RESEARCH ASSESSMENT REPORT ON THE HUMANITIES

Peter Jonkers (Tilburg University, the Netherlands), April 16, 2015
General Observations

• I will limit myself to those topics that are specifically relevant to the humanities in Lithuania.

• The general quality of research is good (av. Score: 2,9): most units are strong national players with some international recognition.

• Many of the research results deserve an international readership.
General Observations (continued).

• It is almost impossible for any unit in the humanities to be a global leader.
• Units invest in multidisciplinary collaboration.
• Good infrastructure.
• Many units perform better that was to be expected on the basis of their overload of teaching.
Assessment Score 1: Research Quality

Determining factors:

• Conducting academic research at all
• Productivity
• Quality of the publications and kind of journals in which they appeared.
• International impact
• Interdisciplinary collaboration
Assessment Score 2: Econ. & soc. imp.

Determining factors:

• Number and variety of partners in society
• Number of people of the UoA involved
• Structural character of collaboration
• A sought-after partner.
• Economic impact was overall rather limited.
Assessment score 3: Infrastructure

- Library facilities were above average, thanks to EU funding.
- How to keep this up to date?
- Working space varies.
Assessment score 4: Management

Determining factors:

• Quality SWOT-analysis
• Clear research profile?
• Is the UoA a group or as a collection of individuals?
• Stimulating interdisciplinary collaboration?
• Attracting external funding?
Assessment Score 5: Potential

Determining factors:

• Research quality in relation to focus.
• Impact on society (becomes ever more important throughout Europe)
• Quality of management
• Number of phd-students and researchers from abroad.
• Attracting external funding.
Overall Assessment Score

• Most UoA are strong national players with some international recognition.

• Great heterogeneity of disciplines within one UoA.

• Sometimes great differences in research quality within one UoA.

• Hence, no general conclusions about the quality of specific research areas.
Concluding Remarks

• A ranking system for journals and series.
• Need for internationalization (including phd-students).
• Need for external funding.
• More interdisciplinary research.