

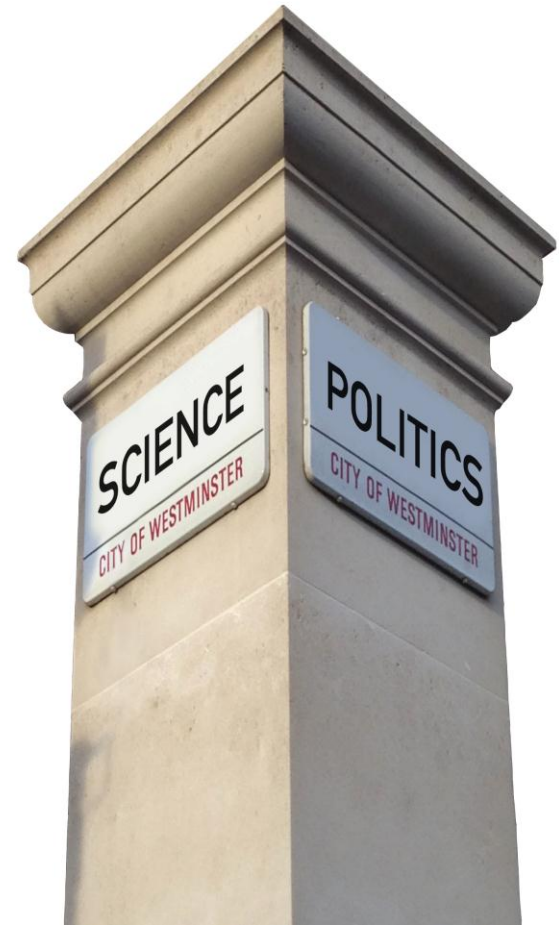


# **Brokers and boundary-spanners:** social sciences in the new research landscape

James Wilsdon @jameswilsdon  
Pathways to Impact from SSH Research  
Vienna, 28-29 November 2018

In this talk, I want to explore:

- **The new research landscape**
- **Are we up to the task?**
- **Five reasons to be cheerful**
- **Eight priorities for future work**



# THE NEW RESEARCH LANDSCAPE



English

Search

Home > Horizon Europe - the next research and innovation framework programme

## Horizon Europe - the next research and innovation framework programme

How Horizon Europe is being designed, legal framework, factsheets, reports and timeline.

### PAGE CONTENTS

**The Commission's proposal for Horizon Europe**

**Pursuing a mission-oriented policy approach**

**Reports and materials that shaped the proposal**

**Public input to the proposal**

**Adoption timeline**

### The Commission's proposal for Horizon Europe

The Commission has published its proposal for Horizon Europe, an ambitious €100 billion research and innovation programme that will succeed Horizon 2020.

The proposal was made as part of the EU's proposal for the next [EU long-term budget](#), the multiannual financial framework (MFF).

Various building blocks were taken into account including the interim evaluation of Horizon 2020, the Lab-Fab-App report (informally the Lamy report), foresight studies and various other reports.



## MISSIONS

# Mission-Oriented Research & Innovation in the European Union

A problem-solving approach to fuel innovation-led growth

by Mariana MAZZUCATO



## LAB – FAB – APP

### Investing in the European future we want

*Report of the independent High Level Group on maximising the impact of EU Research & Innovation Programmes*



English

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The Times Christmas Charity Appeal News, pages 18-19



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# No-deal Brexit 'would be worst crash since 1930s'

Bank warns of deep recession House prices could fall by a third Governor attacked over analysis

Philip Aldrick Economics Editor Sam Coates Deputy Political Editor

Britain would be plunged into its deepest recession since the 1930s under a disorderly no-deal Brexit, the Bank of England warned yesterday. House prices could fall by 30 per cent, interest rates could rise to 5.5 per cent and the economy could shrink by 8 per cent — a worse drop than after the 2008 financial crisis — its worst-case scenario showed.

Ben Broadbent, one of the Bank's deputy governors, said this would be worse than any crisis since "we went back on gold" and the economy crashed in 1930. In the 2008 financial crisis the British economy shrank by 6.3 per cent. The Bank's assessment came hours after a Whitehall analysis suggested that Britain's economy would shrink under all versions of Brexit.

Philip Hammond, the chancellor, said that, in a "purely economic sense", Britain would be worse off than if it stayed in the European Union. In the Commons, however, Mrs May said the cross-government analysis did not mean that the country would be "poorer in the future than we are today".

The Bank and Whitehall analyses — which were branded "fraudulent" and "unrealistic" by Brexiters — set out various Brexit scenarios, including if parliament could not agree a way forward on Brexit and Britain left the EU in March without a divorce deal or transition period.

The Whitehall analysis showed that the economy would be up to 11 per cent smaller over a 15-year period even if Mrs May was successful in getting her deal passed and secured a "frictionless" relationship with the EU. The document acknowledged that Mrs May could struggle to achieve the latter, given that the EU has rejected her Chequers trade plan.

Under a no-deal scenario, the British economy would be up to 10.7 per cent smaller and under a Canada-style trade deal it could be up to 8.1 per cent smaller, it said. Brexiters reacted with fury to the



Mark Carney, the Bank of England governor, said that Britain was not ready for a no-deal Brexit. The Bank's analysis was dismissed as "fraudulent" by Brexiters

assessments, accusing Mrs May and Mark Carney, the Bank of England's governor, of resurrecting "Project Fear" — the dire warnings made during the 2016 referendum campaign. The leading Brexit MP Steve Baker declared that "the reputation of government economics is in the gutter" after the publication of the Whitehall report. The former government trade official David Henig condemned the Treasury-led analysis as "fraudulent" because it was based on "unrealistic" scenarios designed to flatter Mrs May's plan.

Andrew Sentance, a former member of the Bank of England's monetary policy committee, led the criticism of Mr Carney. "The reputation of economic forecasts has taken a bad blow today with both the UK government and the Bank appearing to use forecasts to support political objectives. Let's debate Brexit — which I strongly oppose — rationally without recourse to bogus forecasts," he said.

