DECISION

Subject:	Memorandum of Understanding for the implementation of the COST Action "Data Matters: Sociotechnical Challenges of European Migration and Border Control" (DATAMIG) CA22135

The COST Member Countries will find attached the Memorandum of Understanding for the COST Action Data Matters: Sociotechnical Challenges of European Migration and Border Control approved by the Committee of Senior Officials through written procedure on 12 May 2023.

———————————

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

For the implementation of a COST Action designated as

COST Action CA22135
DATA MATTERS: SOCIOTECHNICAL CHALLENGES OF EUROPEAN MIGRATION AND BORDER CONTROL (DATAMIG)

The COST Members through the present Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) wish to undertake joint activities of mutual interest and declare their common intention to participate in the COST Action, referred to above and described in the Technical Annex of this MoU.

The Action will be carried out in accordance with the set of COST Implementation Rules approved by the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO), or any document amending or replacing them.

The main aim and objective of the Action is to advance an integrated research framework to support critical enquiry and engagement aimed at a nuanced understanding of the ambiguities, inequalities, and injustices associated with the datafication of migration and border control, through utilizing Science, Technology, Society (STS) research on how data is being gathered, shared and used. This will be achieved through the specific objectives detailed in the Technical Annex.

The present MoU enters into force on the date of the approval of the COST Action by the CSO.

OVERVIEW

Summary

Issues pertaining to the control of migration and borders are of paramount importance for contemporary societies. The way the relevant technology is designed and used is central to these issues. The configuration of migration and border control increasingly relies on artificial intelligence and associated digital technologies, which are based on algorithms that feed on big data. DATAMIG is focused on the need for a caring approach to big data and for the socio-technical challenges it entails. More specifically, it aims at supporting interdisciplinary research into the ways that the technological materialities inherent to the datafication of migration and border control may, on account of their black-boxed design, reproduce patterns of inclusion and exclusion that have already severely affected society. DATAMIG will foster the formation of an inclusive, self-expanding network that integrates the various disciplines contributing to the field of Science and Technology Studies (STS, with sociology of science and technology at its core) into the study of migration and borders. This will allow the latter to benefit from a unique interdisciplinary collaboration with other pivotal scientific/technical fields, including but not limited to critical Data Studies. DATAMIG will usher in building an interdisciplinary vocabulary to make data a public matter of concern and care, through research that benefits from bringing together previously disconnected arenas of contestation and public interventions concerning data matters in European migration and border control.

Areas of Expertise Relevant for the Action	Keywords
● Sociology: Sociology of science	● Migration
● Sociology: Migration, interethnic relations	● Borders
● Computer and Information Sciences: Ethics of computer and information sciences	● Data
	● Socio-technical matters

Specific Objectives

To achieve the main objective described in this MoU, the following specific objectives shall be accomplished:

Research Coordination

● Promote synergy of existing approaches and contribute to a more nuanced analytical framework regarding socio-technical challenges of datafication;

● Support the development of an analytical research framework that accommodates the complexity of datafication at the border;

● Create an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary community of practice that encourages conceptual innovation—especially from outside English-speaking academia;

● Operate as a hub for research on data matters, bringing together civil society actors with links to migrants, policy makers, academia, as well as various other stakeholders;

● Set up a digital platform where the work of the inventory, observatory and laboratory is combined and made public;

● Create a tool-kit that specialises in the study of datafication with the purpose of contributing to research methodologies and strategies about field access, secrecy and barriers, research ethics, and reflexivity about researcher's positionalities;

● Organise an interdisciplinary research network from disciplines working on digital IT and forensics as a link to various sorts of scholars, practitioners and policy makers;

● To develop a research agenda for an integrative and bottom-up constructively critical engagement with

datafication.

Capacity Building
● Facilitate knowledge exchange on topics relevant to DATAMIG through the delivery of intensive training on new or emerging research subjects;
● Bring together specialised but so far separated academic fields, which is required for the DATAMIG interdisciplinary approach, by facilitating their constructive interaction;
● Support PhD students/candidates and Early Career Investigators from participating ITC to attend high-profile international events not organised by DATAMIG;
● Strengthen the existing networks by allowing individual participants to foster collaboration, exchange knowledge, familiarise themselves with new techniques, and perform activities that do not necessarily require in-person presence;
● Support individual mobility, strengthen existing networks, and foster collaboration between DATAMIG researchers.

TECHNICAL ANNEX

1. S&T EXCELLENCE

1.1. SOUNDNESS OF THE CHALLENGE

1.1.1. DESCRIPTION OF THE STATE OF THE ART

Digital traces of physical bodies, populations, migration routes, border crossings, countries of origin, and so forth, are now routinely produced and stored by states and companies. Such traces are subject to a variety of technologies for data generation, including but not limited to fingerprints, facial images, DNA tests, and/or age-testing through X-rays. These data are increasingly processed through computer-assisted tools (e.g.: risk filters, search engines, and prediction algorithms). This datafication of migratory movements and practices and, by extension, border control cannot be understood merely as a technical matter. Rather, it represents facets of social life by transmuting them into data, and in doing so it poses multifarious socio-technical challenges both for migrants and for the societies of which they seek to become a part. For instance, it reconfigures practices and rationalities of migration and border control, it fosters new transnational alliances between and beyond state actors, and it raises contentious issues of transparency and accountability. Further, by making its operations opaque and by black-boxing human rights violations, it renders critical debates and interventions more difficult.

DATAMIG will make substantial contributions through: **(i)** facilitating the formation of research networks that analyse how data comes to matter, i.e. how it reconfigures rationalities and practices of migration and border control, **(ii)** promoting debates on the material shaping of data through practices and infrastructures of data creation, circulation, and assessment, and **(iii)** identifying and addressing knowledge gaps. For over a decade, scholarship across social science disciplines has increasingly paid attention to the datafication of EU migration and border control. Nonetheless, most of this research has remained at national level, and only a few comparative initiatives exist. DATAMIG will build on the extant body of scholarship and insight in **(a)** setting up a broad and inclusive integrated research framework, **(b)** ensuring that research on migration-control datafication keeps track of the highly dynamic and increasingly transnational field of datafied migration and border control, and **(c)** fostering critical research strategies and methodologies that support research forums where the examination of the positions, vulnerabilities, and needs of migrants, as well as of the dynamic redefining of borders due to datafication fall outside the prevalent paradigm of securitisation and into the realm of critical understanding. Based on the theoretical and the empirical scholarship on border control, DATAMIG is focused on three themes:

Theme 1: Datafication and the governance of borders

Datafication reconfigures how borders are governed, as they become dispersed and multi-layered. Concepts such as "border assemblages" (Haggerty & Ericson, 2002), "biometric assemblage" (Madianou, 2019), "migration machines" (Dijstelbloem et al., 2011), "sorting machines" (Mau, 2021), and "i-border" (Pötzsch, 2015) stress the intertwining of socio-technical, political, and practical realities. Through these data-driven assemblages, civil servants and military police monitor and govern flows and circulations of bodies, information, materials, technologies, and expertise by means of risk analysis, scanners, codes, passwords, gateways, and databases. Datafied border governance has moved deep into society and beyond state territories, becoming increasingly normalised as well as transnationalised. The emergence of a "politics of in/visibility" (Tazzioli & Walters 2016) describes how border governance intervenes at "pre-frontier" zones to track, intercept, and illegalise migrants, even before they enter the EU territory. These practices raise social, ethical and political questions, such as the enlistment of authorities with poor human rights records and violent bordering tactics into the EU border regime through vast digital border security networks such as Eurosur. This not only "effectively precludes the enforcement of legal human rights obligations" (Follis 2017) but it also entails the collaboration with unjust regimes and morally questionable actors.

