

disruptive technologies

2020-2021 Biannual report

June 2022

Overview, research lines and tracks reports, output, researchers and budget information.

Ethics of Socially Disruptive Technologies (ESDiT)

NWO grant number: 024.004.031

www.esdit.nl

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ESDiT Biannual Report 2020-2021

Introduction	1
ESDiT 2020-2021	1
Overview	4
Consortium	4
Governance	5
Organisation of research	6
Report from the research lines	9
The Human Condition	9
Nature, Life and Human Intervention	12
The Future of a Free and Fair Society	14
Foundations & Synthesis	16
Report from the tracks	19
STEM track	19
Intercultural track	20
Outreach and impact	24
Impact plan	24
ESDiT communication channels	24
Organisation of research:	25
Research collaboration using Obsidian	25
Project: The Disruptive Potential of the Artificial Womb	27
PhD and Postdoc research projects	28
Output	29
Scientific publications	29
Professional publications	37
Conferences	39
Knowledge utilization	43
Researchers	49
In-cash Research Fellows ESDiT programme	49
In-kind Research Fellows ESDiT programme	
Associate Fellows ESDiT programme	51
Budget	54
Overall budget	54

Introduction

ESDIT 2020-2021

We are at the beginning of a new era of technological innovation in which new generations of the technologies that have emerged since the second world war are converging and undergoing widespread integration, making whole new fields possible, including artificial intelligence, robotics, synthetic biology, nanomedicine, next-generation genomics, neurotechnology and geoengineering.

These are socially disruptive technologies (SDTs) that have the potential to radically alter everyday life, cultural practices and social and economic institutions. The ethical issues raised by these technologies are profound. These technologies raise into question whether we can maintain our privacy, autonomy and fundamental liberties.

They will also cause redistributions of powers, wealth, and other social goods, raising into question whether they will make society more or less just. They may affect well-being sustainability, and the functioning of democratic institutions. More than enough reasons, therefore, to undertake an ethical analysis of them.

In the Gravitation programme Ethics of Socially Disruptive Technologies, or ESDiT, we undertake such an ethical analysis, in multidisciplinary collaboration between ethicists, social scientists and engineers, over a ten-year time stretch, and involving seven institutions.

The objectives of the programme are not only to ethically analyze 21st century disruptive technologies, however. They also include the development of new methods, approaches, and theories for ethically assessing, evaluating and guiding SDTs.

In doing this, a central point of departure is that we cannot take for granted the key ethical and philosophical concepts that ethicists use for their ethical analysis, because these very concepts are being challenged by SDTs.



SDTs change and affect our understanding of concepts like nature, humanity, freedom, and agency.

For this reason, we need to investigate the disruption of these concepts, and amend them in order to be able to provide better ethical analysis.

This report covers the activities and results of the first two years of the ESDiT programme. Of these two years, only sixteen months have been devoted to actual research. In the first eight months, our focus has been on preparations, hiring new personnel, developing research plans, and establishing procedures.

From September 2020 on, after the arrival of new staff, the research lines started to function, and research was started up. This means that the results presented in this report are the very first results of our programme, from a period in which we were still searching and establishing ourselves.

We were moreover doing so during a period in which we were hardly able to meet face-to-face due to the Covid pandemic. In spite of the challenges we faced, we did manage to have many meetings and events, and establish successful new routines and practices. There has been a good spirit within the consortium, and a drive to make the programme a collective success.

We are confident that the efforts of these past two years have laid a good foundation for the rest of the programme. I therefore present this report with poise and conviction.

Sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Philip Brey

ESDiT programme leader



Information about ESDiT consortium, governance & organisation of research

Overview

The NWO/OCW funded Gravitation programme *Ethics of Socially Disruptive Technologies* started in 2020. It is a research programme with seven Dutch participating universities, a combined budget of € 28 million and a running time of 10 years. The aim of the programme is to develop new theories and methods that are necessary to understand, morally assess and intervene in the development and implementation of the socially disruptive technologies of the 21st century.

This report comprises both 2020 and 2021. These years have been strange for everyone, the ESDiT consortium included. We have had to build our consortium without being able to physically meet for most of the time. This has been challenging. To counter the effects of the lockdown, we set up a Slack-environment to use as a virtual hub for the consortium. It has been a useful tool, but still a poor substitute for face to face interaction.

Consortium

Our main focus in the first year has been on building the consortium around a strong and diverse group of researchers. We already started out with seventeen applicants and coapplicants. We subsequently invited a number of mid-career researchers from the participating departments to join the consortium, and started hiring new tenure trackers, postdocs and PhD candidates.

For the year 2020, we were able to hire seven Tenure Trackers, two Postdocs, and seven PhD candidates. Most of them started in September. Originally we had planned for one Tenure Tracker at each of the four Technical Universities and Utrecht University. However, Delft University decided to hire their top two candidates, funding the second candidate from their in-kind contribution. And for Wageningen University, using the available funds to fund two Tenure Trackers part-time fit the department better.

Given the central role of the Tenure Trackers in the future of the consortium and of the field, and in line with the diversity goals in our proposal, we were especially committed to hiring a majority of female researchers for this group (see Appendix 2: researchers).

In 2021 we hired an additional six PhD candidates and one Postdoc. We had intended to hire a second postdoc on the project 'Qualitative Investigation of STEM Perspectives', but we were unable to find a suitable candidate for this position at the time.

By the end of 2021, almost sixty researchers had started collaborating in the programme, twenty-nine of which are fully funded through the Gravitation grant (including the six Pl's) and another twenty-seven who are partly funded by it (referred to as in-kind fellows).

The distribution of fellows over participating institutions is as follows:

University / research fellows	funded	in-kind	total
Delft University of Technology	7	10	17
Eindhoven University of Technology	6	11	17
University of Twente	7	3	10
Utrecht University	5	2	7
Wageningen University & Research	4	1	5
Total	29	27	56

These numbers reflect only those who dedicate research time to the programme. Another twenty five or so researchers are connected to the programme in other ways, such as cosupervising PhD-candidates (referred to as associate fellows). We especially want to mention prof. Thomas Bäck (Leiden University) and prof. Nick Ramsey (UMC Utrecht), who contribute valuable expertise to the programme.

Governance

The programme is managed by a Management Board, consisting of nine members. This Board is chaired by the programme leader (prof. Philip Brey). Day-to-day management has been delegated to the Daily Board, which consists of the programme leader, and two support staff members, namely a programme manager (dr. Sander de Boer) and a project coordinator (Seeta Autar). The vice programme leader (prof. Sabine Roeser) receives all minutes of the Daily Board and provides input on the more strategic matters.

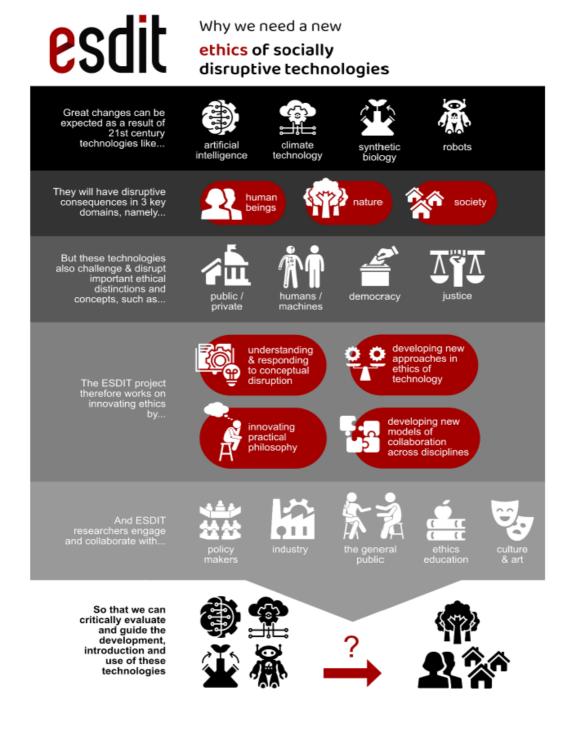
There have been two changes in the composition of the Management Board of the consortium. Prof. Marcus Düwell left Utrecht University; prof. Joel Anderson joined the Board as his replacement. And prof. Anthonie Meijers retired; prof. Vincent Müller joined the Board as his replacement. Also, as of January 2022, Melanie Braamhaar took over the role of programme manager.

In the first year we started setting up the necessary additional structures and procedures for running the programme (administrative, legal, boards, etc.). By the end of 2020 many of these were still work in progress, but much of the preparations had been completed. By the end of the academic year 2020/2021 everything was in place:

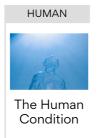
- Mentoring programme (programme to connect junior and senior members of the consortium in an informal way)
- Data Management Plan (according to the standards of the funding agency)
- Diversity Strategy (to ensure a culture that embraces diversity and inclusiveness)
- Reach Fund (research time funding scheme for researchers with care duties)
- Sabbatical Fund (funding scheme to spend a semester at another research institute)
- Consortium Agreement

On June 14, 2021 the Management Board had its first meeting with the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB). Based on this meeting and the documents received, the SAB then authored a note for the MB with recommendations. Its main recommendation was to develop a more extensive long-term strategy for the programme, that would clarify how it would reach its overall goals, and how successive stages of the programme would be used to utilize theories, methods and practices developed in earlier stages. Prompted in part by this note, the MB embarked to develop a more extensive long-term strategy, which it aimed to complete in early 2022.

Organisation of research



As stated in the programme proposal, we organize our research around four research lines, each of which is centered around a set of research questions:

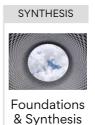




Nature, Life and Human Intervention



The Future of a Free and Fair Society



Each of these lines is led by 2 members of the Management Board. They are responsible for the scientific excellence of the research line and its integration into the overall research programme. In each of these lines, a tenure tracker is responsible for the day to day coordination. Each line meets approximately once every 6-7 weeks, and extra meetings may be scheduled for colloquia and reading groups. By the end of 2021, is was clear that the Tenure Trackers were increasingly involved in the research line leadership as well.

