



Value-Driven Adaptive Norms

Future Tech Week 2019

Barcelona, 26 September 2019

Nardine Osman

IIIA-CSIC



The Internet of Us

WeNet in a Nutshell



WeNet – The Internet of Us

EC funded FET Proactive Project

Start Date: **1st January 2019**

Duration: **48 Months**

Total budget: **6.5 M€**

Coordinator: **Uni. of Trento (F.Giunchiglia)**

WeNet Main Goal

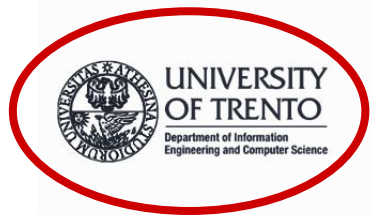


The main goal of WeNet is developing an online platform which will empower machine mediated diversity-aware people interactions.

WeNet Consortium

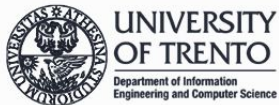


WeNet Consortium



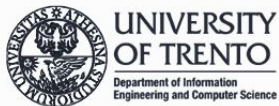
dept. of informatics (coordinator)

WeNet Consortium



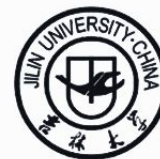
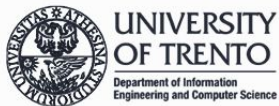
machine learning

WeNet Consortium



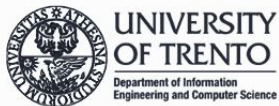
incentives

WeNet Consortium



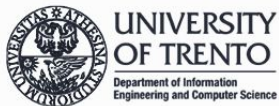
norms / interaction models

WeNet Consortium



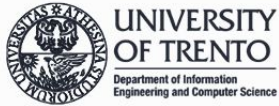
sociology

WeNet Consortium



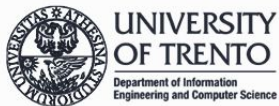
ethics

WeNet Consortium



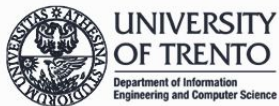
interaction design

WeNet Consortium



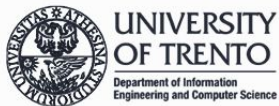
IT company

WeNet Consortium



impact creation

WeNet Consortium



use case partners

WeNet Consortium





DON'T SHOUT



NO PETS



NO DIVING



DON'T RUN



**DON'T SWIM
ALONE**



**NO ROUGH
PLAY**



**NO PEEING
IN POOL**



NO LITTERING



USE THE STAIRS



**USE
RESTROOMS**



**CHILDREN ONLY
WITH PARENTS**



**WATCH YOUR
CHILDREN**



**SHOWER
BEFORE POOL**



**USE
SLIPPERS**



**USE CAP AND
GOGGLES**



**USE
SWIMSUIT**



Norms and Normative Systems

Norms, an overview

Norms are what govern / regulate behaviour

- **Regulative Norms**
- **Legislative Norms**
- **Social Norms**
- **Values and Principles**

The Study of Norms

- influence behaviour
- norm emergence
- motivation for norm adherence

Sociology

- deontic logic
- axiomatic perspective
- semantic interpretations
- paradoxes

Philosophy

- institutional norms (regulate interactions)
- norms as deontic rules
- norm enforcement
- conflict resolution

Legal Studies

- social influence, persuasion
- social conformity

Neuroscience

- influence market behaviour

Economics

Norms in AI & Multiagent Systems

- formalising legal statements
- normative reasoning
- argumentation

AI & Law

Norms in AI & Multiagent Systems

- formalising legal statements
- normative reasoning
- argumentation

AI & Law

- regulating / coordinating multiagent interactions
- norm representation
- norm implementation
- norm reasoning
- norm creation

Multiagent Systems

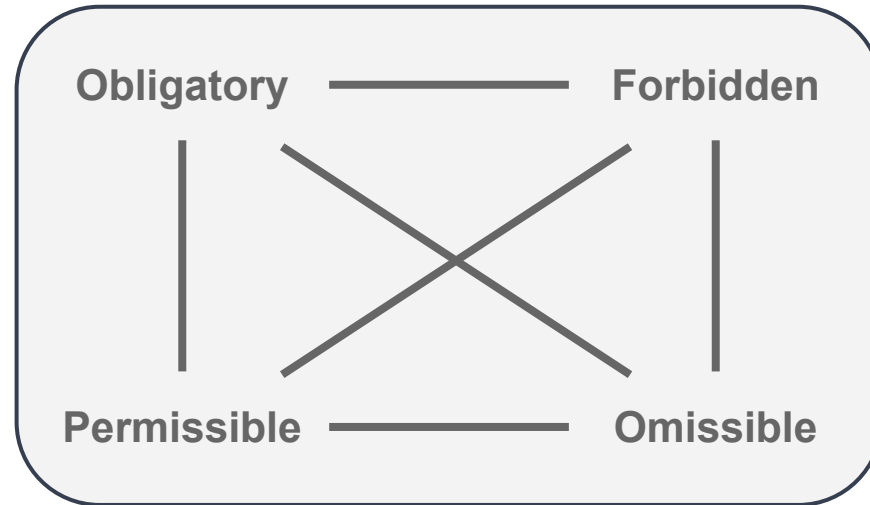
Norm Representation



Mostly based on **Deontic Logic**.

Norm Representation

Mostly based on **Deontic Logic**.



Norm Representation

Mostly based on **Deontic Logic**.

- **If-Then rules**

- **Deontic Logic:**

- ☐ Conditional Deontic Logic with Deadlines

- **Event Calculus**

- **Expectations & Constraints**

- ☐ Social Integrity Constraints

- **Commitments**

- ☐ Object Constraint Language

- **Temporal Logic**

- ☐ Hybrid Metric Interval Temporal Logic
- ☐ Normative temporal logic (NTL)

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If the auctioneer has announced the current price and no buyer has said 'mine!', then the auctioneer can say 'next!'.

example from the SIMPLE language

Norm Representation

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```
PERMITTED(  
  (user DO appoint(regular user))  
  IF  
  (access level(user, register,  
    'full control')))
```

```
OBLIGED(  
  (buyer DO bid(product,price))  
  BEFORE  
  (buyer DO exit(auction house)))
```

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```
initiates(assign floor(C, S),  
           status = granted(S, T0), T) ←  
           role of(C, chair),  
           role of(S, subject),  
           holdsAt(status = free, T),  
           (T0 := T + 5)
```

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$$SIC = \{H(\text{tell}(X, Y, \text{start})) \rightarrow E(\text{pass}(Y))\}$$