The findings will be seized upon by Mrs May in her attempt to persuade MPs to back her Brexit plan. But with 13 days until the Commons vote there seemed little sign that the prime minister had begun to win over her critics. Sir Robert Syms yesterday became the 99th Tory MP to publicly declare he could not sign up to the plan.

Amid growing nerves in government, Mr Hammond appeared to undermine Mrs May by admitting that the cabinet would consider "other ideas" in the wake of a Commons defeat. John McDonnell, the shadow chancellor, gave the strongest hint to date that Labour could back a second referendum, agreeing that it was "inevitable".

The Whitehall analysis found that the northeast, northwest, Northern Ireland and West Midlands would be hardest-hit by a no-deal Brexit or a Canada-style agreement, while the pain would be more evenly spread under the scenario closest to Mrs May's deal, with London worst hit. The Bank said Britain was not ready for a no-deal Brexit. Continued on page 2, col 3

## Police ignore third of all crimes after a single call

Fiona Hamilton Crime Editor

Britain's biggest police force is dismissing about a third of all crime reports after only one telephone call with the victim, it can be revealed.

Burglaries, low-level assaults, criminal damage, theft and affray are all on a list of crimes that can be dismissed without being investigated under a policy secretly introduced by the Metropolitan Police last year.

The Met, which used to send a police officer to every crime if requested by the victim, assesses 37 per cent of reports over the telephone, according to a report seen by The Times.

Staff at the telephone and digital investigation unit [IDU], a triaging zone for crime reports, inform the majority of victims that their cases will not be pursued according to criteria such as a lack of CCTV or forensic leads. If the identity of the suspect in the specified offences cannot be identified by the victim or witness the crime is assessed "out", meaning that it will not be investigated. The force has cited budget cuts and a need to focus on serious violence and sexual offences.

The unit, which looked at 200,000 crime reports over nine months last year, is assessing out 80 per cent of reports on average, usually after a single phone call with the victim.

The dropped reports account for 29.6 per cent of crimes reported to the Met. The true number of cases that were not pursued is likely to be higher, but the Met was unable to provide figures for crimes assessed out by other departments.

In addition, 126 million calls to the Met's non-emergency 101 number were abandoned last year, with callers having to wait 15 minutes on average to get through. The number of abandoned calls was 50 per cent higher than in 2016, although the Met says the average time is now 85 seconds after a new system was introduced.

Police forces across the country are increasingly dropping investigations into so-called "volume crime" — the lower-level offences which affect the majority of victims — because of budget cuts. The Met has made £1 billion in savings since 2010 and this year its Continued on page 2, col 3

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TRUTH ABOUT **Kate v Meg** SEE PAGES 12 & 13

**HOLL IN A DAY'S WORK** Star's Down Under diary

**CELEB SPECIAL: PAGES 18 & 19**

Heat is on... Holly at beach in break from jungle with pal Doc, left

## BOE'S 'NO DEAL' BREXIT CLAIMS

- House prices to crash 30%
- Pound worth less than dollar
- But Brexiteers rap 'hysteria'

# CARNAGE

By STEVE HAWKES

HOUSE prices would plunge by 30 per cent as Britain falls into recession in a brutal No Deal Brexit, the Bank of England warned yesterday. The economy will shrink, with the value of the Pound crashing below that of the US dollar and inflation soaring, it predicts. Unemployment will rise by more than one million, the Bank fears. Governor Mark Carney, left, said the apocalyptic vision was a worst case scenario. But Brexiteers dismissed it as hysteria. Tory MP Continued on Page 2

**“We argue that the time has come to move from a purely defensive stance...Social Sciences & Humanities have to look at “impact” in a different way – the term needs to be “re-loaded” with a renewed sense of responsibility and reflecting a different self-image of their role and position in society.”**

*Thomas König, Helga Nowotny & Klaus Schuch*

**Are we up to this task?**

Sunday Review

Let's Shake Up the Social Sciences

Gray Matter

By NICHOLAS A. CHRISTAKIS JULY 19, 2013

TWENTY-FIVE years ago, when I was a graduate student, there were departments of natural science that no longer exist today. Departments of anatomy, histology, biochemistry and physiology have disappeared, replaced by innovative departments of stem-cell biology, systems biology, neurobiology and molecular biophysics. Taking a page from Darwin, the natural sciences are evolving with the times. The perfection of cloning techniques gave rise to stem-cell biology; advances in computer science contributed to systems biology. Whole new fields of inquiry, as well as university departments and majors, owe their existence to fresh discoveries and novel tools.

In contrast, the social sciences have stagnated. They offer essentially the same set of academic departments and disciplines that they have for nearly 100 years: sociology, economics, anthropology, psychology and political science. This is not only boring but also counterproductive, constraining engagement with the scientific cutting edge and stifling the creation of new

Do the social sciences need a shake-up?

Amanda Goodall and Andrew Oswald examine the state of the disciplines

October 9, 2014



Source: Eduardo Fuentes

What principally matters is whether social scientists are doing their job of helping humans to understand the world and improve life

A brave, intriguing and fiery op-ed article appeared last year in The New York Times. Written by Nicholas Christakis, it was highly critical of the way that modern social science is done. The headline - "Let's Shake Up the Social Sciences" - captured its spirit, and it spawned grumpy postings on social science blogs across the world.

