

APPROVED BY  
Director of Vilnius Business College  
Order No. V-28A of 10 November 2020

**VILNIUS BUSINESS COLLEGE  
CODE OF GENERAL AND ACADEMIC ETHICS**

**I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. The Code of General and Academic Ethics (hereinafter – the Code) establishes the basic provisions of ethical behaviour, which are not directly regulated by the legal acts of the Republic of Lithuania, the documents of the working procedure of the Vilnius Business College (hereinafter – the College) and the employment contracts.

2. The Code defines the limits of tolerance: highlights the behaviour to be avoided from the point of view of general and academic ethics.

3. The objectives of the Code are to promote a culture of quality of the College's scientific activities and studies and socially responsible ethical behaviour, to uphold academic integrity, transparency, to define limits of responsibility, to assist the College community in assessing and solving specific situations of academic life where ethical issues arise, to perform the function of moral education, to discipline academic community members, and to regulate the behaviour of members of the academic community.

4. The following terms are used in this Code:

4.1. Academic community – College students, lecturers, research staff and other researchers.

4.2. Academic ethics – academic values generally recognised by the academic community and enshrined in the College's Code of Ethics, which ensure the transparency of the scientific and study process, academic integrity, mutual trust, respect, equality, fairness, non-discrimination, responsibility, sustainable use of resources, academic freedom, impartiality in the evaluation of research and study works and protection of intellectual property.

4.3. The institution dealing with academic ethics issues (hereinafter – the Commission on Academic Ethics) is a collegial institution established by the College that supervises the Code of Academic Ethics.

4.4. The fundamental values of academic ethics include academic integrity, responsibility, equality, fairness, non-discrimination, accountability, transparency, sustainable use of resources, academic freedom, impartiality in the evaluation of scientific and academic work, trust and respect.

4.5. Socially Responsible Behaviour – conscious, ethically correct and mature behaviour of a member of the College and its academic community in the surrounding environment – external and internal.

4.6. Stakeholders – persons who have or are likely to have a direct and/or indirect impact on the College through their activities or actions.

4.7. Other terms used in this Code shall be understood as defined in the Law on Science and Studies of the Republic of Lithuania and other legal acts. Other terms (e.g. citation, self-plagiarisation, etc.) are also defined in the College Code.

4.8. Functions of the Code:

4.8.1. to protect the needs and interests of members of the College's academic community, to align organizational behaviour with the values of society and the principles of academic ethics;

4.8.2. to be the main means of ensuring academic ethics in the College;

4.8.3. to help members of the College academic community to understand their mission in society and their social responsibility;

4.8.4. to contribute to greater transparency in the College's activities;

4.8.5. to show to the public that the College is concerned with responsible, professional behaviour;

4.8.6. to form and protect the image of the College;

4.8.7. to determine the criteria on which the members of the College's academic community are guided in their communication;

4.8.8. to encourage the College's academic community to perform its functions honestly and effectively;

4.8.9. to encourage the College's academic community to rely on an understanding of its own and institutional values;

4.8.10. to serve as a vehicle for the development of the College's competence on the basis of professional meetings and discussions (e.g. by initiating training on ethical behaviour);

4.8.11. to help the College achieve a high level of academic awareness and social responsibility.

## II. GENERAL ETHICAL STANDARDS

5. The ethical norms of the college's academic community are established by the basic provisions of ethical (academic) behaviour, which show the directions of the College's academic ethics policy and whose implementation is ensured by the laws of the Republic of Lithuania, contracts, and the College's internal procedure documents.

6. Academic freedom means the right of members of the academic community to openly express their views on the organisation and administration of studies and research, to express critical remarks uncensored, to freely develop scientific activities by choosing methods, the College's commitment to protect a member of the academic community from restrictions. The responsible exercise of this right requires members of the academic community to recognise the same right also for other members of the community, to maintain a tradition of critical thinking and the atmosphere of open deliberation within the College.

