

## Full Proposal National Chapters : Entry # 2932

### Your Organisation and Contact Details

#### Your organisation's name\*

Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia

Dr. Bruno Béu

#### Your email address (designated Point of Contact)\*

[bruno.beu@fct.pt](mailto:bruno.beu@fct.pt)

### Consent Agreement

#### Authorisation to submit the Proposal on behalf of organisations\*

☒ By ticking this box, I confirm that my organisation is a member of CoARA and that I have the authority to submit the Proposal on behalf of my organisation and on behalf of the organisations mentioned here.

### Lead Proposer

#### Lead Proposer name\*

Dr. Bruno Béu

#### Lead Proposer email\*

[bruno.beu@fct.pt](mailto:bruno.beu@fct.pt)

#### What country is this National Chapter submitted for?\*

Portugal

### Full Proposal Title and Keywords

#### Proposal Title\*

Title: Portuguese National Chapter

Keywords: Research assessment; Mapping and Disseminating Best Practices; Pilot Projects on Research Assessment; Research on Research (RoR)

### Details on other CoARA member organisations involved

**Please list other CoARA member organisations from your country endorsing this National Chapter. Kindly note that listed organisations should represent at least half of the country's overall CoARA member organisations\***

1. CES Centro de Estudos Sociais
2. CIAC Centro de Investigação em Artes e Comunicação
3. FCT Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia
4. I3S Instituto de Investigação e Inovação em Saúde
5. ICaREHB Centro Interdisciplinar de Arqueologia e Evolução do Comportamento Humano
6. INESC Brussels HUB
7. INESC-ID Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e Computadores, Investigação e Desenvolvimento em Lisboa
8. INESC MN Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e Computadores para os Microssistemas e Nanotecnologias
9. INESC TEC Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e Computadores, Tecnologia e Ciência
10. Instituto Politécnico de Setúbal
11. ISCTE - Instituto Universitário de Lisboa
12. Universidade Católica Portuguesa

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13. Universidade de Coimbra
14. Universidade do Minho
15. Universidade do Porto
16. Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro
17. Universidade Lusófona
18. Universidade Nova de Lisboa

### Short description of the mission and objectives of the group, and of how it fits with the overall CoARA vision (200 words max)\*

The establishment of a Portuguese National Chapter (NC) comes at a time when an increasing number of Portuguese institutions are subscribing to the Agreement and CoARA's commitments to action. In this context, the main aims of the Portuguese NC are to serve as a platform that will enhance and contextualize CoARA's commitments to action and the debate on research assessment reform within the Portuguese research landscape and institutional diversity, also bringing the Agreement to the forefront of ongoing national initiatives and contributing to a wider adherence to it and an increased CoARA membership among national institutions. To this end, the main objectives will be:

- Raise awareness within the national community to the Agreement principles and CoARA's commitments to action (Commitment 7).
- Enable mutual learning and the communication of progress in implementing member institutions' Roadmaps and action plans, as well as their collaboration in CoARA's Working Groups (WGs), thereby contributing to the advancement of reform on an integrated and national scale (Commitments 3, 8 & 9).
- Promote and engage with research on research (RoR) activities, particularly on peer review processes and the development of alternative/new assessment criteria, tools, or processes (e.g., narrative CV format), discussing and disseminating best practices across the areas of publishing, career recruitment and promotion, and funding (Commitments 1, 2 & 6).
- Collaborate and share insights with other NCs and relevant CoARA WGs (Commitment 3).

Analyse how CoARA's commitments align with national legislation and identify any barriers or constraints, establishing synergies with the objectives of ERA Action 3 - Advance towards the reform of the Assessment System for research, researchers, and institutions to improve their quality, performance and impact.

### Short Description of you National Chapter for the CoARA website\*

The Portuguese National Chapter is a collaborative platform that will enhance and contextualize CoARA's commitments to action and the debate on research assessment reform within the Portuguese research landscape and institutional diversity, also bringing the Agreement to the forefront of ongoing national initiatives and contributing to a wider adherence to it. Its main objectives are:

- Raise awareness within the national community to the Agreement principles and CoARA's commitments to action (Commitment 7).
- Enable mutual learning and the communication of progress in implementing member institutions' Roadmaps and action plans, as well as their collaboration in CoARA's Working Groups (WGs), thereby contributing to the advancement of reform on an integrated and national scale (Commitments 3, 8 & 9).
- Promote and engage with research on research (RoR) activities, particularly on peer review processes and the development of alternative/new assessment criteria, tools, or processes, discussing and disseminating best practices across the areas of publishing, career recruitment and promotion, and funding (Commitments 1, 2 & 6).
- Collaborate and share insights with other NCs and relevant CoARA WGs (Commitment 3).
- Analyse how CoARA's commitments align with national legislation and identify any barriers or constraints, establishing synergies with the objectives of ERA Action 3.

