

# **NIOSH under constraints: what's at stake for occupational health & safety?**

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# NIOSH under constraints: what's at stake for occupational health & safety?

September 10, 2025



À lire aussi



L'administration Trump lance son plan de réduction des effectifs fédéraux



Licenciements à la directrice scientifi



## Etats-Unis : Gel des embauches, licenciements massifs, la purge de la recherche et des universités s'accélère

**PURGE** · Les plus prestigieuses universités américaines, parmi lesquelles Johns Hopkins, Harvard, Stanford et Columbia, subissent de lourdes coupes budgétaires. Une conséquence immédiate : la fragilisation de la recherche scientifique américaine

OHS

f in X

### NIOSH Faces Uncertain Future as AIHA Pushes for Funding Restoration

*NIOSH faces deep funding cuts that threaten critical worker safety programs as AIHA ramps up a nationwide advocacy campaign to restore support and preserve the occupational health ecosystem.*

BY STASIA DEMARCO JUL 30, 2025



LA PRESSE

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### L'Université Johns Hopkins annonce plus de 2000 licenciements



Coupes budgétaires dans la recherche médicale sous Trump : un impact majeur dans les États ruraux, notamment républicains

Published: March 15, 2025 7:46am GMT

« La science ne ment pas, Trump si », dit cette pancarte lors d'une manifestation du mouvement Stand Up for Science, devant l'hôtel-de-ville de Phila (Pennsylvanie), en mars 2025. Une autre pancarte dénonce les coupes budgétaires décidées par les NIH. AmyLutz/Shutterstock

# What is happening to NIOSH?

As of September 3, 2025, the future of NIOSH is brighter but still at stake

Health & Human Services Department proposal for NIOSH in the 2026 Budget

- Elimination of NIOSH as an autonomous entity & merging the newly created Administration for Healthy America
- 80 % funding cut (\$ 73 M )
- Three remaining programs : Mining research program, Firefighter cancer registry, Mesothelioma tissue bank

The Senate Appropriations Committee opposes budget cuts & recommends full funding

- \$ 363,8 millions for NIOSH

Further deliberations on the budget are anticipated in the House of Representatives



## HHS "JUSTIFIES" 80% NIOSH CUTS

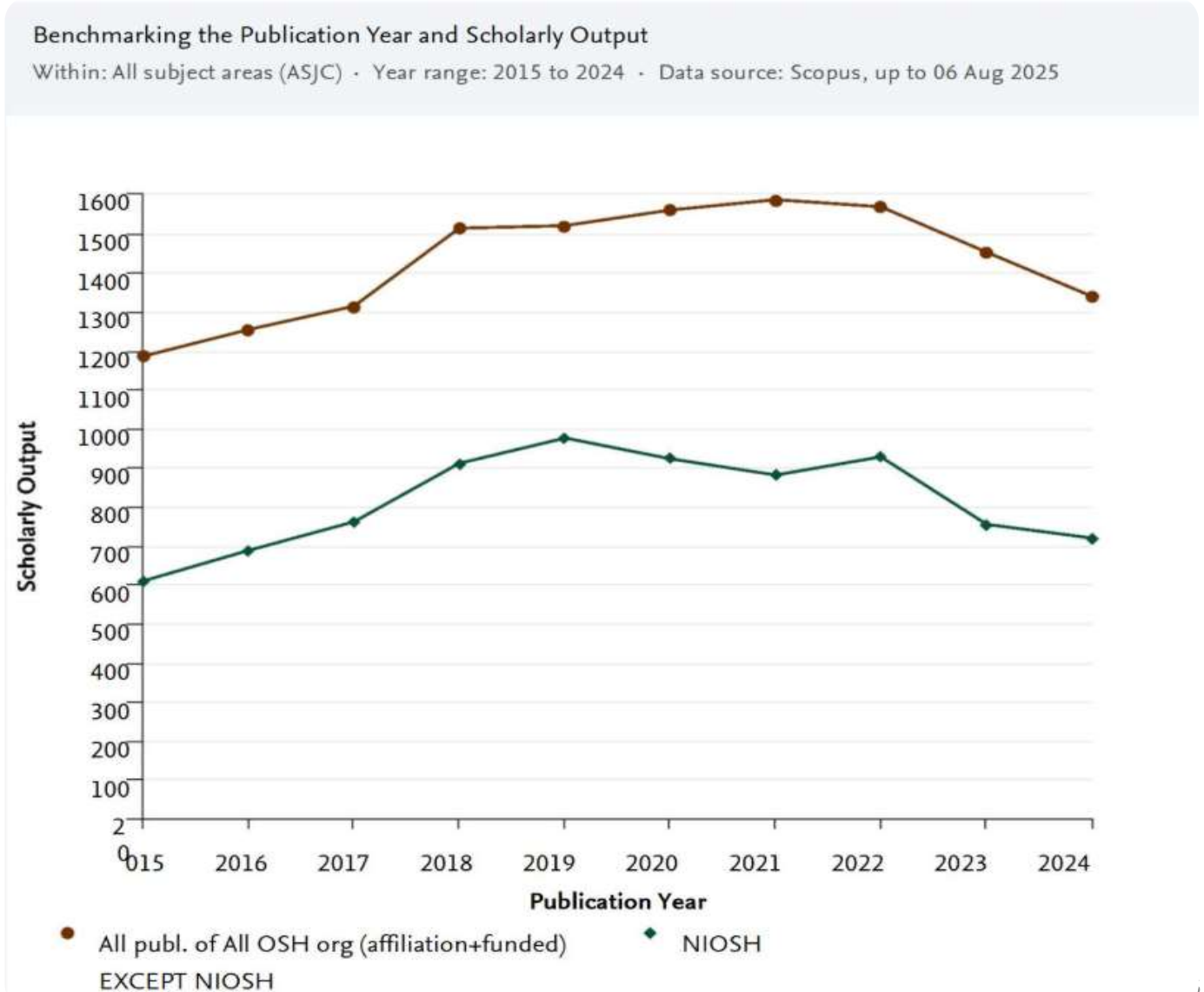
June 11, 2025



# What if NIOSH disappeared? What is the weight of NIOSH in OSH scientific production ?

Among OSH research institutes, in the past 10 years, NIOSH published about one third of all scientific peer reviewed articles.

Note : Scopus does not represent well journal published in other languages than English



# For a few more slides, we will be looking further into scientific production & collaboration by NIOSH and OSH research institutions

- Policy relevance of NIOSH/ OSH research institutes scientific work
- Research collaborations

