



# Promoting Integrity as an Integral Dimension of Excellence in Research

*VCWI Studiedag*

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# Team Printeger





# Outline presentation

- Project Updates
  - WP2 conceptual exploration
  - Preliminary thoughts WP2
- WP3
  - Extent and incidence of misconduct
  - Case studies
- Challenges



# Project Updates

- First phase → Description of the phenomenon and interpretation
  - How is integrity conceptualised and understood?
  - Codes & Rules. Misconduct and law?
  - Misconduct in science as a form of deviance.
  - Organisational dimensions: RI as organisational responsibility
  - ☑ Deliverables are available online



# Outcome WP2

- WP2 = comprehensive analysis
- GA Oslo
- Consensus?
- **Multidisciplinary**
- Inductive stance
  - Open discussions
  - Empirical phase WP3



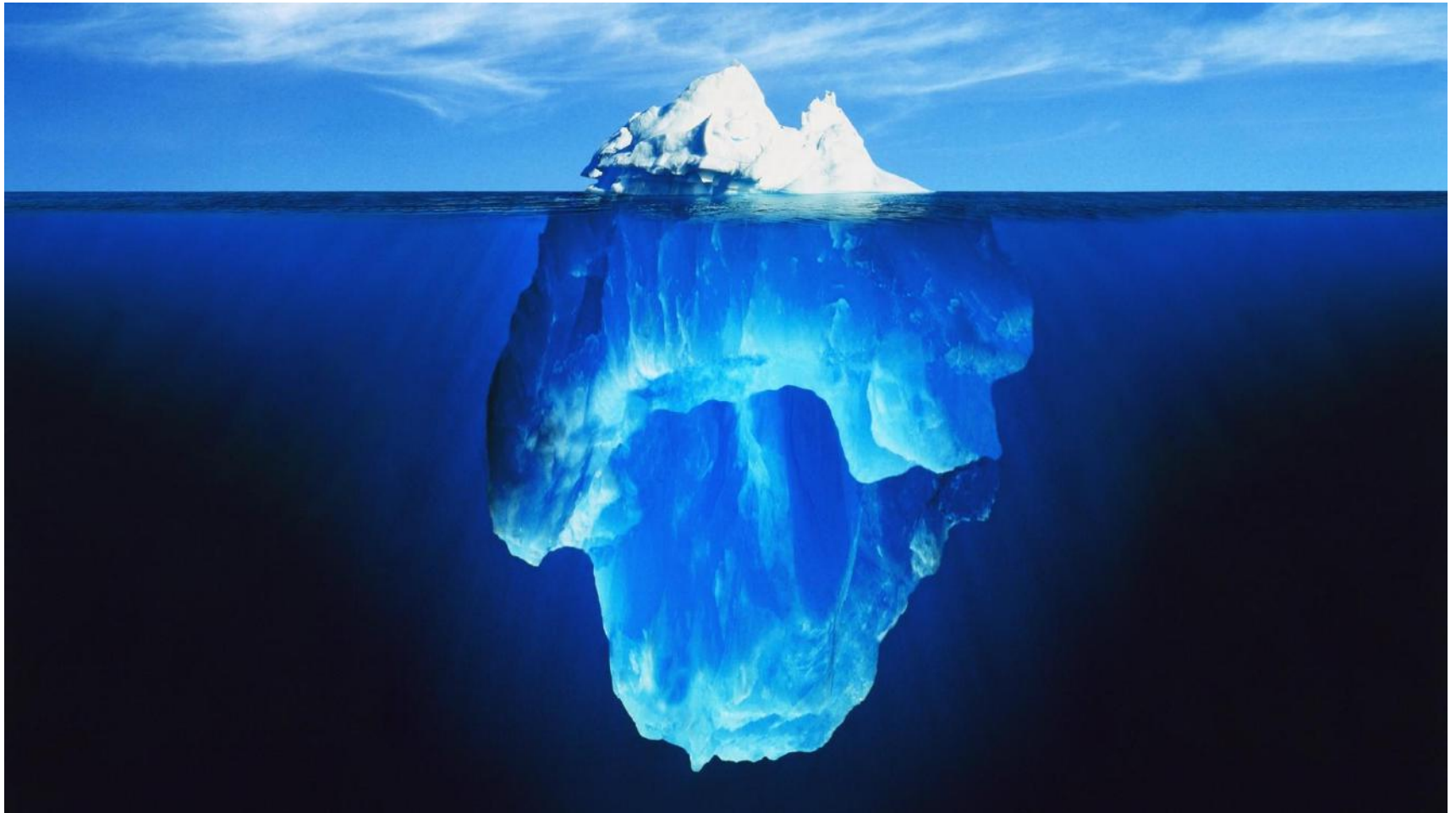
## WP3 What happens in Practice? Institutional responses to misconduct in science

- Analyse responses to misconduct
- Clarify empirical occurrence
- Clear figures
- What policies are most likely to engender a culture of integrity?
- Overview of *institutional reaction* – overview of *societal reaction*
- **Empirical research on the extent of misconduct**



## Task III.1 Incidence and Extent

- Estonia, Norway, Italy, UK, Belgium and The Netherlands
- Qualification, registration, measurement
- Attention to misconduct in Science ↑
- Actual rise of misconduct?