7. The responsible exercise of academic freedom is opposed to:

7.1. intolerance of the opinions and reasoned criticism of other members of the academic community of the College;

7.2. ignoring or otherwise restricting the right of members of the College's academic community to express and defend their views in making decisions that are significant to the College's academic community, its departments, or the individual;

7.3. ignoring or other limitation of the right to respond to criticism or accusations;

7.4. participation in research or testing involving harm to man, nature, society or culture.

8. Belonging to the College's academic community imposes an obligation to respect the general interests of the College and to contribute, as far as possible, to the achievement of the objectives of studies and research. Therefore, members of the academic community are ethically bound to:

8.1. actively uphold standards of academic integrity and the principle of open access in the study process and scientific activities;

8.2. when initiating and/or carrying out projects on behalf of the College, seek to ensure that their results serve the general interests of the College and are publicly available;

8.3. notify the Academic Ethics Commission of cases that may be related to corruption or attempted unlawful influence on a member of the College community;

8.4. provide the available information to the Academic Ethics Commission and/or the Ombudsman for Academic Ethics and Procedures of the Republic of Lithuania when examining possible violations of academic ethics and/or procedures;

8.5. refuse to exercise his/her right to vote when the College's self-governing bodies are considering a question of funding, sanction or promotion which may give rise to a conflict of interest;

8.6. use the name of the College and carry out the work there for political purposes only with the written consent of the College.

9. Relations between members of the College's academic community shall be based on the principles of respect, goodwill, impartiality and non-discrimination. Behaviour that violates the following principles and provisions shall be regarded as unethical conduct:

9.1. discrimination against members of the College's academic community in speech, action or academic evaluation, as well as tolerance of such discrimination;

9.2. humiliation of a member of the College's academic community by exercising one's superiority as a faculty member or administrator.

10. The relationship between members of the College's academic community shall be based on the principles of collegiality and academic solidarity, and shall be directed towards ensuring the quality of studies and research and a creative atmosphere. These principles shall be violated when:

10.1. professional competition between colleagues takes unfair forms, engages in illegal, dishonourable (disgraceful and otherwise unworthy) agreements, withholds information intended for members of the academic community, encourages and/or instigates conflicts, intrigues;

10.2. a member of the academic community, in the presence of other members, impairs the pedagogical and/or scientific abilities, theoretical views and personal qualities of the non-participating colleague;

10.3. recommending the award of a degree of science, pedagogical title, award or recognition of the activities of a colleague in other forms is based on a personal, business or political relationship, rather than a subjective evaluation of the work presented and the professional qualities of the applicant;

10.4. psychological pressure is exerted on a member of the academic community in order to obtain a personal evaluation or to conceal academic unfairness;

10.5. the disclosure or public discussion of confidential information about members of the academic community (e.g. academic achievements, salary, career intentions, health, personal affairs, etc., except where, in accordance with the laid down procedures of the College, a person is applying for a post and discussion of his/her academic, career achievements, experience, professional and personal qualities is necessary for the assessment of suitability for the post);

10.6. the name of a member of the academic community shall be humiliated systematically (consistently, intentionally) in violation of the procedure laid down by the internal procedure documents of the College.

11. The use of the College's scientific base and other resources shall be sustainable, responsible and aimed at the fulfilment of the obligations assumed by the College. This provision is violated by:

11.1. the use of material, human and financial resources of the College for political activities, private business or meeting personal needs;

11.2. misuse of the College's resources in carrying out projects;

11.3. Destruction of the property of the College.

12. Other violations of general ethics include:

12.1. harassment of a member of the College community where the dignity of a person is violated by reason of age, gender or sexual orientation, disability, appearance, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief and is aimed at intend to create or creating an intimidating, humiliating, degrading or offensive environment, as well as when human rights abuse and degrading treatment is tolerated;

12.2. any attempt to influence decisions taken by members of the College community by threatening, blackmailing, providing false information, manipulating feelings of compassion;

12.3. the use of the College's intellectual property and material resources in a manner that is unsustainable, irresponsible and not in accordance with the College's obligations.

