

THE GERMAN SCIENCE AND HUMANITIES COUNCIL (WISSENSCHAFTSRAT) PROVIDES ADVICE TO THE GERMAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE STATE (LÄNDER) GOVERNMENTS ON THE STRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH.

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Wissenschaftsrat welcomes initiative to form a Coalition on Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA)

The German Science and Humanities Council (Wissenschaftsrat) welcomes the initiative to form a Coalition on Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA). While the Council is not among the first signatories of the agreement, it will discuss this option in view of the proposals for the governance of the coalition, and the resource requirements connected with active membership.

The core principles that are set down in the Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment |¹ are in line with the Council's long-standing practices and its "Recommendations on the assessment and management of research performance" (2011) |².

"I am glad to see that there is such a broad consensus on the potential mistakes and risks that are to be avoided, and on the road that we are heading", says Dorothea Wagner, chair of the German Science and Humanities Council.

The Council is and remains committed to recognise the diversity of contributions to, and careers in, research. Its evaluative procedures are based on qualitative peer review, assisted by an informed and responsible use of quantitative indicators where appropriate. It has always strongly advised against journal-based metrics, against inappropriate uses of publication-based metrics, and against the use of rankings of research organisations in research assessment.

|¹ <https://coara.eu/agreement/the-agreement-full-text/>, accessed 29 September 2022.

|² https://www.wissenschaftsrat.de/download/archiv/1656-11_engl.html, accessed 29 September 2022.

Contact:

Dr Christiane Kling-Mathey
Head office of the German Science
and Humanities Council
Scheidtweilerstraße 4
50933 Köln

Phone +49 221 3776-243
presse@wissenschaftsrat.de

Press Releases:

www.wissenschaftsrat.de/EN