

**CONCLUSIONS AND  
OUTCOMES  
WORKSHOP ON RESPONSIBLE  
RESEARCH AND INNOVATION  
AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

■ DATE: 13. DECEMBER 2018

■ VENUE: TECHNOLOGY CENTRE CAS, PRAGUE

## **WORLD CAFÉ SESSIONS**

### **PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

Throughout the discussions, a diversification of the transport system was stated, which leads to problems with 'old' transport modes in contrast to new services, which causes polarization.

One of the major issues debated was data: While data is seen as bringing about new opportunities, the main questions in this regard are who will benefit from this development and what the data is used for. If these questions do not get posed and are not answered through an open, inclusive process, the market might provide the answers, focussing on economic rather than societal needs. The final assessment was that there is a lack of resilience of the public transport model (in terms of adaptability and versatility) and that the core question is if/how public transport can address this issue.

### **AI & ETHICS**

During the discussions, transparency was mentioned to be a prevalent problem in the current state of technology and increased transparency is expected to foster societal trust into future (technological) developments.

In relation to the question 'What is considered to be ethical?' it was mentioned that especially profit and technology are currently seen as the answers to everything, which is perceived as problematic. One possible solution in this regard is to find a balance between different societal needs and to align profit and technology more closely to other societal interests and needs.

### **AUTONOMOUS MOBILITY**

The conclusion of the discussion was that autonomous mobility will happen – whether we like it or not. However, the people should be included to decide where to head with this development. This entails that society needs to be stimulated to be part of this process and that 'leaders' might have to consider taking over new roles and/or models.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Criteria for funding should be updated with inclusion of societal aspects of research in mobility (ethics, gender etc.) – both, natural and social sciences should be considered.
- In relation to the problems discussed throughout the workshop, the essential question is to assess future scenarios. Research funding should address societal desirability issues more thoroughly and move away from a technology focused R&I approach.
- Stakeholders should be involved in decision processes about research agendas (what is 'good' and/or 'bad' for society), therefore more stakeholder discussions should take place. Furthermore, stakeholders should also be invited to evaluation panels and other forms of decision-making.
- Responsibility needs to be framed as an opportunity, not as 'another thing you have to do', as people involved on the project level already have to follow a lot of specific criteria that need to be met.
- Policy actors need to be included more into the process – the issues brought up during this workshop need to get 'out there' to the decision makers, as they are usually not experts themselves, but rely on experts to make their decisions.