

CODE OF ETHICS

Foundations are non-profit institutions aiming to contribute to the common good, sustainable development, and the provision of solutions to the concrete challenges of contemporary societies, particularly in the social, educational, scientific, cultural, or environmental spheres. To fulfill this purpose, they may, among other methods, provide financial support to third parties, award scholarships, or implement their own programs, projects, and activities, either in Portugal or abroad.

Foundations recognize the importance of aligning their actions with society's primary needs and challenges, which define the scope and limits of their activities, thereby assuming a significant role in the daily lives of citizens. To this end, they uphold the values of independence and autonomy in fostering a pluralistic, fair, and responsible civil society. They advocate for the efficient and responsible management of available human and financial resources in a transparent manner.

Considering these principles and with the shared goal of achieving these objectives, the member Foundations of the Portuguese Foundations Centre declare their acceptance of the fundamental principles outlined in this Code of Ethics. They commit to taking the necessary measures to ensure compliance with these principles, to promote good governance within their institutions, and to adhere to the applicable legal standards.

Principle No. 1 | Legality

Foundations operate in accordance with the principle of legality and their statutes, fulfilling all obligations imposed by applicable Portuguese and European legislation.

Principle No. 2 | Good Governance and Codes of Conduct

Foundations maintain governance bodies in line with their statutes and the Foundations Framework Law. They adopt codes of conduct and other necessary internal governance documents to ensure that members of their governing bodies and staff consistently uphold the highest ethical standards in their interactions with stakeholders and the community.

Principle No. 3 | Guidelines, Operations, and Support Programs

Foundations establish clear guidelines and procedures for the effective conduct of their activities, specifying their mission, purposes, objectives, areas of

operation, and associated programs in accordance with their constitutive acts. They regularly assess and, if necessary, revise these in compliance with applicable laws.

Principle No. 4 | Administration: Management and Finances

Foundations implement efficient management methods to ensure sound administration and resource utilization based on prudent and sustainable investment criteria. They maintain accounting systems appropriate to their nature and size and may adopt additional measures beyond legal requirements.

Principle No. 5 | Reporting, Transparency, and Accountability

Foundations act transparently and adopt internal procedures that ensure compliance with legal obligations and best practices in accountability. They provide complete and regular reporting to relevant public authorities as required by law, publicly disclose annual information on their activities, accounts, and budgets, and fulfill all applicable registration obligations.

Principle No. 6 | Monitoring and Evaluation

Foundations ensure adequate and regular monitoring and evaluation of the outcomes of their activities and programs, including impact assessments when appropriate. They also monitor adherence to applicable principles, standards, and best practices to which they have committed.

Principle No. 7 | Cooperation and Partnerships

Foundations promote the dissemination of their knowledge and experience and foster partnerships with other foundations or public, private, or social institutions that share their values and vision, aiming to maximize the impact of their results within their respective areas of activity.

Principle No. 8 | Human Dignity and Non-Discrimination

Foundations ensure equality, respect, and appreciation for all individuals regardless of their personal characteristics. They adopt plans to promote gender equality, equal opportunities, and non-discrimination.

Principle No. 9 | Prohibition of Harassment

Foundations enforce the prohibition of all forms of harassment, including moral and sexual harassment, by adopting policies for the prevention and combat of such practices.

Principle No. 10 | Combating Corruption, Fraud, and Money Laundering

Foundations foster a culture of ethics and integrity in all their activities, implementing policies with effective and appropriate procedures to combat and prevent corruption, fraud, money laundering, and terrorist financing in compliance with applicable national and European legal obligations.

Principle No. 11 | Confidentiality and Data Protection

Foundations rigorously safeguard the confidentiality of information related to all stakeholders and comply with all applicable data protection regulations.

Principle No. 12 | Environmental Protection and Human Rights

Foundations commit to the protection, preservation, and respect of the environment and human rights throughout their value chain. They consider the environmental and human rights impacts, including social and labor rights of individuals directly or indirectly affected by their activities, when making decisions within the scope of their mission and operations.