



FÉDÉRATION EUROPÉENNE DES GÉOLOGUES
EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS
FEDERACIÓN EUROPEA DE GEÓLOGOS

CODE OF ETHICS

Preamble

Geology is a science that deals with the composition, structure, resources, history and evolution of the Earth and the application of this science. The practice of geology is a profession for those who possess the necessary qualifications and/or professional experience recognised by their appropriate national body or under the law, and whose living comes essentially from that work.

General Principles

1. All geologists following this Code must pay regard in their professional conduct to the standards and to the spirit of the following clauses, so as not to harm the dignity of the profession.
2. The privilege of exercising the profession of geology demands the highest standards of integrity, morality, professional conscience and moral responsibility.
3. The geologist is responsible for the impression he gives of his profession in the opinion of those around him and of the public at large.
4. The geologist is obliged to maintain professional secrecy. and to protect third parties.

Relations with other Geologists

5. The rules of loyalty and honesty should control the actions of the geologist towards his colleagues, his employers and to third parties with whom he is in contact. In particular he is required not to divulge information liable to discredit another colleague.
6. The geologist must not put his name to anything that is untrue, nor make agreements that prejudice his client's position.

Relations with Clients

7. The geologist must always inform his client of the true limitations of practical results that might be obtained from a given professional assistance, especially if it implies increased costs for the client.
8. The geologist must avoid any sort of negligence in the practice of his profession, especially when this gives rise to risks or of material or moral damage for his client or for the environment.
9. The geologist must not alter, or deny the existence of, facts or accepted technical or scientific truths which could thereby favour a client or mislead the public.
10. The geologist must not promise or broadcast specific professional advice that cannot be supported by a genuine, objective possibility, nor seek to publicise professional qualification that he does not actually hold with the aim of keeping his client from going to other professional colleagues.
 - 10.1. The geologist must refer, or advise reference, to the help of other specialists whenever the interests of his employer or his client are thereby better served. He must, in his conclusions, distinguish between his own work and that of his colleagues.
 - 10.2. If, after having given his advice, a geologist becomes aware that it will not be entirely followed, he should, regardless of his own position, inform the relevant person of the foreseen risks.



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11. The geologist should not take on the functions of an expert in fields of interest other than his own to one of his regular clients or one for whom he has already given advice.

Applications of this Code

12. The present Code of Ethics applies to all geologists belonging to one of the professional associations that are members of the European Federation of Geologists.

13. It must be observed in all countries where geologists practice, as defined in Clause 12 above.

14. If a recommended Code of Ethics exists locally the geologist should observe it, provided its scope or standards are not inferior to those of the present code.