EURADOS e.V.

Code of Ethics

Preamble

EURADOS has adopted the following Code of Ethics on the basis of §14 of the EURADOS Constitution.
Content

1. EURADOS – Mission Statement, Structure and Members ............................................................... 3
2. EURADOS – Code of Ethics ........................................................................................................ 4
   a. Principle of Independency ........................................................................................................ 5
   b. Principle of Impartiality ............................................................................................................. 5
   c. Principle of Transparency ........................................................................................................ 6
   d. Principle of Accountability ...................................................................................................... 6
3. Procedure to handle violations of CoE ..................................................................................... 7
4. Periodic review of the Code ..................................................................................................... 9
5. Promotion of a culture of openness ........................................................................................... 9
1. **EURADOS – Mission Statement, Structure and Members**

The “European Radiation Dosimetry Group” (referred to as EURADOS) is an Association entered into the Register of Associations in Germany (“e.V.” is attached to its name). It serves the promotion of research and development and European cooperation in the field of the dosimetry of ionising radiation. The aims of the Association are in particular:

a) to advance the scientific understanding of the dosimetry of ionising radiation.

b) to promote the technical development of dosimetric methods and instrumentation and their implementation in routine dosimetry.

c) to contribute to the compatibility of the dosimetric procedures used within the EU and their conformance with international practices.

d) to stimulate scientific collaboration and the dissemination of results between European laboratories and the active co-operation with other similar Associations in neighbouring areas.

e) to maintain active links and exchange with the broader community of international dosimetry laboratories.

EURADOS is composed of the following membership categories:

- **Voting Members**

  Voting Members are institutes, laboratories or companies involved in dosimetry of ionising radiation. Each Voting Member will nominate a permanent representative (delegate) who shall be an active employee of the Voting Member institute and who shall attend the General Assembly.

- **Associate Members**

  Associate Members are individual scientists who contribute to the objectives or activities of EURADOS. Associate Members are staff of the Voting Members, staff of other institutions of the dosimetry research community participating in EURADOS or persons otherwise active in the field of dosimetry of ionising radiation.
--- EURADOS European Radiation Dosimetry Group ---

Code of Ethics

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- Honorary Members

Honorary Members are individual scientists who have made outstanding contributions to the realisation of the aims of EURADOS and upon whom the Council shall confer this status.

The central body of EURADOS is the General Assembly in which decisions are taken by ballots from the Voting Members. An Executive board, including Chairperson and Vice-chair is elected by the General Assembly. The Executive board, extended by a Secretary and a Treasurer, as well as the Council, which is also elected in the General Assembly, are the governing bodies managing and administrating EURADOS.

Topical Working Groups are the basis of EURADOS work to achieve its goals. For this, the Members of the Working Groups collaborate to perform research activities, intercomparisons and organise education and training activities. Main output of the Working group and the Council activities are high quality publications in the scientific literature (e.g. EURADOS reports, (peer reviewed) journal papers and conference contributions). EURADOS depends on the active involvement of its Members to accomplish its mission. EURADOS requires its Members to observe high standards of personal ethics and integrity in the conduct of their activities and responsibilities. To this purpose, EURADOS has approved a Constitution for its governance and issued codes to foster public confidence and to protect the Association’s interest.

2. EURADOS – Code of Ethics

This Code of Ethics (CoE) defines the standards of professional ethics and integrity to which all EURADOS Members shall adhere.

All individual Members are polite, fair and respectful in their dealings with others. EURADOS and its Members acknowledge that each individual is unique and respect individual differences. These differences include race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, education, physical abilities, religious beliefs, political beliefs,
or other ideologies. Members treat any others fairly and do not exclude anyone based on these differences.

All EURADOS Members shall be aware that their professional actions reflect on the reputation of EURADOS. The standards of professional ethics and integrity to which all EURADOS Members shall adhere are based on the four main principles

- Independency,
- Impartiality,
- Transparency and
- Accountability.

All principles are also included in the “The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity” (https://allea.org/code-of-conduct/) to which all Members of EURADOS independent of their location and nationality shall adhere.

**a. Principle of Independency**

EURADOS is an independent Association relying primarily on its Associate Members contributing to the work programme of the Working Groups. For this, all Members shall act independently in the interest of the aims of EURADOS. They shall avoid any behaviour and external influences that cast doubts on the independence of their contribution. Independence may be compromised also by secondary interests: any circumstance involving a risk for a conflict of interest should be managed following the procedures laid out in the Code for the management of the conflicts of interest.

