Ethics self-assessment for NOMIS fellowship research projects

1. How to complete your ethics self-assessment

- Answer "Yes" or "No" to all of the numbered questions below. An ethics-self assessment is required for NOMIS fellowship applications from ALL research fields.

- If an answer is "Yes" to any of the numbered questions, you are requested to answer the respective sub-questions AND provide additional information in the respective comments box. This information needs to include a short description of the respective planned experiments and materials that will be used in the ethics area concerned.

- Please answer all relevant questions as fully as possible. If your application is successful, the ISTA Ethics Officer will be in touch for further information and to clarify any ethical issues identified before the fellowship can commence.

2. Ethics-self assessment table

	YES	NO
1. HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS and HUMAN EMBRYOS		
1.1 Does your research involve Human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)?		
If yes:		
Will they be directly derived from embryos within this project?		
Are they previously established cell lines?		
Are the cell lines registered in the European registry for human embryonic stem cell lines (hPSCreg)?		
1.2 Does your research involve the use of human embryonic or fetal tissues/cells?		
If you selected YES for any of the questions in *section 1*, please give details here:		
Please note: Research with human embryos is not allowed in Austria due to legal regulations. Research with hESCs (previously established cell lines) is permitted, but the approval of ISTA Ethics Committee required for *each* project. If your application is successful, the ISTA Ethics Officer will contact you and your group leader at ISTA regarding the details of the approval process. This process does *not* need to be started at the application stage.		

	YES	NO
2. HUMANS		
2.1 Does your research involve human participants?		
If yes:		
Are they volunteers for non-medical studies (e.g. social or human sciences research?		
Are they healthy volunteers for medical studies?		
Are they patients for medical studies?		
Are they potentially vulnerable individuals or groups?		
Are they children/minors or persons unable to give informed consent?		
If YES, please see also section 4 (personal data).		
If you selected YES for *section 2*, please give details here:		

	YES	NO
3. HUMAN CELLS/TISSUES		
3. 1 Does your research involve human cells or tissues (other than those covered in *section 1*)?		
If yes:		
Are they available commercially?		
Are they obtained within this project?		
Are they obtained from another project, laboratory or institution?		
Are they obtained from a biobank?		
If YES, please see also section 4 (personal data).		
If you selected YES for *section 3*, please give details here:		

	YES	NO
4. PERSONAL DATA		
4.1 Does your research involve processing of personal data?		
4.2 Does your research involve further processing of previously collected personal data (secondary use) *(including use of pre-existing data sets or sources, merging existing data sets*)?		
If yes:		
Does it involve processing of genetic, biometric or health data?		
Does it involve the processing of other special categories of personal data *(e.g. ethnicity, political opinion, religious or philosophical beliefs)?*		
Does it involve profiling, systematic monitoring, large scale processing of special categories, or intrusive methods of data processing *(e.g. surveillance, geolocation, tracking*?		
Is it planned to export personal data (data transfer) from EU to non-EU countries?		
Is it planned to import personal data (data transfer) from non-EU to EU countries?		
If you selected YES for any of the questions in *section 4*, please give details here:		

	YES	NO
5. ANIMALS		
5.1 Does your research involve animals?		
If you selected YES for *section 5*, please give details here, including information on the *species* that will be used and if the activities will involve *genetically modified organisms*:		

	YES	NO
6. COLLECTION OF RESOURCES FROM THE WILD		
6.1 Are you planning to collect any genetic resources or biochemical substances thereof from the wild (e.g. plants, animals, fungi)?		
If yes:		
Does this activity involve non-EU countries?		
Does this activity deal with endangered fauna and/or flora / protected areas?		
If you selected YES for *section 6*, please give details here:		

	YES	NO
7. ENVIRONMENT, HEALTH AND SAFETY		
Please note: Safety and biosafety procedures and guidelines for laboratory work are established at IST Austria. If your research will involve work under controlled laboratory conditions with standard chemicals and reagents and/or risk group 1 organisms/work on biosafety level 1, you do NOT need to select 'Yes'. If your activities will contain additional risks or elements that might require additional safety procedures to be established, please select 'Yes' and provide details in the text box below.		
7.1 Does your research involve the use of substances or processes that may cause harm to the environment, to animals or plants? *For research involving animal experiments, see section 5.*		
7.2 Does your research involve the use of elements that may cause harm to humans, including research staff? *For research involving human participants, see section 2.*		
If you selected YES for any of the questions in *section 7*, please give details here:		

	YES	NO
8. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE		
8.1 Does your research involve the development, deployment and/or use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based systems?		
If yes:		
Could the AI based system/technique potentially stigmatize or discriminate against people *(e.g. based on sex, race, ethnic or social origin, age, genetic features, disability, sexual orientation, language, religion or belief, membership to a political group, or membership to a national minority)*?		
Does the AI system/technique interact, replace or influence human decision-making processes *(e.g. issues affecting human life, health, well-being or human rights, or economic, social or political decisions)*?		
Does the AI system/technique have the potential to lead to negative social *(e.g. on democracy, media, labour market, freedoms, educational choices, mass surveillance)* and/or environmental impacts either through intended applications or plausible alternative uses?		
If you selected YES for any of the questions in *section 8*, please give details here:		

	YES	NO
9. DUAL USE, POTENTIAL FOR MISUSE, OTHER ETHICS ISSUES		
9.1 Could your research raise concerns regarding the exclusive focus on civil applications?		
9.2 Does your research have an immediate, high risk for misuse of research results?		
9.3 Are there any other ethics issues that should be taken into consideration? Please specify.		
If you selected YES for any of the questions in *section 9*, or if you have any additional comments, please give details here:		