

# FRONTIERS

science journalism initiative

## Code of Conduct



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## Code of Conduct

for Host Institutions and Hosted Journalists  
in the FRONTIERS Science Journalism  
in Residence Program

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# **Code of conduct for Host Institutions**

Code of conduct for Hosted  
Journalists

# Code of Conduct for Host Institutions

Institution Name:

Institution Representative (Print Name and Signature):

Date:

## 1. Access and transparency

- We commit to providing journalists with reasonable access to relevant researchers, facilities, and resources, while respecting any legitimate confidentiality or safety concerns.
- We will be transparent about the institution's research activities, funding sources, and any potential conflicts of interest.

## 2. Services and facilities

- We will provide the journalist with suitable office space, including access to the internet and other necessary resources.
- We will grant access to relevant institutional facilities, such as libraries, archives, and common areas (e.g., canteen), subject to any existing rules and regulations.

## 3. Journalistic independence

- We acknowledge and respect the journalist's independence and editorial control over their work.
- We will not attempt to influence the content, tone, or direction of the journalist's inquiry or reporting.

## 4. Non-interference

- We will not interfere with the journalist's ability to conduct interviews, gather information, or pursue their chosen story angles.
- We will not restrict the journalist's ability to communicate with other researchers, sources, or stakeholders.

## 5. Ethical science reporting

- We will encourage researchers to communicate their work openly and honestly with the journalist.
- We will support the journalist's efforts to understand complex scientific concepts and accurately report findings.
- We will promote responsible and ethical practices in both research and reporting.

## 6. Collaboration and mutual learning

- We will foster a spirit of collaboration and mutual respect between journalists and researchers.
- We will encourage opportunities for mutual learning and exchange of knowledge.
- We will actively participate in FRONTIERS-organized training and workshops aimed at promoting ethical and effective science communication.

## 7. Dispute resolution

- In the event of any disagreements or concerns, we will engage in open and constructive dialogue with the journalist to find a mutually agreeable solution in collaboration with the FRONTIERS Coordination and Support Office (CSO).

By signing this document, our institution reaffirms its commitment to these best practices and to upholding the highest standards of journalistic independence and ethical science reporting within the FRONTIERS program.



Code of conduct for Host  
Institutions

**Code of conduct for  
Hosted Journalists**

## Code of Conduct for Hosted Journalists

This Code of Conduct aims to foster accurate, fair, and responsible reporting that serves the public interest and promotes scientific understanding during FRONTIERS Science Journalism in Residence Program.

Journalist Name:

Journalist Signature:

Date:

### 1. Accuracy and Verification

- I will strive for the utmost accuracy in reporting scientific information.
- I will correct errors promptly and transparently.
- I will present all relevant perspectives on scientific issues.
- I will avoid undue influence from personal biases or vested interests.

### 2. Transparency and disclosure

- I will clearly identify myself as a journalist and disclose the nature of my reporting project.
- I will be transparent about my funding sources and any affiliations that might influence my reporting, including the ERC grant.

### 3. Respect for sources

- I will protect the confidentiality of sources when promised.
- I will give credit to sources for their contributions to my reporting.
- I will maintain editorial independence in my decision-making.

### 4. Sensitivity to diversity and inclusion

- I will strive to represent diverse perspectives and voices in my reporting.
- I will avoid perpetuating stereotypes or discriminatory language in my work.
- I will be sensitive to cultural differences and consider the potential impact of my reporting on marginalized communities.



## 5. Social responsibility

- I will consider the potential impact of my reporting on the public understanding of science.
- I will avoid sensationalizing or misrepresenting scientific findings.
- I will promote responsible dialogue about science and its implications for society.

## 6. Respect for program commitments

- I will fulfill all duties and responsibilities outlined in the program agreement.
- I will participate actively in program events and activities.
- I will respect the intellectual property of the hosting institution and other participants.

## 7. Administrative Responsibilities

- I will complete all required administrative paperwork accurately and on time.
- I will communicate promptly with program staff about any issues or concerns.
- I will adhere to the policies and procedures of the hosting institution.

## 8. Respect for Institutional Norms and Safety

- I will abide by all rules, regulations, and norms of the hosting institution and any research facilities I may access.
- I will follow healthy and safety protocols and guidelines in laboratories and other research environments.
- I will respect the privacy and confidentiality of research data and intellectual property.
- I will seek permission before taking photographs or recording audio or video in research settings.

By participating in the FRONTIERS Science Journalism in Residence Program, you agree to abide by this Code of Conduct and to uphold the highest standards of ethical and professional practice in science journalism.

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