



Business Ethics

Principles for the Benefit of Member Associations

May 2022

1. Purpose and Scope

We, (Association), support the protection of fair competition and the sustainability of international cooperation by accounting for the rules of business ethics and gathering Turkey’s leading associations under one roof.

We, (Association), have prepared our Business Ethics Principles to make the ethical values we adopt the focal point of our Association culture, to increase awareness, to ensure the formation of moral business values and to observe the balance of interests. Under these Business Ethics Principles, we include our association members and their organizations.

2. Our Values and Business Ethics Principles

We have created our Business Ethics Principles based on the United Nations Global Compact, Personal Data Protection Law (“KVKK”), intellectual property rights, Associations Law, European Human Rights Convention, Labor Law, and Civil Law. We have shown the necessary sensitivity for implementing our Business Ethics Principles by all our stakeholders. We ensure its delivery to each member in return for a signature during member acceptance.

2.1 Our Values

Transparency

We support transparent and open communication in our relationships with our members, stakeholders and third parties. We ensure that the decisions made in our internal processes are followed and implemented jointly with the Board of Directors, that the activities carried out in cooperation with the members are within a framework of respect, and that the authorized persons are continually accessible.

Honesty

In order not to compromise our dignity and reputation, we emphasize the importance of acting in a way that will ensure the confidence of the members of the Association and, at the same time, demonstrate that they are worthy of the reputation and trust required of them by their duties. We adopt honesty and integrity as our primary values to implement the highest standards of behavior in all functions and relationships we establish.

Voluntariness

We,, affirm that we stand against all kinds of coercive, compulsory, competitive, punitive, and oppressive forms of persuasion. We carry out all the activities in our Association highly motivated and voluntarily.

Trustworthiness

At the same time, we review our goals while evaluating our work. Our association members agree not to share the information they have obtained through our training for personal or private interests, for the benefit of other institutions and organizations, and during or after their membership in the Association.

Equality

As, we act with fairness, equality, and impartiality towards our stakeholders. We do not engage in acts and practices contrary to or restrictive of human rights and freedoms that prevent equal opportunities. We are careful to accept associations that strive for our purpose, regardless of religion, language, race, political opinion, and gender, and keep equidistant and without any expectation from all kinds of public institutions and organizations, state officials and political parties.

3. Ethical Principles

Fair Competition

We attach importance to the protection of equal opportunity, impartiality, and an environment of fair competition to prevent issues arising from different members within the association originating from the same sectors. We distance ourselves from all kinds of practices that may cause unfair competition. We do not engage in agreements, behaviors or dialogues with companies in the sectors, with our members and stakeholders, which violate the Competition Law and may hinder or limit competition.

Compliance with the Law

We act according to national and international laws and regulations, complying with human rights, anti-corruption, and ethical and professional principles. If the laws and regulations within the scope of national and international Business Ethics Principles are more stringent than ours, we take the relevant laws and regulations into account.

Stakeholder Management

We support stakeholders by creating value together, considering their needs and expectations, being at the same level of awareness as them and finding solutions by addressing their problems. We understand that lobbying in a joint business and cooperation should align with our Business Ethics Principles.

Avoiding Conflict of Interest

We aim to avoid conflicts of interest as members of the Association. We are aware that conflicts of interest and their consequences may create a reputational risk and undermine the sense of trust among stakeholders. For this reason, we understand the importance of identifying and effectively addressing potential conflicts of interest.

We stand equidistant and without any expectation of state officials and political parties and take preventative actions to prevent conflicts of interest with third parties.

In proceedings with third parties where the member has a relationship of kinship and friendship, we oblige the transfer of the procedure to another authority to avoid conflicts of interest.

Anti-Corruption

We,, act with a “zero tolerance” approach against bribery and corruption and are committed to maintaining our activities in a fair, honest, legal, and ethical manner. We conduct research and follow-up investigations to prevent all actions that may lead to corruption in our activities.

4. Business Ethics Principles Application Tenet

As, we continue our work in the light of each item specified in tenet 2.1 Our Values. We will continue to operate according to our Business Ethics Principles, and we expect our members to behave the same way. Our members whose actions conflict with our association’s values are aware they may face sanctions in line with the disciplinary measures contained in the Association’s Bylaws.

May 2022

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

As the Federation of Sectoral Associations (“SEDEFED” or “Federation”), we support the protection of fair competition and the sustainability of international cooperation by accounting for the rules of business ethics and gathering Turkey’s leading associations under one roof.

