



**PUBLISHED ONLINE**

## **SENATE**

No.Prot.: 10920/20/ΤΤΙ

Volos, June 11, 2020

**Theme:** "Approval of the Regulation of Principles and Operation of the Research Ethics and Ethics Committee and the Code of Research Ethics and Ethics of the University of Thessaly".

### **THE ASSEMBLY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALIA**

(Regular meeting under no. 233rd/29-5-2020)

Taking into consideration:

1. The provisions of the Ministerial Degree. 83/84 "Establishment of the University of the Aegean, the Ionian University and the University of Thessaly" (Government Gazette 31/t.A'/20-3-1984), as amended and in force today.
2. The provisions of articles 12 "Organs of the Foundation", 13 "Senate", 14 "Rector's Council" and 15 "Rector-Vice-Chancellors" of Law 4485/2017 (Government Gazette 114/t.A'/04.08.2017) "*Organization and operation of higher education, research arrangements and other provisions*», as they apply.
3. The provisions of Law 3861/2010 (Government Gazette 112/13-07-2010, vol.A) "Strengthening Transparency with the Mandatory Posting of Laws and Acts of Governmental, Administrative and Self-Governing Bodies on the Internet "Transparency Program" and Other Provisions ».
4. Law 4009/2011 F.E.K. 195/06.09.2011 t.A' "Structure, operation, assurance of the quality of studies and internationalization of higher education institutions", as amended and in force by Law 4076/2012 F.E.K. 159/10.08.2012 t.A' "Regulations of A.E.I. and other provisions" and the provisions of Law 4115/2013 F.E.K. 24/30.1.2013 vol.A' "Organization and operation of the Foundation for Youth and Lifelong Learning and the National Organization for the Certification of Qualifications and Professional Guidance and other provisions", as in force today.
5. Law 4485/2017 (Government Gazette 114 vol.A'/04-08-2017) "Organization and operation of higher education, regulations for research and other provisions", as it applies today.
6. Official Gazette 4188/24.09.2018 "Approval of the structure of the Financial and Administrative Support Unit (M.O.D.Y.) of ELKE of the University of Thessaly and designation of those responsible".
7. The provisions of Law 4589/2019 (Government Gazette 13/t.A'/29.01.2019) "Synergies of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, the Agricultural University of Athens, the University of Thessaly with the T.E.I. of Thessaly and Central Greece, Pallimnian Fund and other provisions".
8. 8. No. 127422/Z1/26.07.2018 (Government Gazette 463/t.Y.O.D.D./17.08.2018) (ADA PSRPA4653PSFSC) Verification Act of the Minister of Education, Research and Religious Affairs regarding the election Rector and four(4) Vice Chancellors of the University of Thessaly, with a term of four (4) years from 09-01-2018 to 08-31-2022.

9. 9. Official Gazette 4086/t.B'/18-9-2018 in which the decision of the Rector of the University of Thessaly (ADA: ETΣZ469B7E-MNO) was published No. 17393/18/ΓΠ/6-9-2018 regarding the definition of the sector responsibility and the individual responsibilities of the four (4) Vice-Chancellors and the Rector's order of replacement.
- 10.. The 20732/19/ΓΠ/4-9-2019 (AD: 6BAΠ469B7E-EEE) Certificate of the Rector regarding the establishment of the Senate of the University of Thessaly for the academic year 2019-2020, as amended and in force.
- 11..The minutes excerpt of no.20/26-5-2020 meeting of the Research and Management Committee of the Special Research Funds Account (ELKE) of the University of Thessaly, regarding the present matter.
- 12.. The provisions of article 25 par. 5 and article 27 par. 2 of Law 4521/2018 (Government Gazette 1 38/02.03.2018) "Establishment of the University of Western Attica and other provisions".
- 13.. The oral suggestion of the Vice-Chancellor for Research and Lifelong Education, Hon. Professor Ioann aLaliotou.
- 14.. The relevant extract of minutes of the 233rd/29-5-2020 regular Meeting of the Senate of the University of Thessaly (Topic 7.1) entitled: 'Approval of the Code of Research Ethics and Conduct and the Operating Regulations of the Research Ethics and Conduct Committee of the University of Thessaly'.

**Unanimously**

Approves the Regulation of Principles and Operation of the Research Ethics and Ethics Committee and the Code of Ethics and Ethics of Research of the University of Thessaly, as follows:

# **CODE ETHICS AND ETHICS IN RESEARCH**

## **Content**

### **Chapter 1: General principles**

Article 1 - Field of Application

Article 2 – Research Ethics Committee (REC)

Article 3 – Written declaration of information and compliance

Article 4 – The value of the research activity, independence and responsibility of the researchers

Article 5 – Guarantees of respect for the independence of the researchers

### **Chapter 2: Basic Principles of Research Ethics**

Article 6 – Principles of scientific integrity

### **Chapter 3: Principles of Social Research**

Article 7 – Principles of Bioethics for human-centered research

Article 8 - Respect for dignity and personality and avoidance of discrimination

Article 9 – Obligation to inform the persons participating in the research

Article 10 - Obligation to obtain the consent of the persons participating in the research

Article 11 – Obligation of special justification for the choice to have minors participate in the research

Article 12 – Obligation of special justification for the choice to participate in research persons who are vulnerable to coercion

Article 13 – Obligation to respect diversity

Article 14 – Protection of the privacy and data of the persons participating in the research

Article 15 – Compliance with safety rules

Article 16 – Respect for intellectual property

## **Chapter 4: Relationships between members of the Research Team**

Article 17 – Relationships between researchers

Article 18 – Obligations of partners

Article 19 – Obligations of scientific managers

Article 20 – Obligations of the Research Organization – UTH

Article 21 – Presentation of investigations

### **Annexes .....**

1. Template of application - questionnaire for granting approval by REC
2. Additional Terms agreement for the processing of personal data
3. Obligations of confidentiality of presenters for the protection of personal data & confidentiality, privacy, discretion
4. Obligations of discretion of researchers for the protection of personal data & confidentiality, privacy, discretion
5. Decision of the REC of the UTH for research project approval

## **Chapter 1: General principles**

---

### **Article 1. Field of application**

This Code applies to all research activities, as well as the activities of providing specialized services, training programs or other scientific applications, carried out inside or outside the premises of the University of Thessaly (UTH), under the responsibility of its scientific staff, with or without financing.

### **Article 2. Research Ethics Committee (REC)**

**2.1.** Mission of the Research Ethics and Ethics Committee (REC) is to provide, on a moral and ethical level, a guarantee of reliability of the research projects carried out at UTH.

**2.2.** In the above mission, REC controls:

- a) whether a research project is carried out with respect for the value of human beings and animals and the autonomy of the persons participating, their privacy and personal data, as well as the natural and cultural environment.
- b) the adherence to generally accepted principles of research integrity of research and the criteria of sound scientific practice, in accordance with the "Regulation of Implementation of Principles and Operation of the REC of UTH."

