

Research ethics in Aalto

More information: Annukka Jyrämä

Why is Research Ethics important to us in Aalto?

Internal reasons

We **want** to have research and education that do not harm anyone inside or outside Aalto and that follow the highest standards in every respect.

External reasons

EU regulations, publishers' and funding organizations' requirements, general opinion and potential mistrust, technical easiness to copy, etc., culture of open science...

In the multicultural global research community, regulations and practices must be explicitly described and **cannot be taken for granted**



Ossi Naukkarinen
Vice President for Research



Research Ethics

Aalto Processes



Background



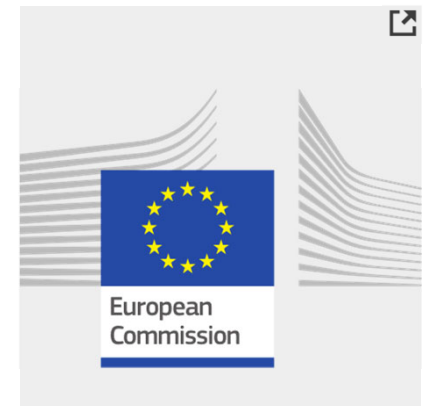
Aalto University follows the national rules and guidelines



European guidelines



EU General data protection regulation



EU and other funding organizations and some journals etc. may have specific requirements



Responsible Research – website provides advice, info and different perspectives on the topic

Aspects of responsible research and Aalto support

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Responsible conduct as a member of researcher community

[Research integrity adviser network](#)

RES

2

Official handling of misconduct:
President, Legal team

[RCR process instructions](#)

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Preventing any harm caused to the research subject

[Aalto University Research Ethics Committee](#)

RES

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Open data, data management

[Open data and research](#)

RES

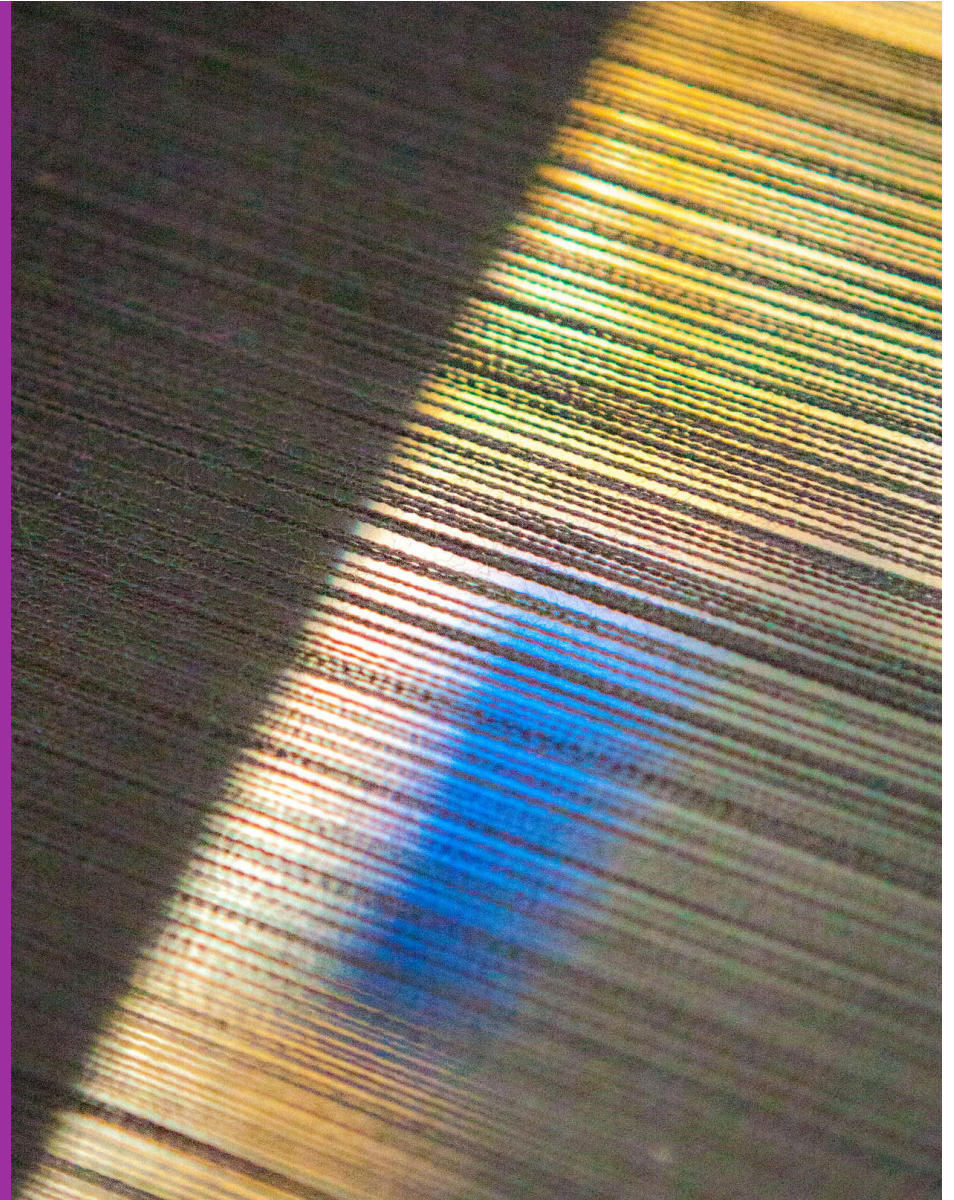
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Responsible conduct and ethics in education