Further scholarship has shown that there is a compelling need for research networks that explore the experimental and expansive character of datafied migration and border control by focusing on knowledge and resource transfer (Lemberg-Pedersen & Haioty 2020). DATAMIG will investigate how datafication fosters and deepens the collaboration of state authorities and administrations across

domains and nation states, private companies and state authorities and between field border guard units and distant coordination centres). It is concerned not only with the normalisation and legitimisation of securitised border technologies, but also with the informal and illegal transfer of data and its use for a purpose other than what was originally specified, an activity known as "function creep" (Tsianos & Kuster, 2016). The aspiration of this network is to question norms and practices of data ownership, as there is very little to no information on how data are shared and with whom, how they are processed and amalgamated, and which actors can access them.

Moreover, critical border studies have shown that datafication is intricately interlaced with notions of innovation and digital transformation. New technologies, "smart borders", artificial intelligence, and algorithmic governance are viewed by some stakeholders as timely solutions for pressing problems. This techno-solutionism is buttressed by discourses of securitisation and suspicion-invoking social figures of the "unwanted", "criminal", and "fraudsters", thus creating moral panics and presenting datafication and related technologies as both inevitable and desirable. Additionally, the configuration of the borders' datafication is linked to the reproduction of biases in and through algorithmic and biometric forms of border governance. Through bone scans, voice and dialect recognition, DNA analysis, and fingerprint capture, borders target migrants' bodies and assess age, kinship, and origin independently from migrants' own claims and accounts (Ajana, 2013). It has been argued that the biometric governance of borders is shaped by colonial practice and racist notions of human body and identity, deeply rooted in phrenology, in physiognomy, and in calibrating forms of whiteness that determine "the technical settings and parameters for the visual imaging and capture of a subject" (Pugliese 2010: 57;. Individuals are confronted with "false positives" that may lead to interrogations, refused visas, entry and travel bans (Muller, 2010). In short, algorithms automate inequality and reproduce discrimination of marginalised communities.

Theme 2: Data practices and data infrastructures

Instead of taking data merely as the "bricks and mortar" of greater border control and surveillance assemblages, recent research has inquired into how they are created and prepared for further processing. Data are never "raw" (Gitelman, 2013), as they need to be generated in socio-technical data infrastructures. Consequently, the DATAMIG network is concerned with the ways that data may be "cooked" (Kitchin, 2014, 26) to shape knowledge production and border control alike. Existing scholarship has problematised practices of creating data as well as decision-making processes of "petty sovereigns" at border sites that relate data, rules, and procedures to specific situations (Hall, 2017). In doing so, data production was thus shown to be involved in the making of different forms of "otherness" and to function as a political technology that "manages alterity" (Pelizza, 2020). Relatedly, DATAMIG will also address the difficulty of data protection for vulnerable – in the sense of often digitally not fully literate – subjects and the need to question assumptions of voluntary data provision, given power asymmetries at borders. The network will give close consideration to both the power imbalances displayed at the border and to the resultant concerns of marginalised, undocumented, illegalised people, activists, and social movements.

Finally, DATAMIG will critically attend to interoperability initiatives such as the one in the EU, which expands and interconnects various European criminal justice databases and interweaves them with mobility, migration, and asylum-seeking, thus producing overlapping forms of control with the effect of "function creep" and the criminalisation of migration ("crimmigration") (Aas, 2011). The most recent developments towards multi-purpose databasing are occurring in response to the ongoing war in the Ukraine and to the Temporary Protection Directive that has created yet another set of standards for the registration and sorting of refugees. These latest technical "solutions" contribute to issues of discrimination and double standards for different groups of migrants.

Theme 3: Politics of contestation and subversion

The third strand of research that DATAMIG will expand upon pertains to the role of datafication from the perspectives of migrants. More specifically, a DATAMIG-supported research network will analyse activists' and migrants' first-hand experiences with various forms of resistance and subversion of border control through digital means, as well as their experiences of the challenges they face in such endeavours. Research has shown that while smartphones and the use of different services prove useful, they also entail a risk for migrants on the move. Smartphones can serve as companions, as a means to keep in touch with friends and family, as an organisational hub for storing documents and evidence, planning, informing, and networking, and finally as a lifeline in case they need to call for help or to share GPS data, and/or as a welcome diversion. However, digital connectivity comes along with risks and vulnerabilities. These considerations form an integral aspect of research into the politics of borders' contestation and subversion. There are several manifestations of vulnerabilities and exploitations, ranging from overpriced products to requesting expensive fees for phone charging or leaving out crucial info on contracts and services of phone providers (Galis et al., 2022).

Digital networks and solidarity among migrants are vital in order for them to keep abreast of the news, to exchange advice, and to impart tacit knowledge on mobile and social media usage along the way. Such forms of digital solidarity may subvert forms of border control or reconfigure public space through collective means. By studying migrants' struggles with control assemblages, researchers have linked datafication configurations to debates about the autonomy of migration with the aim of deconstructing seemingly idealised notions of omnipotent datafied control apparatuses and supposedly perfect management of human mobility. While some have elaborated on the conditions of possibility for data practices as "resistance practices that enact 'heterotopias'" with the support of solidaristic networks, (migrant) activists, and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), others have focused on migrants' practices of appropriation within biometric border regimes, such as the Visa Information System (VIS) (Scheel, 2019) or Eurodac (Metcalfe, 2022). DATAMIG responds to calls for research to situate analysis of how the design and re-design of border technologies shape conditions under which migration occurs and "affect migrants' room for manoeuvre and the emergence of possible moments of autonomy of migration" (Scheel 2019: 6).

1.1.2. DESCRIPTION OF THE CHALLENGE (MAIN AIM)

Challenge 1: Lack of an inclusive and integrated research framework

DATAMIG addresses the theoretically and empirically validated lacuna of an integrated research framework that would cover the three themes outlined above (as well as the concomitant research gaps related to them) by proposing the funding of a research network that will foster and develop critical enquiry and engagement aimed at a nuanced understanding of the ambiguities, inequalities, and injustices associated with the datafication of migration and border control regimes. Our network plan of work eclipses analytical frameworks of reductionist notions of technological optimism or determinism on the one hand, and narrow understandings of migrants' agency and autonomy within border control and surveillance assemblages on the other. DATAMIG supports the creation of a network that will engage with diverse stakeholder groups in order to meet the need for an empirical study of data practices and infrastructures as well as of the impact of datafied border regimes. The end result will be offering evidence of (un)intended consequences for migrants and society and sharing relevant crucial insights with stakeholder groups, while developing collaborations, synergies, and research approaches that facilitate a more complex understanding and constructive critique of datafication processes at the border.

Challenge 2: Keeping track of the dynamic and increasingly transnational field of datafied migration and border control

Exchanges and collaborations between the scientific community and civic actors are the key to understanding how data is being used, by whom it is being shared, and for what purposes. DATAMIG aims to intensify and extend research collaborations and engagement with civic actors to enable constructive scrutiny of the highly dynamic and expanding field of datafied EU migration and border control. DATAMIG Action will: (a) Keep track of the collaborations and new initiatives within the field of security; this includes, for instance, the EU interoperability initiative, the expansion and creation of new EU databases, the interconnection of border, security and asylum administrations, the multi-facetted collaborations between state, economy, tech, science, and increasingly humanitarian actors, the multiplication of border sites through mobile technologies, as well as the transnationalisation and externalisation of datafied migration and border control beyond the EU; (b) monitor most recent developments, such as the inclusion of (Ukrainian) beneficiaries of temporary protection within the Scope of Eurodac as a response to the ongoing war in Ukraine, which paves the way towards multi-purpose databasing and new standards of registering asylum seekers. Within these uncertain and emergent scenarios, it is imperative to keep track of the multiple implementations of new technologies and data infrastructures at border sites, the border practices on the ground, and the events of misconduct and rights violations.

Individual researchers working on social, ethical, legal, practical, and technical issues tend to focus on specific cases, actors, and events. In order to enhance the monitoring capacities, civic actors (such as NGOs), activist groups, and journalists ought to be part of this process. Hence, this Action will align field-specific expertise and long-lasting collaborations with stakeholders, which will in turn lead to an exchange of up-to-date knowledge on recent events and developments. This trans-disciplinary collaboration is crucial for understanding the field and its dynamics, as well as for the continuous monitoring of events, communication of insights, and timely interventions.