### **Article 3. Written statement of information and compliance**

The researchers, during the submission of proposals or applications or contracts for the preparation of research, they declare in writing to the Research & Management Committee of ELKE UTH that they are aware of this Code, and undertake the obligation to comply with and observe the conditions and provisions provided for therein and to immediately inform of any changes or modifications that occur to the research project during the course of the research.

### **Article 4. The value of the research activity, independence and responsibility of the researchers**

**4.1.** The research conducted at UTH aims to promote scientific knowledge which, through its utilization, contributes to the well-being of society as a whole. For the Institution, scientific research is both a social good and the subject of a fundamental right of those who carry it out. As a social good, it promotes human knowledge and innovation and thus contributes to the improvement of the quality of individual and collective life. This dimension is inextricably linked to the freedom of the researchers, without which it cannot be carried out. The research activity is an integral element of freedom of the researcher and is institutionally reflected by its recognition as an object of individual right (Greek Constitution, UNESCO Declarations). These two dimensions of research value are inextricably and organically linked.

**4.2.** Researchers enjoy constitutionally guaranteed academic freedom in the context of the

UTH. The freedom of research is ensured by the public character and institutional autonomy of the institution which guarantee its independence from political and economic dependencies.

**4.3.** The control of ethics by the research community itself is a guarantee of the independence of the research in the context of self-regulation processes, as they arise in the context of the relevant scientific branch, as the researchers primarily have the specialized knowledge and the interest in ensuring the integrity and reliability of their activities;

**4.4.** Researchers must disclose the funding sources of their research work. When entering into a funding agreement they must review and reject any terms that compromise their freedom to design, conduct or publish their research.

## **Article 5. Guarantees of respect for the independence of the researchers - Obligations of the Research Organization - UTH.**

**5.1.** UTH, through its competent bodies, guarantees the independence of the researchers. It is responsible for the transparency of its financial resources, especially the terms of accepting private funding.

**5.2.** In the framework of the guarantees of the independence and integrity of the researchers, UTH ensures compliance with safety rules, both for the protection of the researchers themselves and for the protection of public health and the environment, in relation to research conducted at its facilities.

**5.3.** UTH must provide support for the continuous training of its researchers, including their education in the principles of ethics and research ethics and those of scientific integrity, as well as to facilitate their information by any suitable means for international scientific developments.

**5.4.** UTH ensures the dissemination of the knowledge produced, in the context of its research activities, to the international scientific community. It also ensures, in collaboration with its researchers, for the transmission of the generated knowledge to the wider public, by any appropriate means and in a responsible manner, which contributes to the social utilization of science and, through it, to social progress and in improving the quality of human life.

## **Chapter 2 : Basic Principles of Research**

---

### **Article 6. Principles of Scientific Integrity**

#### **6.1. The responsibility of the researchers**

Research must be conducted with honesty, commitment to scientific truth, respect for human dignity, personal autonomy, biological and intellectual integrity of persons, intellectual property and personal data, as well as care for life, nature and the environment. The researchers of UTH they accept that scientific responsibility and social responsibility

apply equally to humans and animals.

## **6.2. Scientific integrity**

Scientific integrity means the refusal to trample on scientific values for economic gain or public recognition. Integrity is specialized in specific epistemological and methodological obligations, which vary according to scientific disciplines.

## **6.3. Reliability**

All scientific research must be conducted in a way that guarantees its reliability, which is reflected in its design, methodology, analysis and use of resources and the communication of its results, thus ensuring its quality.

## **6.4. Impartiality/ Honesty**

All members of the research community of UTH are committed to the principle of fair treatment of all persons with whom they cooperate, as well as the observance of the principles of justice, meritocracy and impartiality. They must refrain from any activities or actions that could constitute, or to denote, favor or prejudice or negatively bias towards collaborating persons. The development, conduct, monitoring, reporting and provision of information about a survey must be conducted in a transparent, fair, complete and impartial manner.

## **6.5. Equal treatment**

All the members of the research community of UTH enjoy the right to equal treatment, but are also obliged to respect the corresponding right of other researchers and their collaborators, without any form of direct or indirect discrimination, which is based on racial, ethnic and cultural characteristics, language, gender and sexual orientation, religious, political and philosophical beliefs, privacy, health and physical ability, and economic and/or social status of individuals.

## **6.6. Respect and rights of individuals**

During any research activity all involved members must behave with due respect for the rights and freedoms of the persons with whom they cooperate, rejecting any form of deception, coercion, or harassment. The behavior of researchers is governed by respect for the biological and spiritual integrity of humans, and care for nature and the environment. In addition, all research activities are governed by due respect for the intellectual property rights of the Foundation's members and collaborating bodies at the international and national level.

## **6.7. Accountability and Transparency**

Each researcher, or the group in which he/she participates, has an obligation to allow access to the full results obtained from a specific research project. The research methodology must be or become apparent. Research protocols, in the cognitive areas where they exist, must be followed in any convenient and demonstrable way so that the results of the research are

verifiable.

Commitments to accountability and transparency relate to research from concept to publication, management and organisation, training, supervision and guidance, and its wider implications.

### **6.8. Respect in intellectual property**

Plagiarism, the appropriation of foreign achievements as well as the falsification of results are unacceptable and subject to sanctions under the Regulations of UTH and the provisions on the protection of rights<sup>1</sup>.

## **Chapter 3: Principles of social research**

---

### **Article 7. Principles of Bioethics for human research**

**7.1.** Those conducting human research must be aware of the principles of ethics and the more specific rules of ethics that govern their subject. In particular, any research involving humans must be conducted in accordance with fundamental bioethical principles:

- of the autonomy of persons,
- of benefit,
- of non-harm and
- of justice.

**7.2.** Respect for human dignity and the associated principle of the primacy ("intrinsic value") of human beings constitute the core of bioethical principles, which are reflected in international conventions and declarations (Oviedo Convention, UNESCO Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights, UNESCO Declaration on the Human Genome) as well as in the Constitution and legislation of Greece.

**7.3.** The interest and well-being of the persons participating in the research always prevails over the interest of science and society alone. In the event of a conflict, priority must always be given to the person.

**7.4.** Social research in particular has the main goal of contributing to the development of knowledge and the progress of social sciences to improve the lives of people and society as a whole. The particularity and importance of human research require the drawing up of certain special regulatory directions.

---

<sup>1</sup> Article 16



## **Article 8. Respect for dignity and personality and avoid discrimination**

The researchers of UTH when conducting their research, they must show due respect for the dignity, personal autonomy and individual rights of third parties involved in the research activity. They owe respect to their private and family life and to the beliefs and values they hold. They are required to avoid any discrimination against persons on the basis of ethnicity, race, national origin, language, sex, religion, privacy, physical ability, socio-economic status, or any other factor unrelated to scientific competence and integrity.

## **Article 9. Obligation to inform the persons participating in the research**

**9.1.** UTH researchers owe to inform, in a concise but comprehensible and as complete way as possible, honestly and adequately, the people who are going to take part in their research, about the objectives of the latter. The information must be complete and concern the methodology that will be used by the research, the purposes of the research and the possible risks, any burden or discomfort for the persons participating in it. The information is provided in a transparent, comprehensible and easily accessible format, in a way that can be perceived and understood by the research participants. The information is provided in writing or by other means, including, if appropriate, electronically.