# Dark Number

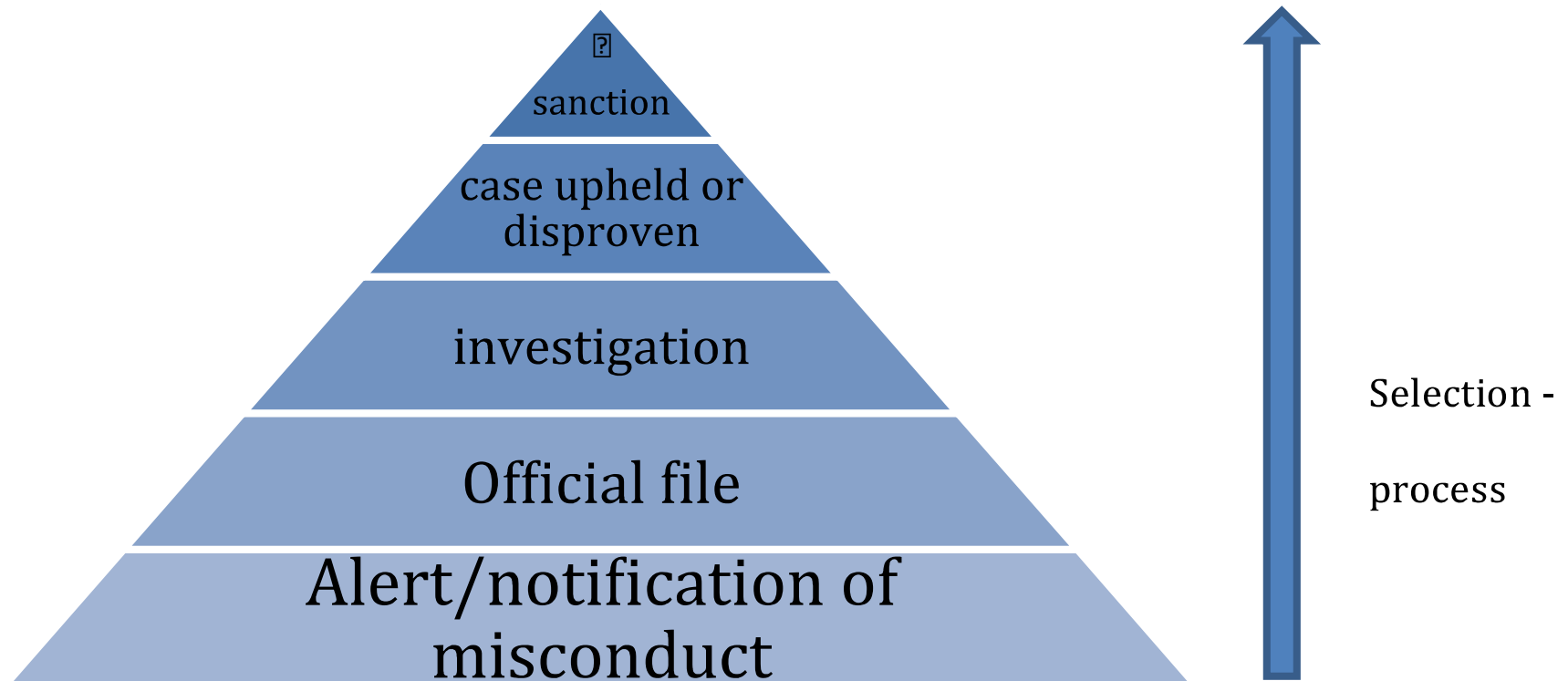
- No consensus & definitional ambiguity
- Broad *umbrella* concept of MS causing confusion
- Underreported vs. under discovered?
  - Hidden ↔ known ↔ registered?
- Bias
  - Informal → QRP's
  - Cases under the radar



# Measuring scientific misconduct

- Quantitative data
  - In order to estimate the extent
  - Through self report, official files, investigations, retractions, ...
  - Bias
- At the level of the research institutes
  - Data on registered misconduct

# What information ? Procedural chain





# Qualitative data

- Citation Hesselman: “Because currently very little is known about the outlined processes of occurrence, detection, punishment and publication of misconduct and about the negotiation of definitions within the scientific fields, raw numbers of retractions or self-reported misbehaviours are not very telling” (Hesselman et al, 2014)
- need for more explorative research
  - Discovering meanings
  - Social processes
  - Negotiating boundaries



# Beyond 'numbers'

- Qualitative research requires:
  - Understanding of internal dimensions
  - Interpretation
  - Definitional dynamics
- Actors have the power to:
  - Qualify
  - Quantify
  - In depth analysis

# Challenges

- Apparent difficulty as a researcher to get empirical material (raw data)
  - Statistics → numbers, figures, ...
  - In-depth analysis? Complexity of cases
- Endangers systematic and in depth qualitative analysis
- Two discussions
  - Communication
  - Scientific research on the issue?



# Thank you!

<https://printeger.eu/>