

The proposed project seeks to provide a deep and comprehensive understanding of the changing scholarly communications attitudes & behaviours and work-life of the Polish Arts, Humanities and Theology (A&H&T) early career researchers (ECRs), a topic which has been wholly neglected. It is about young scientists' attitudes and behaviours related to seeking and using scientific information, citation, publishing, dissemination, reviewing and reputation building.

It also, importantly, sets out to establish whether things are changing, among others as a consequence of the external turbulent environment, especially COVID 19 pandemic and others (war in Ukraine, progressive inflation) as well as consequence of the reform of science in Poland and establishment of new scientific disciplines in 2018 and new rules for the evaluation of researchers.

The project does this by employing repeat depth interviews and an exhaustive literature review. It also seeks to contextualise the study by contrasting A&H&T ECRs with their compatriots in science, engineering, medicine, agriculture and social sciences who were respondents in two our earlier international projects: **Harbingers** (funded by The Publishing Research Consortium & CIBER Research Ltd.; 2015-2018 <https://ciber-research.com/harbingers.html>) as well as **Harbingers\_2** with the context of pandemic (funded by The A.P. Sloan Foundation; 2020-2022 <http://ciber-research.com/harbingers-2/>).

This project is a national follow-up of these two projects carried out in seven countries, this time with reference to Polish representatives of previously unanalysed scientific disciplines, and taking into account the specificity of the Polish scientific community.

Given that ECRs are a very large, vulnerable and strategic body of researchers (the professors of tomorrow) it is essential that we all understand how they are faring? How are they communicating? Are the harbingers of change? Are they any different from their peers in science, engineering, medicine, agriculture and social sciences, so requiring special attention in regard to such things as e.g. reputational platforms? Also, as many are Millennials, are they possibly bringing new ways of behaviour with them that should obtain the attention of senior colleagues, publishers, funders, science and cultural policy makers?