**9.2.** There is also an obligation to inform individuals, which, while not participating in the research, are directly affected by its conduct.

## **Article 10. Obligation to obtain the consent of the persons participating in the research**

**10.1.** Social research in a human cannot be carried out without prior consent following the thorough information of the participating person about the purpose, extent and possible risks, in accordance with the previous article. The consent of the persons, who are going to participate in the research, must be provided in writing. In those cases where the provision of written consent is not possible, or is not appropriate because of the type of research or the particular cultural and other characteristics of the persons or groups subject to the investigation, consent may be justified by any clear affirmative action constituting a free, specific, explicit and informed indication of the data subject's agreement to the processing of data relating to him or her; for example by a written statement, among others by electronic means or recording.

Obtaining the informed consent of the participants does not always, nor exclusively, guarantee the protection of the persons concerned. An important part of the responsibility for their protection remains with those responsible for planning and conducting the specific research.

**10.2.** Those who are legally incapable of performing an act and minors are allowed to participate in an investigation only if it is carried out in their interest, after written consent of their legal representatives, based on the Oviedo Convention and the applicable legislation

on the protection of personal data, regarding their own opinion and the free withdrawal of consent at any time. The written consent of the legal representatives of persons incompetent and minors does not exempt the researcher from the obligation to obtain consent from minors and persons incompetent.

**Article 11. Obligation of special justification for the choice to have minors participate in the research**

**11.1.** Research on minors must be specifically justified and its results cannot be produced in any other way or with the participation of other groups. In these cases, special care is required from the UTH researchers for the protection of the rights of children, minors and vulnerable groups, when their participation in research programs is deemed necessary.

Including:

a. Researchers may not use any research procedure that may be harmful to the child either physically or psychologically. However young the children may be, their rights take precedence over the rights of the researcher.

b. Before starting the research, the researchers must obtain the participants' informed consent. They must inform the child of all features of the research that could affect their willingness to participate and answer their questions in terms that match their level of understanding. Researchers should respect the child's freedom to choose to participate or not in the research, as well as to stop participating at any time. Participants should voluntarily agree to take part in the research after being informed, which should be commensurate with their maturity. For the participants, in addition to the above, the written consent of their parents or guardians must be obtained.

c. When it comes to research with infants, researchers should provide all necessary explanations to parents, and be particularly sensitive to indicators of infant distress, in order to obtain written informed consent from parents.

d. For the participation of children and minors in research, in addition to their own opinion, the written consent of their parents or guardians is required. The informed consent of the parents or guardians, or those acting in the place of parents (e.g. directors of institutions, etc.), should preferably be obtained in writing.

e. There must also be written consent - after being informed - of any person whose interaction with the child is the subject of the study (e.g. teachers).

f. Personal information provided by participants during the survey must remain confidential. The anonymity of the participants should be maintained and no information should be used for which there is no approval. In cases of named participation in research [or in cases where named participation in research is deemed necessary or desirable] (e.g. cases of research of artistic practices, and/or artists/works, testimonies in the context of oral history research) the express consent of the participants based on article 10 of the code of ethics.

## **Article 12. Obligation of special justification for the choice to participate in research persons who are vulnerable to coercion**

**12.1.** The responsibility of the UTH researchers is increased according to the social environment in which he will seek volunteers and conduct the research. In some environments and situations there are conditions which, in fact, can decisively influence the person's will and consequently limit his freedom and self-determination, such as for example detention in prisons, hospitalization in psychiatric institutions or even in intensive care units and dealing with emergencies, living in retirement homes or in refugee and immigrant accommodation facilities, in conditions of domestic, social or political violence, emergency situations due to natural or other disasters, etc. In such cases, researchers have increased responsibilities and must justify and thoroughly document that they ensure the conditions, so that research participants do not fall into mere "means" of experimentation and research.

**12.2.** For research on refugee populations, the principles contained in the General European Rules and Codes of Ethics must be observed (DG for Research and Innovation, Guidance note – Research on refugees, asylum seekers and migrants, H2020 Programme, Guidance. V6.1, 04.02 .2019).

**12.3.** In possible research on prisoners, researchers must comply with the special provisions that apply to them (Penal Code, special Codes of Ethics of Criminology or Criminal Investigation). Experiments aimed at the search for interrogation methods or other means that may cause risks to their physical and mental health, or reduce their moral status and insult their human status, are not permitted under any circumstances.

## **Article 13. Duty to respect diversity**

**13.1.** To all social research (including those carried out in an interdisciplinary context) the researchers of UTH must respect cultural and individual differences in roles and positions, including those due to age, gender, race, minority, national origin, religion, sexual preference, disability, language and socioeconomic status. They are sensitive to the real or perceived hierarchies and inequalities of relationships between researchers and research participants and ensure the necessary theoretical, methodological and research conditions for the emergence of the genuine discourse and perspective of the research participants. They do not exploit persons with whom they have a consulting or similar relationship, which by object creates a relationship of inequality (e.g. patients, clients, etc.) and avoid in any way harming or putting research participants at risk.

**13.2.** Create, maintain, distribute, store, maintain and dispose of records and data relating to their research, in accordance with current legislation and with this Code of Research Ethics.

## **Article 14. Protection of the privacy and data of the persons participating in the research**

**14.1.** The University of Thessaly is a recipient of multiple types of information, including personal data and private information. The researchers of UTH are committed to the protection of the privacy of the persons participating in the research, as well as to their protection during the processing of their personal data, electronically or in any other form. The processing researchers must process the personal data exclusively for the purposes of the processing and with the means of processing determined by the Processor. Any other processing of this data for other purposes, even similar ones, is excluded. UTH, as the entity responsible for the processing, and the researchers performing the processing undertake to apply the necessary technical and organizational measures to comply with the principle of data minimization, ensuring the appropriate level of protection and security during their processing, protecting them from destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorized access, disclosure or transmission in any way.

Appropriate measures may include the use of pseudonyms, codes or other methods that completely exclude the identification of participating subjects. If, exceptionally, the possibility of identification is necessary to be maintained for the purposes of the specific processing, it must be specifically justified and appropriate protection measures must be taken.

**14.2.** Researchers must strictly comply before, during and after the investigation, with the principles of protection and integrity of personal data collected and processed, as well as the applicable legislation on their protection. Each investigation is conducted in accordance with the principles and rules of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the applicable Greek legislation.

Processing researchers owe, throughout during the processing, to comply with the requirements of the legislative framework on the protection of personal data, in particular with the GDPR and the relevant legislation of Greece, as well as with the decisions and instructions of the Personal Data Protection Authority (PDPA). The researchers executing the processing must, throughout the processing, comply with the requirements of the legislative framework on the protection of personal data, in particular with the GDPR and the relevant legislation of Greece, as well as with the decisions and instructions of the Personal Data Protection Authority (HDPDA).

