

Integrity in research and business collaboration. Conflict of interest scenario – Notes for Educators

Open the <https://www.academicintegrity.eu/wp/bridge-games/> to see the complete educational material.

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About the educational material

The educational material was created with the Erasmus+ project *Bridging Integrity in Higher Education, Business and Society* (BRIDGE, project no. 2020-1-SE01-KA203-077973) as a part of the project output 2 “Bridging academic and research integrity”. The educational material, other project outputs, and more information on the project are available at <https://www.academicintegrity.eu/wp/bridge/>.

Use and adaptations of the educational material

Authors welcome adaptations of the material, especially translations! If you are interested in translating the material into your language, please contact us at bridgeinfo@academicintegrity.eu and we will provide you with source text. The Bridge project will then be happy to assist you with further sharing of your translation.



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Integrity in research and business collaboration. Conflict of interest scenario

Basic information

- **Target audience:** master's students, doctoral students, supervisors
- **Study/research field:** all fields
- **Length:** 50 minutes with facilitator, 40 minutes individually (online)

Purpose of the educational material

Research and higher education institutions pursue collaboration with industrial partners that include collaborative research projects, commissioned research, internships etc. Students during their studies may be involved in such collaborations, for example when doing research for their thesis. To address the challenges in such collaborations the Guidelines for Integrity in Research and Business Collaboration (Guidelines) were drafted. The scenario on Conflict of Interest supplements the Guidelines. It provides close to real-life illustration of the one of the challenges in research and business collaboration – conflict of interest. As the story unfolds, the learners can choose different options that lead to certain consequences. The scenario aims to enable the learners to assess the implications of failure to disclose potential conflict of interest. After using the scenario the learners should be able to identify the emergence of competing interests, to assess the implications of competing interests, and to describe the ways mitigating conflict of interest.

What is included in this educational material?

- PPT slides with narrative, focus questions, feedback, and references and useful sources.
- [Link to the Guidelines for Integrity in Research and Business Collaboration.](#)

How to use the educational material?

- The scenario can be used by a facilitator (on-site or online) and individually (online). Facilitator should: (1) present the challenge and learning objectives (5 minutes), (2) explain the task (5 minutes), (3) introduce the narrative and options (20 minutes), (4) actively moderate the discussion on the choice of options using focus questions (10 minutes), (5) introduce the feedback (10 minutes). When using scenario individually (online), the learner should: (1) read the challenge and learning objectives (5 minutes), (2) read the narrative and choose the options (20 minutes), (3) reflect on the case using focus questions (10 minutes), (4) read the feedback (5 minutes).
- The scenario is linked to the Guidelines for Integrity in Research and Business Collaboration. After solving the case the learners can read relevant guidelines on conflict of interest.