

Science in society Forum
By Jean-Pierre Alix

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Introduction : about the SiS wording

- Is about freedom and responsibility of science
- SiS means reciprocal influence (not a new topic !)
- Today specific features : velocity of exchanges, through many « motorways, roads, ways and paths », including internet
- « Communication » could be analog with « SiS » if taken in a broad sense
- Describe good practices, in connexion with reflexion (FL)

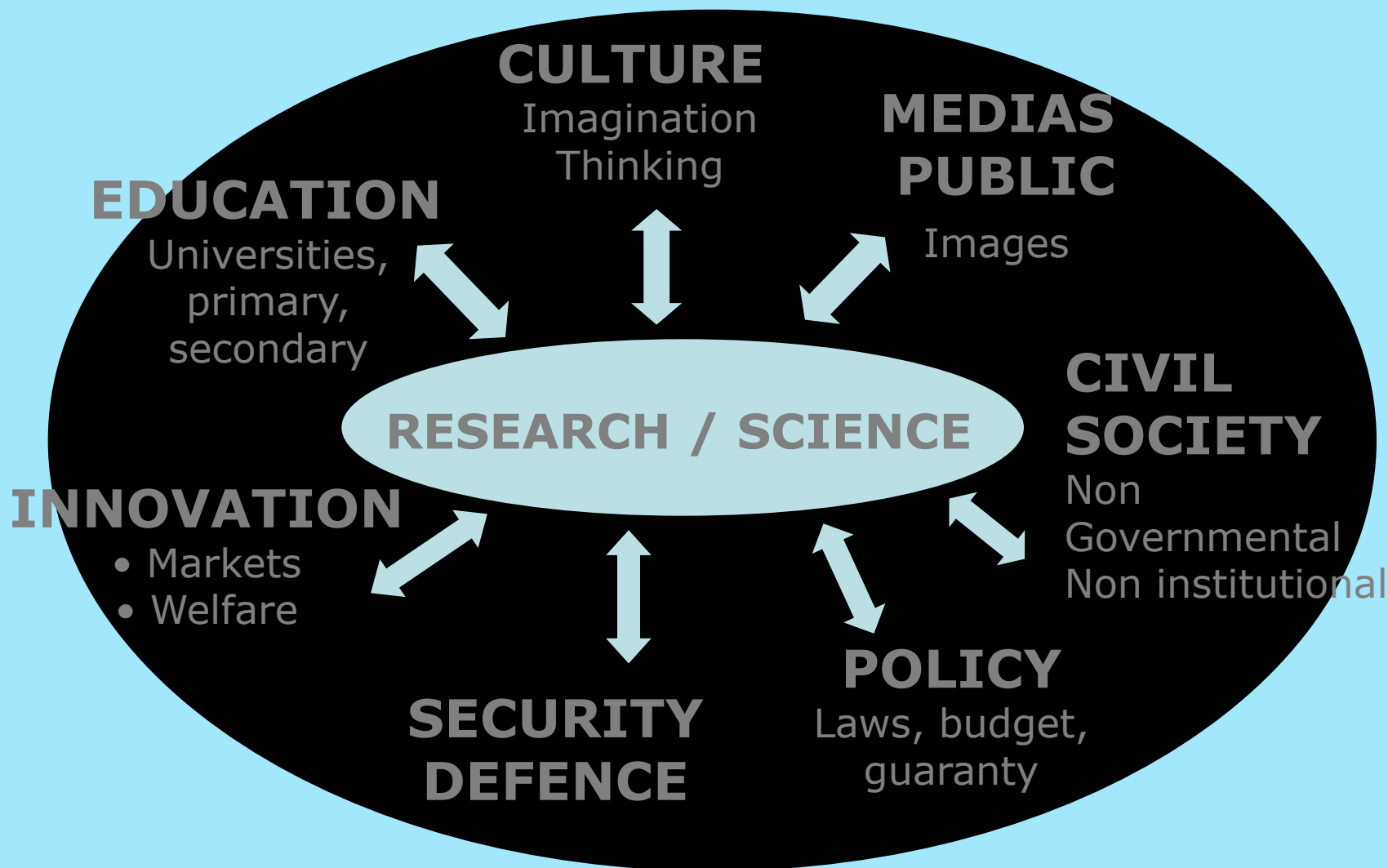
Background

- **Topics in the public arena : nuclear, bio, nano,... create a negative perception of science in the public which counterbalances positive image and effects of scientific discoveries and engineering**
 - **From « Science = Progress » to « Science = Progress and risk » (Eurobarometer) which have influence on decision makers, funding, etc.
Mythic image of science downsized.**
 - **Possible interpretations :**
 - **as deep criticism of Bacon's, Descartes, Renaissance, Enlightenment, etc. bets in our societies and lead to a rational/emotional war case**
 - **or maybe understood too as wisdom about knowledge :**
- « *Science without conscience is the ruine of soul* », François Rabelais, Pantagruel, 1532**

Evolution of « science policy » since 1945 :

- **The three historical layers :**
 - **Excellency after WWII (Science, the endless frontier)/ examples : CNRS, MPG, etc.**
 - **Innovation after the 60's / market driven**
 - **Society concerns arising since the 80's**
 - **environment, energy policies, health, ...**
 - **Great expectations for new solutions through science**
 - **Change in opinions : risks perception**
- **A new situation which means the success of science, and renews the freedom/responsibility discussion**
- **In fact, science policy is a mix at any level (lab, institution, policy making), with high variability depending on the field/topic**
- **How to introduce seriously the third pillar in science policy (society), which is not limited to production and dissemination.**

Science in Society today : an interactive relationships frame



Provisional conclusions

as of november 2010

- For research managers
 - From « deficit model » to interaction or dialogue
 - Consider that production and dissemination of science are connected somewhere in hybrid zones in society where translation processes inbetween cultures happen
 - Better capacity to manage complexity (3 pillars model)
- Real work for research institutions
 - Create or collaborate to dedicated « places for dialogue »
 - REngineering of communication processes in institutions/ better involve scientists and labs, and stakeholders
 - Understanding : SiS Research programs at national and european level
 - Acting : Societal relationships as a normal activity for scientists (action plans, rewarding, methodology and capacity building, training)
 - Accountability : Measuring impact of those activities
- For stakeholders and society
 - Benefits from science enhanced
 - More trust from co-actors of science
 - Image of future in a global world