Dr. Bruno Béu

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### Consent to the publication of the provided information on CoARA's website



By ticking this box, I agree to the publication of the provided information on CoARA's website

### Expected impact (notably expected adoption and implementation scenarios) (300 words max)\*

CoARA's Portuguese membership has nearly doubled in recent months, now comprising 18 subscribers and 17 members, distributed among 9 "Universities and their associations", 8 "Research centres, research infrastructures, and their associations", and the national funding agency, under "Public or private research funding organisations and their associations". The activities pursued by a Portuguese NC are thus expected to impact, already in their initial stages, a diverse array of institutions and significantly cover the national territory.

This impact is expected to be manifold, with outcomes in the following areas: (i) *wider adoption and community engagement*: a growth in institutions endorsing CoARA's commitments to reform and action, and the active participation of the Portuguese research community in the activities of the NC and in shaping the assessment reform within the Portuguese landscape, (ii) *knowledge exchange*: enhanced collaboration and shared expertise over the research assessment reform, namely new processes, methodologies, tools or indicators, that aim at promoting a more qualitative and comprehensive evaluation of research, (iii) *action plans and policy alignment*: alignment of institutions' action plans and of national research policies with CoARA's principles, ensuring a more coherent and effective implementation across the Portuguese institutions.

For the coming two years, the implementation of NC activities will be organised through 3 work packages. These will mirror the main objectives and will be implemented via regular online and in-person meetings, seminars, workshops, and other events, open to a wide range of stakeholders and institutions (see section 7). This approach will ensure the inclusive participation and a comprehensive dissemination of CoARA's principles and the NC activities, as well as an appropriate coordination of efforts and several tasks to each of the NC main area and objective.

To foster knowledge exchange and mutual learning among National Chapters, an inaugural event is already scheduled in Porto at the end of February. Bringing together all CoARA NCs, this event is co-organised by Portuguese institutions committed to this proposal, CoARA, and Science Europe.

### Added value of the National Chapter over and above what is currently being done within the country (300 words max)\*

In recent years, Portugal has implemented several national initiatives aligned with the goals of research assessment reform. Notably, the introduction of a national legal framework for researchers recruitment, Law 57/2017, harmonising the principles of DORA and the Leiden Manifesto with researcher assessment requirements; recent initiatives of the national public funding agency in defining evaluation requirements for its funding instruments, including the gradual adoption of a narrative CV format, the launch of new programmes like *RESTART*, and the introduction of broader evaluation criteria to reflect the diversity of researchers' contributions and career paths; or the recent implementation of a new Open Access Policy to FCT-funded research publications, aligned with the Plan S objectives.

Public discussion is also underway to revise the national Scientific Research Career Statute (ECIC), and a new national programme, *FCT Tenure*, is being implemented to support the stabilisation and career entry of a thousand researchers, in a joint effort of the Public Funding Agency, Universities, Research Institutions, and Non-Academic Organisations.

Although these developments underline the timeliness and benefits of a collaborative platform, there is still not one in Portugal capable of connecting and bringing together the diversity of views, contexts, and contributions from various institutions on the issues of research assessment and the need for a comprehensive and cross-cutting reform.

In this context, the establishment of a Portuguese NC will add value by:

- Establishing a collaborative platform of various institutions committed to research assessment reform, which will foster and steer the national debate on this process, capable of engaging in it non-CoARA member institutions and the wide research community.
- Fostering a systemic perspective and integrated implementation of CoARA national members' Roadmaps and Action Plans, within which common obstacles and challenges can be identified, along with best practices and methodologies to overcome or mitigate them.

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Analysing and identifying legal and administrative barriers at national level to the reform of the research assessment systems, fostering the debate and proposing ways to remove or overcome them. This will establish synergies with the objectives set forth by ERA Action 3.

### Work plan and outputs / deliverables, that can be accomplished within the timeline proposed (600 words max)\*

The work plan of the NC is structured into 3 main Work Packages (WP), reflecting NC's core objectives over the first two years, starting in April 2024. Each WP's task (T) is designed to contribute to the overarching objectives of the NC within CoARA, fostering engagement, collaboration, dissemination of best practices, and the alignment of national goals with the advancement of research assessment reform.

#### WP 1: Mapping and Disseminating Best Practices on Research Assessment (M1-M22)

(T1) Analysis of existing assessment systems and practices across the national context (in the areas of assessment of research, researchers and institutions) contributing to an integrated view of the key challenges posed by reform, within and beyond member institutions, and for setting up priorities and a roadmap to the development of new practices (M1-M6)

(T2) Conduct a comprehensive analysis of the national legislation related to research assessment and its coherence with the Agreement, fostering discussion and proposing ways on how to overcome any existing constraints or barriers to reform (M2-M8)

(T3) Compile national and international best practices, in collaboration with other NCs and relevant WGs. Set up and update an online page of national best practices, of piloting initiatives (cf. WP2) and development of new assessment tools and processes, accessible both in Portuguese and English, raising awareness among the national scientific community and a broad range of stakeholders to the reform and ongoing national activities (M3-M18)