Challenge 3: Unconnected arenas of contestation and interventions regarding data matters in EU migration and border control

There are numerous activist, advocacy and research initiatives throughout Europe providing support with respect to legal, housing, healthcare, and working issues, organising protests and demonstrations against human right violations, the securitisation of migration, deportations, police and Frontex, and getting politically and legally involved in procedures, complaints, and legal actions with municipalities, state administration, and courts. While those activists, NGOs and researchers are well informed, trained, and specialised, only a few of those initiatives have focused on broader data matters, for instance the provision of electric vehicle charging stations in migratory routes, free Wi-Fi spots, recommendations of groups in social media, or helpful websites with reliable information. Furthermore, the DATAMIG Action will significantly enhance research and engagement by connecting and coordinating with initiatives centred on data activism, citizen engagement, datafied citizenship, and data privacy/literacy/ownership outside of the field of migration and border control. In DATAMIG, we view all those actors as crucial producers of knowledge that enhances and diversifies understandings and discourses of datafied border control regimes, thus making them more complex. They are involved in the social and political struggles that take centre stage for marginalised populations, activists, and social movements (Dencik, Jansen & Metcalfe 2018).

Coordinated and continuous engagement between researchers and civic actors is crucial for accounting for the challenges and vulnerabilities migrants face when relying on smartphones, social media, and digital interconnectivity, as well as for proper forms of support and solidarity. The interaction between stakeholders with diverse forms of knowledge and powers of intervention is crucial if the datafication of migration and border control is to be properly understood, the forms of resistance and subversion to be fruitfully discussed, and new strategies for migrant support and the fabrication of counter knowledge to be fully developed. Alternatives to narrow legal and analytical tools on data protection, voluntary data provision, or data justice will be discussed in a manner that takes the realities of migrants into account. While aiming at the engagement with a wide spectrum of actors, in DATAMIG we also take the complexity and the well-documented ethical challenges of such research methodologies and collaborations into consideration, as they have fuelled manifold controversies (Bellanova *et al.* 2020), on the one hand, but also given inspiration to constructive proposals on how to approach and reflect on them (Wienroth 2020;), on the other.

Researchers' engagement with civic actors will inform their work with migrants, policymakers, border control practitioners, and wider publics. The long-term objective of the interdisciplinary research network is to become transdisciplinary and, thereby, help transform insight into practice.

The **aim of DATAMIG is threefold**:

- Bridging the gaps between specialised, and up until now separated from one another, academic subfields and loci of attention by facilitating their constructive interaction.
- Fostering research collaborations that will both keep track and provide an overview of the increasingly transnational, entangled, and extensive data assemblages of migration and border control, as a means of continuous monitoring and timely responses.
- Building, deepening, and facilitating engagement between researchers and civic-minded organisations. Offering a central node for interactions for both producing and sharing research insights. Migrants, policymakers, border control professionals, and the public at large will be offered an accessible and constructive critique of datafied border control regimes and will be invited to share their views to inform research analysis and to enrich engagement activities.

1.2. PROGRESS BEYOND THE STATE-OF-THE-ART

1.2.1. APPROACH TO THE CHALLENGE AND PROGRESS BEYOND THE STATE OF THE ART

DATAMIG calls for an integrated, inter- and trans-disciplinary approach to identifying and scrutinising socio-technical matters of datafied migration and border control. We build on a rich but dispersed research landscape and civic society ecosystem that have focused on ambiguities of datafication. Our network proposal will enable the development of new methodologies, concepts, and societal engagements, thereby contributing substantially to moving beyond the conceptualisation of migrations and borders in terms of the biases of securitisation and security-based, data-driven approach of control that has become hegemonic in the past two decades. The challenges of researching data matters of EU

migration and border control - that is to say, how data reconfigures rationalities of migration and border control, how it is shaped by data practices and data infrastructures, and how it gets critiqued, contested, and (re)appropriated by migrants and civic society - will be addressed in **three working groups (WGs)**. The WGs are organised conceptually rather than thematically to interconnect various fields of research and interventions, and enable fruitful exchanges on different topics.

1. INVENTORY: Setting up an integrated research framework for data matters of European migration and border control

WG1 INVENTORY, which will emerge from the sharing of resources in the context of an enhanced research network, will take stock of - and go beyond - recent research. We will make use of existing expertise embedded in different disciplines, such as science and technology studies, critical migration and border studies, critical security and surveillance studies, legal studies, international relations. First, WG1 will bring together diverse conceptual and methodological approaches on data matters in EU migration and border control, and identify bridges, tensions, and blind spots across a variety of fields of expertise. Particularly, WG1 will critically discuss data matter issues clustered around (a) accountability, transparency, data justice, (b) discrimination, exclusion, and inequality, and (c) datafication from below, counter-surveillance, and data solidarities. Moreover, WG1 will critically assess the current academic debate about data matters of EU migration and border control engaging in a dialogue with feminist and postcolonial studies (both of which frequently incorporate care ideals into not only their theoretical edifices but also their research practices), as well as historical research. This includes discussing how externalisation strategies of European migration and border control are taken up and realised beyond the EU. Second, WG1 will intensify knowledge transfer and exchange about methodologies and research strategies amongst all interested parties. On the one hand, research approaches for classification systems, data protocols, black-boxed technologies, and data infrastructures will enter into a dialogue with approaches being attentive to power plays, silencing, ignorance, and strategic ignorance or non-knowledge. On the other hand, hands-on research strategies, negotiating access, secrecy, and barriers will be considered together with reflexive accounts on the positioning and the politics of research.

2. OBSERVATORY: Mapping and monitoring of different arenas of datafication

WG2 will serve as an observatory of the pertinent research, to wit, as a mechanism within the research network that will ensure that any given research requirements are fulfilled; the latter range from mapping and monitoring practices at different sites and arenas of datafication or enhancing already existing monitoring activities and networks to enabling comparative perspectives on monitoring results. It will develop empirically situated understandings by assembling various academic and non-academic actors who have gained expertise in methodologies and operations of monitoring data matters on the ground. The WG will (a) collaboratively map out regulatory frameworks that manifest datafication of migration and border control regimes, including issues and debates on accountability, transparency, and data justice, (b) trace emerging transnational and international infrastructures-in-the-making and analyse both gateways, interconnections, and harmonisation efforts, frictions, and fragmentations within and beyond the EU (such as the interoperability initiative, or the registration infrastructure of refugees from the Ukraine), and (c) be attentive to sites of counter-surveillance and alternative identification monitoring actions (for instance, watchdog-monitoring actions of EU agencies such as Frontex and EUlisa, Civil search and rescue surveillance, identification of dead bodies of migrants). Results of the monitoring and mappings activities are shared via an open access data repository.

3. LABORATORY: Establishing an accessible community of practice for experimental forms of engagement and intervention to further the diversification and contestation of datafication

In keeping with the innately normative and interventional function of a laboratory, WG3 will develop a central and accessible community of practice for engagement with and research into (a) the contestation of the datafication of migration and border control and (b) the diversification by means of "datafication from below" (Pellegrino et al. 2019). The community of practice will meet, both online and in the form of diverse meeting opportunities, throughout the lifetime of this COST Action, to enable legacy work beyond the funding period. The WG will collect, exchange, and develop experimental forms of research, engagement, and contestation by collecting "good practice" examples from different sorts of engagement and interventions regarding the production, circulation, and contestation of border and migration data. The WG will establish different forums to initiate knowledge transfer regarding collaborative engagement practices, and forms will be created to engage in transdisciplinary ways with civic actors, namely, NGOs, migrant groups, artists, and cultural professionals. WG3 will: (a) Gather good practices of civic projects (counter data practices, data activism, and alternative infrastructures)

that represent, advocate, and support migrants, or are led by them. Therefore, preference will be shown for careful, innovative, experimental, and impactful forms of engagement. WG3 will be attentive to specific forms of academic/non-academic alliances such as making-and-doings, multi-modal interventions (film, participatory methodologies, art installations, performances, exhibitions) having to do with matters of datafication. (b) Assemble case studies and practices of critical engagement with paradigms and modes of regulating human mobility through datafication, taking the history of data infrastructures of migration and border control rooted in imperial and colonial legacies as well as current geo-politics of the externalisation of borders into account. This includes alternative policy scenario-building methodologies for policy making and regulation. As a result, the WG3 collects and produces methodological and analytical tools for civic actors to inspire careful and experimental forms of collaboration on the one hand, and policy-relevant considerations of regulating human mobility beyond the security and data driven paradigm on the other.

