

Implementation of Ethical Principles and the SAS Code of Ethics

(“SAS 2021: Action Plan of the Presidium of the Slovak Academy of Sciences”, item 4.8)

The implementation is based on the idea of the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity (ALLEA) regarding the need to influence the research environment by deepening awareness and ensuring that a culture of scientific moral integrity prevails in research.

The SAS Ethics Committee (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) will communicate more actively with SAS staff. It will publish information based on the points listed below, by addressing distribution group addresses and using the SAS website (e.g. SAS news). An online application form will be created.

The Committee will provide consultations on the SAS Code of Ethics and documents of European scientific organizations (e.g. ALLEA, ENRIO). It will publish interpretative rules for the SAS Code of Ethics, generalizations of specific cases investigated by the SAS Ethics Committee, as well as generally applicable recommendations on ethical issues.

In cooperation with SAS bodies and organizations, it will provide training on ethical issues listed in the SAS Code of Ethics (e.g. the predatory phenomenon in publishing, conspiracy media, journalistic ethics), as well as on newly emerging phenomena.

In cooperation with SAS bodies and organizations, it will provide training in proper scientific practice (for PhD students, SAS researchers), using existing know-how and ensuring its reproduction.

The Committee will work with the Science and Research Department of the SAS Office to specify measures overlapping with its competencies in implementing the Human Resources Strategy for Researchers (HRS4R).

It will organize theoretical lectures on current ethical issues and on the relationship between ethics and science in general, using the potential of SAS researchers, and possibly inviting external experts (e.g. the post-truth phenomenon, conspiracy theories, posthumanism, bioethics).

It will monitor current developments in the field of research ethics (theoretical texts and publications, e.g. “Avis du Comets” – CNRS).

The Committee will cooperate with other committees in identifying and addressing issues with ethical aspects that fall within their competencies.

The introduction of a mediator position for dispute resolution within the Academy will be considered.

The usefulness of assessing the working climate in SAS organizations will be considered.

Ethical principles will be brought to the forefront through their thorough application by and within the SAS Presidium (e.g. composition of attestation committees, approval of awards, accuracy of annual reports of organizations).

Individual tasks will be carried out according to current possibilities, needs, and interest.