



RE:ERUA

Final Online Report



D1. 4 Final Operational Report

30 September 2024

Project Title: Re:ERUA - RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT

FOR THE EUROPEAN REFORM UNIVERSITY ALLIANCE

Funding: HORIZON 2020 Programme

Programme: "Science with and for Society"

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End: 30th September 2024

Duration: 36 months

EU grant: 1 999 461,25 €

An Overview

Launched in November 2021, the research component of the European Reform University Alliance - Re:ERUA - aims to advance the research agenda of the Alliance. Re:ERUA is made up of five universities:

The University of Paris 8, the coordinator of the Alliance, responsible for developing an engagement strategy for research and innovation.

Roskilde University, leading activities to promote engagement in Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) in organisations across all sectors.

University of the Aegean, focusing on creating a common framework for reskilling and upskilling researchers, scientists and stakeholders, as well as addressing gender innovation issues.

University of Konstanz, driving the development and adoption of Open Science practices across the Alliance.

New Bulgarian University, focusing on the sharing of research infrastructures.

Re:ERUA Key Achievements

Over the past three years, Re:ERUA has focused on promoting engaged research to help shape the long-term strategy of the ERUA Alliance. Re:ERUA's key aims are to promote open science, enhance human capital and promote gender diversity. The project emphasises responsible research that considers social impact, ethics of care and epistemic justice, while improving collaboration for socially impactful outcomes. Re:ERUA has also strengthened administrative cooperation between research support services and carried out mapping activities to assess research potential and infrastructure, resulting in tools such as the ERUA research portal.



Responsible Research

ERUA has focused heavily on developing expertise in responsible research and the societal impact of research and innovation. We have developed a number of activities, such as the **Mapping of Innovation and Societal Engagement** research projects across the Alliance.

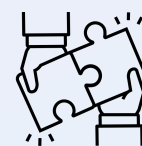
We produced a **report on responsible research in the context of the ethics of care**.

We have developed tools to address **dilemmas in research collaboration**. These resources address common challenges faced in research partnerships, provide practical solutions and a platform for researchers to address these issues, thereby supporting ethical and responsible research practices.

The **ERUA research portal** is a digital platform developed to enhance research collaboration and visibility across the Alliance. This portal includes the Research Unit listings with the detailed profiles of research units within the Alliance, categorized by relevant ERC panels, scientific fields, key infrastructures, and partner organizations. The portal also displays a comprehensive list of researchers, organized by their respective universities and research units, making it easier to identify expertise and foster collaboration. The research portal features also an Advertisement Board for Research Collaborations.



Digital Tools



Sharing Infrastructures

In the context of Re:ERUA, the team worked intensively on mapping research potential and infrastructures to identify and capitalise on synergies and streamline the sharing of infrastructures. One of the mapping initiatives focused on research units. Its aim was to identify scientific areas, keywords and research fields according to the ERC nomenclature. The mapping efforts can be viewed via the ERUA research portal.

Furthermore, research infrastructures were mapped and, where possible, standardised practices for their sharing were implemented. The research support network provided invaluable support in identifying and capitalising on synergies among the various Re:ERUA activities.



Strategic Documents

Re:ERUA has produced a series of strategic documents to develop a long-term vision for research within the alliance. These documents build on the expertise of two expert groups and the scientific council. First and foremost, Re:ERUA has taken the initiative to promote the Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) approach through a "care" perspective, encouraging universities to embrace this approach and initiate an experimental phase in research evaluation. Under this framework, the **Charter on a Common Research Framework Programme** was approved by the Board of Rectors, including new universities that are not yet officially part of ERUA. Additionally, Re:ERUA worked on a Charter and Action Plan for Training Programs aimed at re-skilling and up-skilling as well as a **White paper on best practices in RRI in research support**. The Engagement Strategy, based on the results of the work carried out in all Re:ERUA work packages, will serve as the foundation for the Alliance to build its long-term vision for research. Re:ERUA is committed to shaping its vision of engaged research, guided by the principles of epistemic justice and the ethics of care.



