



# The inertia of the Academic Systems towards Plagiarism



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Brussels, November 29th 2012

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# Contents



- 1. Introduction**
- 2. What do they say?**
- 3. Who are the plagiarists?**
- 4. Proposal of an institutional project**
- 5. Discussion**



# 1. Introduction



## *Traditional Thinking*

Which **penalties**?

How to **control** it?

Which **detection software**?

To control which **mistake**?

Disclosing, **denouncing**, **tattling** ?

For which **values**?



## Comparison between field performance of cuttings and seedlings of *Eucalyptus globulus*

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*Full length Research Paper*

## Comparison between field performance of cuttings and seedlings of *Carapa procera* D.C. (Meliaceae)

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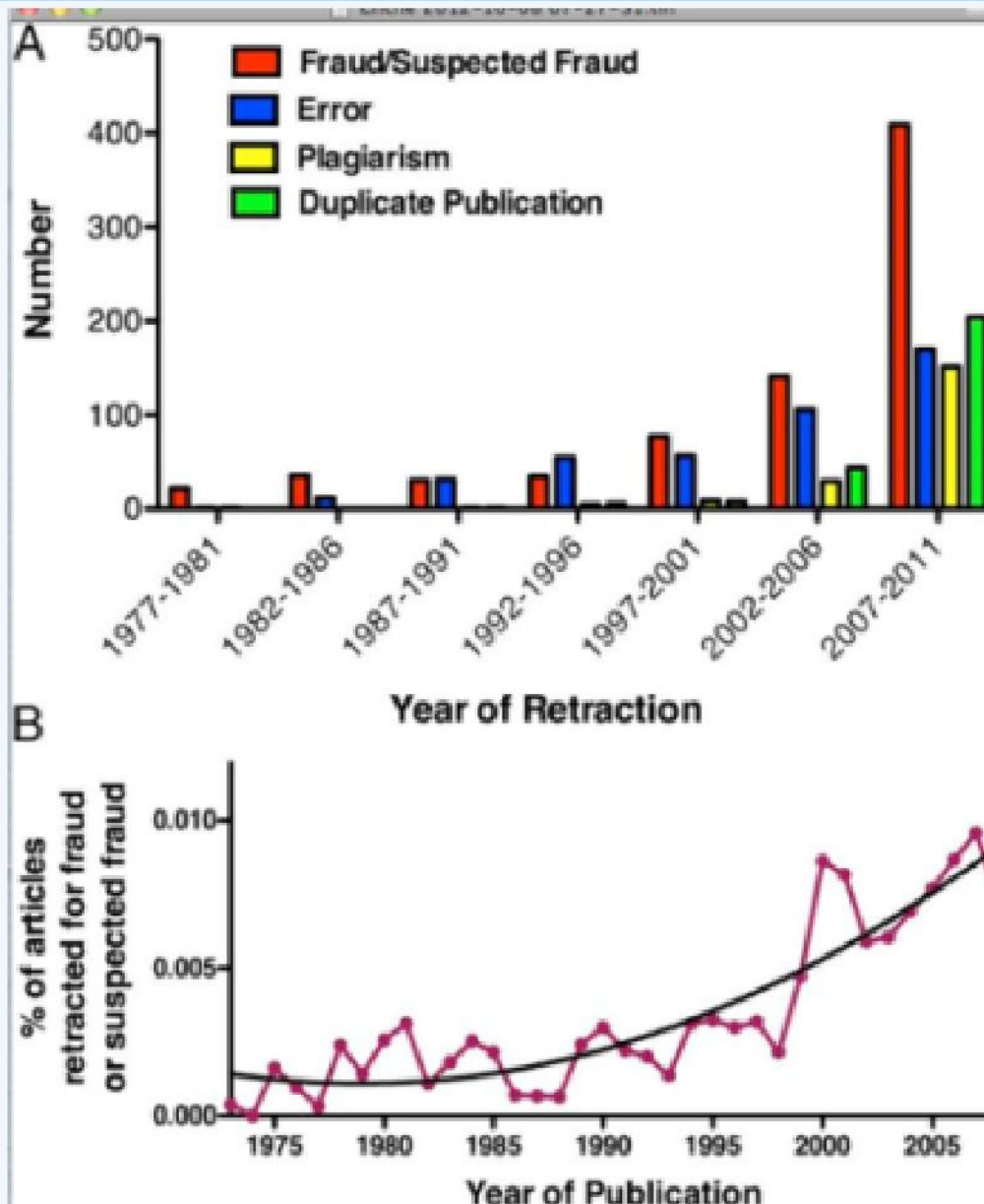
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<sup>3</sup>La 245 Cnrs Saint-Fargeau, France.

