



PRESENTERS AND PANELLIST



Prof. Dr. Balázs Gulyás, President of HUN-REN

Since 2023, President of the Hungarian Research Network after holding the President's Chair Professor of Translational Neuroscience at the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (LKCmedicine), Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore, and the founding Director of NTU's Cognitive Neuroimaging Centre (CoNiC between 2012 and 2024). Prior to this appointment as one of the founding professors of LKCmedicine and the inaugural chair of the School's neuroscience and mental health programme. Professor Gulyás spent most of his scientific career at the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden, where since January 2025, he is Professor Emeritus at the Department of Clinical Neuroscience. He also served as Honorary Professor and Senior Clinical Lecturer in the Department of Brain Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, Imperial College London.



Janne Pölönen

Secretary General for Publication Forum at Federation of Finnish Learned Societies (TSV). Since 2010, he has participated in the development of community-curated national classification of peer-reviewed journals and book publishers (Publication Forum). Lic.Phil. in history, specialising in ancient Roman law and society research, his recent work is in the fields of scholarly communication, bibliometrics, research assessment, open science and learned societies. He is also advocate for the Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication, coordinator of CoARA WG on Multilingualism and Language Biases in Research Assessment, and a member of the CoARA Steering Board (currently a Vice-Chair).

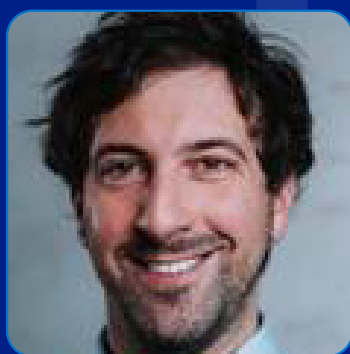
"In three years, CoARA has succeeded in establishing a large and strong community of organizations committed to assessment reform across Europe and beyond."



Prof. Dr. Stanisław Kistryn

Physicist, co-author of over 200 scientific papers. Rector's Proxy for Cooperation within Una Europa, CoARA Steering Board member and coordinator of the Polish National Chapter. Former Vice-Rector for Research and Structural Funds at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków. Acted as Treasurer on the first Board of The Guild of European Research Intensive Universities, and since 2019, acts as Treasurer on the Board of Directors of the European University Alliance Una Europa.

„The most important effect of CoARA is a revival of the idea of a fair and transparent assessment of researchers, and its adoption in many sectors of the academic community in Europe (and beyond), demonstrated by wide and intensive engagement of various groups in proposing new ideas for evaluation improvement.”



Sean Sapcariu, PhD

Programme Manager at the Luxembourg National Research Fund (FNR), responsible for strategic programmes and research culture initiatives. He is active in many aspects of the responsible research assessment and research culture space, having coordinated the creation of the Peer Exchange Platform for Narrative CVs (PEP-CV) and the CoARA Experiments in Assessment Idea Catalogue, as well as co-chairing the Science Europe Working Group on Research Culture.

He has a PhD in Biology and has worked in a variety of roles in research and other sectors.

“The power of CoARA is bringing people together in a coordinated way that hasn't been done before. Both the Working Groups and the National Chapters are powerful ways to align people around the goals of CoARA through institutional exchange, co-creation of reform plans, and new tools. They contribute to the increasing momentum around reforming research assessment and are a great outcome of CoARA.”



Panel I



Dr. Mathijs Vleugel

Head of the Helmholtz Open Science Office. He holds a PhD in biophysics/cell biology and has been Head of the Open Science Office at the Helmholtz Association since September 2024. In this role, he supports the Helmholtz Association, its research centre's, and the broader research community in driving the cultural change towards Open Science. He also currently serves as the coordinator of the German National Chapter of CoARA.

“From my perspective, what makes CoARA particularly valuable is not only that it addresses decades-old problems in research assessment, but that it has succeeded in bringing together a highly diverse international community around a shared direction for reform.”



Cristina Martinez, DG RTD.A4 European Commission

She holds degrees in Philosophy of Science, in Communication, and an MSc in Telematics (Cum Laude). She began her career at the United Nations, managing an IT track-and-trace software project for global railways, before joining Andersen Consulting in 1998 as a solutions engineer. Since 2002, she has worked at the European Commission, initially as a senior administrator leading the ‘Enterprise Interoperability’ cluster in DG CONNECT, then progressing to Head of Sector and Deputy Head of Unit roles across Knowledge Management, eInfrastructures, Open Science Cloud, and Smart Mobility. Since 2019, she has focused on Smart Cities policy, Digital Twins, and the CitiVerse, while contributing to digital policy, sustainability, and UN SDGs. In 2025, she transitioned to DG RTD, where she now leads Research Assessment policy in DG RTD’s Open Science unit, driving ERA Policy Agenda actions on open science incentives and research assessment reform. She also coordinates Horizon Europe’s open science and research infrastructure programmes in the team.

“As we reform research assessment, we honour the diversity of contributions—from curiosity-driven discovery to collaborative problem-solving—ensuring that quality, transparency, and impact remain at the heart of our pursuit of new knowledge and innovation.”



Alicja Józkwicz, PhD, DSc

She is professor of biological sciences at the Faculty of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Biotechnology of the Jagiellonian University. Her scientific interests focus on endothelial cell biology, hematopoietic niche, and heme metabolism.

She has extensive experience as a panel member and reviewer for many national and international funding agencies, and has been actively involved in CoARA and its Polish National Chapter in recent years.