In addition to setting up the meetings of the individual research lines, we have also started organizing plenary events that emphasize the programme's overarching themes. We organized four consortium wide events in 2020. Most of these were necessarily conducted online.

- Research meeting 3 June: 'Conceptual change'
- Research meeting 18 June: 'Presentation of research plans in the four lines'
- Workshop 16 September: 'Introduction workshop for new hires'
- Workshop 26 November: 'Measuring the socially disruptive impact of technologies & intercultural philosophy of technology'

We have used these meetings mostly for people to get to know each other, to get acquainted with the workings of the programme, and to start developing a common language for talking about two central themes: conceptual change and social disruption.

In 2021 we organized the following consortium wide meetings:

- Public meeting of the Nature line 18 May 2021: Lecture by Christopher Preston
- Away days 10-11 June 2021: 'What is Conceptual Change?'
- Workshop 9 September 2021: 'Analyzing Conceptual Disruptions'
- ESDiT consortium meeting 16 September 2021: 'Further strengthening the collaborations between the research lines' (in person event)
- Annual Research Day 24 November 2021: Panel on 'conceptual disruption'
- Public meeting of the Nature line 26 October 2021: Lecture by Steven Vogel
- Workshop 9 December 2021: 'On the ideal and feasibility of control in case of socially disruptive technologies'



Reports

Report from the research lines and Report from the tracks

Report from the research lines

Each research line reported on the progress they had made in the years 2020 and 2021.



Research line

The Human Condition

1) Research activities, events and outreach

(research line coordinator Sven Nyholm - UU)

- Three new PhD candidates were hired: Caroline Bollen (TUD), research area: empathy, Neurodiversity and AAC technologies, Cindy Friedman (UU), research area: the ethics of humanoid robots, Kristy Claassen (UT), research area: the disruptive potential of Artificial Intelligence through Ubuntu.
- One new postdoctoral researcher was hired: Matthew Dennis (TU/e), research area: behavior change technologies for moral improvement.
- Two assistant professors joined the research line (as tenure Trackers): Sven Nyholm (UU), research area: applied ethics (especially the ethics of technology), ethical theory, and the history of ethics and Julia Hermann (UT), research area: the way new and emerging technologies, in particular biomedical technologies, affect fundamental concepts.
- A long-term (2020-2029) research agenda was developed that expands the original proposal.
- Initial developments are underway for a jointly written/collaborative book about socially disruptive technologies and the human condition.
- General meetings of the line were established every six weeks, which feature (a) planning and (b) presentation and discussion of research-in-progress by research line members (and the occasional invited guest).
- Outreach activities include the recording of podcasts highlighting the research by members of this research line, which are published in all main places where podcasts are published (Spotify, Anchor, Apple Podcasts and on the ESDiT website).

2) Contribution to research questions

Our research agenda includes 3 long-term research questions: RQ 1: In what ways and to what extend are socially disruptive technologies disrupting the human condition and our self-understanding as human beings? RQ 2: How do these disruptions challenge existing conceptualizations of 'the human', moral and anthropological theories, and

corresponding legal frameworks? RQ 3: Which ethical theories and normative frameworks are better equipped to provide normative guidance in responding to those challenges?

The following researchers' projects relate to RQ1: Caroline Bollen's PhD on empathy, neurodiversity and AAC technologies (supervised by Janna van Grunsven & Sabine Roeser); Matthew Dennis's post doc project on 'Behavior change technologies for moral improvement (supervised by Lily Frank, Andreas Spahn and Wijnand IJsselsteijn), Dina Babushkina's research about AI, personhood and agency, and Gunter Bombaert's research on the attention economy.

The following researchers' projects relate to RQ2: Anna van Oosterzee's PhD project on mental health labels and technology (supervised by Joel Anderson and Sander Werkhoven), Caroline Bollen's above-mentioned project, Kristy Claassen's PhD project on the disruptive potential of Artificial Intelligence through Ubuntu (supervised by Peter-Paul Verbeek), Janna van Grunsven's research on imagination and divergent bodily lives, Wijnand IJsselsteijn's research on technology and dementia.

The following researchers' projects relate to RQ3: Cindy Friedman's PhD project on the ethics of humanoid robots (supervised by Sven Nyholm, Ingrid Robeyns, Lily Frank & Peter-Paul Verbeek), Wijnand IJsselsteijn's research on virtual embodiment, Sven Nyholm's research on the ethics of human-robot interaction, and Wijnand IJsselsteijn's research on intelligence calibration.

3) Links with other research lines & contributions to conceptual disruption theme

Some members of this research line also participate in the F&S line, including Joel Anderson, Lily Frank and Sven Nyholm.

Sven Nyholm, Wijnand IJsselsteijn and Birna van Riemsdijk are also members of the committee organizing collaboration between the ESDiT gravitation project and the HI gravitation project.

The research outputs that have been published by 2021 focus on the disruption of the following concepts: 'agency', 'meaningfulness in life', 'well-being', and 'personhood'

4) Research line members (per 31-12-2021)

Human Condition line

Name	Category	Position	University
Bollen, Caroline	In-cash research fellow	PhD	Delft University of Technology
Claassen, Kristy	In-cash research fellow	PhD	University of Twente
Dennis, Matthew	In-cash research fellow	Postdoc	Eindhoven University of Technology
Friedman, Cindy	In-cash research fellow	PhD	Utrecht University

In-cash research fellow In-kind research				
In-cash research fellow In-kind research	Hermann, Julia	In-cash	Assistant or	University of Twente
research fellow Nyholm, Sven In-cash research fellow In-cash research fellow In-cash In-cash research fellow In-cash In-cash research fellow In-cash In-cash research fellow In-cash In-cash In-cash research fellow In-cash In-cash In-cash In-cash In-cash In-cash In-kind research fellow		research fellow	· ·	
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Oosterzee van, Anna In-cash research fellow In-cash research fellow In-cash research fellow In-kind research fel	Nyholm, Sven	In-cash	Assistant or	Utrecht University
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Bombaerts, Gunter	zawasinini, pina			Sinversity of Twente
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In-kind research fellow associate professor	Dombaerts, Junter			•
fellow associate professor Technology	Frank Lily		•	<u> </u>
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Research line

Nature, Life and Human Intervention

1) Research activities, events and outreach

(research line coordinator: Vincent Blok -WUR)

- Four new PhD candidates were hired: Ben Hofbauer (TUD), research area: concepts and ethics in Solar Geoengineering uncertainty & reversibility; Alessio Gerola (WUR), research area: beyond control-philosophical and ethical implications of biomimetic technologies; Julia Rijssenbeek (WUR), research area: toward an ecological understanding of hybrids an outline of the ontological and ethical disruption of synthetic biology through metabolism; Karen Moesker (TUD), research area: ownership and responsibility in circular biobased wastewater technologies.
- Two associate professors joined the research line: Vincent Blok (WUR), research area: Philosophy of Technology, and Zoë Robaey (WUR), research area: Environmental Philosophy.
- In the first year, the nature line started with the execution of the original research plan by operationalizing the research plan in discussion with the members involved in the nature line. After year one, we evaluated the original research plan to bring more focus and coherence in the research questions of the nature line. We defined three main research topics: 1) nature of control and our control of nature; 2) the concept, moral status and value of nature; 3) responsibility for and the nature of human, animal and environmental flourishing.
- Nature line meetings were set up every six weeks. They comprise either a workshop on a particular concept ('control' (2021), invited leading authors in the field of the research line (Christopher Preston & Steve Vogel in 2021), or internal meetings to discuss PhD research proposals of the nature line PhD's and/or draft articles. Furthermore a nature line inspired session was organized during the Society for Philosophy and Technology conference in Lille (2021), on crossovers between environmental philosophy and philosophy of technology.

Together with the publications of the nature line, these activities made the nature line of ESDIT increasingly visible in international debates at the crossroads of environmental philosophy and philosophy of technology.

 A PhD reading group was established with meetings every month on basic concepts related to conceptual disruption and nature.

2) Contribution to research questions

Our research agenda includes three long-term research topics: 1) nature of control and our control of nature; 2) the concept, moral status and value of nature; 3) responsibility for and the nature of human, animal and environmental flourishing. Each research topic is as an umbrella concept for more specific research questions. Each member of the nature line has expressed her/his interest to work on one or more research questions in either the short- or long-term.

By the end of 2021, we had a significant number of researchers working on topics 1-2, less researchers focus on topic 3. We had already produced research outputs in the forms of academic publications on topics 1 and 2.

3) Links with other research lines & contributions to conceptual disruption theme

In 2021, the nature line and the synthesis line organized together a workshop on 'conceptual disruption' in nature related technologies.

The research outputs that have been published by 2021 focus on the disruption of the following concepts: 'nature', 'technology', 'control', 'responsibility'.

