



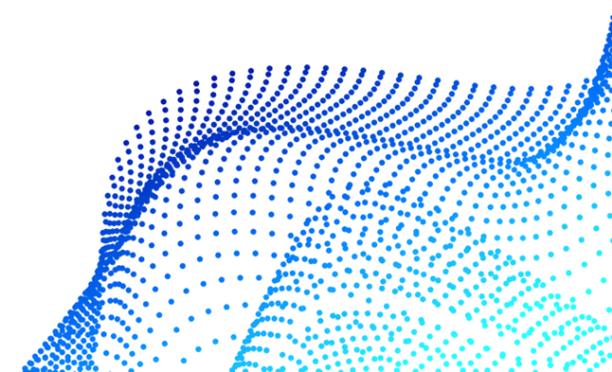
CoARA

RESEARCH ASSESSMENT & THE COARA MOVEMENT

17 May

**FAIR-IMPACT Finland Roadshow - Benefits of EOSC and international
collaboration in service development for Finnish Academia**

Janne Pölönen



PRESENTATION

1. **Responsible Research Assessment (RRA)**
2. **CoARA – Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment**
3. **CoARA National Chapter Finland**

1. RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH ASSESSMENT

GROWTH OF REFORM MOVEMENT

- **Starting with DORA 2012**, several initiatives have shaped conversations about responsible research assessment (RRA) across the international research community



RoRI Working Paper No.3
The changing role of funders in responsible research assessment: progress, obstacles and the way ahead

Stephen Curry, Sarah de Rijcke, Anna Hatch, Dorsamy (Gansen) Pillay, Inge van der Weijden and James Wilsdon
November 2020

Produced in partnership with:



nature
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nature > comment > article

Published: 22 April 2015
Bibliometrics: The Leiden Manifesto for research metrics

Diana Hicks, Paul Wouters, Ludo Waltman, Sarah de Rijcke & Ismael Rafols
Nature 520, 429–431 (2015) | [Cite this article](#)



Hicks, Paul Wouters



PLOS BIOLOGY

OPEN ACCESS
ESSAY

The Hong Kong Principles for assessing researchers: Fostering research integrity

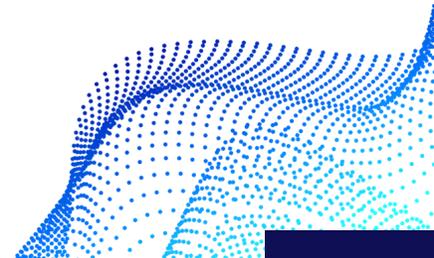
David Mirman, Lex Boulet, Sabine Kemert, Paul Glasziou, Mai Yee Sham, Virginia Barbour, Anne-Marie Coriat, Nicole Fraeger, Ulrich Dirnagl
Published: July 16, 2020 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.3000737>

Article	Authors	Metrics	Comments	Media Coverage
▼				

Abstract

Introduction
Principles
Principle 3: Reward the practice of open science (open research)
Discussion
Acknowledgments
References

Abstract
For knowledge to benefit research and society, it must be trustworthy. Trustworthy research is robust, rigorous, and transparent at all stages of design, execution, and reporting. Assessment of researchers will rarely include considerations related to trustworthiness, rigor, and transparency. We have developed the Hong Kong Principles (HKPs) as part of the 6th World Confer
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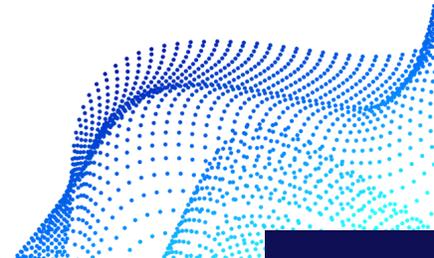


RRA AGENDA

- “[R]esponsible research assessment (RRA) ... is an umbrella term for approaches to assessment which incentivise, reflect and reward the plural characteristics of high-quality research, in support of diverse and inclusive research cultures.

