



EUROPEAN RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

Rector's Decree No. 68/2025

Code of Ethics of the European Research University

(Translation to English)

Preamble

The European Research University, z. ú. (ERUNI) upholds the values of openness, inclusivity, equality, and respect for the individual needs of all members of the academic community and society at large. The ERUNI considers it its mission to create an environment that fosters education, scientific inquiry, and cultural enrichment, thereby contributing to societal development.

With the motto *Mente aperta et corde libero clementia atque intelligentia indicantur*, the ERUNI strives to disseminate knowledge and values that promote critical thinking, tolerance, and empathy.

This Code of Ethics serves as a fundamental document setting forth the principles and rules of conduct for all members of the academic community—students, educators, researchers, and other employees. Its goal is to ensure integrity, accountability, and trust in academic and scientific activities.

Part One

Values and Principles of the ERUNI

Article 1

- Openness:** The ERUNI promotes the open exchange of ideas, access to information, and educational opportunities for all, regardless of their background, beliefs, or circumstances.
- Inclusivity and Equality:** The ERUNI advocates for equal access to education, research opportunities, and participation in the academic community. Discrimination on grounds of race, gender, age, health status, religious beliefs, or other personal characteristics is strictly prohibited.
- Respect for Individual Needs:** Members of the academic community treat one another with respect for the unique needs and abilities of each individual.
- Cultivation of Environment and Society:** The ERUNI commits to fostering an environment that encourages collaboration, creativity, and sustainable development. It also aims to make a positive contribution to society in cultural, educational, and scientific domains.





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Part Two Ethical Principles in Education

Article 2

1. **Respect for Dignity and Equality:** Education must be conducted with respect for the dignity of every member of the academic community. Educators and students are expected to foster a fair and inclusive environment.
2. **Responsibilities of Educators:** Educators are responsible for maintaining the quality of the educational process, ensuring fair assessment, and supporting the intellectual and personal development of students.
3. **Responsibilities of Students:** Students commit to acting honestly, adhering to the principles of academic integrity, and contributing to maintaining trust and quality in the educational process.
4. **Support for Academic Culture:** The ERUNI strives to develop an academic culture that fosters collaboration, critical thinking, and a responsible approach to education.

Part Three Ethical Principles in Research

Article 3

1. **Adherence to Research Integrity:** Researchers are expected to act responsibly and uphold the highest standards of scientific practice. Any distortion, data manipulation, or plagiarism is unacceptable.
2. **Responsibility for the Impact of Research:** Researchers are aware of the potential impact of their work on society and the environment. They strive for beneficial outcomes and minimisation of potential negative consequences.
3. **Compliance with Legal and Ethical Standards:** All research activities must comply with applicable laws, the ERUNI's internal regulations, and ethical standards recognised within the academic community.
4. **Publication Ethics:** Members of the academic community must adhere to the principles of publication ethics. Every publication must reflect honest scientific work based on truthful and verifiable data. Plagiarism, duplicate publication, or the inclusion of fictitious co-authors is strictly prohibited. Authors must acknowledge their sources and transparently disclose the contributions of individual collaborators.





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Part Four Ethical Principles in Other Activities of the ERUNI

Article 4

1. **Transparency and Accountability:** Decision-making processes and the management of university resources must be conducted transparently, fairly, and responsibly.
2. **Protection of the University's Reputation:** Members of the academic community act in a way that upholds and enhances the credibility and reputation of the ERUNI.
3. **Support for Societal Development:** The ERUNI actively contributes to cultural, educational, and scientific development in society through its activities.

Part Five The Ethics Committee and the Ethics Committee for Research

Article 5

1. The ERUNI establishes an Ethics Committee responsible for reviewing concerns related to breaches of this Code of Ethics. Any member of the academic community may submit such concerns.
2. The ERUNI also establishes an Ethics Committee for Research, tasked with reviewing projects involving human subjects. The principal investigator of any such project must obtain a positive opinion from this committee before commencing the project.
3. Both committees operate under the Rules of Procedure of the Ethics Committee and the Ethics Committee for Research of the European Research University, which is annexed to this Code. These rules set out procedures for reviewing concerns, ensuring confidentiality, and protecting the rights of all parties involved.





