Humans in society: describing, analyzing, understanding
Throughout their history, human beings have acted as creators of speeches, languages and signs. They have devised forms of expression and representation, sustained and transmitted cultures, and built up knowledge and theories. They have participated in complex political, social, legal and economic arenas. They have lived on the Earth, explored it, and transformed it, often triggering conflict, with major consequences for other species and the resources of the planet. It is this entire set of elements that the research activities of the INSHS units aim to grasp.

https://www.inshs.cnrs.fr
MISSIONS

The INSHS implements the CNRS scientific policy in its research fields. In partnership with universities and major research institutions, it promotes multidisciplinarity within the humanities and social sciences, as well as interdisciplinarity with other scientific disciplines. It fosters networks that organise research at both the site and national level, through specialised centres as well as the creation of multidisciplinary thematic networks, research networks, federations and scientific interest groups. Moreover, it contributes to developing the international dimension of France’s humanities and social sciences.

SCIENTIFIC POLICY

At the heart of a constantly evolving academic and scientific worlds, the INSHS acts through joint research units (UMR) that it coordinates and co-manages with its partners, drawing on both their common and individual expertise. It more specifically supports:

• Areal and global studies, comparative approaches,
• Data analysis approaches: formalisation, quantification, modelling and simulation,
• Digital humanities,
• Gender studies.

In addition, the Institute plays a key role in the fields of archaeology, anthropology and classical studies. It promotes studies regarding the interactions between education, health, artificial intelligence and our HSS disciplines.

RESOURCES/INSTRUMENTS

Sharing scientific and technological information is one of the Institute’s main concerns. The INSHS is committed to developing a large network of platforms (Maisons des Sciences de l’Homme, Instituts des systèmes complexes), Research Infrastructures (IR) and Very-Large-Scale Research Infrastructures (IR*). These resources contribute to driving and fuelling France’s contribution to European initiatives.

The INSHS supports a range of dissemination tools aimed at increasing the visibility of its researchers and enhancing their research, such as the HAL open archives, the RIBAC observatory, the INSHS newsletter, or thematic schools. It has also established an open-access publishing strategy for scientific works through the web portals proposed by the OpenEdition Center.

The INSHS facilitates the transfer of knowledge to society, especially through economic or social initiatives as well as cultural partnerships. Since 2013, it has organised a biennial HSS Exhibition (Innovatives SHS) aimed at cultural, political and industrial stakeholders.

INTERNATIONAL PRESENCE

The INSHS contributes to the internationalisation of the humanities and social sciences through a four-pronged strategy:

• Managing a network of research units abroad, in partnership with the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs or with other research institutions in and outside of France. These units encourage the mobility of researchers, academics and PhD students, by means of temporary assignments, research leaves or long-term missions.
• Supporting research programmes carried out within the framework of international cooperation tools, such as bilateral cooperation agreements, International Emerging Actions (IEA), International Research Networks (IRN), International Research Laboratories (IRL), International Research Projects (IRP).
• Soliciting European funding for research projects.
• Encouraging the international mobility of researchers working within joint units through an annual campaign for project funding.

KEY FIGURES

Source: Zento Institut November 2021 (personnel working in INSHS units)

CNRS Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences
3, rue Michel-Ange 75794 Paris Cedex 16, France
www.inshs.cnrs.fr
inshs.com@cnrs.fr
Twitter: @INSHS_CNRS

Cover Photograph: Interactive impression of themes relative to climate change generated by the “Climate Tweetoscope”
© David CHAVALARIAS / Noé GAUMONT / Maziyar PANAHI / ISC-PIF / CAMS / CNRS Photothèque
Printed by: CNRS DR1 IFSeM secteur de l’imprimé
January 2022