1.2.2. OBJECTIVES

1.2.2.1. Research Coordination Objectives

- Promote synergy of existing approaches and contribute to a more nuanced analytical framework regarding socio-technical challenges of datafication.
- Support the development of an analytical research framework that accommodates the complexity of datafication at the border.
- Create an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary community of practice that encourages conceptual innovation—especially from outside English-speaking academia.
- Operate as a hub for research on data matters, bringing together civil society actors with links to migrants, policy makers, academia, as well as various other stakeholders.
- Set up a digital platform where the work of the inventory, observatory and laboratory is combined and made public.
- Create a tool-kit that specialises in the study of datafication with the purpose of contributing to research methodologies and strategies about field access, secrecy and barriers, research ethics, and reflexivity about researcher's positionalities.
- Organise an interdisciplinary research network from disciplines working on digital IT and forensics as a link to various sorts of scholars, practitioners and policy makers, which in turn will then benefit from the participation of civil society actors as well as from actors who are critically engaged with the datafication of migration and border control and with diversifying datafication from below.
- To develop a research agenda for an integrative and bottom-up constructively critical engagement with datafication.

1.2.2.2. Capacity-building Objectives

To achieve its overall goals, DATAMIG will rely on a range of networking tools and capacity-building objectives. In terms of tools, the DATAMIG network is going to hold/offer:

- Facilitate knowledge exchange on topics relevant to DATAMIG through the delivery of intensive training on new or emerging research subjects;
- Bring together specialised but so far separated academic fields, which is required for the DATAMIG interdisciplinary approach, by facilitating their constructive interaction;
- Support PhD students/candidates and Early Career Investigators (ECIs) from participating ITC to attend high-profile international events not organised by DATAMIG;
- Strengthen the existing networks by allowing individual participants to foster collaboration, exchange knowledge, familiarise themselves with new techniques, and perform activities that do not necessarily require in-person presence;
- Support individual mobility, strengthen existing networks, and foster collaboration between DATAMIG researchers.

Based on COST networking tools, DATAMIG will:

- Widen its outreach by attracting scholars, involving research institutions and stakeholders from the following target groups as participants: a) Young scholars working on border and migration studies, as well as STS; b) Scholars and research institutions from Eastern Europe, many from Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs); c) Policymakers, NGOs, citizen associations, and other stakeholders.
- Promote mutual learning among Southern, Eastern, and Western European academics by ensuring that a) 50% of the annual conferences and meetings of the DATAMIG Management Committee (MC) and WGs will take place in ITCs, b) 50% of training schools (TSs) will be hosted by ITC research institutions, and c) 50% of the WG coordinators will be scholars working on topics

that are under-researched.

- Empower ECIss to carry out research at the European and international levels, counterbalance gender biases and foster the visibility of their research by guaranteeing the following: a) at least 50% of the WG coordinators are ECIs, b) at least 50% of the Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) are assigned to ECIs, c) at least 50% of the WG coordinators are women.

To reach its capacity-building objectives, DATAMIG will:

- Strengthen its conceptual approach by electing a team of four coordinators for each WG, representing different thematic, geographic, and chronological subfields, scientific specialisations, and career stages.

- Set up a fixed digital communication mechanism for all participants to enable collaboration within and among the WGs outside the annual conferences, workshops, and Training Schools (TSs).

- Develop a responsive website that incorporates the outputs from all three WGs, with functionalities such as digital exhibitions to show mapping results, to improve the visibility of DATAMIG outside academia, and to facilitate exchanges with policymakers, citizens, and other stakeholders.

2. NETWORKING EXCELLENCE

2.1. ADDED VALUE OF NETWORKING IN S&T EXCELLENCE

2.1.1. ADDED VALUE IN RELATION TO EXISTING EFFORTS AT EUROPEAN AND/OR INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

The datafication of migration and border control has generated a certain level of interest in researchers, organisations and global networks. Particularly at the EU level, the war in Ukraine has already led to a dramatic increase in the number of forcibly displaced persons and to the display of a record-level of biometric border technologies, and it has provoked new forms of datafied registering and sorting processes of migrants. At the EU level several initiatives remain active, including the following:

- Eticas Foundation has developed the Observatory of Algorithms with Social Impact, or OASI. The Observatory's objective is to understand better the risks and challenges that algorithms and machine learning processes pose. Currently, after publishing the Guide to Algorithmic Auditing -a methodology for auditing algorithms- Eticas brings together algorithms used by governments and companies internationally in order to shed light on their use and impact.

- GUARDINT is a European research project that examines surveillance, intelligence, and oversight. Its main goal is to build empirical and conceptual tools to understand better the limits and potential of intelligence oversight mechanisms. Cross-disciplinary in nature, the project encompasses policy and legal analysis, along with sociological and historical research.

- SECURITY FLOWS is a Consolidator Grant funded by the European Research Council. The project develops a novel interdisciplinary framework to understand how data is generated, exchanged, and contested in border encounters, and to investigate the complex epistemic, practical, political, and ethical implications of these transformations.

- CURATE is a Starting Grant funded by the European Research Council. The research project investigates data quality in European law enforcement and border control.

- DATA UNION is a Starting Grant funded by the European Research Council. The research project studies "The European Data Union", to wit, the integration of EU security through database interoperability.

Additionally, there are agencies and associations with broader scopes that connect migration and datafication such as the following:

- ADMIGOV (Advancing Alternative Migration Governance) studies alternative approaches to migration governance that can be designed better and put into practice. Rather than proposing a top-down study of existing migration policies, ADMIGOV studies the concrete reality of existing policies and on-the-ground practices to improve migration governance in line with the principles set out by the UN.

- European Digital Rights (EDRi) is a dynamic and resilient collective of NGOs, experts, advocates, and academics working to defend and advance digital rights across the continent. Through a series of publications, it has documented how the EU is increasingly experimenting with high-risk migration management technologies.

- 'Privacy International' is a campaign organisation that defends the rights of privacy, extending

to the fields of migration and borders. It evaluates IT systems and their methods and techniques in order to raise awareness about the implications of new policies for the human rights of all persons.

Despite the common EU migration framework, the aforementioned initiatives-agencies operate rather autonomously and remain relatively isolated. There are but a few comparative international projects. DATAMIG comes to address these shortcomings, and its implementation will advance the relevant research by creating an interdisciplinary network that brings together all these stakeholders.

2.2. ADDED VALUE OF NETWORKING IN IMPACT

2.2.1. SECURING THE CRITICAL MASS, EXPERTISE AND GEOGRAPHICAL BALANCE WITHIN THE COST MEMBERS AND BEYOND

DATAMIG will be actively involved in research, engagement, and scholarly as well as societal debates in all relevant research fields. The Action aim is to bring together researchers from a wide variety of disciplines in order to help bring about scientific exchanges and synergy initiatives for a networked production of more complex insight. the Action will take advantage of the availability of relevant professional societies and research networks, including the thousands of researchers participating in the Society for Social Studies of Science (4S), the European Association for the Study of Science and Technology (EASST), the "Tensions of Europe: Research Network on Europe, Technology, History", and the STS MIGTEC independent network of scholars at the intersection of science and technology studies and critical migration, security and border studies.