## OSH Research institutions included

- BAuA
- CIOP-PIB
- FIOH
- HSE
- INAIL
- INRS
- IRSST
- IWH
- JNIOASH
- KOSHA
- NFA
- NIOSH
- STAMI

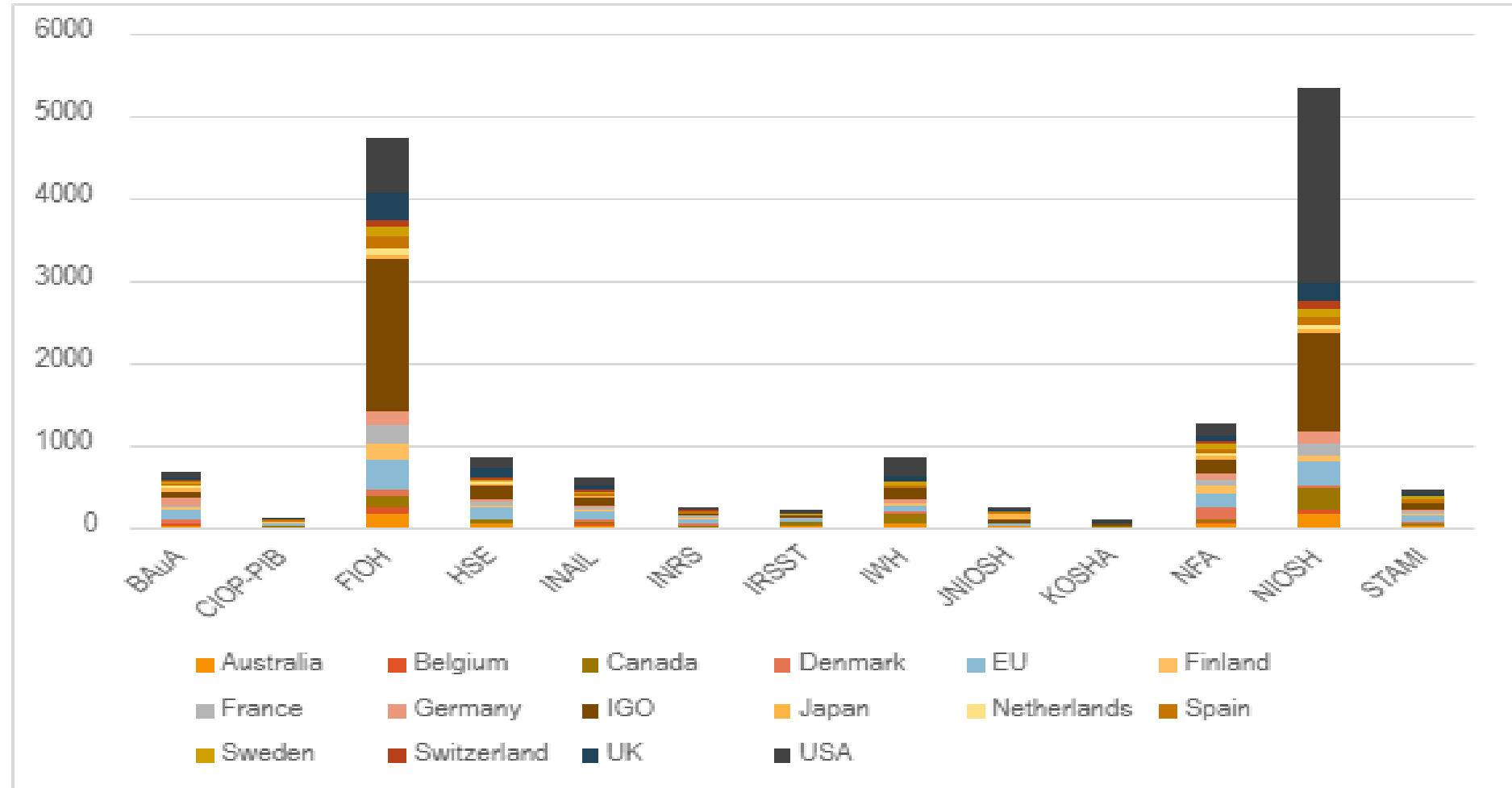
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## OSH Research institutions not found – included in databases consulted

- ELINYAE
- INSST
- SAWEE
- Unisanté
- MoM
- TNO
- IFA

# Policy relevance of our scientific publications

OSH research organizations journal articles or reviews published 2015-2024 cited by policy documents from main countries and IGO - Overton database

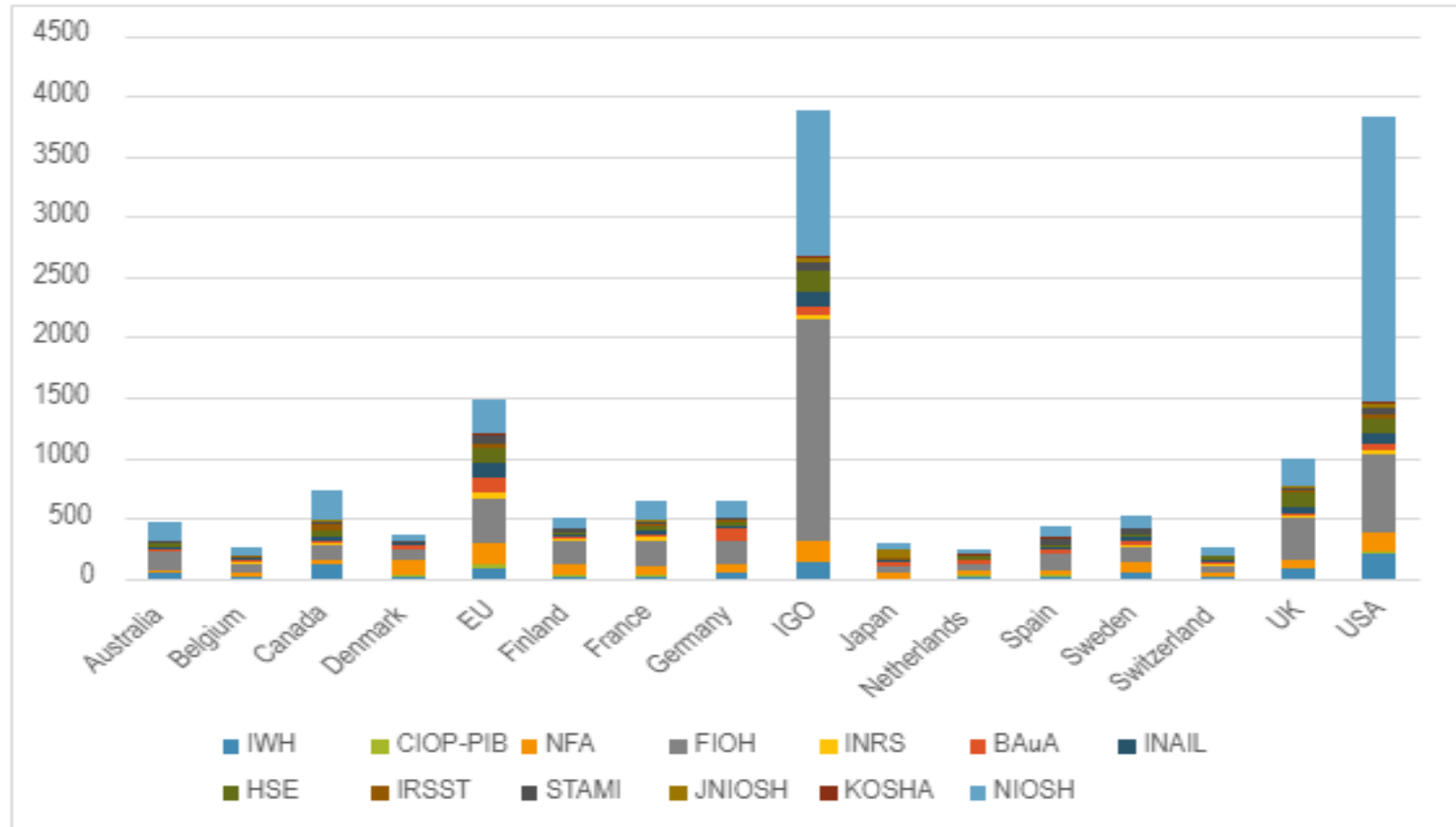


**Overton** is the world's largest database of policy documents and grey literature, currently indexing over **21 million documents** from nearly **44,000 organizations** across **193 countries**. It enables researchers, institutions, and policymakers to **track the influence of academic research on public policy** by identifying where scholarly work is cited or mentioned in official documents. IA generated

# Policy relevance of our scientific publications

Main countries & IGO publishing policy documents as of August 2025 citing OSH organizations journal articles or reviews published 2015-2024. Overton database