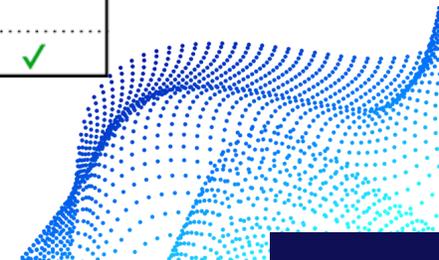
Curry et al. [The changing role of funders in responsible research assessment](#) (2020)

- The objectives of Responsible Research Assessment (RRA) are:
 - Balancing qualitative and quantitative methods
 - Recognition of the diversity of academic work
 - Appreciation of disciplinary differences
 - Incentivizing open science practices



GREAT INITIATIVES BUT SLOW CHANGE

	RECOMMENDATIONS	DORA	LEIDEN	METRIC TIDE	HONG KONG	HELSINKI
METHOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abandon journal-metrics as surrogate measure of quality 	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantitative evaluation support qualitative assessment 		✓	✓		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualitative judgment based on portfolios 		✓			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Misplaced concreteness and false precision 		✓			
CRITERIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explicit criteria used in evaluating 	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Systemic effects of assessment and indicators 		✓	✓		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutiny and regular updating of indicators 		✓	✓		
DATA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open and transparent data and methods 	✓	✓	✓		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licence allowing unrestricted reuse 	✓				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allowing those evaluated to verify data and analysis 		✓	✓		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best possible data in terms of accuracy and scope 			✓		
VALUE DIVERSITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All research outputs and broad range of impacts 	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missions of the institution, group or researcher 		✓			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellence in locally relevant research 		✓			✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Variation by field in publication and citation practices 		✓	✓		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plurality of research and career paths 			✓		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsible practices, complete reporting, open science 				✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research activities and contributions 				✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multilingualism and outputs in all languages 					✓



THE REFORM AGREEMENT

- **Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment**, published on 20 July 2022, establishes a common direction for research assessment reform. It is based on
 - 10 overarching principles,
 - 10 commitments: 4 core and 6 supporting
 - timeframe for reforms: 1 and 5 years after signing
- Signature of the Agreement is open to all organisations involved in research assessment.
- Agreement does not have any legally binding effect but it represents a public commitment to contribute actively and constructively to reforming research assessment.



