

Functionality in the Criminal Justice System:

Development and dissemination of research results and communication with target groups

Target groups

The project has a range target groups, where the most central are:

- Representatives of all relevant legal, political and administrative authorities that could be defined as actors within the national criminal justice system, such as representatives from the Ministry of Justice and the Police, the judiciary, the police, the prosecution, the defense agencies and the Prisons and Probation Services.
- Representatives of relevant authorities and institutions at the transnational level, i.e., within the context of the development of European and international criminal law, such as, for instance representatives from Eurojust and Europol.
- Representatives from institutions that in different ways are connected to the criminal justice system, such as, for instance, within legal psychiatrics or education services.
- Students: In first place students of law, but also from other social sciences
- The media and the general public

The various target groups will have different needs for information and dialogue in the project period. A communication strategy must take this into account, and the project therefore integrates different kinds of strategies in order to reach the various target groups. In addition, the project integrates different kinds of more internal strategies that primarily aim at developing and securing scientific quality, although they also contribute to the external communication strategy. The main activities of the project will in these aspects be:

Main channels of dissemination and communication of results:

- Scientific publications
- Presentations of papers at international and national workshops, seminars or conferences
- Arrangement of international and national workshops, seminars or conferences
- A website and newsletter
- Participation in the media by way of interviews and articles

Main internal activities:

- Meetings with the advisory board
- Selected workshops: dialogue meetings
- Friday Lunches

These different activities will be further described in the following.

Scientific publications

The primary publication strategy of the project is scientific publications, mainly in the form of journal articles. Each post doc researcher should, as a minimum, publish one article each year during the post doc period, and at least one of these articles must be published in English in an international journal. The PhD-candidates are subordinated to general requirements of the PhD education, and could choose to write their dissertation in the form of a monography.

Presentation of papers at seminars

The researchers of the project will also present their work at national or international conferences or workshops. Through such presentations the researchers will contribute to the ongoing discussion in their respectively field of research, and at the same time benefit from valuable input from other researchers. These kinds of presentations also fulfill the overall purpose to continuously communicate the results of the project.

Arrangement of seminars, workshops and conferences

An important aspect of the communication strategy of the project is the arrangement of different kinds of seminars, workshops and conferences. These arrangements will in particular serve as establishing points where researchers can meet, interact and discuss with the various actors of the criminal justice system, as well as with other researchers. The aim is, in this regard that the arrangements in total fulfills the various needs of communication of the project, i.e., of consolidating the project, of improving the quality of the research, of communicating results, of promoting dialogue between the project and the practitioners of the system and of developing scientific co-operation.

Information and consolidating meeting, December 2011

In order to consolidate the project and, particularly to communicate the framework of the project at an early stage, a meeting will be held in December 2011. This meeting fulfills the aim of informing the donor to the project, Trond Moen and Bergen forskningsstiftelse, about the project.

Initial project seminar. The meaning of Functionality: Perspectives and Research tasks, Feb/March 2012

In an initial stage, a national seminar will be arranged. This seminar will focus on the basic question of functionality as a common framework for the project. The seminar will, particularly focus on the dialogue between the project and the actors of the national criminal justice system, about the

current challenges of functionality in the criminal justice system. At this seminar all researchers of the project, and selected practitioners, will provide presentations.

Intermediate seminar: International seminar: fall 2013

After the half of the project period, an intermediate seminar will be arranged. This seminar particularly aims at promoting scientific dialogue, both in order to communicate the results so far, and in order to improve the scientific quality of the project. At this seminar some of the researchers of the project will present papers on selected themes of research, as a basis for international publication. The seminar will invite selected researchers with particular competence in the themes at issue. The seminar will, in particular, promote interdisciplinary dialogue.

End conference: fall 2014

In the concluding stage of the project an international end conference will be arranged. This conference will gather both national and international practitioners and other researchers. This conference will focus on the communication and discussion of the results in the project.

Open debate meeting: During the project period, one debate meeting will be held to contribute to the public debate on controversial questions regarding the functionality of the criminal justice system. The debate meeting will be open to the public, targeting all user groups.

Internal Activities

Meetings with the Advisory board

In order to secure the scientific quality of the project, there will be an external Advisory board. The Advisory board will consist of internationally recognized experts on the fields of research that are covered by the project. This advisory board will evaluate the quality of the project and in that connection meet the members of the project. These meetings will mainly take place in the second half of the project.

Specific workshops: Dialogue meetings

To facilitate direct dialogue and personal contact between the project researchers and relevant target groups, specific minor workshops will be arranged during the project period – at the initiative of individual researchers. At these workshops the researchers of the project could discuss specific problems of their research, and benefit from the comments of the invited persons.

Friday Lunches

Friday lunches will be held regularly during the project period. These meetings are completely internal to the project. The aim is to promote ongoing dialogue between the members of the project.

Website and newsletter

The project's website will present all relevant project information, including: a description of the project, and its different sub-projects, the publications within the project, a calendar with activities and events, organizational information, information about participants and partners, etc. There will be regular updates of the website. The aim is also to establish a newsletter, with specific information of the activities within the project, which will be regularly sent to the main target groups.

Student contact: University courses

The current project is of high relevance as input to the courses in criminal law, criminal procedure and police law at the faculty. The results from the project will be of high relevance as input to this course, and we will explore the possibilities for developing a particular course about functionality in the criminal justice system. The project will also contribute particularly to the research school, with input both in teaching and in the development of literature in legal theory.

Media contact

The functionality of the criminal justice system is a topic of great public interest, not least with regard to the current challenges of the criminal justice system to fulfill its aspirations of contributing to effective crime prevention. An important role for researchers in this field will be to contribute to the public debate, based on research. An objective is, in this regard, to communicate the project's results comprehensively and understandably to the public and authorities alike. By inviting representatives from various media to the consolidating seminar, we aim to build relations with selected journalists and have them follow the project from its beginning to end. These will be provided with relevant information throughout the project period. It is also an aim of the project to actively participate in the public debate on criminal law by producing a minimum of one article (*kronikk*) in a major Norwegian newspaper each year.

Networking and co-operation

The project will actively take part in net-works and co-operation with other scientists. The participation at national and international conferences will in this regard be important arenas for developing and maintaining research networks.

The functionality of the Criminal Justice System: Dissemination and communication 2011-2014

Activity type	Activity	Main target group	When?
Seminars, conferences, dialogue meetings	Information seminar	The researchers of the project, the donor	December 2011
	Consolidating national seminar	The actors of the national criminal justice system, external researchers, media	Feb/march 2012
	Intermediate international conference	Selected international researchers	Fall 2013
	End international conference	National and international research community, the actors of the national criminal	Fall 2014
	Debate seminar	All user groups	2013/2014
Internal activities	Meetings with advisory board	The researchers of the project	Annually, starting from 2012
	Specific workshops: Dialogue meetings	All user groups	Regularly
	Friday Lunches	The researchers of the project	Regularly
Website	Launch website: www.XX.no	All user groups	Spring 2011
Publication	Publish articles in international and national scientific journals	National and international research community, students	Regularly, as a minimum one article a year during each post doc period
	Presentation of papers at international and national conferences	International and national research community	Regularly throughout the project period
University courses	Results and analysis will be input in the courses in criminal law and criminal procedure, and in the research school	Students of law and the social sciences	Throughout the project period
Media contact	Participate in the media: interviews and articles Establish contact with selected, relevant journalists Publish debate articles	All user groups, the general public	Regular media appearances At least one annual debate article
Networking and cooperation	Workshops, meetings and seminars Research co-operation Website and newsletter	National and international research community	Throughout the project period