



Annex B to QC Manual - Word document template

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Enhancement of HE Research Potential Contributing to Further Growth of the WB Region
Re@WBC**

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Abstract	The following document is a report on the current situation of the ethics committee at University of Kragujevac
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Report on the current situation of the ethics committee at University of Kragujevac

1. Introduction

The University of Kragujevac is committed to carrying out its research, education, and other activities to the highest ethical standards. University and its faculties continuously work on ensuring of comprehensive ethical framework in order to promote respect for the rights and interests of students, professors, researchers, staff, public community and society in general.

University's Code of Ethical Conduct represent main document which sets general principles addressed to each member of the University. These principles are in line with national laws and regulations and internationally recognized codes and recommendations and, as such, represent generally accepted principles of ethical conduct in high education and research institutions.

2. National legal framework in the partner country

- Zakon o naučnoistraživačkoj delatnosti ("Sl. glasnik RS", br. 110/2005, 50/2006 - ispr., 18/2010 i 112/2015) - **Law on Scientific Research Activity**
- Zakon o visokom obrazovanju ("Sl. glasnik RS", br. 76/2005, 100/2007 - autentično tumačenje, 97/2008, 44/2010, 93/2012, 89/2013, 99/2014, 45/2015 - autentično tumačenje, 68/2015 i 87/2016) - **Law on Higher Education**



- Zakon o inovacionoj delatnosti ("Sl. glasnik RS", br. 110/2005, 18/2010 i 55/2013) - **Law on Innovation Activity**
- Zakon o pravima pacijenata ("Sl. glasnik RS", br. 45/2013) - **Law on patients rights**
- Zakon o dobrobiti životinja („Službeni glasnik RS“, br. 41/2009) - **Law on animal rights**
- Zakon o autorskim i srodnim pravima ("Sl. glasnik RS", br. 104/2009, 99/2011, 119/2012 i 29/2016 - odluka US) - **Law on Copyright and Related Rights**
- Kodeks medicinske etike lekarske komore Srbije ("Sl. glasnik RS", br. 104/2016) - **Medical Chamber of Serbia - Code of Ethics**

3. Bodies responsible for ethics at your university

The ethical issues at the University of Kragujevac are dealt by the Court of Honor of the University of Kragujevac.

Rules on Election of Members of the Court of Honor of the University of Kragujevac regulate the number of members, composition, election procedure and other issues of importance for the election of members. The Court of Honor of the University of Kragujevac has 7 members elected by the Senate, according to the following:

- 1) There has to be at least one teacher from each of educational-scientific, or educational-artistic fields;
- 2) At least 2 teachers must be from the less represented gender on the candidate list;
- 3) Two or more members cannot be from the same faculty of the University of Kragujevac.

The Senate of the University of Kragujevac initiates the election of members of the Court of Honor, with the decision on the initiation of the procedure distributed to all faculties of the University of Kragujevac. The competent authority of the faculty proposes candidates for election not later than 30 days from the delivery of the Senate's decision.

Members of the Court of Honor of the University of Kragujevac do not receive remuneration for their work. Court of Honor is receiving help in their work from the professional service, which has continuous access to information regarding the appointment of teachers and doctoral dissertations. Also, in accordance with the Decree on joining the Berlin Declaration, University of Kragujevac now has a repository of doctoral thesis defended at University of Kragujevac's faculties. However, no plagiarism detection tools are implemented, so far.

The work of the Court of Honor of the University of Kragujevac is public, unless the Court in a preliminary consideration of the proposal to institute proceedings, decides to exclude the public from the complete process or from individual hearings, in order to protect the personal, official, business secrets, the interests of public order or moral reasons, while these issues will be dealt with pursuant to the provisions of civil procedure.

Meetings of the Court of Honour, as well as all documentation are available on the internet address of the University of Kragujevac: http://www.kg.ac.rs/sednice_suda_casti.php. So far, the Court of Honor of the University of Kragujevac has not received any complaints concerning the independence of the work of its members.



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4. Institution's own legal framework

In accordance with the University of Kragujevac's Code of Ethics of Teachers, the Court of Honor of the University of Kragujevac initiates the procedure with a proposal which may be submitted to the Court by every professor, associate, researcher and student of the University (hereinafter referred to as the proposer).

The proposal may be filed against the teaching staff, researchers and students of the University of Kragujevac in cases of non-compliance with the basic postulates of the Code, or in cases of violation of professional freedom, freedom of speech and research; truthfulness, regarding the detection and defence of truth, dialogue and tolerance in relation to someone else's attitude and opinion; objectivity and impartiality in the assessment of another's work and results; respect for human rights and freedoms, the dignity of a human being, especially in medical and biomedical research; respect for other people's scientific and research results, the obligation not to arrogate unearned results and recognitions; obligation to continually work on their professional and scientific training; obligations to promote and accept mentoring, etc.

Within its jurisdiction, if the Court determines during the proceedings that there are elements of other responsibilities, the Court will direct an initiative to the competent authority to initiate proceedings.

In accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the Court of Honor, for violation of the Code of Ethics the Court may impose: a public warning; a public condemnation, which is proclaimed in the session of the Council of the University of Kragujevac; a public condemnation, published on the University website; and/or a public condemnation published on the University website and in a daily newspapers.

The Court of Honor of the University of Kragujevac deals with three processes annually, on average. Merits of the proposal to institute proceedings depend on the circumstances of the case. Up to now the Court of Honor of the University of Kragujevac has so far determined the responsibility of teachers in only one case.

5. Remarks/Suggestions for improvement

Within its Human Resources Strategy for Researchers, University of Kragujevac foreseen number of activities for period 2016-2018. in order to improve ethical related aspects of work

- Periodic analysis of situation and control in respect to the principle of legal and ethical norms and standards of research. Defining the measures in case of determining discrepancies in respect of ethical principles and norms.
- Defining the model for the transformation of the Court of Honor of the University of the Ethics Committee. Analysis of viability and possibility for introducing the Ombudsman in order to protect rights of researchers at the University level.
- Adoption of the regulation at University level which would define the principles of determining disciplinary liability and enforcement proceedings in cases of violations of the Code of Ethics, plagiarism, infringement of intellectual property rights etc.

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