

CODE OF ETHICS FOR BENEFICIARIES AND CANDIDATES
IN PROGRAMMES OF THE FOUNDATION FOR POLISH SCIENCE

This document presents the fundamental values and principles applying to anyone benefitting from (beneficiaries) or applying for (candidates) the Foundation's support. Any instance of violation of the code, confirmed through an investigation conducted in accordance with the rules in force at the Foundation, will constitute grounds for the Foundation to reject an application for funding or to suspend further funding, and in extreme cases may lead the Foundation to commence legal proceedings to recover disbursed funds.

§1

Research carried out by beneficiaries and candidates in programmes of the Foundation should always foster the public good, seek to extend the boundaries of scientific knowledge, and contribute to the advancement of Poland.

§2

Research in any discipline where human beings are the subject of research shall require absolute compliance with principles of respect for human dignity.

§3

Regardless of the stage of their professional career, beneficiaries and candidates in the Foundation's programmes are required to comply with the regulations in force in Poland governing the conditions for their research, including regulations on intellectual property rights, conduct scientific research and disburse the awarded funds in accordance with the law in force in Poland, and comply with the requirements and terms of the agreement with the Foundation.

§4

Beneficiaries and candidates in the Foundation's programmes must comply with the principles of careful, transparent and efficient management of funds, and cooperate in any auditing measures initiated by the Foundation or other bodies authorized to inspect their research work.

§5

The Foundation requires beneficiaries and candidates in programmes to follow and promote in their scientific work the highest ethical standards, integrity, and respect for the contribution of rivals and forerunners in obtaining research results, and to apply principles of best practice in science, and in particular the best practice described in the Code of Ethics for Research Workers and the European Charter for Researchers.

§6

Manifestations of scientific misconduct described in the Code of Ethics for Research Workers involving *inter alia* fabrication of results¹ or falsification² of data in conducting research, presenting results, or applying for funding, shall be prohibited.

¹ **Fabrication** involves making up results and recording them as if they were real (Code of Ethics for Research Workers, par. 4.1(1)).

² **Falsification** involves changing or omitting unwelcome data, so that research results are not accurately represented (Code of Ethics for Research Workers, par. 4.1(2)).

§7

Beneficiaries and candidates in the Foundation's programmes must scrupulously comply with the principles for authorship of scientific publications. Plagiarism³ or self-plagiarism is disqualifying. Beneficiaries and candidates in the Foundation's programmes must strictly comply with the principles of respect for intellectual property law and shared ownership in the case of research conducted in cooperation with their students, other scientists, or supervisors. Co-authorship will not be accepted for actions such as procuring funds, supplying materials, training of co-authors in applied methods, gathering and collating data, or directing the institution where the research is conducted.

§8

The Foundation requires that primary research results be secured and carefully stored, based on verifiable evidence and recorded in a form appropriate for the methodology of the given scientific discipline. In the event of proceedings on allegations of scientific misconduct, the lack of such data will be regarded as an incriminating circumstance.

§9

Beneficiaries and candidates in the Foundation's programmes should strive to present the results of their research in a manner understandable to persons who are not specialists in their field and make efforts to promote an understanding of the role of science in society and build its social prestige.

§10

Beneficiaries and candidates in the Foundation's programmes who act as scientific supervisors, mentors, leaders or directors must fulfil their role in accordance with the highest professional standards, and should display commitment to building collegial relations with beginning researchers to support the successful development of their career. Beneficiaries and candidates in the Foundation's programmes should ensure that the young researchers in their care have the proper conditions for building an autonomous scientific position for themselves.

§11

Beneficiaries and candidates in the Foundation's programmes must ensure proper recognition of the research achievements and scientific autonomy of other researchers, especially young researchers, regardless of their place in the research hierarchy.

§12

The Foundation requires of its beneficiaries and candidates in its programmes that during recruitment of collaborators for research posts, they apply transparent procedures based on the principle of equal access to information, transparency, non-discrimination, and clear competition criteria. Recruitment shall be based on an open competition enabling scientists from all over Poland and from other countries to take part.

§13

Discrimination, in particular against collaborators or staff of the Foundation, on grounds of gender, age, race, religion, sexual orientation, language, disability, political views, social status, or any other

³ **Plagiarism** is the appropriation of another person's ideas, research results or words without giving appropriate credit; this constitutes a violation of intellectual property rights (Code of Ethics for Research Workers, par. 4.1(3)).

reason is prohibited. Unwanted behaviour which may constitute an infringement of personal interests, or mobbing, in particular against collaborators or staff of the Foundation, is also prohibited.

§14

Beneficiaries, candidates and their representatives are required to exercise due concern for fair practice, integrity, and respect for the personal dignity of all persons with whom they come into contact during or in connection with their cooperation with the Foundation. All contacts with representatives of the Foundation must be founded on the principles of mutual respect, understanding, and kindness.

§15

In contacts with the media and businesses, winners and beneficiaries must provide accurate information on the results of their research.

§16

The Foundation requires applicants to obtain in advance any permits necessary to conduct their research. In particular:

- In the case of projects necessitating research involving animals, the consent of the relevant ethical commission, as required by regulations on animal experiments
- In the case of projects involving studies of protected species of plants, animals and fungi or studies in protected areas, consent or a permit as required by environmental protection regulations
- In the case of projects involving research on genetically modified organisms or with the use of such organisms, consent as required by regulations on genetically modified organisms
- In the case of projects involving clinical trials, consent or a permit as required by the applicable regulations.

§17

The Foundation reserves the right to publish information on the results of research conducted with funding obtained from the Foundation.

§18

The Foundation does not finance research on human embryos or research creating a demand for cell lines recently obtained from human embryos, that is, lines obtained after the Foundation's adoption of this point, i.e. later than December 2010.

§19

The Foundation does not finance research on modifications (including editing) of the genome of human gametes or embryonic cells conducted for clinical or therapeutic purposes.