Administrative Cooperation

Re:ERUA has worked extensively to foster true collaboration among universities, even at the administrative level, ensuring the scientific community is optimally supported. We have achieved this by creating a well-functioning and interconnected community of research support services. In 2023, Re:ERUA officially launched a Research Support Network. This network facilitates communication and exchange among ERUA universities on various topics. This initiative has been open to new alliance members from the outset. The network meets every year to share best practices in the field of research support. It also shares information and training sessions for researchers and PhD students, as well as administrative staff, and offers job shadowing opportunities for administrative personnel. The primary objective is to facilitate the development of collaborative projects and the sharing of research equipment across institutions. The network **has held two in-person meetings** and has facilitated frequent exchanges of news from partner universities through three annual newsletters. It has successfully matched researchers with potential partners for grant applications and facilitated a mock interview for researchers. The network has also successfully collected and highlighted the best Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)-inspired practices within research support services in a white paper.



Open Science

Re:ERUA led the way in advancing open science practices within the Alliance. We have implemented several initiatives that reinforce the principles of transparency, accessibility, and public engagement.

Monthly Open Science Meet-Ups: Regular sessions are held on specific topics, with approximately 11 sessions conducted annually. These meet-ups serve as forums for discussing best practices, challenges, and new developments in open science.

Open Science Courses: A basic and an advanced course have been made available on Zenodo and YouTube, providing essential training for researchers, students and everyone else interested in open science.

Open Science Ambassadors: partner universities have appointed open science ambassadors, who are responsible for promoting and disseminating open science practices within their institutions. These ambassadors play a crucial role in embedding open science principles into the research culture of the Alliance.

Research Data Management Study: Investigation of researchers' research data management needs at 6 partner universities based on 39 interviews with researchers and support staff.



Gender Innovation

Re:ERUA has made significant headway in promoting gender equality and tackling gender-based issues through a series of impactful initiatives.

Re:ERUA developed a comprehensive joint action plan that addresses the gender dimension within the scientific community and universities.

Re:ERUA has also produced open access online modules focusing on different topics. These include a **Gender Innovation Training and Mentoring Programme** which has produced comprehensive modules and workshops on different topics, such as gender equality principles, gender inequality within the context of family and society, challenges related to gender inequality in the workplace, and many others. Furthermore, Re:ERUA hosted a two-day **Digital Conference on Gendered Innovation** which allowed participants to focus on the impact of gender and intersectional analysis on innovation and discovery, discuss gendered innovation across academia, the private sector, governmental bodies, and social actors, showcase specific case studies on how gendered approaches lead to innovation and finally enlarge participant's network across academics, policy makers, entrepreneurs, and organizations.

Re:ERUA in a nutshell

Open access Courses

Open science courses

2

Gendered Innovation Training and Mentoring Programme

1

Events and Dissemination

Open Science Meet-ups

28

ERUA nights of Ideas

2

Expert group meetings

10

Research support Network meetings

2

SwafS cross Alliance events

2

ERUA Summits

3

Two-day Digital
conference on
Gendered
Innovation

1

Dissemination events
at individual
universities

3

University Community Engagement in Re:ERUA institutions

Administrative
staff involved

200

Academic staff
involved

175

Strategic Documents

Charters

2

Engagement
Strategy

1

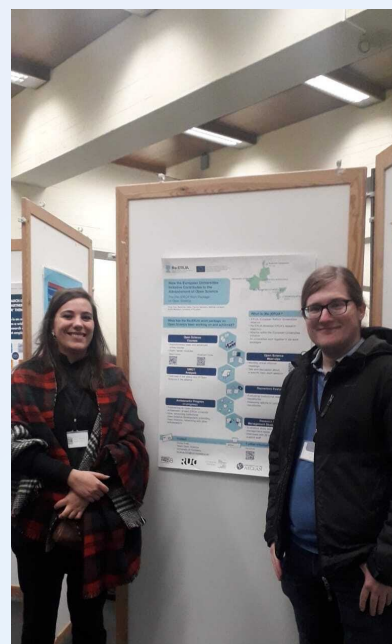
Gender joint
workplan

1

Re:ERUA in pictures



Carole Brunet (UP8) at SWFS event cross-Alliance, Brussels, 2023.



Claire Douet (UP8) and Maximilian Heber (UKON) at SWFS event cross-Alliance, Brussels, 2023.



Arnaud Regnaud (UP8) et Claire Douet (UP8) at SWFS event cross-Alliance, Brussels, 2023.