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```
makePendingComm(  
  agent,  
  a.organization,  
  (openAuction(a.id),[now,now+ $\delta$ ],>))
```

Norm Representation

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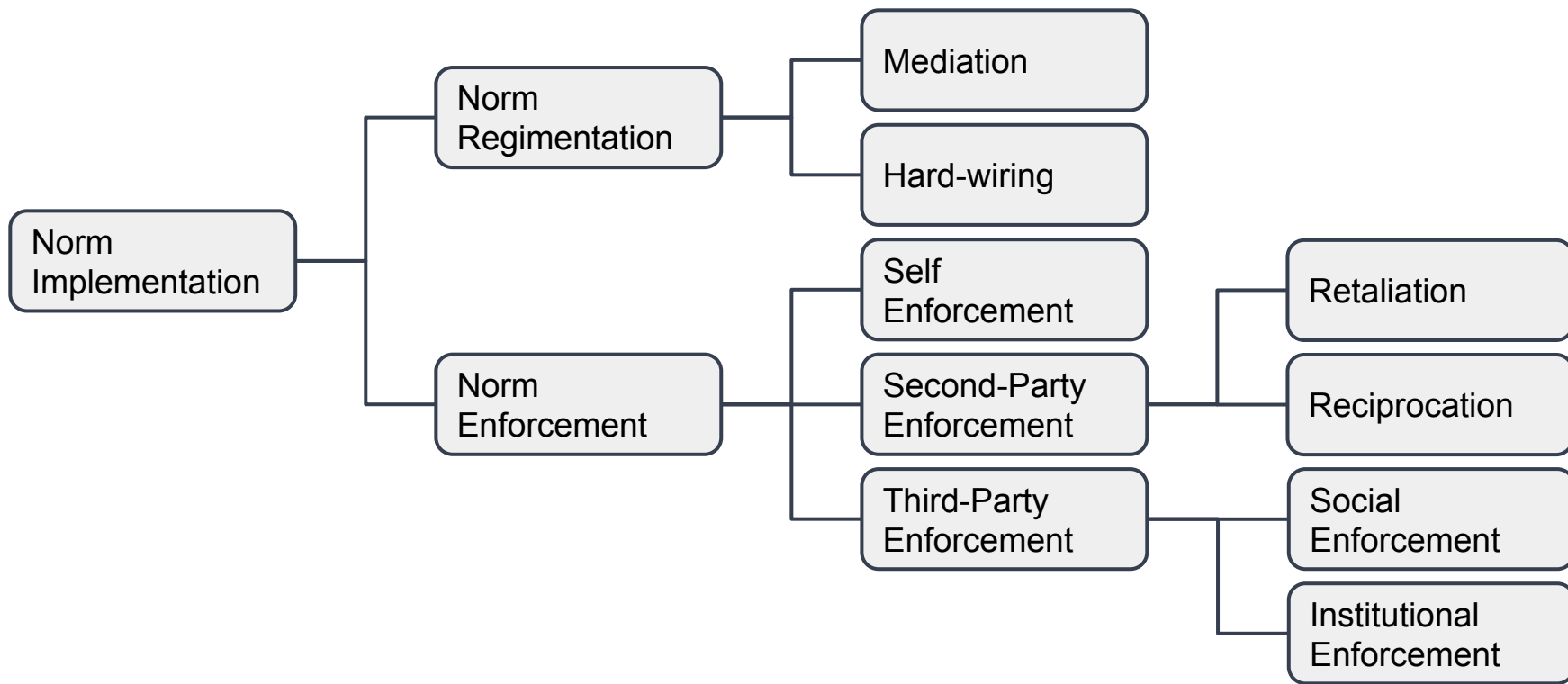
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$$\begin{aligned} &O\eta \bigcirc ((w\text{Waiting} \wedge \neg w\text{Green}) \\ &\quad \rightarrow \neg P\eta \square w\text{Tunnel}) \end{aligned}$$

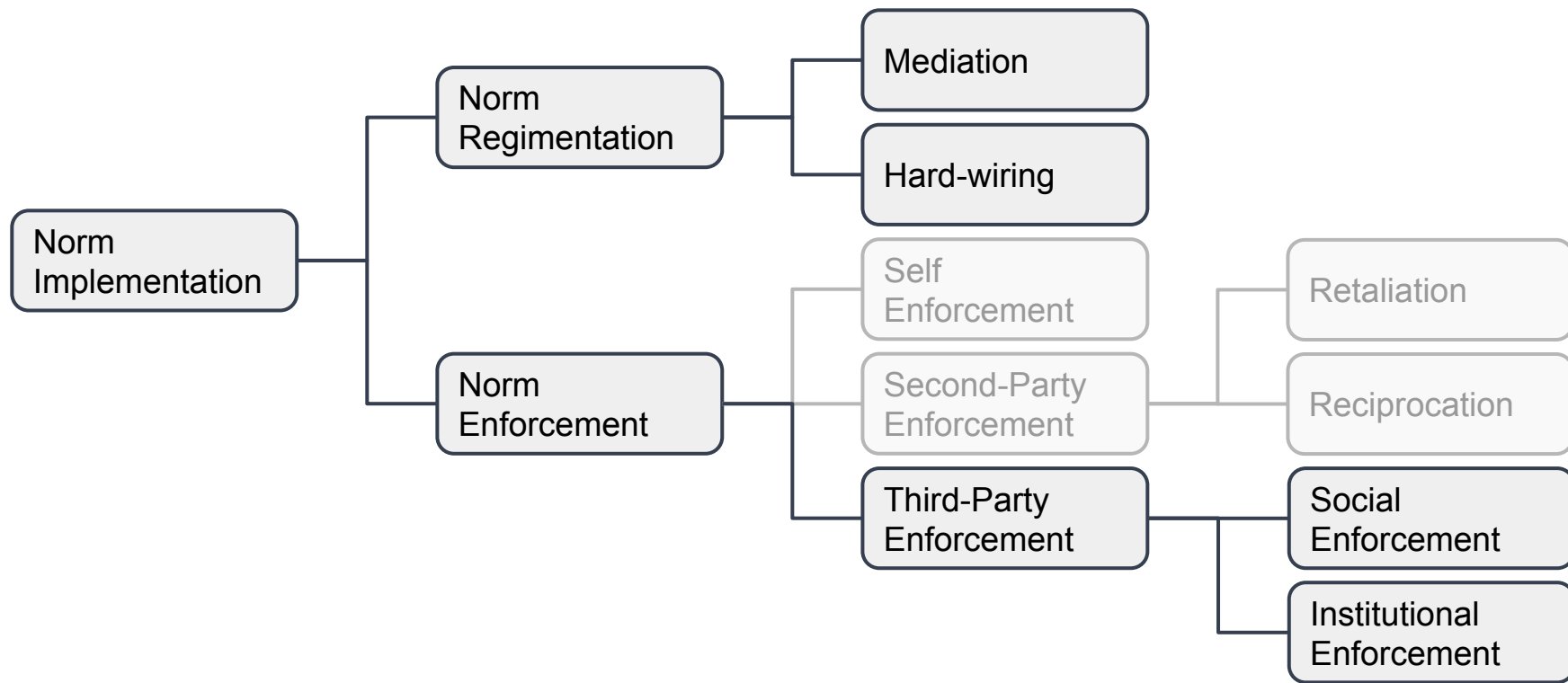
$$\begin{aligned} A\alpha &\equiv O\eta\alpha \\ E\alpha &\equiv P\eta\alpha \end{aligned}$$

Norm Implementation



Natalia Criado Pacheco, Using Norms To Control Open Multi-Agent Systems. PhD Thesis, UPV, 2012.

Norm Implementation



Natalia Criado Pacheco, Using Norms To Control Open Multi-Agent Systems. PhD Thesis, UPV, 2012.

Norm Reasoning



- **Norm diagnosis.** Check and verify properties of norms.
- **Conflict resolution.** Check for inconsistencies.
- **Norm compliance.** Assess consequences of obeying norms.

Norm Creation

■ Top-Down Approaches

- ☐ Offline design
- ☐ Online norm synthesis
 - driven by conflict detection

■ Bottom-Up Approaches

- ☐ **Norm Emergence:** usually focuses on internalisation of norms

■ Top-Down Approaches

- ☐ Offline design

- ☐ Online norm synthesis

- driven by conflict detection
- learning mechanisms (though limited to learning parameters, punishment, ...)

■ Bottom-Up Approaches

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■ Top-Down Approaches

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■ Bottom-Up Approaches

- ☐ **Norm Emergence:** usually focuses on internalisation of norms

Norm emergence triggers top-down norm creation.

■ Top-Down Approaches

- ☐ Offline design

- ☐ Online norm synthesis

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- learning mechanisms (though limited to learning parameters, punishment, ...)

■ Bottom-Up Approaches

- ☐ **Norm Emergence:** usually focuses on internalisation of norms

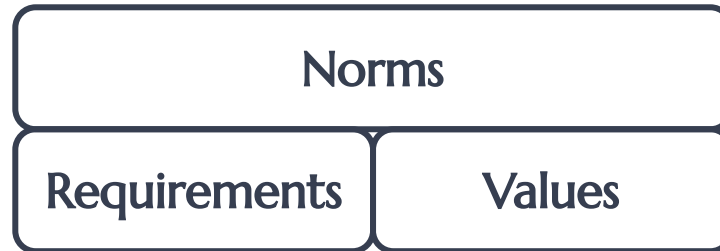
- ☐ **Norm Agreement**



Value-Driven Adaptive Norms