Overton is the world's largest database of policy documents and grey literature, currently indexing over **21 million documents** from nearly **44,000 organizations** across **193 countries**. It enables researchers, institutions, and policymakers to **track the influence of academic research on public policy** by identifying where scholarly work is cited or mentioned in official documents. IA generated





# How to interpret the VOS viewer map :

**Nodes** : Each node represent an institution; closer the nodes, closer the relationship, size reflects the number of articles

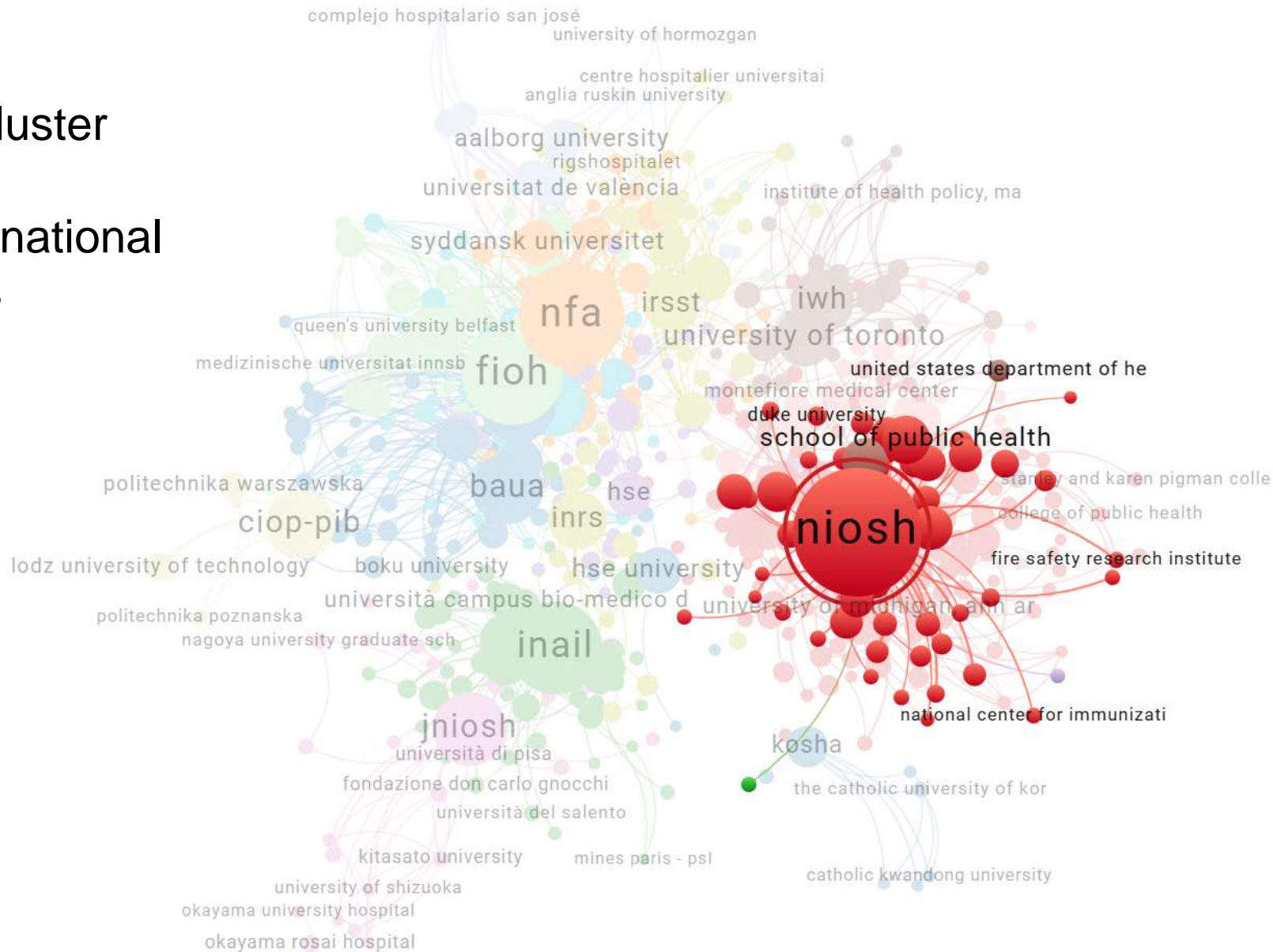
**Colors:** nodes & lines of the same color represent clusters of collaboration

**Lines** : collaboration (co-authored scientific production, by institution) Thickness represent the strenth of the collaboration

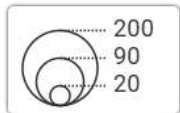
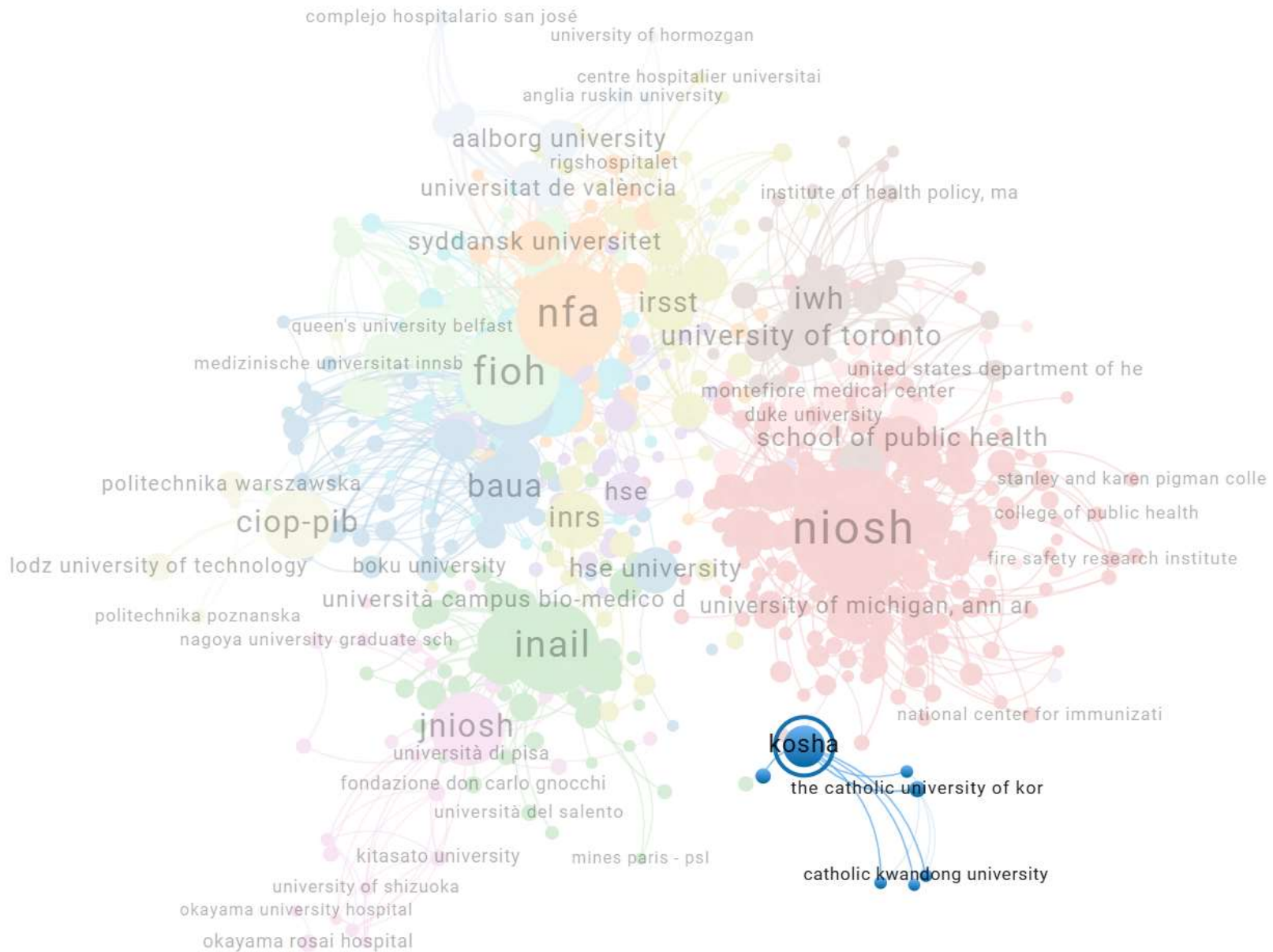
NIOSH :

