



# WORLD SCIENCE FORUM

Budapest 2024

*The science and policy interface at  
the time of global transformations*



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# RETHINKING RESEARCH ASSESSMENT TO SHAPE INNOVATIVE, INCLUSIVE, AND IMPACTFUL SCIENCE IN EUROPE



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# Reforming Research Assessment – A National Perspective

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# The Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment (ARRA)

## 4 Core commitments

1. Recognize 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 the responsible use of quantitative indicators
3. **Abandon** inappropriate uses in research assessment of **journal- and publication-based metrics**, in particular inappropriate uses of Journal Impact Factor (JIF) and h-index
4. **Avoid the use of rankings** of research organizations in research assessment

## 6 Supporting commitments

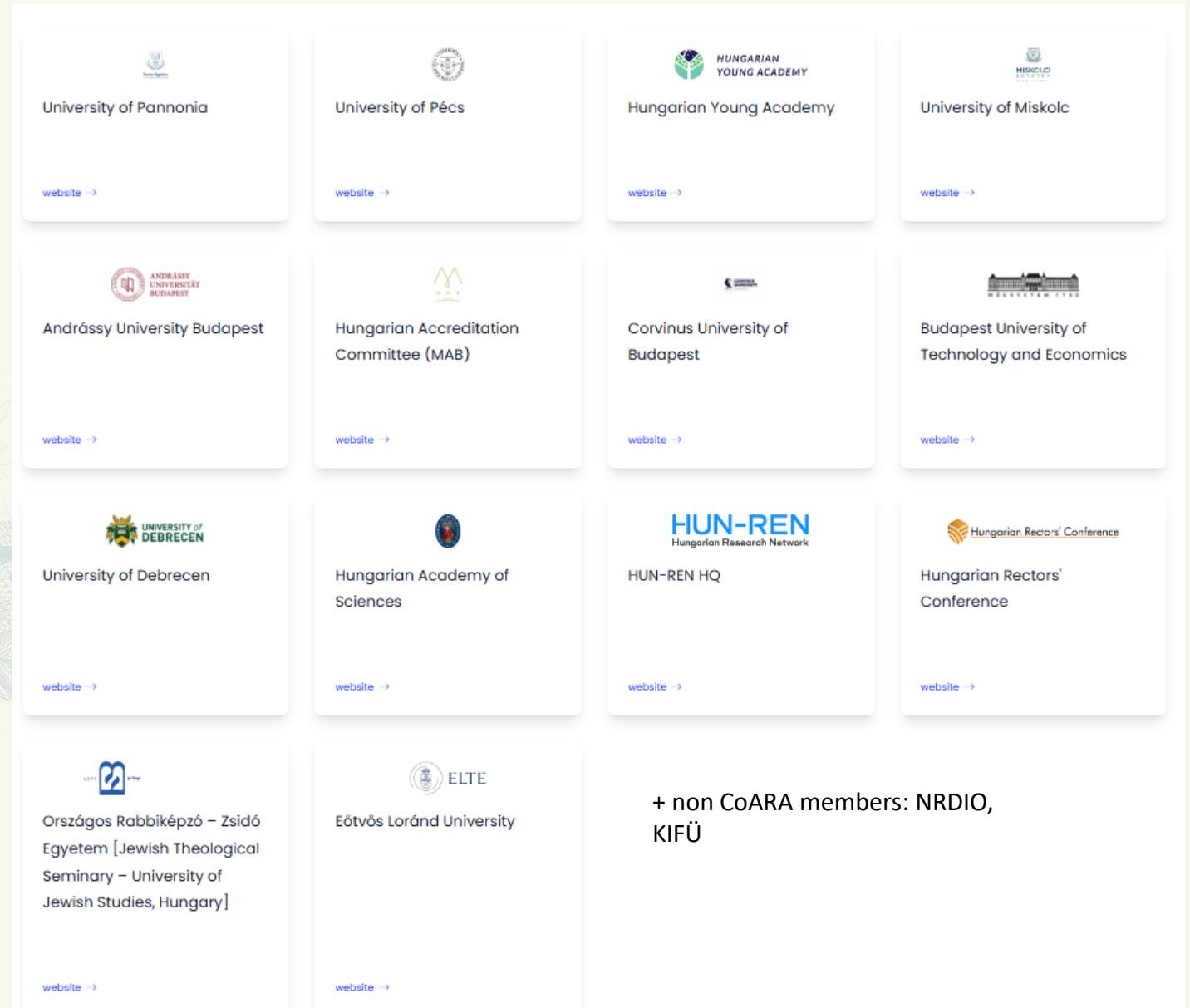
5. Commit **resources** to reforming research assessment as is needed to achieve the organizational changes committed to
6. Review and develop research **assessment criteria, tools and processes**
7. **Raise awareness** of research assessment reform and provide transparent communication, guidance, and 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