4) Research line members (per 31-12-2021)

Nature line

Name	Category	Position	University		
Blok, Vincent	In-cash	Assistant or	Wageningen University &		
	research fellow	associate professor	Research		
Gerola, Alessio	In-cash	PhD	Wageningen University &		
	research fellow		Research		
Hofbauer, Benjamin	In-cash	PhD	Delft University of		
	research fellow		Technology		
Moesker, Karen	In-cash	PhD	Delft University of		
	research fellow		Technology		
Poel van de, Ibo	In-cash	Full professor	Delft University of		
	research fellow		Technology		
Rijssenbeek, Julia	In-cash	PhD	Wageningen University &		
	research fellow		Research		
Robaey, Zoë	In-cash	Assistant or	Wageningen University &		
	research fellow	associate professor	Research		
Doorn, Neelke	In-kind research	Full professor	Delft University of		
	fellow		Technology		
Pesch, Udo	In-kind research	Assistant or	Delft University of		
	fellow	associate professor	Technology		
Taebi, Behnam	In-kind research	Assistant or	Delft University of		
	fellow	associate professor	Technology		
Verweij, Marcel	In-kind research	Full professor	Wageningen University &		
	fellow		Research		
Bovenkerk, Bernice	Associate fellow	Assistant or	Wageningen University &		
		associate professor	Research		

Hajer, Maarten	Associate fellow	Full professor	Utrecht University
Loosdrecht van, Mark	Associate fellow	Full professor	Delft University of Technology
Meijboom, Frank	Associate fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Utrecht University
Oost van der, John	Associate fellow	Full professor	Wageningen University & Research
Verhulst, Eveline	Associate fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Wageningen University & Research
Vuuren van, Detleft	Associate fellow	Full professor	Utrecht University



Research line

The Future of a Free and Fair Society

- 1) Research activities, events and outreach (research line coordinator: Elena Ziliotti TUD)
 - Six new PhD candidates were hired: Patricia Reyes Benavides (UT), research area: indigenous philosophy and internet-enabled Climate Activism Networks; Roxanne van der Puil (TU/e), research area: democracy and social media; Arthur Gwagwa (UU), research area: new technologies, democracy, Africa; Joseph Sta. Maria (TUD), research area: confucianism and digital technologies; Elisa Paiusco (UT), research area: intergenerational justice and carbon dioxide removal.
 - Three assistant professors joined the research line (as Tenure Trackers): Elena Ziliotti (TUD), research area: democracy and confucianism; Emily Sullivan, research area: the intersection between philosophy and data/computer science and Patrik Hummel (TU/e), research area: data justice.
 - A long-term (2020-2029) research agenda was developed that expands the original proposal (including two new research topics) and engages with the main key topics in social and political philosophy, linking them to conceptual and social disruption caused by technology.
 - An additional research agenda was developed that includes non-Western philosophical approaches (See research projects of Arthur Gwagwa, Joseph Sta. Maria, Elena Ziliotti, and Patricia Reyes).
 - Established general meetings of the line every two months.
 - Established general reading groups every month in 2020.
 - In 2021, a research group was created that meets every month. The research group is an informal environment where members of the line present their works in progress and receive constructive feedbacks by their peers.

2) Contribution to research questions

Our research agenda includes six long-term research topics:

- 1. Control and political institutions;
- 2. Democracy in a Technologically-Driven World;
- 3. A Sustainable Technological Society;
- 4. New Perspectives on Social Justice;
- 5. Rights and Duties in the 21st century;
- 6. Methodology of Social and Political Philosophy.

Each research topic is as an umbrella concept for more specific research questions (e.g. Topic 3 includes sub-questions on energy transition and climate change). Each member of the society line has expressed her/his interest to work on one or more research questions in either the short- or long-term.

By the end of 2021, we had a significant number of researchers working on topics 1-3 and 6, less researchers focus on topics 4 and 5. We had already produced research outputs in the forms of academic publications on the following topics: technology/autism (topic 3); social inequality and digital transformation (topic), wellbeing and technology (topic 3), deontology and digital behaviour change (topic 3), digital control and autonomy (topic 1), Confucianism and contemporary democracy (topic 2).

3) Links with other research lines & contributions to conceptual disruption theme

In 2021, the Society line and the Nature line have started working on a research collaboration between the two lines. We have identified Climate change as a common topic on which we can centre future joint events.

The research outputs that have been published by 2021 focus on the disruption of the following concepts: 'autistic person', 'well-being', 'social inequalities', 'autonomy', 'digital object', 'digital subject', and 'intersubjectivity'.

4) Research line members (per 31-12-2021)

Society line

Name	Category	Position	University
Gwagwa, Arthur	In-cash research fellow	PhD	Utrecht University
Hummel, Patrik	In-cash research fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Eindhoven University of Technology
Paiusco, Elisa	In-cash research fellow	PhD	University of Twente

		DI D	
Puil van der, Roxanne	In-cash research fellow	PhD	Eindhoven University of Technology
Reyes Benavides, Patricia	In-cash research fellow	Phd	University of Twente
Robeyns, Ingrid	In-cash research fellow	Full professor	Utrecht University
Roeser, Sabine	In-cash research fellow	Full professor	Delft University of Technology
Sta. Maria, Joseph	In-cash research fellow	PhD	Delft University of Technology
Sullivan, Emily	In-cash research fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Eindhoven University of Technology
Ziliotti, Elena	In-cash research fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Delft University of Technology
Durán, Juan	In-kind research fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Delft University of Technology
Henschke, Adam	In-kind research fellow	Assistant or associate professor	University of Twente
Hoven van den, Jeroen	In-kind research fellow	Full professor	Delft University of Technology
Marin, Lavinia	In-kind research fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Delft University of Technology
Matzat, Uwe	In-kind research fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Eindhoven University of Technology
Royakkers, Lambèr	In-kind research fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Eindhoven University of Technology
Spahn, Andreas	In-kind research fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Eindhoven University of Technology
Bäck, Thomas	Associate fellow	Full professor	Leiden University
Gädeke, Dorothea	Associate fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Utrecht University
Jansen, Sammie	Associate fellow	PhD	Wageningen University & Research
Shäfer, Mirko	Associate fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Utrecht University



Research line

Foundations & Synthesis

- Research activities, events and outreach (research line coordinator: Michael Klenk - TUD)
 - Two new postdoctoral researchers were hired: Jeroen Hopster (UT), research area: moral disruption; Guido Löhr (TU/e), research area: conceptual change.
 - An assistant professors joined the research line (as in-kind Tenure Tracker): Michael Klenk (TUD), research area: metaethics, epistemology, value theory.

- A long-term (2020-2029) research agenda was developed that expands the
 original proposal (including two new research topics) and engages with the main
 key topics in metaethics, epistemology, and practical philosophy, linking them
 to conceptual and social disruption caused by technology.
- Established two monthly meeting series on the research line level in 2020:
 - JourFixe: Community building, organisational, guest speakers and short presentations.
 - Research Colloquium: in-depth, pre-read discussion, make scholarly progress.
- Established several reading groups, with tangible results:
 - Moral Revolutions reading group (2020-21): workshop with author Robert Baker, two collaborative papers forthcoming in Inquiry and Analysis.
 - Conceptual Change reading group (2020-21): joint work on conceptual change.
 - Techno-moral revolutions reading group (2021).
- Hosted two educational events aimed at members of the other research lines.

2) Contribution to research questions

The F&S research agenda includes three major research themes:

- 1. the nature of Socially Disruptive Technologies;
- 2. the nature of Conceptual Change and Disruption;
- 3. new methods in ethics (not yet started).

For each theme, up to six sub-questions were defined. The members of the research line signed up to one or more themes, and they produced the following results, communicated in published papers:

Regarding theme 1, the nature of socially disruptive technologies was conceptualized, offering both a definition and a critical reflection on the tenability of such a definition, typified the typical impacts of socially disruptive technologies, and distinguished social disruption from disruption in other areas (e.g. business). A further methodological insight is that a purely techno-centric understanding of STDs is problematic and needs to be complemented by a variety of methods (e.g. mediationand experimentation approaches). Furthermore, the dynamics of techno-moral change and the role of technology in moral revolutions were further scrutinized.

Regarding theme 2, conceptual change was distinguished from conceptual disruption and the latter was linked to the burgeoning conceptual engineering debate.

Furthermore, it was showed how the causes and mechanisms of conceptual change relate to pragmatics.

3) Links with other research lines & contributions to conceptual disruption theme

Starting in 2020, our reading groups and monthly meetings are frequently attended by members from other research lines. This also lead to co-authored papers already.

In 2021, we hosted workshop for PhDs of the other lines presenting our findings for them to use in their projects. The research outputs that have been published by 2021 focus on the general nature of (techno-moral) disruption and conceptual change.

4) Research line members (per 31-12-2021)

F&S line

Name	Category	Position	University of Twente
Brey, Philip	In-cash research fellow	Full professor	University of Twente
Hopster, Jeroen	In-cash research fellow	Postdoc	University of Twente
Löhr, Guido	In-cash research fellow	Postdoc	Eindhoven University of Technology
Klenk, Michael	In-kind research fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Delft University of Technology
Meijers, Anthonie	In-kind research fellow	Full professor	Eindhoven University of Technology
Müller, Vincent	In-kind research fellow	Full professor	Eindhoven University of Technology
Nickel, Philip	In-kind research fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Eindhoven University of Technology
O'Neill, Elizabeth	In-kind research fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Eindhoven University of Technology
Veluwenkamp, Herman	In-kind research fellow	Postdoc	Delft University of Technology
Eriksen, Cecile	Associate fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Utrecht University
Sauer, Hanno	Associate fellow	Assistant or associate professor	Utrecht University

Report from the tracks

Cutting across the four research lines we started two research tracks, each of which emphasizes an aspect that we especially value in this consortium.



Track

STEM track

The ESDiT approach is based on close cooperation with the engineering sciences (STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). First and foremost, STEM is important in determining and understanding current and future challenges posed by Socially Disruptive Technologies (SDTs). Secondly, the ESDiT consortium wishes to interact with STEM areas in order to contribute to improved and more responsible ethical guidance of SDTs.

The STEM track within ESDiT, coordinated by prof. Wijnand IJsselsteijn, is intended to bring together and discuss our joint interests in STEM, and establish and support fruitful and mutually beneficial links between relevant partners involved in STEM innovations and people within ESDiT. To an extent, our project embodies STEM through the STEM representatives present within the consortium, and affiliated to the project. In addition, we are reaching out to other STEM-oriented Gravitation research consortia (e.g., Hybrid Intelligence - with a focus on AI), in order to connect to scholars in the STEM field.

The STEM track has not been officially launched yet during the reporting period. However, initial meetings between its coordinators, Wijnand IJsselsteijn, Neelke Doorn and Matthew Dennis took place.

Over the past year, they have focused on developing philosophical research activities that have a stronger technological or STEM focus. This has resulted in a number of approved (or soon to be approved) PhD or postdoc project proposals, where hiring has started, or will start soon. These projects are embedded within each of the research lines (Human, Nature, Society, or F&S), where they are connected to the main themes of these respective lines.

