

Humboldt Kolleg

Hilton Garden Inn Hotel, Doamnei St. 12, Bucharest  
18-22 November 2020

### *Global Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

- 1) Technological development and human health/ quality of life*
- 2) Climate change and environmental sustainability*
- 3) Democracy and cohesion in Europe*

### *Institutional Responsibility for Big Data Research*

In the age of information exact sciences, social sciences and humanities are facing an informational paradigm shift. We know that the current ethical safeguards cannot cope with big data (BD) research, research which poses a great ethical threat, risking to undermine the autonomy of the users (internet and/or mobile phone users) and infringe their privacy. In the current scientific literature, a clear normative tension is revealed between the potential benefits of BD research and the potential ethical risks. It is difficult to generally assess this tension since most of the current research is focused on the ethical risks of conducting big data research. We need to reevaluate the main goals of Research Ethics Committees and include alongside the safeguards a normative framework which recognizes the duties of researchers in conducting research that is beneficial for society.

**Toni Gibea** has a PhD in Philosophy – experimental philosophy, and he is currently working at the Research Ethics Committee of the University of Bucharest. He is interested in moral philosophy, experimental philosophy (experimental ethics) and research ethics.