Accepted 7 September, 2011



# *In scientific journals*



Source : Ferric C. Fang, R. Grant Steen, Arturo Casadevall Misconduct accounts for the majority of retracted scientific publications, *PNAS*, 2012



# Our research question



*Professors and Researchers (from more than 21 academic related fields in 15 countries) and 20.833 subscribers to our newsletter contribute to our collaborative website launched 9 years ago.*

***1. Which are the attitudes, behaviours or rules to survive the gap between the Web and knowledge ?***



*Collaborative Website « Responsible.unige.ch »*

<http://responsible.unige.ch>





## **2. What do they say?**



# 1. Introduction



- **1st study**

*Publication and plagiarism: collective answers for new practices*

*(With P.-J Benghozi in: Le plagiat de la recherche scientifique)*

- *An open-ended questionnaire. November 2010*
- *5000 researchers. 367 valid answers. 16 countries. 11 research fields.*
- *Semiotic and quantitative analysis*

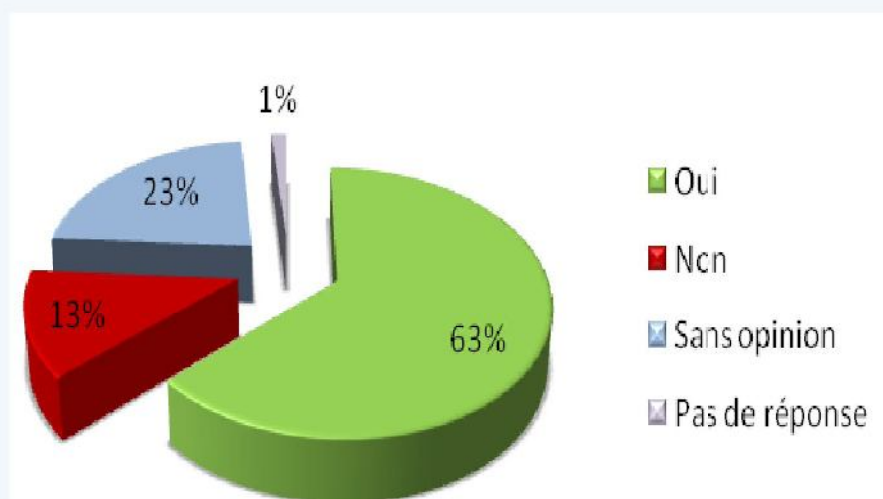




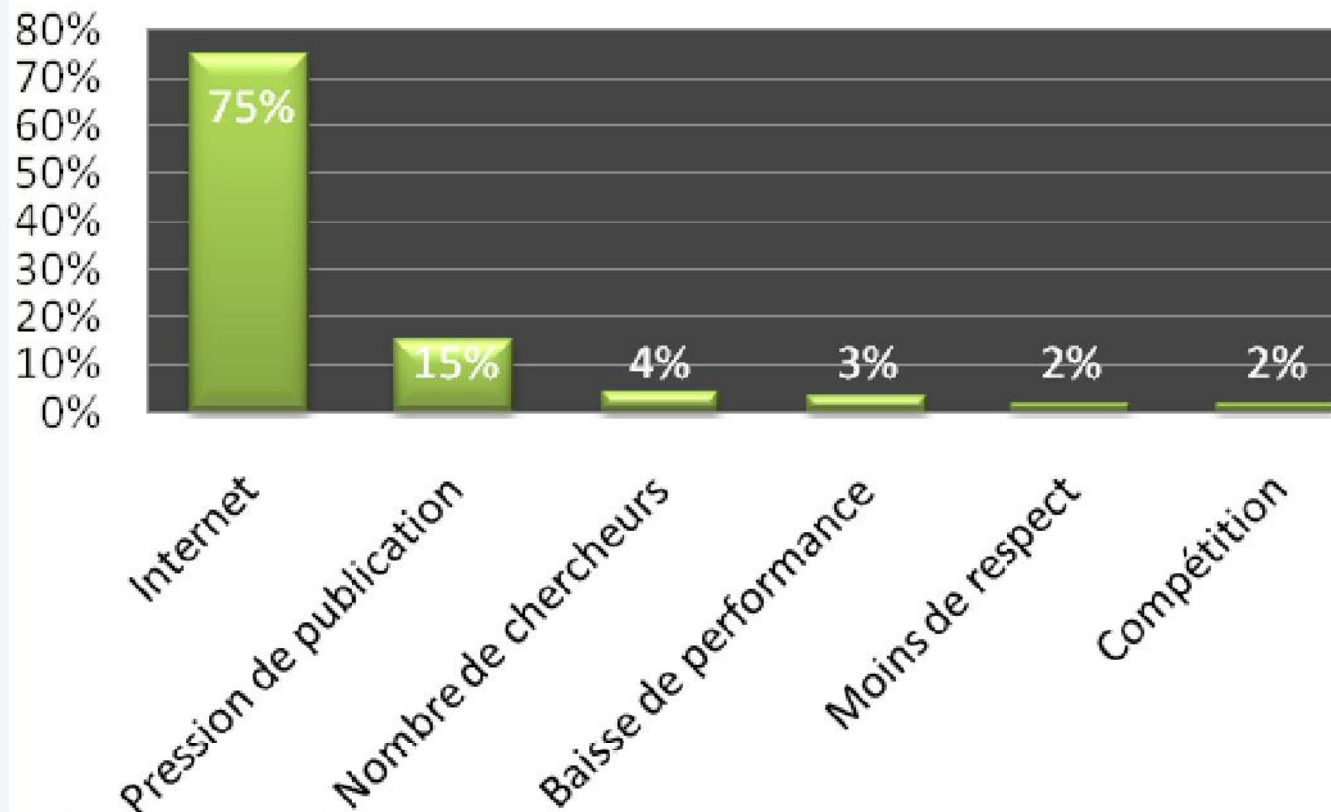
# 1. Introduction



63% of the respondents are anxious for the increase of plagiarism.