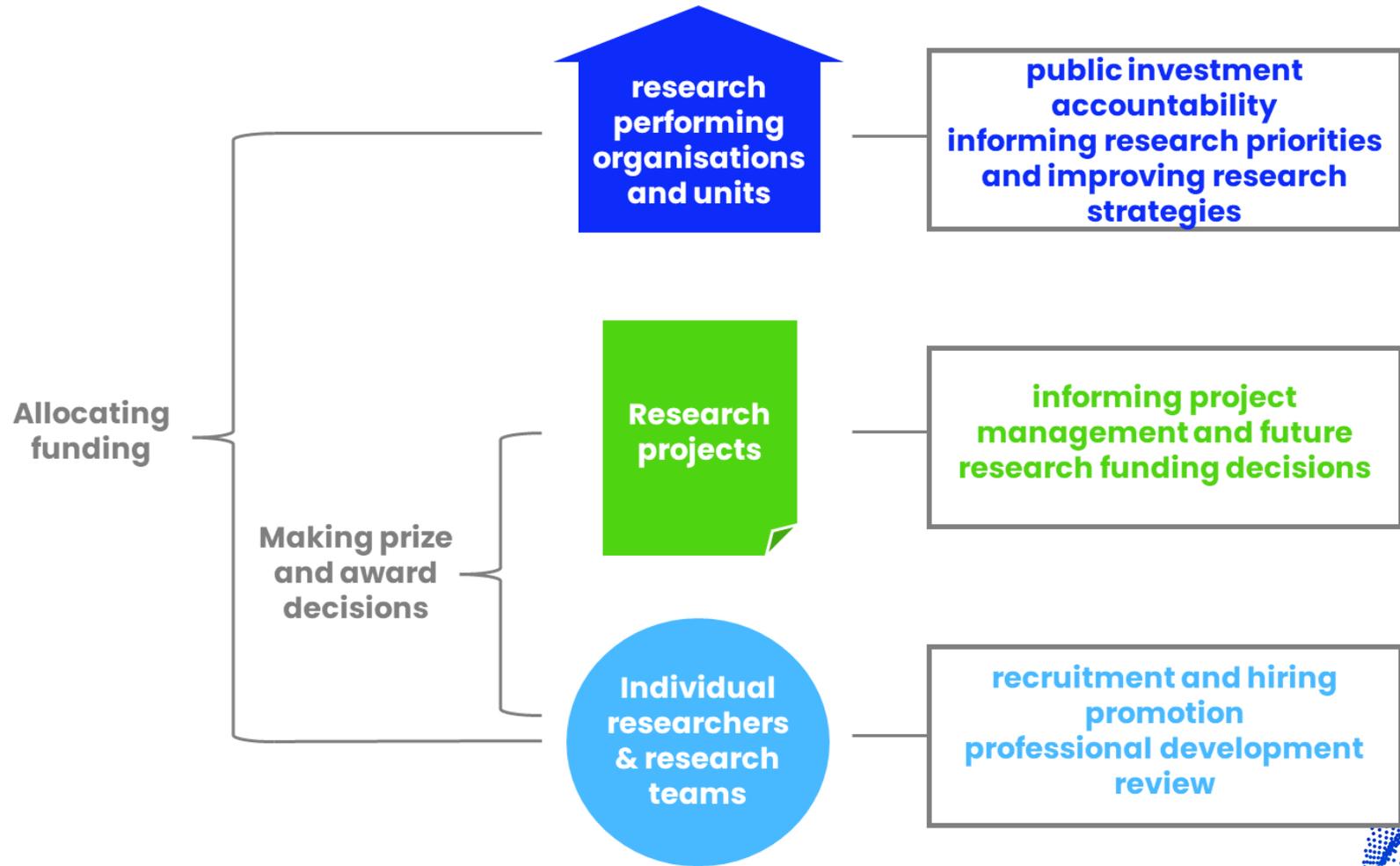
CORE COMMITMENTS



1. Recognise the diversity of contributions to, and careers in, research in accordance with the needs and nature of the research
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 publicationbased 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

RESEARCH ASSESSMENT

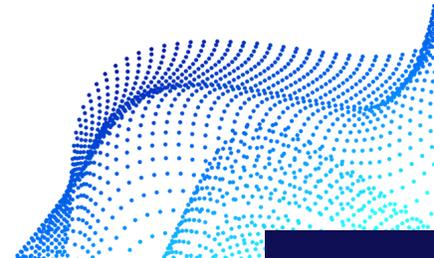
- **Assessment authorities**
- **Research funding and performing organisations**
- **Prize awarding organisations**



2. COARA – COALITION FOR ADVANCING RESEARCH ASSESSMENT

THE COALITION

- **Signatory organisations** can apply to become **members of CoARA** (Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment) and join a community to facilitate the implementation of their own reform and enable systemic change.
- The Coalition offers a space for its members to **learn from others' experiences**, to advance the process of research assessment reform in Europe and beyond.
- The Coalition is governed by its **General Assembly of Members** and **Steering Board** and supported by a **Secretariat** hosted by the European Science Foundation (ESF)–Science Connect.
- Coalition members are invited to be involved in **National Chapters** and **Working Groups** and other Coalition activities.



