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CODE OF ETHICS
FOR A SCIENTIST IN UKRAINE

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PREAMBLE

The purpose of the CODE OF ETHICS FOR UKRAINIAN SCIENTISTS (further CODE) is to formulate and inform scientists on general ethical principles, which each of scientists and teachers should keep to in their activity. The Code regulates relations of scientists between each other and in the society. It discovers main principles for assessment of their personal work and activity of their colleagues from a moral point of view. The principles, set forth in the Code, shall be the basis for ethical training of young scientists. The main task of the Code is to give priority to moral approaches in science and social responsibility of the scientific society and of each scientist. The problem of scientists' personal responsibility has gained a great importance because, sometimes, social institutes do not get on rapid paces of science and technology development.

In the whole world Codes of Ethics are based on the idea, that available good practice in science supports trust in the scientific community and between it and the society, which is sine qua non for science development. Scientists should be confident in reliability of the results obtained in the work of their colleagues. In its turn, the society should be confident in scientists' fairness and in the significance of the results of their studies. Unfortunately, serious violations of ethic principles are seen in recent time in many countries, thus threatening the science's authority and confidence to scientists in the society. In order to prevent developing such events in Ukraine all scientists should be aware of the importance of high ethic behavior and personal responsibility for the formation of a social opinion about science.

1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1.1. Ethics in science is based on fundamental values, norms and principles and characterizes moral behavior of scientists, their responsibility for colleagues and the society.

1.2. Scientists should be guided in their work by established standards of good practice. General provisions of such standards are laid down in this Code.

1.3. Scientists shall bear moral responsibility for the consequences of their activity, as they could affect the development of the mankind, for the preservation of the nature, spiritual and cultural heritage. Scientists should counteract obtaining results which contravene principles of humanism, by:

- refusal from collaboration;
- preventing the society from possible negative consequences, when scientific achievements are used for anti-humanitarian purposes;
- informing the society, scientific society in particular, on possible negative consequences in the use of scientific achievements and on the need to prevent them.

1.4. The scientist should adhere to an equality principle in his/her activity. Any discrimination on the basis of gender, races, political and religious sights or cultural and social status is incompatible with this principle. The science should be not politized.

1.5. Scientists should oppose conformism in the scientific community, take an active part in attestation of the scientific personnel, counteract graduating scientific degrees and titles of such works, which do not correspond to modern achievements of the world science or when a work is done with violations of ethical norms; they should actively disclose facts of plagiarism and other types of piracy.

1.6. Scientists should oppose pseudo-science and dissemination of its statements and recommendations in the society.

1.7. Scientists should concentrate their efforts on further use of the obtained knowledge for the welfare of the mankind, preservation of the environment and for resource saving.

1.8. Freedom in science is, first of all, freedom in determining scientific directions, related to studies, concepts, hypothesis, paradigms, problems and methods of their solving, and, most of all, freedom of thinking and freedom of discussing. Freedom in the scientific work should be based on high professional qualities. Scientists should defend freedom of the scientific opinion, condemn the censorship in the scientific work and any attempt to monopolize these or those directions in the science.

1.9. A scientist is responsible for situations occurred, when there can be a danger for a man, society or nature, caused due to the use of new unverified scientific knowledge.

1.10. A scientist shall not undertake any actions that may cause any harm to professional reputation of another scientist. However, in the case of incontrovertible proof of unethical behavior or nonprofessional actions of a scientist, the scientific community should assess them properly in the open unprejudiced discussion.

1.11. All those who are involved in science, should take every efforts to training and teaching young scientists, for them to be patriots of science and of their country. So, training the scientific generation should not be limited to passing technical skills, necessary to conducting studies. The training should be based on main ethical scientific standards and norms. Scientific workers and teachers should be an example of morals for young scientists in their attitude to science and an author's right.

2. SCIENTIST AS A RESEARCHER

2.1. Scientists should remember that a scientific study is a process of obtaining new knowledge. A scientist should be an erudite and competent person, able to make a critical analysis of the most actual scientific knowledge. The planning and conduction of scientific researches are possible only on the basis of deep knowledge on achievements of the world science in the branch concerned.

2.2. Scientists should search for ways of the most reasonable, from the point of view of validity and economic propriety, for solving the studied problems. Scientists should present objectively conclusions on the completed studies, irrespective of a customer's expectations.

2.3. Scientists should provide unstained fairness and transparency at all stages of the scientific study and consider inadmissible demonstration of fraud, fabrication of the false data, in particular, piracy and plagiarism. It is inadmissible when regulating authorities intentionally influence the character of the data, obtained as a result of studies, and conclusions. Scientists support only the objective truth.

2.4. Scientists should provide for necessary protection of the intellectual property.

2.5. Scientists should promote using the results of their work in as full extent as possible in the interests of the society, protection of the environment, cultural and historical heritage.

2.6. Scientific studies should not in any case touch dignity or go against human rights. In medical and biological researches scientists should keep to principles of bioethics.

2.7. A scientific study should be conducted so as not to do any harm to the environment. In the case if it is impossible to avoid causing such harm, the effect should be minimized and the environment, after completion of the study, should be restored to the previous state.

3. SCIENTIST AS AN AUTHOR

3.1. Aspiration of a scientist for knowledge and desire to enrich the science with new data is the principle motivation of the scientist's activity. In this, the highest award for a scientist is to comprehend the truth and to get recognition of the scientific community. Scientists have right and duty to defend their scientific priority. At the same time, publication of inaccurate and unconvincing scientific results as well as publications in not scientific issues, aiming to reach priority, is inadmissible.

