



# Research on Ethics/Governance under the Science in Society Programme

**European Commission  
Research DG  
Governance and Ethics unit  
Dr.Dr.phil. Rene von  
Schomberg**

## Conceptual Background

- Co-evolution of Science and Technology vs autonomous development of technology beyond societal control
- Technological actions are inherently societal
- Coping with scientific uncertainty- unpredictability of long term developments

# Law-Ethics-Policy Relationship

## Policy pull of technology

- Body-scanner: policy based on incidents
- Biometrics: implementation beyond technical possibilities and (in some cases) inconsistent with fundamental rights
- “Practice escapes capacity of Law”: cloud computing
- Technology can make traditional rights practically obsolete
- **BUT**: Adequate implementation Principle of “Proportionality” requires ongoing public discussion.

## Implications for Governance of new technologies

- Organizing collective responsibility-intended and unintended consequences
- Policy: from responsive to anticipatory modes with Foresight
- Societal intervention early in the RTD process
- Adopting “user-involvement”: co-designing, employing participatory approaches.

# Responsible Innovation(1)

- From Risk Governance to Innovation Governance
- Ethics-Privacy requirements not as constraints but as constructive drivers of innovation
- Early societal intervention in the RTD phase

## Responsible Innovation (2)

- Codes of conduct for research and innovation
- Modes of self- regulation
- A widened choice of technological alternatives (using also privacy enhancing technologies and employing "privacy by design")
- Promoting co-designing of technology by users and stakeholders
- Promoting public debate wherever appropriate (especially on the issue of proportionality of impact on privacy and data protection)



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