



**Participatory Real Life Experiments in
Research and Innovation Funding
Organisations on Ethics**

► The Project

PRO-Ethics works with research and innovation funding organisations (RFOs) across Europe to test new, ethical ways to involve citizens in three fields of action of RFO activities: Participation in innovation projects, participation in strategy development, and participation in evaluation processes. PRO-Ethics' overall objective is to create a comprehensive, co-developed, tested, and widely consulted Ethics Framework. The framework will enable a more effective handling of the ethical dimension of innovation, with a special focus on the engagement of citizens in participative innovation, to create more relevant, fair and effective innovation activities.

► Non-Traditional Stakeholders

The focus of PRO-Ethics lies in public research funding that centres on new modes of interaction and novel participation configurations. This means research and innovation projects that directly engage with non-traditional stakeholders, such as citizens, public and semi-public caretakers, NGOs, and social entrepreneurs. To maximise the impact of the project, PRO-Ethics also includes key stakeholders from economy, society, policy-making, R&I ethics, and R&I funding in diverse formats at every step of the project. In addition to this, through various communication channels and multipliers, PRO-Ethics reaches out to a wider relevant public across and beyond Europe, including municipalities, international organisations, ethics experts, and RFOs from all over the world.

► Methodology

PRO-Ethics employs an iterative methodology. On the basis of already implemented real-life cases (Pilots Phase I), the consortium partners identify key issues, challenges, and solutions when directly engaging with non-traditional stakeholders. The learnings from Phase I are synthesised and harnessed to create new pilots (Pilots Phase II), through which these learnings are tested and evaluated. This process enables the creation of the project's core output in the form of the PRO-Ethics Framework and Practical Guidelines.

► The Team

The PRO-Ethics consortium consists of 15 partners from 12 European countries, including research funding organisations (RFOs), universities, research and technology organisations, and academic research organisations. The team consists of scholars and practitioners from diverse backgrounds, bringing their expertise to the table in an effort to tackle ethics in participatory research and innovation.

The PRO-Ethics coordinating team can be reached at contact@pro-ethics.eu.