Christakis' unusually cross-disciplinary range of expertise makes him well-placed to judge. He is a medical doctor and a sociologist, and currently heads the Human Nature Lab at Yale University, where he is Sol Goldman Family professor of social and natural science. He is famous particularly for his work with James Fowler of the University of California, San Diego, which has promulgated the memorable idea that it is your friends who are making you fat (because they are fat too, and you compare yourself to them - not because

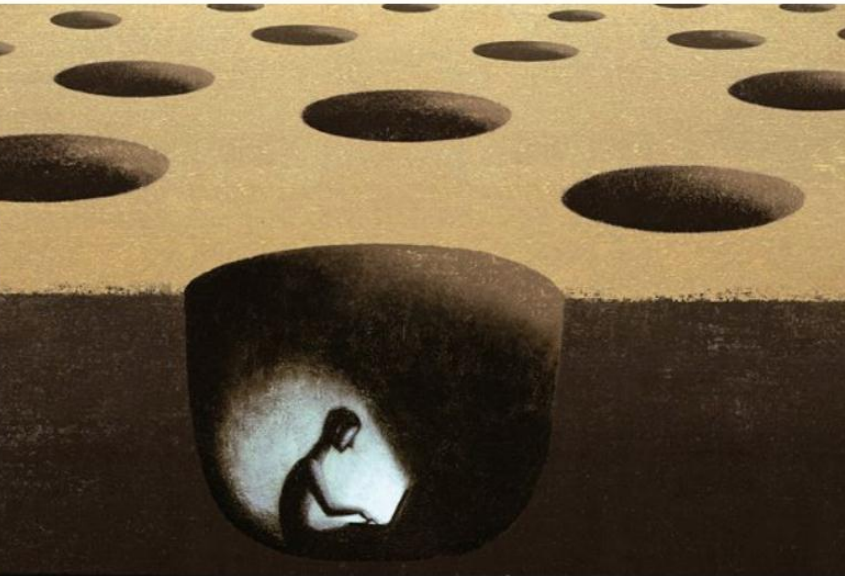
## We must rescue social science research from obscurity

The publication game that researchers are obliged to play has stripped the purpose out of social research. Time to change the rules, says Yiannis Gabriel

August 10, 2017



By [Yiannis Gabriel](#)

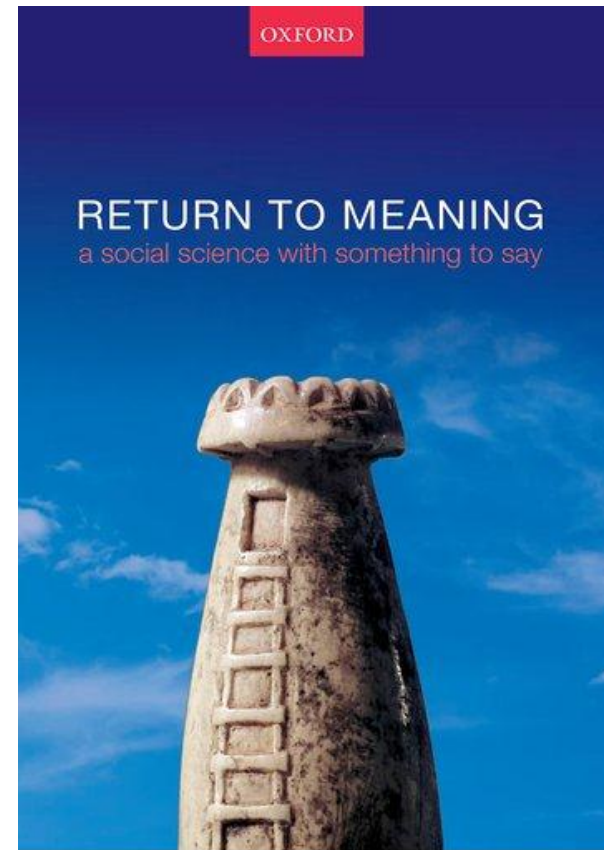


Source: Jon Krause

"Never in the history of human scholarship has so much been written by so many to the benefit of so few." Spoken by one of my co-authors at an academic conference in the social sciences, that Churchillian inversion drew spontaneous applause from an audience of around 400.

Academic publishing is now a game in which high performance forges careers and sustains departmental reputations hyped up on the back of publication and citation "hits". It has become an unstoppable machine churning out texts. An estimated 50 million "scientific" articles are currently in circulation, increasing by more than 2 million each

*"Never before in the history of humanity have so many written so much while having so little to say to so few"*



MATS ALVESSON, YIANNIS GABRIEL, & ROLAND PAULSEN

GENERALIZATION  
SPECIALIZATION  
REINTEGRATION  
CLASSIFICATION  
GOVERNMENTALITY  
AUTOMATICITY  
RE-ETHNICIFICATION  
DESCRIPTIVIZATION  
TRANSITION RELEVANCE PLACE  
HABITUATION  
PASSIVIZATION

# Learn to Write Badly

How to Succeed  
in the Social Sciences

Michael Billig

CAMBRIDGE





## Barriers to research collaboration: are social scientists constrained by their desire for autonomy?



*Researchers everywhere are being pushed to collaborate. Individual academics are being urged to join teams, small teams are encouraged to merge with others to become bigger teams, and institution-wide and inter-institutional collaborations are spreading. With potential benefits including increased chances of funding, visibility, and impact, why, asks **Jenny M. Lewis**, are social scientists not embracing collaboration more? Might it be the value they place on their autonomy, the freedom to pursue their own ideas and choose which topics to work on, that is constraining them? Researcher interviews suggest it may actually be time pressures and managerial constraints that are bounding autonomy, crowding out space to develop collaborations.*

Research collaboration, broadly meaning teams of researchers working together on a common topic, is being encouraged within countries, between countries, within regions, and globally. It features in national research policy in the form of grants that encourage it, and this is mirrored in the strategies of individual universities. This trend has escalated. Individual academics are being urged to join teams, small teams are encouraged to merge with others to become bigger teams, and institution-wide and inter-institutional collaborations are spreading. Many of these are deliberately tilted towards interdisciplinary, multinational teams and partnerships between academic and non-academic institutions. This push is backed by a belief that better research results from “many different brains working on the same question”. Collaboration is also seen as important for addressing grand societal challenges, increasing research productivity, and increasing research impact.

Compared to the biological and physical sciences or the science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines, the humanities, arts and social sciences lag behind on collaboration, at least as measured by concrete, visible markers such as co-authorship practices or jointly held grants. While



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# Should social science be more solution-oriented?