The initial DATAMIG team of researchers-proposers represents a balanced mix of early, mid- career, as well as established scholars, who have already worked together in joint workshops, summer schools, and conference panels at national and international levels for over five years. In addition to a rich tapestry of research and scholarship, we have also curated and produced teaching materials regarding topics such as: a) conceptual viewpoints on border and migration studies, b) mobility control, security, and surveillance, c) migrant subjects' perspectives and struggles, d) digitised global mobilities and migration control, and e) infrastructures, migration, and citizenship.

DATAMIG has secured the support of some of the most prominent research centres and networks in migration/border studies and STS. It also counts on the cooperation of key figures in the field from International Partner Countries (IPCs) outside the EU. Building on a broad geographic reach and disciplinary inclusiveness, DATAMIG has the potential to be implemented successfully and grow quickly.

The Action gives particular attention to the inclusion of emerging voices in academia from ITC countries. DATAMIG cannot content itself with bringing the research topics and experiences of ITC scholars into the Anglophone academic world alone, and thus it also intends to collaborate with scholars from outside Europe who are currently moving forward the research on the DATAMIG agenda. A commitment that runs throughout our WGs is an ethos to reach beyond Europe's borders for insights that challenge and enrich Eurocentric interventions and monitoring. Individual researchers involved bring their collaborations with the Global South into the network with their independent projects, which serve as platforms to expand and facilitate future collaboration between the Global North and the Global South partners.

2.2.2. INVOLVEMENT OF STAKEHOLDERS

The forms of engagement with different stakeholders take inspiration from reflections about experimental collaborations and careful interventions in science and technology. By taking inspiration from these approaches, the Action will be able to (a) take a systematic stock of research-led stakeholder engagement experiences from the members of the network and the wider field, and (b) design selective situated engagement formats tailored to the specific needs of actor constellations.

Involvement of Stakeholders is relevant throughout our three WGs.

1) To develop an impactful interdisciplinary framework for understanding the Data Matters of European Migration and Border Control, DATAMIG will involve academics from different fields (such as the humanities and the social sciences that contribute to STS) and various career stages (early and mid-researchers and lecturers). One of the main focuses is knowledge exchange through STS networks beyond Europe via collaborations with academic associations with European scales such as EASST, but also with global scales such as 4S and specifically those with reach beyond Europe such as STS-Turkey, Network for Science and Technologies Studies in Africa (STS-Africa), TransAsiaSTS, Asociación Latinoamericana de Estudios Sociales de la Ciencia y la Tecnología (ESOCITE), and the DATAPOWER conference series. Additionally, DATAMIG will facilitate knowledge exchange and collaborate with high- level research projects that have engaged with related matters such as the following ERC projects: SECURITY FLOWS, REEL BORDERS, DATA JUSTICE, VITAL ELEMENTS, RACE/FACE ID, DATA UNION, CURATE, PROCESSING CITIZENSHIP.

2) To approach the task of mapping and monitoring arenas of datafication, DATAMIG builds on contacts with stakeholders from national and international NGOs, local and national governments, and national and EU administration. To strengthen and increase these collaborations, DATAMIG will bring into the network non-academic audiences. A crucial target is the involvement of NGOs that are a) involved in debates about digital databases for migration control (Privacy International, EDPRI, Odysseus Network and similar organisations like Statewatch, Transparency International, Tactical Tech, AlgorithmWatch, netzpolitik.org, the Red Cross) and b) active in the migration/border zones, - especially the ones that perform border monitoring in the Greek, Italian, Spanish and Balkan-Route, Polish-Belarus-Ukrainian borders. This includes NGOs like: Refugee Support Aegean (RSA) located on the Chios island; Watch The Med which operates as a mapping platform to monitor the violations of migrants' rights at the maritime borders of the EU; bordermonitoring.eu; Deportation Monitoring Aegean; the Border Violence Monitoring Network (BVMN); alarmphone; the Poland-based organisations working on human rights, surveillance, and the support of refugees from the Middle East as well as from the Ukraine (Helsinki Foundation, Panoptykon Foundation, Ocalenie Foundation); Forensic Architecture, Human's Right Watch, and Amnesty International, which gather data on violence, illegal pushbacks, and denial of access to asylum seekers; Stichting Drowned Migrant Cemetery, which not only contributes to the identification of drowned migrants through biometric data but also confers dignity upon them by offering the appropriate funeral processions, not only on the European borders but also at the North African borders of the Mediterranean.

3. IMPACT

3.1. IMPACT TO SCIENCE, SOCIETY AND COMPETITIVENESS, AND POTENTIAL FOR INNOVATION/BREAK-THROUGHS

3.1.1. SCIENTIFIC, TECHNOLOGICAL, AND/OR SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS (INCLUDING POTENTIAL INNOVATIONS AND/OR BREAKTHROUGHS)

The DATAMIG potential for scientific, technological, and socioeconomic innovation breakthroughs is considerable. It is designed to tap into and to blend together a host of ongoing concerns and initiatives worldwide, with a critical mass to advance the connection between migration and datafication in networks related to Science and Technology Studies. Moving beyond the paradigm of securitisation, DATAMIG will develop data-related strategies and approaches that value the perspectives, the vulnerabilities, and the needs of migrants. It will serve sociologists, humanists, as well as scientists, engineers (especially from areas pertaining to computing and other identification technologies), and non-academic researchers. Further, DATAMIG will link academic concerns to pressing contemporary challenges. The abovementioned will be achieved by means of the following: **(a)** building conceptual WGs that cut across specialised fields of research, **(b)** setting up an integrated research framework whereby novel analytical tools may be developed in order to help understand and problematise the ramifications of security-driven and datafication-oriented trends for migrants, and **(c)** facilitating analyses that will be keeping track of the highly dynamic and increasingly transnational field of datafied migration and border control in and beyond the EU, thereby enabling the gathering of new (comparative) research data from mapping monitoring activities that would advance both migration and border studies and the actual tracking of the pertinent datafication. The study, exposure, and critique of datafied methods of migration and border control are of paramount importance, not least due to the injustices and inequalities said control may generate.

The DATAMIG, STS-inspired, situated analysis of encounters between socio-technical settings of mobility control and the subjects they target adds considerable analytical value. The digitisation of border and migration management, when studied from an STS perspective, will showcase how a set of previously largely unconnected actors merges into a group of end-users coordinating their work through data-exchange. DATAMIG will facilitate the practical enactment of traceability as a rationale for mobility control. Through focusing on migration and control data and on the technologies that allow for their production and circulation, it will inform and help shape decision-making practices at borders and other sites where state authorities impose controls on mobile subjects. DATAMIG will open up pathways for more impactful policy recommendations based on alternative scenarios for regulations, practice guidelines for methodologies and research on the configuration of migration and border control, collaborating networks for the monitoring of datafied arenas, and a community of practice for engagement and intervention from a caring perspective. In addition, it will bring researchers together with other civic actors (NGOs, various institutions, and so on) with whom they might not have otherwise met and collaborated, it will extend and strengthen already existing collaborations, and it will identify opportunities to kick-start new ones across academic/non-academic boundaries.

3.2. MEASURES TO MAXIMISE IMPACT

3.2.1. KNOWLEDGE CREATION, TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The Training Schools and Networking Panels in DATAMIG will allow a significant number of ECIs, especially from ITCs, to participate in and contribute to the creation and exchange of knowledge about the datafication of migration and border control in the EU. The three training schools, one per working group, will be taught by senior network members for early career researchers within the network, but also from outside the network in order to develop legacy work for the Action. Matters of professional career development will be included in the design of the training schools (for instance, research funding opportunities, career strategy planning, diversifying career scenarios). When including ECIs, we will be mindful of gender and of socio-economic factors. The Networking Panels will further the exchange of teaching experiences and teaching careers in academia between senior network members and early career researchers, and from different epistemic cultures.

