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Lessons Learned: The Importance of Early Integrity Risk Identification in Research

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This workshop focuses on lessons learned from a Dutch research integrity case which gained (inter)national attention and on one lesson in particular: the importance of early risk identification in light of power dynamics to prevent possible violations of research integrity.

By means of introduction, presenters (i) in short explain the Dutch national research integrity structure and code, and (ii) give a summary of the Dutch case and overview of lessons learned from the Dutch case (which resulted in Recommendations and an Action Plan and implementation hereof within the Institution). The focus in the workshop will be on the action addressed to the research institute's director and deans of the faculties holding the duty of care of risk identification in an early stage of the research and offering possibilities to have these risks and risk-increasing factors (partly influenced by power dynamics) openly discussed within the research institute and faculties.

An interactive part follows and starts with discussing a research integrity dilemma dealing with risks in research (to be found in the EUR Dilemma Game App) followed by a discussion of the different answers to this dilemma. After the discussion, presenters return to the Dutch case, sharing the results they gained from discussions with the Institution's Executive Board, Deans and Director on general and specific risk-increasing factors within the different faculties resp. the research institute. Next, attendees are asked – based on formats which will be handed over – to answer the following questions for their own institutions (1) what general and specific risk-increasing factors are they faced with and are presenters' examples recognizable or do attendees' institutions deal with other risks? (2) is there room for discussing risk-increasing factors in their institutions? (3) if not, does internal or external power dynamics have an impact on an open discussion? and (4) which ways are there (or can attendees think of) in mitigating (possible) risk-increasing factors?

The objectives are (1) to give insight in the Netherlands research integrity structure including its binding code of conduct for research integrity, holding an institutional duty of care to have dilemmas on research integrity openly discussed with researchers, and (2) to share experiences with others in and outside Europe on general and specific risk-increasing factors in research which may lead to possible violations of research integrity.

Conclusion:
in this workshop lessons learned from a Dutch research integrity case are shared, hereby stressing the importance of early integrity risk identification in research in order to prevent possible violations of research integrity standards. With the workshop presenters hope to get insight into the question whether and how researchers in other institutions in and outside Europe deal with general and specific integrity risks in research leading to possible violations of research integrity.