

Common Chart of Ethics

Conflicts of interest, or suspicions of conflicts of interest, weigh on evaluation institutions and evaluators (universities in addition to public and private sectors) and may cause reputational risk to these institutions, and further discredit the work of public policy evaluation.

In light of this, and to prevent the presence of such conflicts of interest, the DialogEco Department under Aix-Marseille's School of Economics (AMSE), the Institute for Public Policy (IPP) of the Paris School of Economics (PSE) and the Center for Research on Economics and Statistics (CREST), the Laboratory for Interdisciplinary Evaluations of Public Policies (LIEPP) at Sciences Po Paris, and the Research Federation of CNRS "Theory and Evaluation of Public Policies" (TEPP) undertake to implement the following principals:

Publication of work and results

1.1- Public policy evaluation and its results must be made public and disseminated.

1.2- None of the signatory institutes mentioned above may undertake an evaluation project without prior agreement on freedom to publish final results.

1.3- Sponsors may not prevent publication of final works or require censorship of certain results, certain conclusions, and/or some or all of the evaluation.

1.4- However, and in circumstances agreed upon by Parties (both sponsors and evaluators), the results may be distributed exclusively to the sponsor for an initial period that may not exceed three months. The public release date may not exceed 6 months following the end of the contract.

Prevent conflicts of interest and risks arising from conflicts of interest

2.1- A situation involving conflicts of interest is defined as a situation in which professional judgement is susceptible to be influenced in an excessive manner by a personal interest of any kind.

2.2.- In the case of evaluation institutions, the “essential value” is the guarantee of a sincere and rigorous evaluation. Conflicts of interest, or risks of conflicts of interest, arise when a person sees their own personal interests enter into conflict with professional interests.

2.3- To prevent the emergence of conflicts of interest, or risks of conflicts of interest, each author must sign a declaration of non-conflict of interest, or, where applicable, produce a declaration of conflict of interest.

2.4- In particular, declaration of all financial links, institutional links, both professional and personal, proven, and maintained with at least one interested Party to the evaluated object (defined as limited partners, companies, political parties, trade unions, influence groups, associations or inter-professional groups) or any arrangement with these same parties which could discredit the evaluation authors as well as their institute if these ties were to be revealed after publication of the evaluation work in question.

2.5- Situations of conflict of interest mentioned by the authors are rendered by the signatory institutes as part of evaluations produced, in the form of a warning to the reader (published at the beginning of report evaluations) and, where appropriate, a list of potential conflict of interest situations (published as an annex to the work and results).

Guarantee the integrity and sincerity of methods used

3.1- Published works must invoke rigorous qualities and honesty specific to academic standards. The methods used and assumptions made must be transparent.

3.2- Signatory institute members of this charter undertake to act in a way that will maintain the reputation of independence and non-partisan status on behalf of their organizations, in particular by upholding the principles and values of neutrality during the drafting process, and maintaining critical distance specific to any scientific work. These signatory institute members undertake to emphasize when to establish limits and scientific incertitude related to assumptions or data quality.