

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION  
**What is Scientific Excellence?:**  
**In Search of a New Definition for a Reform University Alliance**  
An on-line Workshop organized by the Re:ERUA WP6 group  
**2 June 2022, 2-3 pm CET**

What is excellence in scientific research and how should a reform university evaluate and promote it?

The definition of excellence criteria is fraught with methodological problems and political issues. How can we tell when new knowledge is being produced and how do we measure its impact? For ERUA members, whose core values focus on social responsibility, the need to redefine what counts as impact and excellence is all the more pressing.

Identifying and rewarding excellence in research has traditionally been based on quantifying scientific output in the form of scientific publications. All too often that amounts to relying on citation indexes and counting pages, a practice that tends to privilege quantity over quality. Furthermore, to capture the all too elusive concept of “impact” the quantification of technology transfer has served as a proxy. However, that such purely numeric criteria are inadequate has been increasingly recognized by both researchers and funders of research.

But what do we do instead? The challenge is to blend quantifiable data with values such as societal impact, ethics, transparency, promotion of young researchers and teamwork. As part of the Re:ERUA initiative WP6 “**Sharing infrastructures and resources and developing common structures**” NBU and the WP6 Board are tasked with producing a **Scientific excellence policy document** outlining the basic quality criteria and characteristics of the kind of research we aim to foster across our alliance.

Join us to share your thoughts on how to think more expansively about impact and how to place social responsibility front and center in defining our vision for excellence.

To participate, please register [here](#).

For more information please contact the representative at your University:

Paris-8: [Claire Douet](#) and [Everardo Reyes](#)  
Konstanz University: [Livia Gertis](#)  
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## **About Research and Engagement for the European Reform University Alliance [Re:ERUA] :**

The European Reform Universities Alliance (ERUA), one of the 41 European University alliances funded by the European Commission, is formed by the University of Paris 8 (France), Roskilde University (Denmark), the University of the Aegean (Greece), Konstanz University (Germany) and the New Bulgarian University (Bulgaria).

Re:ERUA, the Research pillar of ERUA, aims to build a common engagement strategy of research and innovation as well as set up a strong network of researchers and research support services to develop projects within the alliance. Work is also being done on the inclusion and development of the knowledge and talents of young researchers. Finally, Re:ERUA is working on the digital connectedness between the five universities.

Within Re:ERUA, Work Package 6 (WP6) is tackling the problem of pooling and sharing the infrastructures and resources of the whole Alliance in terms of research and innovation. The goal is to build the whole process of connecting the 5 partner universities through their existing research networks, databases, labs and libraries, based on common R&I values, knowledge, languages and interests, between and among students, teachers, researchers and non-academic staff.