To contribute to knowledge and career development: DATAMIG will create an interdisciplinary expert network that will foster cooperation, academic exchange, and career opportunities. DATAMIG will add early career development planning, for example mentoring schemes matching ECIs with experienced scholars but also stakeholders from selected areas to explore options of career development beyond academia. DATAMIG uses networking activities such as Training schools, Virtual Mobility Grants (VMG) and ITC Conference Grants to support ECI's and in particular from ITC countries.

DATAMIG will focus on the collection of diverse perspectives on data matters, including those often not heard or made visible, and particularly those pertaining to research, network activity, and knowledge exchange.

Last but not least, DATAMIG will counteract the devaluation and marginalisation of migrant communities and experiences, not only by improving the visibility of migrants but also by publishing in selected languages of migrants such as Arabic, French, Portuguese, English, German, Greek, Spanish, Turkish, Urdu, in order to improve their access to infrastructures and resources. This two-way exchange of knowledge will enable research agendas and academic traditions to interact with the subjects and help shape a more represented field. Those materials will be provided on the website.

3.2.2. PLAN FOR DISSEMINATION AND/OR EXPLOITATION AND DIALOGUE WITH THE GENERAL PUBLIC OR POLICY

Public dialogue will revolve around scientific results that, apart from being published in esteemed international journals and presented in lectures and conferences, will be made available on the project website, which would be developed as a mobile-first web application. This will ensure open access to the network's outcomes during and after DATAMIG's lifetime.

Additionally, multimedia and printed material (videos, factsheets, brochures, and so forth) will be tailored to the different scopes of the WGs and the data outputs on the one hand, and the needs of stakeholder arenas on the other. The adopted multimedia approach will include the production of short animated videos and their subsequent publication via multiple social media platforms and formats in order to enhance the DATAMIG dissemination among stakeholders. This will be also linked to training activities.

A mailing list will be used to disseminate material or to invite various stakeholders in online discussions. DATAMIG social Network accounts will be employed to inform the general public through their Facebook and Twitter accounts. DATAMIG press releases will be prepared and circulated to general and specialised media.

The public dialogue, as advanced through DATAMIG meetings, workshops, and conferences, will aim to foster networking by means of policy dialogue, public debates, publications and conference talks, and panels.

The hosting of three co-designed data-sprint workshops, with participants coming from various academic and non-academic backgrounds, will help elaborate alternative scenarios for the datafication and regulation of human mobility. The goal of these workshops is to co-develop visual, technical, and writing material with an emphasis on how borders are experienced by a diverse array of groups and actors, and thereby draw possible conclusions as to the potentialities of a more caring and humane governance of human mobility.

Additional events can be held to facilitate actions such as screenings of the results of the mapping and monitoring activities, as well as multi-modal forms of collaborations and artistic exhibitions intended to draw attention to the socio-technical challenges of datafication and to show key perspectives on

migration.

Furthermore, through annual conferences, roundtables and training schools, DATAMIG will make a point of engaging with NGOs in order to yield valuable insight into, as well as feedback on, network activities. It will also produce a policy brief on weighty data matters concerning migration/border control.

For the facilitation of the aforementioned actions, DATAMIG will include partners who are able to translate outputs (videos, reports, policy briefs, and so on) into the selected languages referred to above. These materials will be provided via the website.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

4.1. COHERENCE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE WORK PLAN

4.1.1. DESCRIPTION OF WORKING GROUPS, TASKS AND ACTIVITIES

As mentioned above, DATAMIG comprises three Working Groups (WGs), each of which will form a leadership team of four coordinators representing different subfields. At least two scholars in each leadership team must be part of the Management Committee (MC), two must come from ITCs, and two of them are to be female. Each WG will be in charge of organising one of the four planned conferences, while the fourth one is to be organised collaboratively by WG 1 & 3.

The tasks and activities of the Working Groups are designed so as to bring into fruition nine **(9) Short Term Scientific Missions**, twelve **(12) Workshops and Conferences**, three (**3**) **Training Schools**, and **nine (9) Dissemination Actions**. The aforementioned are planned as follows:

WG1: INVENTORY – Tasks:

Task 1.1 To review and assess past and emerging interdisciplinary research on the datafication of migration and border control (Year 1-4)
Task 1.2 To set up an Action website, to support a fixed digital communication mechanism for all WGs (Year 1)
Task 1.3 To prepare for the WG1 Conference, in collaboration with the MC; a roundtable with stakeholders, with a side event to design a mentoring scheme and career planning strategies (Year 1)
Task 1.4 Preparation of report 1 on the initial results of the inventory (concepts and methodologies, identifying interdisciplinary challenges and forms of integration) (Year 1)
Task 1.5 Three short-term missions, decided by the MC and with support from the Grant Awarding Coordinator to acquire and exchange knowledge about interdisciplinary research into the datafication of migration and border control at selected sites (establishing a basis for future collaborations by means of collective writing of research grant proposals) (Year 2-4)
Task 1.6 Preparation of a Training School for fostering academic/non-academic collaborations and on how to pursue a career outside of academia (working on proposals of integration across disciplines, challenges and future research agendas) (Year 2)
Task 1.7 Organisation of in-person Working Group Meeting One (Year 1-2)
Task 1.8 Organisation of in-person Working Group Meeting Two (Year 3)
Task 1.9 Update and finalisation of report 2 (Year 3-4)
Task 1.10 Publication of the final results of inventory as an open-access tool kit for methods and concepts (including a proposition about an integrative analytical framework and conclusions regarding an interdisciplinary research agenda) on the website (Year 4)
Task 1.11 To develop and to implement a plan that ensures the continuation of interdisciplinary collaborations across various academic fields and countries (Year 1-4)
Task 1.12 Preparation for the WG1&WG3 Conference (Year 4)

WG2: OBSERVATORY – Tasks:

Task 2.1 To identify, contact, and integrate stakeholders for monitoring, tracking, and counter-surveillance of data practices (Year 1-4)
Task 2.2 Organisation of in-person Working Group Meeting (Year 1-2)
Task 2.3 Preparation of a mapping workshop (mapping monitoring data practices with stakeholders classified into two subgroups: (i) centring on monitoring datafication in control regimes, and (ii) centring on datafication as counter-surveillance) (Year 1-2)
Task 2.4. Preparation of a Training School on mapping and monitoring methodologies for academics, with selected stakeholders (Year 2)
Task 2.5 Three short-term missions to acquire and exchange knowledge about specific underexplored monitoring practices to be continuously monitored in the observatory (the short scientific missions will take place at: one site at the European southern borders, around the Mediterranean; one site at the

European eastern borders, around Ukraine; and, one at a non-EU site, on the diversification of datafication and externalization of borders) (Year 2-4)
Task 2.6 Creation of content for the website, e.g. the results from the mapping of monitoring data practices (Year 1-4)
Task 2.7 Preparation of the WG2 Conference, including a networking panel (Year 3)
Task 2.8 Organisation of in-person Working Group Meeting (Year 4)
Task 2.9 Development of textual and visual materials (like short videos and infographics) to document the mapping results for further dissemination (Year 4)
Task 2.10 To develop and to implement a plan that ensures the continuation of monitoring collaborations across various academic fields and countries (Year 1-4)
Task 2.11 Preparation for the WG1&WG2&WG3 Conference (Year 4)

WG3: LABORATORY -- Tasks:

