

CoARA Working Groups Call 2023

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Catalogue Expressions of Interest submitted in Fall 2023

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EoII – Monitoring the social impact of research

Join the discussion, share your comments, thoughts, interest, suggestions on the board:

[Discussion Board \(knowledge sharing platform\) click here](#)

Main Keyword: Impact

Second Keyword: Quality and excellence

Issue to be addressed.

This group will build upon existing methodologies and indicators for the monitoring of social impact of research, understanding both challenges and opportunities. The goal will be to define a common framework for social impact monitoring and assessment (ex-ante, in-itinere and ex-post) for institutions, proposals and careers.

Short description of the mission and objectives of the group, and of how it fits with the overall CoARA vision.

This WG has the mission of developing practices of monitoring and assessing social impact as a key dimension in pursuing excellent research. The WG will depart from the European Commission's official document "Monitoring the impact of EU Framework Programmes", which establishes Key Impact Pathways – with short, medium and long-term indicators.

This WG will focus on recognizing the diverse contributions of science to the improvement of society, which cannot be measured with journal-level metrics, nor with one single metric, but rather with diverse and complementary methodologies that gather data of knowledge use and the effects of that use in improving (or not improving) society. Thus, indicators and methodologies will be developed in co-creation with researchers from all sciences, policymakers, companies, institutions and citizens.

To this end, the working group sets four main objectives 1) To review existing

standards, methodologies and indicators used to assess the social impact of research and identify successful actions; 2) To consider actions at different stages (ex-ante, in-itinere, ex-post) of an assessment process; 3) To explore social impact gathering mechanisms that do not increase the administrative burden on researchers' or institutions' activity; 4) To develop a tool-kit for monitoring and assessment of social impact, drawing from the challenges and opportunities discussed.

Added value of the Working Group over and above what is currently being done within the community.

The main added value of the present proposal is the orientation towards developing a common framework (including a toolkit) for social impact assessment before, during and after the research is conducted. Thus, it will also tackle the challenge of considering all types of research and their direct or indirect contribution to social impact. The proposal responds to the fact that more and more researchers, institutions and citizens are inquiring regarding the capacity of research to better address existing societal challenges. CoARA has underscored the shortcomings of existing assessment practices and metrics to monitor the quality and impact of research. However, when it comes to assessing the impact of research, most researchers and research-performing organisations focus on the dissemination and transference of research rather than on social impact. Social impact is accomplished when the use of scientific knowledge contribute to advancing towards the goals established by societies, such as the SDGs. A reform of research assessment that aims at improving the excellence of scientific production requires the vision of social impact, and this can only be developed through co-creation between researchers, research-performing organisations, and citizens. This working group already has an outstanding experience, recognized by the European Commission, in developing indicators to evaluate and assess the social impact of research. Indeed, the lead scientific proposer is a member of the research network founded by Ramon Flecha, who was appointed by the European Commission to Chair the Expert Group in charge of establishing the common criteria of social impact for the European Commission's Horizon Europe scientific program. Based on this previous experience, this group will collaborate with researchers, research-performing organisations and citizens to co-create the indicators and metrics appropriate to assess the social impact of scientific production.

Expected impact (notably expected adoption and implementation scenarios)

CoARA member organisations, as well as other research organisations, institutions, companies, policymakers and citizens worldwide, demand that research performance be aimed at effectively facing societal challenges (i.e. SDGs), thus, improving all humans' lives. However, most of the current standards, methodologies

and indicators do not assess how research is actually improving people’s lives. The lead scientific proposer and other members of the WG have been the co-leaders in the inclusion of co-creation and social impact as requirements for all research projects funded by Horizon Europe. Based on this experience, the reflections and dialogues engaged by this WG will serve to improve existing assessments and metrics of research production that only focus on journal and publication-based measures. Through dialogues with a broad range of researchers, research organisations, institutions, companies, policymakers and citizens, this WG will establish agreements on what are the best mechanisms to gather data on the social improvements of citizens’ lives and, therefore, measure and maximise the quality and social impact of research. Special account will be taken to those research endeavours that do not directly generate social impacts but they might be the basis for others to achieve so. The result will be a set of indicators, sources and methodologies for the monitoring and assessment of social impacts of research that will be fine-tuned through the dialogue with all these diverse perspectives. It is expected that the work conducted through this WG will serve to reflect upon and better understand challenges and opportunities and, ultimately, improve current available mechanisms for the monitoring and assessment of research performance.

Proposers

- **Lead: Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain, Teresa Sorde Martí**
(teresa.sorde@uab.cat)
- University of Barcelona, Spain
- Rovira i Virgili University, Spain

CoARA Commitment addressed.

