

PUBLIC LECTURE EVALUATION

Masaryk University

Faculty**Procedure field****Applicant****Lecture date****Lecture topic**

Persons present
(number)

Designated evaluators
(board members)

Faculty of Social Studies

Sociology

Robert Braun, Ph.D

6.10.2021

The institutionalization of Responsible Research and Innovation

16 (3 online via zoom application)

Prof. PhDr. Tomáš Katrňák, Ph.D (chair, FSS MU)
Ao. Univ.–Prof. Mag. Dr. Katharina Scherke, (member, Universität Graz)

Doc. PhDr. Csaba Szaló, Ph.D (member, FSS MU)

Doc. PhDr. Marek Skovajsa, Ph.D (member, FF UK Praha)

Doc. PhDr. Dino Numerato, Ph.D (member, FSV UK Praha)

On the base of decision of habilitation committee, Dr. Robert Braun gave a public lecture with the title “The institutionalization of Responsible Research and Innovation“. In this public lecture Robert Braun talked about the institutionalization challenges of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) in the European Commission (EC) research funding programs. RRI is a theoretical and policy construct implying that societal actors (researchers, citizens, policy makers, business, third sector organizations) work together to better align both the research and innovation process and its outcomes with the values, needs and expectations of society. While affirmed time and again on a political and normative level, policy implementation in funding programs has been challenging in the EC. This talk reflected on the looming question “Why did RRI not emerge and continue as influential funding instrument and implemented policy”? The presentation used Sabatier’s advocacy coalition framework (ACF) to explain the lack of strong institutionalization and suggest a new onto-political framing for RRI. This is to be grounded in a potentially transformative belief system as well as offering better reflection on changes in socio-economic conditions and political imaginaries. It is suggested that a new belief system coupled with better reflection on revelations of the Anthropocene may revitalize RRI as transformative policy instrument and offer better avenues for institutionalization in coming R&I funding frameworks on the European and national level.

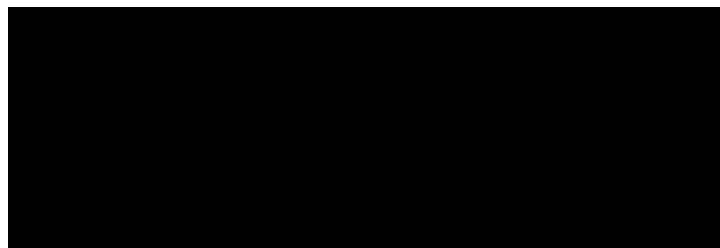
From a pedagogical point of view, the lecture was at very good level and Braun’s speech was at a high level as well. From an academic point of view, the lecture had a standard structure of academic presentation. Because this was a public lecture, Braun was able to avoid scientific specific jargon. He was maximally understandable. Public lecture given by Robert Braun encouraged audience to a rich discussion, partly because he presented the results from some innovative research that concerns societal future. The candidate managed the discussion brilliantly and with high level of academic competences.

Conclusion

The lecture delivered by Robert Braun, entitled “The institutionalization of Responsible Research and Innovation” and delivered as part of the habilitation procedure, **demonstrated** sufficient scholarly qualifications and pedagogical capabilities expected of applicants participating in a habilitation procedure in the field of Sociology.

Date: 6.10. 2021

Tomáš Katrňák



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