

Statement of Research Principles

These principles guide research assessment in taught programmes, particularly the Research Methods module and Capstone Project. Faculty members retain academic freedom in determining appropriate sources within their pedagogical contexts, subject to the maintenance of scholarly standards.

The University believes that research excellence is best demonstrated through rigorous inquiry, methodological transparency, and meaningful contribution to knowledge and practice. Research assessment at Regent European University therefore emphasizes the quality and impact of individual works rather than relying solely on journal rankings or commercial metrics.

Regent European University aligns its research values with the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) and the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA), following the established path of research-intensive institutions that prioritize responsible research assessment practices.

Knowledge advances through diverse scholarly traditions and contexts. Research originating in non-Western countries and published in regional journals, including Diamond Open Access publications, represents valuable contribution to global scholarship.

Multiple forms of research evidence are considered credible contributions to scholarly inquiry when appropriately contextualized and evaluated for rigor. Beyond peer-reviewed academic publications, gray literature and practitioner research are recognized as valuable sources of knowledge. Categories of acceptable evidence include institutional research reports, strategic analysis from recognized organizations, scholarly commentary in established outlets, policy research and working papers, and industry data sources. Specific examples are provided in *Appendix A*.

Research quality is evaluated through comprehensive assessment. Faculty and students are encouraged to consider methodological rigor, institutional credibility, and academic impact as evidenced through citation or influence within scholarly and professional communities.

Appendix A: Examples of Acceptable Research Evidence

The following sources represent credible evidence of research rigor and impact when appropriately contextualized:

Institutional Research

Reports and analyses from global bodies including the World Bank, OECD, IMF, UN agencies, and established non-governmental organizations

Strategic Analysis

Data-driven research from recognized consultancy firms such as McKinsey & Company, Boston Consulting Group, and Bain & Company

Scholarly Commentaries

High-level analysis published in outlets such as The Economist, Financial Times, and Harvard Business Review

Policy Research

Working papers, policy briefs, and preprints that demonstrate scholarly rigor and societal relevance

Industry Data Sources

Contemporary statistical analysis and market research from recognized industry bodies, trade associations, and commercial research organizations