Duncan J. Watts

**Over the past 100 years, social science has generated a tremendous number of theories on the topics of individual and collective human behaviour. However, it has been much less successful at reconciling the innumerable inconsistencies and contradictions among these competing explanations, a situation that has not been resolved by recent advances in ‘computational social science’. In this Perspective, I argue that this ‘incoherency problem’ has been perpetuated by an historical emphasis in social science on the advancement of theories over the solution of practical problems. I argue that one way for social science to make progress is to adopt a more solution-oriented approach, starting first with a practical problem and then asking what theories (and methods) must be brought to bear to solve it. Finally, I conclude with a few suggestions regarding the sort of problems on which progress might be made and how we might organize ourselves to solve them.**

As a sociologist who spends a lot of time in the company of physicists, computer scientists and other outsiders to my field, I am often asked a question of the sort: “What is the social science perspective on  $X$ ?”, where  $X$  is some topic of interest. To a social scientist, the question sounds hopelessly naïve: for any topic  $X$ , social science has dozens, if not hundreds, of perspectives, but no single perspective on which there is anything close to universal agreement. Nevertheless, I would argue that it is worth taking the question seriously, if only because it highlights an important difference between the social and physical/engineering sciences.

Physicists disagree of course — for example, about the best way to reconcile general relativity with quantum mechanics, or the best explanation for the ‘missing mass’ problem in cosmology — but overall there is tremendous agreement both on what physicists know about the universe (Newtonian mechanics, thermodynamics, electromagnetism, optics, special and general relativity, statistical mechanics, particle physics and so on) and where the remaining areas of uncertainty lie. By contrast, any representative cross-section

of theories over the solution of practical problems. Finally, I argue that one possible solution to the incoherency problem is to reject the traditional distinction between basic and applied science, and instead seek to advance theory specifically in the service of solving real-world problems.

Before proceeding, however, let me clarify two points of possible confusion. First, I am not arguing that all, or even most, of social science should become solution-oriented. Social science can serve many purposes — for example, the field can challenge common-sense assumptions about the nature of social reality<sup>7–9</sup>, provide rich descriptions of lived experience<sup>10–12</sup>, inspire new ways of thinking about human behaviour<sup>13,14</sup> and shed light on specific empirical puzzles<sup>15,16</sup> — that do not directly address practical problems but can still provide valuable insight. My argument is not that social scientists should stop pursuing these other objectives in favour of solving practical problems; only that collectively we should pay more attention than we do to the latter. Second, I am also not suggesting that social scientists do not already devote themselves to solving

“The impact debate is now  
gangrenous in the UK”  
John Brewer



Gangrenous  
*finger*

A yellow rectangular sign with a black border of diagonal stripes. The text is centered and reads:

**CHEERFUL  
WHISTLING  
PERMITTED**

# THIS WEEK

## EDITORIALS



**WORLD VIEW** UN wants to ride the rising tide of international hydro-diplomacy **p.6**

**SOCIAL SELECTION** If you build a crowd on social media, the money for your research will come **go.nature.com/t5ytxr**

## Time for the social sciences

*Governments that want the natural sciences to deliver more for society need to show greater commitment towards the social sciences and humanities.*

Physics, chemistry, biology and the environmental sciences can deliver wonderful solutions to some of the challenges facing individuals and societies, but whether those solutions will gain traction depends on factors beyond their discoverers' ken. That is sometimes true even when the researchers are aiming directly at the challenge. If social, economic and/or cultural factors are not included in the framing of the questions, a great deal of creativity can be wasted.

This message is not new. Yet it gets painfully learned over and over again, as funders and researchers hoping to make a difference to humanity watch projects fail to do so. This applies as much to business as to philanthropy (ask manufacturers of innovative crops).

All credit, therefore, to those who establish multidisciplinary projects — for example, towards enhancing access to food and water, in adaptation to climate change, or in tackling illness — and who integrate natural sciences, social sciences and humanities from the outset. The mutual framing of challenges is the surest way to overcome the conceptual diversities and gulfs that can make such collaborations a challenge.

All credit, too, to leading figures in policy who demonstrate their commitment to this multidimensional agenda. And all the more reason

has been for such exercises to concentrate funding sharply towards the upper tiers of the rankings.

Most important in the current context is whether an over-dependence on funding formulae will undermine the nation's abilities to meet its future needs. A preliminary analysis by a policy magazine, *Research Fortnight*, reaches a pessimistic conclusion for those

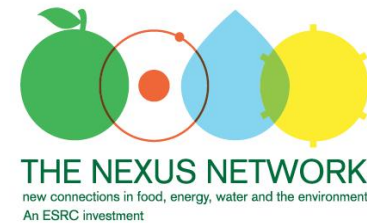
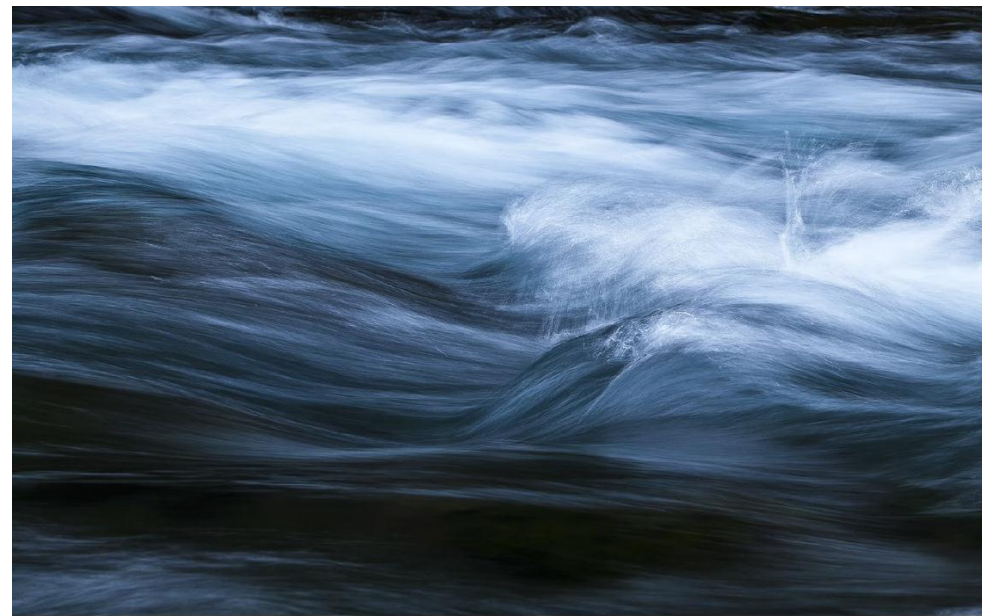
***"If you want science to deliver for society, you need to support a capacity to understand that society."***

who believe that the social sciences are strategically important: given the REF results, the social sciences will gain a smaller slice of the pie than the size of the community might have suggested. If that reflects underperformance in social science at a national scale, and given the strategic importance of these disciplines, a national ambition in, for example, sociology, anthropology and psychology that reaches

beyond the funding formula needs to be energized.