To help shape our thinking about collaboration and outreach with regards to STEM fields, the coordinators set up an ad hoc working group that has met a few times over the past months. From the discussions in this group, a number of ideas have emerged that can be structured along three main, and partly overlapping, lines of thinking:

- 1) creating spaces for conversation and learning with regard to STEM;
- 2) ensuring a fruitful, open, bi-directional exchange;
- 3) sharing results and insights.

STEM Track members per 31-12-2021

STEM Track

Name	Position	University
- 1		•
Babushkina, Dina	Assistant or	University of Twente
	associate professor	
Bollen, Caroline	PhD	Delft University of
		Technology
Dennis, Matthew	Postdoc	Eindhoven University of
		Technology
Doorn, Neelke	Full professor	Delft University of
		Technology
Hermann, Julia	Assistant or	University of Twente
	associate professor	
IJsselsteijn, Wijnand	Full professor	Eindhoven University of
• •	·	Technology
Jansen, Sammie	PhD	Wageningen University &
		Research
Kraijeveld, Steven	PhD	Wageningen University &
•		Research
Lakens, Daniel	Assistant or	Eindhoven University of
	associate professor	Technology
Oosterzee van, Anna	PhD	Utrecht University
Poel van de, Ibo	Full professor	Delft University of
·	'	Technology
Riemsdijk, van Birna	Assistant or	University of Twente
•	associate professor	,
Snijders, Chris	Full professor	Eindhoven University of
, ,		Technology
Sullivan, Emily	Assistant or	Eindhoven University of
	associate professor	Technology
	accorate professor	10011101097



Track

Intercultural track

The track on intercultural philosophy is coordinated by prof. Ingrid Robeyns. This track focuses on intercultural ethics. It starts from the insight that truly global challenges need a (cultural) diversity of ethical frameworks to tackle them.

In our first two years, this track has mainly focused on capacity building. Since we had limited expertise and experience in the consortium on this topic, we had to build this first, collaborating with external partners. There has been an expectedly strong interest among our researchers to work on this.

In order to make progress in meeting the goals of this track, we have pursued the following activities in 2020 and 2021:

- 1. Reading groups: We have reading groups for Confucian philosophy (coordinator: Elena Ziliotti), Buddhist philosophy (coordinators: Gunter Bombaerts and Tom Hannes), Indigenous philosophy (coordinator: Patty Reyes), and Ubuntu philosophy (coordinator: Kristy Claassen).
- 2. Online seminars: Some reading groups are organizing online seminars with international experts, e.g. the Buddhism conference has started a series of online seminars, starting with Peter Hershock who will talk about his book *Buddhism and Intelligent Technologies*.
- 3. Attend and present at conferences: several members of the intercultural philosophy tracked presented their work at conferences, e.g. Patty Reyes presented her work on indigenous philosophy and post anthropocentric politics at the Annual Conference for the Society of Intercultural Philosophy (June 4-6 2021); Olya Kudina organized a panel on intercultural philosophy for the biannual 4TU conference in Wageningen (14-15 October 2021); and Matthew Dennis and Elena Ziliotti presented their paper on Confucianism and digital well-being at the Symposium on Intercultural Digital Ethics at the Oxford Internet Institute (November 2021).
- 4. Organise our own conference: Under the leadership of Peter-Paul Verbeek, and with support by Michelle de Boer, we started the organisation of ESDiT's first own conference on Intercultural Ethics and Technology (https://www.esdit.nl/conferences/IET2022/), programmed for January 2022. with keynotes from dr. Beatrice Okyere-Manu (University of KwaZulu-Natal) and prof. Jin Y. Park (American University, Washington DC). Members of het Intercultural philosophy track served on the program committee and helped to shape the conference.

The intercultural philosophy track tries to answer the following overarching question: how can non-western philosophy help us to provide (different and better) answers, to the research questions of ESDiT?

Since we are in the capacity-building phase, these questions have not been answered yet. Our activities have however been steered by a number of concrete goals that we have set for the 3-year period 2020-2022:

- Goal 1: Building capacity: most of us are on a steep learning curve, and most of all need to learn about non-western philosophies and intercultural philosophy.
- Goal 2: Building community: within ESDiT and our affiliates, we want to collaborate and co-learn in the area of intercultural philosophy.
- Goal 3: Building/strengthening our international network: we want to gain a better understanding, and get to know, the people working in these fields, in particular those who have also done work on SDTs.
- Goal 4: producing knowledge (and publishing it) that advances the intercultural philosophy perspective within ESDiT.

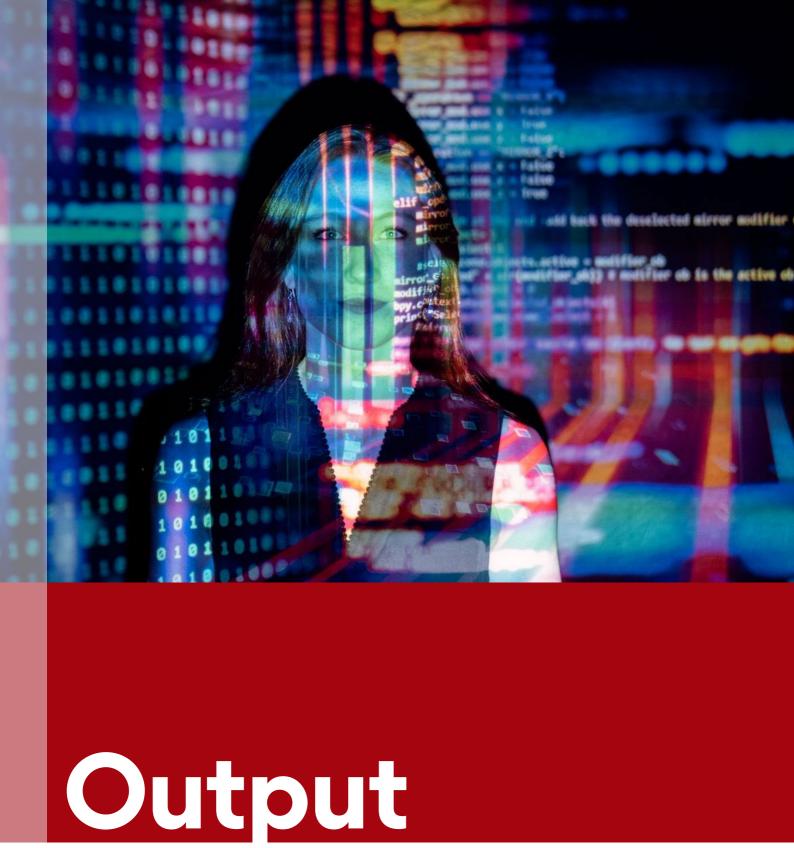
Track members per 31-12-2021

Intercultural Track

Name	Position	University
Anderson, Joel	Full professor	Utrecht University
Babuskina, Dina	Assistant or associate professor	University of Twente
Bombaerts, Gunter	Assistant or associate professor	Eindhoven University of Technology
Claassen, Kristy	PhD	University of Twente
Dennis, Matthew	Postdoc	Delft University of Technology/Eindhoven University of Technology
Frank, Lily	Assistant or associate professor	Eindhoven University of Technology
Friedman, Cindy	PhD	Utrecht University
Gädeke, Dorothea	Assistant or associate professor	Utrecht University
Gerola, Alessio	PhD	Wageningen University & Research
Gwagwa, Arthur	PhD	Utrecht University
Hannes, Tom	Postdoc	Eindhoven University of Technology
Hermann, Julia	Assistant or associate professor	University of Twente
Hofbauer, Ben	PhD	Delft University of Technology
Kudina, Olya	Assistant or associate professor	Delft University of Technology
Reyes Benavides, Patricia	PhD	University of Twente
Robeyns, Ingrid	Full professor	Utrecht University
Roeser, Sabine	Full professor	Delft University of Technology
Sta. Maria, Joseph	PhD	Delft University of Technology
Verbeek, Peter-Paul	Full professor	University of Twente
Ziliotti, Elena	Assistant or associate professor	Delft University of Technology

Members of this track who are not officially affiliated with ESDiT but given their expertise have been invited to join its intercultural philosophy activities, in particular the reading groups:

Rockwell Clancy (Guest researcher, Delft University) and Matthias Kramm (postdoc, Wageningen University).



Outreach & Impact, research projects, publications and other output during 2020-2021

Outreach and impact

Our proposed research has great relevance for society, since new disruptive technologies will have a major role in shaping the 21st century; it is therefore imperative for societal actors to engage in ethical reflection on how to develop and implement these technologies responsibly. Consequently, we are keen to have an extensive dissemination and knowledge transfer strategy, including communication channels and outreach activities.

Impact plan

Early 2021 the outreach ambitions of the funding proposal were elaborated into an overall Impact plan. The aim of this plan is to systematically and effectively reach out to ESDiTs main stakeholders. For each audience, a specific set of activities is foreseen, starting in 2022.









The Public

Engineers

Policy-makers

Practical Philosophy

ESDiT communication channels

Right in 2020 a dedicated ESDiT website was designed, providing basic information on the programme and its members. During 2021 the website was further refined, including the design of corporate identity for all communication outlets.

In 2021, ESDiT got its own Twitter account, with a reach of over 400 followers by the end of the year.

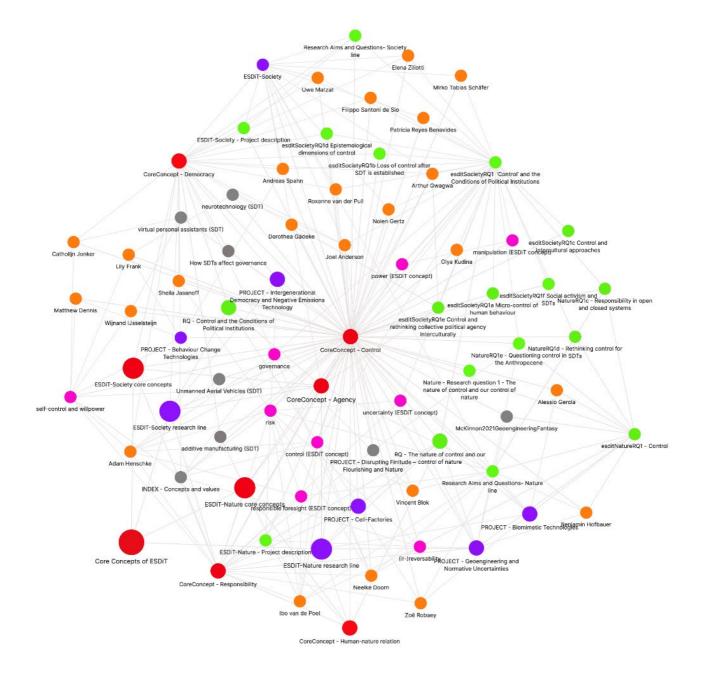
During the second half of 2021 ESDiT launched a podcast series, which is indexed on Apple Podcasts, Google podcasts, Spotify, and linked to by the Dutch Research School of Philosophy.