Evolution of Norms

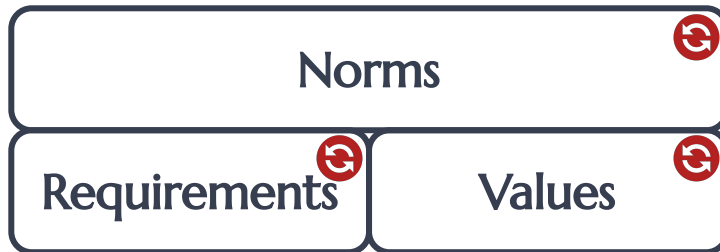
Norms are based on our *requirements* and *values*.



Evolution of Norms

Norms are based on our *requirements* and *values*.

And they should **adapt** to our **evolving** requirements and values!

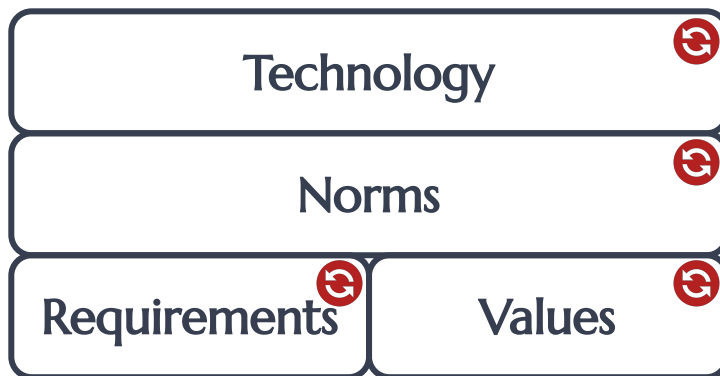


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As such, our technologies should be mediated by **adaptive** norms.

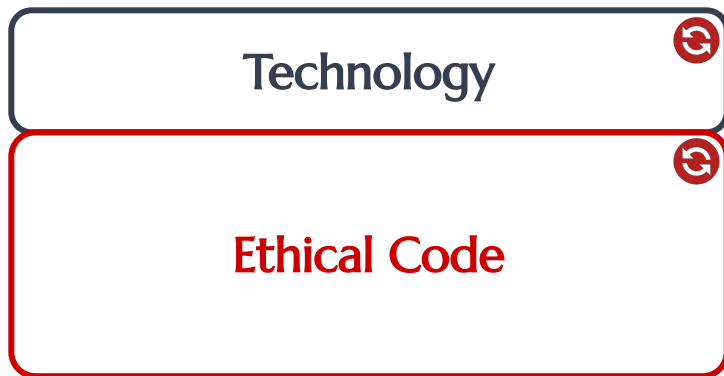


Evolution of Norms

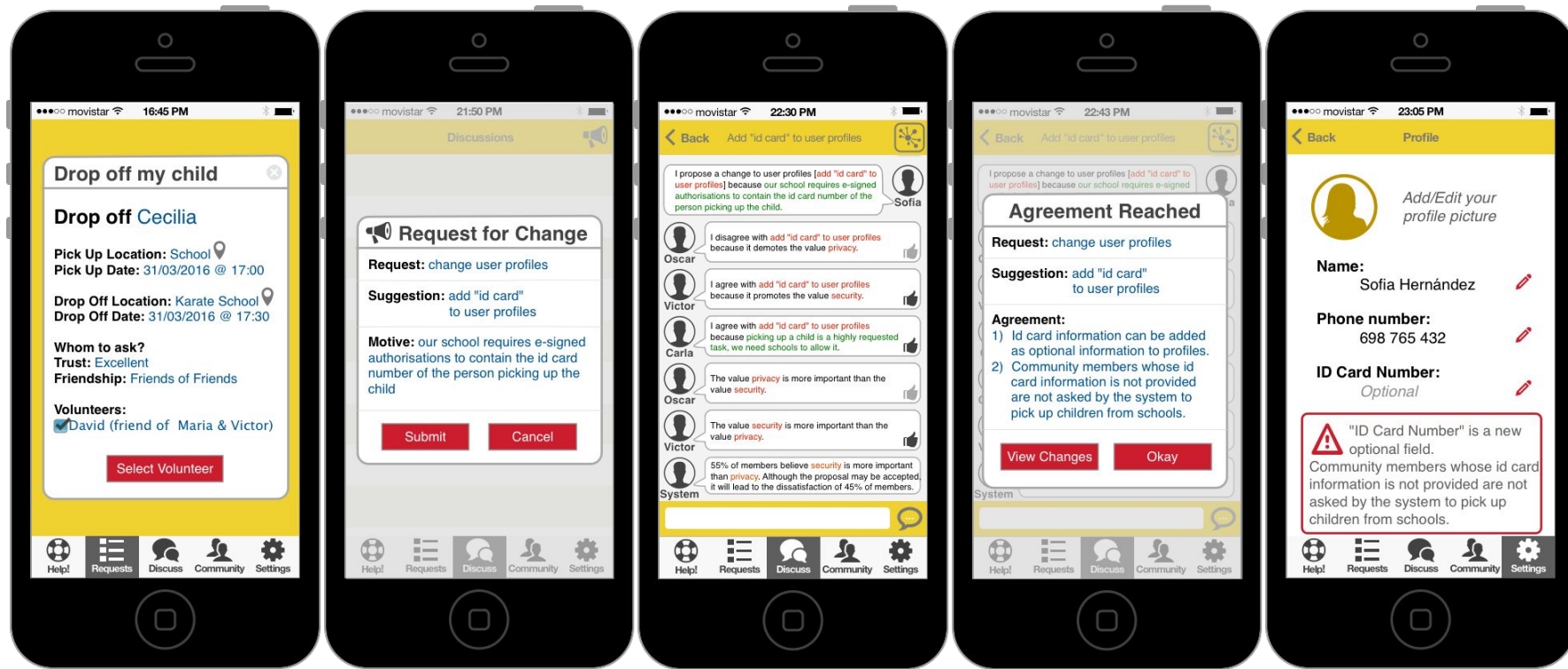
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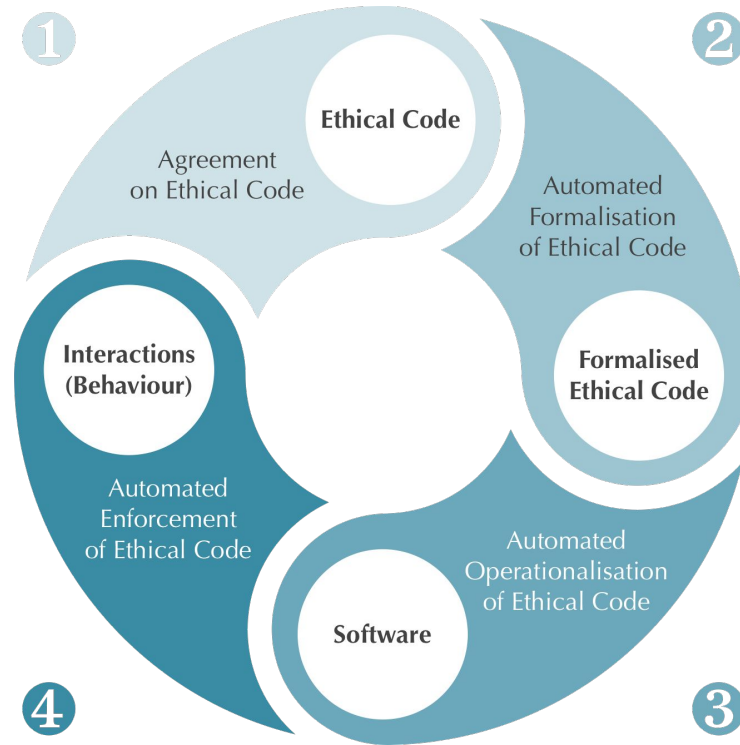
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Motivating Example: uHelp app



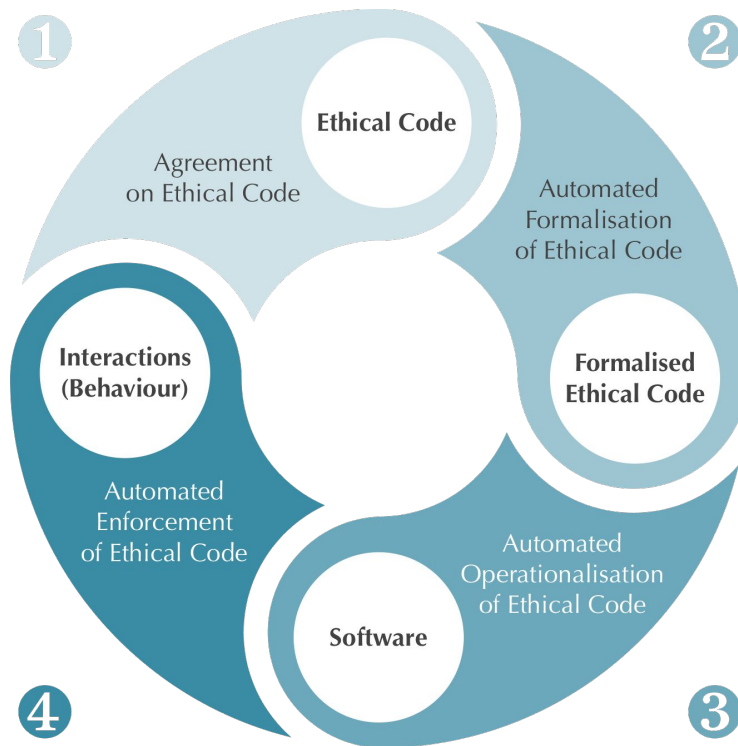
Evolution of Technology



Evolution of Technology

Agreement Technologies

**Argumentation
Negotiation
Trust & Reputation
Computational Social Choice**



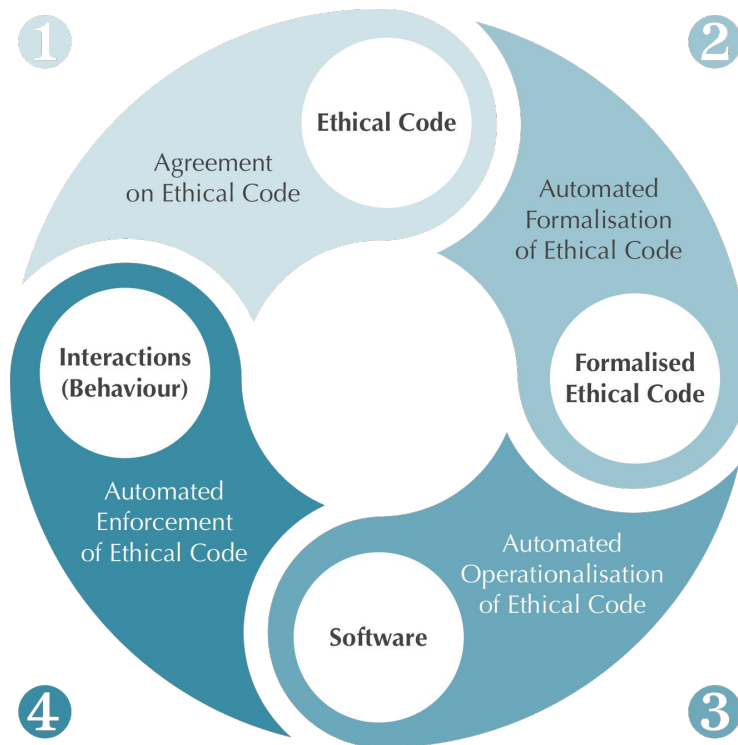
Evolution of Technology

Agreement Technologies

Learning

Learn when to change norms
Learn the best norms
Learn norm consequences

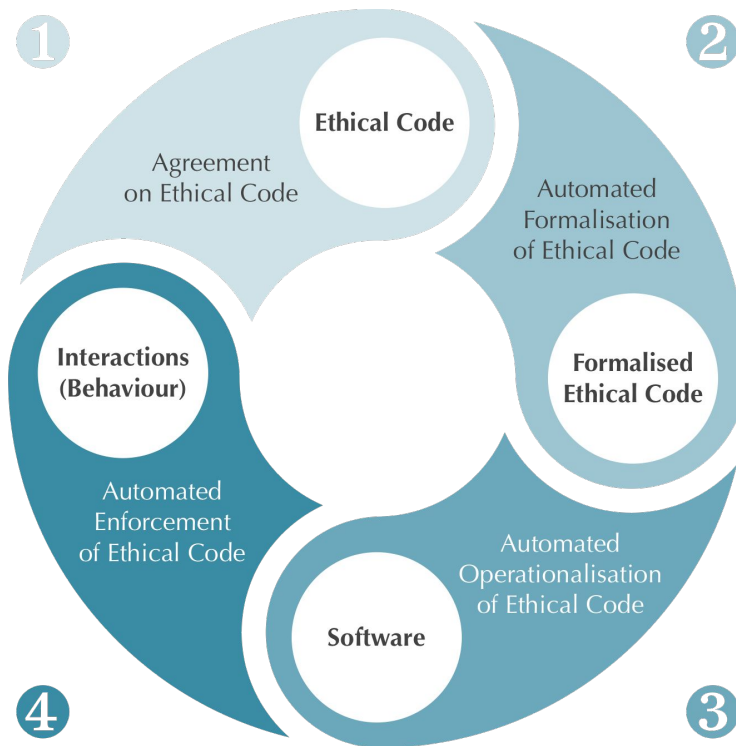
**ML / CBR / simulations /
sentiment analysis /
analogical reasoning /
coherence theory /
norm synthesis**



Evolution of Technology

Agreement Technologies

Learning



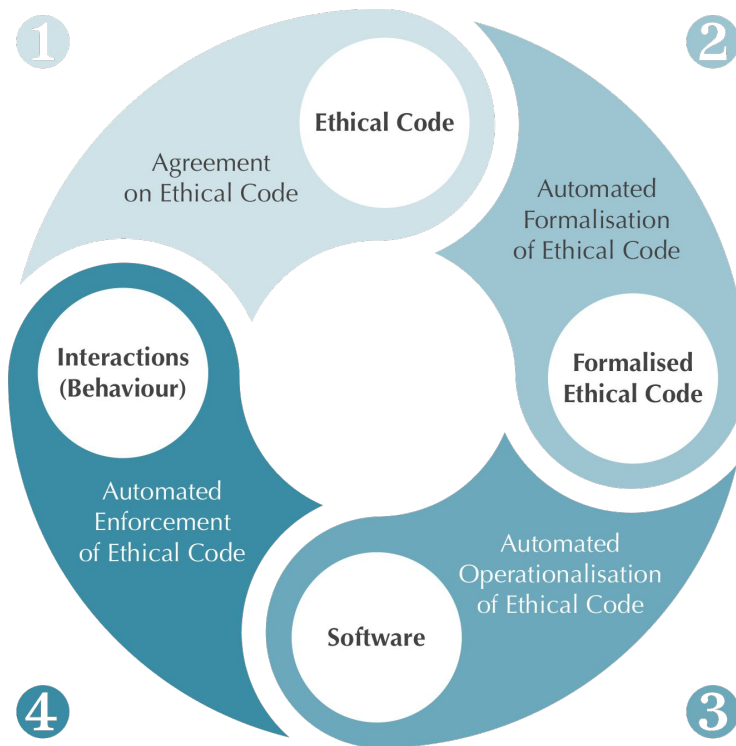
Logic for Norms

First Order Logic
Modal Logic
Deontic Logic
...

Evolution of Technology

Agreement Technologies

Learning



Logic for Norms

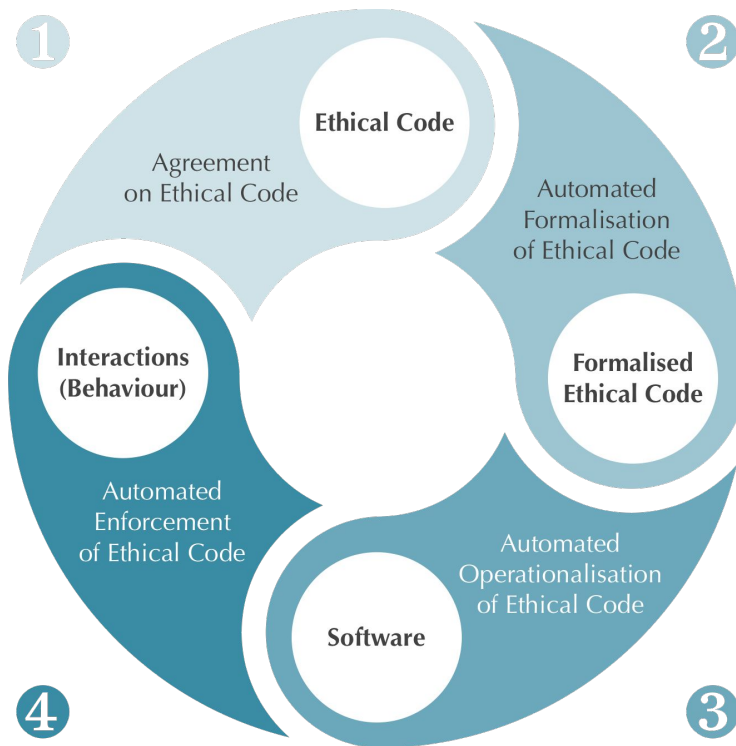
Natural Language Processing

Recognising norms
Extracting modalities & their
parameters

Evolution of Technology

Agreement Technologies

Learning



Logic for Norms

Natural Language Processing

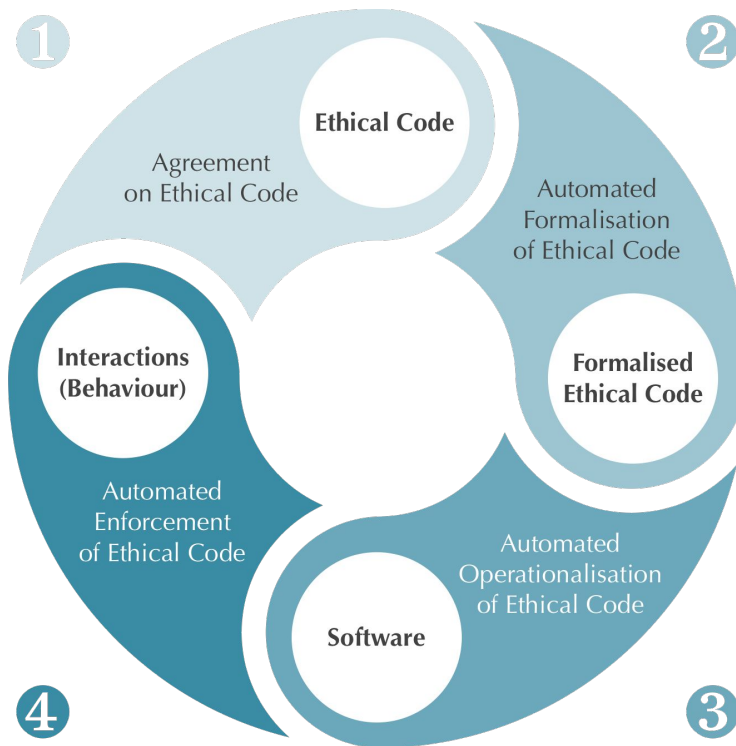
Normative Systems

Processes
If-Then statements
Constraints
...

Evolution of Technology

Agreement Technologies

Learning



Logic for Norms

Natural Language Processing

Normative Systems

Formal Verification

**Model Checking /
Automated Theorem Proving**

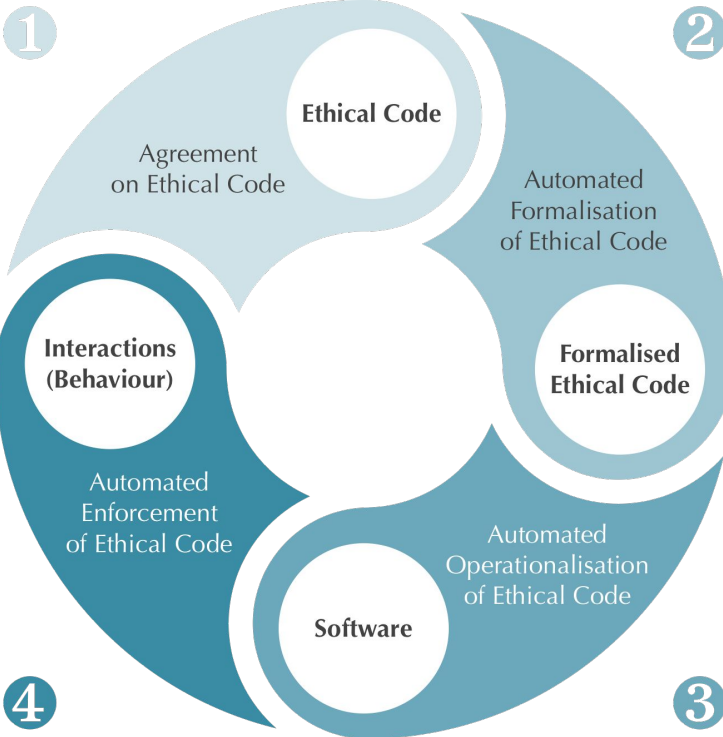
Evolution of Technology

Agreement Technologies

Learning

