

Research in science and technology does not usually address the ethical and social consequences of its own accomplishments. Such issues are rather entrusted to politics, philosophy, and social sciences. However, funding agencies and political institutions are increasingly requesting research to address ethical issues and the societal impact of research projects. Throughout the scientific communities is becoming clear that the awareness of ethical and social issues inherent in technological development improves research itself in science and technology.

This conference is promoted by the Research Ethical Committee of the Politecnico di Milano with the aim of fostering a culture of research attentive to the ethical facet of innovation, and it is organized in collaboration with the study unit META - Social Sciences and Humanities for Science and Technology.



**POLITECNICO**  
MILANO 1863

**RESEARCH ETHICAL COMMITTEE**

# **ETHICS FOR TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION**

How the focus on ethical issues  
and social impact is improving  
research in science and technology

October 19, 2017  
Aula Rogers,  
via Ampère, 2  
Politecnico di Milano

9.30

Welcome from the Rector **Ferruccio Resta**

9.45

**Carlo Ghezzi** | Research Ethical Committee,  
Politecnico di Milano

10.00

**Paolo Volonté** | META - Social Sciences and  
Humanities for Science and Technology,  
Politecnico di Milano

10.15

**Neelke Doorn** | TU Delft  
“**Responsibility Transitions in the Water Sector.  
How to Secure Public Values in Crowd-based  
Innovation?**”

Neelke Doorn is Associate Professor at the Department of Philosophy of Delft University of Technology. Her primary research is dedicated to moral questions in water governance and in relation to the management of environmental risks and climate change, which she studies through the lens of resilience. Together with Diane P. Michelfelder, she is Editor-in-Chief of the peer-reviewed journal *Techne: Research in Philosophy and Technology* and is editing the *Handbook of Philosophy of Engineering* (Routledge). In 2013, she received a personal NWO Veni grant for her project “The ethics of flood risk management”. In the past years, she also received various grants within the NWO Responsible Innovation.

11.00

Coffee break

11.30

**René von Schomberg** | European Commission,  
speaking in personal capacity  
“**Responsible Innovation. From an Ethics of  
Constraint to a Normative Ethics of Design**”

René von Schomberg, who holds a Ph.D. in Science and Technology Studies from the University of Twente (NL) and a Ph.D. in Philosophy from the Goethe University Frankfurt and is author/(co-) editor of 14 books, has been with the European Commission since 1998, where he is now leading a team on Open Science. He contributed to the definition of Responsible Research and Innovation that has been included in the European Union Framework Programmes. He has been a European Union Fellow at George Mason University, USA, in 2007.

12.15

**Nello Cristianini** | University of Bristol  
“**Living in a Data Obsessed Society**”

Nello Cristianini is a Professor of Artificial Intelligence at the University of Bristol. His current research covers the large scale analysis of media content (news and social media), using various AI methods, and the social implications of Big Data and AI. Cristianini is the co-author of two widely known books in machine learning, *An Introduction to Support Vector Machines* and *Kernel Methods for Pattern Analysis*, and of a book in bioinformatics, *Introduction to Computational Genomics*. He is also a recipient of the Royal Society Wolfson Research Merit Award and a current holder of a European Research Council Advanced Grant.