The ESDiT-podcast contains a growing collection of interviews conducted amongst ESDiT-researchers. Each episode discusses a recent paper published by an ESDiT-member, with the aim of reaching out to colleagues in the consortium as well as the broader academic community. The following episodes have been published between October and December 2021: an interview with Jeroen Hopster on "The Nature of Socially Disruptive Technologies", an interview with Julia Hermann on "The Artificial Womb", an interview with Naomi Jacobs on "Capability Sensitive Design", an interview with Cindy Friedman on "Social Robots", an interview with Bernice Bovenkerk on "Ethics of Animal Modification", an interview with Emily Sullivan on "Social Epistemic Networks", and an interview with Patricia Reyes on "Climate Techno-activism".

Organisation of research: Research collaboration using Obsidian

Within the ESDiT community, there is a widely felt need for better ways of coordinating our research activities and learning cumulatively from each other. In addition, because of the focus of ESDiT on technology's conceptual disruptions, we are also very interested in finding connections between key concepts and relating them to research lines and project groups – including their research questions, activities, and outputs.

New tools have recently emerged for helping with this. Starting in the summer of 2020, Joel Anderson began exploring the idea of using one such tool, Obsidian, for this. The key feature of Obsidian is that it connects plain-text note files together in insightful ways, but without locking users into a proprietary framework.



Obsidian Activities in 2020

Concept mapping

• Using an inventory of "socially disruptive technologies" and "impact dimensions" and methods was developed with the consortium by Jeroen Hopster and Julia Hermann, a first Obsidian map of these interconnections was made and presented at the first ESDiT Research Days, in November 2020.

Facilitating interactive collaborations within groups of researchers

- A pilot of the interconnections between research questions was carried out in the "Buddhism and Attention Economy" reading group.
- The same was done with a reading group on Robert Baker's book Moral Revolutions.

Practical implementation

 Initial investigation of possibilities for using Obsidian as the digital tool for this project.

Obsidian Activities in 2021

Concept mapping

- The inventory of SDTs and impact dimensions was expanded to include key concepts from the revised research plan, identifying research questions.
- As part of the process of the clarifying the "core concepts" that are guiding for ESDiT, Ibo van de Poel employed Obsidian to help identify how the core concepts are positioned in relation to the wider set of concepts employed within ESDiT. The outcomes were presented at the Research Day in November 2021.

Facilitating interactive collaborations within groups of researchers

- The collaborative research forum esditCRF in Obsidian was expanded to include information about individual members, project groups, and research lines all linked to concepts and research questions.
- The esditCRF was made available to members of the consortium for identifying connections between researchers, projects, research lines, and key concepts.

<u>Practical implementation</u>

- A password-protected web-version of the esditCRF was published.
- Plan approved in December for next steps with implementation, and involving key "curators" as well as the wider consortium.
- Several pilots for synchronizing and curating the esditCRF were carried out.

Project: The Disruptive Potential of the Artificial Womb



In the spring of 2021, Sabine Wildevuur, Lisa Mandemaker and Julia Hermann first discussed the idea of collaborating on an interdisciplinary research project about the artificial womb. Shortly thereafter, Lily Frank and Cristina Zaga joined the project team. In a series of online meetings, the team made a concrete plan for how to explore the ways in which the artificial womb could disrupt family relations, gender roles, the practice of abortion, the experiences of expecting and having children, the concepts of pregnancy, gestation, giving birth, parenthood, and so forth.

After their request for funding had been approved by the ESDiT Management Board, they formalized the collaboration with Lisa, who is an independent speculative designer and became designer-in-residence at DesignLab. In the fall, Llona Iness, Naomi Jacobs and Patricia de Vries joined the team, which used the Dutch Design Week as a kickoff event for the project.

With input from the entire team, Lisa made a work-in-progress installation with the title *Dreaming Before the Start of Time*. The installation formed an invitation for visitors to reflect and contribute their own values, stories and concerns about the future of reproduction. Visitors were able to react to three very short techno-moral scenarios. Their reactions served as an inspiration for two longer techno-moral scenarios and for Lisa's prototype.

Julia Hermann gave several interviews about the artificial womb and this particular project:

- Interview for an article written by science journalist Jop de Vrieze for Quest Magazine, January 2021.
- Guest in the science programme *Focus*, NPO Radio 1, 7 May 2021 (Link).
- ESDiT podcast, October 2021.

Team members of the project *The Disruptive Potential of the Artificial Womb*:

Artificial Womb project

Name	Category	University
Frank, Lily	ESDiT research fellow	Eindhoven University of Technology
González Woge, Margoth	Non ESDiT fellow	University of Twente
Hermann, Julia	ESDiT research fellow	University of Twente
Iness, Llona	Non ESDiT fellow	Independent scholar
Jacobs, Naomi	ESDiT research fellow	University of Twente
Mandemaker, Lisa	Non ESDiT fellow	Independent designer, designer-in-
		residence at DesignLab
Vries de, Patricia	Non ESDiT fellow	Maastricht University
Wildevuur, Sabine	Non ESDiT fellow	University of Twente
Zaga, Cristina	Non ESDiT fellow	University of Twente

PhD and Postdoc research projects

	Project	Line	Туре	Supervisor	Candidate	Partner	Starting
1	The converging politics of Internet platforms and climate activism	Society	PhD	Nolen Gertz	Patty Reyes	UT	2020
2	Empathy, Autism and Augmentative and Alternative Communication Technologies	Human	PhD	Janna van Grunsven	Caroline Bollen	TUD	2020
3	Governance of geoengineering in the face of normative uncertainties	Nature	PhD	Behnam Taebi	Ben Hofbauer	TUD	2020
4	Will democracy survive social media?	Society	PhD	Lambèr Royakkers	Roxanne van der Puil	TU/e	2020
5	Synthetic Stewardship – conceptualizing designers' responsibilities towards cell-factories	Nature	PhD	Vincent Blok	Julia van Rijssenbeek	WUR	2020
6	Philosophical analysis of socially disruptive technologies and their role in transforming society with special reference to transformations of fundamental concepts and values	F&S	Post doc		Jeroen Hopster	UT	2020
7	Socially Disruptive Technologies and Conceptual Change	F&S	Post doc		Guido Löhr	TU/e	2020
8	Rethinking ownership and responsibility in wastewater technologies	Nature	PhD	Udo Pesch	Karen Moesker	TUD	2021
9	Confucianism and Ethics of Technology	Society	PhD	Elena Ziliotti	Joseph Sta. Maria	TUD	2021

10	Philosophy of technology or environmental philosophy, doing philosophical and ethical investigations of biomimetic technologies and their applications.	Nature	PhD	Vincent Blok	Alessio Gerola	WUR	2021
11	Intergenerational Democracy and Negative Emissions Technology: Procedural Justice and Legitimacy for Future People in Climate Policy	Society	PhD	Philip Brey	Elisa Paiusco	UT	2021
12	Emerging Technologies and the Moral Character of the Human Being	Human	PhD	Julia Hermann	Kristy Claassen	UT	2021
13	Ethics of Data-Driven Mental Health Diagnostics	Human	PhD	Joel Anderson	Anna van Oosterzee	UU	2021
14	The Ethics of Humanoid Robots	Human	PhD	Sven Nyholm	Cindy Friedman	UU	2021
15	Electoral Technologies and Democracy in Global Perspective	Society	PhD	Dorothea Gädeke	Arthur Gwagwa	UU	2021
16	Behavior Change Technologies for Moral Improvement	Human	Post doc		Matthew Dennis	TU/e	2021

Output

Scientific publications

ESDIT 2020 Academic Publications

- van der Bend, D. L. M., Jansen, L., van der Velde, G., & **Blok, V.** (2020). The influence of a front-of-pack nutrition label on product reformulation: A ten-year evaluation of the Dutch Choices programme. Food Chemistry: X, 6, [100086]. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fochx.2020.100086
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Professional publications

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- Hopster, J. (2021). De 21ste eeuwse Darwin. Wijsgerig perspectief op maatschappij en wetenschap,
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Conferences

Name	Role	Title	Venue	Date
Hermann, J.	invited speaker	When the Ground Starts to Shake: Wittgenstein's View of Certainty in the Light of Rapid Technological Progress	UEA Wittgenstein Workshop	14 October, 2020
lJsselsteijn, W.	keynote	When AI meets VR: Ethical challenges and societal implications	Artificial Intelligence & Virtual Reality (AIVR 2020). 2nd Ethics in AI and XR Workshop.	14-18 December, 2020
Klenk, M.	invited speaker	Manipulation	Practical Philosophy Research Seminar, LMU Munich	1 November 2020
Klenk, M.	invited speaker	Questions for a Political Philosophy of Technology	HfP Global Governance Research Colloquium, Munich, Germany	October, 2020
Nickel, P.; O. Kud Poel	lina; I. van de	Moral Uncertainty in Techno-moral Change: Bridging the Explanatory Gap	PHTR Conference 2020, Philosophy of Human- Technology Relations	4-7 November 2020
Nyholm, S.	keynote	Human Minds meet Artificial Intelligence	Conference on Al and Human Enhancement, Kaunas University, Lithuania	February 2020
Poel, I. van de	keynote	Worlds apart? What philosophy and engineering can learn from each other	fPET 2020, On-line Forum on Philosophy, Engineering and Technology	17-19 November 2020
Poel, I. van de	invited speaker	Embedding Values in Al systems	AGORA AlTech	28 October 2020
Poel, I. van de	invited speaker	Responsible Innovation [presentation & panel]	INNovember event of the Dutch National Government	9 November 2020