Core Commitments	
1. Recognise the diversity of contributions to, and careers in research according to the needs and the nature of the research	Yes
2. Base research assessment primarily on qualitative evaluation for which peer-review is central, supported by responsible use of quantitative indicators	
3. Abandon inappropriate uses in research assessment of journal- and publication-based metrics, in particular inappropriate uses of journal impact factor (JIF) and h-index	
4. Avoid the use of rankings of research organisations in research assessment	

Supporting Commitments	
5. Commit resources to reforming research assessment as is needed to achieve the organisational changes committed to	
6. Review and develop research assessment criteria, tools and processes	Yes
7. Raise awareness of research assessment reform and provide transparent communication, guidance, and training on assessment criteria and processes as well as their use	
8. Exchange practices and experiences to enable mutual learning within and beyond the Coalition	
9. Communicate progress made on adherence to the Principles and implementation of the Commitments	
10. Evaluate practices, criteria and tools based on solid evidence and the state-of-the-art in research on research, and make data openly available for evidence gathering and research	

EoI2 – Private Universities – Assessing research and researchers beyond scheme P(ublic)

Join the discussion, share your comments, thoughts, interest, suggestions on the board:
[Discussion Board \(knowledge sharing platform\) click here](#)

Main Keyword: Careers

Second Keyword: Assessment of research proposals

Issue to be addressed.

- ✓ Alternative Career Models
- ✓ Image of Academic Institutions
- ✓ Biases and Non-Biases
- ✓ Third-Party Funding
- ✓ Diversity
- ✓ Career Chances
- ✓ Private universities as chances for research and researchers
- ✓ Art and music universities and colleges

Short description of the mission and objectives of the group, and of how it fits with the overall CoARA vision.

Traditional assessment criteria (number of peer-review publications, job titles, international conference participations, marginalization of teaching activities, high estimation of fundamental research) respond to the situation of public universities and academic institutions. However, private universities and colleges (henceforth: PU) have often other career models and higher teaching load for the faculty since they rely 100% on tuition fees. Yet, those career models and teaching load are not considered when assessing research and researchers of PUs when applying for grants. As a consequence, it is often close to impossible for PUs to submit successfully for grants but which are often a requirement by the accreditation agency or a demand by the faculty to be internationally competitive on the job-market and academic field. Here, we should also mention that many PUs are for

studying arts, music or conduct applied research rather than fundamental research.

The working group therefore wants to set a special focus on the research assessment at and of PUs. We seek the interaction with third-party funding agency, private and public academic stakeholders to discuss how research assessment can be thought in more open ways. Thus we intend to contribute to the diversification of research assessment beyond the normative scheme that is only applicable at the public sector.

Added value of the Working Group over and above what is currently being done within the community.

So far, public universities and colleges are not represented in COARA (henceforth: PU). This is a pity since we as representatives of PUs on the one hand, and researchers ourselves with work experience at public and private universities on the other hand, are convinced that PUs offer a chance to help to develop alternative research assessments. Our manifold career models and research foci in fundamental as applied research can serve as best practice models, and show the gap within traditional assessment models. When the Council of the EU published in December 2022 a paper for the promotion of diverse and attractive research careers, and emphasized the importance of collaboration between academic and non-academic stakeholders, many of the private universities already lived those recommendations and demands in every day practice. Yet, when it comes to the assessment of the research and researchers at PUs, the result is mostly rather negative because they cannot follow the lines of public institutions. Alone the higher teaching load prevents equal publication output and project leading experience comparable to researchers of the same academic age at public institutions. However, teaching is essential to any university and to any research career, and should be assessed accordingly.

Regarding also PUs can therefore help to develop assessment criteria for manifold research career models, and contribute to the diversification of research paths.

Expected impact (notably expected adoption and implementation scenarios)

- ✓ Raising awareness for research careers and research opportunities beyond public institutions;
- ✓ Alternative career models as chance and best practice examples for public institutions;
- ✓ Developing criteria for assessing research at universities and colleges for arts, music and performances;

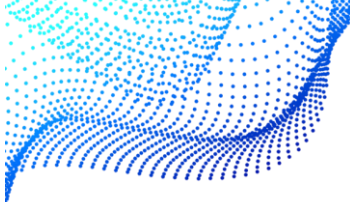
- ✓ Higher estimation of teaching activities in the assessment of individual research careers;
- ✓ Higher estimation of applied research, even more in regard to the fact that applied research becomes more relevant in the increasing interaction between research institutions and non-academic stakeholders;
- ✓ Equal opportunities for public and private universities;
- ✓ Contribute to formulate assessment criteria beyond quantitative criteria (number of peer review publications, publications indexes...);
- ✓ Contribution to the acceptance of manifold research career paths
- ✓ Diversification of research careers.

Proposers

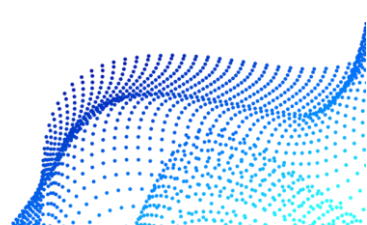
- **Lead: ÖPUK, Austria,** Daniela Haarmann (daniela.haarmann@webster.ac.at)
- Webster Vienna Private University, Austria
- Berta von Suttner-Privatuniversität, Austria

CoARA Commitment addressed.

