

About the Network for Education and Research Quality

What is NERQ's history?

The [Network for Education and Research Quality](#) was initiated by a cluster of four Horizon 2020 projects in September 2020. [Here](#) you can find an overview of these projects. After the World Conference on Research Integrity in 2022, Julia Priß-Buchheit and Mariette van den Hoven (both coordinators) continued their exchange. By the summer of that same year, the founders involved representatives from the European Commission in discussions.

On November 25, 2022, the Network's online launch attracted over 90 attendees. And, recently in March 2023, the Network held its first hybrid meeting in Brussels with over 155 subscriptions. The Network for Education and Research Quality has made significant strides already, and there is much to look forward to in the future. In particular, they published a position paper for research integrity education (preprint), available at <https://osf.io/5w9kg/>.

What does NERQ aim at?

The Network for Education and Research Quality has three main aims. First, the organization seeks to exchange good practices in education and research. This exchange includes sharing experiences, formats, and information on "what is happening." Second, the Network aims to stimulate the quality of training and trainers in the field, enhancing the educational experience for students and encouraging professional development for trainers. Finally, the organization aims to encourage collaborations on research-based innovations in education. By promoting joint research efforts, the Network hopes to foster new and innovative approaches to teaching and learning. Through these three aims, the Network for Education and Research Quality aims to improve the quality of higher education and research worldwide.

Why do we need NERQ?

The Network for Education and Research Quality was launched as a network initiative due to several reasons. Firstly, many different separate groups are working on education nationally and internationally. This separation can lead to a lack of communication and collaboration between individuals and institutions, meaning essential developments and innovations may stay unnoticed and not be shared. The Network aims to bridge these institutional, country, and domain bubbles, facilitating the exchange of ideas and good practices.

Secondly, with many initiatives recently taken in various regions of the world, such as in Europe, Asia, and Africa, it is clear that a need exists for more opportunities for training and collaboration in education and research. This need applies to students, PhD students, and senior researchers alike. While training is available in some regions of the world, there is still room for improvement elsewhere.

What is the scope of NERQ?

The Network for Education and Research Quality takes a broad scope regarding the training and education it offers. Specifically, the organization focuses on providing training in research integrity and responsible conduct of research, open science practices, Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), and research ethics.

By offering training in these different areas, the Network aims to ensure that students and researchers are prepared to conduct their work systematically with rigour, integrity, fairness, and ethical considerations at the forefront. Moreover, the Network recognizes the importance of open science practices in contributing to greater transparency and reproducibility in research. With these goals in mind, the Network for Education and Research Quality strives to promote excellence and innovation in education and research.

You want to become a member or join one of NERQ's Special Interest Groups:

- ↘ open science;
- ↘ diversity, equality, inclusion;
- ↘ training supervisors and group leaders;
- ↘ automated content production in research and education;
- ↘ curriculum of responsible (conduct of) research;
- ↘ education on research methodology;
- ↘ early career researchers (ECR);
- ↘ RI and OS in transdisciplinary research;
- ↘ research on education;
- ↘ academic integrity policies (together with the ENAI working group)

Join our [communication channel](#) and reach out to the SIG group leaders.