(T4) Draft a comprehensive report detailing the identified best practices and develop recommendations and a national framework to align national policies with CoARA Commitments (M18)

(T5) Set up a toolbox for recognition and reward in research and academic careers, broadening the diversity of activities, outputs and outcomes,, that play a role in a more qualitative assessment of research (M22)

#### WP 2: Engaging in the Implementation of Small Pilot Projects and RoR Activities (M6-M24)

(T1) Plan and outline, or participate in and contribute to, pilot projects based on identified best practices (cf. WP1) and RoR activities (cf. T3) for a more collaborative and effective implementation of CoARA Commitments and institutional action plans across the Portuguese context. These may entail submitting applications to CoARA Boost cascade funding mechanism (M6-M24)

(T2) Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot projects compiling a detailed report on the key implementation challenges and lessons learned (M9-M22)

(T3) Promote and engage in National RoR activities, particularly in the area of research on research assessment, organising two workshops aimed at researchers from the national community working in related areas, namely on peer review and assessment methodologies, tools and processes, establishing streams of collaboration with pilot projects teams, and open to the participation and collaboration of other NCs and relevant WGs (M6-M22)

#### WP 3: Management, Mutual Learning, Collaboration, and Engagement (M1-M24)

Consolidate the Portuguese NC as a national hub for discussion, debate and exchange of best practices regarding CoARA's activities, fostering a culture of mutual learning among member institutions and the wide research community. This will be implemented through:

(T1) Kick-off the Portuguese NC with an event bringing together all existing and forthcoming CoARA NCs (Feb. 2024) identifying common areas of collaboration

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(T2) Regular online NC meetings, including pre-meetings before key CoARA events

(T3) Two in-person meetings/seminars/workshops

(T4) Usage of digital platform for sharing information and foster debate among NC members, allowing for mutual learning and discussion of challenges and opportunities, as well as feedback on members participation in CoARA's WGs

(T5) Dissemination network of NC ambassadors, articulated with ongoing WP1 and WP2 activities and projects, and supported by a set of training tools and initiatives

(T6) Final event dedicated to presenting the results of pilots, thematic sessions, major national recommendations, and outlining NC next steps, open both to NC and non-NC member institutions and to the wide research community (M24)

(T7) Engage the Portuguese Research Community in shaping the Portuguese NC, as well as developing a vision of how the NC should evolve after this two-year initial period, also seeking input from CoARA members, other NCs, and relevant WGs

### Envisaged co-chairs leading the National Chapter

- João Claro, INESC TEC Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e Computadores, Tecnologia e Ciência, joao.claro@inesctec.pt
- Eugénio Ferreira, Universidade do Minho, ecferreira@reitoria.uminho.pt

### Mechanisms to ensure that a broader range of organisations, including from outside CoARA, contribute to and benefit from the National Chapter (300 words max)\*

The set of activities planned in WP1, namely T1.3, 1.4 and 1.5, ensure that a broad and diverse range of institutions, including non-CoARA Members, will benefit from the work developed and outputs made available by the NC, by promoting best practices dissemination and the discussion on qualitative assessment tools, methodologies, and processes, and opening access to the wide research community. Tasks 1.3 and 1.4, while aiming at mapping best practices of national institutions also outside CoARA membership, will ensure the contribution to this WP of a broad range of organisations.

The activities planned in WP2, particularly T2.3, with the organisation of research-on-research workshops, will foster a mutual learning and collaborative approach to research assessment reform across the Portuguese research landscape, open to the collaboration of members of other CoARA NCs and WGs.

Several online meetings and events of WP3 (including T3.1) will also be open to a broader participation of institutions, stakeholders, and researchers, aiming at promoting collaboration and knowledge exchange.

The joint efforts of current Portuguese CoARA members, both in implementing their roadmaps and action plans, and carrying out the activities of this NC, will also have a multiplier effect of encouraging Portuguese institutions currently outside of CoARA to acknowledge its potential towards reform and to consider signing the Agreement and becoming a member, and taking a more active role in the activities of the Portuguese NC.

### Envisaged support needed from the CoARA Secretariat and resources expected to be provided in-kind by National Chapter members. Please note that this question is for information purposes only and will not be evaluated by the CoARA Steering Board. Please also have a look at section 1.6 in the Call Document for an overview of the possible support that can be offered to National Chapters.

1. Publish the NC results and outcomes on the CoARA website and support their dissemination via social media and other relevant channels.
2. Provide up-to-date information on the activities carried out by other NCs and WGs, enabling the identification of common areas, particularly in the early stages of setting up the NC.
3. Provide support in the planning of Portuguese NC activities in collaboration with, or involving the participation of, other NCs and/or WGs.
4. Provide logistical and organisational support to initiatives organised by the NC with the participation of other NCs and WGs (such as the support already being provided to the NCs event in Porto).
5. Articulate with the Portuguese NC's governance structure.