Core Commitments	
1. Recognise the diversity of contributions to, and careers in research according to the needs and the nature of the research	Yes
2. Base research assessment primarily on qualitative evaluation for which peer-review is central, supported by responsible use of quantitative indicators	
3. Abandon inappropriate uses in research assessment of journal- and publication-based metrics, in particular inappropriate uses of journal impact factor (JIF) and h-index	
4. Avoid the use of rankings of research organisations in research assessment	Yes
Supporting Commitments	
5. Commit resources to reforming research assessment as is needed to achieve the organisational changes committed to	Yes
6. Review and develop research assessment criteria, tools and processes	Yes
7. Raise awareness of research assessment reform and provide transparent communication, guidance, and training on assessment criteria and processes as well as their use	Yes
8. Exchange practices and experiences to enable mutual learning within and beyond the Coalition	Yes



9. Communicate progress made on adherence to the Principles and implementation of the Commitments	Yes
10. Evaluate practices, criteria and tools based on solid evidence and the state-of-the-art in research on research, and make data openly available for evidence gathering and research	Yes



EoI3 – Recruitment of researchers & ECRs (RoR_ECRs)

Join the discussion, share your comments, thoughts, interest, suggestions on the board:
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Main Keyword: Careers

Second Keyword: Changing culture

Issue to be addressed.

Recruitment of researchers, especially early career researchers, follows inhomogeneous procedures throughout different universities and research institutions. This working group will seek to unify possible systems and criteria that could be used in a recruitment phase in order to ensure open and merit-based recruitment.

Short description of the mission and objectives of the group, and of how it fits with the overall CoARA vision.

The WG is committed to enhancing the transparency and efficiency of recruitment procedures for researchers, with a particular focus on ECRs. As recruitment processes differ significantly across universities and research institutions, the WG seeks to contribute to streamlining these processes. It aims to create a clear pathway for researchers considering a career change (either change of research institution or change of discipline, or, even, moving from research institution to non-academic career). In this period of reform of research assessment (CoARA), ECRs are undoubtedly the most vulnerable demographic group and one that needs to be supported. The WG will dedicate its efforts to two main action lines: standardisation of recruitment processes (criteria and indicators) within the WG (with the special focus to CoARA commitments) seeking to develop guidelines for recruitment processes that will make transition from the old assessment system to a new smoother one, reducing barriers and providing a more straightforward path to career progression; trainings of researchers, reviewers and administrative staff of WG members, considering the transition of assessment system and progressing role of narrative CVs.

By establishing clear guidelines and criteria WG aims to create a framework that simplifies the process of career start and progression and fosters a more inclusive environment for researchers

Added value of the Working Group over and above what is currently being done within the community.

A key-focus of WGs' lies on simplification and fairness of recruitment processes and elevation of its quality. An added value of this groups' focus is unification, training and pilot project. These aspects cover a wider spectrum of questions that are to be addressed and may systematically improve both the implementation of the process and the transparency of complex systems. Added values are foreseen by addressing these questions:

Unification: The WG's emphasis on unification aims to streamline recruitment procedures. By providing clear guidelines and standardised practices, the WG ensures that CoARA members have a common foundation to work. This unity helps to establish a cohesive identity among community members, sets the background for common values and fosters collaboration, ultimately strengthening the collective impact of the community

Training: The WG's focus on training is an instrument to build capacity of institutions within CoARA. WG aims to contribute to implementation of CoARA commitments not only by creating recommendations, but also by having training sessions for all parties involved in the process. This will contribute to the overall advancement of academic and research excellence within the WG.

Pilot project: a pilot will ensure actions within WG members. It will also create a background for further improvement of WG activities and may be a strong impetus for other research institutions for standardisation and unification of processes.

Long-Term Impact: A unified recruitment process will strengthen attractiveness of both the institutions and research career in general. This can have a long-term impact on an institution's reputation and attractiveness to top talent. High-quality recruitment practices have a long-term impact on the institution's research output, reputation, and competitiveness.

Expected impact (notably expected adoption and implementation scenarios)

The anticipated impact of WG activities is to transform both the practices of researcher recruitment in academia as well as to transform research culture by putting an emphasis on the approaches WG members value research indicators and contributions. The WG aims to foster simple and reliable recruitment procedures that are transparent and accessible to all parties involved. While CoARA does have a broader mandate, the WG can concentrate specifically on the challenges and opportunities related to recruiting researchers within the WG.

One of the outcomes is the creation of comprehensive recommendations, based on the European Competence Framework for Researchers, that will guide reviewers

and researchers (as well as administration) throughout the recruitment process. These recommendations will serve as a valuable resource, offering insights into best practices and standardised procedures. Clear guidelines will ensure that WG has a consistent rule for assessing candidates, leading to more equitable and informed decisions.

