

RM ROADMAP

Consensus Document for Country Community UKRAINE

Co-Creation Session 1: Understanding the landscape: National Networks and Associations

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RM ROADMAP

“Creating Framework Conditions for Research Management to Strengthen the European Research Area”

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Consensus Document Country Community **Ukraine**

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Understanding the landscape: National Networks and Associations

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1. Introduction

This is an important moment for the research management (RM) community in Europe. The European Commission (EC) and countries across Europe want to better understand the current research management landscape to further strengthen the European Research Area (ERA).

Research management includes a broad range of professionals supporting researchers to achieve excellence in research. For the purpose of this co-creation exercise, Research Managers (RMs) are to be considered as broad as possible including: research policy advisers, research managers, financial support staff, data stewards, research infrastructure operators, knowledge transfer officers, business developers, knowledge brokers, innovation managers, etc. For simplicity, we use the term research management but this exercise covers also other terms such as research support, research management and administration, professionals at the interface of science and other terms which are used as the norm in the national landscapes across Europe.

The RM Roadmap Knowledge and Community Platform (KCP) brings research managers together to shape the future of the profession and support the strengthening of an inclusive research management community in Europe. The KCP is a place where research managers share their views and introduce issues for discussion in a solution-focused endeavour. RM Roadmap Ambassadors lead the discussions for each country on the Knowledge and Community Platform, supported by national and regional RM networks.

This co-creation exercise is the biggest collaboration between RM networks ever to take place in Europe. With a focus on learning insights from RMs, the co-creation exercise seeks to establish a robust framework that can support professional growth and collaboration across the EU and associated countries.

By 2023, 40 country communities have been established within the RM Roadmap Ambassador Network. The RM Roadmap project will use the outcomes from this co-creation exercise to make a roadmap for the future of research management in Europe and to build and exchange solid knowledge on career framework opportunities, upskilling and networking for research managers. RM Roadmap will ultimately build a value proposition for policy makers and institutional leaders who want to strengthen and modernise their research support departments.

This **consensus document for Country Community Ukraine** contains the outcomes of the **First Co-Creation Session - Understanding the landscape: National Networks and Associations**.

A short summary of the main outcomes from the co-creation exercise is included in section 2. More information about the topic of RM National Networks and Associations is detailed in section 3. Recommendations about best practices, challenges and lessons learnt about (formal or informal) national networks, associations, communities are provided in section 4.

For more information about the RM Roadmap initiative, the reader can consult the following website: www.rmroadmap.eu

2. Summary of Co-Creation Session 1

The activity of Ukrainian group members at the KCP was extremely low that forced the ambassadors to get some information via oral communication, social media and rely on own expertise mostly.

We observed that it was quite difficult to distinguish between professional activity of research management and specific networks and initiatives/project aimed at development of research area in Ukraine:

- Section of University Libraries at Ukrainian Librarian Association
- The Association of technical universities rectors (<http://www.ar-tech-uni.org.ua/>)
- The community of university rectors (<https://zvo.knu.ua/>)

The only formal network that unites research and high education managers is the *Professional Network of Research and HE Managers*. (est 2022), but its activity is not focused on research management as a professional activity yet.

While Ukrainian legislation defines a term “scientific and orgranizational activity” (as an national version of research management) it is important to define the scope clearly. The definition should include the list of activities, which is in the research management frame.

3. Discussion Outcomes of Co-Creation Session 1

This consensus document for Country Community Ukraine contains the outcomes of the First Co-Creation Session - Understanding the Landscape: National Networks and Associations.

1. If you have a national network (formal or informal), how did it help you? If you don't, please say how you have built your (internal) network and are using it.

The only formal network which might address research management issues directly exists in Ukraine. It is the *Professional Network of Research and HE Managers (PNRM)*. The main goal of the network is an implementation of innovative approaches for the development of spheres of educational, scientific, scientific and technical, innovative activity in Ukraine at the national and regional levels.

The statute of the PNRM includes 19 activity directions, but only a few of them deal with research management as a professional activity, namely:

- deepening the dialogue between professional expert communities of Ukraine and other countries in the spheres of educational, scientific, scientific and technical, innovative activities
- development of proposals for reforming education and R&I areas in Ukraine

The network was established in 2022 by representatives of universities. By now, the network activity is not visible yet as it is not mature enough yet.