### **III. ETHICS OF PEDAGOGICAL ACTIVITIES**

13. The relationship between the College's lecturer and students is based on the principles of academic cooperation and transparency. Commitment to non-academic obligations may lead to conflicts of interest and ambiguous relations with students should be avoided. These principles are violated by:

13.1. the pursuit by a student or lecturer to laid down non-academic (sexual or intimate) relationships with a lecturer or student, respectively, in the context of teaching a course, supervising a research project, or other direct academic relationship, for the purpose of obtaining benefits in an academic relationship;

13.2. assuming the role of a lecturer towards a family member, a close friend (with direct, close links, relationships), business partner (examination, management of written work, etc.) in cases where there is a possibility to avoid such a role;

13.3. the requirement for gifts, services of a non-academic or academic nature provided directly and indirectly (through other persons) which are not directly related to the courses studied and/or acceptance from members of the academic community is considered a bribe and is unacceptable (when gifts or entertainment are accepted and other personal benefits which could in any way influence the activities of the staff in relation as well as when gifts, entertainment and other personal benefits are offered which could in any way influence the activities of the staff in relation to the College's activities).

14. The assessment of student knowledge, abilities and skills must be fair, honest and consistent with the objectives of the course:

14.1. the lecturer must respond in principle and report to the Academic Ethics Commission cases of students' dishonesty, such as plagiarism, scribbling, falsification of data, fabrication,

falsification of the results of examinations or credits, use of extraneous assistance during the examination or evaluation, submission of someone else's written work as one's own, preparing of written work for other students, purchase of written work and its submission for the assessment of a member of the academic community, submission of the same written work for the next course, etc.;

14.2. the lecturer must minimise opportunities for academic unfairness on the part of students during the reporting process;

14.3. the lecturer shall not request personal data from a student or the lecturer in group discussions, except in the cases provided for in the Law on Legal Protection of Personal Data of the Republic of Lithuania;

14.4. the lecturer must keep the student's personal data in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Law on Legal Protection of Personal Data of the Republic of Lithuania;

14.5. the lecturer must avoid linking the student's grades to the student's participation (non-participation) in a political or social activity acceptable (unacceptable) to the lecturer;

14.6. during the assessment process, the lecturer must provide suitable conditions for students with special needs (e.g. visual, hearing, mobility and other disabilities) in order to enable them to complete the tasks.

15. The atmosphere of trust is undermined by the disclosure of confidential information about a student. The principle of confidentiality of information requires:

15.1. disclose information to third parties about a student's academic grades or penalties only upon the student's written consent or legal basis for the intended damage to other persons;

15.2. avoid discussing various achievements of a student, except in cases where student appeals are evaluated, examinations or final thesis, results of practice reports and other academic issues, the objective decision of which clearly justifies their discussion;

15.3. to use information of a private nature for teaching or scientific research purposes only with the student's written consent; ensure that comments on the student's written work not submitted for public defence are not made available to third parties.

#### **IV. ETHICS OF SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

16. The College's scientific activities are based on honest research and the pursuit of truth, while the researcher's behaviour is based on morality and socially responsible behaviour. Scientific research shall not cause harm to society and the environment. Recognising the truth and knowledge as the highest aspirations of scientific activity, hoping for trust and correct evaluation of their achievements, members of the academic community engaged in scientific activities commit

themselves to the principle of academic integrity. The principle of academic integrity in scientific activities is violated by:

16.1. falsification, forgery or manipulation (e.g. creation of non-existing data, correction of existing data to improve or worsen results). Typical cases of falsification, forgery or manipulation:

16.1.1. forged signatures, certificates, report data or results and other documents (e.g. data or results of academic assignments (coursework, project work, etc.));

16.1.2. specified non-existent source, incorrect source page, date of visit to the website or other source description data;

16.1.3. withholding of data obtained that contradicts the research hypothesis and/or questions, and/or whether the findings of the investigation are withheld;

16.1.4. deliberate submission of misleading information about the methodology of empirical research;

16.1.5. unreasonable (undeserved) imposition of co-authorship on students, colleagues, subordinates or supervisors;

16.1.6. denial or withheld of the intellectual and/or financial contribution of those who have assisted in the research.