**b. Principle of Impartiality**

All Members shall work honestly and with integrity in the interest of the EURADOS mission in developing, undertaking, reviewing, reporting and communicating research. All Members should express a questioning and open-minded attitude, being respectful of differing viewpoints. Relations with interested parties, other professionals and the general public must be fair, neutral and preserve the impartiality of EURADOS. Members must adhere to the legal and regulatory requirements that apply to the practice of their
profession. Impartiality may also be compromised by secondary interests: any circumstance involving a risk for a conflict of interest should be managed following the rules laid out in the Code for the management of the Conflict of interest. EURADOS Members respect intellectual properties (IP) by correctly referencing their use and following the rules defined by EURADOS for handling IP (c.f. EURADOS Rules of Procedure, chapter B.4).

**c. Principle of Transparency**

In their actions and behaviour, all members must preserve the credibility of EURADOS as an independent Association. The composition of the Council and the Executive board, who represent and manage EURADOS as an Association, is made publicly available. On request, all Members will be available to provide information regarding their actions on behalf of EURADOS and give reasons for their decisions and actions behind their contributions. All EURADOS actions (e.g. intercomparisons, training courses, grants and awards) are based on defined criteria and rules available to all interested parties. Results from EURADOS activities are presented to the General Assembly and if suitable are made publicly available as reports or scientific publications.

**d. Principle of Accountability**

The financial resources and assets of EURADOS are managed in accordance with good accounting principles. Annually, the Treasurer will report the work of the last year to the General Assembly. The Members, in their contributions to the EURADOS mission, must ensure that the accountability of the Association is preserved. Professional reports, statements, publications or advice produced by Members should be based on sound scientific principles, be accurate to the best of their knowledge and be appropriately attributed to the contributors.
3. Procedure to handle violations of CoE

All Members of EURADOS are expected to follow this Code of Ethics and the other codes issued to foster public confidence and to protect the Association’s interest. Any possible Conflicts of interest shall be declared by them following the rules given in the Code for management of CoI.

Any Member observing impolite, unfair, disrespecting or excluding behaviour of another Member shall immediately remind the person of this Code of Ethics. In case a Member witnesses any breach of the principles of this Code or any unethical behaviour of other Members, it is their duty to notify the EURADOS Council. There are no formal requirements regarding this initial notification, which can be oral or in written form. This notification can be made by contacting any Member of the Council and providing the information necessary to investigate the incident. In general, the Council will treat any information regarding violations of this Code of Ethics confidential, the names of the notifying persons will not be disclosed. Once the Council has been notified, it will perform an investigation into the case. A team of three Members of the Council, who declare no personal conflict of interest in the given situation, will be formed to investigate the violation reported. The person suspected of breaching the Code of Ethics is informed about the investigation and will have the opportunity to tell their side of the case. A short report on the case is compiled by the investigation group, which in the case of confirmation of the violation of this Code, will include recommendations on measures to take. The report shall be confidential and only be disclosed to the Council which will decide on the measures and will implement them. If CoI of Members of the Council are declared, they should not take part in this decision, which is taken by secret vote with two-thirds majority. Based on the severity of the violation, the measures can range from oral admonition through formal written admonition, up to exclusion from the Association. The persons, who have notified the violation of the Code, will be informed about the result of the investigation and the measures taken.
The procedure described in this chapter is outlined in the figure below. It is stressed that all persons involved in the process guarantee confidentiality and strive to ensure that no disadvantage is caused to the Member(s) notifying the Council.
4. **Periodic review of the Code**

This EURADOS Code of Ethics will be reviewed periodically. If necessary, it will be updated to ensure that it remains relevant to EURADOS.

5. **Promotion of a culture of openness**

EURADOS is engaged in promoting a culture of openness by:

- informing new Members about this Code of Ethics
- informing Members and the public about the composition of the Council and the executive board and providing information about the contact persons
- clearly stating the expectation that all Members adhere to all codes issued by EURADOS to foster public confidence and to protect the Association’s interest
- providing easy access to the codes and any relevant documents
- making the codes a regular agenda item in any Council or other meetings to raise awareness of their existence.