



Building Capacity in the Ukrainian R&I Ecosystem

25 September 2026

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OF RESEARCH PROJECTS: FROM GRANT APPLICATION TO SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION

Programme

10.00–11.30 CEST (11.00–12.30 EET)

10.00–10.10 Welcome and introductory remarks

- **Olga Polotska**, Executive Director, National Research Foundation of Ukraine (NRFU)
- **Lidia Borrell-Damián**, Secretary General, Science Europe

10.10–11.25 Panel discussion

- **Aleksandra Butowt**, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission
- **Gloria Gonzalez**, Research Manager, Madrid Institute of Materials Science (ICMM-CSIC)
- **Katriin Pirk**, Research Funding Officer, Estonian Research Council (ETAG)

Moderator:

- **Hans Willems**, Secretary General, Research Foundation Flanders (FWO)

11.25–11.30 Closing Remarks

- **Lidia Borrell-Damián**, Secretary General, Science Europe

Guiding Questions for the Webinar

- **Balancing Oversight and Autonomy:** How can funding agencies strike the right balance between necessary financial accountability and the flexibility researchers need to adapt to unpredictable project developments?
- **Budget Rigidity vs. Flexibility:** How detailed should financial planning be at the grant application stage to ensure public accountability without restricting a project's ability to evolve over several years?
- **Aligning Authority with Accountability:** How can we better align roles and decision-making power among PIs, host institutions, and funding agencies so that administrative rules do not undermine a researcher's ability to manage their project effectively?
- **Preventing Double Funding without Administrative Overhead:** How can institutions effectively differentiate legitimate resource-sharing from double funding without creating an excessive administrative burden?

About the webinar series

Following the success of the first series of webinars, the initiative is continued in 2026 with three more webinars taking place between June and November:

- **26 June** – Transforming research assessment systems: criteria, quality, and societal impact
- **25 September** – Financial Management of research projects: from grant application to successful implementation
- **27 November** – Risk management in research funding: approaches, tools, and international practices

All webinars are scheduled to take place from 10.00–11.30 CEST (11.00–12.30 EET)