

Risk mitigation plan

- The government takes active steps to ensure the university research through its funding programs is safeguarded to protect the provincial or the national long-term economic security against risks.
- The potential economic/geopolitical risks associated with the project will be assessed.
- The same guideline is applied to both national and provincial grant applications (e.g., NSERC Alliance, Ontario Research Fund - Small Infrastructure)
- Two components of the document:
 - Potential risk identified
 - Risk mitigation plan

Mitigating economic and/or geopolitical risks in sensitive research projects

A TOOL FOR UNIVERSITY RESEARCHERS

December 2019

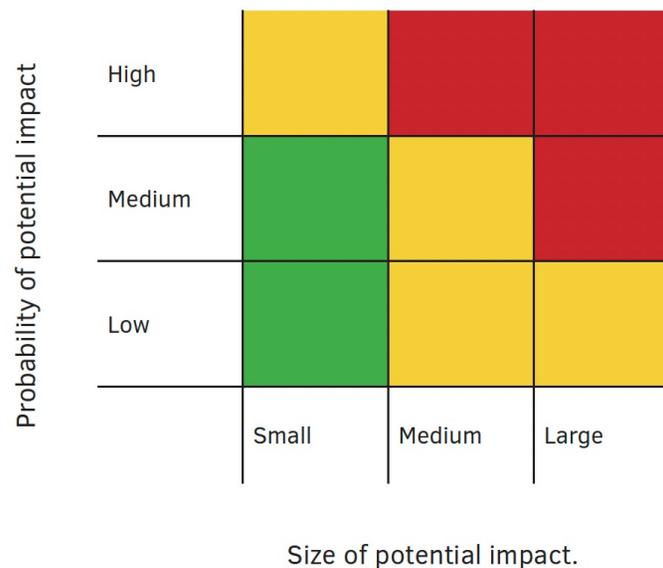
<https://www.univcan.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/mitigating-economic-and-or-geopolitical-risks-in-sensitive-research-projects-dec-2019.pdf>

Potential risk identified

- Describe the methodology used to identify the risks, e.g., advanced Google search, key words. Screen participants (publications, affiliations, co-authors).
- Identify the risks on two aspects: (1) geopolitical (2) economic

	Geopolitical impact of research	
	Size	Probability
<p>Potential for commercial impact</p> <p>If you are not sure about your project's potential for commercial value, you can try an advanced online search for: <i>[your research topic] AND ("cost reduction" OR "revenue growth" OR "market size")</i></p>		
<p>Potential for national security impact</p> <p>If you are not sure about your project's potential for significant national security impact, you can try an advanced online search for: <i>[your research topic] AND ("military" OR "defence" OR "security" OR "intelligence")</i></p>		
<p>Potential to impact domestic or international political interests</p> <p>If you are not sure about your project's potential impact on political interests, you can try advanced online searches for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>[your research topic] AND ("human rights" OR "democracy" OR "authoritarian" OR "state-sponsored")</i> <i>[your research topic] AND ("militant" OR "extremist")</i> 		

Fig. 1 Risk Matrix



Risk mitigation plan

- Building a strong team
- Non-academic partners
- Cybersecurity and data management
- Use of research findings
- International travel

Best practice checklist for each topic is available in the guideline.
Need to specify details of the practice based on the proposed project.
Try to be transparent.

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