Task 3.1 Collection of good practices and case studies of engagement and intervention (Year 1-2)
Task 3.2 Creation of content for the website, e.g. documentation of case studies and best practices of engagement with stakeholders are hosted and brought together, as a subpart of the collective website (Year 1-3)
Task 3.3 Organisation of in-person Working Group Meeting (Year 1-2)
Task 3.4 Three short-term missions to acquire and exchange knowledge about interventions of engagement on sight (Year 2)
Task 3.5 Preparation for the WG 3 Conference, including a side event on mentoring and career planning strategies (Year 2)
Task 3.6 Preparation of three scenario workshops with (1) civic actors, (2) multi-modal and artistic interventions, and (3) regulators and policy makers (one at Southern borders, one at Eastern borders, one linked to EU regulators) (Year 2-3)
Task 3.7 To promote scenario-based, policy-relevant recommendations and practice guidelines based on scenario workshops with policy roundtables as forums on the governance of human mobility and datafication (Year 3-4)
Task 3.8 Preparation of a Training School for fostering academic/non-academic collaborations and on how to pursue a career outside of academia (Year 3)
Task 3.9 Creation of an artistic exhibit or a documentary portraying the result of the collection of good practices (Year 3)
Task 3.10 To develop and to implement a plan that ensures the continuation of interdisciplinary collaborations across various stakeholders, academic fields, and countries (Year 1-4)
Task 3.11 Preparation for the WG1 & WG2 & WG3 Conference including side event on mentoring and career strategy planning and networking panel (Year 4)

4.1.2.   DESCRIPTION OF DELIVERABLES AND TIMEFRAME

WG1: INVENTORY – Deliverables:

D1.1 The Action website to support a fixed digital communication mechanism for all WGs (Year 1)
D1.2 Report 1 concepts and methodologies, identifying interdisciplinary challenges and forms of integration (Year 1)
D1.3 Report Update 2 that integrates information on challenges and future research agenda from Training School (Year 3-4)
D1.4. Publication of the inventory as an open-access toolkit of methods and concepts (Year 4)
D1.5 Publication of a Reader: Collection of texts recommended for teaching purposes (Year 4)
D1.6 Two peer-reviewed papers (I. research agenda, II. methods and concepts of studying the datafication of migration and border control - one for an STS journal and one for a Migration/Border Studies journal) (Year 4)

WG2: OBSERVATORY – Deliverables:

D2.1 A toolkit: a collaborative 'map on mapping' develop at the mapping workshop (monitoring data practices with stakeholders classified into two subgroups: (i) centring on monitoring datafication in control regimes, and (ii) centring on datafication as counter-surveillance) (Year 1-2)
D2.2 Report from training school on mapping and monitoring methodologies for academics with selected stakeholders (Year 2)
D2.3 Visual display of results of the mapping of monitoring data practices to be made available on the website (Year 2-3)
D2.4 Content of WG2, e.g. documentation and monitoring activities brought together as part of the website (Year 2-4)
D2.5 Development of textual and visual materials (like short videos and infographics) to document the mapping results for further dissemination beyond the website (Year 4)

D2.6 Two peer-reviewed papers (methodologies of mapping and monitoring, comparative analysis across different sites), one for an STS journal and one for a Migration/Border Studies/Human Geography journal (Year 4)

D2.7 A multi-modal report on the monitoring, tracking and counter-surveillance data practices (Year 4)

WG3: LABORATORY – Deliverables:

D3.1 Report: Collection of good practices and case studies of engagement and intervention (Year 1-2)

D3.2 Collection of case studies and best practices of engagement with stakeholders brought together as part of the website (Year 1-3)

D3.3 Scenario-based, policy-relevant recommendation report and practice guidelines, based on the scenario workshops and with policy roundtables as forums on the governance of human mobility and datafication (Year 3-4)

D3.4 Artistic exhibit or a documentary portraying the result of the collection of good practices (Year 3)

D3.5 Two peer-reviewed papers (scenario workshop and policy implications in an international relations journal, multi-modality and alternative forms of engagement with datafication in a Migration/Border Studies/Human Geography/Anthropology journal) (Year 4)

D3.6 Report from each short scientific mission that includes the activities carried out and benefits for the ECIs (Year 2)

4.1.3.   RISK ANALYSIS AND CONTINGENCY PLANS

Most DATAMIG activities entail low risk and high gain as they involve well-established academic practices (to wit, workshops, conferences, and special journal issues). DATAMIG will include a significant number of researchers working in many different countries, so even though the risk is considered low, it is a possibility that should be allowed for by means of risk management and contingency plans.

Description of risk	Proposed risk-mitigation measures
Partnership is unable to fulfil the work plan	Clear definition of work plan and WG leaders. Use of project communication tools. In case a delay is due to lack of readiness from a WG Leader, she/he will be immediately replaced.
Working problems / Insufficient collaboration between partners and stakeholders	Establish strategies (such as periodical meetings and other DATAMIG events). Ensure all partners know each other and create interpersonal connections. Establish clear procedures for internal communication and reporting. Funded DATAMIG events will reinforce the participation of new potential stakeholders.
Lack of interest from stakeholders	Multimedia informative material and communication through social networks and new media. Dedicated dissemination strategy targeted in various stakeholders through field mapping and targeted approach.
Inability to produce work on time	Monitoring of work plan and revision of the draft documents that support the discussion by stakeholders. If needed, segmentation of the scientific community into smaller areas of research. Ensure regular communication between all COST members.

4.1.4. GANTT DIAGRAM

Group	Number	Tasks	2023	2024	2025	2026
WG 1	T.1.1	To review and assess past and emerging interdisciplinary research on the datafication of migration and border control	�			
	T.1.2	To set up an Action website, to support a fixed digital communication mechanism for all WGs	▩			
	T.1.3	To prepare for the WG1 Conference, in collaboration with the MC; a roundtable with stakeholders, with a side event to design a mentoring scheme and career planning strategies	▩		▩	
	T.1.4	Preparation of report 1 on the initial results of the inventory (concepts and methodologies, identifying interdisciplinary challenges and forms of integration)	▩			
	T.1.5	Three short-term missions, decided by the MC and with support from the Grant Awarding Coordinator to acquire and exchange knowledge about interdisciplinary research into the datafication of migration and border control at selected sites (establishing a basis for future collaborations by means of collective writing of research grant proposals)		▩		▩
	T.1.6	Preparation of a Training School for fostering academic/non-academic collaborations and on how to pursue a career outside of academia (working on proposals of integration across disciplines, challenges and future research agendas)		▩		
	T.1.7	Organisation of in-person Working Group Meeting One	▩			
	T.1.8	Organisation of in-person Working Group Meeting Two			▩	
	T.1.9	Update and finalisation of report 2			▩	▩
	T.1.10	Publication of the final results of inventory as an open-access tool kit for methods and concepts (including a proposition about an integrative analytical framework and conclusions regarding an interdisciplinary research agenda) on the website			▩	▩
	T.1.11	To develop and to implement a plan that ensures the continuation of interdisciplinary collaborations across various academic fields and countries	▩			
	T.1.12	Preparation for the WG1&WG2&WG3 Conference				▩
WG 2	T.2.1	To identify, contact, and integrate stakeholders for monitoring, tracking, and counter-surveillance of data practices	▩			
	T.2.2	Organisation of in-person Working Group Meeting	▩			
	T.2.3	Preparation of a mapping workshop (mapping monitoring data practices with stakeholders classified into two subgroups: (i) centring on monitoring datafication in control regimes, and (ii) centring on datafication as counter-surveillance)	▩			
	T.2.4	Preparation of a Training School on mapping and monitoring methodologies for academics, with selected stakeholders		▩		
	T.2.5	Three short-term missions to acquire and exchange knowledge about specific underexplored monitoring practices to be continuously monitored in the observatory (the short scientific missions will take place at: one site at the European southern borders, around the Mediterranean; one site at the European eastern borders, around Ukraine; and, one at a non-EU site, on the diversification of datafication and externalization of borders)		▩		
	T.2.6	Creation of content for the website, e.g. the results from the mapping of monitoring data practices	▩			
	T.2.7	Preparation of the WG2 Conference, including a networking panel			▩	
	T.2.8	Organisation of in-person Working Group Meeting				▩
	T.2.9	Development of textual and visual materials (like short videos and infographics) to document the mapping results for further dissemination			▩	
	T.2.10	To develop and to implement a plan that ensures the continuation of monitoring collaborations across various academic fields and countries	▩			
	T.2.11	Preparation for the WG1&WG2&WG3 Conference				▩
WG 3	T.3.1	Collection of good practices and case studies of engagement and intervention	▩			
	T.3.2	Creation of content for the website, e.g. documentation of case studies and best practices of engagement with stakeholders are hosted and brought together, as a subpart of the collective website	▩			
	T.3.3	Organisation of in-person Working Group Meeting	▩			
	T.3.4	Three short-term missions to acquire and exchange knowledge about interventions of engagement on sight		▩		
	T.3.5	Preparation for the WG3 Conference, including a side event on mentoring and career planning strategies		▩		
	T.3.6	Preparation of three scenario workshops with (1) civic actors, (2) multi-modal and artistic interventions, and (3) regulators and policy makers (one at Southern borders, one at Eastern borders, one linked to EU regulators)			▩	
	T.3.7	To promote scenario-based, policy-relevant recommendations and practice guidelines based on scenario workshops with policy roundtables as forums on the governance of human mobility and datafication				▩
	T.3.8	Preparation of a Training School for fostering academic/non-academic collaborations and on how to pursue a career outside of academia			▩	
	T.3.9	Creation of an artistic exhibit or a documentary portraying the result of the collection of good practices			▩	
	T.3.10	To develop and to implement a plan that ensures the continuation of interdisciplinary collaborations across various stakeholders, academic fields, and countries	▩			
	T.3.11	Preparation for the WG1 & WG2 & WG3 Conference including side event on mentoring and career strategy planning and networking panel				▩