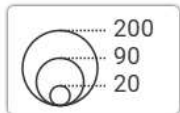
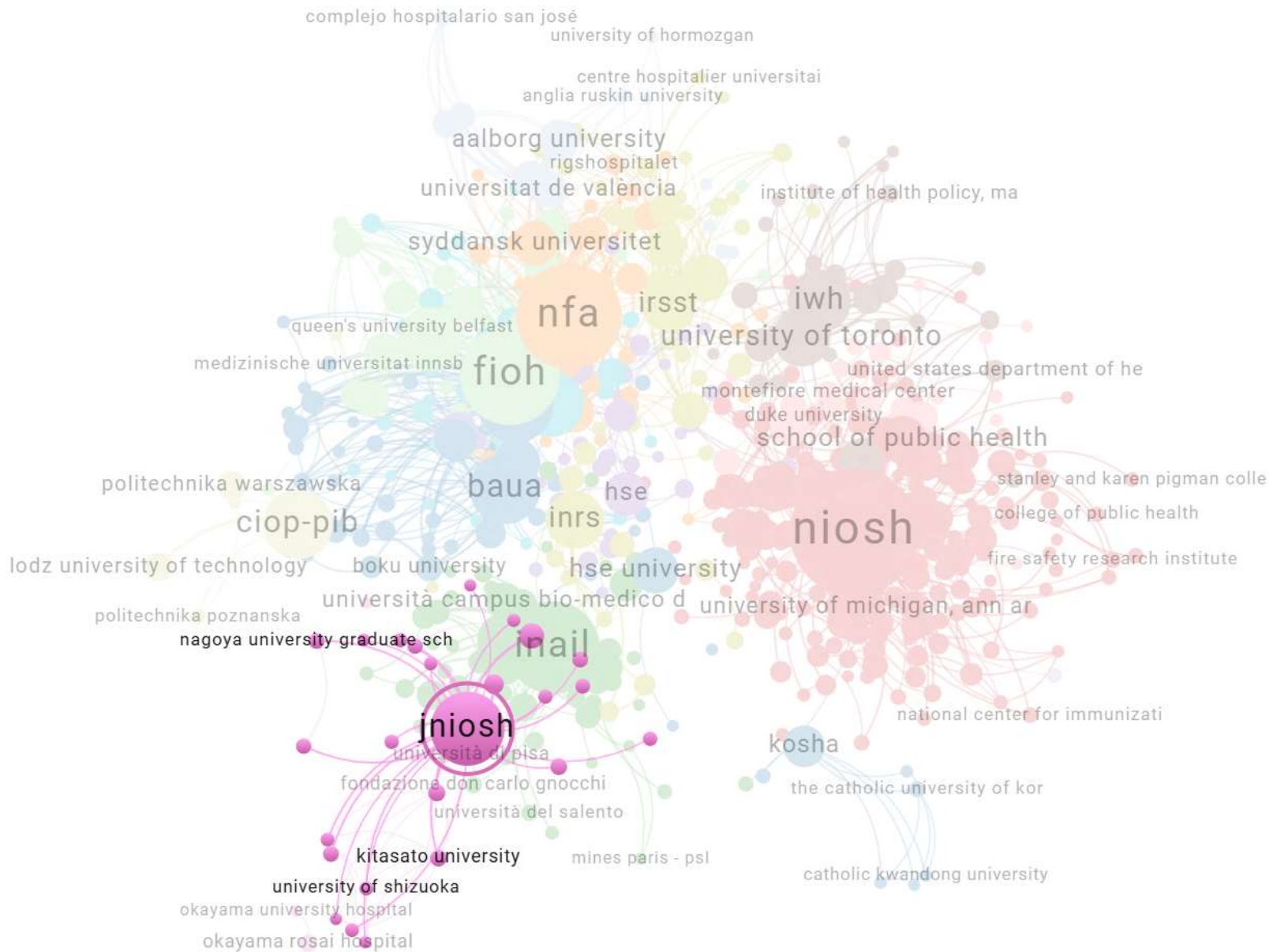
Big national cluster

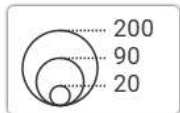
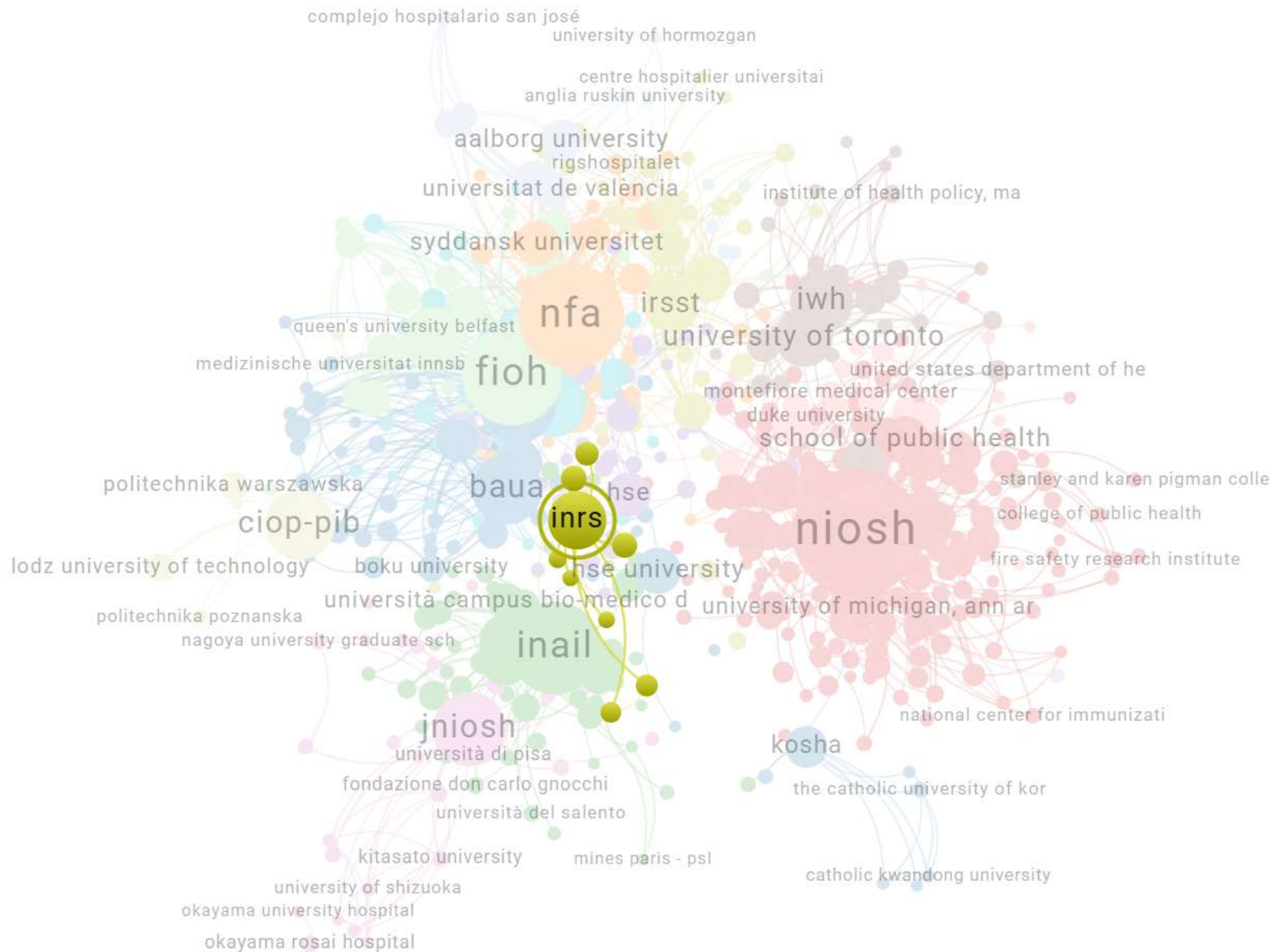
Very few international collaborations

