Sweden

#### Malinda Smith

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

#### Hans Jonker

Researcher in the ECOOM unit,  
Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB), Belgium

#### Florian Vanlee (*Moderator*)

Postdoctoral Researcher on Evaluating Artistic Research,  
ECOOM, Brussels, Belgium

#### Collaboration to Understand Needs and Challenges

- Waffle Room -

*Open exchange with societal actors to understand the needs and obstacles they face.*

#### Fanny Sbaraglia (*Chair*)

Researcher at the Center for the Study of Politics (CEVIPOL),  
Scientific Advisor to the Policy Lab, Université Libre de Bruxelles

#### Koen Verlaeckt

Secretary-General,  
Vlaamse Interuniversitaire Raad (VLIR), Belgium

\*

#### Cross-border Alliances in Transdisciplinary Research

- Sprouts Room -

*What are the best approaches to international collaboration to achieve impact through engaging citizens and spreading key enabling methodologies?*

#### Otto Bruun

Chairman, UAS4EUROPE  
Management Committee

#### Hannes Raffaseder

Chief R&I Officer, FH St. Pölten, EURASHE Board Member, &  
Coordinator of European University E<sup>3</sup>UDRES<sup>2</sup>, Austria

#### Frank Kresin

Dean of Faculty of Digital Media and  
Creative Industries, Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences,  
the Netherlands

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13.45-14.15

BREAK

Live interview with our  
conference partner BELSPO  
(13.50-14.00)

—Foyer—



Watch interviews on projects  
demonstrating good-practices  
in societal impact

—Royal Park Theatre—

Interact with fellow participants,  
speakers and partners in 1 on 1  
or group meetings

—Atomium Room—



## Thursday 14 October 2021 (continued)

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

14.15-14.40 RECOMMENDATIONS DAY 1 & 2

GRAND PLACE ROOM

*The chairs of each of the parallel sessions and round tables of the past days will present a recommendation that came out of their session. This might inspire you to learn more about the sessions you were not able to visit, and perhaps take the time to watch the recording later on.*

14.40 - 15.50 INTERACTIVE CLOSING PANEL

GRAND PLACE ROOM

Chair:

**Anika Duut van Goor** Director of the AESIS Network,

Panelists:

**Mikkel Rasmussen** Director & Founder, ReD Associates, Denmark

**Malinda Smith** Vice-Provost at the University of Calgary, Canada

**Toby Smith** Vice President for Science Policy & Global Affairs at the Association of American Universities, USA

*At the start of the debate the audience can vote between 8 to 10 questions or statements.*

*The top 3 will be debated by the panel members.*

15.40 Closing remarks

15.50-16.30

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

Take a virtual tour inside the  
Royal Museum for Central Africa  
(15.50-16.30)

—Foyer—



Take a virtual tour of the  
**Royal Museum for Central  
Africa**

Learn more about the partners  
of this conference, without  
whom we wouldn't be here

—Exhibition—

# Friday 15 October 2021

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

9.30-10.00

WALK IN



Interact with fellow participants, speakers and partners in 1 on 1 or group meetings

—Atomium Room—

Watch interviews on projects demonstrating good-practices in societal impact

—Royal Park Theatre—



10.00-10.15

WORDS OF WELCOME

GRAND PLACE ROOM

10.00

Conference Chair:

**Koenraad Debackere**

Executive Director of KU Leuven Research and Development & Chair of the AESIS Advisory Board

10.15-11.45

EXPLORING (NEW) PATHWAYS TO IMPACT FOR SSHA

GRAND PLACE ROOM

*This session explores other transformative ways and reliable pathways for the science eco-system to work towards an impactful structure for society, maintaining research excellence while bringing a positive contribution to society as a whole.*

10.15

**David Budtz Pedersen**

Director of the Humanomics Research Centre, Denmark

10.30

**Michael Gastrow**

Acting Director: Science in Society at the HSRC, South Africa

10.45

**Wendy Larner**

Provost, Victoria University of Wellington Te Herenga Waka, New Zealand

11.00

**Karen Maguire**

Head of Division Local Employment, Skills and Social Innovation, OECD

11.15

**Panel and Q&A**

Chaired by Koenraad Debackere, with David Budtz Pedersen, Michael Gastrow, Wendy Larner & Karen Maguire