As SEDEFED, we have prepared our Business Ethics Principles to make the ethical values we adopt the focal point of our Association culture, to increase awareness, to ensure the formation of moral business values and to observe the balance of interests. Under these Business Ethics Principles, we include our association members and their organizations.

2. OUR VALUES AND BUSINESS ETHICS PRINCIPLES

We have created our Business Ethics Principles based on the United Nations Global Compact, Personal Data Protection Law (“KVKK”), intellectual property rights, Law Associations, European Human Rights Convention, Labor Law, and Civil Law. We have shown the necessary sensitivity for implementing our Business Ethics Principles by all our stakeholders. We ensure its delivery to each member in return for a signature during member acceptance.

2.1 OUR VALUES

Transparency

We support transparent and open communication in our relationships with our members, stakeholders and third parties. We ensure that the decisions made in our internal processes are followed and implemented jointly with the Board of Directors, that the activities carried out in cooperation with the members are within a framework of respect, and that the authorized persons are continually accessible.

Honesty

In order not to compromise our dignity and reputation, we emphasize the importance of acting in a way that will ensure the confidence of the members of the Association and, at the same time, demonstrate that they are worthy of the reputation and trust required of them by their duties. We adopt honesty and integrity as our primary values to implement the highest standards of behavior in all functions and relationships we establish.

Voluntariness

As SEDEFED, we affirm that we stand against all kinds of coercive, compulsory, competitive, punitive, and oppressive forms of persuasion. We carry out all the activities in our Association highly motivated and voluntarily.

Trustworthiness

At the same time, we review our goals while evaluating our work. Our association members agree not to: share the information they have obtained through our training for personal or private interests, for the benefit of other institutions and organizations, and during or after their membership in the Association.

Equality

As SEDEFED, we act with fairness, equality and impartiality towards our stakeholders. We do not engage in acts and practices contrary to or restrictive of human rights and freedoms that prevent equal opportunities. We are careful to accept associations that strive for our purpose, regardless of religion, language, race, political opinion, and gender, and keep equidistant and without any expectation from all kinds of public institutions and organizations, state officials and political parties.

3. ETHICAL PRINCIPLES

Fair Competition

We attach importance to the protection of equal opportunity, impartiality, and an environment of fair competition to prevent issues arising from different members within the association originating from the same sectors. We distance ourselves from all kinds of practices that may cause unfair competition. We do not engage in agreements, behaviors or dialogues with companies in the sectors, with our members and stakeholders, that violate the Competition Law and may hinder or limit competition.

Compliance with the Law

We act according to national and international laws and regulations, complying with human rights, anti-corruption, and ethical and professional principles. If the laws and regulations within the scope of national and international Business Ethics Principles are more stringent than ours, we take the relevant laws and regulations into account.

Stakeholder Management

We support stakeholders by creating value together, considering their needs and expectations, being at the same level of awareness as them and finding solutions by addressing their problems. We understand that lobbying in a joint business and cooperation should align with our Business Ethics Principles.

Avoiding Conflict of Interest

We aim to avoid conflicts of interest as members of the Association. We are aware that conflicts of interest and their consequences may create a reputational risk and undermine the sense of trust among stakeholders. For this reason, we understand the importance of identifying and effectively addressing potential conflicts of interest. We stand equidistant and without any expectation of state officials and political parties and take preventative actions to prevent conflicts of interest with third parties. In proceedings with third parties where the member has a relationship of kinship and friendship, we oblige the transfer of the procedure to another authority to avoid conflicts of interest.

Anti-Corruption

As SEDEFED, we act with a “zero tolerance” approach against bribery and corruption and are committed to maintaining our activities in a fair, honest, legal, and ethical manner. We conduct research and follow-up investigations to prevent all actions that may lead to corruption in our activities.

4. BUSINESS ETHICS PRINCIPLES APPLICATION TENET

As SEDEFED, we continue our work in the light of each item specified in our values section. We will continue to operate according to our Business Ethics Principles, and we expect our members to behave the same way. Our members whose actions conflict with our association’s values are aware they may face sanctions in line with the disciplinary measures contained in the Association’s Bylaws.



Ethics Principles have been prepared by KPMG Turkey for the benefit of SEDEFED and its Member Associations,
through TEID - Ethics and Reputation Society.

May 2022