16.2. Theft or deliberate damage of empirical research data, computer programs, empirical material samples, manuscript.

16.3. Plagiarism, i.e. expropriation of ideas, data or texts without reference to their author, i.e. the presentation of someone else's ideas as one's own. Typical cases of plagiarism include:

16.3.1. the presentation of extraneous text without quotation marks – quotation marks or other kind of exclusion from the whole text (e.g., separate paragraph, italics);

16.3.2. the exact source is not indicated when reproducing or quoting a foreign idea, illustrative material or data.

16.4. Inappropriate, biased criticism of colleagues' work and deliberate undermining for personal antipathy, competition, political or other motives unrelated to the professionalism of the evaluated scientific work.

16.5. Assisting others in carrying out academic actions that violate the principle of academic integrity.

16.6. Academic bribery, i.e. offering or giving remuneration for academic services (whether personal or group).

## **V. ETHICS OF ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES OF STUDENTS AND LISTENERS**

17. Students and listeners of the College are guided by the principle of academic fairness in the study process. The principle of academic fairness in the study process is violated by:

17.1. cribbing or permission to crib to someone else;

17.2. failing to report cases of academic unfairness observed among members of College community;

17.3. prompting, using proxies, electronic or virtual means of communication, using other technologies in order to obtain an undeserved assessment result, disregard of the examiner's instructions regarding the evaluation procedure;

17.4. plagiarism, i.e. representing someone else's written work as one's own;

17.5. using another person's work or his results during assessment;

17.6. submission of the same piece of written work for several courses;

17.7. The student's settlement for himself, even though it is done by another person or the settlement for another person, and so on.

18. Violations of academic ethics include:

18.1. violations of the ethical relationship between the lecturer and the student;

18.2. violations of the ethics of assessing a student's knowledge and skills;

18.3. violations of academic integrity;

18.4. violations of ethics of scientific activities;

18.5. destruction of the atmosphere of trust by disclosing confidential information.

19. Students of the College undertake to adhere to generally accepted ethical principles and to follow the principles of constructiveness, mutual respect towards the lecturer and other students, pursuit of knowledge and development of competences, and the creation of working environment. Violations of these generally accepted ethical principles include:

19.1. being late for or leaving a lecture, tutorial, seminar, reports; early consultations;

19.2. the use of mobile and radio communication devices during lectures and settlements;

19.3. use of laptops not related to the content of lectures, exercises, seminars, tutorial, consultation;

19.4. the consumption of food and beverages, except as permitted by prior agreement;

19.5. impolite behaviour (interruption of the speaker, whispering, hidden or expressed mockery, etc.) or other actions that interfere with the lecture, exercises, seminars, reporting, consultation;

19.6. impolite or offensive tone of communication, whether oral, written or by electronic means;

19.7. moving around/into/out of the classroom without the permission of the lecturer.

20. Each student enrolled at the College shall sign the Student's Declaration of Good Faith (Annex 1), which shall be valid for the entire duration of the study contract. This declaration may also be signed by listeners in accordance with the procedures laid down by the College. The College may also apply a procedure for a pledge of good faith in each report (for example, in the first page of the written report, instructing students to write the following sentence on the first page of the report: "I undertake to perform the tasks of this report independently and honestly."), to make an audio and/or video recording. The integrity pledges, audio and video recordings shall be kept for as many days as the College provides for an appeal, and in the absence of an appeal, the integrity pledges, audio and video recordings shall be processed in accordance with the procedures laid down by the College.

21. Students and listeners undertake to use the College's infrastructure (scientific and computer equipment, library and other resources in a responsible, sustainable and appropriate manner).

22. Violations of academic integrity include:

22.1. Plagiarism. Typical cases of plagiarism:

22.1.1. when a foreign text (other authors' works, ideas, illustrative material, facts) is presented without citation marks (quotation marks or any other form of distinction from the text as a whole, e.g., in a separate paragraph, in italics) and/or without reference to the original source;

22.1.2. in case of violation of quotation requirements (quotation is a short text (usually one or more lines) of another author's original text, inserted into his/her own work to better express his/her thoughts and ideas; quotation is the use of moderate (usually one or more) quotes in your work).