**14.3.** In the event that in the context of research carried out at UTH there is a request from the Scientific Officer for the transmission of personal data to a country outside the European Union, this request should be accompanied by the corresponding documentation, i.e. an official certificate, stating firstly the number of the contract with the recipient of the data in the third country and secondly that, from the contract, it follows the observance of the personal data protection guarantees, provided for by the EU Regulation. If there is no

such contract, the Scientific Officer must state the reason, and is required to provide specific written consent of the subjects participating in the research for the transmission of their data, provided that the consent form contains explicit information that in the third country (which must be named) EU protection guarantees do not apply.

**14.4.** Those researchers who process personal data of research subjects, and themselves are not bound by statutory confidentiality nor are they in a relationship of dependence with UTH, i.e. those who are not officers or employees of the Institution nor are they connected with it in terms of carrying out the specific research in a work relationship (not a project or the provision of independent services, etc.) sign with UTH an additional Terms of Agreement for the processing of personal data.

**14.5.** All persons participating in research have the right to forget or delete their data. In order to strengthen the right to be forgotten in the online environment, as well as the right to delete personal data, if there is a relevant request from a person participating in the research, the Processor must inform the Controller, so that any links or copies or any reproduction of said personal data.

**14.6.** Processing of special categories of personal data

Especially for the processing of special categories of personal data, all strict provisions concerning them will be taken according to the applicable legislation.

**14.7.** For all matters of personal data protection, researchers must comply with the instructions of the Data Protection Officer of UTH (DPO), having the obligation if they act otherwise to justify their decision in writing and to assume the civil and criminal responsibility of any adverse or harmful results that may occur due to it.

## **Article 15. Compliance with safety rules**

**15.1.** The researchers of UTH must apply all recognized safety rules in the relevant scientific field. In the event that compliance with safety regulations depends on infrastructure/equipment issues, they inform the authorities so that the necessary measures can be taken immediately.

**15.2.** The researchers of UTH who coordinate research programs must inform the participants in them, fully and honestly, and to take all the necessary and imposed scientific measures to protect the health of the participants and workers in the programs from accidents or side effects that may arise from the special conditions of the research.

**15.3.** Systems security. The basic principles that all secure systems must incorporate are confidentiality, integrity and availability:

Confidentiality: Data must be able to remain confidential and not leak. It is necessary to control access to the data so that it is done only by authorized persons, as well as to operate mechanisms that will control the creation of copies, and will record all forms of access to the data.

Integrity: The system must guarantee data integrity, i.e. it must make sure that the data has not been changed by unauthorized intervention. If a change has been made, it should be detectable (e.g. through the creation of logs, which record all forms of data access, through encryption, which can guarantee their confidentiality and integrity, etc. etc.)

Availability: The system must be available to users when they need it. If a system becomes unavailable (e.g. due to failure or malicious action), it should be able to return to normal operation within a reasonable time, or be replaced as necessary (e.g. by an alternative system available to take over, at the beginning of availability restoration).

## **Article 16. Respect for Intellectual Property**

**16.1.** UTH researchers during the conduct of the research activity, must take into account and not in any way infringe the intellectual property rights of third parties.

**16.2.** Any person that receives, officially or unofficially, knowledge of the progress or the product of the research before the completion and publication of their results, must maintain complete confidentiality and refrain from any action of exploiting the knowledge or the product of the research for his own benefit.

**16.3.** Researchers acquire intellectual property rights on of the object of the research they are conducting and of its products depending on the degree of their contribution to it, the contract under which they acted, their relationship with UTH and in any case with the relevant provisions of the current legislation.

**16.4.** Intellectual property includes the right to exploit the research work (property right) and the right to protect the personal link to it (moral right).

## **Chapter 4. Relations between members of the Research Team**

---

### **Article 17. Relationships between researchers**

**17.1.** The researchers have an obligation of mutual respect and the right to equal treatment. Younger researchers deserve respect for their personality and a fair assessment of their abilities. They themselves have, respectively, an obligation to respect and recognize the experience of the elders.

**17.2.** The individual contribution of each researcher to collective research efforts should be acknowledged. Accurately recording this contribution, either in scientific publications or in any public presentation of the research program, is the right of the researcher. The relevant responsibility rests with all members of the scientific team and especially the heads of the program.

### **Article 18. Obligations of partners**

**18.1.** Research partners must:

- a. carry out their research activity with the main purpose of promoting scientific knowledge and the benefit of society as a whole.
- b. observe the provisions of the legislation referring to the research objects, the ethical principles, the rules of good practice in research, and the ethical rules of their profession and this Code.

In conducting research, collaborators enjoy freedom of expression and opinion. They must at the same time respect the directions imposed for organization and guidance of the research activity by the person in charge of the research.

**18.2.** Violation of the provisions herein by the research collaborators, or their non-compliance with the instructions of those in charge regarding the violation of ethical principles and rules of conduct, may entail their replacement.

### **Article 19. Obligations of scientific managers**

**19.1.** The scientific managers of the research must, during its conduct:

- a. comply with the provisions of the current legislation, the fundamental ethical principles, the rules of professional ethics, as well as this Code, and
- b. monitor compliance with the aforementioned rules by their partners during the execution of the investigation, as defined in the previous article.

**19.2.** Collective research managers should not appropriate research findings for their own individual promotion, or to present research findings as their individual work.

In collaborative research, the team leader must ensure that all team members adhere to the basic ethical principles and rules of conduct. The respect and recognition of the individual

contribution of each researcher and the observance of the principle of transparency and mutual information are the obligation of all research participants. Honesty in the publication and reporting of scientific findings, integrity in keeping promises and commitments, confidentiality in relation to data disclosed during one-on-one meetings, or in the consideration of proposals submitted for funding or work to publication, social responsibility, protection of volunteers and respect for their personality, especially when it comes to vulnerable groups, are basic principles of good research practice and should be observed by all researchers.

**19.3.** Any assignment to third parties of part of the research or research support tasks is under the responsibility and supervision of the person in charge of the research project.

**19.4.** In case of more than one person in charge, the observance of the obligations herein shall be borne equally by all.

**19.5.** Violation of the provisions of this article by those in charge of the research may be grounds for the termination of the specific research project. The suspension is decided by the Senate of the University of Thessaly, after a recommendation from the Research and Management Committee of ELKE UTH and of the relevant Research Ethics and Ethics Committee, which is issued following a relevant written and signed complaint. Before any recommendation of the REC, both the complainant and the person in charge of the investigation are called before it, to present their opinions regarding the complaint orally or in writing.

#### **Article 20. Viewing surveys**

**20.1.** Signs, announcements and general means of promoting the programs are designed and used in a way that serves to inform the scientific community or the general public, and not to promote research professionally in an unfair way. The mention of potential sponsors in the activities or forms of the research groups must be done with care, so as not to create confusion as to the body of the research, not to give the impression of advertising a specific product or of a permanent connection of the sponsor with the University.

**20.2.** Signs and general display forms of the programs must mention all the scientists who took part in the research.

#### **Article 21. Employment of Faculty members of the UTH in a research project outside UTH**

The faculty members of UTH must notify the Research and Management Committee of the ELKE of UTH about their participation in research projects, which are carried out in Foundations, Centers or Institutes outside UTH.