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Part Six Final Provisions

Article 6

1. This Code of Ethics is binding for all members of the ERUNI academic community. The Code supports responsible conduct and integrity in all the ERUNI's activities and contributes to fulfilling its mission to cultivate society, education, and science.
2. This decree takes effect upon its publication on the ERUNI's official notice board and becomes enforceable on the following day.

In Ostrava, 27 December 2024

Assoc. Prof. Zuzana Machová, PhD, signed
Rector

Published on the ERUNI's official notice board: 27 December 2024

Annex: Rules of Procedure of the Ethics Committee and the Ethics Committee for Research of the European Research University





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Rules of Procedure of the Ethics Committee and the Ethics Committee for Research of the European Research University, z. ú.

Article 1

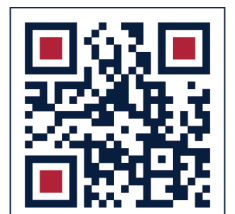
Introductory Provisions

1. This Rules of Procedure governs the composition, competencies, and procedures of the Ethics Committee and the Ethics Committee for Research of the European Research University (hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Committees").
2. The Ethics Committee reviews concerns related to breaches of the Code of Ethics of the ERUNI.
3. The Ethics Committee for Research reviews projects involving human subjects at the request of the principal investigators of such projects.

Article 2

Composition of the Committees

1. The Ethics Committee consists of three members selected to represent the professional competence and moral integrity necessary for evaluating issues related to the ERUNI Code of Ethics.
2. The Ethics Committee for Research consists of three members, who must meet the following criteria:
 - a) One member with expertise in law.
 - b) One member with professional expertise in the field of the project under review.
 - c) One member with qualifications in psychology, considering the nature of projects involving human subjects.
3. Members of both committees may be the same individuals, provided they meet the requirements for both committees.
4. Members are appointed and dismissed by the Rector after consultation with the Rector's Collegium.
5. The term of office for committee members is three years, and reappointment is permitted.
6. Each committee elects a chairperson from among its members. The chairperson is responsible for convening meetings and ensuring the proper conduct of the committee's activities.





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Article 3

Convening Meetings

1. The Committees convene on an ad hoc basis:
 - a) Upon receipt of a concern related to breaches of the Code of Ethics (for the Ethics Committee).
 - b) At the request of a principal investigator whose project is subject to review by the Ethics Committee for Research.
2. Meetings must be convened by the committee chairperson no later than three weeks after receiving a concern or request.

Article 4

Conduct of Meetings

1. Meetings are conducted in accordance with this Rules of Procedure and applicable legal regulations.
2. The Committees conduct their proceedings in private. External experts or participants may attend only by decision of the Committee.
3. Members are obliged to ensure the confidentiality of all information discussed during meetings, even after their term has ended.
4. Minutes are taken at every meeting, including:
 - a) Date and place of the meeting.
 - b) List of attendees.
 - c) Description of matters discussed and decisions made.
 - d) Any dissenting opinions from committee members.

Article 5

Data Protection and Rights of Participants

1. The Committees ensure the protection of sensitive and personal data in compliance with applicable laws and internal regulations of the ERUNI.
2. All materials discussed by the Committees are kept confidential, with access restricted to committee members and authorised individuals.
3. The Committees are committed to safeguarding the rights of all participants, ensuring impartiality and protection against discrimination or stigmatisation.





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Article 6 Document Retention

1. Minutes of committee meetings are stored at the Rector's Office of the ERUNI.
2. Access to documentation is restricted to authorised personnel in accordance with confidentiality rules.

Article 7 Decision-Making

1. The Committees are quorate when at least three members are present.
2. Decisions are made by a majority vote of members present. A decision requires the approval of more than half of those in attendance.
3. Decisions are issued in writing, with justification, and may include recommendations or measures.

Article 8 Final Provisions

1. This Rules of Procedure forms an integral part of the Code of Ethics of the ERUNI.
2. Any amendments to this Rules of Procedure are subject to approval by the Rector following consultation with the Rector's Collegium.

