

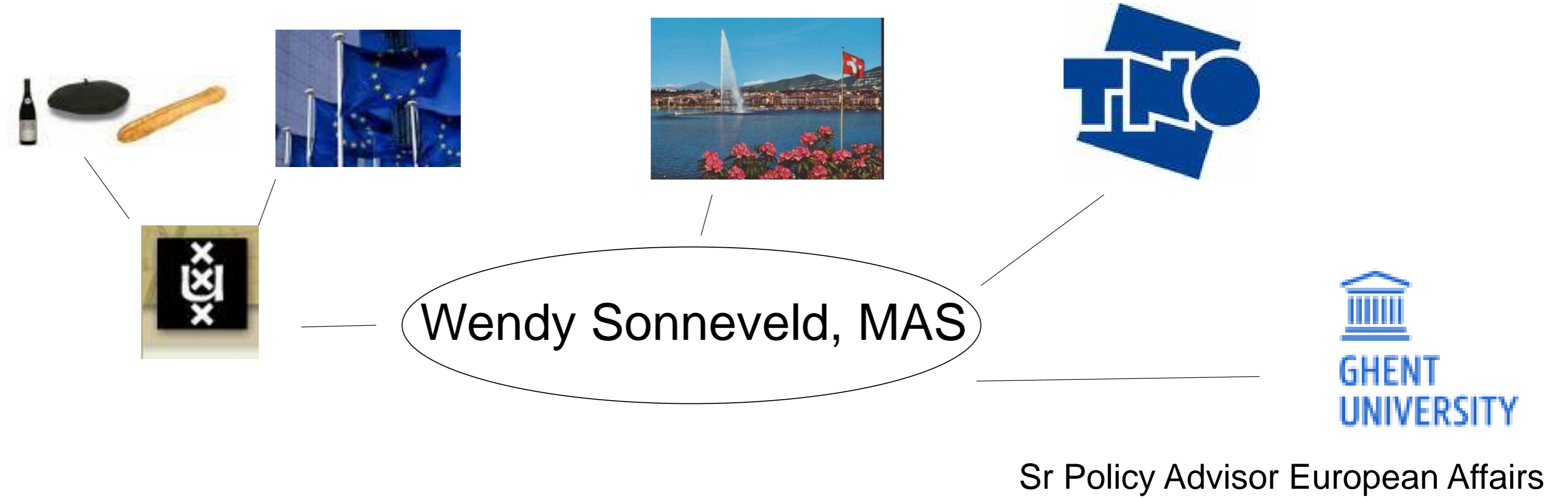


**UNIVERSITEIT
GENT**

STRENGTHEN INTERDISCIPLINARITY IN HEU

Ms WENDY SONNEVELD, MAS - 14/10/2020

ABOUT MY ROLE



IDC @ GHENT UNIVERSITY

- InterDisciplinary research Consortia aimed at realising societal impact
- In 2013 -> started with 5 SSH consortia, became 4 IDC
- In 2020 -> +6



More [info](#)



CHARACTERISTICS

- funded through the university's Special Research Fund
- focus on [societal impact](#)
- at the core: interdisciplinarity
- dedicated research co-ordinator for each IDC
 - acts as a knowledge broker
 - works in close collaboration with the central Research Department, especially on [societal impact policy](#) and European Public Affairs
- Specific career model for the IDC co-ordinators, respecting the principles of Ghent University's vision on [research assessment](#)



MAIN LOBBY MOMENTUMS

– H2020 Interim Evaluation

- ‘the SSH embedding challenge’



– HEu legislation

- ‘Call on the European Union to create high-quality dedicated and embedded SSH research opportunities in HEu’



CESAER

Side letter supporting Social Science and Humanities

📅 23rd February 2018

AT THE CORE OF OUR THINKING

no embedded SSH without dedicated SSH

or

real interdisciplinarity

can only be developed

when SSH researchers are informed equally on HEu

and have the same communication channels with the COM

as STEM researchers

WHERE WE ARE TODAY

1. FOCUS SC6 BUDGET ON SSH

– Finding

- half of the H2020/SC6 budget is for COST

Association



Director Kurt Vandenberghe...
ec.europa.eu

– Result

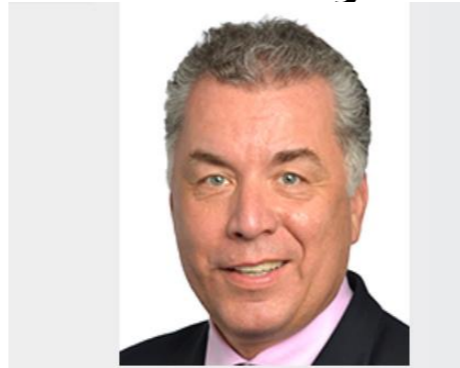
- in HEu, the budget for COST will come from Widening = doubling SC6 budget



2. BROADEN RANGE OF SSH DISCIPLINES

– Finding

- SSH-expertise incorporates high societal value creation demonstrating cultural, social, policy and economic impact, but this research has hardly been tapped into



Christian EHLER

– Creative industries lobby MEP Christian Ehler

- introduction culture & creativiy aspects in HEu/SSH cluster



3. TAKE SOCIETAL IMPACT INTO ACCOUNT

- opinion
 - SSH impact is not technological impact

- realisation
 - besides (i) scientific and (ii) technological / economic impact also (iii) social impact as key impact pathway indicator

AMBITION



CURRENT SITUATION



SITUATION WE AIM FOR



WHAT GHENT UNIVERSITY ASKS FOR



- Seed money from DG RTD
- for the development of a business plan for a financial sustainable ETP-like SSH Platform
- Tender procedure under HEu



OECD REPORT 'BEYOND GROWTH'

- In its [report](#), the OECD recommends to link SDG's before tackling them.
- DG RTD indicated that they will integrate this recommendation into the HEu Strategic Plan.
- Our question to DG RTD: how is that possible in practice without developing supporting measures to strengthen interdisciplinarity in HEu?



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