



# Inspireurope policy recommendations for support of researchers at risk

Focus group

*Alison Morrisroe, Policy and Project Officer, European University Association*

- **Key outputs from Inspireurope project (2019-2022) delivered by EUA**

- **Researchers at risk: Mapping Europe's Response (2020)**



**Inspireurope  
Recommendations:  
Expanding  
opportunities  
in Europe for  
researchers at risk**

The image shows the cover of a report titled 'Inspireurope Recommendations: Expanding opportunities in Europe for researchers at risk'. The cover has a light blue background with abstract white and blue shapes. The title is written in a bold, sans-serif font.

- **Inspireurope recommendations report (2022)**

**Recommendations for**

- EU policy level
- National policy levels
- Higher education institutions
- Other

**Compendium of resources**

- Relevant policy links
- Resources, reports, webinars, etc

## Inspireurope recommendations

- 1. Acknowledge and support researchers at risk in higher education and research, including as a matter of defending academic freedom, and as a contribution to diversity, equity, and inclusion**
- 2. Establish a dedicated European fellowship scheme**
- 3. Create national support programmes for researchers at risk**
- 4. Facilitate access of researchers at risk to existing European funding programmes**
- 5. Build capacity to enhance long-term prospects for researchers at risk**
- 6. Expand opportunities beyond academia for researchers at risk**
- 7. Consider intersectionality in the support for researchers at risk**
- 8. Enhance visa pathways for researchers at risk**

Facilitate access of researchers at risk to existing European funding programmes

- Higher education institutions should implement the MSCA Guidelines for Inclusion of Researchers at Risk when recruiting researchers, and provide accompanying measures, such as career guidance and training. The latter should include information about EU and national fellowship and research programmes.

- Build capacity to enhance long-term prospects for researchers at risk
  - Designate both an academic and an administrative mentor and ensuring that they are adequately trained and supported;
  - Provide for the researchers' guidance and information on academic and research cultures, and programmes;
  - Offer access to (local) language training;
  - Provide career guidance for researchers at risk and their partners;
  - Encourage networking with fellow researchers for mutual learning;
  - Adapt and supplement existing measures to welcome and include international researchers (where they exist) with support specifically tailored to the needs of at-risk researchers.

- Expand opportunities beyond academia for researchers at risk
- Provision of information and advice, as part of their institution's existing career services, or by referring researchers to specialised services for further support.
- Offer opportunities for researchers to engage in university-business partnerships.
- Have a role to play in ensuring researchers at risk are fully aware of the challenging work environment and employment frameworks for all researchers across Europe.

- Consider intersectionality in the support for researchers at risk
- Dimensions of intersectionality are often already addressed in institutions' equity/equality, diversity, and inclusion strategies.
- A concrete link to researchers at risk needs to be established in institutional strategic documents, activities, and structures that consider aspects of intersectionality.
- Internal selection and appointment committees should receive training on intersectionality to avoid biases with regard to researchers at risk, and to ensure successful and inclusive placements that recognise that there may not be a one-size fits all approach.





# Thank you for your attention!

[alison.morrisroe@eua.eu](mailto:alison.morrisroe@eua.eu)