



Research Ethics and Integrity trainings for doctoral students in France: a national overview.

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Background

2015. French Charter for Research Integrity – article 7 : *"Research integrity rules must be integrated into educational curricula, particularly those for master's and PhD degrees, and learning them should be considered as an integral part of mastering the specific domain of research."*

2016. Ministerial order (May 25) establishing the national framework for training and the procedures leading to the delivery of the national doctoral degree – article 3 : *"doctoral schools must ensure that each doctoral student has received training in research ethics and research integrity"*

2020. Article L211-2 of the Research Code (added by the law of December 24) : *"Public institutions shall implement the necessary mechanisms to promote the values of scientific integrity and foster compliance with its requirements."*

A joint survey

- **ResINT : French network of research integrity officers**

Anne Fogli, ResINT

Caroline Strube, ResINT

Catherine Tessier, ResINT

Nathalie Théret, ResINT

- **RNCD : French doctoral schools network**

Thomas Coudreau, RNCD

- **OFIS : French office for research integrity**

Joëlle Alnot, OFIS

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Romain Pierronnet, OFIS.

Objective:

**To draw up a sufficiently exhaustive map of specific actions
in the field of research ethics and research integrity,
in order to better identify and improve them.**

Data collection

Online survey (*limesurvey*) hosted by the HCERES with 71 questions organized in 4 sections: :

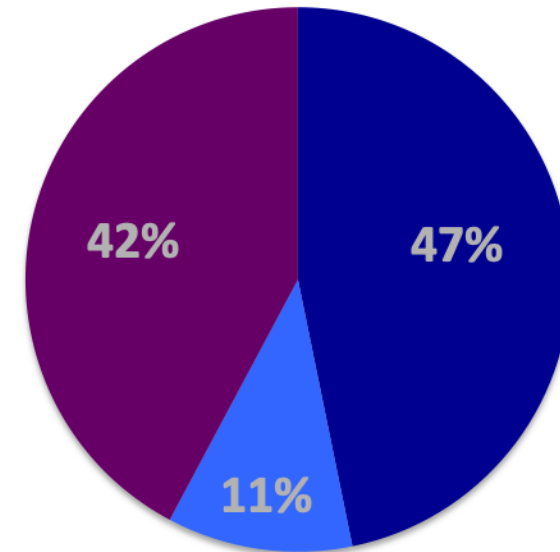
- Identification and characterization of the respondent and his/her institution (1 question),
- Questions related to the institutional systems for ethics and scientific integrity in the institution (13 questions),
- Questions related to training activities specifically aimed at doctoral students (30 questions),
- Questions related to training offered to other audiences than doctoral students (27 questions), this section being partly built in mirror of the previous one.

Sent to 290 heads of higher education and research institutions from the HCERES database, to the RESINT list and to the RNCD on 11/5/19. Follow-up on 12/11/19 and 1/7/20. Closing of the survey on 1/14/20.

Responding institutions

120 responses from 109 institutions

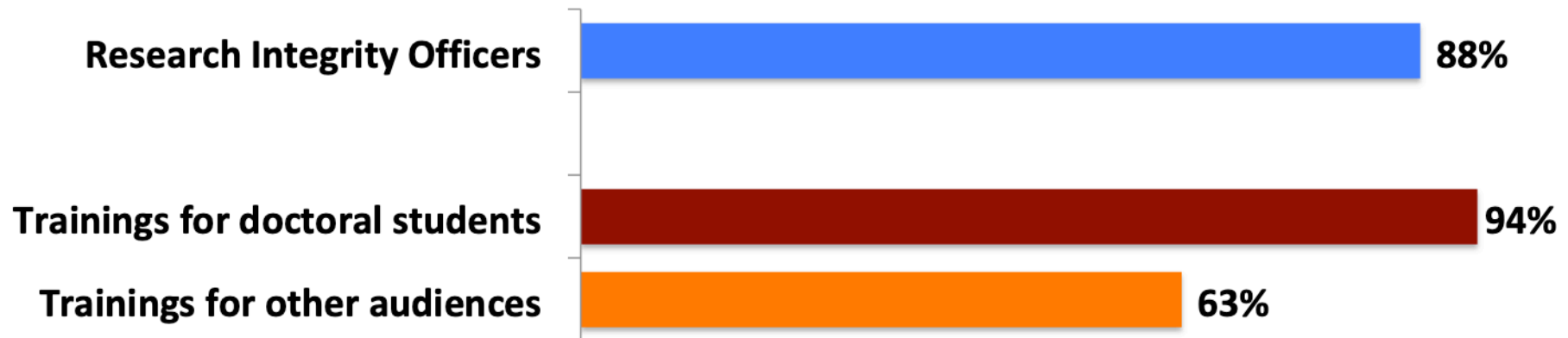
- 51 Universities
- 12 Research Institutions
- 46 Schools / Institutes



