GLOBAL ETHICS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (GEST)

Second Plenary Meeting

15-16 March 2012

Scholars Suite, Foster Building, University of Central Lancashire,
Preston, UK

**Agenda**

Day 1: Thursday 15 March

*Tea & coffee on arrival*

09:30  Welcome and Introductions; GEST state-of-the-art (UCLAN)

9:45 Session 1

**State-of-the-art in S&T Ethics Debates (WP1)** (Chair: Rathenau)

In this session we will discuss the main findings from the first year of the project on the state-of-the-art in the three regions. Particular attention will be given to devising common structures of analysis in terms of values systems that affect S&T policy. 10 minute presentations on:

S&T Ethics State-of-the-art in Europe (D1.1)

- EU values systems (UCLAN)
- Ethics structures in The Netherlands and EU perceptions (Rathenau)
- Ethics structures in Germany and lay participation (KIT)
- State-of-the-art in China (CASTED) D1.2
10:45  Tea/Coffee Break and Group Photograph

11:15  Discussion

The discussion will concentrate mainly on lessons learnt from the state-of-the-art report in Europe (D1.1) and how these can be applied in a meaningful comparison with the other two regions, thus setting the structure for the next Deliverable (D1.2) ‘State-of-the-art in the 3 regions’ (due May 2012).

12:30  Lunch adjoining private restaurant

14:00  Session 2

Milestone Workshop; Social Determinants of Global Governance, and Best Practices in Ethics Analysis (MS2 and MS3)  (Chair: Uclan)

The next phase of GEST (WP2) is concerned with precise forms of the incorporation of ethics in S&T in the three regions and "best practices" in relation to policy context and themes. In the European context, we have discussed pTA as a par-excellence methodology for incorporating a socio-ethical perspective in the debate.

The aim of this session is to discuss the issue of socio-ethical analysis in S&T policy advisory on new technologies and offer views on best practices.

Some of the questions we need to contemplate include:

- Given the state-of-the-art that we've analysed so far in the three regions, how is ethics actually incorporated into official decision making via pTA?
- What are the parameters that a “socio-ethical” analysis includes in each region? What are the differences and similarities?
• Do we find different prioritisation in different policy (or even values) systems and/or different S&T areas of focus?

• What are the limitations of pTA in policy making and are there alternative concepts in different regions?

• Does the concept of Responsible Research and Innovation provide useful guidance for comparative analysis of the incorporation of ethics in S&T policy making systems in the three regions?

16.00   Tea/coffee and fruit

18:30 Dinner at the Continental [http://newcontinental.net/](http://newcontinental.net/)
Day 2: Friday 16 March

*Tea/coffee on arrival*

09:30 Session 3

**Case Studies (Chair: KIT)**

The aim of this session is to get an update of the debates that have developed around the three technologies in the three regions as well as perspectives on the possible developments. Based on the previous day’s discussions we will attempt to agree on a common structure of comparison within each case study for the three regions.

**9:30 Ethics Debates on Nanotechnologies: Work Package 3**

Provide a state-of-the-art on Nanotechnologies debates in the three regions and agree on a common structure of analysis based on the first year results. Maximum 10 minute updates from each partner followed by group discussion.

- Ethics in Nanotechnologies in Europe (KIT)
- Ethics in Nanotechnologies in China (CASTED)
- Ethics in Nanotechnologies in India (RIS)

**10:15 Ethics Debates on Food Technologies: Work Package 4**

Provide a state-of-the-art on Food Technologies debates in the three regions and agree on a common structure of analysis based on the first year results. Maximum 10 minute updates from each partner followed by group discussion.

- Ethics in Food Technologies in Europe (UCLAN)
- Ethics in Food Technologies in China (CASTED)
- Ethics in Food Technologies in India (RIS)

11:00 Tea/Coffee Break
11:15  Ethics Debates on Synthetic Biology: Work Package 5

Provide a state-of-the-art on Synthetic Biology debates in the three regions and agree on a common structure of analysis based on the first year results. Maximum 10 minute updates from each partner followed by group discussion.

- Ethics in Synthetic Biology in Europe (Rathenau)
- Ethics in Synthetic Biology in China (CASTED)
- Ethics in Synthetic Biology in India (RIS)

12:00  Lunch in adjoining private restaurant

13:30  Session 4

GEST Project Management: Work Package 7 (Uclan)

Our second formal project consortium meeting.

- Internal consortium grant re-allocations re CASTED travel budget
- Next GEST meeting in Beijing (September 2012)
- Additional TA workshop (Jan Staman, Rathenau)

14:00  GEST Next Steps (Uclan)

- Update on Work Package 6 (Global Debate) – RIS to report
- Project Publications
  
  General Discussion

15:00: End of Meeting

*Tea & coffee*