Roeser, S.	keynote	Convergence ethics of medical technologies, risk and moral emotion	Workshop of convergence ethics project, TU Delft/Erasmus	12 November 2020
Roeser, S.	invited speaker	Ethics of medical-technological innovations	Conference of Anchoring Innovations project, Leiden University & Radboud University	11 December 2020
Roeser, S.	invited speaker	Risk, Moral Emotions and the Corona-crisis	Mancept workshop, track on risk ethics, Manchester University	9 September 2020
Roeser, S.	invited speaker	Ethical aspects of the Corona-crisis	Online colloquium, Philosophy Department Tilburg University	16 May 2020
Roeser, S.	invited speaker	Ethical aspects of the Corona-crisis	Webinar on Covid-19, DSYS, TU Delft	8 April 2020
Verbeek, P. P.	keynote	Responsible Innovation for a Digital Society	27th Innovation and Product Development Management Conference, Antwerp	8 June 2020
Verbeek, P. P.	keynote	Working towards Society 5.0: Al and the Future of the Human Min	Conference 'Reshaping Work', Amsterdam	6 March 2020
Verbeek, P. P.	keynote	Robotisering in de zorg: uitdagingen, verwachtingen, dilemma's	Symposium on Robotization and Pharmacy, Princess Maxima Center, Utrecht	6 February 2020
Verbeek, P. P.	invited speaker	Technology and Morality: How Bioethics meets Philosophy of Technology	Yale University, Summer Institute in Bioethics	14 July 2020
Verbeek, P. P.	invited speaker	The Moral Status of Technological Artifacts	Filosofia da Ciência, Tecnologia, Arte e Sociedade, Lisbon	2 July 2020
Verbeek, P. P.	invited speaker	How will Autonomous Robots and Systems Influence Society? Debate from technological, philosophical, ethical, legal, and social implications perspective	ICRA 2020 (International Conference on Robotics and Automation), Paris	4 June 2020
Verweij, M.	invited speaker	Ethics and Covid19 vaccination	Annual Conference of the Swedish National Council on Medical Ethics	18 December 2020

Name	Role	Title	Venue	Date
Doorn, N.	invited speaker	Klimaatadaptatie: waarom veerkracht alleen niet voldoende is	Van Leeuwenhoek Lecture TU Delft	7 March 2021
Gwagwa, A.	keynote	African Values, Ethics, and Technology by Palgrave	Book launch, University of Kwazulu-Natal	26 August 2021
Gwagwa, A.	invited speaker	Biometric data repurposing for political reasons in Africa	Brocher Institute and University of Augsburg	27 October 2021
Hermann, J.	invited speaker	Moral Progress through Disruption?	Moral Progress and Disagreement: Evolutionary Perspectives, Rome	2 December 2021
Müller, V.	keynote	AIAI: As-if AI and intelligence without goals	Southern African Conference for Artificial Intelligence Research (SACAIR), Dolphin Coast, KwaZulu-Natal	8 December 2021
Nyholm, S.	keynote	How Should We Interact with Artificially Intelligent Robots?	Theology and Al conference, Münster University	October 2021
Nyholm, S.	keynote	An Asymmetry in the Possibility of Vice and Virtue in Relation to Humanoid Robots?	Ethics, Anthropomorphism, and Robots conference, University of Porto	June 2021
Nyholm, S.	invited speaker	Meaning and Anti-Meaning in Life and What Happens After We Die	2021 Royal Institute of Philosophy Conference, Liverpool	July 2021
Nyholm, S.	invited speaker	The Ethics of Human-Robot Interaction	University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka	June 2021
Pesch, U.	invited speaker	Autonomously driving away from meanings	SPT Conference, Lille	28 June 2021
Reyes Benavides, P.	keynote	Walk the Talk! A lecture on Action Research and Intersectionality	Sustainability Transformati on Symposium, University of Twente	7 October 2021
Roeser, S.	keynote	Ethical intuitions and uncertainty'	Lorentz Workshop,	1 August 2021
Roeser, S.	invited speaker	Emotional Deliberation on Varieties of Risk	Workshop Varieties of Risk project, Philosophy Departments of Edinburgh University and University of Stirling	8 March 2021
Sullivan, E.E.	Invited Speaker	Inductive Risk, Understanding, and Opaque Machine Learning Models	Philosophy of Science Meets ML; Tübingen University	Nov. 2021

Sullivan, E.E.	Keynote	Inductive Risk, Understanding, and Opaque Machine Learning Models	Bias and discrimination in Al decisions; Hannover university	Oct. 2021
Sullivan, E.E.	Invited Speaker	Explainable AI with a Purpose	AiTech Agora Talk - TU Delft	Feb. 2021
Sullivan, E.E.	Invited Panel Speaker	Panel discussion on responsible data science	Digital Society Conference, VSNU	Nov. 2021
Sullivan, E.E.	peer- reviewed accepted speaker	Inductive Risk, Understanding, and Machine Learning Models	Symposium Panel 2020/21 Philosophy of Science Association Meeting; Baltimore, MD	Nov. 2021
Sullivan, E.E.	Invited Speaker	How values encroach on understanding from opaque machine learning models	Lugano Talks on the Foundations and Ethics of AI, IDSIA and Univesity of Milan	June. 2021
Ignacio Ojea Quintana, Colin Klein, Marc Cheong, Emily Sullivan, Ritsaart Reimann, Mark Alfano	Invited Speaker	The evolution of vaccine discourse on Twitter during the first six months of COVID	Deliberation and Polarization workshop, VU Amsterdam	April. 2021
Veluwenkamp, H.	invited speaker	On Reproaching Robots	Practical Philosophy and Political Theory Research Seminar, Gothenburg	26 May 2021
Veluwenkamp, H.	invited speaker	Ethics by Design and Conceptual Engineering	FS Philosophy Forum, Frankfurt	17 November 2021
Verbeek, P. P.	keynote	Disruptive Technologies and Responsible Design	Senses&Sensibility21: Designing Next Gernera(c)t!ons', Bari	9 December 2021
Verbeek, P. P.	keynote	Artificial Intelligence and ethical disruption	SACAIR conference, Pretoria	24 February 2021
Verbeek, P. P.	keynote	Techno-topology: Interculturality and the Technological Mediation of Place	PLATIAL'21 conference, ITC, Enschede	16 December 2021
Verbeek, P. P.	keynote	On Intertechnicality: Postphenomenology, New Materialism, and Digital Materiality'	Conference On humans and machines. Human- machine interactions in digital cultures, Fern Universität Hagen	3 March 2021
Verbeek, P. P.	keynote	Disruptive Technologies and the Reconfiguration of Risk	SRA-E Benelux conference 2021, Eindhoven	16 March 2021
Ziliotti, E.	invited speaker	Against Confucian Hierarchy	Conference on Equality and Hierarchy, Center for East Asian and Comparative Philosophy,	March 2021

			City University of Hong Kong	
	invited	Collectivist Approaches to Digital Well-Being: A Confucian	4TU.Ethics Biannual Conference on Ethics and	
Ziliotti, E.	speaker	Perspective	Technology	October 2021

Knowledge utilization

Name	Item	Title	(Publication) Venue	Link/DOI
Hopster, J.	article	Gefilterde liefde	Wijsgerig perspectief nr 2/2020	<u>Link</u>
IJsselsteijn, W.	article	Knuffelen in de anderhalvemetersamenleving	NTR De kennis van nu	<u>Link</u>
IJsselsteijn, W.	interview	Welkom in de digi-dystopie	HP de Tijd	<u>Link</u>
Nyholm, S.	interview	Humans and Robots: Ethics, Agency, and Anthropomorphism	Radio Orbit, on KOPN 89,5, Missouri, USA	<u>Link</u>
Nyholm, S.	interview	Verliefd op een chatbot: hoe vergroeid kun je raken met technologie?	VPRO Tegenlicht	<u>Link</u>
Nyholm, S.	interview	Can a Robot be a Good Colleague: New Study on Smooth Human- Robot Interaction	Analytics Magazine India	<u>Link</u>
Nyholm, S.	workshop	Can Robots Act for Reasons?	Artificial Intelligence workshop, Chalmers University	
Nyholm, S.	invited talk	An Asymmetry in the Possibility of Vice and Virtue in Relation to Humanoid Robots?	University of Vienna	
Poel, I. van de	blog/podcast	Waarom nu wel een app maar geen vaccin tegen corona?	Bij Nader Inzien	<u>Link</u>
Poel, I. van de	videocast	Maatschappelijk verantwoord ontwerpen en de ingenieuze stad	Koninklijke NLIngenieurs, onderdeel van de Maand van de Ingenieuze Stad	<u>Link</u>
Rijssenbeek, J.	essay	Voorbij stad of platteland	Wijsgerig Perspectief 3/2020	<u>Link</u>
Roeser, S.	blog	Neem emoties mee in toekomstige besluitvorming over corona	Bij Nader Inzien	<u>Link</u>
Royakkers, L.; Verbugge, R.; Harmelen, F. van	article	Verbied preventief het gebruik van 'killer robots'	NRC	<u>Link</u>

Verbeek, P. P. & Brey, P.	expert advice	Ethische analyse van de COVID-19 notificatie-app	Ministerie van VWS	<u>Link</u>
Verweij, M.	article	Voorkom sociale ongelijkheid door het vaccinatiepaspoort	Trouw	<u>Link</u>
Verweij, M.	article	Vaccinatie hóéft niet. Maar piep dan ook niet over minder vrijheid [met Roland Pierik]	Volkskrant	<u>Link</u>
Verweij, M.	article	Beloon coronavaccinatie met meer vrijheden [met Roland Pierik]	NRC	<u>Link</u>
Verweij, M.	article	Het pijnlijke gesprek over ziekenhuisbedden moet juist nu gevoerd worden [met Roland Pierik]	Bij Nader Inzien	<u>Link</u>
Verweij, M.	article	Geef jong en fit voorrang op de intensive care [met Roland Pierik]	Volkskrant	<u>Link</u>
Ziliotti, E.	interview	Ethics of social media, Confucianism, Meritocracy, in Italian	Mentinfuga	<u>Link</u>

