



Ministry of Higher Education
and Science
Danish Agency for Science
and Higher Education

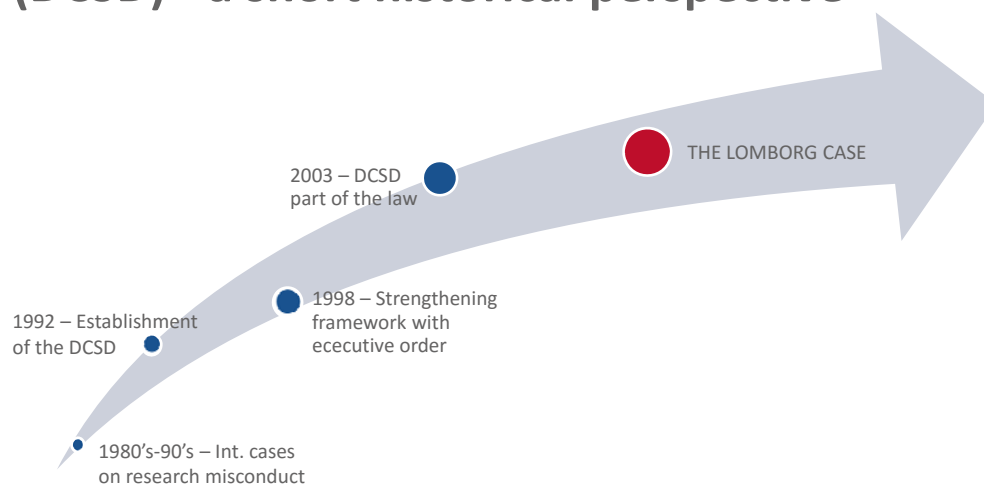
Research Integrity in Denmark

The Legislative Approach – and more

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Danish Committees on Scientific Dishonesty (DCSD) - a short historical perspective

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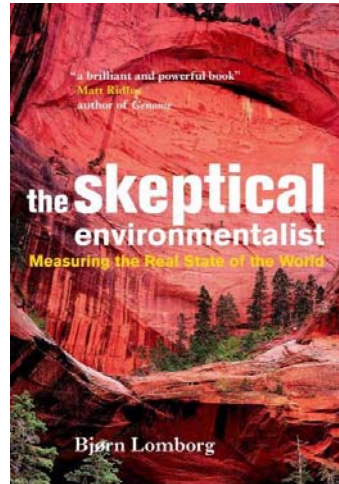
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The Lomborg-Case

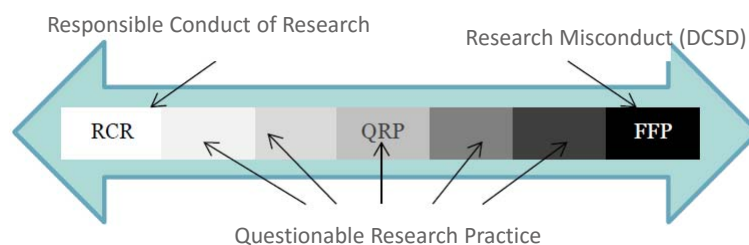
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- 'The Skeptical Environmentalist' and Bjørn Lomborg's participation in the climate debate in the late 90'ies led to a complaint to the DCSD. The Committees acquitted Lomborg but also stated that he had committed breaches of good scientific practice.
- Lomborg complained to the Ministry and since then the DCSD has solely dealt with actual research misconduct – Not good scientific practice.



A 'vacuum' in the Danish approach to Research Integrity?

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The Penkowa-Case

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Fraud Blaming students
Elite Research Prize revoked Forgery of documents
Multiple retractions



The need for a Danish Code of Conduct for Research Integrity

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- **Aiding researchers and institutions in Denmark**
 - Practical tool for researchers in their everyday work
 - Cross-disciplinary standards for good practice
 - Common framework for the institutions to further develop
- **Increasing international focus on integrity in funded research**
 - Meeting demands from EU (Horizon2020) and other foreign funding agencies (fx National Science Foundation in USA)
- **Cases in Denmark on research misconduct**
 - Maintaining the high standards for research integrity held in DK in spite of prominent misconduct cases.

The code and the "one-pager"

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Status and implementation of the code

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- **The code received widespread support in the research community**
 - Positive feedback on inclusion of stakeholders in the process
 - The code's built in division of responsibilities between researchers and institutions has been positively highlighted (also by international experts on RI)
- **37 Research institutions have committed to the code**
 - Universities, sector research institutions and technological institutes, research councils and several private funding agencies
 - Universities have or are in process of establishing mandatory RI teaching and training and advisory mechanisms ("named persons")
 - Many institutions are establishing system for handling breaches of RI



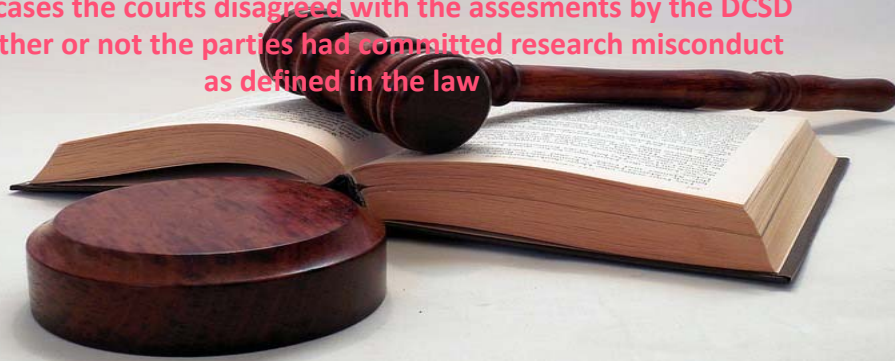
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Two decisions by the DCSD are referred to the Danish Courts

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- In both cases the courts disagreed with the assessments by the DCSD on whether or not the parties had committed research misconduct as defined in the law



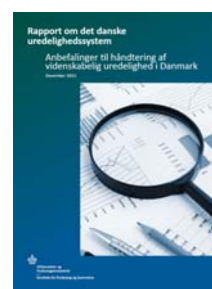
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Review of the Danish misconduct system

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- In 2015 an expert committee is tasked with conducting a review of the Danish research misconduct system
- The central recommendations from the expert committee are
 - A clearer definition of research misconduct limited to Fabrication, Falsification and Plagiarism (FFP)
 - A division of responsibilities where the central body handles research misconduct and the research institutions handle questionable research practice (obligation)
- A proposal for a new law based on the recommendations have been put before parliament in January 2017

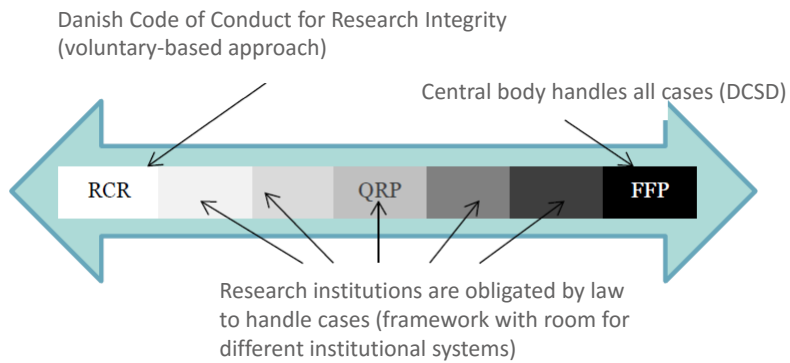


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The Danish system in the future

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Questions?

