ERA Policy Action 3: Progress and Prospects in Research Assessment

Jean-Emmanuel Faure,
Team leader for Research Assessment
European Commission, DG R&I

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Need for reform of research assessment

- To reflect **evolving research processes**
  - ✓ Digital transition; Iterative and recursive; Collaborative and open

- To reflect **increasing demands on research**
  - ✓ Societal, environmental, economic challenges; Diversity of outputs

- To move away from **inappropriate uses** of journal- and publication-based metrics
  - ✓ Rewards quantity and publication venue rather than quality; does not reward sharing, collaboration and outputs other than publications

- To further support the **quality of research** and the **attractiveness of research environments and careers**
  - ✓ Requires a system and cultural change, involving institutions, funders and researchers

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Progress with reforming research assessment

Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment	**Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment**	**Implementation of commitments by the signatories**
Published in July 2022	Launched in December 2022	Ongoing activities

798 signatories (25 November 2024)	**700 members of CoARA** (25 November 2024)	**127 Action Plans** (25 November 2024)

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CoARA Working Groups

Recognizing and rewarding peer-review

Multilingualism and language biases

Reforming academic career assessment

Responsible metrics and indicators

Open infrastructure for responsible research assessment

Early and mid-career researchers assessment

Practices in the assessment of research proposals

Experiments in assessment

Ethics and research integrity policy in RRA for data and AI

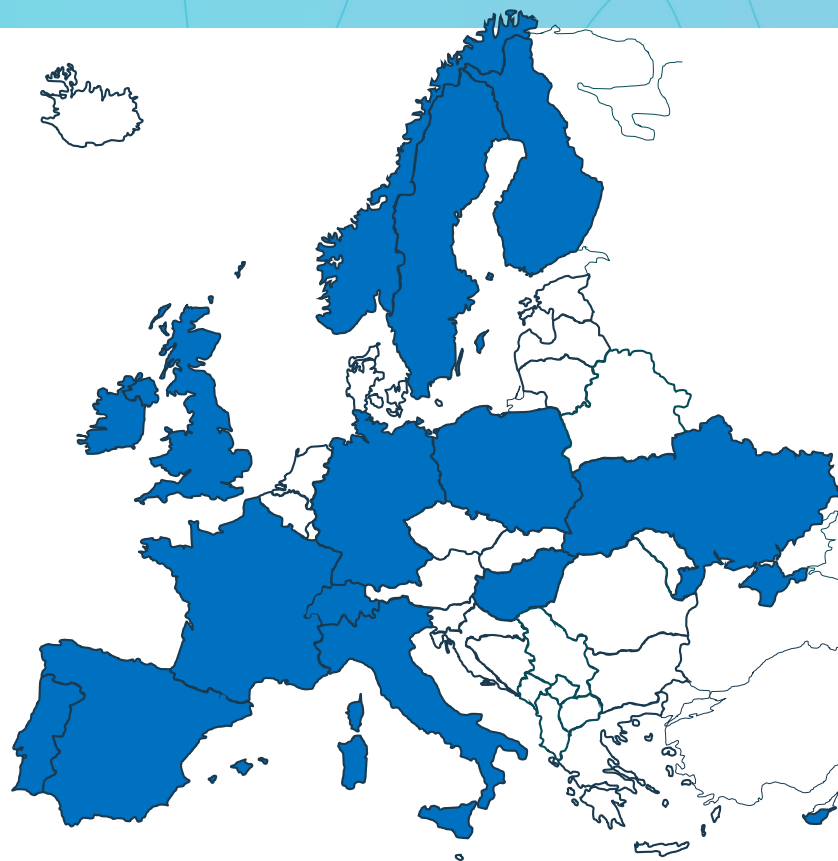Trans-disciplinarity; Applied/practice-based research; Impacts

Inclusive evaluation of research

Global framework for research evaluation in the SSH

Biomedical disciplines

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CoARA National Chapters

- Andorra
- Cyprus
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom

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Some changes to assessment implemented in 2024 by the European Research Council

- Changes in the evaluation processes and evaluation forms for the **2024 calls for research proposals**

- Objective: Allow applicants to provide a **fuller account** of their research careers and contributions.

- **Changes introduced**:
  - ✓ CV and track record combined as a single template;
  - ✓ For the research achievements, the number of examples is **limited to ten**;
  - ✓ Type of research output **left open**: it can be publications, data sets, code, etc.;
  - ✓ Each one can be accompanied by a **brief narrative**;
  - ✓ **Additional information** can also be provided on career breaks, diverse research career paths and major life events, particular contributions

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ERA Policy Agenda 2025-2027

- **Proposal** for activities to reform research assessment under the next ERA Policy Agenda, with the following expected outcomes:

  1. **Knowledge, awareness, and engagement to research assessment practices and reforms** raised by CoARA, research organisations (including research performing, research funding and research assessment organisations), national authorities and EU institutions;

  2. **Support, mapping and analysis of the changes introduced** in national frameworks and in individual research institutions;

  3. **Identification of remaining gaps in reforms and of measures** still needed at all levels (institutional, national, European).

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Thank you!

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