Norm Enforcement

**Providing incentives to comply
“Punish” defects**



Logic for Norms

Natural Language Processing

Normative Systems

Formal Verification

Evolution of Technology

Agreement Technologies

Learning

Norm Enforcement

Automated GUIs

1

Agreement
on Ethical Code

Ethical Code

2

Automated
Formalisation
of Ethical Code

**Formalised
Ethical Code**

3

Automated
Operationalisation
of Ethical Code

Software

4

**Interactions
(Behaviour)**

Automated
Enforcement
of Ethical Code

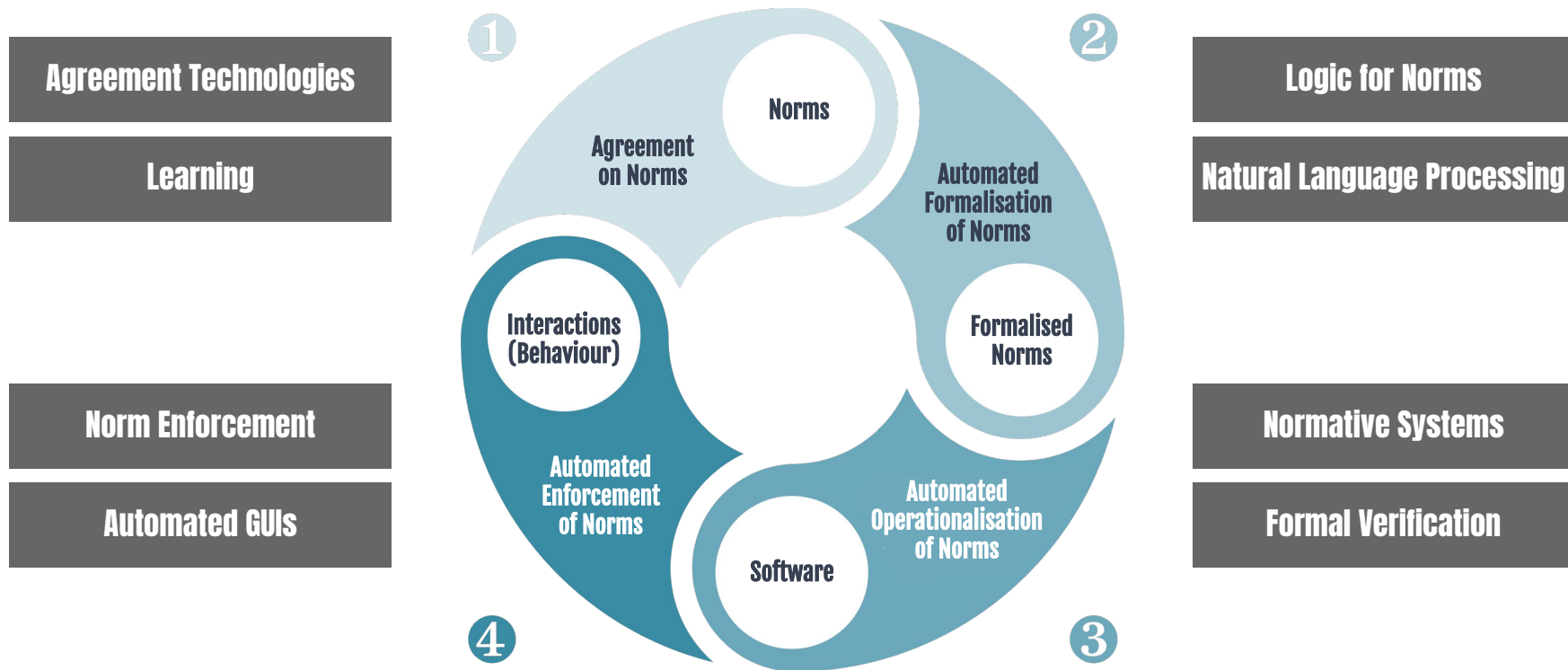
Logic for Norms

Natural Language Processing

Normative Systems

Formal Verification

Evolution of Norms



Research Challenges



■ Closing the cycle

■ Introducing values

- ☐ Linking values to norms
- ☐ Value driven agreements
- ☐ Specifying values
- ☐ Verifying values

■ Giving people control

Research Challenges



■ Closing the cycle

■ Introducing values

- ☐ Linking values to norms
- ☐ Value driven agreements
- ☐ Specifying values
- ☐ Verifying values

■ Giving people control

The Tragedy of the Commons



**“Freedom in a
commons brings
ruin to all.”**

Garrett Hardin (1968)



The Tragedy of the Commons

forests &
meadows in
Switzerland

mountain
meadows in
Japan

zanjera
irrigation in
Philippines

huerta
irrigation in
Spain

fisheries
in
Indonesia

The commons
have been
effectively
managed by some!

Elinor Ostrum (1990)



Governing the Commons

8 Design Principles for Common Pool Resource (CPR) Institutions.

- Clearly defined boundaries
- Congruence
- Collective-choice arrangements
- Monitoring
- Graduated sanctions
- Conflict-resolution mechanisms
- Minimal recognition of rights to organise
- Nested enterprises *(for systems that are part of larger systems)*

Governing the Commons

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A grey starburst graphic with a black outline, containing text.

short-term
self-interest
vs. long-term
common good

Governing the Commons

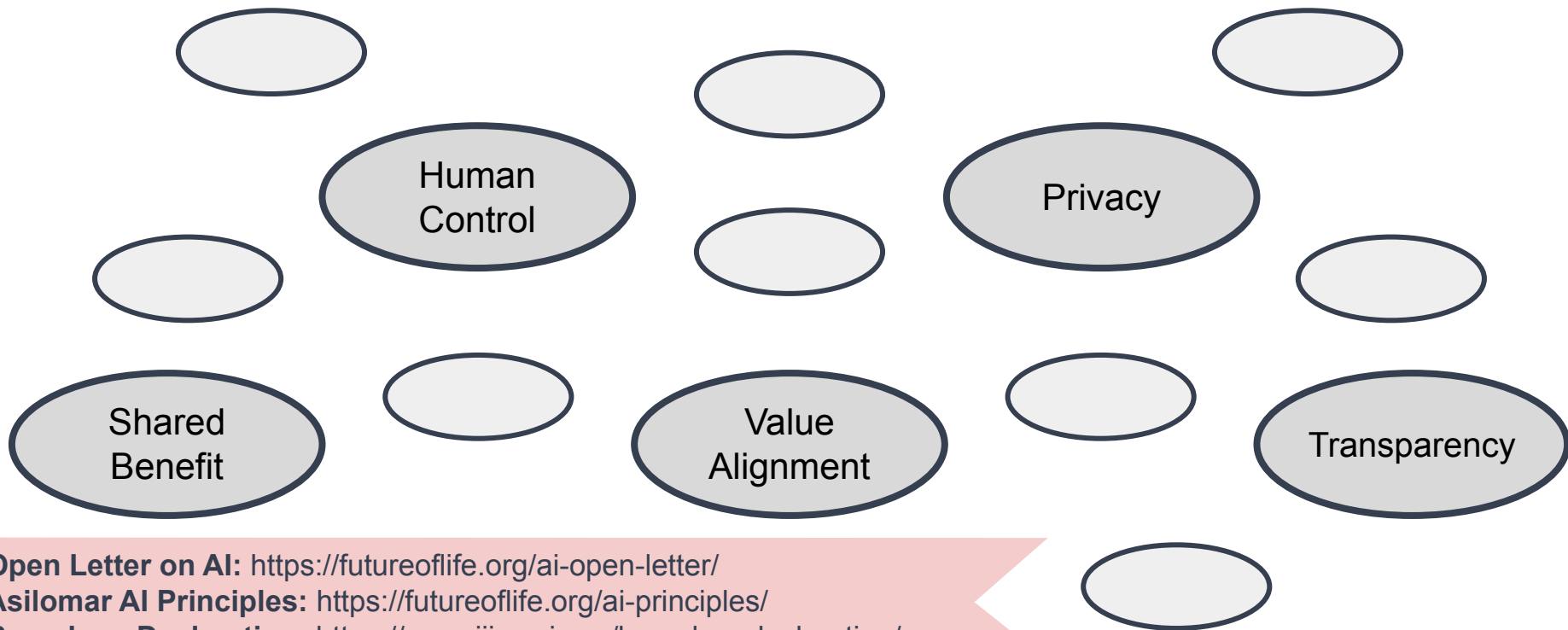
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Ethical Implications

Today's Ethical Concerns

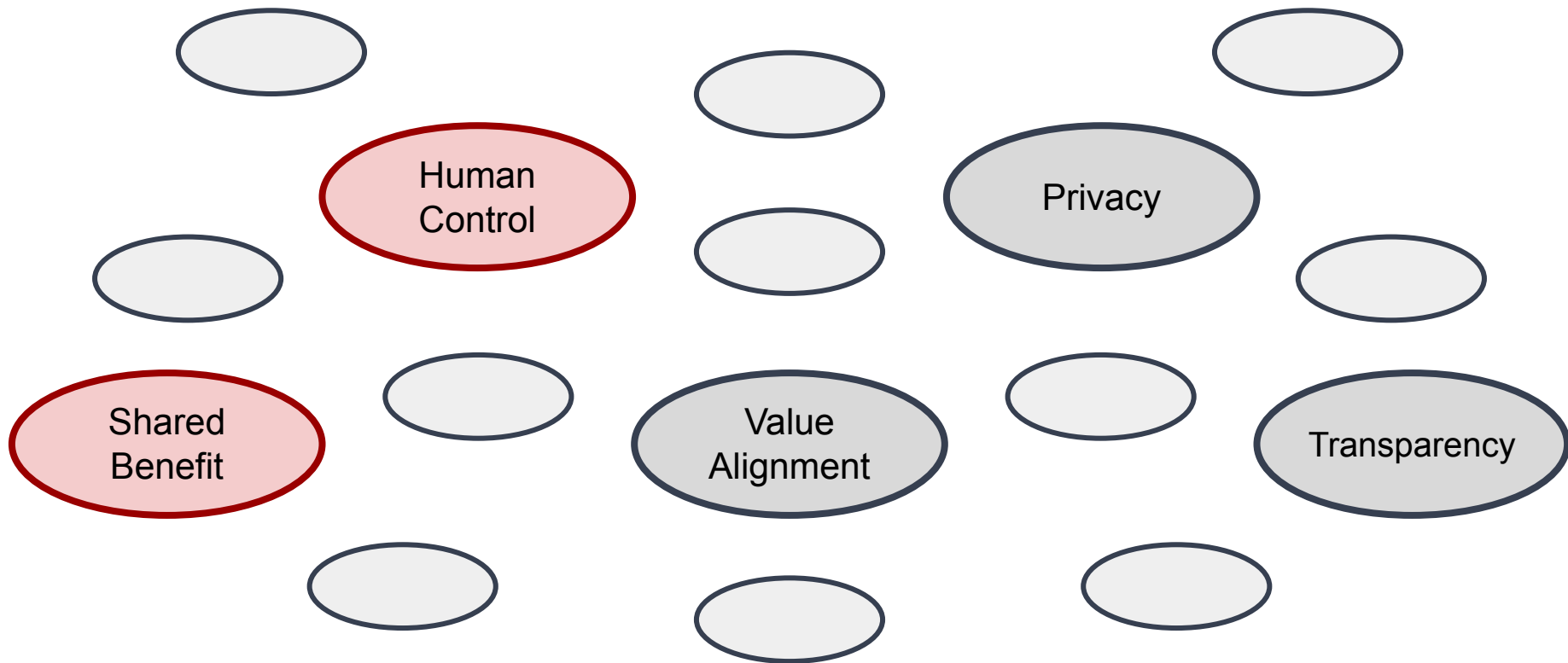


