

National Museum of Ethnology's Guidelines for Research Ethics

Preamble

The National Museum of Ethnology (hereafter 'Minpaku') hereby enacts the 'National Museum of Ethnology's Guidelines for Research Ethics' (hereafter 'Guidelines'). These are a set of ethical guidelines which researchers are expected to adhere to and be aware of at all times while engaging in research activities, to ensure they fulfil their responsibility to society and maintain the trust placed in Minpaku by the public. Minpaku's research and education staff, and teachers and students engaged with Minpaku research activities (hereafter 'researchers'), should abide by these Guidelines, as well as the 'Inter-University Research Institute Corporation National Institutes for the Humanities Ethical Regulations' and the 'Inter-University Research Institute Corporation National Institutes for the Humanities Code of Conduct for Researchers'. Through the comprehensive study of humans and culture, they should strive to help build a society which respects and recognizes cultural diversity, and thereby contribute to human welfare.

(Respect for human rights and dignity)

Article 1. Researchers should always respect basic human rights and dignity. They should make every effort to protect, and in no way infringe upon, portrait rights and rights surrounding privacy, personal information etc.

(Compliance with laws and regulations)

Article 2. Researchers should strive to maintain the trust of society and all research activities should be undertaken in compliance with internationally recognized norms, agreements and treaties. In addition to domestic laws and guidelines, as well as regulations set by Minpaku and the Inter-University Research Institute Corporation National Institutes for the Humanities, researchers must abide by the regional laws of the countries or nations in which they are conducting research. They must also adhere to the ethical guidelines of any academic societies and rules and regulations of any institutions with which they are affiliated.

(Fairness and accountability)

Article 3. Researchers should maintain fairness during all stages of research, make every effort to ensure there are no conflicts of interest, and be academically and socially accountable.

(Informed consent)

Article 4. Researchers should respect all laws, guidelines and relevant regulations with respect to research collaborators or people who are the subject of research. When receiving collaboration or data from someone during the course of research, the purpose, significance, methodology and method of publication of that research should be clearly explained, and the consent of the person in question received.

(Respect for culture and history)

Article 5. Researchers should always respect the culture and history of the people, communities, local societies and tribes that are the subject of their research.

(Prevention of harm etc.)

Article 6. During all stages of research, researchers should make every effort to ensure that they do not harm or adversely affect others, and do not infringe others' property rights, including intellectual property rights.

(Prohibition of discrimination)

Article 7. Researchers should not discriminate against anyone on the basis of age, sex, nationality, place of origin, thoughts and beliefs, faith, disability etc.

(Prohibition of harassment)

Article 8. Researchers should not engage in harassment of any kind, including sexual or academic harassment. Harassment-related matters will be handled in accordance with the "National Institutes for the Humanities' Harassment Prevention Regulations".

(Appropriate use of research funding)

Article 9. In addition to using research funding appropriately, researchers should be fully accountable for any research funding they have used in the past.

(Prohibition of fabrication and falsification)

Article 10. Researchers should not at any stage of their research engage in dishonest or fraudulent behavior, such as fabrication (creating non-existent data), falsification (manipulation or modification of data), or plagiarism (using other people's ideas, data or research results without proper accreditation).

(Publication and return of research results)

Article 11. Researchers should be aware of their social responsibility, as well as the

public nature and benefit of scholarship. They should publish and return the results of their research to society in an appropriate manner which reaches the widest possible audience.

(Dealing with violations of the Guidelines for Research Ethics)

Article 12. If a researcher is found to have violated these Guidelines, the Museum Director will investigate all the facts, and, if a violation is confirmed to have occurred, take any necessary measures. Should the Museum Director deem it necessary, a special subcommittee will be established to conduct an investigation according to guidelines laid down by the Research Ethics Committee.

Supplementary provisions: These Guidelines for Research Ethics are effective as of 8th July 2019.