# Why this increase?

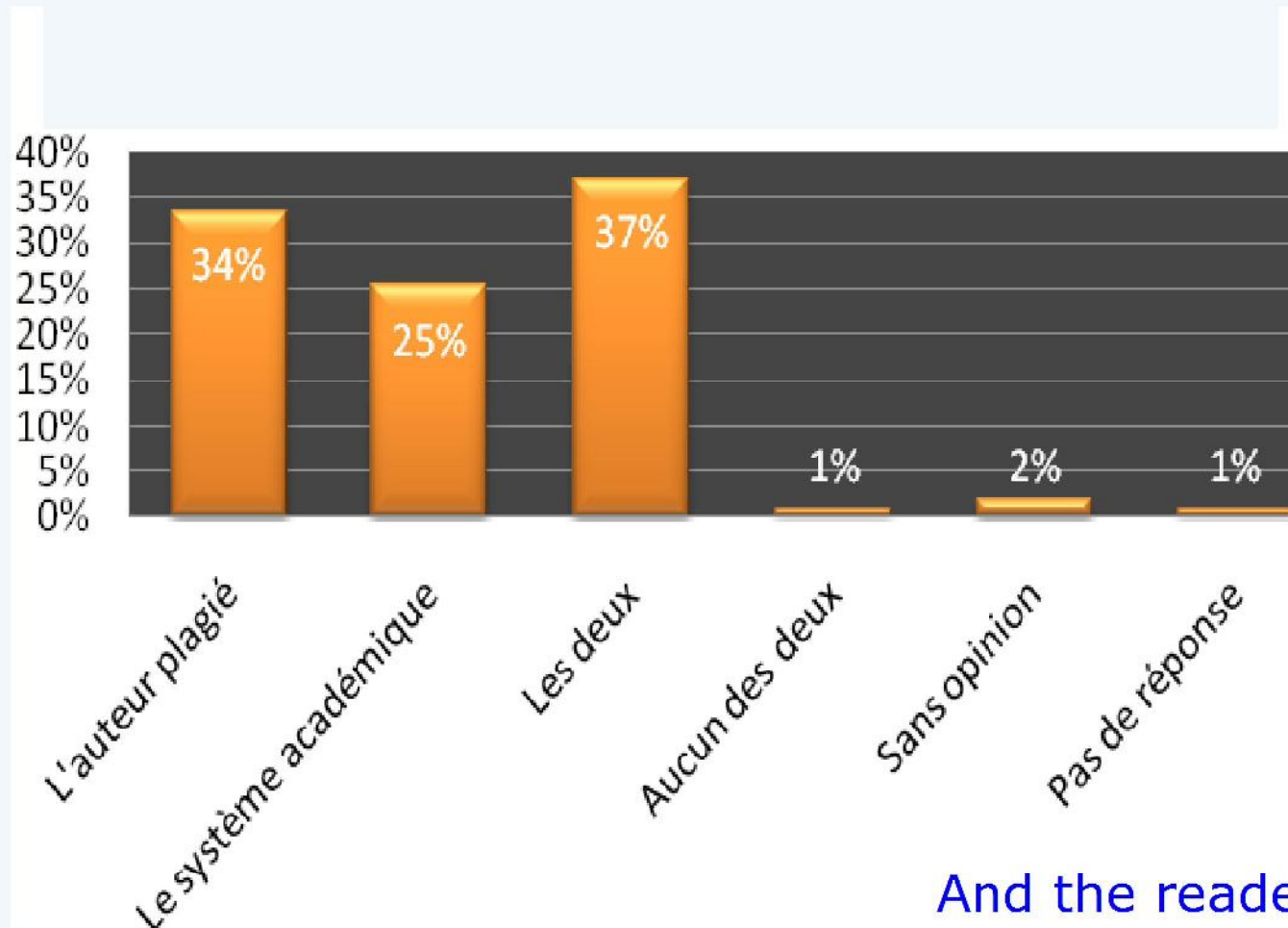




- It seems easier to plagiarize in social sciences than in «pure» sciences because of a more efficient P to P process

	Increase	Identical	Less frequent
<b>Social science</b>	21%	70%	8%
<b>Exact sciences</b>	10%	52%	37%