A reader of the government's science and innovation strategy ([go.nature.com/u5xbnx](http://go.nature.com/u5xbnx)) might reach the same conclusion. Its fundamental message is to be welcomed: understandably focusing on enhanc-

# SDGs: the lingua franca of interdisciplinary global challenges research



## Sustainability in Turbulent Times

Lessons from the Nexus Network for supporting transdisciplinary research

The Campaign for Social Science aim is to raise the profile of social science in the public, media and Parliament

About

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Will you help the Campaign sustain social science at this time of great change?

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NEWS



PUBLIC POLICY 10 YEARS AFTER THE CRISIS

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NEWS Campaign for Social Science response to 2018 Autumn Budget



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## TO SECURE KNOWLEDGE

Social Science Partnerships for the Common Good

### Contents

Executive Summary

Introduction

A Knowledge System in Flux

Key Areas for Collaboration

Conclusion: Toward a New Compact for the Social Sciences

Recommendations

### Executive Summary

For decades, the social sciences have generated knowledge vital to guiding public policy, informing business, and understanding and improving the human condition. But today, the social sciences face serious threats. From dwindling federal funding to public mistrust in institutions to widespread skepticism about data, the infrastructure supporting the social sciences is shifting in ways that threaten to undercut research and knowledge production.

How can we secure social knowledge for future generations?

This question has guided the Social Science Research Council's Task Force. Following eighteen months of consultation with key players as well as internal deliberation, we have identified

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We have 3 criteria for choosing a Zinc mission:

1. it must tackle one of the great **unmet needs** in the developed world;
2. the target addressable **market must exceed 100m** people in the developed world alone;
3. there must be lots of **unexploited opportunities to disrupt**, extend and improve existing services through research.

### Social Science Foo Camp 2018



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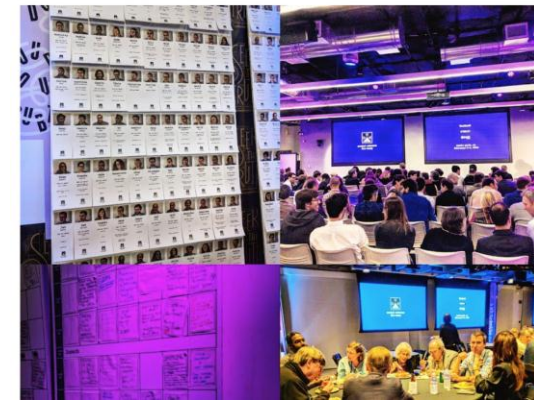
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Twittern

## The team behind Zinc


**SAUL KLEIN**  
Co-Founder, Chairman

**PAUL KIRBY**  
Co-Founder, CEO





# Possibilities of \*some\* new metrics & research data platforms

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social policy X
Free text in full data

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▼ PUBLICATION YEAR

- 2018 262,733
- 2017 287,816
- 2016 271,242
- 2015 268,473
- 2014 257,532
- 2013 243,488
- 2012 212,457
- 2011 203,600
- 2010 181,789
- 2009 162,364

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› PUBLICATION TYPE

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4,355,639	46,366	12,298	1,049	168,270



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Title, Author(s), Bibliographic reference - [About the metrics](#)

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Crystal A Ennis, Margaret Walton-Roberts  
2018, Global Social Policy - Article

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2014, Journal of Dental Education - Article

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[Innovation in social policy: collaborative policy advocacy.](#)

Margaret S Sherraden, Betsy Slosar, Michael Sherraden  
2002, Social Work - Article

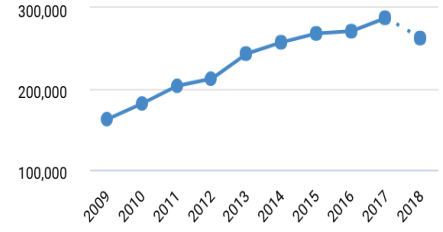
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 FIELDS OF RESEARCH ▼


- [1117 Public Health and Health Services](#) 534,269
- [1402 Applied Economics](#) 350,084
- [1701 Psychology](#) 256,597
- [1608 Sociology](#) 230,553
- [2103 Historical Studies](#) 204,694

 OVERVIEW ▼

RCR Mean **1.26**      FCR Mean **1.57**



● Publications

 RESEARCHERS ▼

# 8 PRIORITIES FOR HIGH-IMPACT SOCIAL SCIENCE

ARE WE STRETCHING  
PEOPLE IN TOO  
MANY DIRECTIONS?  
ARE INCENTIVES  
MISALIGNED –  
ESP FOR ECRs?