[Learning Services](#)

Research Ethics and Integrity

Key Guidelines
From National
research Integrity
guidelines (TENK)



Responsible conduct as a member of researcher community

Research misconduct:

Fabrication refers to reporting invented observations to the research community. In other words, the fabricated observations have not been made by using the methods as claimed in the research report. Fabrication also means presenting invented results in a research report.

Falsification (misrepresentation) refers to modifying and presenting original observations deliberately so that the results based on those observations are distorted. The falsification of results refers to the unfounded modification or selection of research results. Falsification also refers to the omission of results or information that are essential for the conclusions.

Plagiarism or unacknowledged borrowing, refers to representing another person's material as one's own without appropriate references. This includes research plans, manuscripts, articles, other texts or parts of them, visual materials, or translations. Plagiarism includes direct copying as well as adapted copying.

Misappropriation refers to the unlawful presentation of another person's result, idea, plan, observation or data as one's own research.

Responsible conduct as a member of researcher community

Disregard for the responsible conduct of research

Denigrating the role of other researchers in publications, such as neglecting to mention them, and referring to earlier research results inadequately or inappropriately

Reporting research results and methods **in a careless manner**, resulting in misleading claims

Publishing the same research results multiple times ostensibly as new and novel results (redundant publication, also referred to as self-plagiarism)

Misleading the research community in other ways

Responsible conduct as a member of researcher community

Other irresponsible practices

Manipulating authorship, for example, by including in the list of authors person's work who have not participated in the research, or by taking credit for by what is referred to as ghost authors

Exaggerating one's own scientific and scholarly achievements, for example, in a CV or its translation, in a list of publications, or on one's homepage > **CV guidelines reviewed spring 2020**

Expanding the bibliography of a study to artificially increase the number of citations

Delaying the work of another researcher, for example, through refereed peer reviewing

Maliciously accusing a researcher of RCR violations

Hampering inappropriately the work of another researcher

Misleading the general public by publicly presenting deceptive or distorted information concerning one's own research results or the scientific importance or applicability of those results

Responsible conduct as a member of researcher community

Research integrity advisor network

- Communications and training
- Confidential advice on ethical issues or research integrity
- Distinguish whether an official process for handling misconduct (HTK, engl. RCR) is needed
- For funder's requirements on ethical issues, contact School's Research and Innovation Services (RIS) team