# Who is the «victim» of plagiarism?

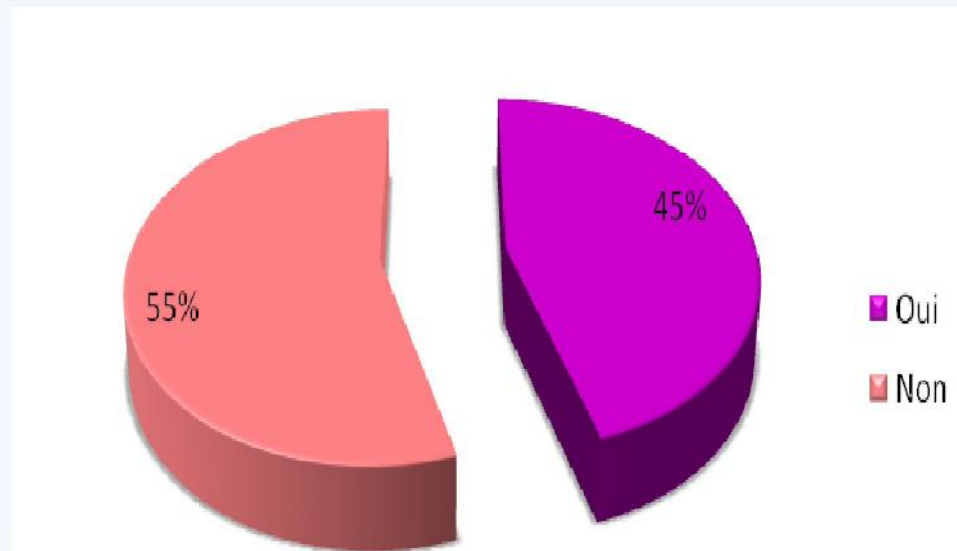


And the reader?

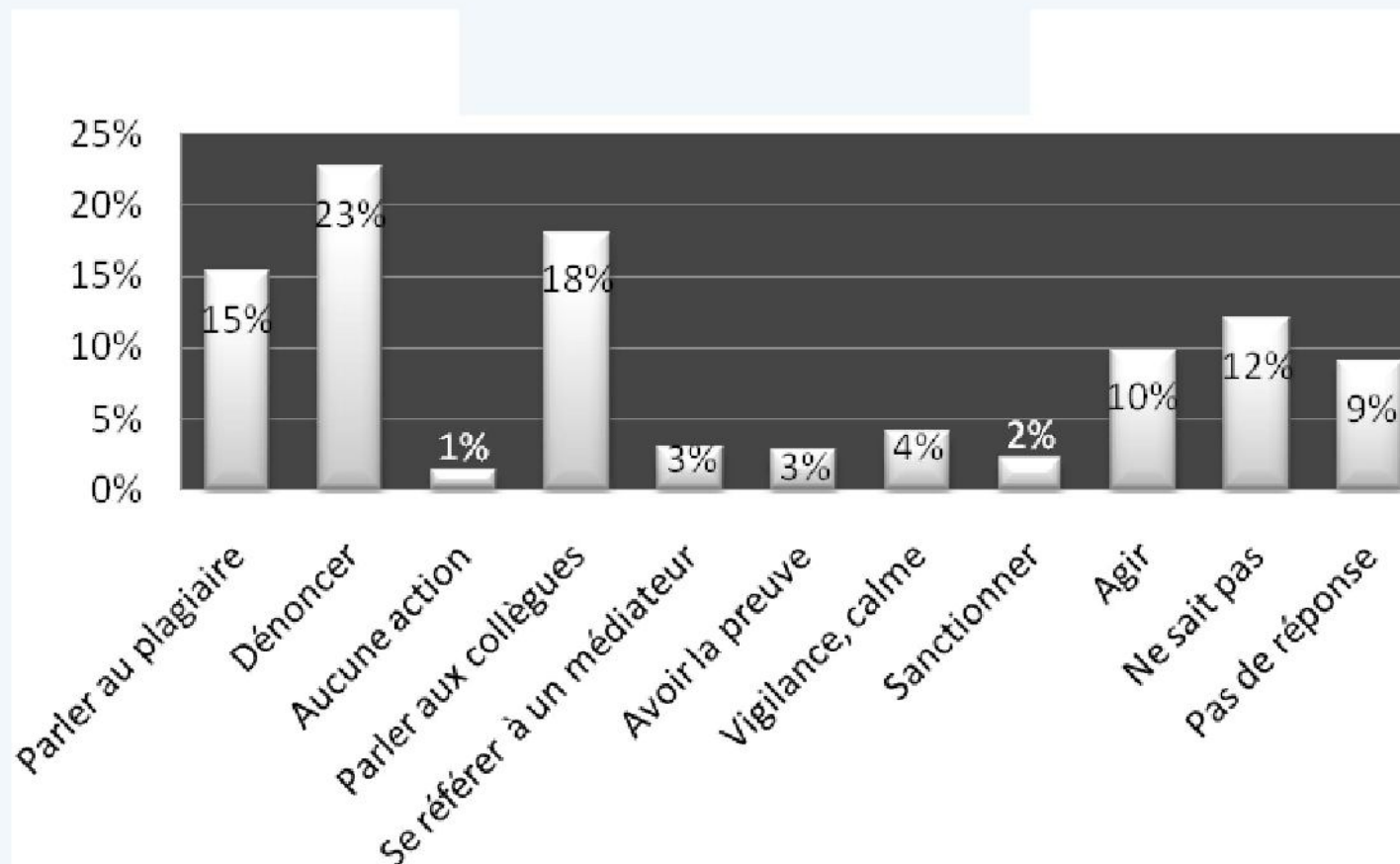
# What did they do?



