Ethical and Societal issues in robotics

The EU-ICT programme

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I AM A ROBOT
What is a robot?

28/11/2014 – Toulouse – Cité de l'Espace
RoCKIn
1st competition

Answer from a little girl of 7 years old in the audience:
"Something to help humans"
Ethical and Societal issues in robotics: (many) open questions

What is an intelligent/autonomous system?
What is an autonomous system?
What can a robot do?
Can a robot be dangerous?
Who is responsible for what the robot is doing?
How can technology support humans efficiently?
How is a robot interfering with my privacy?
Will a robot take my job?

[NR: many recent studies show that robots create jobs]

• VALID QUESTIONS FOR ANY AUTONOMOUS OR AUTOMATISED SYSTEM, NOT ONLY ROBOTS
Ethical and societal issues in robotics: a multi-disciplinary effort

COLLABORATIVE effort

roboticists, engineers, neuroscientists

but also

philosophers, sociologists, lawyers, psychologists

and

citizens

ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS /
SEARCHING FOR ANSWERS /
COMMUNICATION / OUTREACH / DISSEMINATION
EU-FUNDED ACTIVITIES in Ethical and Societal issues for robotics

NOW
Activities

EuCog NoE - http://www.eucognition.org/

SPARC Topic Group on Ethical-Legal-Socio-Economic Issues

But also Topic Groups on
- AI and Cognition in Robotics
- Robot Companions for Assisted Living
- Healthcare
- Natural Interaction with Social Robots
- Socially Intelligent Robotics
- Education
The Eurobarometer survey

More later
(see Björn's presentation)
The overall purpose of the RRI/SSH network of DG Connect is to ensure the implementation of two cross-cutting issues, which are social sciences and humanities (SSH), on the one hand, and responsible research and innovation (RRI) on the other hand, throughout ICT-related parts of H2020.

The network will also pay special attention to the contribution it can bring to the bridging of research and policy.
Mindset

Avoid silos

More than compliance

Encourage interactions
CSA project: RRI-ICT Forum

- Co-ordinating overall RRI-SSH action
- Duration: 36 months
- Start date: 1 January, 2015
- Co-ordinator: Roger Torrenti

Objectives
- Monitoring, analysing, supporting and promoting SSH contribution to, and RRI approach in ICT research and innovation under H2020

Contact
- Website: http://www.rri-ict-forum.eu/ (site under construction)
- Email: INFO@RRI-ICT-FORUM.EU
Need for SSH-expertise and RRI-actions assured via RRI/SSH Intensive Topics?

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b. Innovation Actions: Technology transfer - Industry-academia cross-fertilisation

The aim is to gear up and accelerate cross-fertilisation between academic and industrial robotics research to strengthen synergies between their respective research agendas, through joint industrially-relevant scenarios, shared research infrastructures and joint small- to medium-scale experiments with industrial platforms. Proposals are expected to demonstrate technology transfer to professional or service robotics, in application areas such as manufacturing, commercial, civil, agriculture, healthcare, consumer or transport. Activities are expected to be clustered to facilitate a sectoral structured dialogue and to substantially improve overall impact. The action may involve financial support to third parties in line with the conditions set out in Part K of the General Annexes. In such case, the consortium will define the selection process for additional academic/research organisations, industry or end-users as appropriate to carry out the experiments in order to reach the objectives defined in the proposals.

ICT 24 - 2015: Robotics

ICT 24. e CSA: community building and robotic competitions (2 CSAs?)

Supporting the Robotics Public-Private Partnership
http://www.eu-robotics.net/ppp/

More specifically support for:
Networking, education, public awareness, standardisation, connecting to national programmes, intern. cooperation; ethical, legal, societal and economic issues

Also to be covered: Coordinating the cognitive systems community and reinforcing links between robotics and cognitive systems
EU-FUNDED ACTIVITIES
IN ELS issues for robotics

COMING SOON
Different tools

Different distances

Type I: within projects
Type II: within topics
Type III: across topics
Type IV: straddling on topic
Type I: within projects

- Mix of disciplines within the project
- Review of societal issues
- WorkPackage or within a WorkPackage
Dialogue of disciplines takes place **within** the topic:

- Panel, sounding board
- Topical coordinated support action

Eye-opener for both sides, interactive and constructive conversation.
Societal issues across topics:

- Reformulation of human rights, needs and aspirations
- New frontiers of human/machine interactions

Small budget, big scope...
Type IV: sister projects

- Unveiling implicit biases
- Propose constructive alternative framings
- Foster innovation through widening of imaginaries
- Provide challenging questions, issues and solutions

- RIAs of 300K-500K
- Simple project structure
- Pilot
ELS in robotics: working together

Attract top quality SSH-RRI actors
Involve the robotics R&I community
Include users and citizens
THANK YOU

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