Name	Item	Title	(Publication) Venue	Link/DOI
Brey, P.	expert advice	Ethisch kader	Adviesraad Internationale vraagstukken	<u>Link</u>
Doorn, N.	workshop	Ethische verkenning rioolwaterepidemiologie	RIVM/ Unie van Waterschappen/ Ministerie VWS	
Doorn, N.	workshop	Digitaliseringsberaad: Ethiek en digitalisering watersector	Unie van Waterschappen	
Durán, J.	invited talk	But is it credible? Computational reliabilism for Machine Learning	Leverhulme Centre for the Future of Intelligence, University of Cambridge	
Durán, J.	invited talk	Matching Ethics and Law in AI: policy and practical implications for "Trustworthy" AI	European Parliament	
Friedman, C.	podcast	Moral Patiency, Westworld, and Privacy	The Dolores Project, Joshua K. Smith	<u>Link</u>
Gerola, A.	workshop	Beyond control: philosophical and ethical implications of biomimicry	Gesellschaft für Interkulturelle Philosophie	<u>Link</u>
Grunsven, J. van	symposium organizer	Disability, technology, and bodily control	4TU Ethics Symposium	
Gwagwa, A.	invited talk	Inclusive and Resilient Digital Transition: a new chapter for the AU-EU relations?	EU Institute for Security Studies, Research ICT Africa and the Global Forum on Cyber Expertise	<u>Link</u>

Gwagwa, A.	podcast	Data and automation	Columbia University and Data & Society	<u>Link</u>
Hermann, J.	interview	Zwanger of een kind uit een kunstbaarmoeder?	Focus, NPO Radio 1	<u>Link</u>
Hermann, J.	invited talk	Philosophical perspectives on Artificial Wombs and Period Trackers	PEP Talk: Feminism & Technology	
Hopster, J.	article	Klimaatwinnaars	De Groene Amsterdammer	<u>Link</u>
IJsselsteijn, W.	lecture	Artificial intelligence and human wisdom	Prof. Dr. D.L. Knook Lecture	<u>Link</u>
IJsselsteijn, W.	podcast	Hoe intiem kan technologie zijn?	Studium Generale Universiteit Utrecht	<u>Link</u>
Jacobs, N.	installation	Dreaming Before the Start of Time	Dutch Design Week 2021	<u>Link</u>
Jacobs, N.	invited talk	Spinozaals 2021-2022	Bekendmaking Spinozalens Laureaten	<u>Link</u>
Müller, V.	invited talk	Orthogonalität und existentielles Risiko durch KI - Geht das wirklich zusammen?	Forschungsinstitut für Wissenschaft, Munich Center for Technology	
Nyholm, S.	interview	Dating-Apps erwecken den Eindruck, man müsse vollkommen sein	Süddeutsche Zeitung Magazine, by Agnes Striegan	<u>Link</u>
Nyholm, S.	interview	Liefde tussen mens en robot	Filosofie Magazine nr. 7/2021	<u>Link</u>
O'Neill, E.	blog	Three Under-recognized Hazards of Digital Recording	Cornell Tech	<u>Link</u>
Pesch, U.	invited talk	Democratie en rechtvaardigheid in transitie	Masterclass Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Waterstaat	
Poel, I. van de	interview	Responsible Innovation: Turn Your Commitment To Do Good into Daily Action	Centre for Responsible Innovation	<u>Link</u>
Poel, I. van de	invited talk	Ethical Issues in Cybersecurity: Beyond Privacy and Security	Cyber justice laboratory	<u>Link</u>
Poel, I. van de	workshop	Can we take responsibility for risks beyond our control?	Institute of Philosophy, University of Graz	
Poel, I. van de	workshop	Equal access to infrastructure services? The importance of value and time	Workshop Space, time and contestations over demand response and infrastructure access, University of Lancaster	<u>Link</u>
Reyes Benavides, P.	installation	Tell the Truth	GOGBOT festival, Enschede	<u>Link</u>

Rijssenbeek, J.	lecture	How the COVID-19 pandemic disrupts our relationship to nature	Studium Generale, WUR	<u>Link</u>
Roeser, S.	interview	De techniek was niet objectief	Trouw	<u>Link</u>
Roeser, S.	interview	Het debat over kernenergie moet ook over emoties gaan	NRC	<u>Link</u>
Roeser, S.	keynote	Moral emotions and risks of nuclear energy	Workshop by Deutsche Strahlenschutzkomission (radiation protection agency advising the German government)	
Roeser, S.	keynote	Al and Moral Emotions	Science Week Karlsruhe Institute of Technology	
Royakkers, L.	invited talk	Zijn we te optimistisch over technologische oplossingen?	Betweterfestival Utrecht	<u>Link</u>
Royakkers, L.	invited talk	Ethical AI in Defence	COID Integriteitsbureau Defensie	
Verbeek, P. P.	course design	Online Course Philosophy of Technology and Design	FutureLearn	<u>Link</u>
Verbeek, P. P.	interview	Doet u mij alstublieft een meisje: is geslachtskeuze een eerste stap naar designerbaby's?	De Volkskrant	<u>Link</u>
Sullivan, E.E.	Invited Panel Speaker	Regulating Algorithmic Recommendation Systems	Digital Futures Summit European Parliament	
Sullivan, E.E.	Expert comment	Far right spies an opportunity in Europe's new wave of COVID pain and protest	NBC News	<u>Link</u>
Sullivan, E.E.	Interview / podcast	What is machine learning and why is it important for philosophy?	Why? Philosophical Discussions about Everyday Life; prairie public radio United States	<u>Link</u>
Sullivan, E.E.	Interview / radio / podcast	Corona and Machine Learning	4TU.Ethics COVID Ethics Pod-cast	<u>Link</u>
Sullivan, E.E.	Interview / podcast	Social epistemic networks	Podcast	<u>Link</u>
Sullivan, E.E.	Invited Panel Speaker	Webinar : AI for Good Series - AI & Robotics Event	Deloitte	
Verbeek, P. P.	podcast	Waarom vinden computers witte mannen die Peter heten het leukst?	De Universiteit van Nederland podcast	<u>Link</u>
Verbeek, P. P.	symposium organizer	Intercultural Philosophical Relay Race	UNESCO World Philosophy Day 2021	<u>Link</u>

Verweij, M.	article	Laat gedrag zwaarder wegen bij bloeddonatie	Het Parool	<u>Link</u>
Verweij, M.	article	Burgers zijn vrij om het vaccin te weigeren, maar er zijn wel gerechtvaardigde consequenties. [met Roland Pierik]	NRC	<u>Link</u>
Verweij, M.	article	Zoeken hoe je die pas proportioneel inzet [De kwestie: coronabewijs]	Telegraaf	<u>Link</u>
Verweij, M.	article	Beloon een vaccinatie in achterstandswijk	Trouw	<u>Link</u>
Verweij, M.	article	Liever een echte vaccinatieplicht dan 2G, dat is duidelijker en eerlijker [met Roland Pierik]	Volkskrant	<u>Link</u>
Ziliotti, E.	invited talk	Confucian Democratic Leadership	LUCIP Lecture Series, Centre for Intercultural Philosophy, University of Leiden	<u>Link</u>
Ziliotti, E.	invited talk	What Does the COVID-19 Pandemic Teach us about Democracy?	Confucian Meritocratic Political System in its Domestic and International Forms, Fudan University, China	

ESDiT Podcast

The ESDiT podcast showcases Interviews with, and by, scholars affiliated with the research consortium Ethics of Socially Disruptive Technologies.

ESDiT Podcast 2021 Episodes

- Patricia Reyes on "Climate Technoactivism" Link
- Emily Sullivan on "Social Epistemic Networks" Link
- Bernice Bovenkerk on "Ethics of Animal Modification" Link
- Cindy Friedman on "Social Robots" Link
- Naomi Jacobs on "Capability Sensitive Design" Link
- Julia Hermann on "The Artificial Womb" Link
- Jeroen Hopster on "The Nature of Socially Disruptive Technologies" Link



Members of the ESDiT Programme

Researchers

In-cash Research Fellows ESDiT programme

Research fellows NWO in-cash 2020-2021

11.03	earch renows iv	VO III-Casii 2020	7-2021		
	Last name	First name	University	Position	Research line
1	Blok	Vincent	Wageningen University & Research	Assistant or associate professor	Nature
2	Bollen	Caroline	Delft University of Technology	PhD	Human
3	Brey	Philip	University of Twente	Full professor	Synthesis
4	Claassen	Kristy	University of Twente	PhD	Human
5	Dennis	Matthew	Eindhoven University of Technology	Postdoc	Human
6	Friedman	Cindy	Utrecht University	PhD	Human
7	Gerola	Alessio	Wageningen University & Research	PhD	Nature
8	Gwagwa	Arthur	Utrecht University	PhD	Society
9	Hermann	Julia	University of Twente	Assistant or associate professor	Human
10	Hofbauer	Benjamin	Delft University of Technology	PhD	Nature
11	Hopster	Jeroen	University of Twente	Postdoc	Synthesis
12	Hummel	Patrik	Eindhoven University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Society
13	IJsselsteijn	Wijnand	Eindhoven University of Technology	Full professor	Human
14	Löhr	Guido	Eindhoven University of Technology	Postdoc	Synthesis
15	Moesker	Karen	Delft University of Technology	PhD	Nature
16	Nyholm	Sven	Utrecht University	Assistant or associate professor	Human
17	Oosterzee, van	Anna	Utrecht University	PhD	Human
18	Paiusco	Elisa	University of Twente	PhD	Society
19	Poel, van de	lbo	Delft University of Technology	Full professor	Nature
20	Puil, van der	Roxanne	Eindhoven University of Technology	PhD	Society
21	Reyes Benavides	Patricia	University of Twente	PhD	Society
22	Rijssenbeek	Julia	Wageningen University & Research	PhD	Nature
23	Robaey	Zoë	Wageningen University & Research	Assistant or associate professor	Nature
24	Robeyns	Ingrid	Utrecht University	Full professor	Society
25	Roeser	Sabine	Delft University of Technology	Full professor	Society
26	Sta. Maria	Joseph	Delft University of Technology	PhD	Society