# The Mission of the CoARA Hungarian National Chapter (HNC)

- establishment of the state-of-the-art of research assessment
- compliance with CoARA commitments
- assessment of needs and obstacles of the institutional implementation
- development of a database of tools, mechanisms
- update and development of the existing national bibliometric database (MTMT)
- share good practices, exchanging information
- optimize resources, share knowledge gained from CoARA WGs
- involve non-CoARA-participating institutions, raise awareness and system-level thinking

# Characteristics of the Hungarian National Chapter

- Established on **8 November 2023** with 7 members (14+ today)
- Brings together the representatives of the main science policy stakeholders that support researchers in both institutional and academic career paths
- Initiates dialogue and collaboration between stakeholders to share knowledge and experiences
- Optimizing capacities: members are present in 10 working groups



# Challenges and opportunities for the HNC

## Challenges:

- Create added value for the stakeholders
- Diversity of actors: harmonization of the fragmented ecosystem & bridging the perspectives of various stakeholders
- Traditions of different disciplines, moving away from metrics
- Contradictions across different assessment systems and types
- Engagement to ARRA of different national authorities
- Overemphasis on university rankings (both universities and politics)
- Optimizing resources (time, cost, HR)
- Identify possible resources (CoARA Boost)
- Communication of progress, dissemination of information





# Challenges and opportunities for the HNC

## Opportunities:

- Create added value for the stakeholders: discussion on the principles of qualitative assessment; fair career paths
- Diversity of actors: understand the different points of view, observe current activities from various perspectives at different stakeholder levels
- Engagement of central decision-makers to initiate change
- Greater involvement of Young Academy/young researchers
- Communication: WSF, ESOF, Hungarian Science Festival, journals, institutional websites, conferences, workshops etc.



# How to stand up to the competition?



- No „on size fits all”
- Flexible and holistic framework, translation of ARRA
- Set up a database of tools
- Share best practices, report
- Time frame, identify roadblocks to reforms
- CoARA ambassadors (researchers)

# Guiding principles



Culture change is a **fundamental change of beliefs**; not just change in rules of the game



Changing culture is difficult and **takes a long time**



**Broad dialogue in academia** is needed: we listen to concerns, questions & dilemmas from academic community



**Sharing good practices** and experimenting will initiate desired movement



**Balance**: giving room for ideas (**diverging**) and bringing together good practices (**converging**)



Importance of **good leadership in academia** to make change work

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RECOGNITION & REWARDS

Source: *Summary of the Recognition & Rewards programme plan 2022-2026*, <https://recognitionrewards.nl/>



JAVASLATOK  
A KIFOGÁSOLHATÓ  
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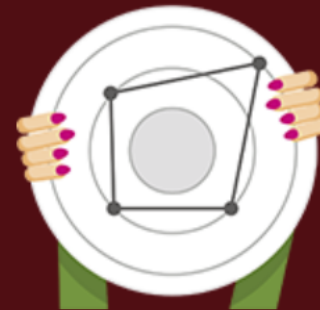


## Good practices – NOR-CAM - The Norwegian Career Matrix

A **holistic framework** accommodating the full breadth of academic activities across different kind of institutions; RPO's as well as funders.

A **toolbox**. Hence, all “tools” are not used all the time. Use only the tools that are relevant for the job/context.

**Flexible** and can be adapted to institutional profile, subject area, type of position, project area, the unit's academic goals, etc.



**RECOGNITION & REWARDS**

ROOM FOR EVERYONE'S TALENT

On behalf of the CoARA Hungarian National chapter

**Thank you for your attention!**



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