22.2. Fraud. Typical cases of fraud:

22.2.1. when there is a cribbing or attempted to crib;

22.2.2. in the case of settlements without the permission of the teacher;

22.2.3. attempting to look at the work of another student;

22.2.4. when any material, information, learning tool or assistance not specified by the teacher or subject needs is used or attempted during the settlement;

22.2.5. the handing in of another's written work as one's own, or the use of another student's work or the results thereof in the course of a report;

22.2.6. when the same written work is submitted more than once (for multiple courses, etc.);

22.2.7. when reporting for another person.

22.3. Counterfeiting. Typical cases of counterfeiting:

22.3.1. when the written work already assessed by the lecturer is corrected without the teacher's consent in order to require a higher assessment;

22.3.2. when the signatures, certificates and other documents of lecturers, practice supervisors, administrative staff are falsified;

22.3.3. when data or results of academic assignments (final thesis, coursework, practice and other works) are falsified.

22.4. Bribery – the offering or giving of unregulated remuneration for academic services (personal or group).

## **VI. ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CODE OF GENERAL AND ACADEMIC ETHICS**

23. The Code of Ethics shall be approved by the Director of the College with the approval of the Academic Council of the College.

24. The Code sets out procedures for dealing with ethical violations at institutional and national levels.

25. The provisions of the Code and the relevant governing documents are available to the academic community and students of the College through their personal account in the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

26. The Code is made publicly available on the College's website.

27. The sanctions for violations of academic ethics laid down in the Code are differentiated according to the seriousness of the violation, and the legal act regulating the activities of the Academic Ethics Commission defines the procedure for the dealing of reports, the criteria for determining sanctions and other provisions that help to assess objectively and correctly the circumstances of the report and make a proposal for a solution. Sanctions are defined as various behavioural measures (reprimand, warning, suggestion of public apology, exclusion from the College without the right to return to study for a certain period, obligation to study additional courses, withdrawal of diploma, etc.).

28. The Code cannot provide for all cases of unethical behaviour; therefore, the Academic Ethics Commission, when examining specific reports on an inappropriate behaviour in unforeseen cases, decides whether a particular act is compatible with the fundamental values of academic ethics recognised by the academic community.

## **VII. SUPERVISION OF THE CODE OF GENERAL AND ACADEMIC ETHICS**

29. The Code shall be supervised by the Academic Ethics Commission in accordance with the provisions of the Code and the legal act governing its activities.

30. The Academic Ethics Commission is composed of three groups of stakeholder in equal parts: staff, students and social partners.
31. The Academic Ethics Commission shall work in accordance with the legal act regulating its activities, which shall be approved by the Director of the College.
32. The Academic Ethics Commission shall have the right to invite experts to meetings as necessary.
33. Members of the Academic Ethics Commission shall meet the following requirements: impeccable reputation and experience in the field of implementation of academic ethical principles.
34. The Academic Ethics Commission initiates additions or amendments to the Code and submits them to the Academic Council of the College for consideration and approval.
35. The Academic Ethics Commission accepts and discusses notification or information about possible violations of academic ethics.
36. Meetings of the Academic Ethics Commission shall be convened upon receipt of a notification or information on possible violations of academic ethics and/or procedures, or in order to initiate additions or amendments to the Code.
37. The Academic Ethics Commission shall not consider the notification or information on possible violations of academic ethics, except for the violations set out in subparagraphs 16.1 and 16.3, if more than one calendar year has elapsed between the date of the occurrence or the discovery of possible violations of academic ethics and the date of notification or receipt of information. The Academic Ethics Commission shall also not examine notifications or information about possible violations of procedures in the College. The Academic Ethics Commission shall notify the person in writing of the decision not to consider a notification or information and the transmission of information or information to the Ombudsman for Academic Ethics and Procedures of the Republic of Lithuania no later than within 10 working days from the date of receipt of the notification or information.
38. The Academic Ethics Commission shall immediately inform the Ombudsman for Academic Ethics and Procedures of the Republic of Lithuania of the decision not to examine a notifications or information, who shall decide whether to initiate an investigation on his or her own initiative.
39. If indications of a possible violation of ethics are identified in the College, this shall be notified to the Commission for Academic Ethics, which shall examine such a report in accordance with the procedure laid down in paragraph 40 of the Code.
40. Reports on possible violations of ethics shall be submitted in writing to the Chairman of the Academic Ethics Commission.
41. Only motivated notices are accepted for consideration. Anonymous reports shall be dealt with in accordance with the College's procedure.
42. Grounds for initiating proceedings for a possible breach of academic ethics:

42.1. written notification of the person (applicant) with the specified facts and supporting documents;

42.2. when the Academic Ethics Commission becomes aware of the possible violation of ethics.

43. The Academic Ethics Commission must examine the notification or information received, make a decision and respond in writing (signed by the Chairman of the Academic Ethics Commission) to the applicant or interested person no later than within 60 calendar days from the date of receipt of the notification or information. The Academic Ethics Commission may extend the time limit for the examination of the notification or information by a reasoned decision.

44. A member of the academic community for whom a notification or information has been received shall be informed of the content of the notification and provide written explanations within 5 working days from the date of notification. Upon request of members of the academic community for whom the notification or information has been received, existing material relating to the personal data subject may be made available and, if necessary, anonymised after the presence of another personal data has been established. The Academic Ethics Commission shall have the right to make a decision if the member of the academic community for whom the notification or information has been received refuses to provide or does not provide explanations within the set time limit.

45. A member of academic community for whom a notification or information has been received shall have the right to participate in the meeting of the Academic Ethics Commission where the notification or information concerning him or her is discussed.

46. Members of the Academic Ethics Commission must respect confidentiality and not disclose (disclose) the researched material and/or information about the researched material while the examination is ongoing, ensure confidentiality of the reporter.

47. Decisions of the Academic Ethics Commission shall be taken by a simple majority of votes. If the votes of the members of the Academic Ethics Commission present at the meeting are divided equally, the chairperson of the Academic Ethics Commission shall have a casting vote.

48. The Academic Ethics Commission, having examined the notification or information and found the violation of academic ethics, shall decide, taking into account the seriousness of the breach:

48.1. notify a member of the academic community in writing and publish anonymous information about the decision of the Academic Ethics Commission on the College's website;

48.2. recommend to the Director of the College to impose one or more sanctions provided for in the laws of the College;

48.3. recommend measures to ensure academic ethics in the College.

## **VIII. FINAL PROVISIONS**

49. Every lecturer, researcher and other researcher should sign the Lecturer's Declaration of Good Faith (Annex 2) upon taking up his/her position at the College.

50. An applicant for admission to the College, a student, a candidate for a position at the College, and partners with whom a cooperation agreement has been signed shall be subject to the provisions of this Code in accordance with the procedures laid down by the College.

51. In the preparation of this Code, the College took into account, as far as possible, foreign and international experience related to the regulation of academic ethics issues, implementation of academic ethics provisions and detection of violations of academic ethics (Code of Ethics for the Scientist of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, international documents (as the European Union Code of Ethics for Socio-economic Research, the Code of Conduct for Research Integrity of the European Science Foundation, Rio de Janeiro, Bucharest, Helsinki declarations), international academic and/or professional associations and organisations, etc.

Annex 1  
of the Vilnius Business College  
General and Academic Ethics  
Code, approved by the Director  
(order No. V-28A of 10 November  
2020)

**(FORM OF STUDENT'S DECLARATION OF GOOD FAITH)**

Vilnius Business College, 191807983, Kalvarijų str. 129-401, LT-08221 Vilnius

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(Name of college, legal entity number, address)

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(Student's name, student certificate number)

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(Name of the department)

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(Name of the study programme, academic group)

**STUDENT'S  
DECLARATION OF GOOD FAITH**

20 \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
(date)

I acknowledge that:

- truth, knowledge and understanding are the highest values of science and education, and
- 
- (institutional values of the institution of science and education, enshrined in strategic documents)

are also the institutional values of Vilnius Business College;

- only fair ways gain an advantage over other members of the academic community.

Considering that academic integrity:

- contributes to the openness and integration of the science and study system into the international research and higher education area, to the development of a sustainable science and study system and to the development of an ethically responsible personality;
- promotes academic ethics, responsible use of academic freedom and the principle of fair competition;
- strengthens trust in the value of higher education and research and has a direct positive impact on the quality of studies and the reputation of the higher education institution;
- limits the tolerance and prosperity of society's vices (especially corruption).

And knowing that:

- every member of academic community must take the initiative and responsibility for finding and applying solutions to academic unfairness in every academic activity;
- the determination to unconditionally adhere to the principle and rules of academic integrity helps to reduce the prevalence of this problem.

By signing this declaration, I freely and knowingly undertake to:

- to comply the provisions of the Code of General and Academic Ethics of Vilnius Business College and other documents regulating ethical behaviour throughout the entire period of study;
- to take a responsible attitude towards my duties as a student and to carry them out in good faith;
- as a student, set an example to other members of the academic community, not to tolerate cases of academic unfairness and to fulfil my duty to report and disclose such cases;
- to contribute actively to the creation and fostering of a fair academic environment at Vilnius Business College.

I agree that for violations of academic ethics when taking examinations, interim reports, preparing and reporting on independent, project or final theses, carrying out scientific research, publishing the results of scientific research (e.g., in publications, events), I shall be subject to the sanctions provided in the CODE OF GENERAL AND ACADEMIC ETHICS of Vilnius Business College.

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(Name and surname of student) (Signature)

Annex 2  
of the Vilnius Business College  
General and Academic Ethics  
Code, approved by the Director  
(order No. V-28A of 10 November  
2020)

**(FORM OF LECTURER'S DECLARATION OF GOOD FAITH)**

Vilnius Business College, 191807983, Kalvarijų str. 129-401, LT-08221 Vilnius

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(Name of college, legal entity number, address)

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(Lecturer's name, lecturer certificate number)

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(Name of the department)

**LECTURER'S  
DECLARATION OF GOOD FAITH**

20 \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_  
(date)

I acknowledge that:

- truth, knowledge and understanding are the highest values of science and education, and

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(institutional values of the institution of science and education, enshrined in strategic documents)

are also the institutional values of Vilnius Business College;

- only fair ways gain an advantage over other members of the academic community.

Considering that academic integrity:

- contributes to the openness and integration of the science and study system into the international research and higher education area, to the development of a sustainable science and study system and to the development of an ethically responsible personality;
- promotes academic ethics, responsible use of academic freedom and the principle of fair competition;
- strengthens trust in the value of higher education and research and has a direct positive impact on the quality of studies and the reputation of the higher education institution;
- limits the tolerance and prosperity of society's vices (especially corruption).

And knowing that:

- every member of academic community must take the initiative and responsibility for finding and applying solutions to academic unfairness in every academic activity;
- the determination to unconditionally adhere to the principle and rules of academic integrity helps to reduce the prevalence of this problem.

By signing this declaration, I freely and knowingly undertake to:

- to comply the provisions of the Code of General and Academic Ethics of Vilnius Business College and other documents regulating ethical behaviour throughout the entire period of study;
- to take a responsible attitude towards my duties as a lecturer and to carry them out in good faith;
- as a lecturer, set an example to other members of the academic community, not to tolerate cases of academic unfairness and to fulfil my duty to report and disclose such cases;
- to contribute actively to the creation and fostering of a fair academic environment at Vilnius Business College.

I agree that for violations of academic ethics in academic activities, research, publication of research results (e.g., in publications, events), I shall be subject to the sanctions provided in the CODE OF GENERAL AND ACADEMIC ETHICS of Vilnius Business College.

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(Name and surname of lecturer) (Signature)