

## Code of Ethics for Competition Winners and Beneficiaries of the Foundation for Polish Science

The present document lists the fundamental values and principles applying to anyone acquiring the Foundation's support. All cases of violation, confirmed by the appropriate authorities, will constitute grounds for the Foundation to reject an application for funding or to suspend further funding, and in extreme cases may cause the Foundation to start legal proceedings to recover granted funds.

### § 1

Research carried out by competition winners and beneficiaries of the Foundation should always serve the public good, aim to extend the boundaries of scientific knowledge, and contribute to the advancement and development of Poland.

### § 2

Research involving human beings absolutely requires that principles of respect for human dignity be followed explicitly.

### § 3

Regardless of the stage of their career, winners and beneficiaries have to be familiar with the binding national, sector and institutional regulations on the conditions of their work, including regulations on intellectual property rights; conduct scientific research and spend the awarded funds in accordance with legal regulations binding in Poland, and meet the requirements and terms of the agreement signed with the Foundation.

### § 4

Winners and beneficiaries are obliged to follow the principles of diligent, transparent and effective fund management, and to co-operate in any auditing measures initiated by the Foundation or by other bodies authorized to monitor the course of their research work.

### § 5

The Foundation requires that its winners and beneficiaries follow and disseminate the highest ethical standards and the fundamental principles of good practice in science, apply standards of professionalism, and recognize the contribution of their rivals and predecessors to obtained research results.

### § 6

In particular, any symptoms of scientific misconduct consisting in fabrication<sup>1</sup> or falsification<sup>2</sup> of data when conducting research and presenting the results, or when applying for funding, are inadmissible.

### § 7

Winners and beneficiaries are obliged to meticulously follow the principles that apply to authorship of scientific publications. Plagiarism<sup>3</sup> in any shape or form disqualifies the plagiarist. Winners and beneficiaries absolutely must comply with the principle of respect for intellectual property rights and shared ownership in the case of research conducted in co-operation with their students, other scientists, or supervisors. Co-authorship will not be accepted for actions such as procuring funds, supplying materials, training the authors in applied methods, gathering and collating data, or running the institution where the research is being conducted.

### § 8

---

<sup>1</sup> Fabrication consists in preparing, recording and publishing results or other data that were never actually obtained.

<sup>2</sup> Falsification consists, among other things, in manipulating research material, apparatus or methods, and in changing or omitting experimental data in such a way that the research results are not truthfully presented.

<sup>3</sup> Plagiarism consists in appropriating other people's ideas, methods, results or terms without due reference.

Plagiarism also includes unauthorized use of information obtained during confidential reviewing of applications and manuscripts.

The Foundation requires that primary research results be secured and carefully stored; these results should be based on verifiable evidence and come in a form appropriate for the methodology of the given scientific discipline. When proceedings are started with regard to an accusation of scientific misconduct, the lack of such data will be treated as an incriminating circumstance.

#### § 9

Winners and beneficiaries who act as scientific supervisors, mentors, leaders or managers should fulfil their role in accordance with the highest professional standards, and show commitment to building partner-like relations with beginner researchers to support the successful development of their career. Winners and beneficiaries should ensure that the young researchers in their care have the proper conditions for building an independent scientific position for themselves.

#### § 10

Winners and beneficiaries are obliged to ensure proper recognition for the research achievements and scientific independence of other scientists, especially young researchers, regardless of their job position, academic titles or legal circumstances.

#### § 11

The Foundation requires that during recruitment of collaborators for research posts, winners and beneficiaries apply transparent procedures based on the principle of equal access to information, transparency, lack of discrimination, and clear competition criteria. Any recruitment should be based on an open competition enabling scientists from all over Poland and from other countries to take part.

#### § 12

Discrimination against collaborators on grounds of gender, age, race, religion, sexual orientation, language, disability, political views or social status is inadmissible. It is also inadmissible to commit mobbing, for instance involving professional relations, wrongful perception of competition, the age or social situation of other scientists.

#### § 13

In contacts with the media and business entities, winners and beneficiaries are obliged to provide reliable information on the results of their research.

#### § 14

Moreover, 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 the 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 tests - consent or a permit as required by the applicable regulations.

#### § 15

The Foundation reserves the right to publish information on the results of research conducted thanks to funding obtained from the Foundation, but does not claim any right to co-ownership of patents or any other intellectual property created thanks to the Foundation's support.