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Enabling responsible ICT-related research and innovation



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- **Responsibility** and **Creativity** are critical skills to involve a modern society in the process of technological innovation.
- This requires **cross-cutting activities** to:
 - **support the nexus** between technology, social sciences, humanities and arts;
 - **involve social scientists** and **humanists** on the development of responsible research that meet citizens' concerns and expectations;
 - **involve artists** in the innovation processes to foster creativity and help enhance user acceptance.



- The development of intelligent, autonomous, connected digital technologies and services **is changing significantly the life conditions of Europeans.**
- Beyond the benefits brought by technological innovations, there are also **challenges to be addressed** to ensure that such innovations **meet the societal needs and expectations.**
- **SSH** (**S**ocial **S**ciences and **H**umanities) **expertise** provides a **constructive** and **critical accompaniment** of the scientific and technological developments and enables **responsible research and innovation (R&I)** in the digital age.



- SSH engagement in ICT research can:
 - **address proactively** the impacts of the take-up of novel technologies;
 - **contribute to innovation** by:
 - taking a **new and broader view to ICT related R&I**;
 - **reconsidering underlying assumption**;
 - **proposing alternatives approaches** that inspire different and **more responsible technological R&I**, with new benefits for the society.



- Research and Innovation Activities (RIAs) on this challenge should:
 - take a **fresh look** on the **relationship between ICT and social phenomena**;
 - **have a direct relevance** on ICT R&I by providing **best practice in collaborative research** between SSH and ICT communities.
- Suggested **area of applications**: *robotics, cyber-physical systems, internet of things, big data and cybersecurity.*

- Proposals are expected to focus on **one or both** of the following clusters:
 - How can we avoid the traps of ICTs ending up in isolating humans behind their screen, or harnessing them in a passive role?
 - In the digital era, it is essential to acknowledge the **dual human aspirations for relationships and for freedom**, and the **dynamic nature of the relationships between humans and artefacts**.
 - What are the conditions for ICT-enabled innovations to generate interesting and rewarding jobs, and reduce the risk of excluding sections of society from the labour market? What economic models can ensure a fair sharing of the created added value?

- **Alternative approaches** and **new perspectives** for future societal relevant ICT research and innovation activities
- **Increased research collaboration** and **common agenda** between ICT and RRI-SSH communities
- **Improved take-up** of responsible ICT research and innovation that takes into account human and societal concerns/expectations under new technological conditions
- **Increased relevance** and **usability** of SSH knowledge to align ICT R&I processes with societal needs/expectations
- **Increased societal relevance** of future research agendas in ICT-related areas

- Available Budget per type of instrument(s):
EUR 7 Million
- Contribution from the EU per accepted project of between **EUR 1 million** and **EUR 2 million**.
 - Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.
- It is expected that a **minimum of 2 RIAs** will be supported for this area!