## ANNEXES

1. Role model application - questionnaire for granting approval from REC.
2. Additional Terms Agreement for the processing of personal data.
3. Confidentiality Obligations of rapporteurs for the protection of personal data & confidentiality, privacy, secrecy.
4. Confidentiality Obligations of Researchers for the protection of personal data & confidentiality, privacy, secrecy.
5. Decision of the UTH REC for research project approval

<b>APPLICATION AND QUESTIONNAIRE</b> (For research project approval by the Research Ethics Committee (REC) of the University of Thessaly) <i>The application is submitted in electronic form</i>	
<i>Completed by the Scientific Manager of the Research Project</i>	
Date/Month/Year/Time Submission of the Application	
Research project title for which the application is submitted	
<i>Completed by the Research Ethics Committee (REC)</i>	
Date that the application was received by the Research Ethics Committee (REC)	
Protocol number of the Research Ethics Committee (REC)	
<i>Note: When filling out this form in which information is requested that does not apply to the research project for which the application is submitted, the applicant writes the phrase "NOT APPLICABLE".</i>	
<i>Completed by the Scientific Manager of the Research Project</i>	
A1. Title of the Scientific Project	
A2. Name of Scientific Officer, Department/Laboratory/Institute to which he belongs and full details of his address.	
A3. Name and position (affiliation) of the members of the research team and the role of each of them in the research project under approval	

A4. Summary of the research project in one page (to include at least the purpose, justification and objectives of the proposed Program)

--

A5. Type of study (eg, pilot, clinical, genetic, social, interviews, questionnaires, etc.)

--

A6. Declaration of "non-conflicting interests" by persons-researchers

*All of us who take part in the research project as researchers (at all levels) by signing below we responsibly declare that we do not have any direct or indirect conflicting interests in relation to the research project in which we are participating.*

--

<b>Name Signature</b>	<b>date</b>
-----------------------	-------------

--

--

--

--

**B. AGGREGATED DATA**

**Which of the following ethical and moral issues (Law 4521/2018) does the approved research project include?**

--

<b>B1. Human participation</b>	<b>Yes No</b>
--------------------------------	---------------

*(If the answer to the previous question is YES, answer the following questions of B1.)*

B1.1. Adult participants in social research	Yes No _____
---	--------------

B1.2. Persons, members of socially vulnerable groups	Yes No _____
--	--------------

B1.3. Persons 16 - 18 years old	Yes No _____
---------------------------------	--------------

B1.4. Persons under 16 years of age	Yes No _____
-------------------------------------	--------------

B1.5. Persons without legal capacity (cannot give their own consent)	YES No their
--	-----------------

B1.6. Healthy persons participating in clinical/medical research	Yes No _____
--	--------------

B1.7. Patients	Yes No _____
----------------	--------------

B1.8. Use of medication	Yes No _____
-------------------------	--------------

B1.9. Use of placebos	Yes No _____
-----------------------	--------------

B1.10. Known side effects of drugs to be used	YES	No
B1.11. Random or unexpected findings	YES	No
<b>B2. Use of any human biological samples and tissues</b>		
<i>(If the answer to the previous question is YES, answer the following questions of B2.)</i>		
B2.1. Use of human genetic material	YES	No
B2.2. Use of stem cells	YES	No
B2.3. Use of stem cells from human embryos	YES	No
B2.4. Human use of stem cells	YES	No
B2.5. Use of fetal tissue	YES	No
B2.6. Use of human embryos	YES	No
B2.7. Use of human eggs	YES	No
B2.8. Use of human sperm cells	YES	No
B2.9. Taking with invasive procedures	YES	No
B2.10. Available from online royalty free for research non profit purposes	YES	No
B2.11. Commercially available	YES	No
B2.12. Available through another project	YES	No
B2.13. Downloaded as part of this project	YES	No
B2.14. Available from another's biobank / file	YES	No
B2.15. Mutagenesis using chemical, biological or other agents	YES	No
B2.16. Processing of biological material for reuse	YES	No
B2.17. Use of established human cell lines	YES	NO
B2.18. Human material not included in the above	YES	NO
Describe:		
<b>B3. Development and application of immunotherapeutic agents for humans</b>		
YES No		

*(If the answer to the previous question is YES, answer the following questions of B3.)*

B3.1. Use of antibodies	YES	No
B3.2. Use of immune cells	YES	No
B3.3. Use of immune cell products	YES	No
B3.4. Use of combination therapies	YES	No
B3.5. Other	YES	No

**B4. Management of personal data** | YES | No

*(If the answer to the previous question is YES, answer the following questions of B4.)*

B4.1. Personal data of a special nature	YES	No
B4.2. Health data	YES	No
B4.3. Genetic data	YES	No
B4.4. Biometric data	YES	No
B4.5. Biochemical data	YES	No
B4.6. Tracking and observing people	YES	No
B4.7. Create a profile	YES	No
B4.8. Secondary analysis of personal data	YES	No

**B5. Use of animals or animal tissues/specimens** | YES | No

*(If the answer to the previous question is YES, answer the following questions of B5.)*

B5.1. Use of vertebrates	YES	No
B5.2. Creation or use of transgenic organisms	YES	No
B5.3. Use of stem cells from animals	YES	No
B5.4. Mutagenesis using chemical, biological or other agents	YES	No
B5.5. Use of stem cells from animals	YES	No
B5.6. Use of biological samples of animal origin	YES	No



**B10. Other ethical and ethical issues that may arise and are not covered by the above**

*If YES, please elaborate:*

**C. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ETHICS AND ETHICS ISSUES**

C1. The Scientific Manager of the project should record the moral and ethical concerns that govern the proposed project.

**YES    No**

**D. DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF ISSUES OF ETHICS & ETHICS**

*To be completed only if you answered YES to B1 or B4.*

D1. Describe the population to be studied

D2. To clarify the method of selecting research participants

D3. Attach any forms used to select research participants (information sheets, etc.)

D4. Describe the procedures by which project participants (volunteers - sick and healthy) will be able to submit complaints or complaints.

**D5. Will persons, members of vulnerable groups, participate in the research**

**YES    No**

D5.1. If the answer above is YES, clarify how consent will be legally obtained for the participation of these persons in the project.

D5.2. If the answer above is YES, clarify why the participation of these persons in the project is considered necessary?