3.2. Scientists recognize international and national legal norms related to a copyright. Scientists can use information from any publications, but should include references and make a distinct border between their own data and the results of other scientists. When loaning any photos, figures, designs, tables, schemes, etc. for personal publications it is necessary, in accordance with existing regulations, to receive a permission of an author or a publishing house.

3.3. When publishing the results of studies, conducted by a group of scientists, all those who take part in the work, should be mentioned as authors of the work. If necessary their personal contribution to the work should be underlined. Only a real contribution into a scientific work can be considered as a criterion of the authorship. Assignment of the authorship on a scientific work to another person, acceptance of the authorship or co-authorship and, in particular, extortion, are inadmissible.

3.4. Scientists should not re-publish their scientific papers in order to raise their quantity. When, for the sake of promoting scientific achievements, it is advisable to publish the same paper in different journals, editors of the latter shall be informed that it appears in other publications.

3.5. Scientists should be objective in the assessment of personal achievements. Mass-media, radio and TV can be used for promoting scientific achievements, but not for personal purposes. When preparing a publication a scientist follows requirements of the publisher; however it is advisable not to mention scientific degrees and status. Such kind of information can be given in the note.

4. SCIENTIST AS A HEAD

4.1. For a scientific work scientists surround themselves by collaborators, basing only on unprejudiced assessment of their intellectual, ethical and personal characteristics. Scientists should counteract all demonstration of protectionism, corrupt practice and discrimination.

4.2. Scientists organize their relations with collaborators on the principles of equity, goodwill and support to their trainees and estimate each of them

objectively. As the head they should promote professional growth for their subordinates in accordance with their qualification and attitude to work.

4.3. Scientists do not set up execution of their tasks on their collaborators.

4.4. A scientist, as a head should, substantiate, but not impose his/her scientific thinking on members of the collective.

4.5. Scientists should undertake every effort for creation of good atmosphere in the collective.

5. SCIENTIST AS A TEACHER

5.1. Scientists should respect their trainees and their free and critical thinking.

5.2. Scientists should not only pass over significant scientific information to the trainees, but, also, promote development of their social position.

5.3. Scientists should not prevent scientific contacts of their students with other scientists and scientific institutions. Scientists should respect their right to free associations, self-administration and membership in academic organizations, listen to opinions of the student's community, regarding forms and methods of training.

5.4. Scientists should conduct training interestingly, acceptable for a variety of trainees. They should make sure of the proper provision of laboratories and libraries. The training schedule should be appropriate for trainees and studies should strictly follow the schedule. The content of lectures should reflect recent achievements of the world science and not be followed by pressing of the preconceived opinion.

5.5. Scientists should be objective to their trainees, avoiding unethical relations between a trainer and trainees.

5.6. A scientist should understand that he/she should be an example of higher intelligence and follow traditions of prominent Ukrainian and world scientific schools.

5.7. Scientists pay particular attention to talented students and involve them in scientific activity. They should train responsibility in them for the scientific activity.

5.8. Scientists do not disclose private information about their trainees.

5.9. Scientists do not take any payment or other gains directly from their students.

6. SCIENTIST AS A CONSULTANT OR AN EXPERT

6.1. Scientists can be experts only in the sphere of their competence in accordance with their knowledge and experience.

6.2. Scientists should assess works and scientific achievements of their colleagues fairly and impartially. Preparation of the objective critical conclusion is a duty for scientists and they should not evade from it.

6.3. Scientists have personal responsibility for fair and objective assessment of candidate's and doctor's dissertations. When being an opponent in the defense of dissertation works, a scientist should be unprejudiced.

6.4. When discussing, arguing and expressing critical comments a scientist should follow principles of equality, actual substantiation and significance. The principle of equality guarantees equal rights to all participants of the discussion or dispute, irrespective of scientific degrees and status. The principle of actual substantiation excludes nonobjective criticism. The principle of significance excludes any misrepresentation, humiliation or discrediting.

6.5. When doing an expert review a scientist should keep to the principle of confidentiality.

6.6. When reviewing, preparing and making conclusions a scientist should adhere to independence and does not fall under influence.

6.7. When electing candidates for studies or for any other purposes a scientist, as an expert, should assess applicants objectively. Scientists should not give priority to their trainees, to representatives of their own school. In the case of conflict of interests scientists should put general interests over personal, corporate and interests of those who order a study.

7. SCIENTIST AS A CITIZEN

7.1. Scientists should devote themselves to searching for new knowledge and its use for the welfare of the society and nature. Information, which is presented to the society, should be significant. Scientists should counteract dissemination of unproved data and ungrounded recommendations.

7.2. Scientists should promote dissemination of scientific knowledge and counteract spreading pseudoscientific theories, erroneous concepts and ideas.

7.3. Scientists should publish results of their studies not only in special scientific editions, but do it in the scientifically popular form as well, so as to make them as more available as possible for wide social strata.

7.4. Scientists should take an active part in the life of the scientific community and in the work of collective bodies. And in this, they should act depending, first of all, on general scientific interests, and only then, on their private interest and that of their institutions.

7.5. Scientists should not use the authority of the science or their own authority for advertisement or promotional purposes for personal interest.

7.6. Scientists, who hold governmental or administrative posts, should follow ethical norms, adopted in the scientific community.

7.7. Scientists, who infringe Code of Ethics, carry a moral responsibility before scientific community and before the society as a whole.