The current needs of research-performing institutions in management are covered by a number of trainings on grant writing (provided mostly by NGOs and sponsored by international donors), on IP protection and technology transfer, infodays on European and international funding programs (by NCPs and NGOs received grants on sharing info), presentations on publication databases and tools for analysis of publication activities (e.g. by Clariative Analytics) etc.

It is worth mentioning that the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine provides some internships for persons who have been appointed as Scientific Secretary of the Research Institute. It is the person responsible for paperwork on research projects, reporting, ensuring the research management process follows legal procedures etc. NASU has a special department on scientific and administrative staff.

2. What challenges do RM networks and associations encounter in contributing to national and European R&I systems? If there are no networks, please elaborate if there have been networking initiatives and if not, please state why you think that is the case.

While the PNRM is growing and focusing on particular goals, we must admit a lack of systemic efforts and coordination in the field of research management. However, coordination and network development need additional effort and resources of activists and volunteers, which are mainly researchers or professors. It means they are not able to spend a sufficient amount of their own resources at research management promotion and development.

3. Please list all of the formal and informal networks and associations of research managers in your country and link to their websites or online groups. Skip if there are no networks your knowledge.

- the *Professional Network of Research and HE Managers*. It was established in 2022. The network is emerged as a result of the DAAD-funded projects “Management of Internationalisation and German-Ukrainian Cooperation” (led by the Leibniz Universität Hannover, Germany) and THEA Ukraine and THEA – Ukraine X (led by the FH Münster, Germany) The PNRM aims at creating a network of professional managers of education and

science of Ukraine, training professional managers and teams for transformation and integration into European and global research areas, as well as forming a new mobile elite as a foundation for rebuilding Ukraine in the postwar period. (<https://ua.linkedin.com/in/professional-network-of-research-and-he-managers-pnrm-ukraine-84860223a>)

- Section of University Libraries at Ukrainian Librarian Association. It is aimed at improving information and library support for development of science, education and culture in Ukraine (<https://ula.org.ua/en/sekciyi-krugli-stoli-2/1100-seksiia-universytetskykh-bibliotek>)

Also, there are a number of formal networks of higher education top-managers:

- The Association of technical universities rectors (<http://www.ar-tech-uni.org.ua/>)
- The Union of rectors of Ukraine (<https://zvo.knu.ua/>)

Their objectives among others are international cooperation in higher education and science, participation in public-state partnership in the field of education, science and international activities etc.

4. Please list and link to any policy documents and funding which mentions research management or the equivalent national name(s) for research management.

The main law regulating research activity in Ukraine is the Law on Science, Scientific and Technical activity (<https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/848-19#Text>). It operates a term 'scientific and organizational activity' (науково-організаційна діяльність), which is defined as activities aimed at methodical, organizational support and coordination of scientific, scientific-technical and scientific-pedagogical activities.

In addition, many universities have developed educational program on research management issues. There are some examples of such programs:

- Lviv National University - Management of Scientific Research . https://chem.lnu.edu.ua/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/RP_Menedzment_nauk_doslid_PV_2017.pdf ,
- Chernivtsi National University - Management of Scientific Research <https://archer.chnu.edu.ua/bitstream/handle/123456789/7243/%D0%9F%D0%BE%D1%81%D1%96%D0%B1%D0%BD%D0%B8%D0%BA%20%D0%9C%D0%BC%D0%9D%D0%94%20%202.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>
- Kharkiv National University – Methodology and organization of scientific research - <https://ecology.karazin.ua/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/metodologija-ta-organizacija-naukovih-doslidzhen-r.p.-2019-2020.pdf>



4. Recommendations

1. The network has been created recently, and yet it doesn't focus on research management. So, the recommendation is to include in statute and activity plans measures to develop managerial skills.
2. Further work on professionalizing research management is needed, which might include a range of training programs on different aspects of research management. Also, there is a need for network development support. Thematic networks could be created in the fields of technology transfer, research fundraising, etc. as an alternative for research managers community. It is important to elaborate measures on promotion of research management and networking in order to involve more experts and stakeholders into RM.

5. References

6. Acknowledgements



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