<b>D6. Will persons who are incapable of consent participate in the project?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>No</b>
D6.1. If the answer above is YES, clarify how consent will be legally obtained for the participation of these persons in the project.		
D6.2. If the answer above is YES, clarify why the participation of these persons in the project is considered necessary?		
<b>D7. Will minors participate in the project?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>No</b>
D7.1. If the answer above is YES, clarify how consent will be legally obtained for the participation of these persons in the project.		
D7.2. If the answer above is YES, clarify why the participation of these persons in the project is considered necessary?		
<b>D8. Is there a need for access to previous medical records of the persons who will participate in the project?</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>No</b>
D8.1. If the answer to the above is YES, how will permission to access past medical records of study participants be secured?		
<b>D9. Ensuring protection of personal data concerning the persons who will take part in the project</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>No</b>
D9.1. Specify the Administrative Mechanisms that will exist [cf. categories of subjects (children, adults), categories of data, sources and methods of their collection, possible transmission to third parties, time of keeping them]		
D9.2 Specify the Technical Mechanisms that will be in place [any anonymization, pseudonymization, encryption, data access rights and by whom, how to destroy them]		

D9.3 Specify the Physical Mechanisms that will exist [place and method of storage (security) of physical and/or electronic file]
<b>D10. Specify the way in which those in charge of the proposed project will be able to continuously inform the persons who will participate in the research on issues related to safety and their participation in the project in question.</b>
<b>E. Financing/Financial Agreements</b>
Q1. Clarifications of any potential financial burdens on research participants
Q2 Clarifications should be given as to how the rights of researchers to publish the results of the project will be ensured
E3. Clarifications should be given if conditions have been set, from the financier's side, in relation to the publications that will concern the results of the project



## Z. ATTACHMENT OF PROTOCOL AND REFERRALS

Attaching the protocol and completing/answering Z1 and Z2 are only necessary if you have answered YES to B1 or B4.

**Z1. Attach the entire protocol of the research project which should include - depending on the methodological orientation adopted - the following, with references to the pages of the protocol to which relevant reference is made**

Theme	pages
Type of research project	
The number of authorities that will take part in the project	
The total number of people who will participate in the project	
Justification of studying	
Background of the research project	
Hypothesis set by the project	
Purpose of the research project	
Objective of the research project	
Benefit that will result from the project	
Design of the research project	
Number of the sample size	
Justification for the sample number	
Inclusion criteria to project	
Exclusion Criteria from the project	
Procedures and methods	
Ways of measuring and evaluating results	
Statistical analysis	
Consent upon notification to participate in the research project	
Civil damages to persons who will take part in the research project (who will be responsible ;)	
Judicial or other compensation persons who will participate in the research project or any limitations on their judicial compensation	
Justification for the use of genetic data	
Clarifications for the personal data that will accompany the sample of the research project population	
Clarifications for the demographic data that will accompany the sample of the research project population	
Dissemination of personal data	
Dissemination of genetic data	
Dissemination of samples of genetic material or other biological samples	
Accessing information from the project participants and their relatives	
Storage time and destruction of samples and data	
Complaints Procedure	
Secondary use of data in future research	

**G2. Attach all relevant information and consent forms that will be used in the project.**

--

**The Scientific Manager of the project signs and undertakes that:**

(a) has become aware of the Code of Ethics and Conduct of Research of UTH and undertakes the obligation to comply and observe it, and  
(b) no changes will be made to the research project as presented in this application. In the event that there are changes, they will be reported immediately to the Research Ethics Committee (REC), which will decide whether the approval given is still valid or whether a new application for approval should be submitted .

<b>Full name</b>	
<b>Date</b>	
<b>Signature</b>	



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ  
ΘΕΣΣΑΛΙΑΣ

RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE (REC)

---

**Additional Terms Agreement**

(for the processing of personal data)

**I. IDENTITY OF THE AGREEMENT AND THE PARTIES**

1. Place and time: Volos, .....
2. Controller: The University of Thessaly, based in Volos, Argonauts and Philhellenes, 38221, Legal Entity of Public Law.
3. Legal Representative: .....  
Vice Rector for Research and of Life Education, Chairman of the Research Committee
4. Scientific Officer: .....
5. Contract no.: ...../.....
6. Processor: .....  
inhabitant ..... (street .....no. ...)

**II. CONTENT OF THE ADDITIONAL AGREEMENT**

The above contracting parties, after considering

- a) the importance of the protection of natural persons against the processing of their personal data, the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation no. (EU) 2016/679 and Law 4624/2019 and their obligation to fully comply with them,
- b) the above contract between the parties, hereinafter Contract, to which this is attached and is an integral part thereof, c) that the Processor is going to process personal data on behalf of the Controller, in accordance with its instructions and the conditions of the Agreement and hereof, additionally agree and acknowledge the following:

**1. Definitions:**

**Regulation:** Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data and repealing Directive 95/46/EC ( General Data Protection Regulation) (L119/1)

N.4624/2019 : Law 4624/2019 "Personal Data Protection Principle, implementing measures of Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 27, 2016 for the protection of natural persons against the processing of personal data and incorporation into national legislation of Directive (EU) 2016/680 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 27, 2016 and other provisions."

**Protection Authority Personal Data (PDDF):** The Hellenic Personal Data Protection Authority.

**Processing:** Every actor series of operations performed with or without the use of automated means on personal data or sets of personal data, such as collection, registration, organization, correction, storage, adaptation, alteration, retrieval, retrieval information, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or any other form of disposal, association, combination, restriction, deletion or destruction.

**Personal Data:** The type of personal data referred to in the Appendix that the Processor processes on behalf of the Processor.

**Subjects of Personal Data:** The natural persons to whom the Personal Data referred to in the Annex relate to the processing under the Agreement.

#### **2.a. Processing of Personal Data:**

The Processor, within the terms of the Agreement, also undertakes the processing of Personal Data of the Subjects, in accordance with the written instructions and orders of the competent bodies of the Controller. The Processor will process the Personal Data exclusively for the purposes of processing and with the means of processing, determined as above by the Controller, which are described in the Agreement and recorded in the Annex hereto, excluding any other processing thereof for other purposes , even similar ones, either of his own or of third parties. The Processor must, throughout the processing, comply with the requirements of the legislative framework on data protection, in particular with the Regulation and the relevant EU and Greek legislation on the protection of personal data, as well as with the decisions and instructions of the Personal Data Protection Authority, and to provide any required assistance to the Controller for its compliance with the above. None of the terms herein exempts the Processor from its independent obligations to comply with the legal framework for the protection of personal data. Both before and during any processing, the Processor must check the legality and security of the processing in accordance with the GDPR and the currently applicable institutional framework and refrain from any processing act that it considers to be in conflict with them. In the latter case, the Processor must immediately inform the Controller with a full and justified written report.

## **2.b. Processing of special categories of personal data**

For the processing of special categories of personal data will be taken with all the strict provisions concerning them according to the applicable legislation.

## **3. Security and Data Protection Personal Character:**

For the security and protection of Personal Data, the Processor declares unconditionally that:

(a) The processing, according to the Agreement and hereof, is completely separate from any other processing carried out by him, either on his own account or on behalf of a third party, and he takes all necessary organizational and technical measures to ensure said distinction.

(b) Keep complete, accurate and up-to-date written records of all categories of processing it performs on behalf of the Controller.

(c) Implements appropriate technical and organizational measures to ensure the appropriate level of protection and security of the Personal Data it processes and its protection against destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorized access, disclosure or transmission in any way, as well as from any other type of violation even if not described herein, according to the personal data protection legislation and the decisions or instructions of the Personal Data Protection Authority. When sending messages with personal data via digital technology between the Processor and the Controller, the method of encryption is chosen to mainly ensure the confidentiality of the information, the non-alteration of the content of the message and its verification.