- 55% of them did not try to complain. They explained that it is just a waste of time.



# What to do in case of plagiarism?





## **3. The plagiarists**



# Values and norms



## **VALUES**

***Cultural ideals that are known and accepted.***

Values are key concepts of the moral representation and the knowledge culture. They are shared by individuals belonging to the same culture.

## **NORMS**

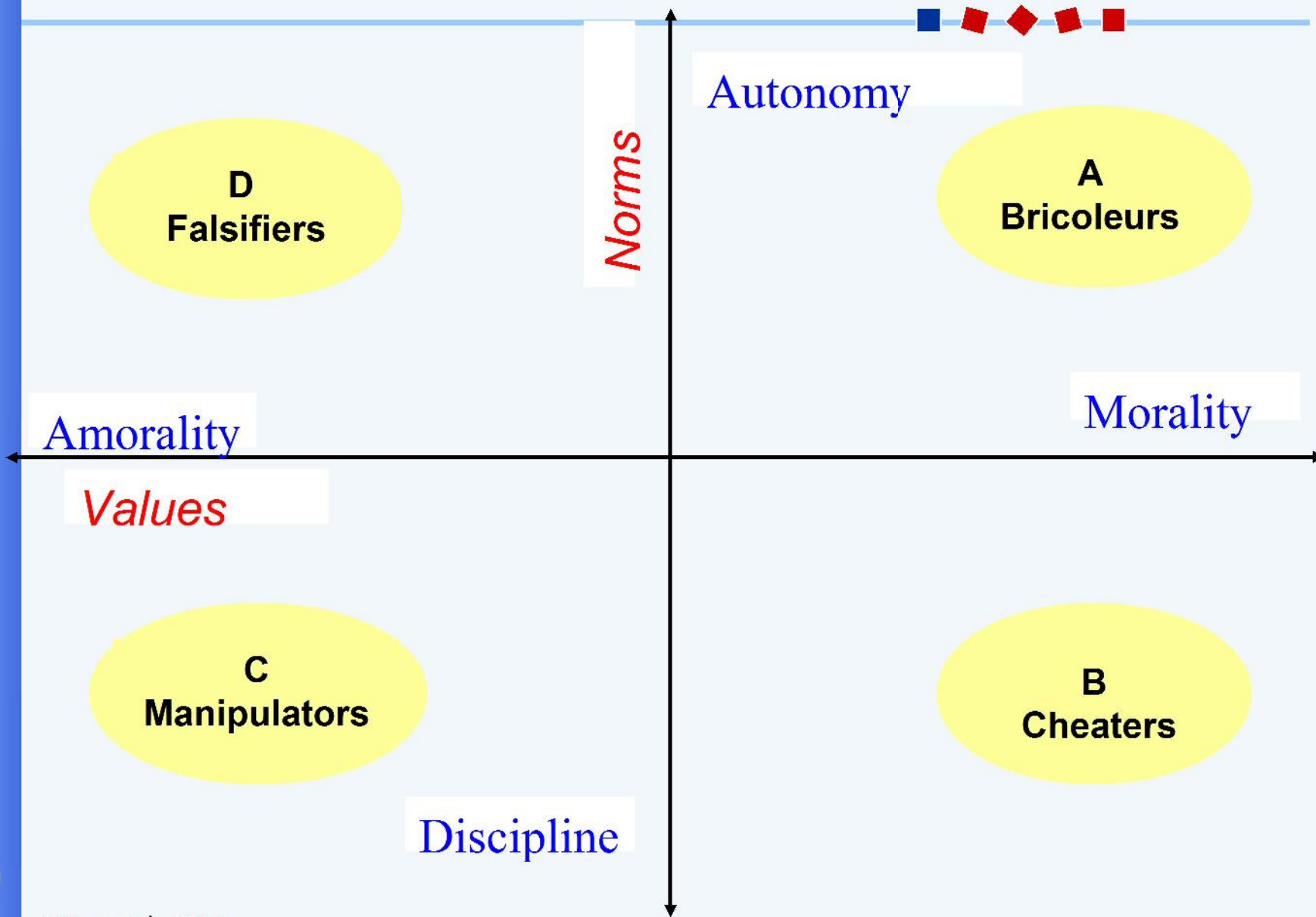
***A group of codified behavior models***

Norms stem from **value** systems that have been progressively elaborated within this society.

