Special Interest Group (SIG):
Legal & Ethical Infrastructures for Responsible Research (LEIRR)

🎯 Why this SIG?

In an era of open science, AI, and complex research ecosystems, legal and ethical uncertainty can hinder the translation of knowledge into value. This SIG provides a space for cross-sector dialogue and practice-based exchange to enable responsible knowledge valorisation through solid, inclusive, and legally sound foundations.

🌐 Core Focus: Knowledge Valorisation through Legal & Ethical Readiness

"Knowledge valorisation is not just about innovation – it's about making research results work for society. That requires trust, responsibility, and legal clarity."

🛠 Activities & Outputs
- Case-based Learning: Ethics, compliance, and legal dilemmas in R&I
- Practical Tools: Templates for DPIAs, MoUs, IP clauses, consent forms
- Workshops & Roundtables: Responsible AI, data sharing, dual use, CSRD
- Living Library: Curated resources to support legal-ethical valorisation
- Policy Dialogue: Contributions to EU valorisation and open science frameworks

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🤝 **Target Community**

Researchers • Ethics & compliance officers • R&I project leaders • Legal experts • Policy-makers • Research managers • Civil society • Knowledge brokers

🎓 **Value Proposition**

This SIG builds capacity for:

- Compliant and ethical use of research outputs

- Frictionless collaboration across borders and sectors

- Trust-based ecosystems for open & responsible science

- Legally sound and inclusive knowledge valorisation pathways

🧭 Convened by Katharina Miller & Vanessa Guzek

Interested in joining? Let's co-create the rules of responsible knowledge valorisation.

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This SIG also acts as a policy bridge, amplifying the voices of compliance experts, researchers, and research managers in shaping the legal and ethical landscape of European R&I.

🔍 Focus Areas:
- Responding to public consultations (e.g., AI Act, Data Act, CSRD)
- Co-designing ethical and legal frameworks for open science
- Advocating for fair and inclusive research funding conditions
- Promoting uptake of legal-ethical guidance at institutional and EU levels

📣 Impact Goal:
Support evidence-based, inclusive, and practical policymaking that enhances trust, transparency, and legal certainty across the European Research Area (ERA).

Let's bring legal insight into the heart of science policy.

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The **LEIRR SIG** supports all **three goals of NERQ**:

[1] **Sharing good practices in teaching and education**

We provide **practice-based learning formats** (case studies, legal-ethical dilemmas, workshops) and **hands-on tools** (IP clauses, DPIA templates or data protection in general, MoUs, consent forms) that educators and trainers can directly apply.

[2] **Improving the quality of training and trainers**

By embedding **compliance and ethics** into teaching content and delivery, we improve training design and foster **legally responsible, ethically sound learning environments**.

[3] **Stimulating evidence-informed development of trainings**

We aim to contribute to **research and policy dialogues,** from the AI Act to the CSRD, to ensure that trainings are grounded in **regulatory foresight** and institutional reality, while feeding our findings back into the community.

In short: LEIRR is an *enabling SIG*. We are the legal and ethical backbone that supports the vibrant work of all other SIGs.

NERQ

NETWORK FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH QUALITY

MILLER INTERNATIONAL