ADVISORS



Annukka Jyrämä
*network
coordinator*



**Päivi
Lindström**
legal



**Teppo
Huhtio**
pre-award



Anne Sunikka
*data
management*



Antti M. Rousi
*open science and
ACRIS*



Paula Hohti
ARTS



**Johanna
Ahola-Launonen**
BIZ



**Markus
Linder**
CHEM



Juho Pokki
ELEC

ACADEMIC ADVISORS



Ossi Naukkarinen
VP for Research



Ella Bingham
*Head of
Research Services*

OWNERS

Questions of misconduct – Official HTK RCR process

12

cases in Aalto
(2010-2018)

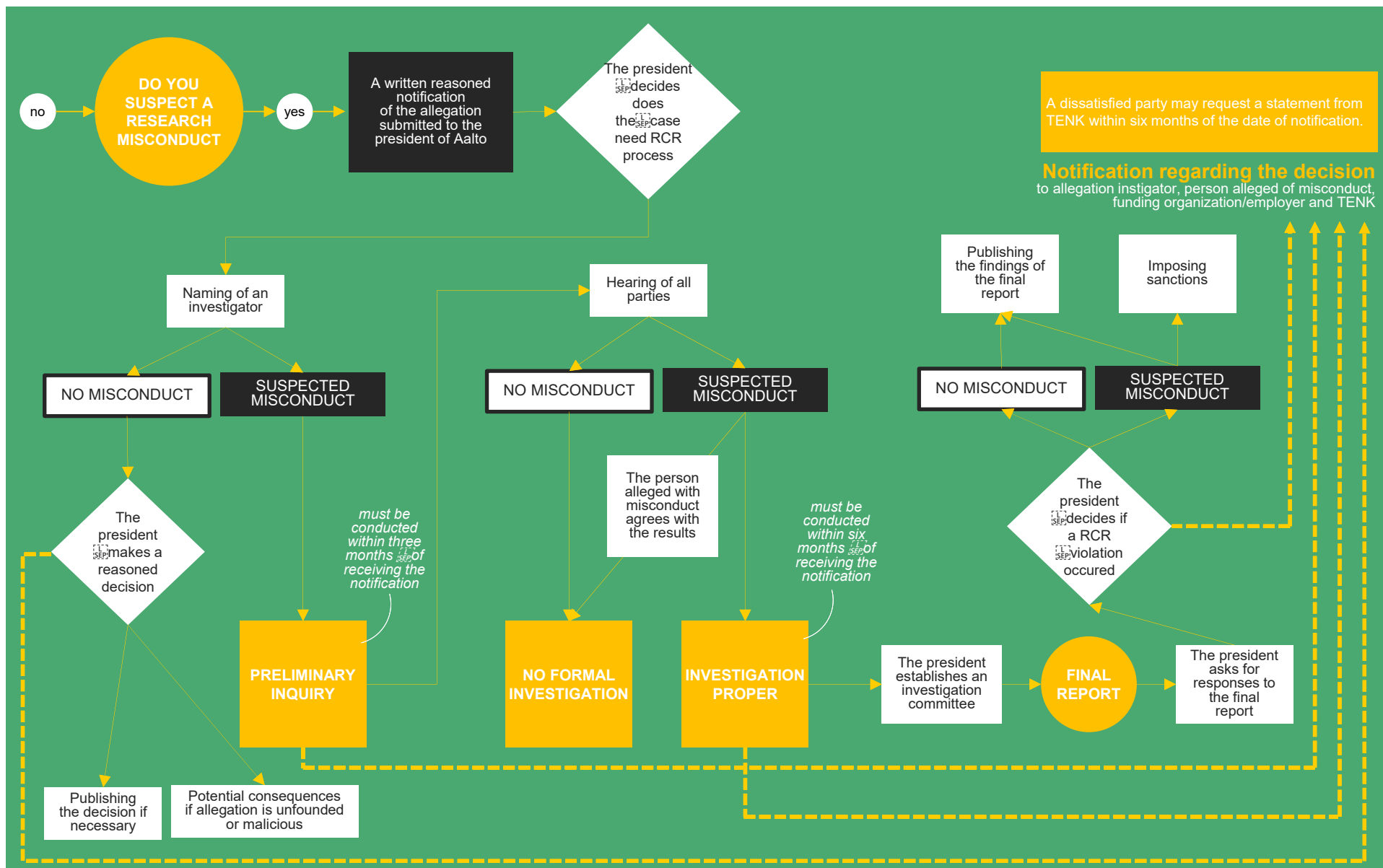


Ilkka Niemelä,
President



Anni Tuomela
Lawyer

- Cannot be made anonymously
- Documents are public
- Suspicion of misconduct to be sent to Kirjaamo addressed to the president of Aalto University
- TENK –notification template available



Ethical review

Preventing any harm caused to the research subject

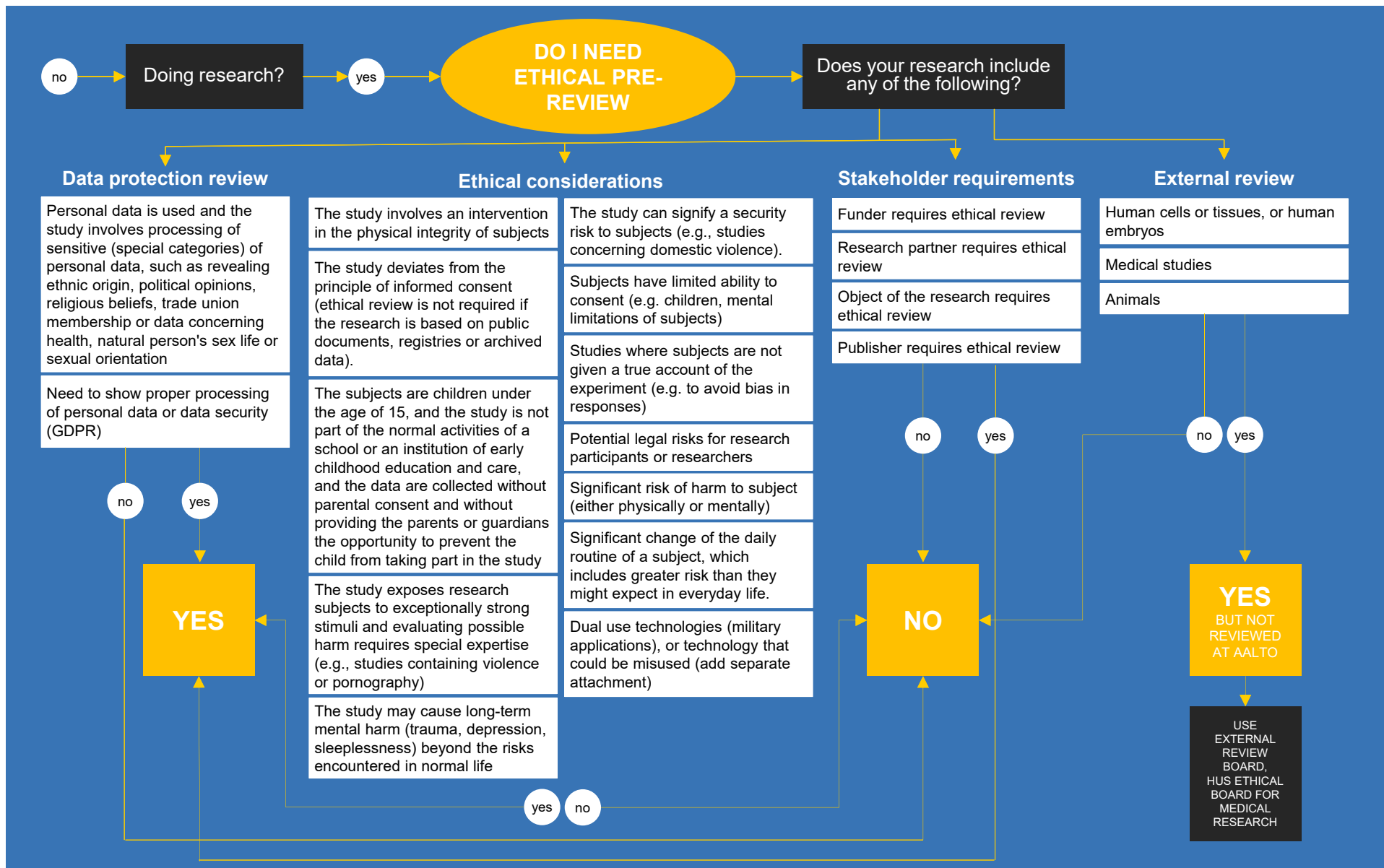
Online application platform
available 2019

