



Code of Conduct for Research and Transfer

Technology
Arts Sciences
TH Köln



The culture, thinking and actions of our university are based on six core values: Diversity, Openness, Relevance, Internationalization, Facilitation and Quality. Based on the legislation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia, the Federal Government and the European Union, this Code of Conduct sets out the basic principles for responsible and ethically appropriate work in the field of research and transfer. Our guiding principle, as formulated in the University Development Plan 2030 and the Research Strategy 2030, is: We shape social innovation: Open, collaborative, innovative.

This Code of Conduct applies to all academic and non-academic members of TH Köln who are involved in research, transfer and teaching, as well as to third parties who cooperate with TH Köln.

This Code of Conduct of TH Köln came into effect with the resolution of the Executive Board on December 09, 2020

Self-Image Diversity

Research, transfer and teaching require an environment characterized by open-mindedness, enlightened thinking, fair discourse and an appreciation of diversity. Openness and diversity form the basis for the interaction of different disciplines, the cooperative, partnership-based interaction of people, the appreciation of differences, curiosity about opposing positions and the exchange of ideas. Any form of discrimination based on origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, life situation or age is avoided.

Sustainability

TH Köln contributes to the promotion of sustainable development through research, teaching and transfer. It is committed to the sustainability goals of the international community and works on solutions to global challenges from this perspective.

Integrity

When conducting projects and when communicating oral or written results, members of TH Köln always act with integrity and in accordance with TH Köln's regulations for safeguarding good scientific practice.

Unity of teaching and research

At TH Köln, teaching and research are inseparably linked, as both are mutually dependent. Only in this way can the societal expectations of both the educational mission and the acquisition of scientific knowledge be fulfilled.



Responsibility

Academic Freedom

Academic freedom is the foundation of any democracy and therefore a universal right and public good. It is the foundation of social progress. TH Köln respects the freedom and independence of science and research. This goes hand in hand with freedom of expression, freedom of association, freedom of movement and the right to education.

Responsibility in Research and Transfer

With its public educational mission, TH Köln is committed to the principles of a democratic and social constitutional state and works to secure and further develop them. The research and transfer activities of TH Köln pursue exclusively peaceful goals. Members of TH Köln can seek advice from the Commission for Responsibility in Science on how to deal with security-relevant and ethical aspects in research and transfer projects.

Data Protection

For the protection and handling of personal and other sensitive data in compliance with the law, TH Köln is establishing a data protection management system and is improving the security of information through organizational and technical measures.

Research Data

The management of research data covers the entire cycle of a research project: From the planning of a research proposal, its implementation and the publication of the results, to the subsequent use and long-term archiving of the data obtained. In this context, the guidelines of the German Research Foundation (DFG) for the handling of research data apply.

Cooperation with third parties

Transparency in working with third parties

As a public corporation, TH Köln always drafts contracts in accordance with the core values and principles outlined above. Third-party funds are earmarked and used transparently.

Intellectual Property

TH Köln regards the transfer of ideas, knowledge and technology as a core task that is anchored in research, teaching and further education and that is essential for the science-based further development of society. Intellectual property is handled in accordance with the principles of TH Köln's patent and transfer strategy.

Commitment to Open Science

We respect the freedom of science and research. Social change and digitalization open up new opportunities for the use of scientific knowledge. TH Köln strives to actively shape the cultural change from traditional to open science.

TH Köln
Research and Knowledge Transfer
Gustav-Heinemann-Ufer 54
50968 Cologne
E: forschungsfoerderung@th-koeln.de

Vice President for
Research and Knowledge Transfer
Prof. Dr. Klaus Becker
T: +49 221-8275-3102
E: klaus.becker@th-koeln.de