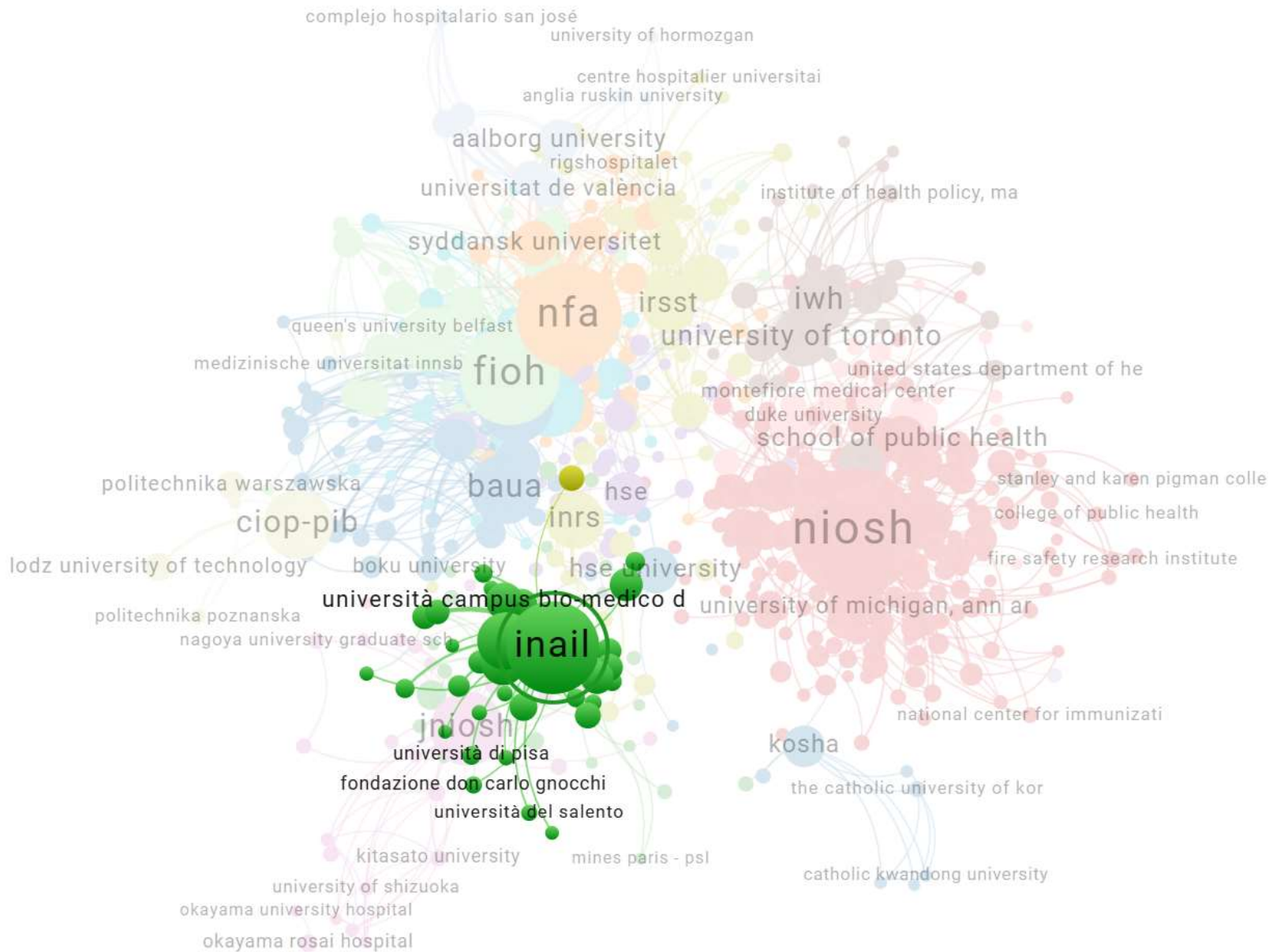






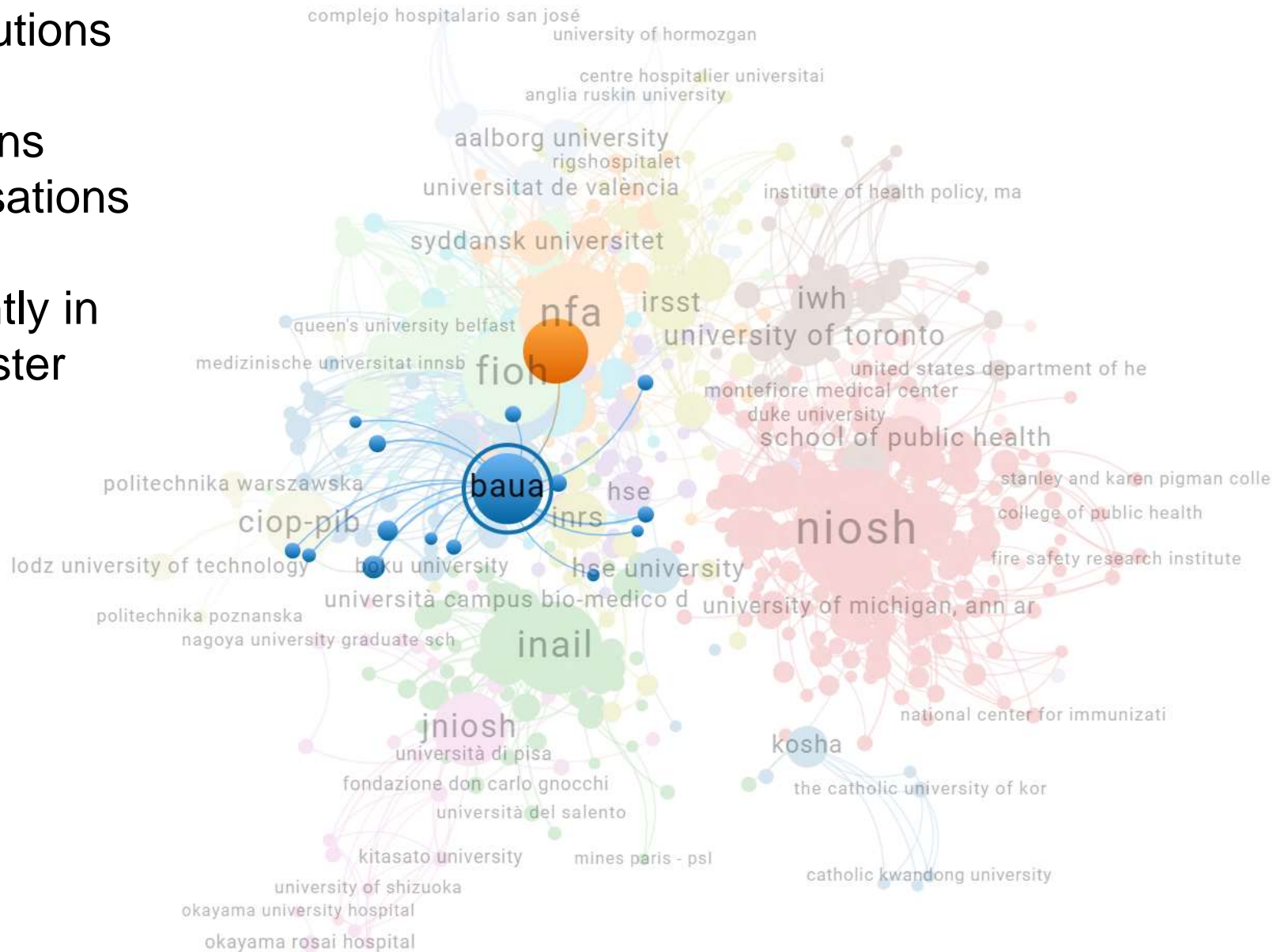






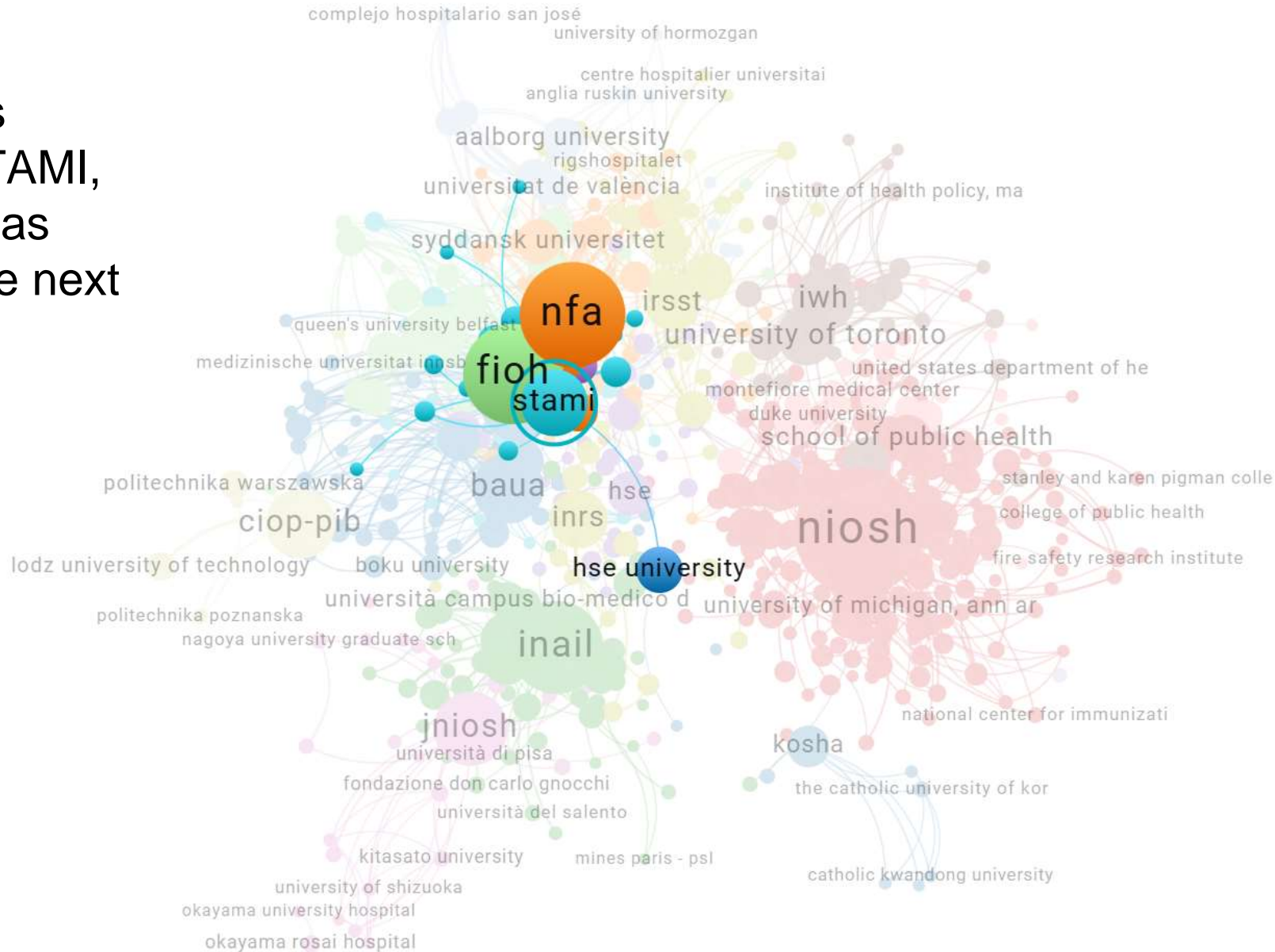


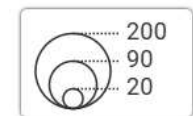