Prof. Dr. László Hunyady

Director of the Institute of Molecular Life Sciences, HUN-REN Research Centre for Natural Sciences. He is also Vice-President for Life Sciences of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the President of its Research Institute Evaluation Council.

He had key discoveries about the signalling and trafficking of angiotensin and other receptors; and his work laid the foundation to the concept of bias receptor agonism, which opened new avenues for drug discovery. He published 170 papers, and his publications have been cited more than 10.000 times. He received the Széchenyi Prize State Award in 2018.



Prof. Dr. András Stipsicz

Hungarian mathematician known for his work in low-dimensional topology, symplectic topology, and contact geometry. He serves as Director and Research Professor at the Alfréd Rényi Institute of Mathematics in Budapest. In his latter position he has contributed extensively to the study of 4-manifolds and Heegaard Floer homology. He has authored influential books and papers and is recognized

internationally for advancing geometric topology research. Since 2025, he has been a member of the European Research Council (ERC) Scientific Council.

„CoARA helps shifting the focus from publication-based metrics (such as impact factors and h-indexes) toward qualitative evaluation, from external appearance to intrinsic value.”

Moderator



James Morris, PhD

He is a Senior Policy Officer at Science Europe. He has a background in marine and molecular biology and was a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions post-doctoral fellow at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences. He holds a PhD in Molecular Biology from the University of Southampton, UK. At Science Europe, he leads the organisation's work on the topics of research culture and research assessment and

has developed policy positions and recommendations aimed broadly at improving conditions for researchers and the research endeavour. He was a member of the Drafting Team for the CoARA Agreement.

”Research assessment reform requires action at all levels, and engagement between the many stakeholder communities that make up our research sector. At its core, CoARA brings together individuals and organisations, empowering them to create lasting change to our global research system through careful reform of assessment systems – thereby fostering the quality and impact of research, for the benefit of all.”



Panel II



Janne Pölönen

Secretary General for Publication Forum at Federation of Finnish Learned Societies (TSV). Since 2010, he has participated in the development of community-curated national classification of peer-reviewed journals and book publishers (Publication Forum). Lic.Phil. in history, specialising in ancient Roman law and society research, his recent work is in the fields of scholarly communication, bibliometrics, research assessment, open science and learned societies. He is also advocate for the Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication, coordinator of CoARA WG on Multilingualism and Language Biases in Research Assessment, and a member of the CoARA Steering Board (currently a Vice-Chair).

“In three years, CoARA has succeeded in establishing a large and strong community of organizations committed to assessment reform across Europe and beyond.”



Ginevra Peruginelli, PhD

Research Director at the National Research Council of Italy (CNR). Her work focuses on open and free access to law, copyright, legal scholarship evaluation and multilingual legal information retrieval. She co-directs the Journal of Open Access to Law and is active in the Free Access to Law Movement (FALM). She is a member of the ENRESSH Association and of the CoARA Italian NC and was part of the CoARA Working Group on Multilingualism and Language Biases in Research Assessment.

„Before CoARA, reforming research assessment was everyone’s concern and no one’s commitment. CoARA changed that, making reform binding and accountable across a global alliance where linguistic diversity is not penalised, but celebrated. „



Virág Vas, PhD

She is a cell biologist at the Institute of Molecular Life Sciences. In addition to her research on cancer cell research, she serves on the editorial board of *Biokémia*, a Hungarian-language journal. In collaboration with the Italian CNR, she investigates linguistic bias in scientific communication and publishing. As a member of the CoARA Multilingualism Working Group, she tracks research assessment reform and linguistic diversity-related issues.

“Research can be globally visible while remaining meaningful in national languages — CoARA has helped highlight the importance of this balance.”



Dr. Klemen Miklavič

Assistant Director at the Slovenian Research and Innovation Agency (ARIS), currently leading the System Development and Research Culture sector, overseeing the agency's work in the areas of Open Science, research assessment, block funding, and quality assurance. He is responsible for the development and implementation of the national research evaluation framework for publicly funded research institutions and advancement of strategic (block) funding of research.

His previous experience spans a broad range of fields, including higher education, universities, and vocational education and training (VET). He has worked extensively in the Western Balkans, the Middle East, Latin America, and Sub-Saharan Africa. In addition to his policy and advisory work, he has an academic and research background in higher education policy, systems and reforms, with experience at the University of Ljubljana and as a visiting researcher at the University of Oslo and the University of Deusto (Spain). His research output includes numerous articles and book chapters published in international peer-reviewed journals, as well as reports and other professional publications.



Prof. Rafael Schögler, PhD

He is Associate Professor of Translation Studies at the University of Graz in Austria. His research examines translation as a socially negotiated practice that is inherently political and carries transformative potential. In the research project Post-Exile Translation he investigates historical dimensions of knowledge translation, and, with colleagues from the Trans:Method network, he explores the ethical risks and challenges of translation in multilingual research environments.

„COARA creates crucial spaces for dialogue among institutions and scholars, making it possible to identify the full heterogeneity of research realities that should be reflected in assessment procedures.”

Moderator



Ákos Teslár, PhD

He holds a PhD in modern Hungarian literary history. He previously worked as a communications expert at Eötvös Loránd University (ELTE), a leading research university in Budapest, Hungary. Since 2022, he has served as the Head of the Science Policy Office within the Rector's Cabinet of the University. He is founding member of the Hungarian National CoARA Chapter. The Hungarian language has always been important to him; in his younger years, he was active

both as a writer and as a literary critic.

„CoARA's greatest achievement so far has been mobilising more than 800 institutions across Europe to collaborate on improving both the working conditions of researchers and the practices of research assessment.”