FROM AGREEMENT TO ACTION



Spring- Autumn 2021

Scoping report and EU-wide multi-stakeholder consultation on research assessment by the European Commission

Jan-July 2022 drafting the Agreement

20 July 2022

Publication of the Agreement

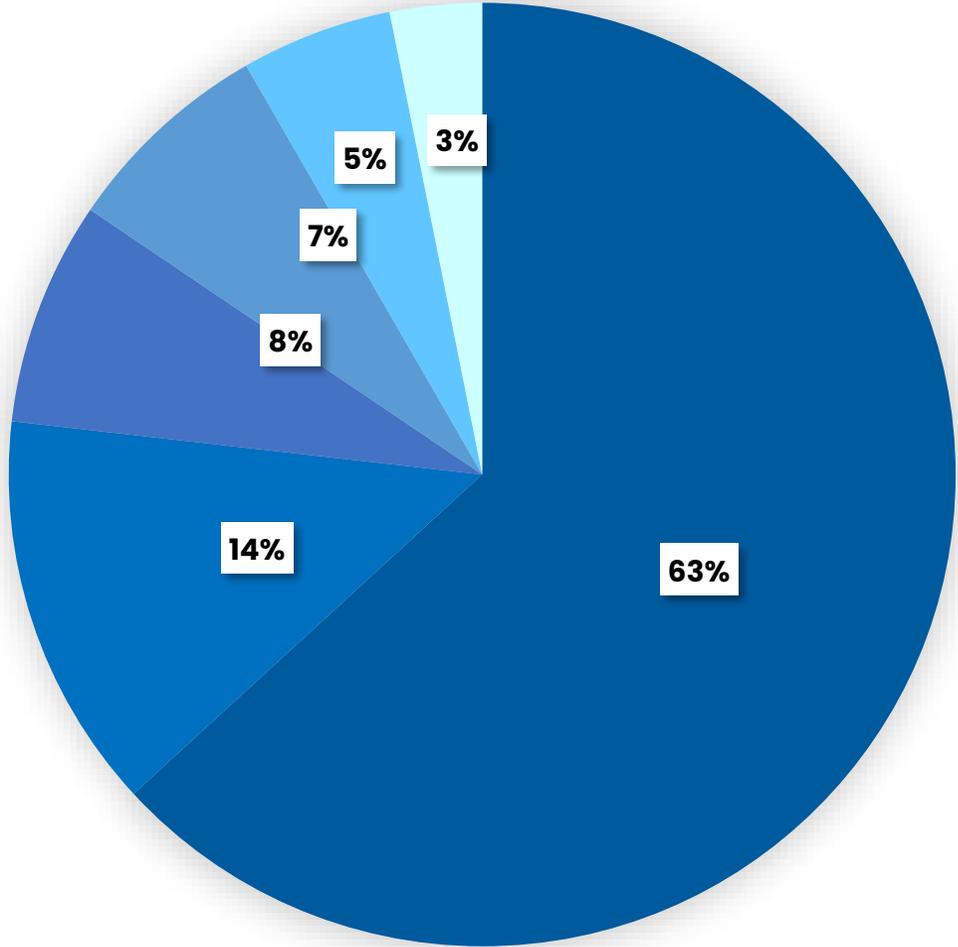
1 December 2022

Constitution of CoARA

May 2024:

- ✓ A coalition of more than 600 members
- ✓ 13 Working Groups operational
- ✓ 16 National Chapters
- ✓ Policy impact (ERC, REF etc.)
- ✓ CoARA Boost project up and running