WG also aims to create recommendations for narrative researchers' CVs. Traditional CVs can be limiting in presenting a researcher's full potential while narrative CVs offer a more holistic view of a candidate's academic experience, highlighting their research vision, accomplishments, and impact. Tested by a pilot project, planned in this WG, narrative CVs might be adopted as a recommendation for all members of WG.

In order to guide ECRs into academical world, the WG aims to have training sessions presenting the possibilities of research career in academia and outside academia. The WG aims to highlight a variety of aspects that can be considered at the beginning of career.

WG's aims to have a lasting impact on researcher recruitment within the WG. By promoting transparency, standardisation, and inclusivity, WG seeks to simplify the recruitment process for all stakeholders. This will help to create more efficient academic hiring environment.

Proposers

- **Lead: Vilnius University, Lithuania, Egle Miltakiene** (egle.miltakiene@cr.vu.lt)
- University of Graz, Austria
- University of Minho, Portugal
- Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, Lithuania
- Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, France

CoARA Commitment addressed.

Core Commitments	
1. Recognise the diversity of contributions to, and careers in research according to the needs and the nature of the research	Yes
2. Base research assessment primarily on qualitative evaluation for which peer-review is central, supported by responsible use of quantitative indicators	Yes
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Supporting Commitments	
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8. Exchange practices and experiences to enable mutual learning within and beyond the Coalition	Yes
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10. Evaluate practices, criteria and tools based on solid evidence and the state-of-the-art in research on research, and make data openly available for evidence gathering and research	

EoI4 – TIER – Towards an Inclusive Evaluation of Research

Join the discussion, share your comments, thoughts, interest, suggestions on the board:

[Discussion Board \(knowledge sharing platform\) click here](#)

Main Keyword: Changing culture

Second Keyword: Diversity

Issue to be addressed.

This Working Group (WG) aims at i) advancing gender equality, intersectionality and diversity through better research assessment, ii) ensuring inclusive and free-from-bias processes in the evaluation of research quality, iii) developing training programs for institutions and evaluators.

Short description of the mission and objectives of the group, and of how it fits with the overall CoARA vision.

In research assessment, systematic biases can be present when the evaluation criteria do not take properly into account the career path of individuals (for instance, maternity or health leaves not considered in the quantitative evaluation of the scientific production). In addition, accidental confirmation biases may arise when evaluators lack sufficient information about the candidates or valorise stereotyped attitudes. These are more likely to drive the peer evaluation, especially under conditions of high time pressure and cognitive load. These biases can lead to a systematic asymmetry in the evaluation of researchers belonging to different groups, compromising diversity in scientific research – especially in STEMM – as proved by statistics.

TIER aims at 1) addressing the primary sources of unconscious bias and intersectional gender discrimination in the evaluation of research quality and researchers at any stage of their career; 2) identifying mitigation actions; 3) proposing concrete actions for research assessment criteria and practices that ensure equal opportunities, inclusiveness and valorisation of the diversity; 4) producing guidelines and specific consciousness-raising training for evaluators, building on existing resources and european guidelines/project outputs.

Added value of the Working Group over and above what is currently being done within the community.

Although an objective definition of “quality” in research can be attempted, and a set of criteria for an objective evaluation of quality can be elaborated, still unconscious bias can survive in qualitative judgement.

Moreover, systematic sources of bias can be implicitly hidden in evaluation procedures and in the choice of evaluation criteria, which may negatively impact specific categories of researchers. Though this problem is well known from case studies, often research assessment does not include specific criteria to counteract it.

The added value of this WG resides in:

The challenging goal of carefully scanning possible sources of gender and intersecting biases in evaluation processes, also by comparing assessment processes currently used in various countries

Suggesting a common set of criteria and new evaluation practices to mitigate them, which are not commonly put in action within the scientific community and in official evaluation procedures

Executive proposals will regard:

- Recruitment and career progressions (the problems of glass ceiling and sticky floor)
- Research funding
- National and institutional evaluation procedures
- Acceptance/rejection in scientific publication

This WG will work in strict contact with other WGs appointed to perform a general revision of assessment criteria at any level, institutional and national, and within different scientific communities.

More precisely, strict collaboration is foreseen with WGs focused on the problem of a fair use of bibliometric indicators, on the introduction of narrative CVs in applications and WGs addressing other kinds of bias. To this respect, having the Federation of Finnish Learned Societies as one of our partners, will strengthen synergies between our proposal and their WG on the multilingualism and language biases. More collaborations will be sought with other WGs and national chapters through the elaboration of common activities and proposals.

Expected impact (notably expected adoption and implementation scenarios)

TIER activities will impact on CoARA community, which will be actively involved as:

Data source: objective 1) will draw on statistical data provided by the CoARA community and studies on gender distribution and intersectional related aspects in different scientific communities of CoARA countries

Proactive environment for discussing common policies and tools crafted for the

valorisation of diversity and the avoidance of discrimination, involving and regularly updating primarily other WGs and national chapters, and then the whole community as data providers and testers

An increasing interest in adopting bias-free assessment frameworks is highly expected. However, a broad spectrum of implementation scenarios is foreseen, depending on the initial level of stakeholders' awareness and cultural sensibility and legislation on research assessment.

