

Dear colleague,

On behalf of the European Reform University Alliance we would like to invite you to participate in a **two-day workshop “Participating in and creating scientific networks”**.

The **purpose** of the workshop is to facilitate exchange of experience in building international research networks between early-career researchers and senior researchers.

The starting point will be to develop international research networks within the context of ERUA member universities and identify subsequent opportunities for building research networks beyond ERUA. Research and accessing funding for research increasingly requires developing international research networks. Early-career researchers will be given the opportunity to present their research and ideas for research collaboration and receive feedback and coaching from experience researchers and research support staff.

This is the just **the first of a series of workshops** that will be taking place throughout the next 2 years and will cover a broad scope of topics ranging from the way networking works, through funding opportunities for collaborative research, to specific scientific areas in which the ERUA participants have common portfolios.

Target group

Early-career researchers with motivation to develop international collaboration and research networks

Date and time:

- 23 March 2022 9am – 4pm
- 24 March 2022 9am – 3pm

Place

The workshop will be organized as a webinar using Zoom

Programme

Day 1

- Introduction and experience in developing scientific networks
- Presentation of participants and research focus
- Participating in and creating scientific networks
- Developing concept notes and 60 second pitch.

Day 2

- Presentation of research concepts
- Tools for developing research networks
- Exploring tangible methods for creating research networks and engaging in research networks
- Moving from research idea to participating in (international) research networks
- Reflection and summarization

A more detailed programme will be sent out in the beginning of February.

In order to ensure optimal interaction and dialogue between early-career researchers and senior researchers we have limited the workshop to 25 participants (5 from each University), so we would kindly ask you to send a **short description of your research area and motivation for participating in the workshop** (up to 1 page) to romain.bijead@univ-paris8.fr no later than **28 February, 2022**.

About ERUA

The “European Reform University Alliance” is a part of European University Initiative, aiming to consolidate the most advanced HEIs in Europe. ERUA is formed by University Paris-8, University of Konstanz - Germany, Roskilde University - Denmark, New Bulgarian University and University of Aegean - Greece. As its mission states, “we offer students a rich and diverse environment with a shared pedagogical approach focused on project-based learning, societal challenges and critical thinking. We develop personalised learning pathways in a multilingual, multicultural environment. We also offer the framework and structures to allow students from different backgrounds to become part of a shared European experience.

We pursue excellence in research by promoting free thinking, a bottom-up approach and open science. We cover most disciplinary fields with a particularly strong profile in the Humanities, Social Sciences and Arts. This enables us to develop original interdisciplinary approaches and new answers and solutions to contemporary problems and challenges.

Our educational programmes and research projects are geared towards societal impact. To achieve this we work in close collaboration with a wide range of actors. As a European University we combine local engagement and global vision.”

More information at: www.erua-eui.eu

About the series of workshops for early-career researchers

The general aim of the workshops for early career researchers, which will be held twice a year is “to present project ideas for collaborative and/or interdisciplinary research projects or projects that strengthen the links between the research profiles of the Alliance and receive feedback from experienced PIs and research development units.”

The overall objective is to lay the groundwork for the development of the think tank in ERUA and early-career researchers should create the future core of the think tank on Social Sciences and Humanities in interplay with natural and technical sciences and drive the development of alternative indicators. In this light, the workshops will not necessarily focus on EU funding, which has traditionally focused on the natural and technical sciences.

The main target group is early-career researchers, so the initial focus is on research collaboration, as young researchers typically do not collaborate with each other, but with senior researchers.

The first two workshops will bring together young researchers from ERUA partner institutions and facilitate dialogue for increased collaboration and network building among young researchers. A logical next step would for subsequent meetings would be to expand into interdisciplinary topics and funding opportunities – both European and National.