



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

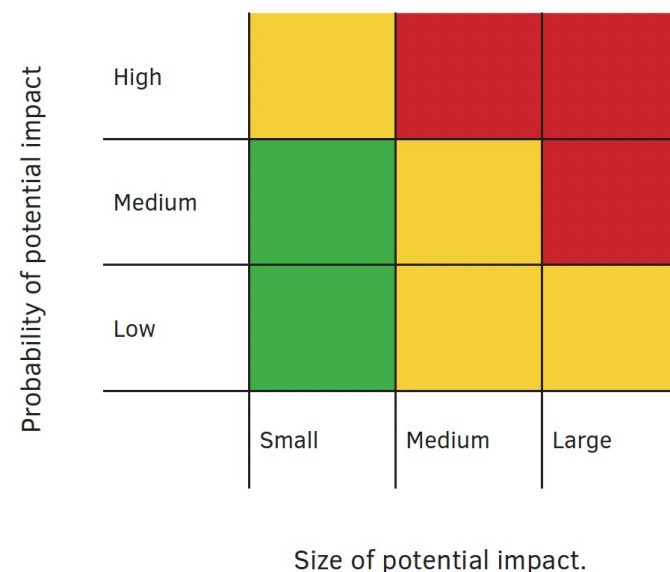
<https://www.univcan.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/mitigating-economic-and-or-geopolitical-risks-in-sensitive-research-projects-dec-2019.pdf>

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
Potential for commercial impact 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>		
Potential for national security impact 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>		
Potential to impact domestic or international political interests If you are not sure about your project's potential impact on political interests, you can try advanced online searches for: <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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