

Responsible Leadership in Projects

Qualitative research in progress

Project based work has become an everyday way of working in many organizations. Project management is a profession with multifaceted requirements of competencies. Project management literature has largely focused on project managers' traits, such as emotional intelligence, trustworthiness, and different leadership styles such as transformative leadership. However, responsible leadership approaches project leadership from a broader perspective, integrating ethics and strategy. Within this framework the dimensions moral person and moral manager refer to ethical aspects of leadership whereas multistakeholder consideration and sustainable growth focus address the strategic perspective. Responsible leadership is seldom discussed in project management literature; hence our aim was to explore how responsible leadership is reflected within project practitioners. The data was gathered from nine focus groups interviews from project managers in Finland, Spain, Austria, and Lithuania. Interviews were analyzed with thematic analysis. The findings will be discussed and reflected in peer reviewed article, that will be published in year 2026.