



Core Principles for a Common Code of Conduct

Public affairs professionals are a vital part of the democratic process, acting as a link between the world of business, civil society, and policymakers. These professionals must therefore undertake to observe the highest professional and ethical standards. The signatories to this code are all committed to abide by it, acting in an honest, responsible and courteous manner at all times and seeking to observe the highest professional standards.

In their dealings with EU institutions these professionals shall:

- (a) recognize the rights of all parties involved to state their case and express their views;
- (b) identify themselves by name and organization and the interest they represent;
- (c) not intentionally or otherwise disseminate false or misleading information, and correct any such act promptly;
- (d) not obtain information from EU institutions by dishonest means;
- (e) neither intentionally misrepresent their status nor the nature of their inquiries to EU institutions nor create any false impression in relation thereto;
- (f) honour confidential information given to them;
- (g) not sell for profit to third parties copies of documents obtained from public institutions;
- (h) not offer any financial or other inducement which would constitute improper influence on EU institutions;
- (i) only employ personnel from EU institutions subject to the rules and confidentiality requirements of those institutions;
- (j) avoid any professional conflicts of interest; disclose such conflicts when they occur; and take swift action in order to resolve any conflict which arises.

All signatories agree to adhere to this Code and to cooperate fully with the code-holders body charged with oversight of its implementation.

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