MORE REFORMS  
NEEDED TO:  
TRAINING;  
INCENTIVES  
CRITERIA FOR  
CAREER  
ADVANCEMENT

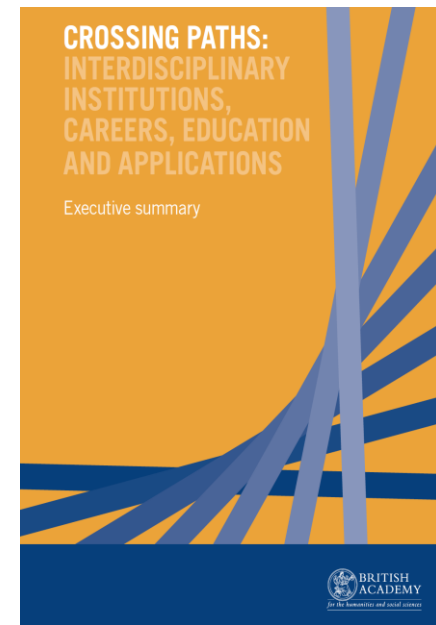
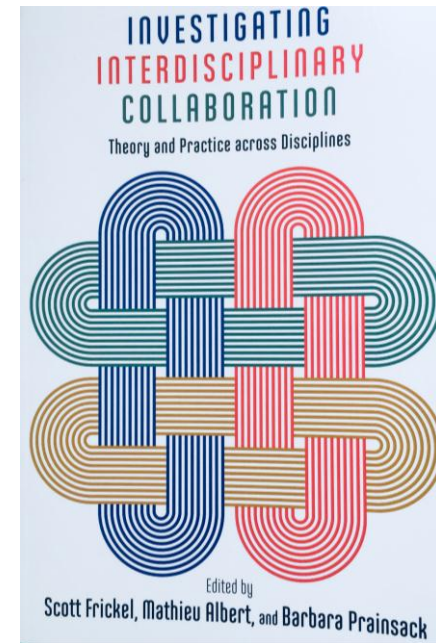


# 1. Be critical, confident transdisciplinaryians

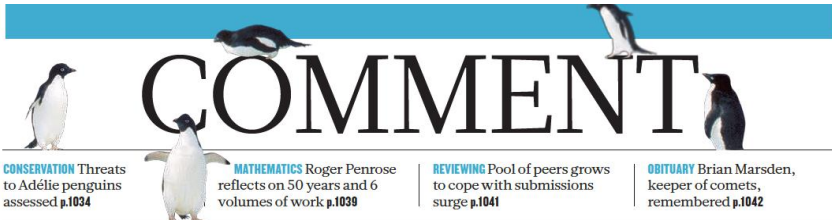
A **multidisciplinary** approach draws upon the strengths or expertise of different disciplines, and more effectively joins up their findings, but leaves disciplinary boundaries (and sometimes hierarchies) intact.

An **interdisciplinary** approach involves the fuller integration of disciplines, to develop potentially novel ways of approaching research questions, recognising that there is a diversity of ways to understand and address particular problems.

**Transdisciplinary** research not only integrates expertise from across academic disciplines, but also involves societal stakeholders in the design stage, and throughout the research process. In transdisciplinary research, knowledge can come from beyond academic disciplines, and insights are often provided through other kinds of tacit knowledge – as held by local communities, businesses, social movements or practitioners.



# 2. Keep it complex & embrace the messiness



**COMMENT**

**CONSERVATION** Threats to Adélie penguins assessed p.1034

**MATHEMATICS** Roger Penrose reflects on 50 years and 6 volumes of work p.1039

**REVIEWING** Pool of peers grows to cope with submissions surge p.1041

**OBITUARY** Brian Marsden, keeper of comets, remembered p.1042



A UK crop circle, created by activists to signify uncertainty over where genetic contamination can occur.

## Keep it complex

When knowledge is uncertain, experts should avoid pressures to simplify their advice. Render decision-makers accountable for decisions, says **Andy Stirling**.

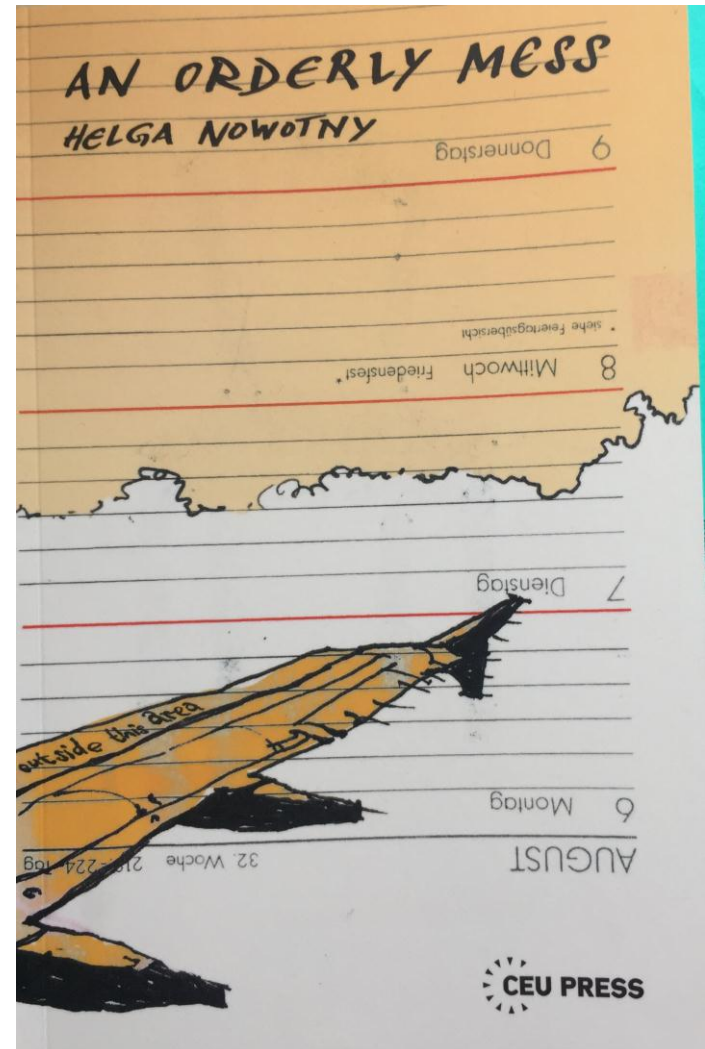
**W**orldwide and across many fields, there lurks a hidden assumption about how scientific expertise can best serve society. Expert advice is often thought most useful to policy when it is presented as a single 'definitive' interpretation. Even when experts acknowledge uncertainty, they tend to do so in ways that reduce unknowns to measurable 'risk'. In this way, policy-makers are encouraged to pursue (and claim) 'science-based' decisions. It is also not uncommon for senior scientists to assert that there is no alternative to some scientifically contestable policy. After years researching — and participating in — science advisory processes, I have come to the conclusion that this practice is misguided.