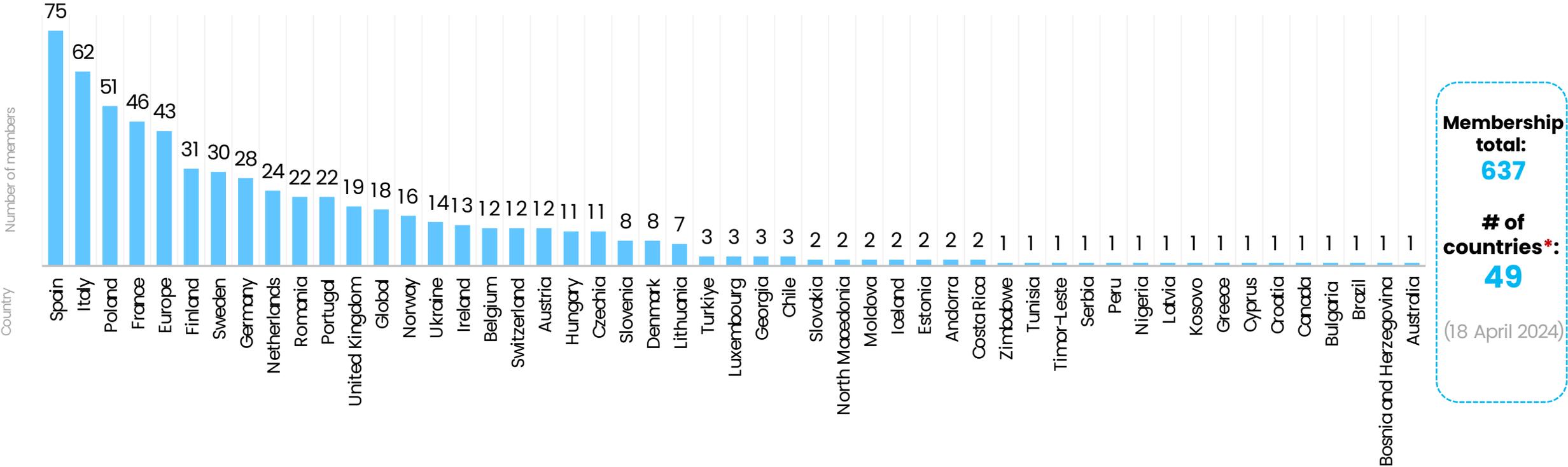
CoARA MEMBERSHIP BY TYPE OF ORGANISATION



In descending order of total share:

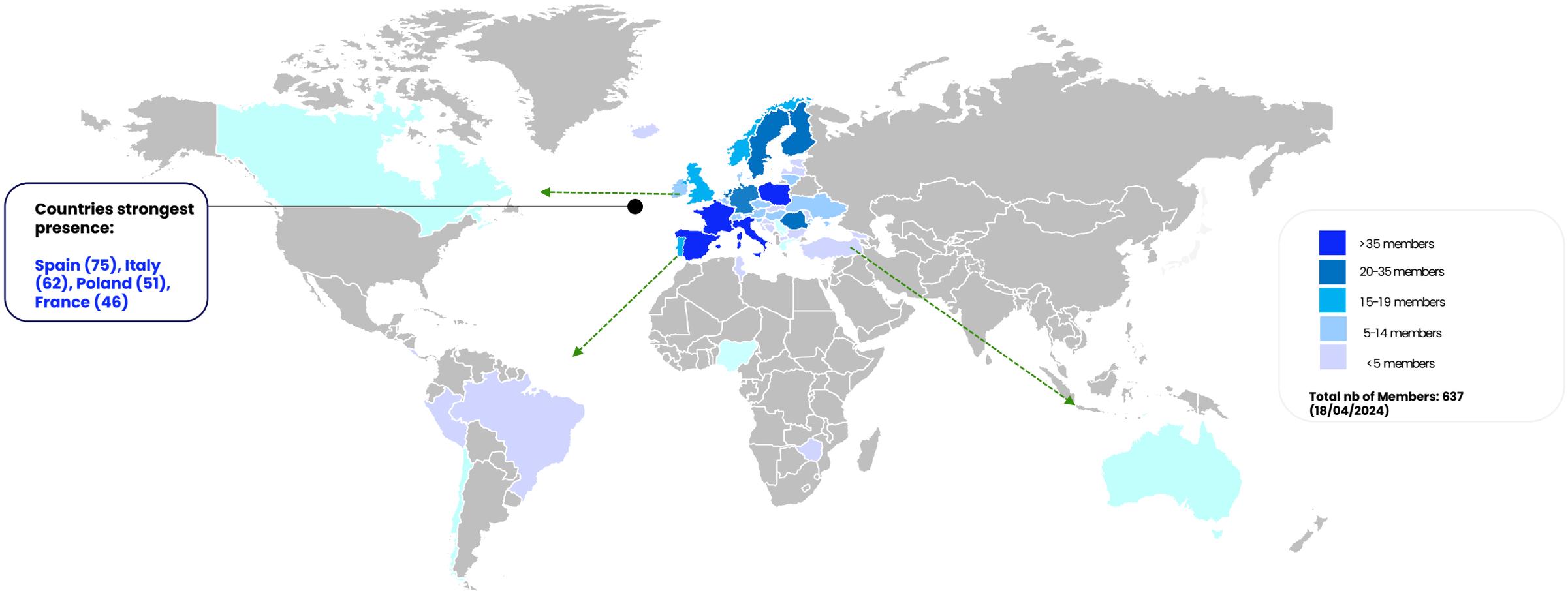
- Universities and their associations
- Research centres, research infrastructures, and their associations
- Academies, learned societies, and their associations, and associations of researchers
- Public or private research funding organisations and their associations
- Other relevant non-for-profit organisations involved with research assessment, and their associations
- National/regional authorities or agencies that implement some form of research assessment and their associations