The WG output will:

- ✓ help in raising awareness on implicit/unconscious bias within scientific communities and stakeholders involved in the evaluation processes;
- ✓ support and accelerate the cultural transition towards inclusive and free-from-bias assessment of scientific research, both at national and international level;
- ✓ inspire and support the revision of current assessment procedures applied by national/international evaluation and funding agencies, universities, RPOs and scientific communities in a gender/intersectional and inclusive perspective;
- ✓ encourage permanent discussions and exchange of good practices devoted at mitigating possible sources of unconscious bias.

Proposers

- **Lead: Università di Milano-Bicocca, Italy, Silvia Penati** (silvia.penati@unimib.it)
- Zimbabwe Young Academy of Sciences, Zimbabwe
- Federation of Finnish Learned Societies, Finland
- Universidad de Córdoba, Spain
- Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne, France

CoARA Commitment addressed.

Core Commitments	
1. Recognise the diversity of contributions to, and careers in research according to the needs and the nature of the research	Yes

2. Base research assessment primarily on qualitative evaluation for which peer-review is central, supported by responsible use of quantitative indicators	
3. Abandon inappropriate uses in research assessment of journal- and publication-based metrics, in particular inappropriate uses of journal impact factor (JIF) and h-index	
4. Avoid the use of rankings of research organisations in research assessment	
Supporting Commitments	
5. Commit resources to reforming research assessment as is needed to achieve the organisational changes committed to	Yes
6. Review and develop research assessment criteria, tools and processes	
7. Raise awareness of research assessment reform and provide transparent communication, guidance, and training on assessment criteria and processes as well as their use	
8. Exchange practices and experiences to enable mutual learning within and beyond the Coalition	Yes
9. Communicate progress made on adherence to the Principles and implementation of the Commitments	Yes
10. Evaluate practices, criteria and tools based on solid evidence and the state-of-the-art in research on research, and make data openly available for evidence gathering and research	

EoI5 – Evaluating Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) research globally

Join the discussion, share your comments, thoughts, interest, suggestions on the board:

[Discussion Board \(knowledge sharing platform\) click here](#)

Main Keyword: Social sciences and Humanities

Second Keyword: Sharing good practices

Issue to be addressed.

Developing, with communities across Europe and beyond, a common adaptable evaluation framework for the SSH, recognizing the specificity of different fields and disciplines:

- Knowledge production and practices
- Diverse outputs, contributions and open science practices
- International and local relevance
- Impact of technology on disciplinary practices

Short description of the mission and objectives of the group, and of how it fits with the overall CoARA vision.

Research evaluation in the SSH is challenging because of:

- the diversity of knowledge production, communication, and outreach practices. Publications in books are common, and impact of digital humanities has increased the range of products
- the plurality of methods, processes, applications and impacts, between/and within disciplines (there are considerable differences, eg. between psychology and history.)
- Research in SSH has a strong national or local focus and uses diversity of languages for a more direct impact with communities and professions.
- Simply import to SSH evaluation approaches from other fields, notably STEM is not always possible. Only few disciplines have adopted quantitative

evaluation procedures, because of the difficulty of appropriately capturing in narrow quantitative measurements the diverse knowledge production practices and impacts. Scholarly outputs in SSH are also underrepresented in the most commonly used bibliometric databases.

- Big data and Open science practices has to be specific to SSH fields and disciplines because of their qualitative research tradition.

Tasks of the working group:

- Create mutual understanding of diversity of scholarly outputs, evaluation methods, and approaches
- Share knowledge and understand disciplinary cultures
- Identify approaches and common criteria for SSH evaluation
- Understand the value of interdisciplinarity within and beyond the SSH domain

Added value of the Working Group over and above what is currently being done within the community.

Guided by CoARA principles, the WG presents a coordinated, systematic venture to improve the evaluation of SSH research and its impacts. The WG will build on and extend the work of organisations like ENRESSH (member of EASSH), which has a decade of experience in these studies. Also, how to develop new tools and methods which better evaluate the qualities of SSH scholars. Recognition and reward of open science practices is a new and fast developing assessment paradigm. It is crucial that OS assessment criteria and protocols are developed in good understanding of SSH specificity and meaning.

Currently evaluation processes have been mainly developed nationally and across all disciplines. It has been already highlighted that use of bibliometrics and similar criteria are not relevant for all SSH. This WG will valorise the SSH expertise in qualitative research methods for the development of qualitative assessment approaches to reach their full potential. Thereby, the WG can contribute to improvement of assessment practices also for multidisciplinary projects and for the STEM fields.

More generally, Horizon Europe has introduced some attention to SSH, yet the implementation is still weak; mainly because evaluation approaches used to identify new projects or define new programmes fail to understand and capture the real contribution of SSH research. This is especially true in the context of 'multi-disciplinary' calls. This WG will take a multi-level approach to deploy CoARA led evaluation approaches at the system and individual researcher levels.