Katia Larisaiou (UAegean), Katerina Toskou (UAegean) and Ioannis Apostolopoulos (UAegean), ERUA Summit, Vilnius, 2024.



Seminar in UP8 for newly appointed professors, St Denis, 2024.



Night of ideas - Online, 2023.



Jennifer Eschweiler (RUC) at Paris 8 presenting the Collaboration Guide to newly appointed Professors, St Denis, 2024.



Sonja Kralj (UKON) and Sacha Zurcher (RUC) - Open Science Fair, Madrid, 2023.



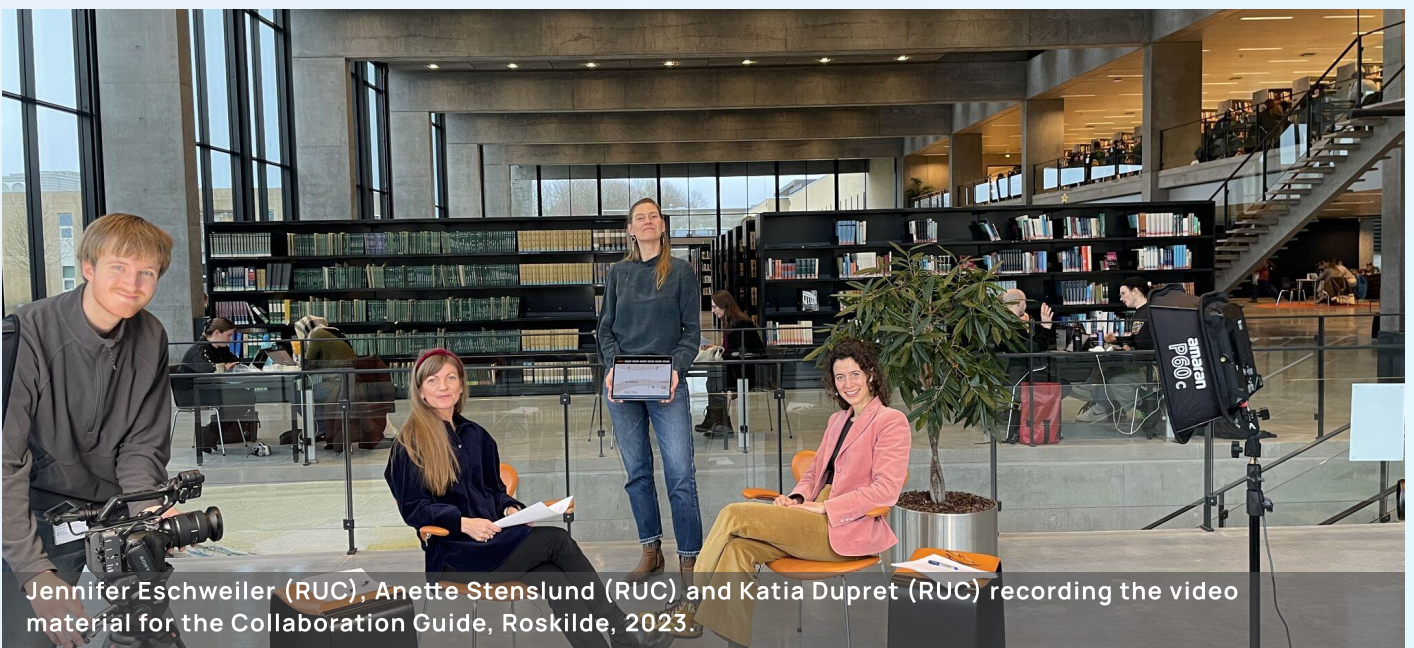
Elena Theodoropoulou (UAegean), ERUA Summit, St Denis, 2022.



Goran Sekulovski (UPB) and Maximilian Heber (UKON), ERUA Summit, Vilnius, 2024.



Valeria Sergueenkova (NBU), The University as a Community of Engaged and Responsible Researchers, Sofia, 2024.



Jennifer Eschweiler (RUC), Anette Stenslund (RUC) and Katia Dupret (RUC) recording the video material for the Collaboration Guide, Roskilde, 2023.

Credits

Authors

Re:ERUA WP1

Graphic Designer

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Responsible Research

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