Call for papers – Special Issue

Responsible innovation

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The intersection between innovation and responsibility has resulted in the emergence of a new concept, namely "responsible innovation". This notion has been well-known in several countries, such as the Netherlands and the USA (French Embassy in the United Kingdom, 2011), for many years. It is now eventually finding its way in French scientific communities. Research is currently developing at three levels.

Firstly, the European Commission's DG Research has aimed to bring science and innovation closer to society and European citizens since 2001. They have developed the concept of "responsible research and innovation" (RRI) since 2010 to meet this ambition. It involves a greater participation of all sections of society in the whole research and innovation process. Von Schomberg, (2011) gave a first definition: "*Responsible Research and Innovation is a transparent, interactive process by which societal actors and innovators become mutually responsive to each other with a view to the (ethical) acceptability, sustainability and societal desirability of the innovation process and its marketable products(in order to allow a proper embedding of scientific and technological advances in our society")*. One section of the European research and innovation program Horizon 2020, called "science with and for society", is dedicated to this question. It aims to build a better cooperation between science and society during this process, and to better align the process and outcomes of R&I with the values and needs of the European society.

A second meaning defines responsibility as the moral duty to be accountable for one's actions and its consequences. This definition is mainly used in the framework of "methodological institutionalism". From this point of view, understanding the social and environmental responsibility of a company means questioning: (i) its meso-economic perimeter (perimeter delimiting the internal actors of the company); (ii) its interface (perimeter delimiting the external actors who interact with it); (iii) the set of modalities defining the interactions between internal and external actors, including the modalities to choose the decision-makers (Chanteau, Labrousse, 2013).This definition can also be used in the case of the innovation process.

Finally, different disciplines are working on the concept of responsible innovation within organizations. According to Pavie (2012), this concept originated in the work of Hans Jonas (1979) on responsibility in the technological age, rather than from the notion of social responsibility or sustainable development. Thus, for Pavie (2012, p. XVIII), responsible innovation "*covers the capacity of an individual, an association, an organization, an institution, but essentially a company to innovate taking into account all the impacts of its innovation*". The notion refers to the three classical types of impacts defined for sustainable development, the three "pillars", as well as to the responsibility

of the innovator regarding these impacts. It is, therefore, not only the purpose of innovation that matters, as in the concept of social innovation for example, but also its actual impact.

These three aspects, macro, meso and micro, raise a series of questions that will be discussed in this issue, crossing different disciplines.
- How do these innovations emerge? How are they supported?
- How can the interests of stakeholders be taken into account during the innovation process, both in the scientific community and in organizations? More broadly, how to better integrate stakeholders and their expectations into the innovation process? How to identify them?
- What is the role of the users in the innovation process? Can we merge responsible innovation with Von Hippel's innovation by users approach (1976)?
- How can actors from the civil society, associations and NGOs participate in the process? Does their involvement always lead to responsible innovation?
- How to evaluate ex ante the impacts of potential innovations?
- How can open innovation (Chesborough, 2003) be responsible?
- How to balance the different dimensions of sustainable development (social, environmental, economic)? How to balance different stakeholders with contradictory expectations?

  This list is, of course, not exhaustive.

The purposes of the innovation are one aspect of responsible innovation. The concept also leads to a series of questions, some of them still remaining unanswered, related to the field of sustainable development and CSR. Here they are associated with questions concerning the modalities of implementation of the innovation process, such as the participatory approach.

Submission procedure
We expect to publish this special issue in the first semester of 2019. Papers must be original and comply with the instructions for authors of the journal Innovations. Please refer to the following for recommendations to authors: http://innovations.cairn.info/en/instructions-for-authors/

Full paper submission deadline: Until the 28th of February 2018 exclusively on the Editorial Manager platform: http://www.editorialmanager.com/innovations/default.aspx

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