The challenge for the WG will be to influence evaluation approaches across other major National and EU programmes. Current evaluation approaches exclude meaningful participation and contribution of SSH-driven ideas. For example, the EIC so far, has not been able to evaluate innovation emerging from social entrepreneurship because evaluation criteria and success measures require a set of metrics that are not sensitive to capturing the contribution of innovation anything other than strict economic in terms.

A challenge for the WG will be to ensure that new comprehensive approaches to evaluation of SSH does not further remove SSH from other mainstream scientific domains. The working group will be able provide guidance for common approaches and standards across Europe both in disciplinary and multi/transdisciplinary research.

Expected impact (notably expected adoption and implementation scenarios)

This WG aims to raise awareness of SSH evaluation methods and standards: WG partners map discipline-specific qualitative and quantitative evaluation approaches which will consider the diversity of knowledge production and dissemination practices and quality standards. The group will identify proven knowledge and best practices in sustainable and responsible SSH research evaluation and explore how these can be upscaled across a European network and beyond.

Develop new evaluation approaches: It will seek to influence and reform evaluation programmes both in public and private sectors (e.g. foundations) and guide towards standards for the implementation of innovative evaluation procedure. As called for by CoARA, sustained attention must be paid to valuable contributions and open science practices of different disciplines that look beyond metrics-based evaluation of publications, and to look beyond ‘publications’ as the only or main outputs.

Tools and Training: EASSH and those supporting this working group have the knowledge and expertise to develop tools and training, as well as the network to influence a large audience both in SSH and other science fields. It is important that universities and evaluation agencies, charities, foundations and other SSH stakeholders who invest in this research and support its results could contribute and commit to the CoARA principles.

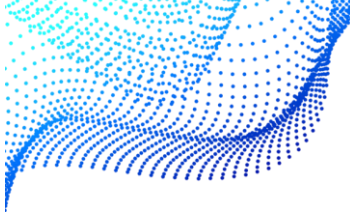
It is crucial to raise awareness and grow expertise and capacity for SSH evaluators in disciplinary and interdisciplinary contexts. The group aims to identify solutions to lift barriers to effective evaluation in SSH. Many of the challenges raised from within SSH concern evaluation methods imported indiscriminately from other fields and deployed using methods and vocabulary that are not appropriate in SSH contexts. By involving national research evaluation and funding agencies and research institutions, this WG will ensure that national or transnational research evaluation is sensitive to SSH specificity according to the CoARA principles. The WG work will have a wide impact in improving the use of evaluation criteria for SSH also in R&I policy and planning across the ERA to support coordination and direction of R&I investment.

Proposers

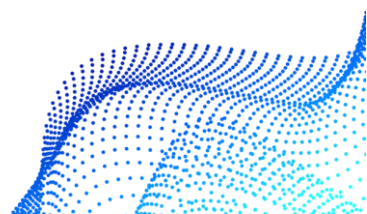
- **Lead: European Alliance for SSH (EASSH), Europe, Gabi Lombardo**
(gabi.lombardo@eassh.eu)
- Federation of Finnish Learned Societies (TSV), Finland
- Italian national agency for the evaluation of universities and research institutes (ANVUR), Italy
- Coimbra Group, Europe
- Eötvös Loránd Research Network (ELKH), Hungary
- Liberal Arts and Natural Sciences (Zoe Bulaitis)
- Initiative for Science in Europe (ISE), Europe
- Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), Spain
- CNRS, France
- Nordic Institute for Studies in Innovation, Research and Education (NIFU), Norway
- University of Leiden (LEI), Netherlands
- University of Antwerp, (UAntwerp), Belgium

CoARA Commitment addressed.

Core Commitments	
1. Recognise the diversity of contributions to, and careers in research according to the needs and the nature of the research	Yes
2. Base research assessment primarily on qualitative evaluation for which peer-review is central, supported by responsible use of quantitative indicators	
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7. Raise awareness of research assessment reform and provide transparent communication, guidance, and training on assessment criteria and processes as well as their use	Yes
8. Exchange practices and experiences to enable mutual learning within and beyond the Coalition	Yes
9. Communicate progress made on adherence to the Principles and implementation of the Commitments	



<p>10. Evaluate practices, criteria and tools based on solid evidence and the state-of-the-art in research on research, and make data openly available for evidence gathering and research</p>	
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EoI6 – Résumé for Research and Innovation (R4RI)-like Narrative CVs Community roll out Working Group

Join the discussion, share your comments, thoughts, interest, suggestions on the board:
[Discussion Board \(knowledge sharing platform\) click here](#)

Main Keyword: CVs and Narrative
Second Keyword: Changing culture

Issue to be addressed.

Aligned approaches to support and evidence widespread adoption of a culture change tool; narrative CVs. Which align with multiple agendas, including responsible assessment, reducing barriers across disciplines and sectors and creating the right incentives.

