Open Science: Rewards and Incentives

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KEP 2.0 seminar on Open Science
15 June 2023
Context

- The research process is in undergoing major evolutions
  - Digital transition; Iterative and recursive; Collaborative and open

- Systems currently used to assess research and researchers are not fit for this new reality
  - Rewards quantity and publication venue rather than quality; does not reward sharing, collaboration and outputs other than publications

- A reform is needed to support the **quality of research** and the **attractiveness of research environments**
  - Requires a system and cultural change, involving institutions, funders and researchers
Which types of academic work matter most for research careers?

Source: 2019 EUA Open Science and Access Survey Results
ACKNOWLEDGES that in order to accelerate the implementation and the impact of Open Science policies and practices across Europe, action has to be taken to move towards a renewed approach to research assessment, including incentive and reward schemes, to put in place a European approach in accordance with the Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe, and strengthen capacities for academic publishing and scholarly communication of all research outputs, and encourage where appropriate, the use of multilingualism for the purpose of wider communication of European research results;
European Research Area policy Agenda 2022-2024

ACTION 3: ADVANCE TOWARDS THE REFORM THE ASSESSMENT SYSTEM FOR RESEARCH, RESEARCHERS AND INSTITUTIONS TO IMPROVE THEIR QUALITY, PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT

- 22 Member States, 3 Associated Countries and 13 stakeholders in the ERA Forum have given support to ERA Action 3 to:

  - Support the establishment of a Coalition of stakeholders willing to implement changes
  - Support national framework conditions conducive to changes.
  - Perform analysis of legal and administrative barriers for the reform process.
Timeline of progress

Commission Scoping Report
November 2021

Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment
20 July 2022

Coalition Constitutive Assembly
1 December 2022

Next steps

• Signatories start the process of reviewing or developing criteria, tools and processes in line with the Agreement principles and commitments

• Call for CoARA Working Groups (28 March – 6 June 2023)

580 signatories (12 June 2023)

503 members of CoARA (12 June 2023)
Common vision

Assessment of research, researchers, and research organisations, recognises the diverse outputs, practices and activities that maximise the quality of research and resulting impacts.

This requires basing assessments primarily on qualitative judgement, supported by responsible use of quantitative indicators.

Signatories agree to:
✓ Base actions on 10 Principles
✓ Implement 10 Commitments for change
✓ Follow a common timeframe for implementation
✓ Organise and operate the Coalition as a space for mutual learning and collaboration that supports and facilitates the implementation of the Commitments by the members, while respecting their autonomy
Agreement signatories – Type of organisation

Regional authorities having signed the Agreement:
- Andalusian Agency of Knowledge, Directorate for Evaluation and Accreditation
- Agency for Quality Assurance in the Catalan University System
- Agency for Health Quality and Assessment of Catalonia (AQuAs)
- Agencia Valenciana d'Avaluació i Prospectiva
- Balearic Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education

- Universities and their associations
- Research centres, research infrastructures, and their associations
- Academies, learned societies, and their associations, and associations of researchers
- Public or private research funding organisations and their associations
- Other relevant non-for-profit organisations involved with research assessment, and their associations

Source (checked on 12 June 2023): https://coara.eu/agreement/signatories/
Agreement signatories – Per country

Tot: 580

Source (checked on 12 June 2023):
https://coara.eu/agreement/signatories/
Role of regional & local authorities

• Authorities in charge of research assessment can join CoARA and contribute to its work

• Authorities can support raising awareness about the Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment and CoARA and encourage research organisations from their regional/local environment to join

• Authorities can support the establishment of framework conditions conducive to reforms at their level
  • Help to identify and remove legal and administrative barriers
  • Set incentives for change
Thank you