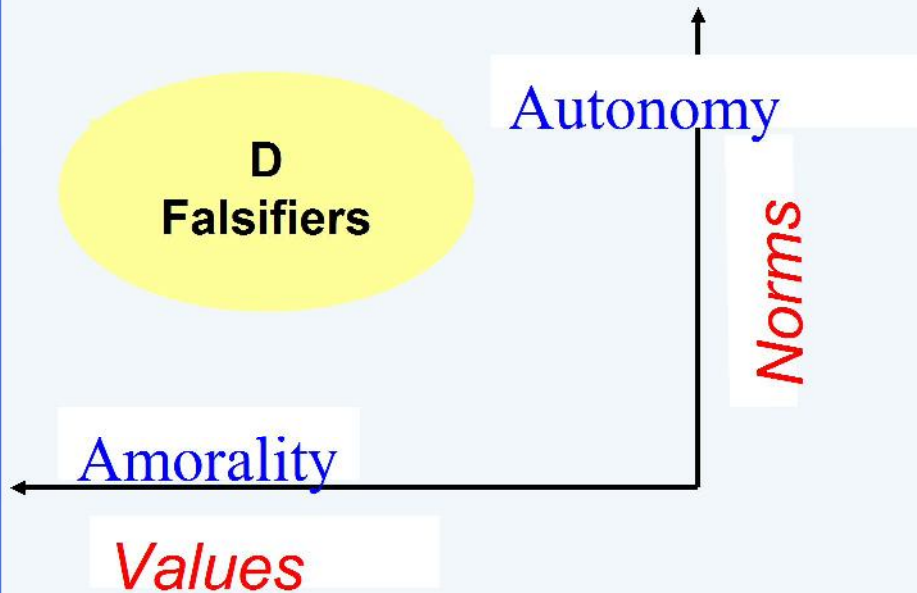




# 3. The plagiarists



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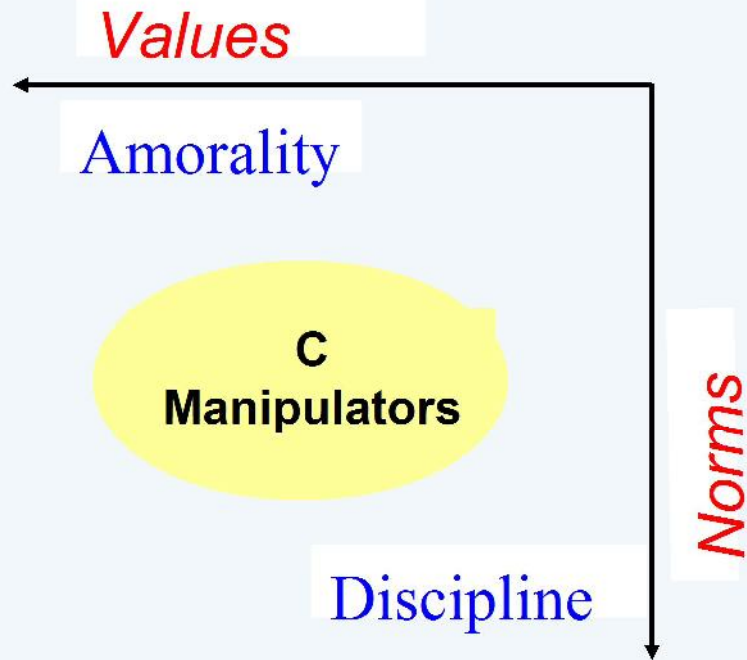


- **Falsifiers:** Trust the outcomes of their actions/risks. Can download a whole paper and change its author's name.
- **Needs:** Should not hesitate to fire them.
- **Risks:** may take advantage of globalization and play the system.

• **An "easy" case :** How to identify them with minimum human and financial costs to formally exclude them?



# 3. The plagiarists



- **Manipulators:** they will trust their own values that legitimize plagiarism.

- **Needs:** make them understand the fundamental values?

- **Risks:** to never blend in and to falsify their publications.

- **An impossible task:** how can we link our current values and norms and instill them in manipulators?



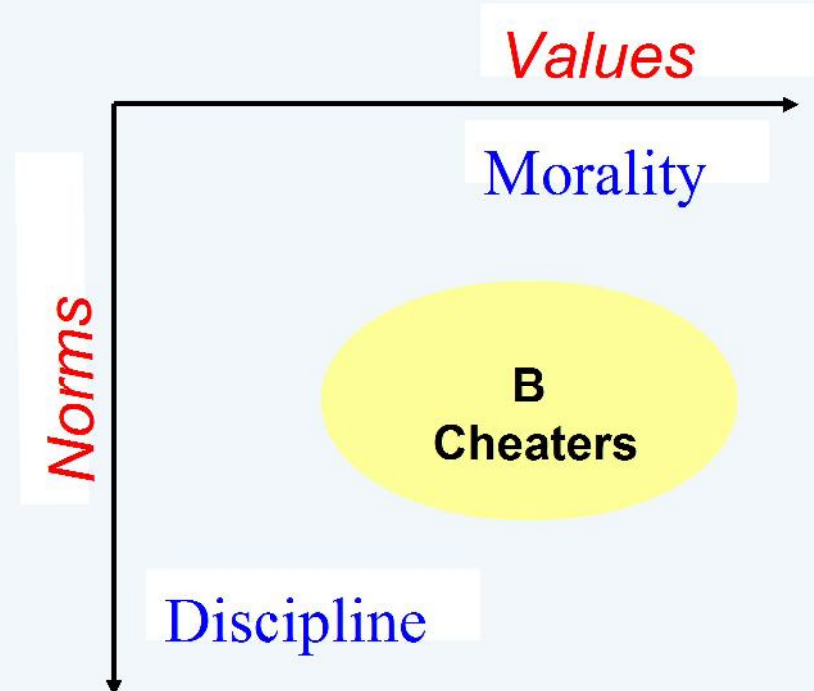
# 3. The plagiarists



- **Cheaters:** trust their peers' behavior.

