

Quantitative research assessment and its unintended consequences Dagiene, E.

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Quantitative research assessment and its unintended consequences

The PhD thesis provides a critical analysis of Lithuania's three-decade experiment with quantitative research assessment. It demonstrates how policies designed to boost the nation's international scientific standing through metrics have led to significant unintended consequences, including the strategic 'gaming' of publication systems and conflicts over disciplinary standards.

The study exposes the complex power dynamics between policymakers, universities, and scientific elites, demonstrating the ability to contest and reshape reforms at all levels. By examining the evolution of funding formulas, the use of journal blacklists, and the problematic evaluation of scholarly books based on their publishers' prestige, the thesis highlights the limitations of a purely quantitative approach.

It concludes by arguing for a move towards more responsible, context-sensitive evaluation models, offering valuable insights for science policy in transitioning and smaller nations seeking to foster authentic research excellence.

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