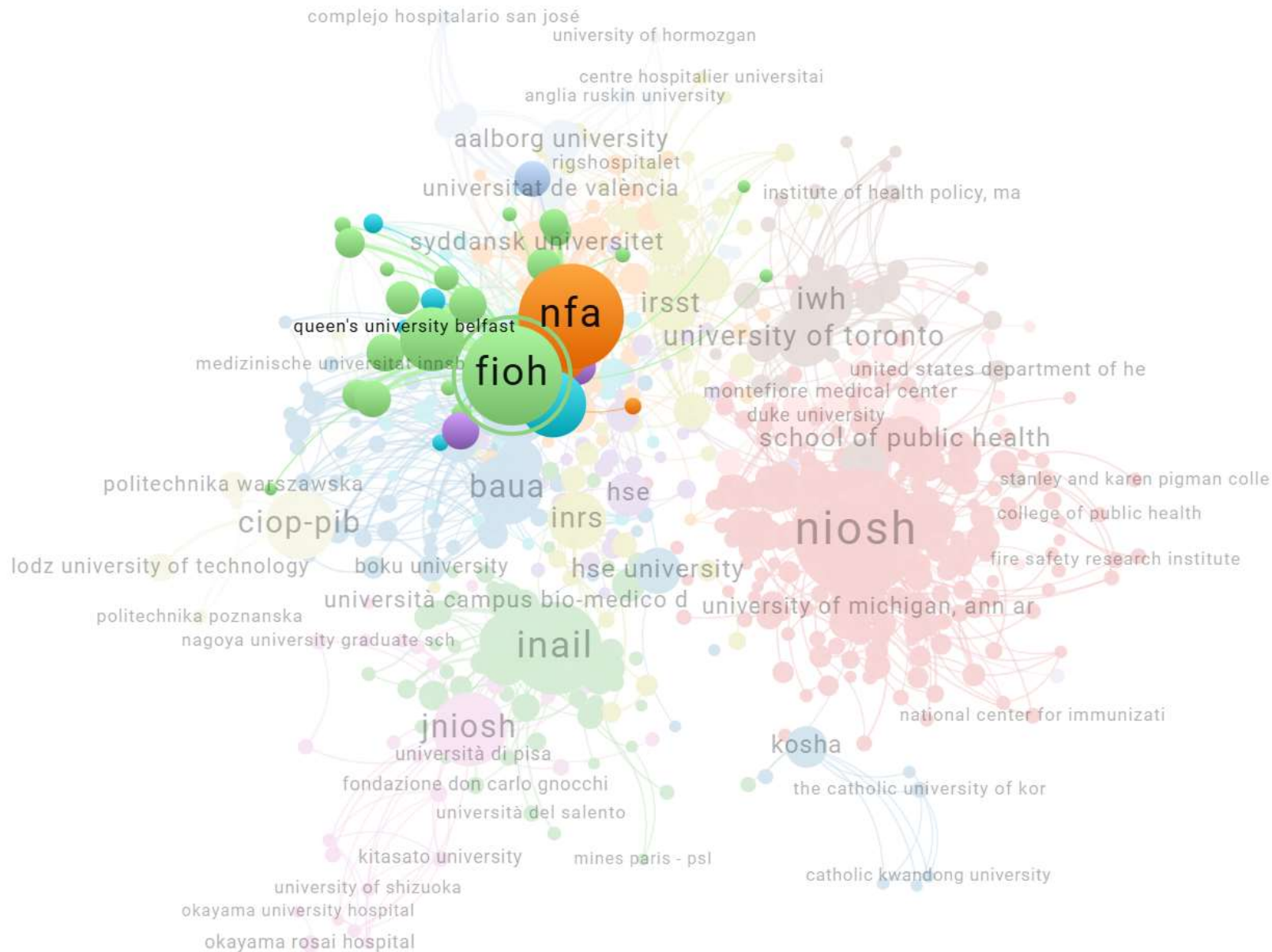
Some institutions have collaborations with organisations that are predominantly in another cluster





