



**CoARA**

# COALITION FOR ADVANCING RESEARCH ASSESSMENT

22.03.2023

EURAXESS UK

*Find out about CoARA – and it's relevance to you*

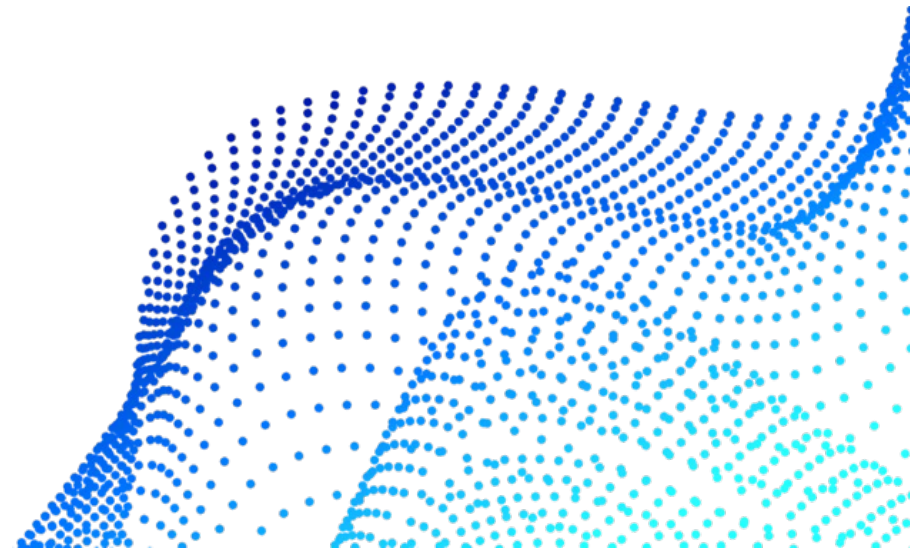
**Toma Susi**



@mostlyphysics



mastodon +@fediscience.org



# AGENDA

1. Agreement on reforming research assessment
2. Coalition for advancing research assessment
3. Useful links

# AGREEMENT ON REFORMING RESEARCH ASSESSMENT



<https://coara.eu/agreement/>



# THE AGREEMENT IN A NUTSHELL



- There is broad agreement from the research community on the **urgent need to reform existing ways of assessing research**.
- Assessment processes relying predominantly on journal- and publication-based metrics **can be a hurdle to the recognition of diverse contributions and may negatively affect the quality and impact of research**. They also contribute to an unhealthy research culture and an unaffordable publication system.
- Building on progress made so far (DORA, Leiden Manifesto, Hong Kong Principles), the Agreement establishes a **common direction for research assessment reform**, while respecting organisations' autonomy. It is based on **shared principles, 10 commitments, and a timeframe** (1 & 5 years) for reforms.
- Agreement **published on 20 July 2022**.



# 4 CORE COMMITMENTS



1. **Recognise the diversity of contributions** to, and careers in, research, in accordance with the needs and the 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 the inappropriate uses in research assessment of journal- and publication-based metrics**, in particular the inappropriate uses of journal impact factor (JIF) and h-index.
4. **Avoid the use of rankings of research organisations** in research assessment.

# 6 SUPPORTING COMMITMENTS

5. **Commit resources** to reforming research assessment as is needed to achieve the organisational changes committed to.
6. **Review and develop** research assessment criteria, tools and processes.
7. **Raise awareness** of research assessment reform and provide transparent communication, guidance, and training on assessment criteria and processes as well as their use.
8. Exchange practices and experiences to enable **mutual learning** within and beyond the Coalition.
9. **Communicate progress** made on adherence to the Principles and implementation of the Commitments.
10. **Evaluate** practices, criteria and tools **based on solid evidence** and the state-of-the-art in research on research, and **make data openly available** for evidence gathering and research.



**COALITION FOR  
ADVANCING RESEARCH  
ASSESSMENT  
(CoARA)**



<https://coara.eu/coalition>

# THE COALITION IN A NUTSHELL

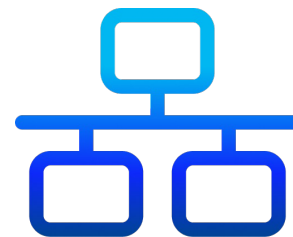


- **The Coalition offers a space for its members to learn from others' experiences**, to advance the process of research assessment reform in Europe and beyond.
- **Signatory organisations**, subscribing to Guiding Principles and Code of Conduct, invited to become members and actively involved in reform.
- The **Constitutive Assembly**, first meeting of the General Assembly of members of the Coalition, took place on 1 December 2022.
- Coalition members are invited to be involved in **Working Groups** and other Coalition activities.



# COALITION BODIES

- **General Assembly of Members – All Members.** Represents all members of the Coalition. The highest-level decision-making body, meets annually
- **Steering Board – Elected.** Responsible for the overall oversight, success, strategy, business plan and sustainability of the Coalition
- **Working Groups – Voluntary participation.** To exchange knowledge, learn mutually, discuss and investigate any topic to advance research assessment and help implement the Members' commitments  
⇒ *first call will be launched in March!*
- **Coalition Secretariat – Supports** the administrative, logistical, and other activities of the Coalition





# MEMBERSHIP PROCESS

- Organisations **first sign the Agreement** through an authorised representative and can explicitly express interest to become a member.
- Expression of interest to join CoARA can also be made after signature by request to the Secretariat by authorised representative.
- Membership requests are subject to **approval by the Steering Board**.
- All member organisations will be invited to **participate in Working Groups**, attend **General Assembly meetings** according to when they signed the Agreement, as well as other **events and activities**. Their logo will be displayed on CoARA's website.
- Members may leave the Coalition **at any time**.

# USEFUL LINKS

# JOIN AND ENGAGE!

Useful links:

- **CoARA website**  
**<https://coara.eu>**
- Governance documents
- Agreement full text
- Sign the Agreement
- CoARA news
- FAQ

Latest news:  
**<https://coara.eu/news/progress-on-coara-membership-and-forthcoming-activities/>**

## Follow us!

 [@CoARAssessment](https://twitter.com/CoARAssessment)

## A question?

Contact us at  
[secretariat@coara.eu](mailto:secretariat@coara.eu)