For the rest of this presentation to an international audience, **we have chosen to limit the sample analysis to the 51 universities having completed the survey.**

Research Integrity Officers & trainings

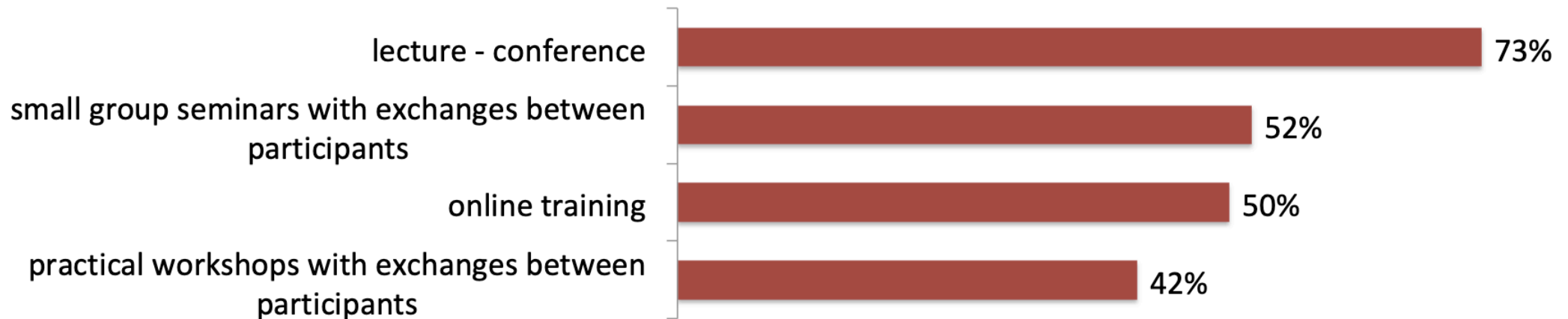
51 responding universities



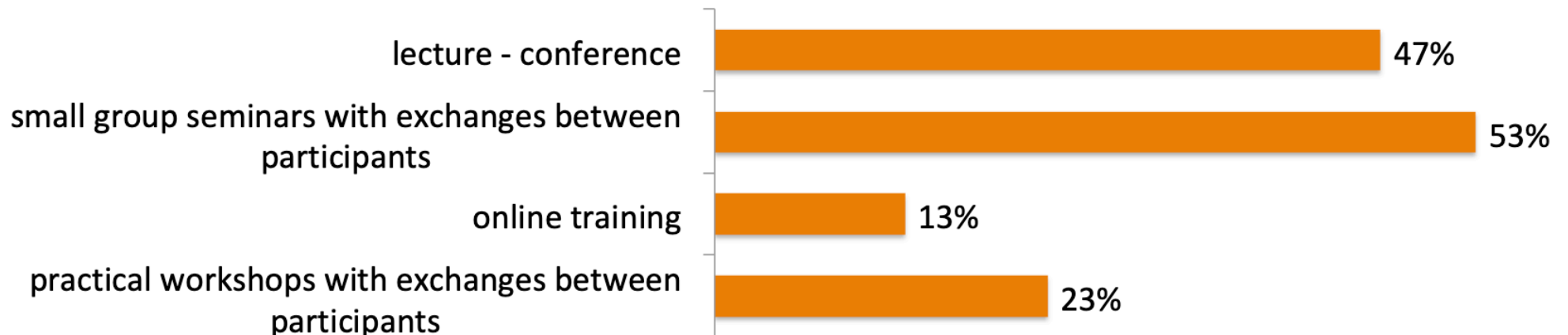
Even if there is a potential bias because it is reasonable to think that the institutions most committed to research integrity were more likely to respond to the survey, **these numbers indicate a real consideration for these issues in France.**

Which format for these programs ?

