

GLOBAL CHEMISTS'

Kuala Lumpur

CODE OF ETHICS WORKSHOP

Global Chemists' Code of Ethics

Guide for Use by Academia



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Chemical research has made significant positive impact on the world around us. However, aspects of such beneficial discoveries can also be used for negative purposes, which have led to the use of the term “dual use” to describe such research. Due to this fact, scientists have two enduring challenges: become and remain aware of the dual use potential of their work, and become and remain responsible for the dual use research of concern that they themselves and their colleagues conduct. To assist chemical practitioners with the second challenge, 30 scientists from 18 countries attended a workshop in Kuala Lumpur in April 2016 to collaboratively draft an actionable Global Chemists' Code of Ethics (GCCE), guided by the stipulations outlined in [The Hague Ethical Guidelines](#) and the [Code of Conduct Toolkit](#). At the conclusion of this workshop, participants voluntarily adopted the code and were tasked with sharing the code with their colleagues on returning home.

To help determine categories to cover in the code, inputs from chemistry professionals in five countries were gathered about everyday situations they face where an ethical dilemma might arise. After the workshop, participants were provided the following materials:

- Official copy of the GCCE,
- This preamble, containing guidance to aid in adapting the GCCE for implementation by one's home organization or country,
- The Hague Ethical Guidelines,
- The Code of Conduct Toolkit, and
- [Infusing Ethics into the Development of Engineers](#)

Initially, the materials will be made publicly available in seven languages to ensure the sustainability and future reach of the GCCE. Efforts are underway to translate the code into other languages as well. As chemical practitioners in academia, you are critical to ensuring sustainable ethical conduct in chemistry around the world, both now and in the future. Specifically, we encourage you to

- Share the language and spirit of the GCCE, The Hague Ethical Guidelines, and the Code of Conduct Toolkit with colleagues in your country;
- Together with your colleagues, use the GCCE workshop materials to determine whether the code should be modified or augmented to address specific issues in your country or institution;
- Promote open discussion of chemical ethics issues with colleagues in your home institution and at the national level and work together and with policy makers in your country to solve them,
- Seek opportunities to integrate ethics into educational curricula and training programs, and
- Encourage ethical conduct across the chemical enterprise in your country and around the globe.

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By working together, chemical practitioners and policy makers can encourage each other to adopt internationally recognized practices for chemical safety and security.



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