Open Letter on AI: <https://futureoflife.org/ai-open-letter/>

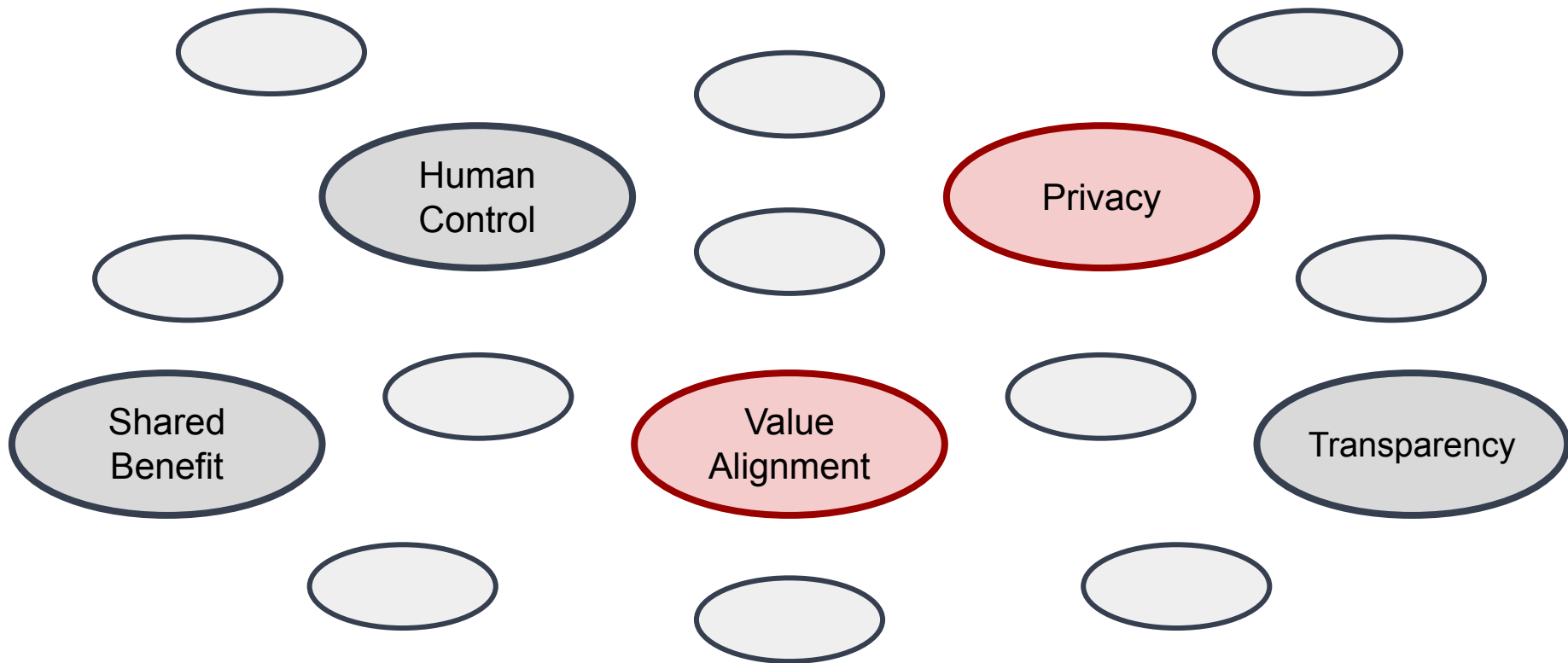
Asilomar AI Principles: <https://futureoflife.org/ai-principles/>

Barcelona Declaration: <https://www.iiia.csic.es/barcelonadeclaration/>

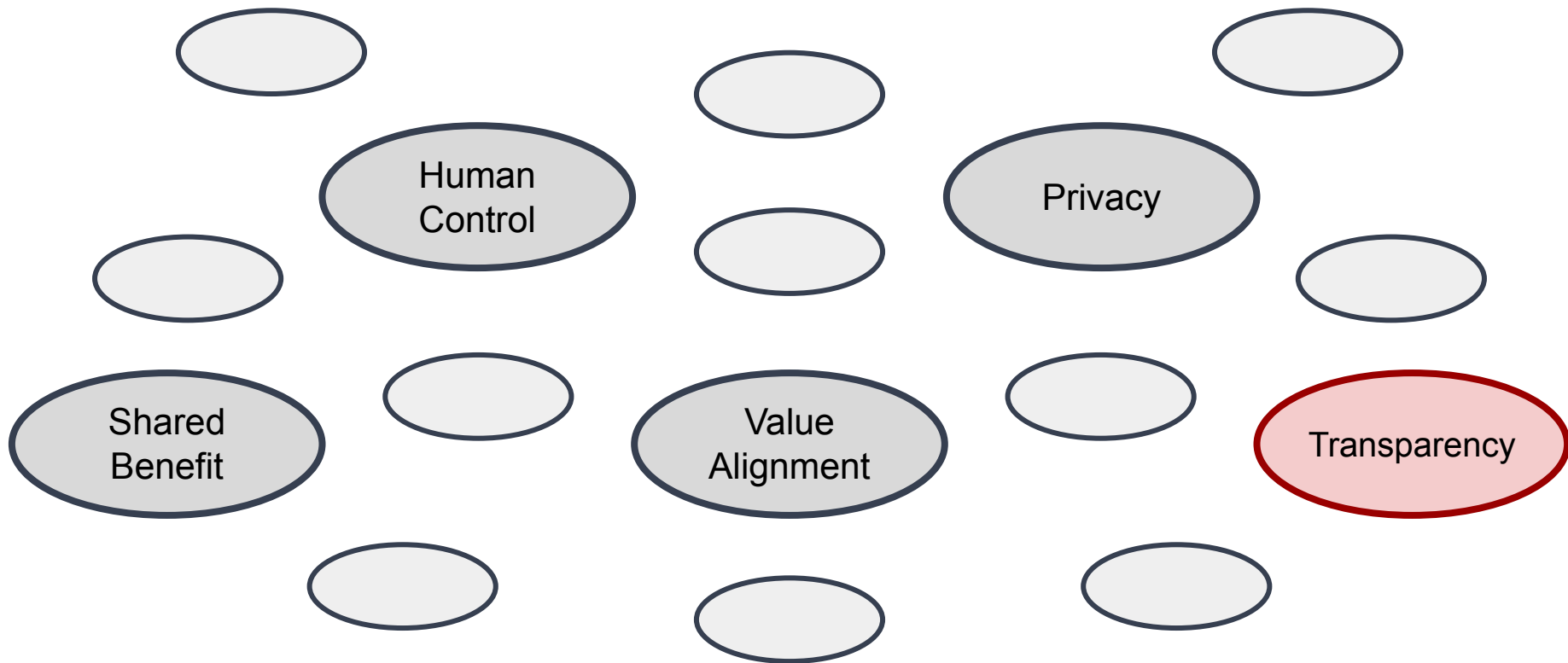
Today's Ethical Concerns



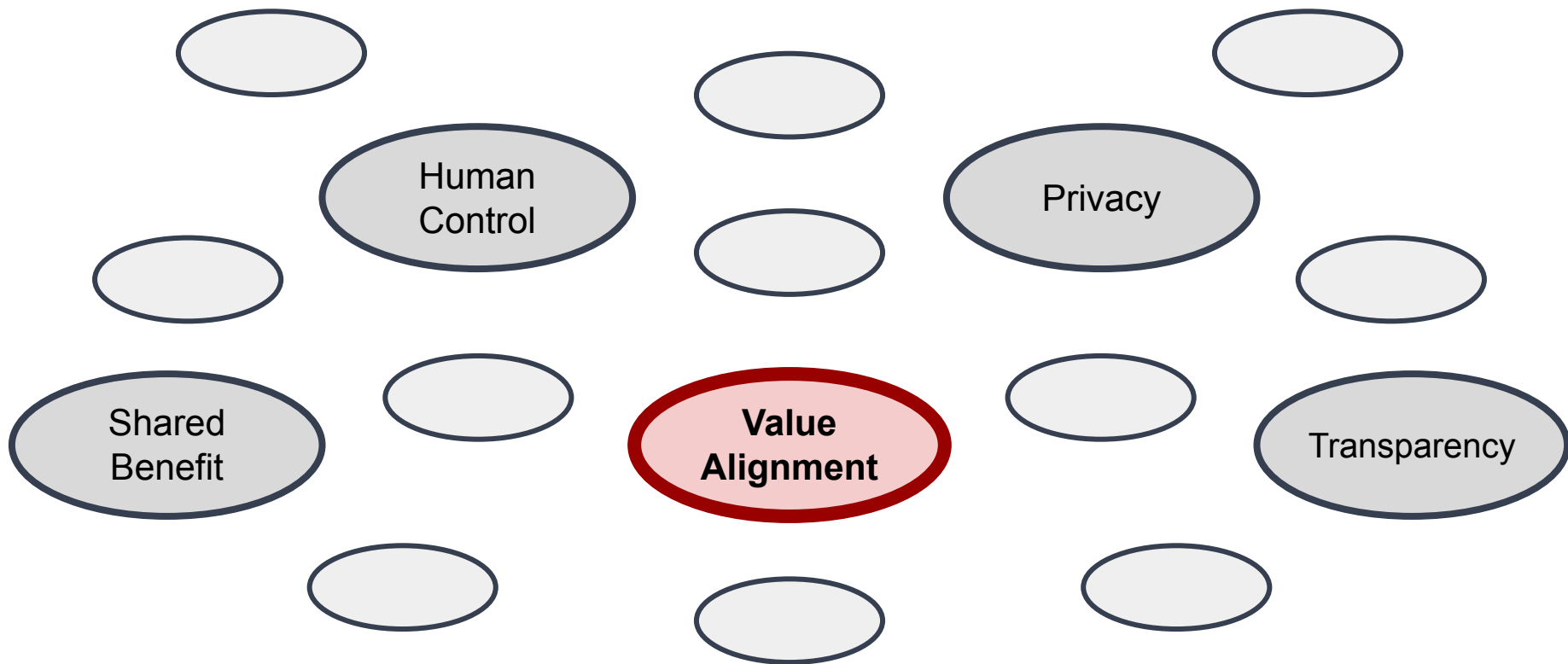
Today's Ethical Concerns



Today's Ethical Concerns



Value Alignment



Value Alignment

Values as Preferences.

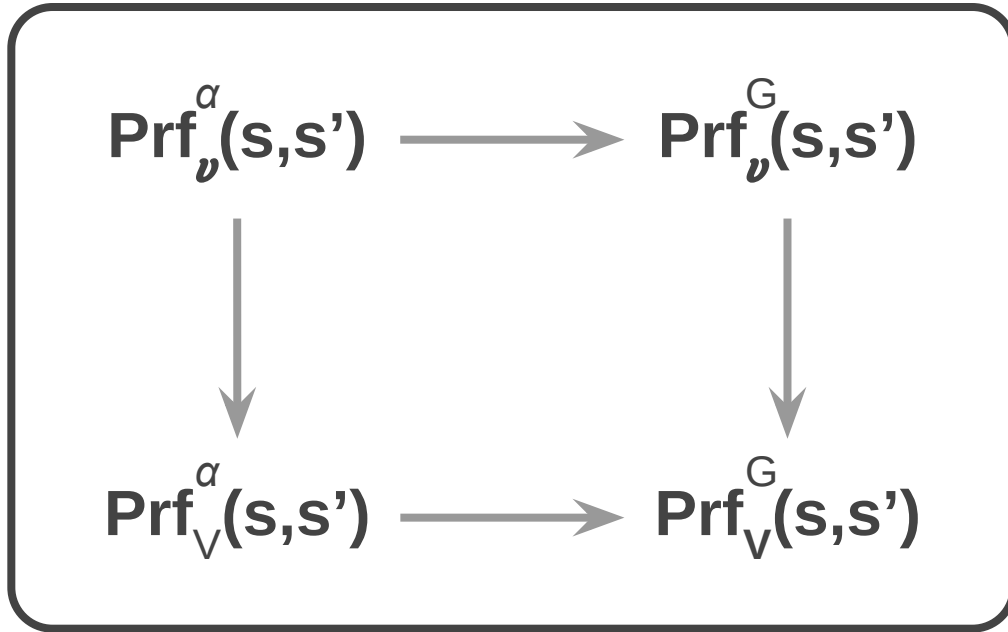
Values are understood as preferences over behaviour,
or preferences over the states of the world: $\text{Prf}_v^\alpha(s, s')$



Sierra, C., Osman, N., Noriega, P., Sabater-Mir, J., Perello-Moragues, A. (2019): "Value alignment: a formal approach", Responsible Artificial Intelligence Agents Workshop (RAIA) @ AAMAS 2019.

Value Alignment

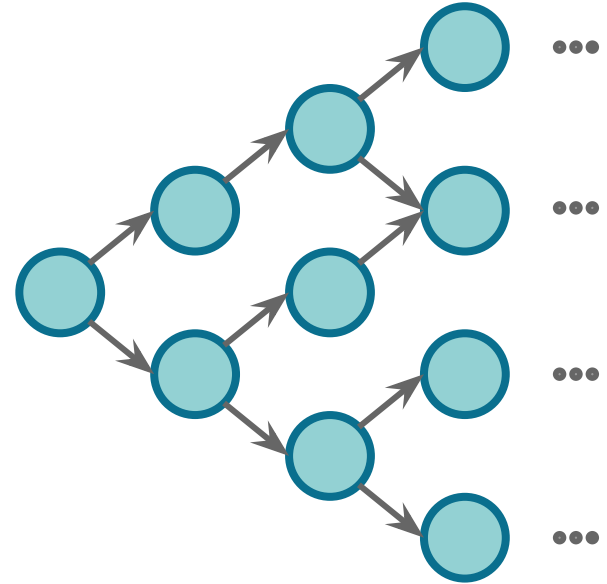
Aggregation of Value-Based Preferences.



Value Alignment

Value Alignment.

One is aligned with a value if their actions move them towards preferred states.

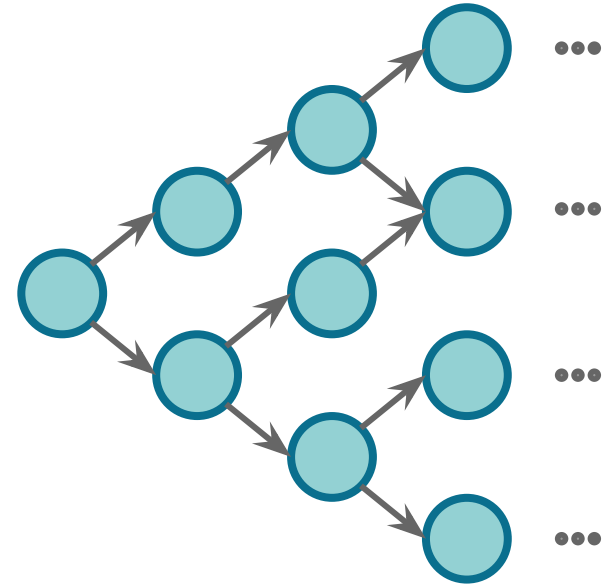


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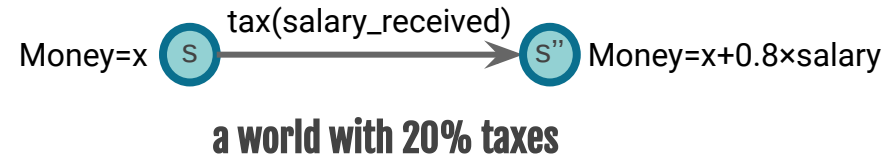
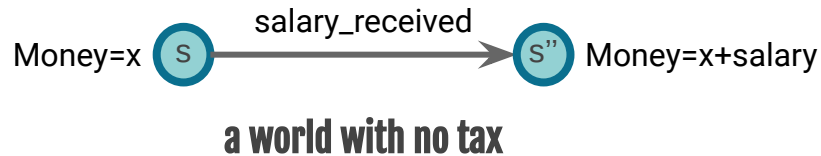
Actions move us toward/away from preferred states.



Value Alignment

Alignment of Norms with Values.

Behaviour is governed by norms.



Value Alignment

Alignment of Norms with Values.

Behaviour is governed by norms.

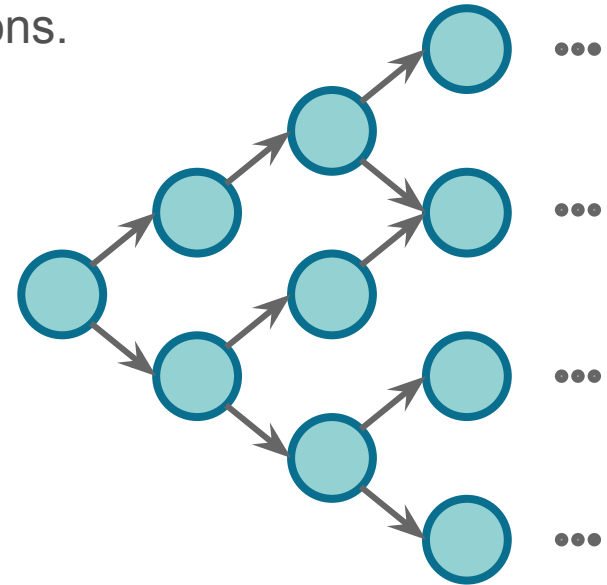
Norms change the world it is applied to.



Value Alignment

Alignment of Norms with Values.

The degree of alignment of a norm n with a value v for agent α is the accumulation of preferences along the transitions.

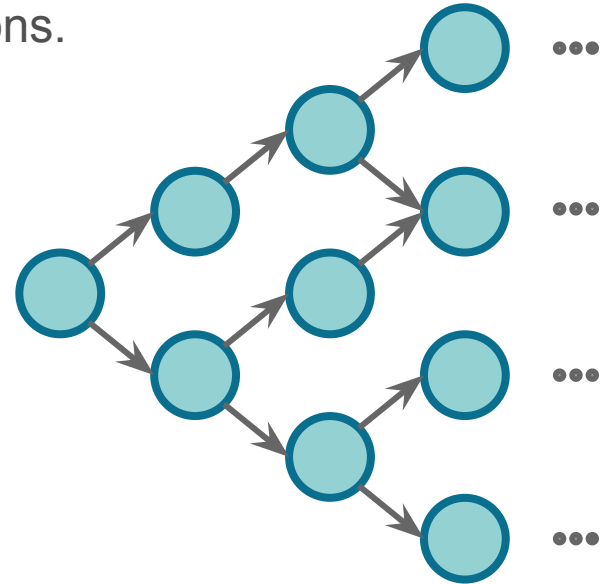


Value Alignment

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We consider **all possible paths**.

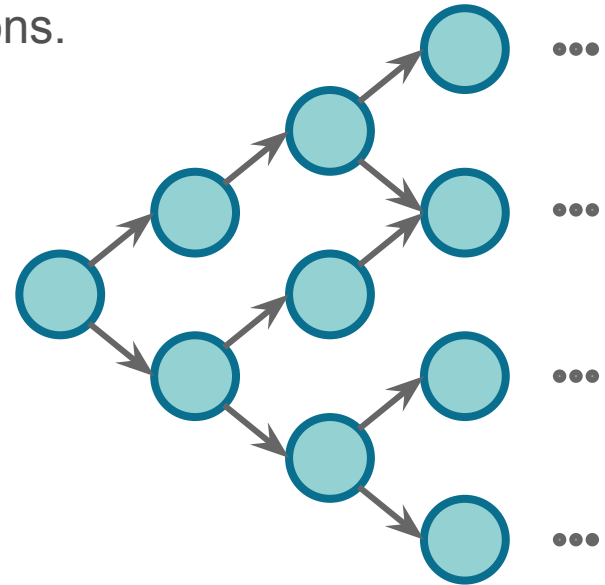


Value Alignment

Alignment of Norms with Values.

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We consider **all possible paths**, giving **equal weight** to all paths and all transitions.



