

Appendix 7: Ranked list of topics

Table 1: Ranked list of important RI topics for RPOs

Rank	Topic	Subtopics
1	Education and training in RI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. pre-doctorate b. post-doctorate c. training of RI personnel & teachers d. RI counselling and advice
2	Responsible supervision and mentoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. PhD guidelines b. supervision requirements & guidelines c. building and leading an effective team
3	Dealing with breaches of RI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. RI bodies in the organisation b. protection of whistleblowers c. protection of those accused of misconduct d. procedures for investigating allegations e. sanctions f. other actions
4	Supporting a responsible research process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. research requirements b. transparency c. quality assurance
5	Data management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. guidance and support b. secure data storage infrastructure c. FAIR principles
6	Research ethics issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. set-up and tasks of ethics committees b. ethics review procedures
7	Conflicts of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. in peer review b. in the conduct of research c. in appointments and promotions d. in research evaluations e. in consultancy
8	Research culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. fair procedures for appointments, promotions and remuneration b. adequate education and skills training c. culture building d. managing competition & publication pressure e. conflict management f. diversity issues
9	Publication and communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. publication statement b. authorship c. open science d. use of reporting guidelines e. peer review f. predatory publishing g. communicating with the public
10	Updating and implementing the RI policy	<i>NONE</i>

11	Intellectual property issues	a. policies ensuring compliance with IP regulations b. interaction of IP and open science requirements
12	Collaborative research among RPOs	a. among RPOs inside/outside the EU b. with countries with different R&D infrastructures c. between public and private RPOs

The rankings are based on the results of Round 2 of the Delphi study (the prioritization and ranking exercise). Topics ranked higher in priority have a low rank number (e.g. 'Education and training in RI' is the highest ranked topic). For a description of the topics, please see Online Resource 8. For a description of the subtopics, click [here](#).

Table 2: Ranked list for important RI topics for RPOs

Rank	Topic	Subtopic
1	Dealing with breaches of RI	a. RI bodies in the organisation b. by funded researchers c. by review committee members d. by reviewers e. by staff members f. protection of whistleblowers and the accused
2	Conflicts of interest	a. among review committee members b. among reviewers c. among staff members
3	Funders' expectations of RPOs	a. Codes of Conduct b. assessment of researchers c. education and training for RI d. processes for investigating allegations of research misconduct
4	Selection & evaluation of proposals	a. RI plan b. methodological requirements c. plagiarism d. diversity issues
5	Research ethics issues	a. research ethics requirements b. ethics reporting requirements
6	Collaboration	a. expectations on collaborative research b. research that is co-financed by multiple funders
7	Monitoring of funded applications	a. financial monitoring b. monitoring of execution of research grant c. monitoring of compliance with RI requirements
8	Updating and implementing the RI policy	<i>NONE</i>
9	Independence	a. What counts as an unjustifiable interference? b. preventing unjustifiable interference by the funder c. preventing unjustifiable interference by political or other external influences d. preventing unjustifiable interference by commercial influences
10	Publication	a. publication requirements b. expectations on authorship c. open science
11	Intellectual property issues	<i>NONE</i>

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