(d) Has the appropriate, convenient and necessary technical and organizational means and to take every measure that effectively prevents the loss, alteration as well as any type of violation of the processed data.

(e) Implements appropriate procedures for the security and protection of the Personal Data it processes.

(f) Undertakes the obligation to assist the Controller with appropriate technical and organizational measures to fulfill its obligation to respond to the requests of Personal Data Subjects when exercising their rights provided for by the Regulation. In this regard, the Processor must promptly inform the Controller regarding the submission of applications or any complaints of the Data Subjects and provide him with the necessary information, as well as take the relevant actions that the Controller will request regarding any request of a Personal Data Subject or complaint, within the timescales set by the Controller, as well as not to respond to any request or complaint without the prior written approval of the Controller. (g) Undertakes the obligation to assist the Controller in the implementation of the appropriate organizational and technical measures he is required to take for the protection of the Personal Data he processes.

(the) Takes over the obligation to immediately notify the Data Controller in writing of any incident falling under the obligations under (a) to (i) above, as well as the measures it takes to deal with the situation.

**4. Compliance with Confidentiality:** The Processor is obliged to ensure the confidentiality of Personal Data and is fully and exclusively responsible in any case of violation and indicative of leakage, disclosure or communication of Personal Data.

**5. Personal Data Breach Notification Obligation:** In the event of any breach of Personal Data (found or likely), the Processor must inform the Controller in writing immediately and in any case no later than within 24 hours of becoming aware of the violation. This update includes at least:

(a) detailed description of the Personal Data breach, (b) recording of the Personal Data breached, (c) the identity of the Personal Data Subjects breached, otherwise, where this is impossible, a reference to the categories and the approximate number of affected Personal Data Subjects, their categories and the approximate number of affected files;

(d) description of the possible effects that may have the breach of Personal Data,

(e) description of the measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Processor to address the Personal Data breach and limit the adverse effects of the breach on the Personal Data Subjects;

(f) listing the name and the contact details of any data protection officer or any other contact

details necessary to provide more information. In these cases, the Controller is entitled to request any additional information about the event and the circumstances, technical or otherwise, under which the violation took place, and the Processor is obliged to promptly respond to his request. The Processor must, without culpable delay, investigate the security breach and identify and prevent it and make every effort to mitigate the effects of any security breach, in accordance with the terms hereof, immediately take all possible measures for the limiting its effects, as well as any necessary measure to get things back on track. The Processor is obliged to assist the Controller in fulfilling its obligation to notify the Personal Data Protection Authority of any Personal Data breach and to notify the Personal Data Subjects of the breach. The Processor is prohibited from disclosing any security breach without the prior written consent of the Controller. The actions described in this article are carried out at the expense of the Processor, and the Controller reserves the right to take action against the Processor to cover its costs and any other relevant damage caused to it by the above violation security.

**6. Conducting an Impact Assessment Study:** Upon request of the Controller, the Processor must effectively assist the Controller in carrying out impact assessment studies, as well as in conducting prior consultation with the Personal Data Protection Authority in cases where the above study shows that the intended Processing entails a high risk for Personal Data. Also, the Processor will cooperate to take the mitigation measures indicated by the Controller to deal with any risks identified during the impact assessment study regarding the protection of Personal Data.

**7. Provision of information - Right to Audit:** The Processor makes copies of the files mentioned above available to the Controller in a timely manner, upon the latter's relevant request as well as any kind of information that the Controller may request, in order to prove that it complies with its obligations arising from the legislation on personal data protection, this and the Agreement, including detailed information regarding the technical and organizational measures it adheres to. The Controller, in order to ensure compliance with the terms herein by the Processor, has the right to carry out random checks on the facilities, computers, information systems, files, documents and contracts of the Processor with its representatives or a specialist for this purpose auditor who will define on a case-by-case basis. The Controller undertakes to cover all costs that may arise during the audit, unless the audit results in non-compliance of the Processor with the relevant legislative framework on the protection of personal data or with the terms of the Agreement and hereof, so the Processor is obliged in this case to fully cover the relevant costs of the Controller. The Processor resolves immediately, at its own expense, all security and data protection issues discovered by the Controller and notified to it regarding actual or potential violations by the Processor of its above obligations. The Processor shall immediately inform the Controller of any inspections and audits carried out at its facilities by the Personal Data Protection Authority, or by other competent authorities, regarding violations of any civil, criminal or administrative provision of law or regulation, provided relating to the Agreement or this. The Processor does not disclose Personal Data to any third party, unless required by law and has previously informed and consulted the Processor.

**8. Copies of Personal Data:** The Processor does not keep copies of the Personal Data it processes, in any form or medium, without the prior written permission of the Controller, with the exception of backup copies and those required for its compliance with the law, regarding which it duly informs the Data Controller.

**9. Duration- Complaint:** This is effective from the date of its signature and ends upon expiration or termination of the Agreement for any reason, including termination. The provisions hereof also apply to any processing that has taken place before the date of signature hereof. Termination of this agreement independently, by any of the contracting parties, is excluded.

**10. Transfer of Personal Data outside the EU:** The Processor may transfer the Personal Data to a third country or international organization outside the EU only after the explicit and written consent of the Controller, which follows the approval of the competent Research Ethics Committee (REC), unless obliged to the above transfer by law, in which case he informs the Controller prior to processing.

**11. Responsibility:** In the event of non-compliance by the Processor with the provisions of the legislative framework for the protection of personal data, or in the event of a breach by him of any of the terms herein, or in the event that any of his actions are contrary to the above instructions and orders of the Controller, as well as in case of violation in any way and leakage of Personal Data due to an act or omission of the Processor or due to an event that falls under his responsibility, on the one hand, the Processor is responsible for the full restoration of any damage and damage that may be suffered by the Controller (indicative positive, negative, material or non-damage, moral damage, imposition of a fine, forfeiture of a penalty clause, payment of compensation to a Personal Data Subject or third parties, legal costs and other costs of restoration or compliance, etc.) due to this breach, regardless of any other compensation is paid by the Processor based on the Contract; and on the other hand the Controller may terminate the Contract, with immediate effect of the termination, even if this is not expressly provided as a reason for termination in the Contract.

**12. Prohibition of Assignment:** The Processor may not assign or transfer in any way its rights and obligations arising from this, without the prior written consent of the Controller.

**13.** For all matters of personal data protection, the contracting parties must comply with the instructions of the Data Protection Officer of UTH (DPO), having the obligation if they act otherwise to justify their decision in writing and to assume the civil and criminal responsibility of any adverse or harmful results that may occur due to it.

**14. General terms:** This with its Annex is an integral part of the Agreement. Any modifications herein shall be evidenced only in writing, to the exclusion of any other means of proof. In the event that a term herein is deemed invalid, in whole or in part, the invalidity does not affect the validity of any other term herein and the validity of the Agreement, which is still valid. In the event of a conflict between a term or terms of the Agreement and this one, the terms hereof prevail as more specific.  
In recognition of the above, this document was drawn up in two identical copies, one for each contracting party.