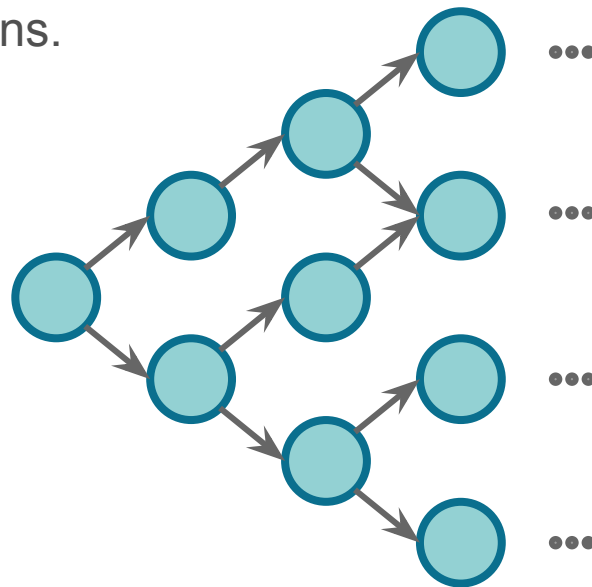
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$$\text{Algn}_{n,v}^{\alpha}(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A}, T) = \frac{\sum_{p \in \text{paths}} \sum_{d \in [1, \text{length}(p)]} \text{Prf}_v^{\alpha}(p_I[d], p_F[d])}{\sum_{p \in \text{paths}} \text{length}(p)}$$



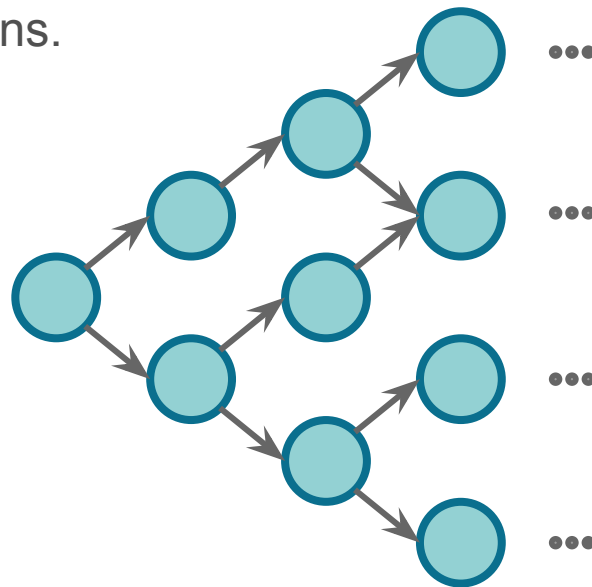
Value Alignment

Alignment of Norms with Values.

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For efficiency, we follow a **Monte Carlo sampling** approach, where x is the number of sampled paths, and l the path length:

$$\text{Algn}_{n,v}^{\alpha}(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A}, T) = \frac{\sum_{p \in \text{paths}'} \sum_{d \in [1, l]} \text{Prf}_v^{\alpha}(p_I[d], p_F[d])}{x * l}$$



Value Alignment

Aggregation of Alignment.

$$\text{Align}_v^\alpha(S, A, T) \longrightarrow \text{Align}_v^G(S, A, T)$$



$$\text{Align}_V^\alpha(S, A, T) \longrightarrow \text{Align}_V^G(S, A, T)$$

Value Alignment

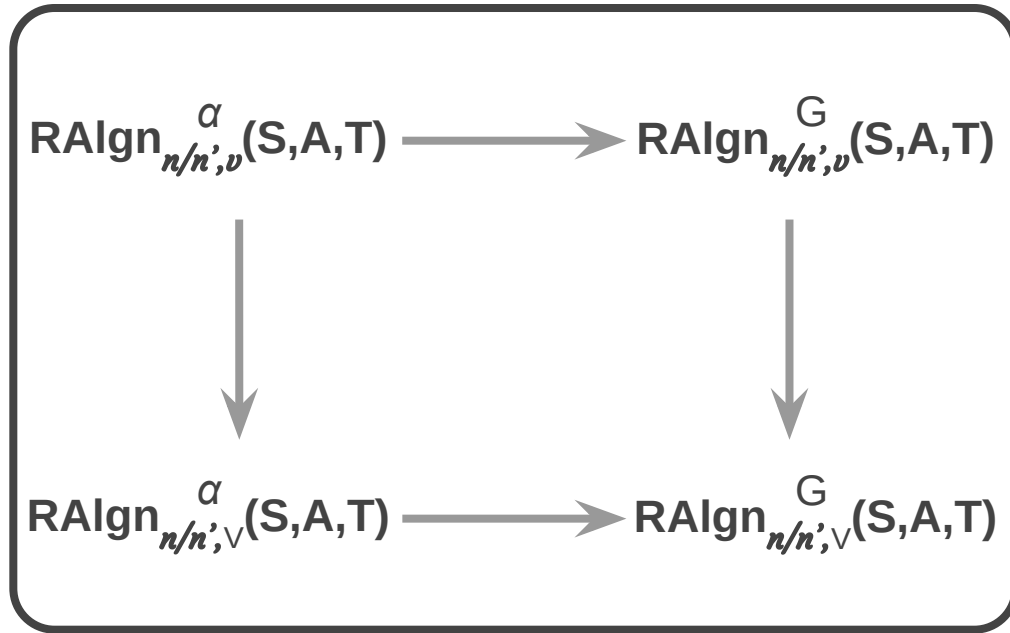
Relative Alignment.

The relative alignment of norm $n1$ w.r.t. norm $n2$:

$$\text{RAlgn}_{n_1/n_2,v}^{\alpha}(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A}, T) = \text{Algn}_{n_1,V}^{\alpha}(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A}, T) - \text{Algn}_{n_2,V}^{\alpha}(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{A}, T)$$

Value Alignment

Aggregation of Relative Alignment.



Research Questions.

- How to define the aggregation functions?
- What if not all paths and transitions are equiprobable?
- Given a set of norms N , a set of values V , and a set of agents G :
 - What is the subset of norms $N^* \in N$ with optimal alignment for group G ?

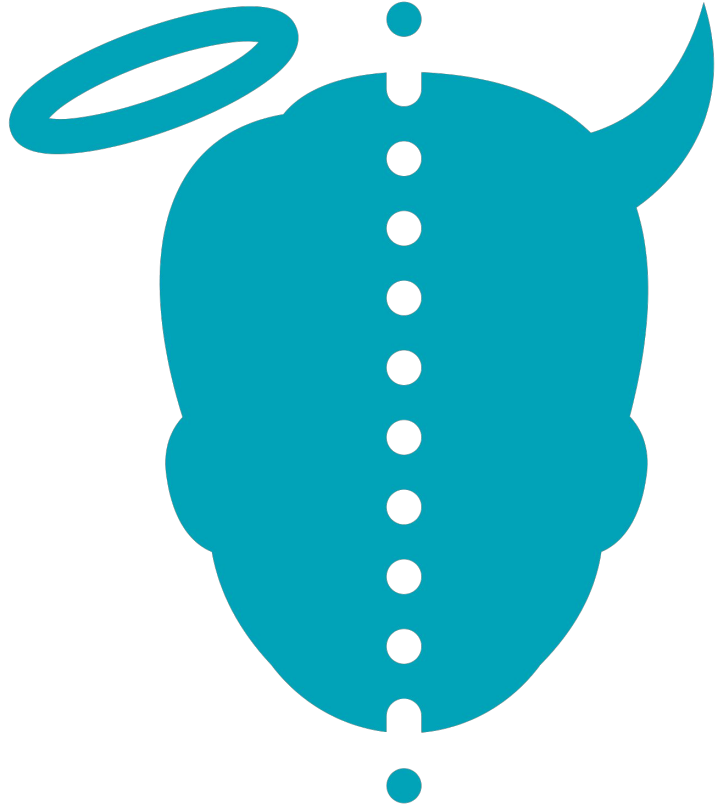
$$N^* = \arg \max_{N' \subseteq N} \text{Algn}_{N', V}^G$$

- What is the subset of agents $G^* \in G$ better aligned with norms N ?

$$G^* = \arg \max_{G' \subseteq G} \text{Algn}_{N, V}^{G'}$$

- What is the optimal social preference aggregation function?

$$f^* = \arg \max_{f \in F} \text{Algn}_{N, V}^{G'}(f\{\text{Prf}_V^\alpha\}_{\alpha \in G})$$