11.45-12.30

BREAK

Interact with fellow participants, speakers and partners via the online platform

—Atomium Room—



Live interview with our conference partner VLIR (11.50-12.00)

—Foyer—

Learn more about the partners of this conference, without whom we wouldn't be here

—Exhibition—

# Friday 15 October 2021 (continued)

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

## 12.30-13.45 IV. TRANSFORMING THE SCIENCE ECO-SYSTEM FOR STIMULATING SOCIETAL IMPACT

### Science-Business Collaboration & Entrepreneurship

- Chocolate Room -

*How can and should science be made market-ready and which skills and services can be put in place to amplify positive effects?*

#### Larissa Best (*Chair*)

Director, Equilibre, Luxembourg

#### Mikkel Rasmussen

Director & Founder, ReD Associates, Denmark

#### Sally O'Connor

Programme Manager Social Science Research Park (SPARK)  
at Cardiff University, Wales, UK

### Collaborations to Address Grand Societal Challenges

- Waffle Room -

*How can science, policy and the business sector collaboratively address grand societal challenges such as climate change, circular economy and sustainable development?*

#### Wendy Steele (*Chair*)

Associate Professor, School of Global, Urban and Social Studies,  
RMIT University, Australia

#### André Martinuzzi

Head of the Institute for Managing Sustainability, Vienna, Austria

\*

### Institutional Strategies for Impact

- Sprouts Room -

*How can you integrate impact in your institutional strategy to support a mandate for more societal wellbeing?*

#### Thomas König (*Chair*)

Head of Strategy and Scientific Services at the Institute  
for Advanced Studies (IHS), Austria

#### Noël Klima

Head of Knowledge Transfer, Engagement and Societal Impact  
at IDC Crime, Ghent University

#### Aurelija Povilaika

National Contact Point at the Research Council of Lithuania

#### Lorenzo Compagnucci

Postdoctoral Researcher in Applied Economics at the Department of  
Law of the University of Macerata

### Open Science & Impact

- Fries Room -

*How can the open science movement be directed towards broad engagement and more value to society?*

#### Johan Rooryck

Leiden University Professor and Open Access Champion  
for cOAlition S, The Netherlands

#### Bart Franssen

Coordinator Centre for the Study of the Flemish Primitives,  
Koninklijk Instituut voor het Kunstpatrimonium (KIK), Brussels,  
Belgium

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13.45-14.30

BREAK

Live interview with our  
conference partner The/La  
Collaborative  
(13.50-14.00)

—Foyer—

Food, culture, immigration  
& stories from the

Belgian Heritage Centre

Preserving Belgian heritage  
with Cheryl Chaudoir  
(14.00-14.20)

—Foyer—

## Friday 15 October 2021 (continued)

Times in CEST (GMT +2)

14.30-15.00 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SCIENCE SYSTEM OF BELGIUM AND BEYOND GRAND PLACE ROOM

### 14.30 Ranking the Recommendations

After all the chairs of the parallel sessions have presented the main outcome of these sessions in the past few days, the audience is asked to vote for the most valuable recommendation for them. The winning session will be guaranteed to be included in next year's programme.

15.00-16.00 CLOSING PANEL FOLLOWING THE RECOMMENDATIONS GRAND PLACE ROOM

#### Chair:

**Koenraad Debackere** Executive Director of KU Leuven Research and Development  
& Chair of the AESIS Advisory Board

#### Panelists:

**Hans Willems** Secretary General of the Research Foundation of Flanders, Belgium

**Raphaël Beck** Head of Analysis, Evaluation & Foresight FNRS, Belgium

**Frank Monteny** Director General Research and Space at Belgian Science Policy Office (BELSPO), Belgium

**Wendy A. Naus** Executive Director at the Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA), USA

**Michael Gastrow** Acting Director: Science in Society at the HSRC, South Africa

15.40 Closing remarks by  
**Pierre Bruyere** President ad interim of BELSPO

15.50 Closing remarks by **Koenraad Debackere**

16.00

CLOSING RECEPTION