27	Sullivan	Emily	Eindhoven University of	Assistant or associate	Society
			Technology	professor	
28	Verbeek	Peter-Paul	University of Twente	Full professor	Human
29	Ziliotti	Elena	Delft University of	Assistant or associate	Society
			Technology	professor	

In-kind Research Fellows ESDiT programme

Research fellows in-kind 2020-2021

	First name	Last name	University	Position	Research line
4		Last name	•		
1	Anderson	Joel	Utrecht University	Full professor	Human
2	Babushkina	Dina	University of Twente	Assistant or associate professor	Human
3	Bombaerts	Gunter	Eindhoven University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Human
4	Doorn	Neelke	Delft University of Technology	Full professor	Nature
5	Durán	Juan	Delft University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Society
6	Frank	Lily	Eindhoven University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Human
7	Grunsven, van	Janna	Delft University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Human
8	Henschke	Adam	University of Twente	Assistant or associate professor	Society
9	Hoven, van den	Jeroen	Delft University of Technology	Full professor	Society
10	Jacobs	Naomi	University of Twente	Assistant or associate professor	Human
11	Klenk	Michael	Delft University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Synthesis
12	Kudina	Olya	Delft University of Technology	Postdoc	Human
13	Marin	Lavinia	Delft University of Technology	Postdoc	Society
14	Matzat	Uwe	Eindhoven University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Society
15	Meijers	Anthonie	Eindhoven University of Technology	Full professor	Synthesis
16	Müller	Vincent	Eindhoven University of Technology	Full professor	Synthesis
17	Nickel	Philip	Eindhoven University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Synthesis
18	O'Neill	Elizabeth	Eindhoven University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Synthesis
19	Pesch	Udo	Delft University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Nature
20	Royakkers	Lambèr	Eindhoven University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Society
21	Ruijten	Peter	Eindhoven University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Human

22	Santoni de Sio	Filippo	Delft University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Human
23	Snijders	Chris	Eindhoven University of Technology	Full professor	Human
24	Spahn	Andreas	Eindhoven University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Society
25	Taebi	Behnam	Delft University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Nature
26	Veluwenkamp	Herman	Delft University of Technology	Postdoc	Synthesis
27	Verweij	Marcel	Wageningen University & Research	Full professor	Nature
28	Werkhoven	Sander	Utrecht University	Assistant or associate professor	Human

Associate Fellows ESDiT programme

Associate fellows 2020-2021

	First name	Last name	University	Position	Research line
1	Bäck	Thomas	Leiden University	Full professor	Society
2	Bovenkerk	Bernice	Wageningen University & Research	Assistant or associate professor	Nature
3	Broersen	Jan	Utrecht University	Full professor	Human
4	Copeland	Samantha	Delft University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Unknown
5	Gädeke	Dorothea	Utrecht University	Assistant or associate professor	Society
6	Gertz	Nolen	University of Twente	Assistant or associate professor	Human
7	Gremmen	Bart	Wageningen University & Research	Full professor	Unknown
8	Hajer	Maarten	Utrecht University	Full professor	Nature
9	Jansen	Sammie	Wageningen University & Research	PhD	Society
10	Jonker	Catholijn	Delft University of Technology	Full professor	Human
11	Kalis	Annemarie	Utrecht University	Assistant or associate professor	Human
12	Kamphorst	Bart	Wageningen University & Research	Postdoc	Human
13	Korenhof	Paulan	Wageningen University & Research	Postdoc	Unknown
14	Lakens	Daniel	Eindhoven University of Technology	Assistant or associate professor	Human
15	Loosdrecht, van	Mark	Delft University of Technology	Full professor	Nature

16	Meijboom	Frank	Utrecht University	Assistant or associate professor	Nature
17	Oost, van der	John	Wageningen University & Research	Full professor	Nature
18	Ramsey	Nicolas (Nick)	UMC Utrecht	Full professor	Human
19	Riemsdijk, van	Birna	University of Twente	Assistant or associate professor	Human
20	Sauer	Hanno	Utrecht University	Assistant or associate professor	Synthesis
21	Scheepers	Floortje	UMC Utrecht	Full professor	Human
22	Shäfer	Mirko Tobias	Utrecht University	Assistant or associate professor	Society
23	Stramigioli	Stefano	University of Twente	Full professor	Human
24	Verhulst	Eveline	Wageningen University & Research	Assistant or associate professor	Nature
25	Vuuren, van	Detlef	Utrecht University	Full professor	Nature



Finances

Overall budget 2020-2021

Budget

Overall budget

ESDiT's overall budget of €28 million is financed by NWO (€19 million) and co-funding via de participating universities (€8 million)

As was to be expected, we have underspent in almost every category in this first two years due to the COVID restrictions.

Financial report 2020-2021

Staff (period 2020-2021) (in k€)

Scientific staff	FTE	B2021	R2021	UT	TUD	UU	TUE	WUR	Total
PhD students	13,0	570,7	393,0	76,8	123,6	81,7	47,3	63,6	393,0
Post Docs	2,6	398,4	184,0	72,8	-	-	111,2	-	184,0
Tenure Trackers	3,4	82,0	56,5	13,8	16,4	16,4	6,6	3,3	56,5
Replacements (PIs)	0,8	86,8	120,3	17,1	58,4	8,2	36,5	-	120,3
Total	19,9	1.137,8	753,7	180,6	198,4	106,4	201,6	66,9	753,7
Non-scientific staff	FTE	B2021	R2021	UT	TUD	UU	TUE	WUR	Total
Academic level	0,9	111,4	85,2	85,2					85,2

Total period 2020	Total (period 2020- 2021)
62,7	455,8
15,8	199,9
15,5	72,0
126,8	247,1
221,0	974,7
Total period 2020	Total (period 2020- 2021)
66,1	151,3

Professional level	0,8	46,7	49,8	49,8					49,8
Total	1,8	158,2	135,0	135,0	-	-	-	-	135,0
Total 2020-2021	21,7	1.296,0	888,8	315,6	198,4	106,4	201,6	66,9	888,8

48,7	98,5
114,8	249,8
335,7	1.224,5

Other costs (period 2020-2021) (in $k \in$)

Other funding Description	B2021	R2021	UT	TUD	UU	TUE	WUR	Total
Open science infrastructure	5,0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Travel and conference organisation	96,2	18,9	13,6	1,3	2,5	1,3	0,3	18,9
Dissemination and valorization	25,0	9,1	8,2	-	0,6	-	0,3	9,1
PhD Abroad programme	7,5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Strengthening Living Labs	20,0							
Total 2020-2021	153,7	28,1	21,8	1,3	3,1	1,3	0,6	28,1

Total period 2020	Total (period 2020- 2021)
-	-
4,6	23,5
-	9,1
-	-
-	-
4,6	32,6

Co-funding (period 2020-2021) (in k€ incl. surcharges for personnel)

Co-funding By w	/hom B2021	TUE WUR	Total
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In cash:									
PhD students	consortium	35,3	54,7	11,6	16,9	11,1	6,4	8,7	54,7
Post Docs	consortium	-	25,1	9,9	-	-	15,2	-	25,1
4 Tenure Trackers	consortium	328,0	199,2	54,4	64,6	64,6	3,1	12,4	199,2
Sabbatical funding scheme	consortium	89,3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Additional replacement costs Coordinator	consortium	30,5	-	-					-
Travel and conference organisation	consortium	-	-						-
Academic level	coordinator	6,1	26,3	26,3					26,3
In kind:									
Staff	consortium	418,5	418,5						-
Total 2020-2021	•	907,7	723,7	102,2	81,5	75,8	24,7	21,1	305,2

8,6	63,3
2,2	27,3
53,0	252,2
-	-
-	-
-	-
24,9	51,1
-	
-	-
88,6	393,9

Totals (period 2020-2021)

Totals	B2021	R2021	UT	TUD	UU	TUE	WUR	Total
Total Staff (2020-2021)	1.296,0	888,8	315,6	198,4	106,4	201,6	66,9	888,8
Total Other costs (2020-2021)	153,7	28,1	21,8	1,3	3,1	1,3	0,6	28,1

Total period 2020	Total (period 2020- 2021)
335,7	1.224,5
4,6	32,6

Total costs (2020-2021)	1.449,7	916,8	337,4	199,7	109,4	202,8	67,5	916,8
Total In cash (2020-2021)	489,2	305,2	102,2	81,5	75,8	24,7	21,1	305,2
Total In kind (2020-2021)	418,5	418,5	83,7	83,7	83,7	83,7	83,7	418,5
Total Co-funding (2020-2021)	907,7	723,7	185,9	165,2	159,5	108,4	104,8	723,7
Total 2020-2021	2.357,4	1.640,6	523,3	364,9	268,9	311,2	172,3	1.640,6

340,3	1.257,2
88,6	393,9
418,5	837,0
507,1	1.230,9
847,5	2.488,0

Grand Totals (period 2020-2029)

Totals			
Totals	Total BUDGET	Total REA	
Total Staff (2020-2029)	16.953,3	1.224,5	
Total Other costs (2020-2029)	1.879,3	32,6	
Total costs (2020-2029)	18.832,5	1.257,2	
Total Co-funding (2020-2029)	8.404,1	1.230,9	
Grand Total 2020-2029	27.236,7	2.488,0	

In terms of funding, the indexation from the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science has been allocated to the Gravitation programme.

These are awarded to cover the higher expected material costs (travel costs and conference organisation), support for the program and a lower cash contribution to the PhDs.



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ethics of socially disruptive technologies