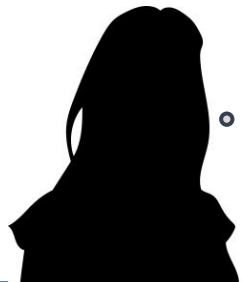
the good & the bad




Ethical Concerns

Ethical Concern: Human Control


Are we sure we want to give the users full control?

A black silhouette of a person's head and shoulders, facing right. A thought bubble is connected to their head by three small circles.

What if
people fail
to agree?

A black silhouette of a person's head and shoulders, facing forward. A thought bubble is connected to their head by three small circles.

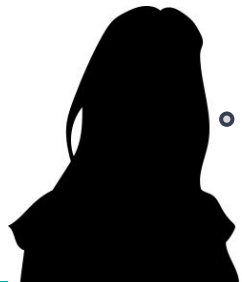
What about
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What if
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Ethical Concern: Human Control


What if people make “wrong” decisions?

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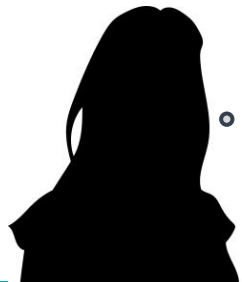
Ethical Concern: Human Control

What if people make “wrong” decisions?


Wrong decisions are defined as:

■ **illegal**, or


■ **unethical**

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Ethical, Legal, & Social Requirements



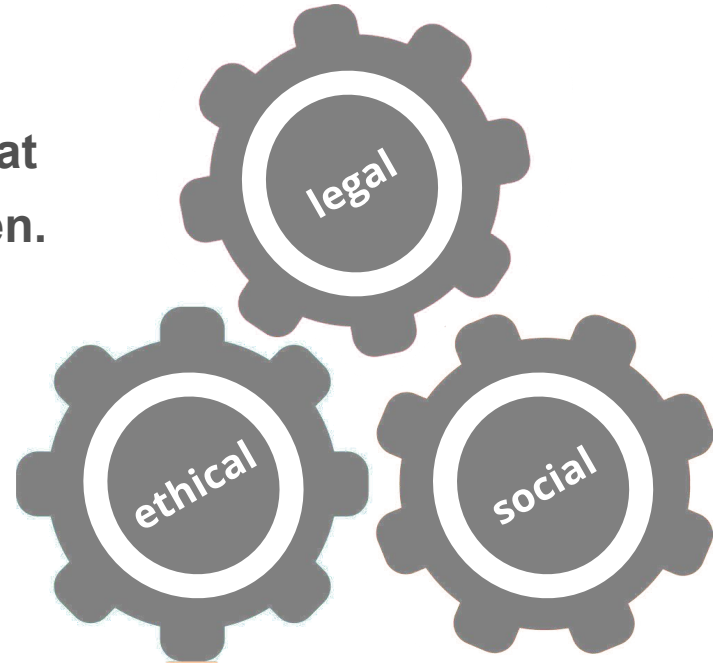
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Ethical, Legal, & Social Requirements

What if people make “wrong” decisions?

Answer. Give people control, yet maintain that legal and ethical requirements are not broken.



Ethical, Legal, & Social Requirements

What if people make “wrong” decisions?

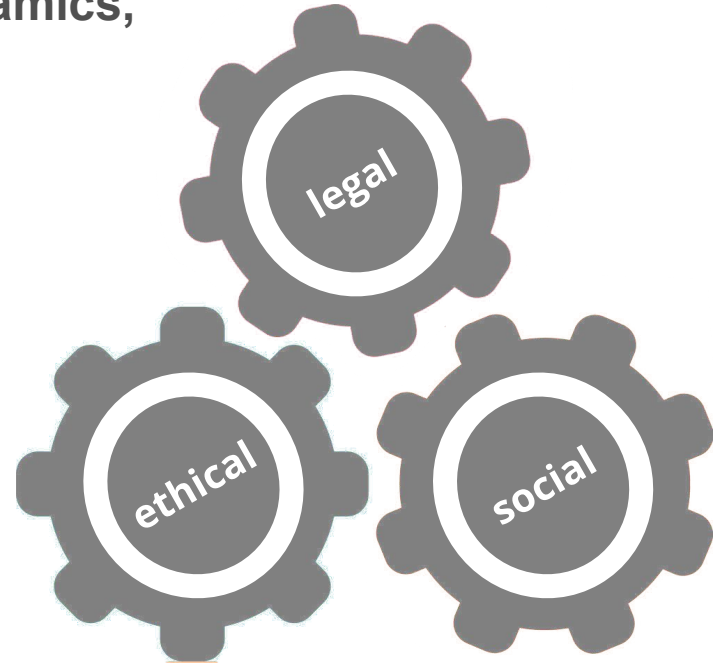
Answer. Give people control, yet maintain that legal and ethical requirements are not broken.

What is driving the evolution of our technologies is the evolution of our *ethical*, *legal*, and *social* requirements.



Research Challenges

1. Understand the ethical-legal-social dynamics, and how does one impact another.
2. Encode ethical and legal requirements into the system.

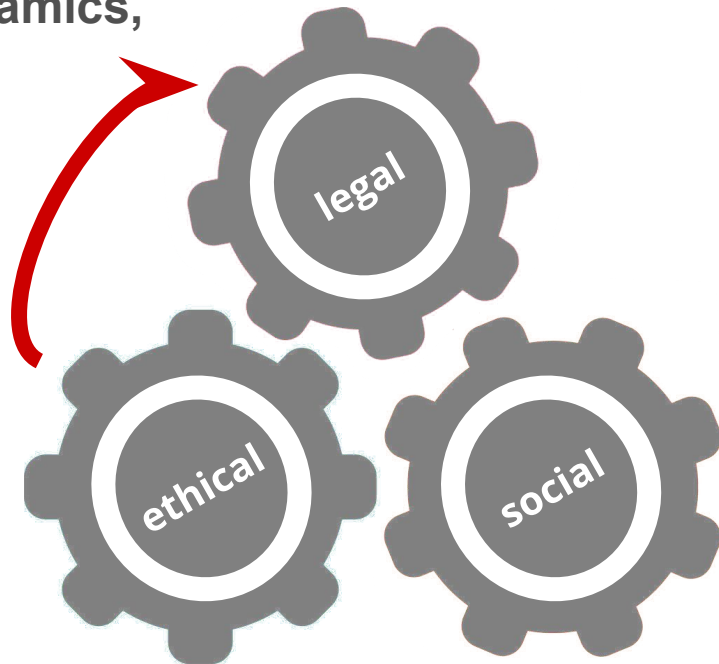


Research Challenges

1. Understand the ethical-legal-social dynamics, and how does one impact another.

■ From ethical to legal:

- ☐ GDPR
- ☐ Violating privacy when needed!



Research Challenges

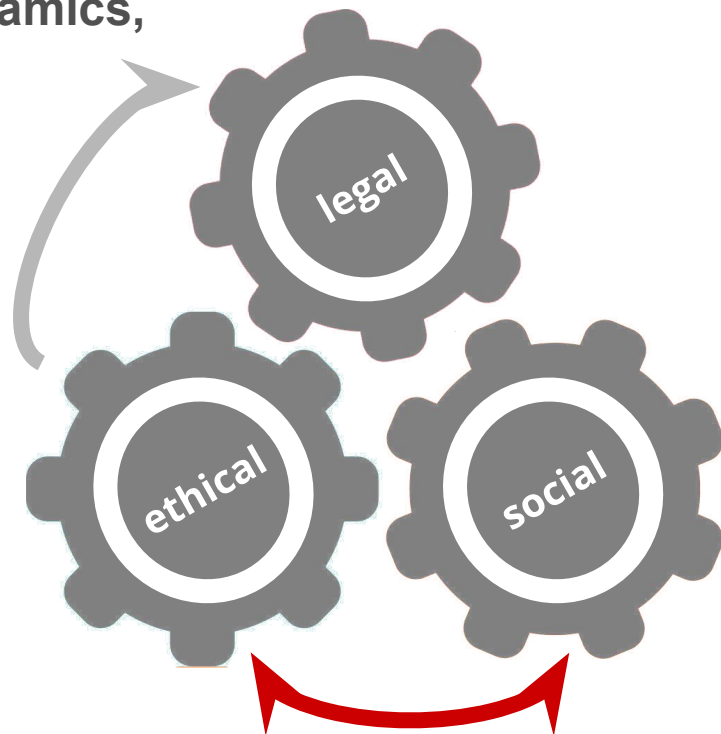
