GRACE

c. State-of-the-art on ethical issues

The aim is understanding how and to what extent ethical issues (including research integrity issues) are considered and treated in the organisation.

c.1. **INTERNAL DEBATE ON ETHICAL ISSUES**. Has ethical issues and research integrity been or is an issue dealt with in the organisation? We can refer to, e.g., internal debates, single events, research projects, conferences, publications, agreements, etc. If so, do you think that these initiatives have had some impact? And how do you think GRACE could leverage on them?

c.2. **GOVERNANCE STUCTURES ON ETHICAL ISSUES**. Are there general structures (e.g., officers, offices, ethics committees, general procedures on ethics screening, review, follow-up and audit, etc.) dealing with ethical issues and research integrity?

c.3. **DATA PROTECTION, PRIVACY AND INFORMED CONSENT**. Are there specific measures and procedures pertaining to data protection, privacy issues and informed consent concerned with the implementation of research programmes (for example, in social research, in clinical trials, etc.)? Please, also consider, in this framework, how the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is applied in your organisation, especially in the context of research activities.

c.4. **ETHICALLY SENSITIVE RESEARCH ISSUES**. Are there specific measures and procedures pertaining to the management of ethically sensitive research or the application of the precautionary principle (for example, research on human embryos or foetuses, research developing technologies which can be used for both peaceful or military aims, research producing invasive technologies like those aimed at surveillance, etc.)?

c.5. **ANIMAL RESEARCH**. Are there specific measures and procedures aimed at managing research involving animals?

c.6. **FORECASTING**. Are there or have there been in the past initiatives aiming at forecasting future risks and undesirable effects of research programmes? Are there specific measures, policies, projects and procedures on forecasting?

c.7. **RESEARCH INTEGRITY**. Are there specific measures and procedures aimed at preventing, detecting and managing cases of frauds, plagiarism, conflicts of interest, corruptions, and other acts endangering research integrity? Please, consider in this framework how the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity is applied in your organisation.

 c.8. **INTERNAL SKILLS ON ETHICAL ISSUES**. Are there staff members, within the organisation, which have experiences or competences pertaining to ethics and research integrity? Please, analyse who are they, their experiences and competences and if and how they can be involved with the design and implementation of the GAs.

c.9. **EXTERNAL RELATIONS ON ETHICAL ISSUES**. Is the organisation in contact with external entities at local, national, or European level (other research organisations, funding organisations, governmental organisations, networks and associations), with the aim of promoting ethics and research integrity? Are there forms of direct involvement of external entities or individuals within the organisation (for example, external members in the ethics committees)?

Please, consider any further issue you think as relevant.

The analysis of the above issues should allow to reflect on the **critical issues** requiring specific actions, to sketch, as far as possible, a **diagnosis** of the situation and to start envisaging **policy orientations** concerning ethical issues and research integrity,
also collecting opinions from stakeholders or key actors.