For the Controller  
The Chairman of the Research & Management Committee  
.....

The Processor.....

**ANNEX**

[to be completed by the processor / Scientific Coordinator of the project]

**1. OBJECT OF PROCESSING:**

.....  
..  
.....  
..  
.....  
..

**2. DURATION OF PROCESSING:**

.....  
..  
.....  
.  
.....  
..

**3. NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROCESSING:**

.....  
..  
.....  
.  
.....  
..

**4. TYPE OF PERSONAL DATA:**

.....  
..  
.....  
.  
.....  
..

**5. Special categories of data**





ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ  
ΘΕΣΣΑΛΙΑΣ

RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE (REC)

---

**CONFIDENTIALITY OBLIGATIONS OF RAPORTEURS  
FOR THE PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA &  
CONFIDENTIALITY, PRIVACY, SECRECY**

In addition to the commitments arising from provisions of the law or codes of professional ethics, the..... undertakes, with this declaration, the obligation to protect the confidentiality and privacy of data, information and any other material that is to be disclosed or come to his knowledge in any way, in the context of his participation in the research project.....

.....namely

.....

.....

Particularly:

Takes over the obligation not to disclose, communicate, dispose of information of a confidential nature or to allow or make possible the access of any third party directly or indirectly the communication or disclosure of confidential information to any third party. This obligation applies without prejudice to the application of a provision of law that mandates the disclosure of said information or is necessary for the exercise, establishment and defense of a right before a court, supervisory or disciplinary body.

The term "CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION" as used in this statement, are understood all information, data, methods, techniques and procedures related to the organization, operation, responsibilities, tasks, work, reports, questionnaires, forms, positions, findings, documents, projects, research and development planning, know-how, systems and media, which carry personal data and related information.

Confidential information also means any personal data, i.e. any information that can relate

to a person whose identity is known or can be determined. These data may refer to researchers/workers/employees at the University of Thessaly (UTH), to persons with whom the UTH conducts business or collaborates in research/otherwise. or persons, whose data are contained in records or subject to processing in the context of research activities, research projects, assignments, experiments, methodology, reports, questionnaires, interviews, measurements, files, system databases, deliverables, etc. of UTH.

Confidential information may be contained in physical sound or image carriers, diskettes or digital computer disks, machines, prototypes of any kind and application, drawings, definitions and explanations, articles of any construction, visual representations, documents readable by machines or humans or have character oral statement.

The signatory of this statement undertakes to use the confidential information of which he/she becomes aware only for the purposes of the project assigned to him/her and/or for the purposes for which the said information was communicated to him/her (providing a proposal for a research project), as well as to observe the principle of confidentiality even after the end of his status as a presenter/presenter of the specific research project in any way.

Date:

Declarant Name,

Signature



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ  
ΘΕΣΣΑΛΙΑΣ

RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE (REC)

---

**CONFIDENTIALITY OBLIGATIONS OF RESEARCHERS  
FOR THE PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA  
& CONFIDENTIALITY, PRIVACY, SECRECY.**

In addition to the commitments arising from provisions of the law or codes of professional ethics, the..... undertakes, with this declaration, the express obligation to protect the confidentiality and privacy of data, information and any other material that is to be disclosed or come to his knowledge in any way, in the context of his participation in the research project.....

.....namely

.....

.....

Particularly:

Takes over the obligation **not to** disclose, communicate, dispose of information of a confidential nature or to allow or make possible the access of any third party directly or indirectly the communication or disclosure of confidential information to any third party. This obligation applies without prejudice to the application of a provision of law that mandates the disclosure of said information or is necessary for the exercise, establishment and defense of a right before a court, supervisory or disciplinary body.

The term "CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION", as used in this statement, means all information, data, methods, techniques and procedures related to the organization, operation, responsibilities, duties, work, reports, questionnaires, forms, statements, findings, documents, projects, research and development planning, know-how, systems and media, which carry personal data and related information.

Confidential information also means any personal data, i.e. any information that can relate to a person whose identity is known or can be determined. These data may refer to researchers/workers/employees at the University of Thessaly (UTH), to persons with whom the UTH conducts business or collaborates in research/otherwise or persons, whose data are contained in records or subject to processing in the context of research activities, research projects, assignments, experiments, methodology, reports, questionnaires, interviews,

measurements, files, system databases, deliverables, etc. of UTH.

Confidential information may be contained in physical sound or image carriers, diskettes or digital computer disks, machines, prototypes of any kind and application, drawings, definitions and explanations, articles of any construction, visual representations, documents readable by machines or humans or have character oral statement.

The signatory of this statement undertakes to use the confidential information of which he/she becomes aware only for the purposes of the project assigned to him/her and/or for the purposes for which the said information was communicated to him/her (providing a proposal for a research project), as well as to observe the principle of confidentiality even after the end of his status as a presenter/presenter of the specific research project in any way.

Date:

Declarant Name,

Signature



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ  
ΘΕΣΣΑΛΙΑΣ

RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE (REC)

---

**DECISION**

**RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE (REC)**

**OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALLY**

**FOR APPROVAL OF A RESEARCH PROJECT**

**CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT**

Title of research project/study for which approval is requested:

Scientific coordinator of the project/study:

Type of proposed study:

Protocol Number of Research Ethics Committee (REC):

Number & Date of the Decision of the Research Ethics Committee (REC):

Decision of the Research Ethics Committee (REC) (by electronic means)

**It is approved (or clarifications and resubmission of request/forms are requested)**

Members of the Commission that took part in the Decision

Comments by the Research Ethics Committee (REC) on the basis of which the decision was taken on the application submitted

Studying the research project and all related supporting documents/additional approvals, as submitted to the Research Ethics Committee (REC) and taking into account the purposes and expected benefits, the research methodology, the absence of ulterior motives participation, the lack of conflict of interest by the researchers and the lack of potential risks for the research subjects,

**the REC**

*finds and unanimously decides that it approves, according to art. 23 par.1.a of Law 4521, the submitted application under .....[initial submission ....submission of clarifications, etc.], as against at its discretion [or provided that...], the accepted rules of ethics and ethics and research integrity are observed in terms of the content and in the manner of conducting the research project under consideration, as well as the conditions prescribed by law.*

**OR** [Alternatively]

*finds deficiencies in the following points*

.....  
...

.....  
...

*Recommends the review by the Scientific Coordinator of the research team of the points highlighted and the resubmission of the request to the Commission [or the submission of corrected forms, providing clarifications through a reply letter on his/her behalf*

*SC.....].*

*The present decision of the REC under no circumstances does it NOT replace the approval or licensing of this research project/study required by another competent public agency, administrative body or independent administrative authority which may additionally be required by law.*

**Date of issue decision**

Year:

Month:

Day:

**Signed by the President of the Commission**

Position

Name

Surname

Signature

**Chairman**

**THE RECTOR**

**(signature)\***

**PROFESSORZESIS MAMOURIS**

\*The signature is affixed to the original on file with the service.