- **Needs:** No longer know what the institutional ethical norm is.

- **Risks:** being punished by others.



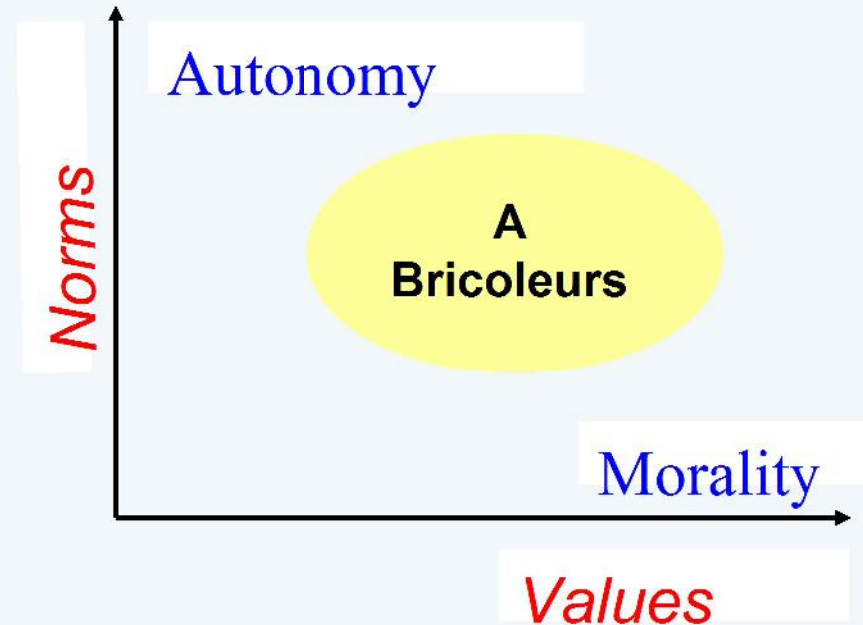
- **New programs like CUSO/Plagiarism:** How to reliably train them for a definite knowledge?



# 3. The plagiarists



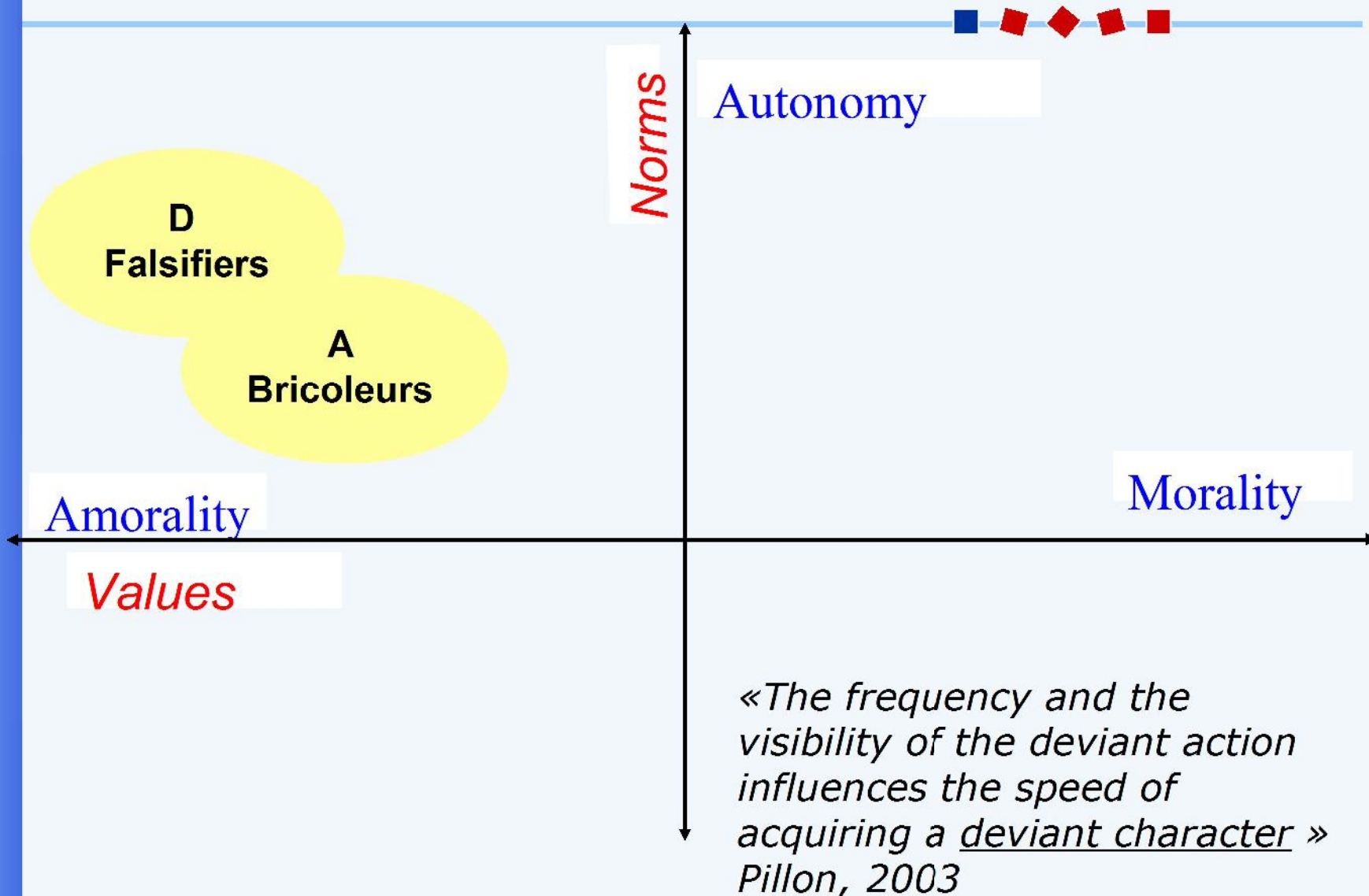
- **Bricoleurs:** self structure their knowledge. Enjoy constructing their work using the «copy-paste» function.
- **Needs:** Do not forget what a trustworthy information is in the XXIst century.
- **Risks:** we/they may lose their real creativity potential.



