

Institutional public endorsement statement for DORA

The University of Latvia (UL) is committed to advancing science, higher education, and societal development. Built on the values of **excellence, openness, and responsibility**, UL fosters a research culture that promotes quality, integrity, collaboration, and societal relevance. UL endorses the **San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)** and is committed to implementing its principles across all research-related activities.

As Latvia's leading higher education institution, UL supports the professional development of individual researchers and promotes continuous research excellence. To uphold these standards, UL applies fair, transparent, and inclusive assessment practices that focus on the intrinsic merit, content, and impact of research - rather than journal-based metrics.

UL endorses the principles of the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) and is committed to their implementation across all research activities. Accordingly, research excellence at UL is assessed based on the quality, relevance, and contribution of the work itself, not on publication metrics such as journal impact factors. This approach is consistently applied to researcher recruitment, internal funding allocation, project evaluation, mentorship, tenure, and promotion procedures.

In line with European and international standards for responsible research assessment, the University of Latvia:

- Recognises and rewards diverse research contributions, including publications, data, software, innovation, open science practices, teaching, mentorship, and public engagement.
- Balances quantitative metrics with qualitative evaluations, clearly communicating the context and limitations of any metrics used.
- Is committed to minimising bias and ensuring accountability and transparency in all research assessment processes.
- Regularly reviews and improves assessment procedures to incorporate the latest best practices and align with evolving European and international standards.

By embedding fair, transparent, and inclusive research assessment - grounded in quality, relevance, and diverse contributions – across all academic activities, the University of Latvia further strengthens its position as a leading, responsible, and forward-looking institution dedicated to advancing knowledge, supporting researchers, and contributing to societal progress.