CoARA MEMBERSHIP BY COUNTRY



*excl. pan-European and global organisations

COARA MEMBERSHIP 18TH APRIL 2024



FROM AGREEMENT TO ACTION

WEBINAR



Everything you need to know about **Action Plans** reforming Research Assessment

 29. April
10:00 - 11:30 CET

 Register at <https://coara.eu>



Open Call for Cascade Funding

Catalysing Reform in Research Assessment!



Apply by
26 June!

Find out more: coara.eu/first-call-cascade-funding/



13 COARA WORKING GROUPS



Towards Open Infrastructures for Responsible Research Assessment



Multilingualism and language biases in research assessment



Recognizing and Rewarding Peer Review



Experiments in Assessment – Idea generation, co-creation, and piloting



Reforming Academic Career Assessment



1st WGs Co-Chair meeting 17 November 2023



Improving practices in the assessment of research proposals



Towards Transformations: Transdisciplinarity, Applied/Practice-Based Research, and Impacts



Supporting the alignment of research assessment systems with CoARA in biomedical disciplines through administrative reforms and governance



Early-and-mid-Career Researchers (EMCRs) – Assessment and Research Culture



Global framework for research evaluation in the social sciences and the humanities (SSH)



Ethics and Research Integrity Policy in Responsible Research Assessment for Data and Artificial Intelligence (ERIP)