• **A great question...** How to best channel their creativity and avoid the publish or perish pression?



### 3. The plagiarists

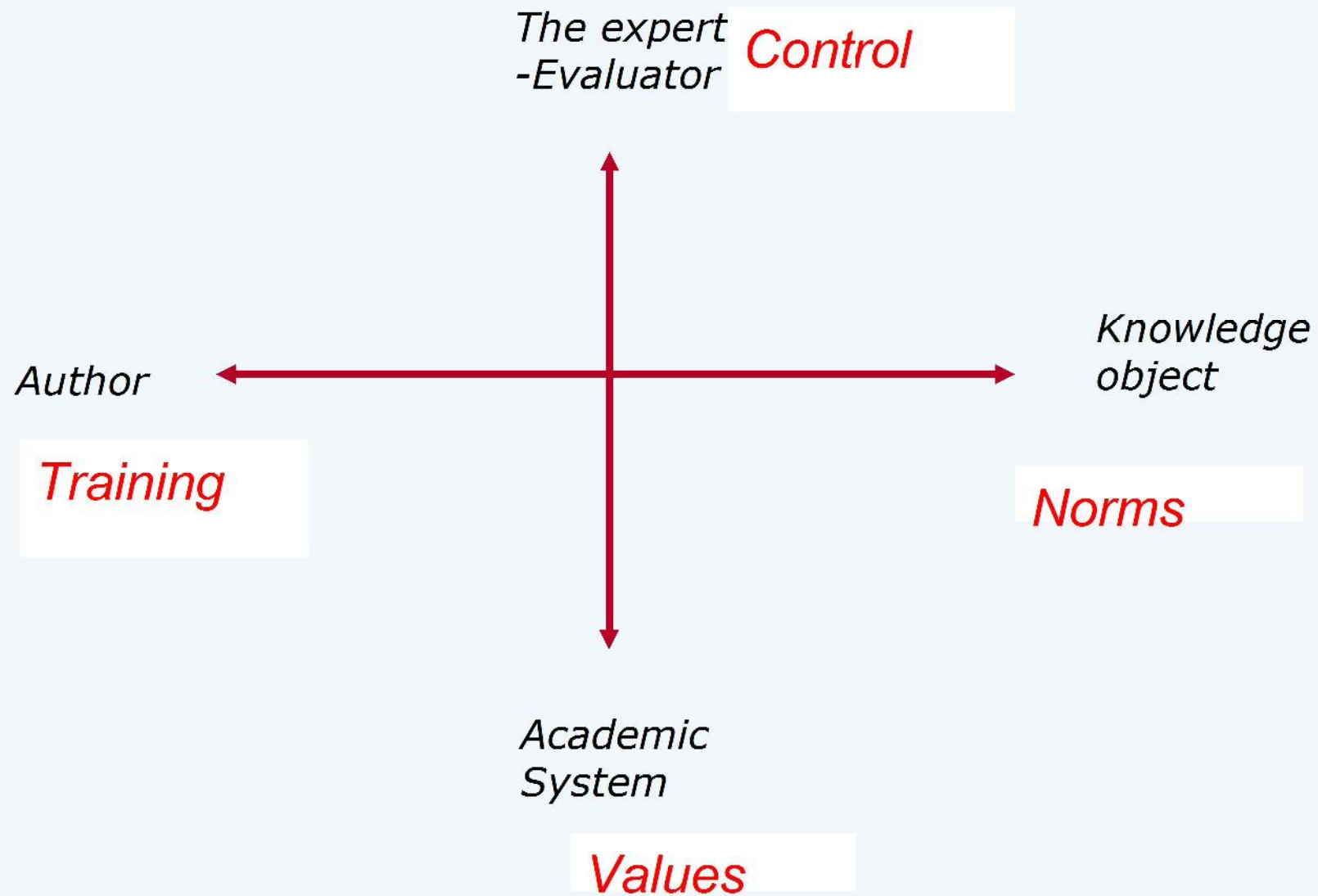




## 4. Discussion



## 4. Discussion







***Merci !  
Thank you!***