Group	Number	Deliverables	2023	2024	2025	2026
WG 1	D.1.1	The Action website to support a fixed digital communication mechanism for all WGs	▩			
	D.1.2	Report 1 concepts and methodologies, identifying interdisciplinary challenges and forms of integration	▩			
	D.1.3	Report Update 2 that integrates information on challenges and future research agenda from Training School			▩	▩
	D.1.4	Publication of the inventory as an open-access toolkit of methods and concepts				▩
	D.1.5	Publication of a Reader: Collection of texts recommended for teaching purposes				▩
	D.1.6	Two peer-reviewed papers (I. research agenda, II. methods and concepts of studying the datafication of migration and border control - one for an STS journal and one for a Migration/Border Studies journal)				▩
WG 2	D.2.1	A toolkit: a collaborative 'map on mapping' develop at the mapping workshop (monitoring data practices with stakeholders classified into two subgroups: (i) centring on monitoring datafication in control regimes, and (ii) centring on datafication as counter-surveillance)	▩			
	D.2.2	Report from training school on mapping and monitoring methodologies for academics with selected stakeholders		▩		
	D.2.3	Visual display of results of the mapping of monitoring data practices to be made available on the website		▩	▩	
	D.2.4	Content of WG2, e.g. documentation and monitoring activities brought together as part of the website		▩	▩	▩
	D.2.5	Development of textual and visual materials (like short videos and infographics) to document the mapping results for further dissemination beyond the website				▩
	D.2.6	Two peer-reviewed papers (methodologies of mapping and monitoring, comparative analysis across different sites), one for an STS journal and one for a Migration/Border Studies/Human Geography journal				▩
	D.2.7	A multi-modal report on the monitoring, tracking and counter-surveillance data practices				▩
WG 3	D.3.1	Report: Collection of good practices and case studies of engagement and intervention	▩	▩		
	D.3.2	Collection of case studies and best practices of engagement with stakeholders brought together as part of the website	▩	▩	▩	
	D.3.3	Scenario-based, policy-relevant recommendation report and practice guidelines, based on the scenario workshops and with policy roundtables as forums on the governance of human mobility and datafication		▩	▩	▩
	D.3.4	Artistic exhibit or a documentary portraying the result of the collection of good practices			▩	
	D.3.5	Two peer-reviewed papers (scenario workshop and policy implications in an international relations journal, multi-modality and alternative forms of engagement with datafication in a Migration/Border Studies/Human Geography/Anthropology journal)				▩
	D.3.6	Report from each short scientific mission that includes the activities carried out and benefits for the ECIs		▩		

References

Aas KF (2011) 'Crimmigrant' bodies and bona fide travelers: Surveillance, citizenship and global governance. Theoretical Criminology15(3): 331–346.

Bellanova R and Glouftsios G (2020) Controlling the Schengen Information System (SIS II): The Infrastructural Politics of Fragility and Maintenance. Geopolitics: 1–25.

Dencik L, Jansen F and Metcalfe P (2018) A conceptual framework for approaching social justice in an age of datafication. In: 2018.

Dijstelbloem H, Meijer A and Besters M (2011) The Migration Machine. In: Migration and the New Technological Borders of Europe. Basingstoke, Hampshire, New York: Palgrave Macmillan.

D. Haggerty, Richard V. Ericson K (2000) The surveillant assemblage. British Journal of Sociology 51(4): 605–622. DOI:10.1080/00071310020015280.

Follis KS (2017) Vision and Transterritory: The Borders of Europe. Science, Technology, & Human Values 42(6). 6: 1003–1030. DOI:10.1177/0162243917715106.

Galis V, Jørgensen MB and Sandberg M (eds) (2022) The Migration Mobile: Border Dissidence, Sociotechnical Resistance, and the Construction of Irregularized Migrants. Challenging migration studies. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield.

Gitelman L (ed.) (2013) 'Raw Data' Is an Oxymoron. Infrastructures series. Cambridge, Massachusetts: The MIT Press.

Hall A (2017) Decisions at the data border: Discretion, discernment and security. Security Dialogue 48(6): 488–504. DOI:10.1177/0967010617733668.

Lemberg-Pedersen M (2013) Private security companies and the european borderscapes.: 152–172. DOI: 10.4324/9780203082737

Madianou, M. (2019). Technocolonialism: Digital Innovation and Data Practices in the Humanitarian Response to Refugee Crises. Social Media + Society, 5(3). https://doi.org/10.1177/2056305119863146

Mau S and Barfoot N (2022) Sorting Machines: The Reinvention of the Border in the 21st Century. Medford: Polity Press.

Metcalfe P (2022) Autonomy of Migration and the Radical Imagination: Exploring Alternative Imaginaries within a Biometric Border. Geopolitics 27(1): 47–69. DOI: 10.1080/14650045.2021.1917550.

Muller, B. (2010). Security, Risk and the Biometric State: Governing Borders and Bodies (1st ed.). Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203858042

Pellegrino, G., J. Söderberg & S. Milan (2019). Datafication from Below: Epistemology, Ambivalences, Challenges, Tecnoscienza: Italian Journal of Science and Technology Studies, 10(1), pp. 89-113. ISSN 2038-3460

Pelizza A (2020) Processing Alterity, Enacting Europe: Migrant Registration and Identification as Co-construction of Individuals and Polities. Science, Technology, & Human Values 45(2): 262–288. DOI: 10.1177/0162243919827927.

Pötzsch, Holger. (2015). iBorder: Bringing STS into Border Research. T3.3003. 10.3390/isis-summit-vienna-2015-T3.3003.

Pugliese, J. (2010). Biometrics: Bodies, Technologies, Biopolitics (1st ed.). Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203849415

Scheel S (2019) Autonomy of Migration?: Appropriating Mobility within Biometric Border Regimes. 1st ed. Abingdon, Oxon; New York, NY: Routledge, 2019.: Routledge. DOI: 10.4324/9781315269030.

Tazzioli M and Walters W (2016) The Sight of Migration: Governmentality, Visibility and Europe's Contested Borders. Global Society30(3): 445–464. DOI: 10.1080/13600826.2016.1173018.

Wienroth Matthias (2020) Value beyond scientific validity: let's RULE (Reliability, Utility, LEgitimacy), Journal of Responsible Innovation, 7:sup1, 92-103, DOI: 10.1080/23299460.2020.1835152