TIER – Towards an Inclusive Evaluation of Research



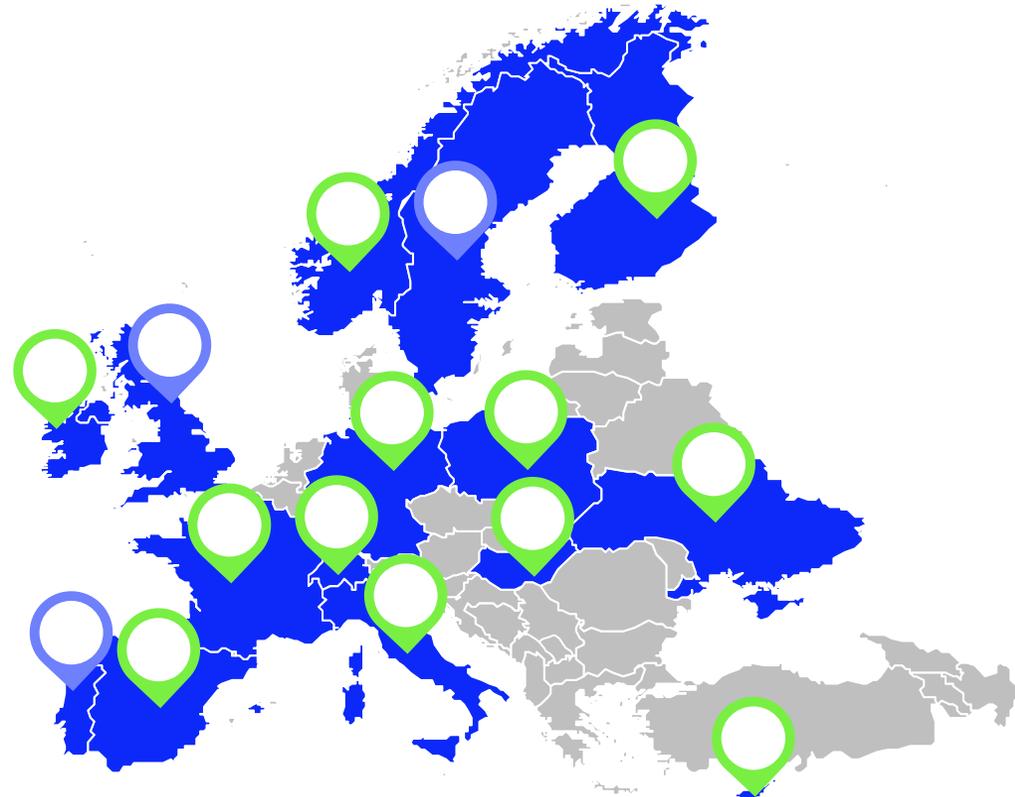
Responsible metrics and indicators

16 COARA NATIONAL CHAPTERS



No cut-off date

-> monthly submission review

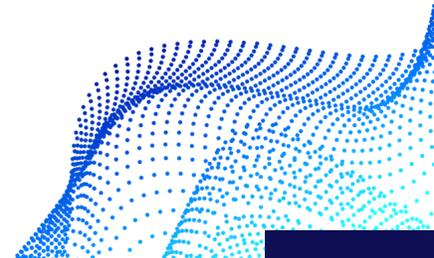


- Andorra
- Cyprus
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom

3. COARA NATIONAL CHAPTER FINLAND

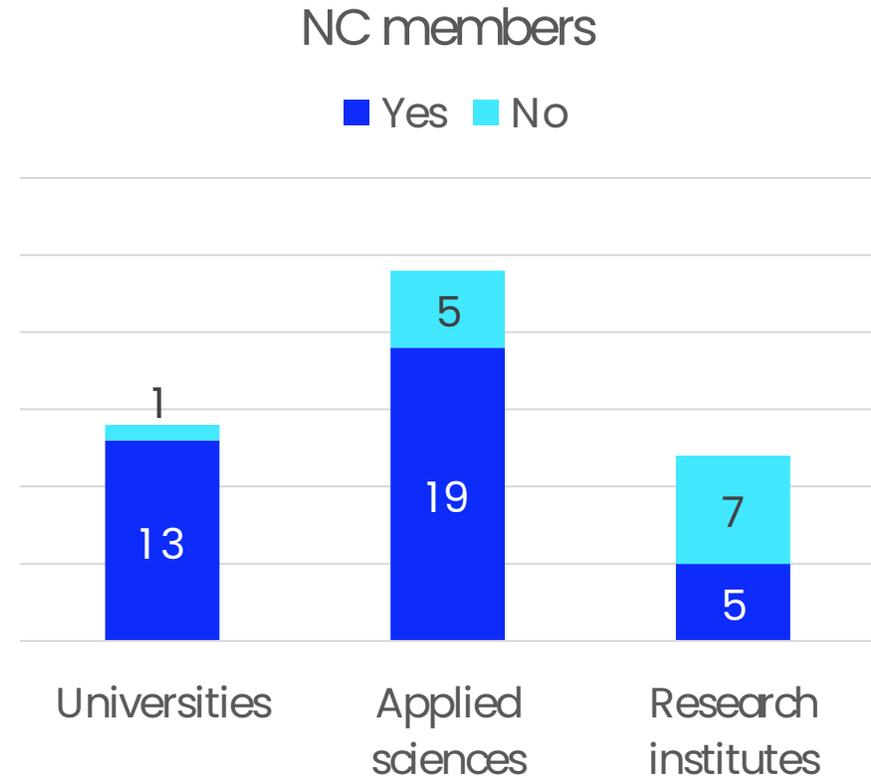
NATIONAL CHAPTERS

- National Chapters (NCs) are dedicated to assisting CoARA members in implementing the commitments of the Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment in a national/regional context.
- NCs are proposed at the initiative of CoARA members, and participation from members is voluntary.
- Any CoARA member from the given country can participate in the call for their respective NC.
- NCs contribute to CoARA's work by facilitating the exchange of knowledge, mutual learning, and discussions on CoARA-relevant issues specific to different types of organisations in a given country.



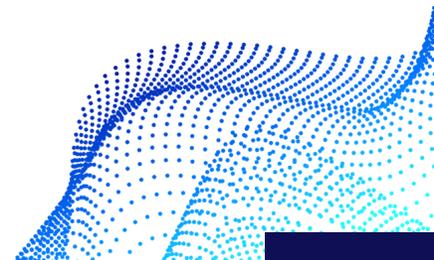
NATIONAL CHAPTER FINLAND

- Federation of Finnish Learned Societies (TSV) proposed on behalf of 29 organisations
 - TSV coordinates the national chapter
- Currently 41 member organisations
 - 13 universities
 - 19 universities of applied sciences
 - 5 state research institutes
 - Research Council of Finland
 - Finnish Union of Docents
 - Young Academy of Finland
- Interested in joining?
 - Contact mira.soderman@tsv.fi



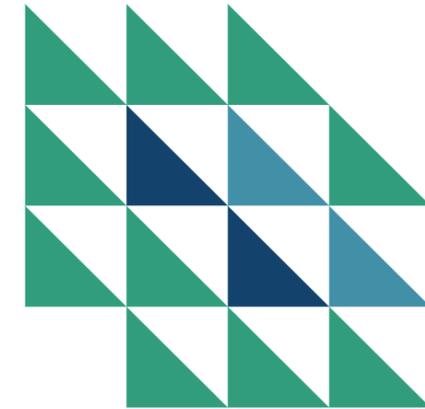
MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

