

Declaration Scientific Integrity

Erasmus University Rotterdam Research Integrity Pledge

I hereby declare my intention to uphold the ethos of good scientific research and to apply in all of my scientific activities the principles described in The Netherlands Code of Conduct for Scientific Practice:

Scrupulousness, Reliability, Verifiability, Impartiality and Independence

I will apply these principles in my own work and will endeavour to promote these principles among other scientists and in particular among my direct colleagues.

International Institute of Social Studies coda/supplement

The International Institute of Social Studies adds the following elaborations, as especially appropriate and necessary in the field of international development studies.

- Scrupulousness includes due attention to and respect for the rights of human subjects of research and of all research participants.
- Knowledge about human societies, behaviours and interactions is always socially situated: it is constructed in particular historical contexts, from particular standpoints, with particular frames, inclusions and exclusions, and particular principles of relevance and significance. Objectivity is a vital guiding principle but is at the same time inevitably positional (Amartya Sen). This requires researchers to aim for awareness and transparency about their standpoint, frames and guiding principles.
- Impartiality and Independence are principles to rule out pre-determined conclusions, and in particular to rule out domination by the interests of funders and other power-holders and also of the researcher. They further rule out assessment of other researchers' work using reasons other than scientific quality. They should never be interpreted as in conflict with undertaking research of high societal relevance, and in particular research that seeks to support the articulation, promotion and defence of the rights and interests of persons and groups who are marginalized, vulnerable and/or disadvantaged.
- The principles of Reliability and Verifiability establish requirements of transparency and good reason in methodology. They do not proscribe observation of unique events, granting of confidentiality where appropriate, and related strategies in human and policy-related studies.
- Promotion of an ethos of good scientific research requires attention in addition to an enabling organizational structure, practices and culture, in which hierarchical power relations do not threaten individual integrity (so that for example whistle blowers are supported when appropriate rather than routinely punished), research ethics and practices are explicitly debated among the diverse stakeholders in and around the university, high academic integrity is recognised and honoured, collaboration is encouraged, and the system of reward and public recognition reflects not only quantity of outputs but also societal relevance and application.

The Hague, date:

Name:

Signature: