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EÖTVÖS LORÁND UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Humanities

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ELTE Faculty of Humanities

Code of Research Ethics

I. Basic rules

1. The scope of the Code shall cover all research conducted by a lecturer, researcher, student or doctoral student of the Faculty of Humanities of ELTE (hereinafter referred to as ”the Faculty”), in the course of which the researcher
   a) gets in contact with people,
   b) handles data gathered by and of other people,
   c) comes into contact with human remains from societies of the past

(hereinafter referred to as ”research” in the Code).

2. The research outlined in point 1 may only be carried out with the prior authorisation of the Faculty Research Support Committee (hereinafter referred to as ”the Committee”). Authorisation may only be granted for research that complies with international codes of research ethics, legislation, regulations of ELTE and the Faculty, and the present Code.

3. Applications for authorisation may only be submitted electronically using the form on the Committee’s website by the scientifically qualified (PhD, CSc, DSc or equivalent) supervisor of the research before the start of the data collection.

4. The Committee keeps a register of the authorisations granted and publishes basic information on its website (name of the research programme, name of the research leader and the autorisation reference number).

5. If the proposed research has medical or healthcare implications, it also has to be authorised by the body competent to authorise medical human research, following the authorisation under this Code.

6. If the proposed research involves animal testing, it must be carried out in accordance with the provisions of Act XXVIII. of 1998 on Animal Protection and Tolerance.

7. The Committee may ask to see any written material (e.g. recruitment leaflets, advertisements etc.) that is presented to the participants. Tests and questionnaires must be attached to the authorisation application.

8. At the end of the research activity, the research supervisor prepares an 8-10 sentence-long final report, which may be required by the Committee. This mainly should summarise the results, but may also include information on problems encountered during the implementation that can be used in the future.

9. In the case of research led by a researcher from the Faculty of Humanities of ELTE or if it is otherwise related to the Faculty of Humanities of ELTE, but not wholly or partly carried out in Hungary, authorisation shall also be required from the competent research ethics authority of the country the research was carried out in.

II. Basic ethical rules of research

10. The rights of participants must be protected by all possible means during the research.

11. The rights and legitimate interests of minors, participants who are legally incapacitated or living with disabilities, and participants belonging to minorities shall be specially protected in the course of the research.

12. Participation is voluntary and requires the written, online or verbal consent of the participant. In the case of verbal consent, this must be audio-recorded. Before the start of the research and, if necessary, during the research, the participant shall be informed in writing, covering the essential points, of the purpose of the research and of any risks.

13. Exceptionally, prior information may be omitted, in whole or in part, if it would jeopardise the realisation of the research or would be detrimental to the participant and its omission would not undoubtedly be to the detriment of the participant. In this case, too, efforts shall be made to inform the participant ex post.

14. If the participant is a child under the age of 3, the information must be given to the child's legal guardian (e.g. parent) who must sign the information to indicate their consent to the child's participation in the research. The same rule applies to the participation of a legally incapacitated person.

15. If the participant is over the age of 3 but under the age of 14, the child's verbal information and consent is required in addition to the written information and consent of the legal guardian.

16. If the participant is over the age of 14 but under the age of 18 or has limited legal capacity to act, written information and consent of both the participant and the legal representative is required. If the data collection is anonymous, the data obtained from the research does not allow the identification of the individuals and the research is not on a sensitive subject, the person referred to in this point may participate in the research unless their legal representative explicitly indicates that he or she does not agree with the represented person's participation (passive consent).

17. If the research or recruitment takes place in an institution (e.g. a school), the authorisation is only valid with the written consent of the head or representative of the

institution hosting the research activity.

18. During the course of the research, particular attention should be paid to the compliance with data protection regulatios, including those of the European Union as well as Hungary. Only the personal data of research participants that is strictly necessary for conducting the research may be processed.

19. If, during the course of the research activity, the researcher accidentally becomes aware of information relating to the health status of the person under investigation which has medical or psychopathological significance (”incidental finding”) (e.g. suicidal ideation, other information indicating that the health status is at risk), care must be taken to ensure that the person concerned is informed of this information with due care, indicating the need for targeted screening.

20. The present Code shall enter into force on 1 September 2022.

Katalin Wein