- **The mission** is to support the entire Finnish research community in its journey towards a quality focused assessment culture that recognises the full diversity and impact of academic work
- **The objectives** are to:
 - 1. Raise awareness and discussion about the importance of assessment reform
 - 2. Engage all types of stakeholders in the movement for change, including organisations that already are or could become CoARA signatories.
 - 3. Discover the most responsible assessment approaches and alleviate contradictions between different assessment layers and processes
 - 4. Facilitate the effective and timely implementation of CoARA commitments and other supporting and related recommendations



NATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

- Strengthens the collaboration and interoperability of existing working groups and networks
 - Steering-group for Responsible Researcher Assessment + Working Group
 - AVOTT Responsible assessment and incentives
 - Finn-ARMA Research Evaluation
 - Finn-ARMA Publication metrics
- The Recommendation for the responsible evaluation of a researcher was published in 2020
 - Finnish Career-Assessment Matrix (FIN-CAM)
 - National training on responsible assessment



GOOD PRACTICE IN RESEARCHER EVALUATION.
RECOMMENDATION FOR THE RESPONSIBLE EVALUATION OF A RESEARCHER IN FINLAND

JOIN AND ENGAGE!

Useful links:

- CoARA website
<https://coara.eu>
- The governance documents
- The Agreement full text
- Sign the Agreement
- CoARA News
- FAQ

Follow us!

  @CoARAssessment

 Coalition for Advancing
Research Assessment



CoARA Membership Newsletter – Sign Up

A question?

Contact us at secretariat@coara.eu