

# Inari Symposium on Research Ethics in Nature, Environment and Indigenous Research

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*On 10-11 June 2026, the Finnish National Board on Research Integrity TENK organises an international symposium in Lapland on research ethics with a theme of ethical principles and ethical review in research on nature, the environment and indigenous peoples. InRENEI2026 is co-organised with the Sámi Parliament, the University of Lapland and the Natural Resources Institute Finland LUKE. The event is aimed especially at researchers, experts and ethics committees working in the field of human sciences and research on nature and the environment.*

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The international landscape of research ethics has started to recognise a need for developing the ethical framework for research impacting nature and the environment. Particularly in the Arctic, research on nature and the environment has direct connections to the lives and cultural heritage of the indigenous peoples.

The symposium highlights the inseparable connection between indigenous cultures and the environment by taking the discussion on research ethics to the heart of the Sámi homeland. The two-day international symposium will take place at the Sámi Cultural Centre Sajos, Inari.

During the years 2023-2026, the Finnish National Board on Research Integrity TENK, in collaboration with the Finnish research community, has drafted a recommendation for national ethical guidelines for research involving nature and the environment. The purpose of this recommendation, Ethical Principles for Research Involving Nature and the Environment and a Proposal for Organising Ethical Review in Finland (the NERE recommendation), is to increase awareness of the ethical questions in research on nature and the environment and to develop ethical discussion and reflection in these fields. The recommendation will be published at InRENEI2026 in June 2026.

The two-day programme will also feature keynote lectures on ethical questions related to research on nature and the environment, ethics in indigenous research and international views on the importance of ethical guidelines for research, as well as multiple presentations related to these topics.

Welcome to join the discussion at Inari in June 2026!

DAY 1 Wednesday June 10, 2026

12.00 – 13.00 REGISTRATION AND LUNCH

Time	Sajos, Dolla
13.00-13.30	<p><b>Opening words:</b>  <b>Kaarle Hämeri</b>, chair                      Finnish National Board on Research Integrity TENK  <b>Pirita Näkkäljärvi</b>, President, Sámi Parliament</p>
13.30-15.00	<p><b>KEYNOTE: The Power of Community Research – how to improve the authenticity and excellence of research</b>  <b>Doris Schroeder</b>, Professor of Moral Philosophy and Director of the Centre for Professional Ethics, University of Lancashire</p> <p><b>KEYNOTE: Finding ‘Nature’ in Bioethics &amp; Research Ethics</b>  <b>Dominic Lenzi</b>, Assistant professor in environmental ethics at the University of Twente, The Netherlands</p>
15.00-15.30	COFFEE
15.30-16.45	<p><b>PANEL DISCUSSION: How different ethical guidelines interact and influence research work in practice</b></p> <p><b>Dorian Karatzas</b>, former Head of EC’s Ethics and Research Integrity  <b>Riitta Salmelin</b>, Distinguished Professor, Aalto University  <b>Hermann Kaartokallio</b>, Group Manager, Finnish Environment Institute</p> <p>Chair: Professor <b>Teppo Hujala</b>, University of Eastern Finland</p>
16.45-17.30	POSTER WALK

Symposium dinner at restaurant Aanaar 19.00

DAY 2 Thursday June 11, 2026

Time	Sajos, Dollagáddi
9.00-10.30	<p><b>PANEL DISCUSSION: Animal welfare and scientific quality in research – how do we safeguard both through ethical review?</b>                      Chair: <b>Tiina Kauppinen</b>, the Finnish Centre for Animal Welfare</p>
10.30-10.45	COFFEE
10.45-12.15	<p><b>WORKSHOP: Indigenous knowledges for sustainability: tackling epistemic injustice in research, innovation, and policy</b>                      Chairs: <b>Jan Mehlich</b>, Center for Life Ethics, &amp; <b>Fabian Fischbach</b>, German Reference Center for Ethics in the Life Sciences, University of Bonn, Germany</p>
12.15-13.15	LUNCH
13.15-14.45	<p><b>FEATURED TALKS:</b>  <b>Saara Alakorva</b>, university teacher &amp; <b>Pauliina Feodoroff</b>, MULTIBEING Centre of Excellence, University of Lapland: <b>An example of Sámi-planned, Sámi-led and conducted research: towards a more ethical research futures</b></p> <p><b>Mikko Äijälä</b>, researcher &amp; <b>Jarno Valkonen</b>, professor MULTIBEING Centre of Excellence, University of Lapland: <b>Sámi fishers’ knowledge, science, and epistemic power asymmetries in Deatnu salmon fishery management</b></p> <p><b>SPOTLIGHT:</b>  <b>Taina Máret Pieski</b>, museum director, Siida-museum: <b>Working with the Community: Ethical Perspectives on Researching Sámi Cultural Heritage</b></p>
14.45-15.30	<p>The publication event of TENK’s new national recommendations</p> <p><b>Simo Kyllönen</b>, university lecturer, University of Helsinki: <b>Artificial Intelligence in Research: Research Integrity and Ethical Principles, TENK’s national recommendation</b></p> <p><b>Sirpa Thessler</b>, director LUKE: <b>Ethical principles for research involving nature and the environment, TENK’s national recommendation</b></p>
15.30-16.00	<p><b>Invited comment</b>  <b>Closing words: Kaarle Hämeri</b>, chair TENK</p>

Guided tour at the Siida museum (preregistration)

**Poster presentations:**

Krystyna Adamska (Univ. Gdansk)

Don Davies (Univ. Manitoba)

Korinna Korsström-Magga & Mirja Hiltunen (Univ. Lapland)

Ranginui Logan Belk (Univ. Auckland)

José Luis Molina (UAB Barcelona)

Daniel Peplow (Univ. Washington)

Sarah Rewi (Univ. Auckland)

Mathieu Rochambeau (EUREC)

Karolina Sikora (Arctic Centre)

Adam Stepień (Arctic Centre)

Tiia Sudenkaarne (Univ. Lapland)

Antti Tahvanainen (ESF)