



# Ethics charter

European Association for the promotion of  
Science and Technology

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## I. Preamble

EuroScience, conscious of its responsibilities and role as representative of the European science community at large, has established this Ethics Charter of its fundamental principles, which it applies to its staff, members, donors, partners and contractors.

As a European scientific platform EuroScience is present in many scientific sectors and domains and has to deal with many scientific actors and institutions. This charter is applicable to its activities.

This Charter has been established by EuroScience under the authority of its Governing Board with the Secretary General and constitutes a set of rules of behavior.

## II. Introduction

### 1. EuroScience in brief

EuroScience (ES) is a European, non-profit, grassroots association open to research professionals, teachers, students, science administrators, policy-makers, and generally to any citizen interested in both basic and applied science, scholarship, technology, and its links with society. EuroScience represents not only European scientists of all ages, disciplines and nationalities but also private and public organizations where scientific knowledge is produced, mediated, or applied (such as business sector, universities, and museums).

### 2. Vision and mission

EuroScience's vision and mission is to become the most prominent grassroots organization for science, technology, and innovation in Europe, as well as providing an umbrella for European organizations in the field of science.

Our vision has four cornerstones. They define the key agenda of EuroScience and its members, namely to:

- contribute to the integration of Europe through the promotion of the idea of a threefold citizenship among scientists and scientific institutions in Europe – a European citizenship and a disciplinary and national (and regional) one;
- enhance the contribution of science to the well-being and prosperity of mankind and enrich society in dealing with the political and ethical issues confronting it;
- influence the shaping of policies for science in Europe, both at a national and at a European level;
- raise awareness of the important issues linking science to society, and actively engage in addressing these issues through political processes and the promotion of dialogue at the European level between scientists and other stakeholders in science.

The mission of EuroScience as a grassroots organization is to be:

- a voice for and to the European scientific community;
- a focal point for all those who wish to engage with the European scientific community;
- a platform where scientists, politicians and other stakeholders can connect and discuss at a European level, and where they can advance societal (including ethical) issues concerning science and its applications.

To find out more about EuroScience's vision and mission, and its statutes, please visit the EuroScience website: [www.euroscience.org](http://www.euroscience.org).

### III. Professional ethics

EuroScience members, staff and other collaborating partners should abide by the principles set out in this Charter.

This Charter is an additional to the statutes of EuroScience or any other official document which restates EuroScience's activities, values, goals and objectives.

EuroScience abides by the principles and values set out in the European Convention on Human Rights and other relevant conventions established by the Council of Europe and by the Treaties of the European Union.

### IV. Sphere of application

#### 1. Employees (Staff)

EuroScience employees should follow the EuroScience internal code of conduct. EuroScience employees should not take any actions detrimental to EuroScience and will promote EuroScience in its internal and external relations.

#### 2. Officers / Board Members / Collaborators

Officers, Board Members (including members of subsidiary bodies and working groups), as well as any others including interns and volunteers, working and contributing to the development of EuroScience should ensure that their actions are bound by the provisions of this Charter.

#### 3. Members

EuroScience membership is open to anyone and any organization which shares its vision, who will work towards realizing this vision and willing to contribute to furthering the objectives of EuroScience.

##### Individual members

Individual members are individuals who have subscribed to the EuroScience membership. Individual members are expected to support EuroScience and to share its goals and objectives.

##### Corporate members

Corporate members are corporate bodies (from the private and public sectors, both profit and not-for-profit), that have subscribed to the EuroScience membership and support the association.

Corporate members are expected to respect EuroScience's goals and objectives. EuroScience does not act as a representative of any individual or group of corporate members.

#### 4. Donors

EuroScience is a non-profit association. EuroScience is independent from all external influences and cannot and will not be affiliated to an organization that does not share its values. When accepting a donation, EuroScience does not necessarily agree to share or promote the donors' values and morals. EuroScience does not promote any

messages or values other than its own. It may refuse donations when it considers the donor does not fit EuroScience's vision, mission and morals.

In particular EuroScience reserves the right to refuse donations from, or engage and collaborate with organizations/companies or individuals:

- which have a poor human rights record or infringe the freedom of scientists;
- about which serious doubts or serious evidence exists as to the treatment of or willful misrepresentation and distortion of scientific findings and evidence;
- whose behavior is inconsistent with the interests of the European scientific community at large;
- with whom the association could be construed as damaging the public image and credibility of EuroScience;
- whose underlying objectives are inconsistent with those of EuroScience.

## 5. International application

As a European scientific platform, EuroScience has an international presence. EuroScience respects all local customs and laws and will ask for its employees, staff and members to apply EuroScience's values while respecting the foreign countries' laws and customs which are consistent with the principles and values set out in the European Convention on Human Rights and other relevant conventions established by the Council of Europe and by the Treaties of the European Union.

## 6. Conflicts of interest

All employees, members of the Governing Board and its subsidiaries and individual and corporate members must, at all times, act in the best interests of EuroScience as set out in Section II.1 and II.2 above.

They must declare to the EuroScience Office any personal, private or commercial interests, including any fiduciary or similar interest that may affect their decisions and actions in relation to EuroScience. Any changes to an original declaration must also be notified to the EuroScience Office. EuroScience reserves the right to make such declarations public in order to protect the interests of the association.