

# Reforming research assessment – perspectives from the RCN

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## Reforming research assessment – national and international alignment

- ARRA addresses aspects that the RCN has been working with for many years e.g., research integrity, ethics and valuing open science practice
- Ongoing work and initiatives that the RCN is involved in is in line with NOR-CAM and the Agreement on Reforming Research Assessment ( e.g., The DORA, Plan S and cOAlition S, Science Europe and the Global Research Council)





## Reforming research assessment – national and international alignment

- We need principles and procedures for research assessment that are aligned with the realities and practices of research activity today
- Research funders will have different needs in assessment processes than e.g., a research institutions
- The Agreement emphasizes the autonomy of research institutions, but it is important to ensure that we are well aligned





## What has the RCN done so far?

- Panel assessment
  - panels are asked to assess the project itself first and foremost. The CV and merits of the PI are only a part of the evaluation
  - panels not to put weight on the quantity of publications, but the look at the list of the 10 publications the researchers themselves list to be the best ones
  - JIF is not to be used!
  - other research outputs than publications can be included in the CVs





## What has the RCN done so far?

From 2023 – open science practices are included in the Impact criteria –

➤ Academic impact

“The extent to which the planned outputs of the project are openly accessible to ensure reusability of the research outputs, enhance reproducibility and address important present and/or future scientific challenges.”

➤ And communication and exploitation:

“Appropriate open science practices are implemented as an integral part of the proposed project to ensure open sharing and wide distribution of research outputs.”





## We need to work on the “tools” together – nationally and internationally

The RCN is considering e.g.

- More automated CV formats
- Narrative CVs to allow applicants to emphasize important research outputs and competence rather than the venue of publication
- Go through how we undertake evaluations of institutions and disciplines with responsible use of metrics

But need to address:

- How to find good ways to make more qualitative assessments without making them too time-consuming and resource-intensive?
- Important to ensure comprehensible and predictable assessment criteria, especially for young researchers



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