For the 48 universities that have set up training programs for doctoral students

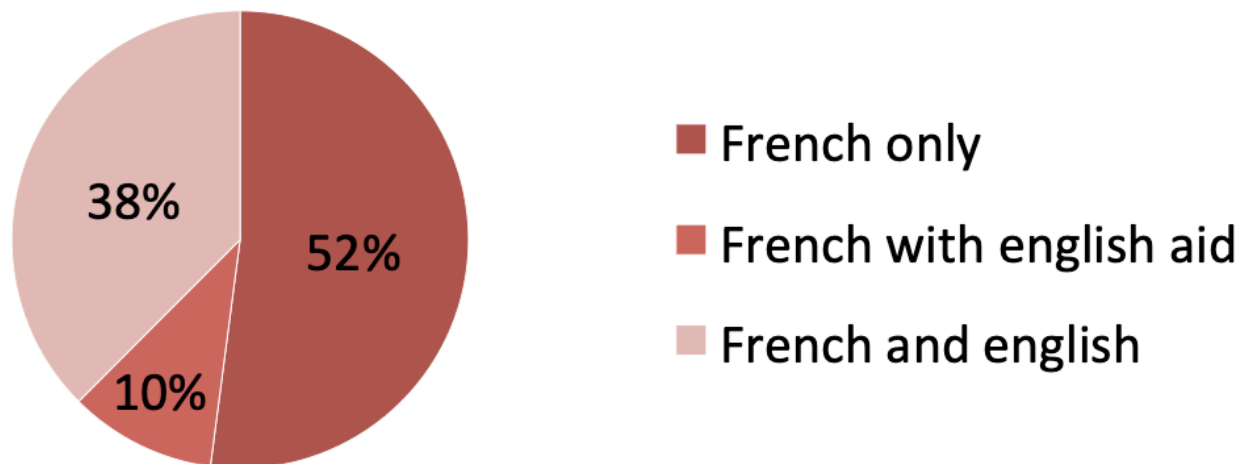


For the 30 universities that have set up training programs for other audiences

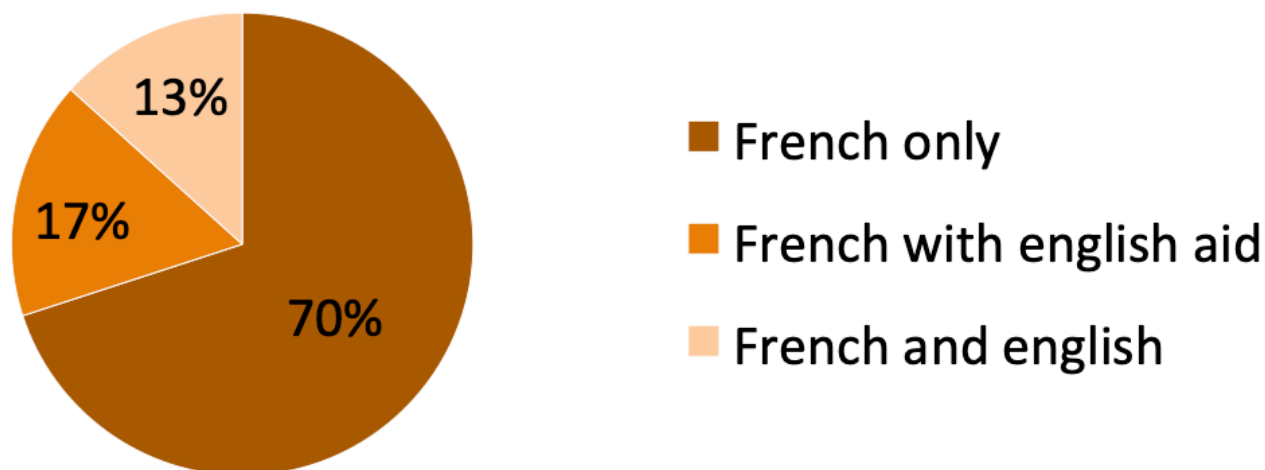


Which language for these programs ?

