

## Appendix A. Comments regarding the reasons for conducting IRC

Items	Comments
Networking with others	<p><i>"Networking with others is a symptom of collaboration it is not the purpose. I go to conferences to meet and network. that might lead to collaboration. but networking MIGHT lead to collaboration. it is not a purpose."</i></p> <p><i>"Networking is to a certain extent quite non-committal, but on an other level, without networking, nothing would emerge at all."</i></p> <p><i>"Networking in itself is not so valuable for me, it is more learning from each other's expertise."</i></p>
Flexible choice of collaborators	<p><i>"It is not always an issue of flexibility - many of the collaborations flow from existing networks and where additional or new members to an existing network are included, it often depends on specific issues such as expertise or the need to include a researcher from that specific context."</i></p> <p><i>"I think this is really important. I collaborate with those whom I choose to work with. I don't get forced into collaboration with people I haven't chosen. I collaborate flexibly with people I choose."</i></p>
Admiration of the work of international colleagues	<p><i>"Not only admiration, but an scholarly companionship or acknowledgment of the expertise of the other colleague."</i></p> <p><i>"If I don't admire or respect the colleague it is difficult to invest in collaboration. Their status and contribution are a reason to collaborate with them, just as their project ideas themselves are."</i></p>
Enhanced reputation and prestige for my	<p><i>"Interesting that the previous group responses were relatively low. I suspect one's location in terms of Global North and/or Global South impacts strongly on this statement. Scholars from the Global South really have to work harder for international</i></p>

organisation/institution	<p><i>recognition and inclusion in the broader context of the asymmetries in knowledge production and the continuing results of colonization."</i></p> <p><i>"International collaborations are important for my organization. They are not why I do it but it is why my employer supports me doing it."</i></p> <p><i>"I think in the US it is very US-centric, so international is not necessarily viewed as better."</i></p>
Enhanced reputation and prestige for one's own career	<p><i>"It certainly adds to one's own career and peer esteem to collaborate internationally. the research review mechanism in my country puts a great deal of stock in the peer factors that lead to collaborating beyond my own country."</i></p> <p><i>"This has become more important for me after moving to a university with less focus on research."</i></p>
Access to data	<p><i>"More to do with working with experts in their own country data rather than accessing that data collaborators in other countries often have data that they need help with to either analyze or interpret. They often use my own research as a beginning point. so collaborators generate data which is time consuming and tedious. that way we can get to answering questions more promptly."</i></p> <p><i>"Often data and contexts are not comparable, so access to data is not that important in the end."</i></p> <p><i>"I have lots of data myself, but I lack time to write everything :-)"</i></p>
Acquisition of funding	<p><i>"Funding is nice but most international funds are small."</i></p> <p><i>"International collaborators have access to different pools of funding, some of which is much more generous than my own country. collaboration leads to opportunities that</i></p>

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*would not otherwise occur. This is especially true for EU partners who have access to immense R&D funding."*

*"I do find it easier to focus the collaboration when there is a funding body all the project partners are able to tap into. As a grant/funding is a pre-requisite for a project to be starting at all, without a joint funding body, collaboration cannot flourish."*

*"Less important, for Dutch grants, you are not allowed to incorporate international partners in your research proposals, since the Dutch government is not allowed to sponsor non-Dutch research groups."*

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International travel	<i>"Not really a plus side of International collaboration - I have elder care responsibilities so difficult to be away from home."</i>
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*"I like to travel, visit other places, eat new food and so on. So collaboration allows me opportunities to travel. This is a good thing because sometimes there is no alternative to face-to-face interaction."*

*"Quite the opposite: family obligations, time constraints make traveling a task rather than an incentive".*

*"It is a nice by-product, but not reason in itself. Although I found myself having the most fruitful international collaborations while physically being at a place."*

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More interesting research questions	<i>"I don't think that the nature of questions that arise from international collaboration are, per se, more interesting. I cannot keep up with the existing and emerging questions from my own context and international collaboration often adds a dimension to my research work, but does not, necessarily, make it 'more' interesting just because it is 'international'."</i>
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*"Questions posed in a new context around previously studied phenomena allow the testing of existing ideas and stretching theory to apply to new situations. The world of*

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*education psychology is greatly shaped by studies done with higher education students in western universities. We have no way of testing those theories and empirical results unless we go beyond our own contexts."*

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International collaboration is fun	<i>"Not a reason. Yes, there are 'fun' moments but are often balanced with facing and coping with a number of other challenges and power play. If you ask the question whether it s'fun', I hope you also ask later whether it is often or mostly very hard work, sometimes emotionally tiring if not devastating as power and personalities play out."</i>
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*"Academic life requires rewards. pleasure of travel and working with new clever colleagues makes work fun."*

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