Short description of the mission and objectives of the group, and of how it fits with the overall CoARA vision.

Reward and recognition are levers to influence change in the R&I system. Narrow definitions of success and hyper competition are recognised as key drivers of poor behaviours which negatively impact culture.

This R4RI-like Narrative CV format enables a wider array of contributions to be evidenced, beyond publications and grant income which often dominate traditional academic CVs. This broadens the range of experiences and accomplishments that are recognised making it easier to identify the people and ideas that should be supported. This aligns with CoARA's vision that assessment of research, researchers, and research organisations recognises the diverse outputs, practices and activities that maximise the quality and impact of research.

Building on the work of the R&I community roll out, which is made up of two

communities of practice, expanding from 7 to 60 organisations since 2021, this WG will contribute to sharing best practice to accelerate culture change through exploring shared approaches, developing a range of supporting resources, and building the evidence base to identify the benefits of narrative CVs; informing policy and practice in assessment and recognition settings for research and innovation, including funding, recruitment, promotion, and accreditation. Shifting on a global scale what and who is visible and valued.

Added value of the Working Group over and above what is currently being done within the community.

There's a need for a global community, reflecting the one-sector approach, around narrative-style CV implementation and best practice because we are a global sector.

The transitioning of the Joint Funders Group (JFG) and the Alternative Uses Group (AUG) into a single CoARA WG is a logical evolution to support aligned approaches, enhance the sharing of best practice, expand and increase the network, and increase the awareness of existing resources developed by the community, such as the shared evaluation framework, thereby enabling a wider impact and accelerated culture change.

Increase of the perspectives, experiences, and needs, to inform and enhance the development of resources and materials which benefit the R&I sector globally.

This WG will maintain a complimentary relationship, preventing duplication, with The Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA), Science Europe Research Culture Working Group, and Research on Research Institute (RoRI) narrative CV activities.

Expected impact (notably expected adoption and implementation scenarios)

Accelerated culture change will be achieved as follows:

Sharing of best practice. Exchanging knowledge and learning mutually from other organisations, and providing connections with others who may be using the format for similar purpose, for example, funding, recruitment, promotion, accreditation.

Co-development of resources and tools to support the wider adoption of the format. Building on the existing body of work by the R&I community roll out (Joint Funders Group (JFG) and Alternative Uses Group (AUG)). For example, developing a guide to support organisations to integrate the narrative CV into existing processes, and supporting the development of training modules.

Mutual working to develop and share evaluations and insights. This will help strengthen the evidence base about R4RI-like narrative CVs in a coordinated way, identifying benefits and potential unintended consequences of adoption. It will also

provide evidence to give organisations confidence to pilot or adopt the format. Coordination of data collection and analysis allows for pooling of results and more robust conclusions.

Broader adoption of R4RI-like narrative CVs to tackle the aligned agendas listed in Q2.

Adoption and implementation will be via the new ways of working together: Further development and use of novel collaboration model demonstrated through the JFG and the AUG. This model is effective for enhancing research culture activities. The WG will operate with a main WG and agile sub-groups, which are responsive to the community needs. These sub-groups will discuss and co-develop outputs for review/sign-off ahead of publication by the main WG. All WG members would determine the priority setting via suggestions and voting. The feedback loop is via the sharing of resources and materials, the deployment of the shared evaluation framework, and collation and analysis of evaluation responses to inform iteration of existing and the development of new resources and materials.

Proposers

- **Lead: UK Research and Innovation, United Kingdom, Hilary Noone**
(hilary.noone@ukri.org)
- Luxembourg National Research Fund / Fonds National de la Recherche (FNR), Luxembourg
- Swansea University, United Kingdom
- Health Research Board, Ireland
- Science Foundation, Ireland

CoARA Commitment addressed.

Core Commitments	
1. Recognise the diversity of contributions to, and careers in research according to the needs and the nature of the research	Yes
2. Base research assessment primarily on qualitative evaluation for which peer-review is central, supported by responsible use of quantitative indicators	Yes
3. Abandon inappropriate uses in research assessment of journal- and publication-based metrics, in particular inappropriate uses of journal impact factor (JIF) and h-index	Yes
4. Avoid the use of rankings of research organisations in research assessment	
Supporting Commitments	

5. Commit resources to reforming research assessment as is needed to achieve the organisational changes committed to	
6. Review and develop research assessment criteria, tools and processes	Yes
7. Raise awareness of research assessment reform and provide transparent communication, guidance, and training on assessment criteria and processes as well as their use	
8. Exchange practices and experiences to enable mutual learning within and beyond the Coalition	Yes
9. Communicate progress made on adherence to the Principles and implementation of the Commitments	
10. Evaluate practices, criteria and tools based on solid evidence and the state-of-the-art in research on research, and make data openly available for evidence gathering and research	

EoI7 – Ethics and Research Integrity Policy in Responsible research Assessment for Data and Artificial Intelligence Working Group (ERIP-WG)

Join the discussion, share your comments, thoughts, interest, suggestions on the board:

[Discussion Board \(knowledge sharing platform\) click here](#)

Main Keyword: Ethics and integrity

Second Keyword: Quality and excellence

Issue to be addressed.

