Project Deliverable

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Summary:

ESRs and ERs of the PLACES consortium will benefit from the research and training program in multiple ways. First, they will be exposed to internationally leading groups in behavioral and systems neuroscience and virtual reality. ESRs and ERs will acquire competencies and hands-on training in state-of-the-art experimental and computational techniques, combined with a well-balanced training in transferable skills. Secondments in the partner country will also provide them with new intercultural competencies and facilitate scientific networking at an international level early in their career. In summary, the training will prepare the trainees for high profile career paths within academia and beyond. This deliverable presents the relevant guidelines to the ESRs and ERs.

WP 6: Training, transfer of scientific knowledge and career development

D 6.1: Guidelines for specific aspects of scientific and career development training

Doctoral researchers (ESRs) are encouraged to participate at workshops, courses, and seminars (offered at all institutions of PLACES) that provide key add-on-qualifications which are relevant for a later high-profile career inside academia or beyond. Importantly, all ESRs must take a course on *Good Scientific Practice*. In addition, the following courses are the most recommended: scientific presentation and writing, grant writing, career planning, time- and stress management, organization of conferences. Importantly, at each institution, these courses are open to all members of PLACES alike.

Most participating institutions offer also specific coaching and training for career development for Postdocs (ERs) including soft skills and training programs targeting the development and management of scientific projects as well as training in relevant skills (team leader competence, law, and business courses) that will foster successful applications at later career stages. We highly recommend to our non-tenured ERs to participate at these courses.

We encourage secondees to take appropriate language classes ahead of the secondment, if needed.

Secondees who work with laboratory animals must be sufficiently trained and qualified and must undergo continuing professional development (CPD). At the participating institutions, training courses on research involving animal experiments are provided on a regular basis. Secondees of PLACES are entitled to participate at these courses.

The transfer of knowledge from basic research into non-academia is an important but often not well-established process at universities. This concerns the transfer into industry and non-profit organizations as well as transfer into political and social sciences. Secondees are offered to participate at relevant workshops.

Finally, and in line with the FAIR data principles, secondees are encouraged to participate at research data management training modules (FAIR: Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Re-usable. https://www.nature.com/articles/sdata201618). These modules cover collection, storage, editing and sustainable provision of research data, e.g., data formats, metadata and documentation standards, licensing, copyright law and data protection regulations, and solutions for storing, archiving and publishing data.

Quality control: all transferable-skills courses are evaluated on a regular basis. The course coordinators at the different participating institutions will provide the PLACES coordinator with the results of the evaluation of these courses. If necessary, the program of future courses will be adapted appropriately.