Guiding principles (guidelines were renewed Autumn 2019) :

- right of self-determination
- prevention of harm
- privacy and personal data protection

Process can be implemented also if the study's publication forum, financier or an international cooperation partner requests it.

Failing to ask for review if needed – considered as misconduct



Ethical pre-review of research projects

Aalto University Research Ethics Committee

- Preliminary ethical assessments for non-medical research which relates to the human sciences (based on TENK guidelines)
- Concerns individual research projects.
- Research projects under the Medical Research Act (488/1999) are provided by the ethical committees of the Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa (HUS).



Ossi Naukkarinen
Chair



Juan José Valle-Delgado
University teacher CHEM



Prof. Iiro Jääskeläinen
SCI



Maaria Noordman
Assistant professor ENG



Ilkka Laakso
Assistant professor ELEC



Prof. Riitta Salmelin
SCI



PhD Tuija Takala
BIZ



Masood Masoodian
Professor ARTS



Hanna Renvall
Head of Laboratory HUS, Medical Expert



Annukka Jyrämä
Secretary



Päivi Lindström
Legal advisor

20-30
Applications per year

Responsible conduct and ethics in education



Guidelines in Into

Code of academic integrity and handling violations thereof

Aalto Academic Affairs Committee code (2011, amend. 2013)

- Refers to RCR (HTK) guidelines (2012)

Applies to all students in their studies

- also sets obligations for teachers and schools: educating and informing the students to consider good scientific practice, preventing the use of unfair means

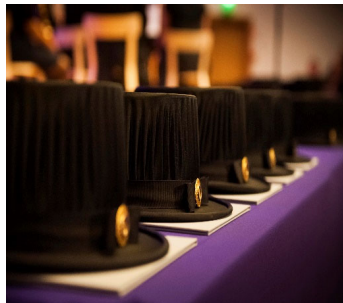
Responsible
LES
Anna Johansson

Proceedings in handling violation suspicions

- School Dean and Investigator (=LES Manager) are responsible for handling course level and bachelor's thesis and master's thesis (still in process) misconduct cases
- if case falls under RCR guidelines or requires disciplinary actions (written caution or suspension for max 1 year) ➔ Dean transfers the case to President
- President (supported by legal counsels) is responsible for handling misconduct cases concerning approved master's thesis and doctoral level thesis (RCR guidelines) and disciplinary actions

Research ethics

<https://www.aalto.fi/en/research-art/research-ethics-and-research-integrity>



Materials for awareness and education in research ethics on My course platform

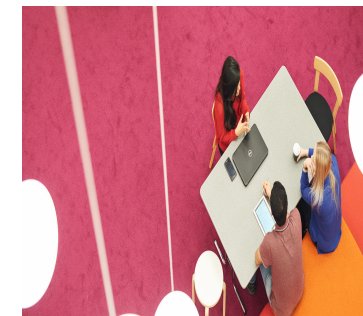
<https://mycourses.aalto.fi/course/view.php?id=23138>



More information on research integrity
<https://www.aalto.fi/en/services/research-ethics-and-research-integrity>



More information on Research Ethics pre review
<https://www.aalto.fi/en/services/research-ethics-committee>



How to make an ethics self-assessment in research
<https://www.aalto.fi/en/for-aalto-community/how-to-make-an-ethics-self-assessment-in-research-projects-aalto-support-and>