An overly narrow focus on risk is an inadequate response to incomplete knowledge. It leaves science advice vulnerable to the social dynamics of groups — and to manipulation by political pressures seeking legitimacy, justification and blame management. When the intrinsically plural, conditional nature of knowledge is recognized, I believe that science advice can become more rigorous, robust and democratically accountable.

A rigorous definition of uncertainty can be traced back to the twentieth-century economist Frank Knight<sup>1</sup>. For Knight, "a measurable uncertainty, or 'risk' proper ... is so far different from an unmeasurable one that it is not in effect an uncertainty at all". This is not just a matter of words, or even methods. The stakes are potentially much higher. A preoccupation with assessing risk means that policy-makers are denied exposure to dissenting interpretations and the possibility of downright surprise.

Of course, no-one can reliably foresee the unpredictable, but there are lessons to be learned from past mistakes. For example, the belated recognition that seemingly inert and benign halogenated hydrocarbons were interfering with the ozone layer. Or the slowness to acknowledge the possibility of novel transmission mechanisms for spongiform encephalopathies, in animal breeding and in the food chain. In the early stages, these sources of harm were not formally characterized as possible risks — they were 'early warnings' offered by dissenting voices. Policy recommendations that miss such warnings court overconfidence and error.

The question is how to move away ▶



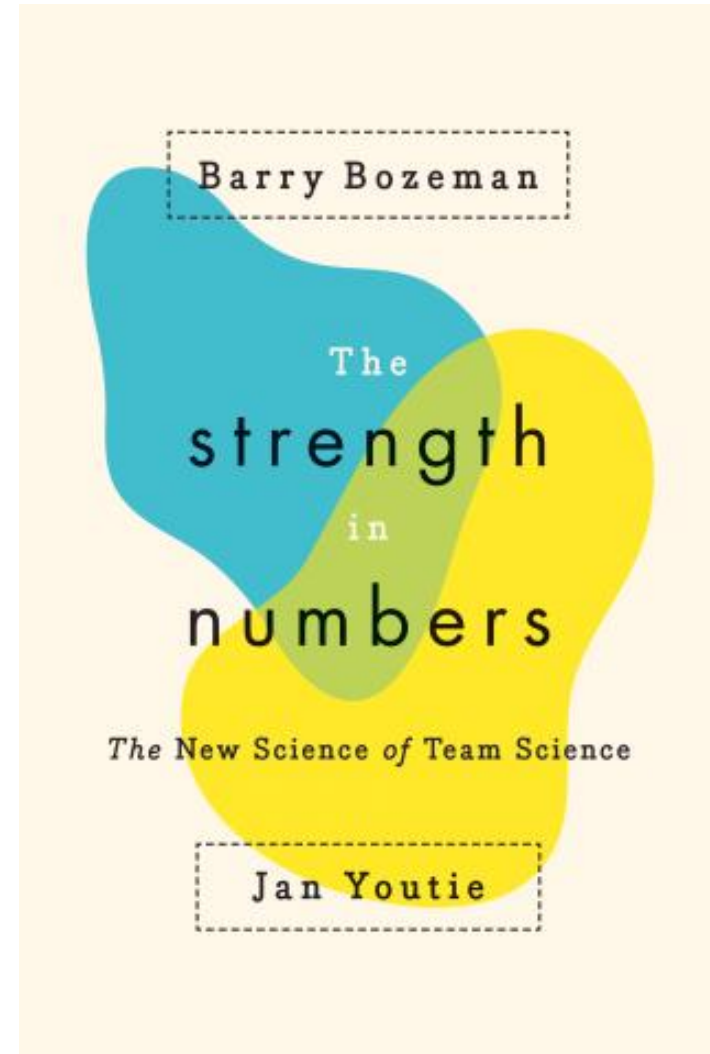
# 3. Get serious about 'team social science'

You are here: Home > Policy > Policy projects > Team science

## Team science

This project sought to understand the current incentives and disincentives for individual researchers participating in 'team science', and how to improve reward and recognition for their contributions.

Status  
Ongoing



## 4. Take the argument into the strongholds of STEM

# The Biomedical Bubble

Why UK research and innovation needs a greater diversity of priorities, politics, places and people

Richard Jones and James Wilsdon  
July 2018

THE LANCET

Volume 391 | Number 99143 | Pages 1487-1521 | July 20-27, 2018

www.thelancet.com

"A radical shift of life sciences funding priorities, away from the biomedical bubble and towards the social, behavioural, and environmental determinants of health, is now needed."

See Editorial page 1507

World Report

25 years since the creation of  
HEPAR  
See page 148

Articles

Outbreak of Ebola virus  
disease in the DR Congo,  
April-May, 2018  
See page 151

Articles

Baricitinib for treatment of  
systemic lupus erythematosus  
See page 152

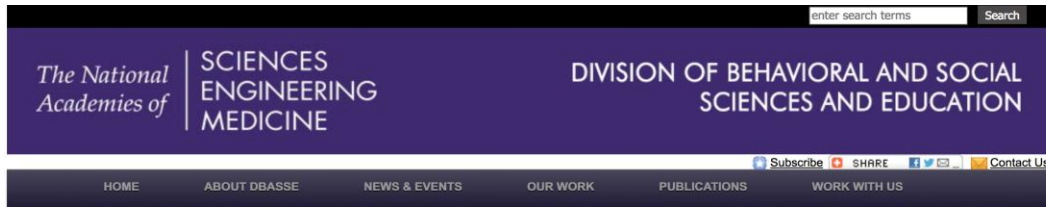
Articles

Evaluation of a novel H1N1  
vaccine in humans and in  
rhesus monkeys  
See page 153

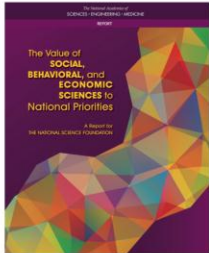
Commission

WHO Independent High Level  
Commission on NCDs  
See page 145

# 5. Seize opportunities & golden threads in innovation & industrial strategy (place, productivity etc)



## The Value of Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences to National Priorities: A Report for the National Science Foundation



In response to a request from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine appointed an expert committee to help determine whether the federal government should fund research in the social, behavioral, and economic (SBE) sciences at NSF. Specifically, the committee was asked to examine whether SBE research furthers the mission of NSF and those of other federal agencies and advances business and industry.