Strong connections between STAMI, NFA, FIOH as shown in the next slides







# Can we face a similar situation?

- ✓ NIOSH is a respected & major contributor to knowledge production in OSH
- ✓ Highly relevant policy research work, cited in policy documents in the USA and worldwide

## Official WH justifications

- Reducing the size of bureaucracy justifying deep financial cuts
- Protect the public of disinformation & "left ideologies" justifying censorship

## Overall US context

- Highly polarized political arena
- Distrust of elites
- Strong anti-science movement  
Perception of scientists part of various complots
- Disinformation

*...Over the last five years, confidence that scientists act in the best interest of the public has fallen significantly. A majority of researchers in science, technology, engineering, mathematics believe science is facing a reproducibility crisis...*

Requires federal agencies to update their scientific integrity policies and report within 60 days :

- Make scientific data and models publicly available
- Acknowledge uncertainties and assumptions in scientific analyses
- Avoid scientific misconduct and politically motivated distortions (IA generated)

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By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 7301 of title 5, United States Code, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Policy and Purpose. Over the last 5 years, confidence that scientists act in the best interests of the public has fallen significantly. A majority of researchers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics believe science is facing a reproducibility crisis. The falsification of data by leading researchers has led to high-profile retractions of federally funded research.

# Nowadays, we face a twofold situation

## 1) Financial constraints & economic priorities

- Demonstrate that we optimize the use of public funds that are made available to us

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## 2) Science & research

- Enhance public and stakeholder's confidence in science and research – Building trust

We can be excellent, efficient, policy relevant, ultimately with no public or broader support, we could not be heard.

Of course, in each of our countries, context varies :

- Level of polarization of political views
- Confidence in the elites
- Economic context and national public investment priorities
- Role of the government in the economy
- Public support of research
- Scientific literacy & confidence in science and research
- OSH as a priority

# Strengthen international research collaboration efforts

- Although we provide answers to national realities, we also face very similar challenges
- Define areas in which international effort is required and desired
- Promoting interactions & providing support

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# Share research infrastructures

nationally & internationally

We all have unique and very expensive research infrastructures and less money to build new ones & maintain them

- Share existing infrastructures
- Mutualize new infrastructures
- Need information or database on infrastructures and modality of use

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# Reinforce our ability to evaluate & to demonstrate the impact of our work

- Develop the science of knowledge transfer in OSH
- Refine our KT strategies to have an impact on workplaces
- Engage more in intervention & economic evaluation
- An area of international research collaboration?

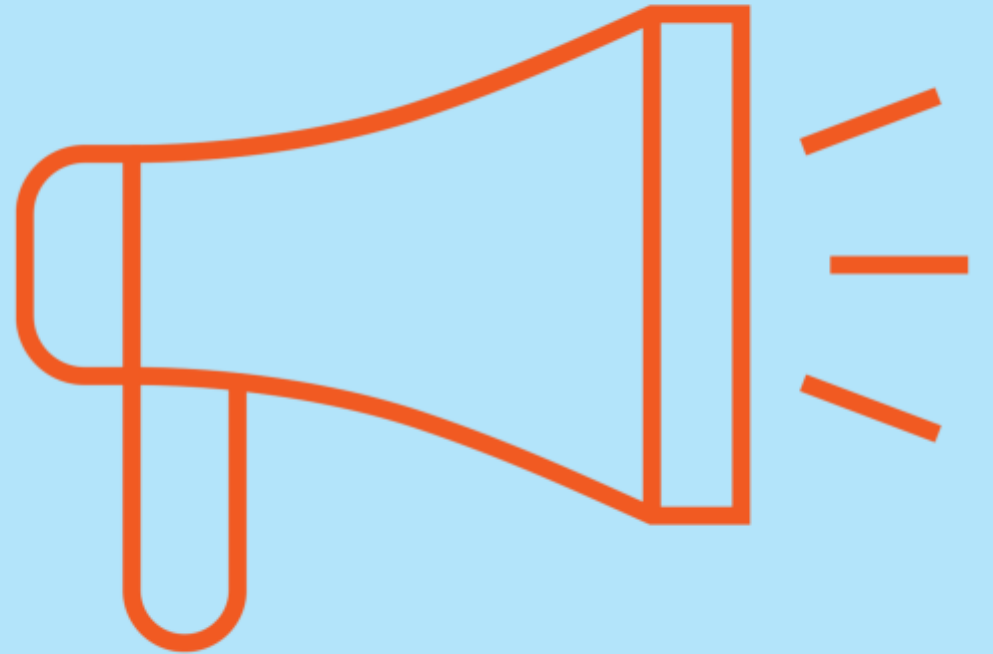
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# Engage with a large(r) audiences – on OSH and on science

- Widen the audiences outside stakeholders & policy makers
- Engage with the public and engage in more "science & society" dialog
- Elevating the role of researchers in public discourse
- From a "research" to an "expert perspective"

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# Recognize and promote our own successes

## Create national & international research awards for OSH researchers

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- Recognition of excellence
- Showcase impact
- Visibility for OSH research institutions



# Declining trends in governmental investments in R&D in most countries

Gross Domestic Expenditure on Research and Development (GERD) as a percentage of Gross Domestic Products (GDP)

