

Crossdisciplinary cooperation within ASSH and beyond

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While the world has spent billions of dollars for a long-term project to take a picture of a black hole, fields in the arts and humanities are under threat everywhere. In more than a dozen US states and in Japan governments have worked on policies to oust humanities from universities stating that they are not productive in economic sense. Many other governments and university boards seem to have difficulties in developing convincing policies for arts and humanities, and also for social sciences. At the same time, knowledge from AHSS (Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences) fields is more necessary than ever. Many of the main challenges' societies are facing today are in need of knowledge from these fields, think of migration, populism, the economic and financial crises that infest the world, religious conflicts, populism that jeopardizes the European Community. Many other main issues that seem to belong to STEM fields, like climate change, energy transition, AI, automated transport systems, sustainable cities and production systems, need the input of ASSH fields because in the end it all comes down to human behaviour. Collaboration between scientists from all fields is necessary to address these societal challenges, and also between science and other areas in society, politics, policy makers, industry, civil society. This is not easy but can be done, as I will try to show in this talk.

Dr. Jack Spaapen is an emeritus senior policy advisor at the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences with expertise in areas including, societal impact evaluation, research and innovation policy, responsible research and innovation and scientific advice. Jack has coordinated many Academy projects in these areas, as well as several EU projects, including, the FP7 SIAMPI project on productive interactions between science and society (2009-2012), and Indicators for Responsible Research and Innovation (2014). Jack co-chaired a project for the OECD on the role of scientific advice in controversial issues in society (2013-2015). Jack is currently working on the project funded by the EU, entitled "**SHAPE-ID: Shaping Interdisciplinary Practices in Europe**" (shapeid.eu); together with ETH and other international partners.

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