For the 48 universities that have set up training programs for doctoral students



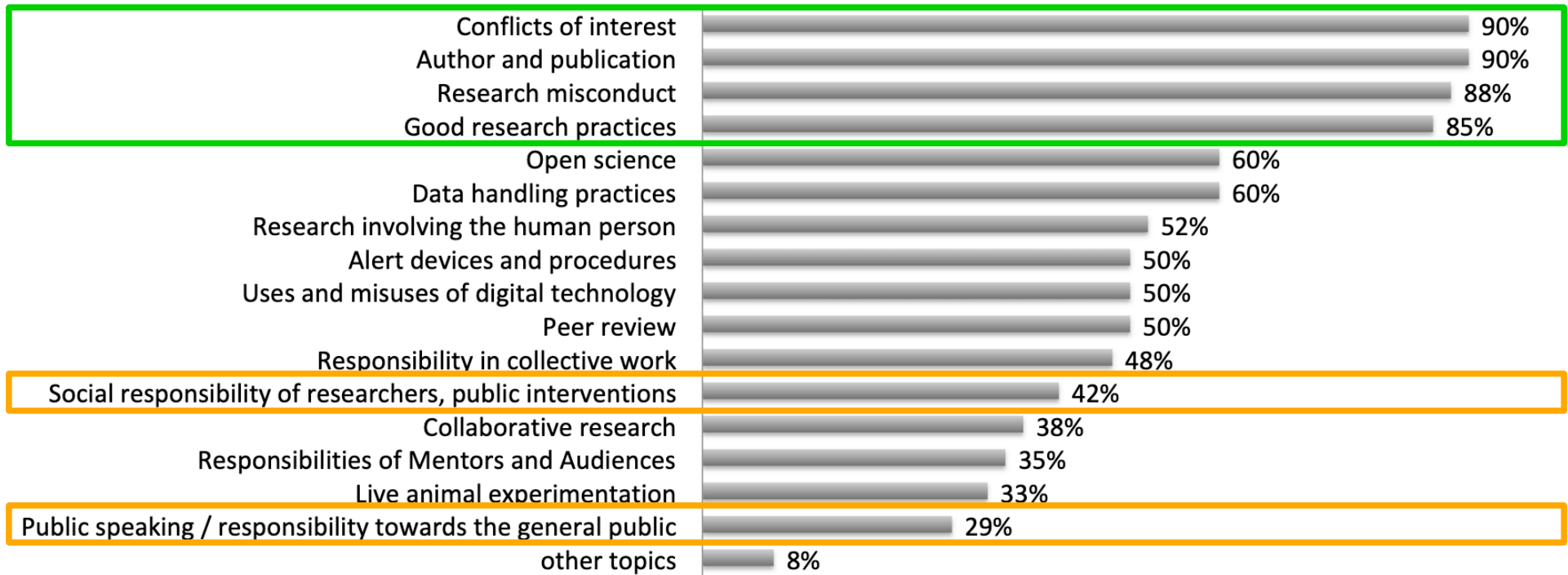
For the 30 universities that have set up training programs for other audiences



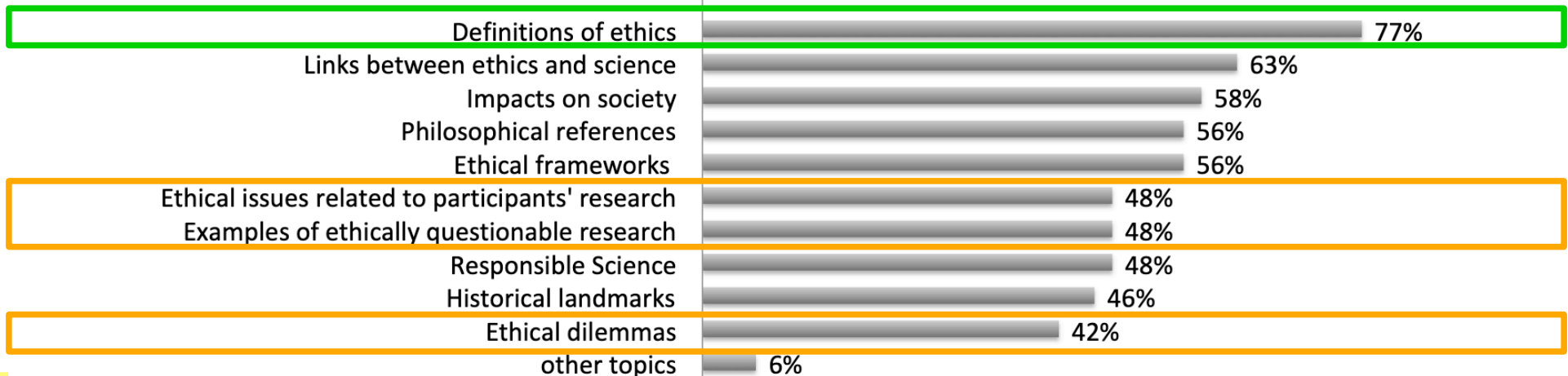
Which contents for these programs ?

doctoral programs set up in the 48 responding universities

Research Integrity



Research Ethics



More about doctoral programs

For the 48 universities that have set up training programs for doctoral students

- In 86%, **doctoral students are not grouped by specific discipline.**
- In 90%, **there is a validation system.**
- In 65%, **there is an evaluation of the training by the participants.**
- **90% consider the sharing of trainings to be relevant.**

A step in this direction has been taken with the online publication by OFIS of a "directory" of existing training courses in France, but also abroad:

<https://www.hceres.fr/fr/annuaire-des-formations-doctorales-lintegrite-scientifique>

Outlooks

To conclude

- The quantitative results confirm the **effective implementation of research ethics and research integrity programs in France since 2016.**
- The complete analysis of this survey will allow **us to draw up a more precise qualitative representation that takes into account both common modalities and local specificities.**
- This study will also make it possible to suggest **ways for improving these programs, such as expanding the target audience and adjusting the contents to scientific advances.**