In its report, the committee concludes that the social, behavioral, and economic sciences advance the missions of NSF and other federal agencies and address many of the most important needs of society. SBE research also can be business and industry and has enhanced the U.S. economy.

The report also offers recommendations to better enable SBE research to advance the nation's priorities—for example, urging NSF to undertake a strategic planning process to articulate the most important scientific questions in SBE disciplines, to prepare the next generation of scientists to be more data intensive, interdisciplinary, and team oriented. NSF should also undertake more systematic efforts to communicate the results and value of the SBE research it supports.

Download for free:

[Report](#)

Sponsor: National Science Foundation

### Committee Members

ALAN I. LESHNER (Chair), American Association for the Advancement of Science (emeritus), Washington, DC  
JOHN S. CARROLL, Sloan School of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

OECD publishing

## WHAT ROLE FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES IN INNOVATION? RE-ASSESSING HOW SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES CONTRIBUTE TO DIFFERENT INDUSTRIES

OECD SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION  
**POLICY PAPERS**

November 2017 **No. 45**

# 6. Invest in new spaces for collaboration & knowledge exchange



< News Latest news Video and audio LSE News FAQs

News > 2018 > 04 April 2018 > New spin-out generator receives £5 million from Research England

## News New spin-out generator receives £5 million

TUE 10 APR 2018

“ We need to harness the insights from the social sciences so they can better contribute to the economy and productivity ”

- Professor Julia Black



LSE Library, Nigel Stead

Tuesday, 10 November 2015

## The Rise of the Para-Academic



David Mills and a room of para-academics

The annual conference of the Association of Research Managers and Administrators took place in Brighton at the beginning of June. The event, and the association itself, has mushroomed in recent years.

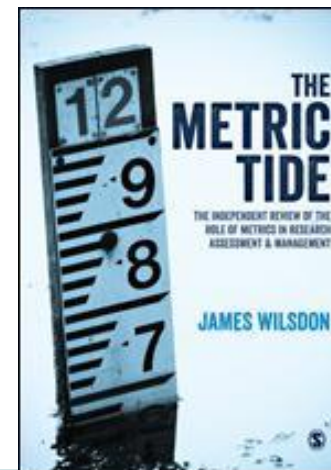




# 7. Expand notions of social science leadership & the criteria we use for hiring, promotion & assessment

## Annex I: Core leadership characteristics derived from existing research base

Leadership	Meaning
Disciplinary leadership	Provide foresight, vision and direction to advance and transform knowledge and methods within research disciplines, through both individual and collective efforts.
Inter-disciplinary leadership	Engage across disciplinary boundaries with both confidence and humility to develop new ways of thinking and working, often to address major societal challenges.
Complex project leadership	Manage large, complex projects, programmes and research infrastructures effectively, including some element of financial management and oversight.
Leading generational change	Provide inspiration and guidance to the next generation of social scientists.
Leadership in impact generation	Spur innovation in the delivery of impact from social science research, including building close relationships with senior figures among potential research users. High-profile advocacy and promotion of the social sciences.
Leadership in public engagement	Engage the wider public in understanding and appreciating the value of social science to their lives and communities. High-profile advocacy and promotion of the social sciences.
International leadership	Work internationally to raise the profile of UK social science and strengthen international collaborations.



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Home Policy and analysis Forum for Responsible Research Metrics

## Forum for Responsible Research Metrics

A group of research funders, sector bodies and infrastructure experts working in partnership to promote the responsible use of research metrics.

- [About the forum](#)
- [Survey on the culture of research metrics - respond by Monday 11 December](#)
- [Research Excellence Framework 2021](#)
- [Papers](#)

### About the forum

The Forum for Responsible Metrics is developing a programme of activities to support the responsible use of research metrics in higher education institutions and across the research community in the UK. It focuses on the recommendations made in the [Metric Tide](#) report.

The Forum will advise on, and work to improve, the data infrastructure that underpins metric use and the culture of research metrics.

The Forum will offer advice to the UK higher education funding bodies on how quantitative indicators might be used in assessing research outputs, environments and impact in REF2021.

Who is involved with the Forum for Responsible Metrics?

The forum is a partnership between the Higher Education Funding Council for England, Research Councils UK, the Wellcome Trust,

# 8. Develop “next generation” metrics & assessment systems



| A-Z index | Site map | About this site | What's New | Legal

RESEARCH & INNOVATION  
Open Science

European Commission > Research & Innovation > Open Science > Expert Group on Altmetrics

Home Open Access European Open Science Cloud Open Science Policy Platform Expert Group on

## Expert Group on Altmetrics

### NEW: Final Report of the Expert Group on Altmetrics is available

Publication date: 20 March 2017

The Expert Group on Altmetrics outlines in this report how to advance a next-generation metrics in the context of Open Science and delivers an advice corresponding to the following policy lines of the Open Science Agenda: Fostering Open Science, Removing barriers to Open Science, Developing research infrastructures and Embed Open Science in society.

The report will be presented and discussed at the Open Science March 2017

[The report can be downloaded here](#) 📄 796 KB

## Expert Group on Indicators

### Indicators for Researchers' Engagement with Open Science and its Impacts

DG Research and Innovation has established an Expert Group to conduct its work over the whole of 2016.

The Expert Group will, among other:

- Categorise and review different altmetrics and their relation to established scientometrics
- Define the features of a 'responsible metrics' aimed at a responsible use of altmetrics to advance open science, able to track desirable indicators in scientific research
- Develop an agenda for the development of such a 'responsible metrics'

How can the responsible engagement of the scientific communities with open knowledge practices be stimulated? In what way may current evaluation protocols hinder the development of open science and scholarship? Which new indicators can be developed to ensure that

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**CAMPAIGN**  
for **SOCIAL SCIENCE**

