

**EUROPARC Federation
Headquarters**

Waffnergasse 6
DE-93047 Regensburg

Tel. +49 (0)941 599 35 980
Web: www.europarc.org



Code of Ethics of the EUROPARC Federation

30.03.2026

EUROPARC Federation CODE OF ETHICS

Effective Date: 30.03.2026

Applies to: All employees of the EUROPARC Federation, governance bodies, members and sections.

1. Purpose & Scope

The EUROPARC Federation is the network for Europe's natural and cultural heritage. Created by our members, the Federation works, to improve the management of Protected Areas in Europe through international cooperation, exchange of ideas and experience, and by influencing policy.

As the representative body of Europe's Protected Areas, we are the collective voice for all nature and landscape areas and we seek to build a stronger, unifying, European network organisation that is better placed to support our members and to respond to current and future challenges Europe's nature is facing.

The EUROPARC Federation is dedicated to practical nature conservation and sustainable development of Europe's biodiversity, fostering holistic landscape approaches in its management. We come together from across Europe, with a shared passion for nature and landscapes to look beyond our parks and highlight their importance to the environmental, social and economic development of our regions, countries and European society.

2. Objective

The objective of this Code is to outline ethical rules we follow – as the EUROPARC Federation, its staff, governance bodies, as well as our members and sections.

Honesty, justice, and courtesy form moral philosophy which, associated with a mutual interest among people, constitute the foundation of ethics. EUROPARC Federation and its members should recognize such a standard, not in passive observance, but as a set of dynamic principles guiding their conduct and way of professional activities. It is their duty to practice their profession according to this Code of Ethics, EUROPARC Federation statutes and its Strategy values.



3. Ethics

As the EUROPARC Federation and its members, we:

- 3.1. Are responsible for the validity of all our outputs we produce and share.
 - 3.2. Accept fees only where a desired result is not in conflict with our professional judgment.
 - 3.3. Do not engage in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation.
 - 3.4. Do not tolerate misrepresentation of the work we performed or that was performed under our cooperation.
 - 3.5. Avoid all relationships or actions, which could be legitimately interpreted as a conflict of interest by partners, officials, the public, or peers.
 - 3.6. Are committed to upholding a positive environment that reflects equality and inclusion, and mutual respect.
 - 3.7. Give preference to buying products and services that are environmentally friendly (i.e., avoiding biodiversity harmful activities both in professional and economic activities).
 - 3.8. Carefully consider the environmental impact of our operational activities and avoid unnecessary actions that uselessly increase negative impact to the environment (e.g., travelling).
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4. Standards of Conduct

We abide by and support the advancement of the policies, rules, regulations and laws that govern our professional and volunteer activities:

- 4.1. We accurately represent our qualifications, credentials, capabilities, experience and knowledge.
 - 4.2. We encourage open and direct dialogue to resolve conflicts and disagreements, respecting the reputation, prospects and practices of others.
 - 4.3. We use our best-informed judgment for decision-making.
 - 4.4. We protect proprietary or confidential information that has been entrusted to us.
 - 4.5. We avoid fraud, deception and misuse of information.
 - 4.6. We exercise care to minimize or avoid adverse ecological consequences.
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5. Policy Review

This policy is subject to regular review and may be updated by EUROPARC Management Team in line with changes to German or Federal laws or internal organisational or business needs. For employees employed in other countries, the national or federal laws will apply, and any changes should be communicated as early as possible to the EUROPARC Management Team.