- ✓ Ethics and research integrity policy for assessing the use of data and AI in research
- ✓ Qualitative measures in data and AI in research assessment
- ✓ Innovative applications of ethics and research integrity to research assessment
- ✓ Integration of ethics and research integrity for data and AI use into research assessment

Short description of the mission and objectives of the group, and of how it fits with the overall CoARA vision.

The ERIP-WG will help to shape responsible research assessment policies and practices for data and AI research, contributing directly to CoARA's core commitments and its overall vision of recognising the diverse outputs, practices, and activities that maximise the quality and impact of research. In Europe's and the world's increasingly digitalised societies, all sciences and disciplines are progressively characterised and reliant on their curation and use of data as well as application of AI to scientific inquiry and in the field of publications. Ethics and research integrity are core elements of growing importance playing a key role in research assessment for ensuring that the data and AI used in research are of qualitative value and reliable while also appropriately developed and employed within their discipline and vis-à-vis the interests of society.

The mission of this CoADA Discipline Community is to promote the role and define the characteristics of ethical considerations and research integrity in the assessment of data and artificial intelligence (AI) research.

The ERIP-WG objective is to improve the qualitative evaluation of data and AI generation and use in research achieved through the following outputs: policy recommendations, standards and guidelines, survey, white papers, position statements, education resources, case studies, communication and dissemination.

Added value of the Working Group over and above what is currently being done within the community.

The ERIP-WG will contribute across CoARA's core commitments bringing the following added value to ongoing and proposed CoARA activities and objectives: Expertise, Knowledge Sharing, and Collaboration: ERIP-WG will gather stakeholders from various backgrounds, including researchers, ethicists, data scientists, AI experts, policymakers, industry representatives, and civil society organizations from among CoARA's members as well as from aligned organisations and industries (eg, the publishing industry). It will allow for a diversity of perspectives while ensuring a holistic approach to ethics and research integrity policy for data and AI in research assessment.

Advocacy and Influence: ERIP-WG will serve as a unified voice advocating for the integration of ethics and research integrity into research assessment for data and AI. By collaborating with relevant stakeholders, including policymakers, research institutions, and funding agencies, ERIP-WG will influence decision-making processes, shape policies, and drive meaningful change in research assessment practices for data and AI.

Education and Awareness: ERIP-WG will play a vital role in raising awareness about the ethical considerations and research integrity principles relevant to data and AI research assessment. Through educational initiatives, workshops, seminars, and resources, ERIP-WG will promote a better understanding of responsible research practices, transparency, and accountability.

Impact and Sustainability: ERIP-WG will drive impactful and sustainable changes in research assessment practices for data and AI. By advocating for the role of ethics and research integrity policies in responsible research assessment, ERIP-WG will contribute to the long-term implementation of reliable qualitative measures supported by quantitative indicators. It will foster a culture of responsible and ethical research assessment for data and AI, ultimately benefiting researchers, institutions, and society as a whole.

Expected impact (notably expected adoption and implementation scenarios)

As a Discipline Community, the ERIP-WG will impact research assessment reform by integrating ethics and research integrity into the assessment of data and AI research, improving assessment policy and practices, enhancing trust and

credibility, fostering ethical decision-making, promoting responsible AI development, building capacity and knowledge, facilitating collaboration, and creating societal impact.

The expected impact includes:

Improved Research Assessment Practices: ERIP-WG will influence research institutions, funding agencies, and policymakers to revise and enhance their research assessment frameworks, ensuring the integration of ethical considerations and research integrity principles.

Enhanced Trust and Credibility: By developing policies, guidance, and education tools as well as advocating for responsible research assessment ERIP-WG will help build trust and enhance the credibility of the research community.

Responsible Data Curation and AI Development: With a focus on AI research assessment, ERIP-WG will influence the development and deployment of responsible data curation and AI technologies by advocating for ethics and research integrity in their development.

Capacity Building and Knowledge Exchange: Through educational initiatives, workshops, and resources, ERIP-WG will enhance the capacity of researchers, evaluators, and policymakers to engage in responsible research assessment for data and AI.

Policy Influence: ERIP-WG will advocate to influence the development and revision of policies related to research assessment reform for data and AI.

Societal Impact: ERIP-WG will focus on responsible research assessment that can lead to research outcomes that have a positive societal impact.

International Collaboration: ERIP-WG will foster international collaboration and exchange of best practices in research assessment reform.

Proposers

- **Lead: Good Clinical Practice Alliance - Europe (GCPA), Belgium, Francis P. Crawley** (fpc@gcpalliance.org)
- KU Leuven, Belgium
- CODATA (Committee on Data of the International Science Council), Global
- Research Data Alliance - RDA Europe, Global
- University of Leiden, The Netherlands

CoARA Commitment addressed.

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