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■ From social to ethical, and vice versa:

- ☐ GDPR
- ☐ Gender equality



Research Challenges

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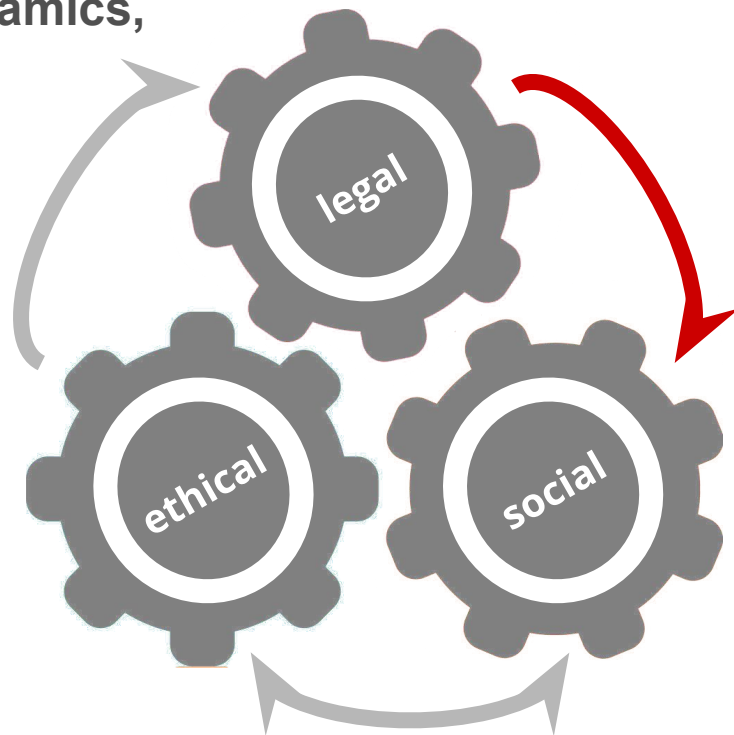
- ☐ GDPR
- ☐ Violating privacy when needed!

■ From social to ethical, and vice versa:

- ☐ GDPR
- ☐ Gender equality

■ From legal to social:

- ☐ Speed limits
- ☐ Smoking



Research Challenges

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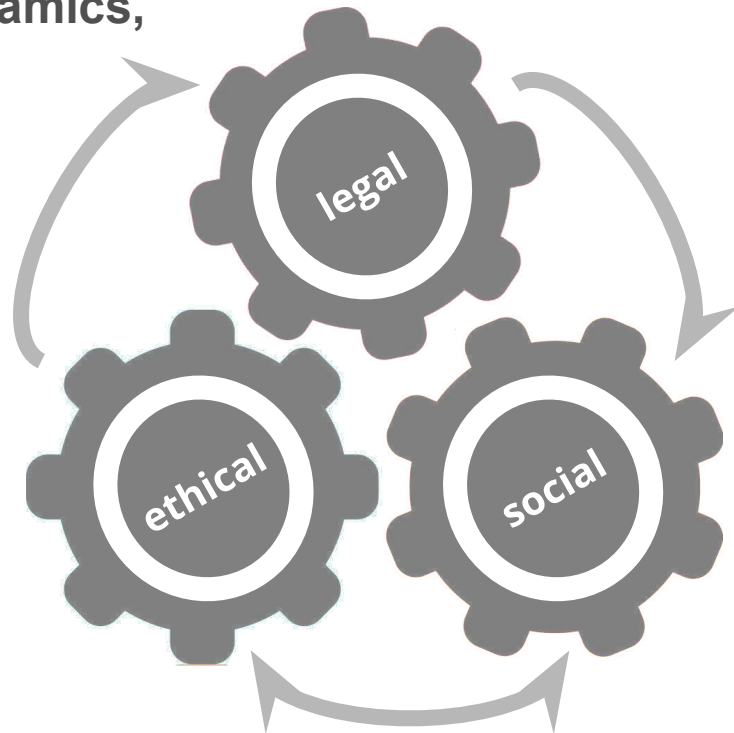
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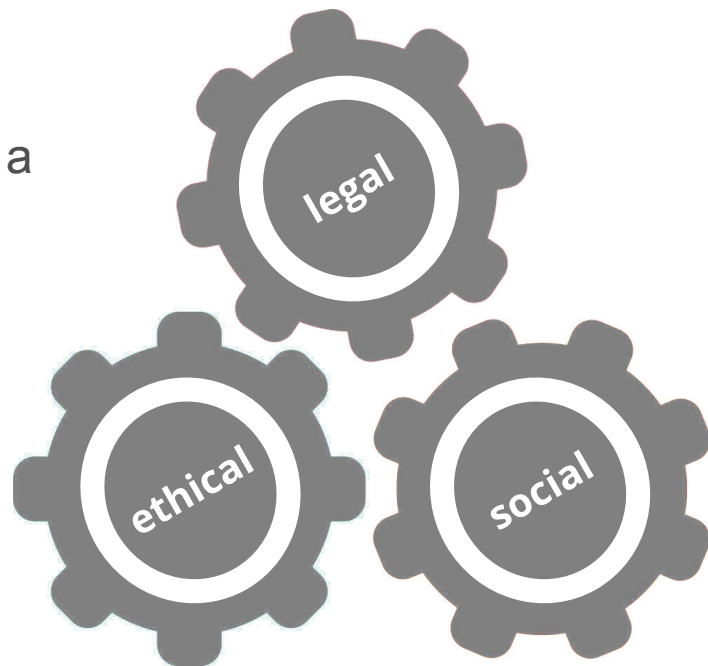
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- Legal requirements may be encoded in a way similar to social requirements.

- Ethical requirements are more tricky.

- ☐ Can all ethical requirements be formally specified?




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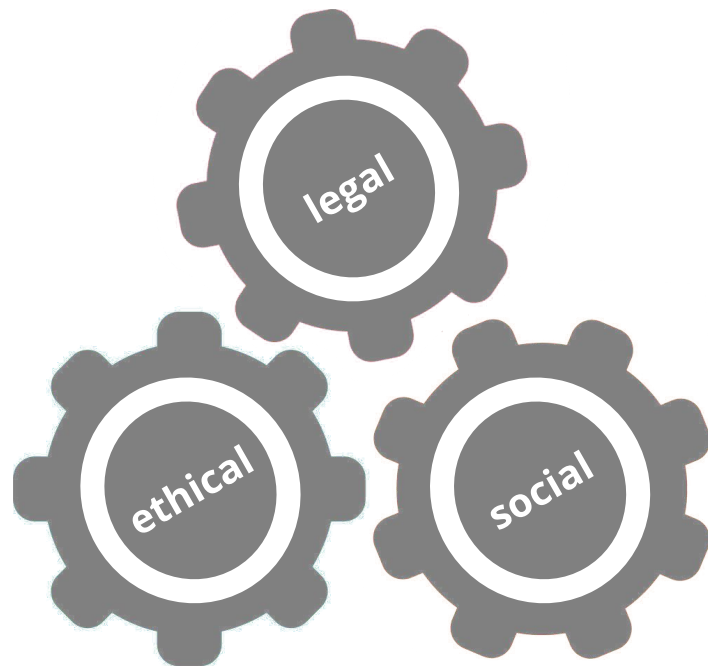
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Gender equality?



Fairness?



Research Challenges

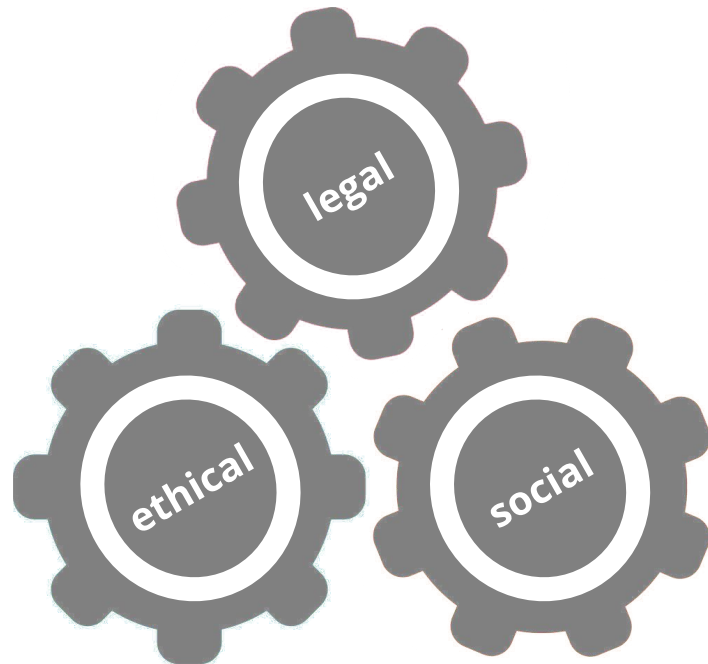
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- ☐ Differentiate between absolute moral principles and values.





Take-Home Message

Take-Home Message



- Norms regulate behaviour
- Norms *should* adapt to our evolving requirements and values
- Adaptive norms require extensive research in different fields
- Ethical concerns are super interesting to address, yet tough work!
 - Understanding the value-norms relationship
 - Formalising the value alignment problem (*we've just started*)
 - Understanding the ethical-legal-social dynamics
 - Encoding ethical & legal requirements (*specification, implementation, verification*)

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WeNet project is funded by the EU's Horizon2020 programme under Grant Agreement number 823783.



Many thanks to:

Carles Sierra, Pablo Noriega,
Pilar Dellunde, Jordi Sabater-Mir,
AppPhil & CIMBVAL members

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Thank you!

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