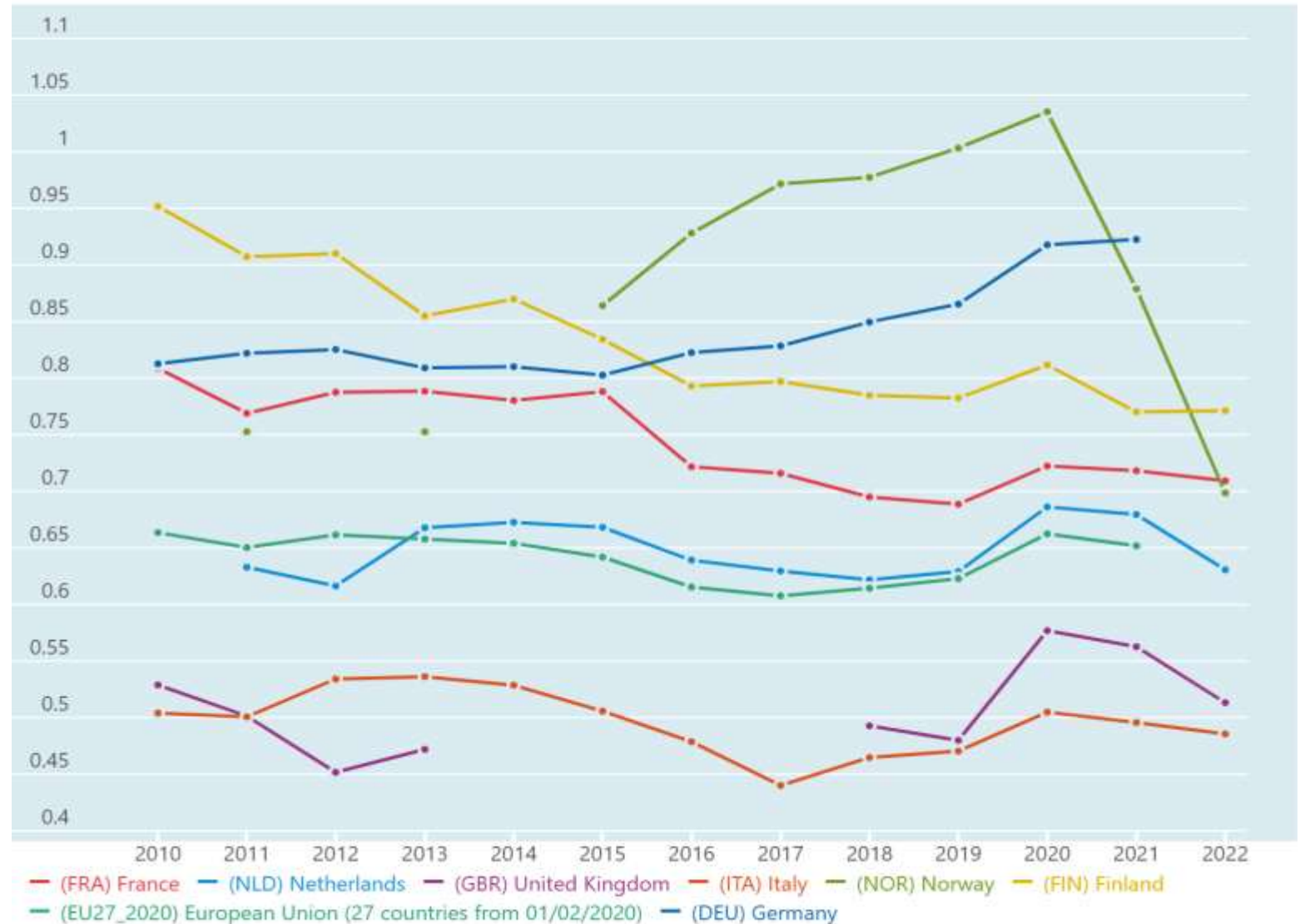
GERD : R&D expenditures performed within the country that are paid for by government budgets, including ministries, agencies, and public research organizations.

## (DSD\_MSTI@DF\_MSTI) Main Science and Technology Indicators (MSTI database)



(MEASURE) Measure: (G\_FG) GERD financed by government

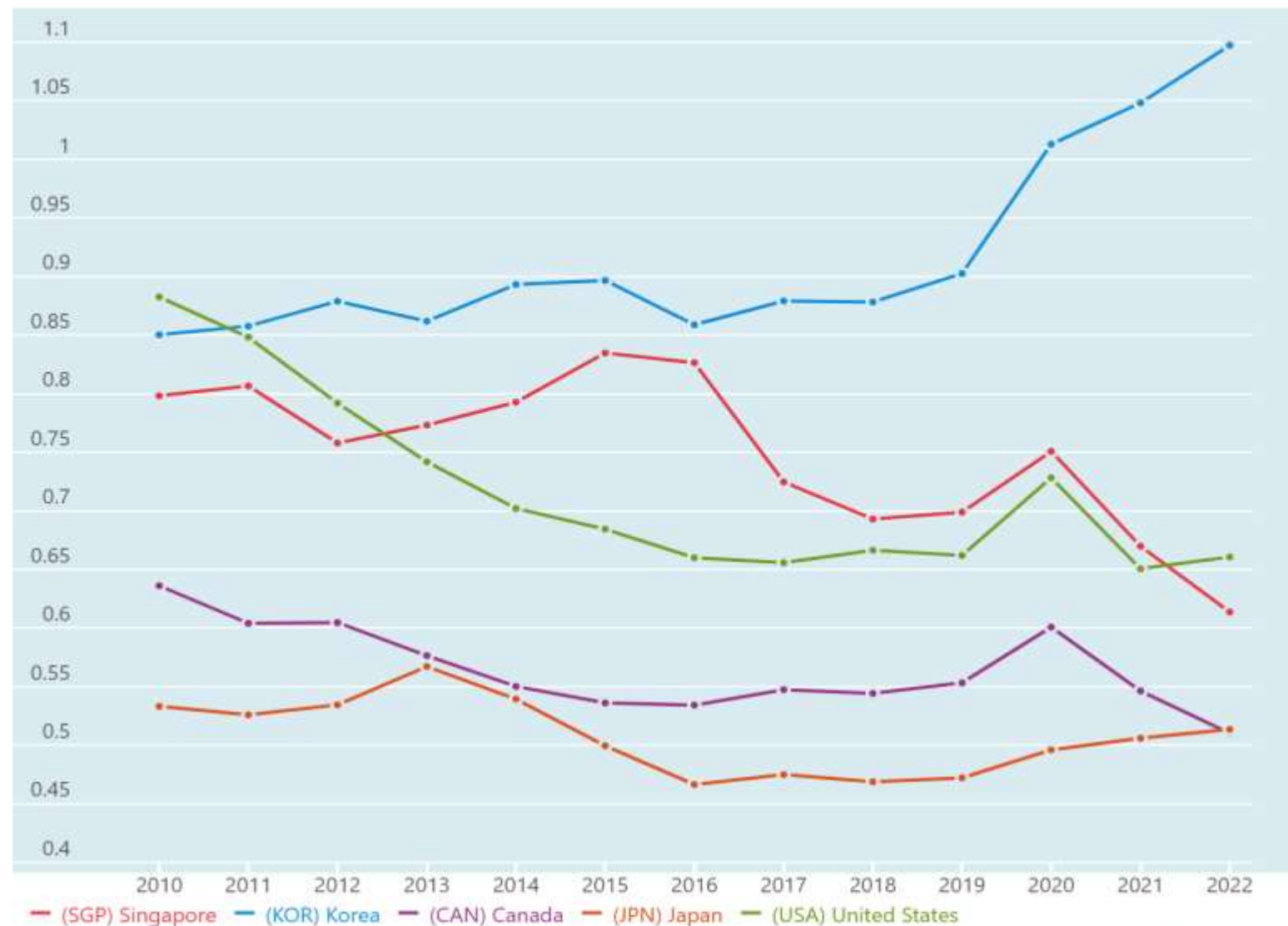
(COMBINED\_UNIT\_MEASURE) Combined unit of measure: (PT\_B1GQ, \_Z, \_Z) Percentage of GDP





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# Declining trends in governmental investments in R&D in most countries

Gross Domestic Expenditure on Research and Development (GERD) as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

- All R&D expenditures performed within the country that are paid for by government budgets, including ministries, agencies, and public research organizations.

# 6<sup>th</sup> RESEARCH CONFERENCE

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**9-11 SEPTEMBER 2025 | MANCHESTER, UK**

