1st NATIONAL CONGRESS ON RESEARCH INTEGRITY

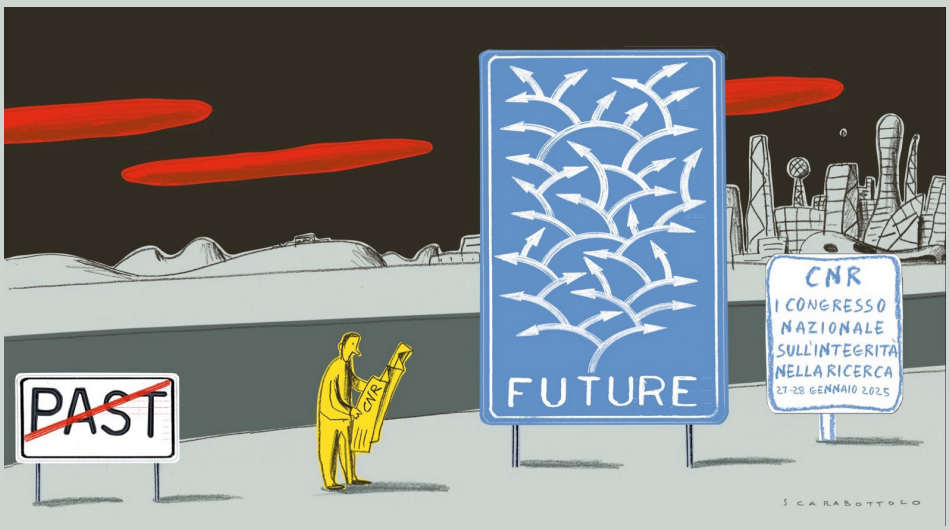
ROME STATEMENT ON RESEARCH INTEGRITY

Participants in the 1st National Congress on Research Integrity organised by the National Research Council (CNR) of Italy in Rome on January 27 and 28, 2025:

1. adhere to the definition of research integrity formulated by the CNR in 2015: "By *Research Integrity* we intend the body of principles and ethical values, deontological obligations and professional standards that form the basis of the responsible and correct conduct of those who carry out, finance or evaluate scientific research, as well as the institutions that promote and perform it. The application of principles and values, and the respect for deontology and standards of professional ethics guarantee the quality of research and enhance the reputation and public image of science, greatly contributing to its advancements and to progress in society. The violation of the principles and ethical values, ethical duties and professional standards on which responsible and proper conduct is based by those who carry out, finance or evaluate scientific research, as well as by the institutions that promote and carry it out, is usually referred to as research misconduct";
2. acknowledge the relevance of research integrity as an essential part of the scientific endeavor: every action ought to be taken to promote its dissemination in the institutions of science, to adopt nationally and internationally accepted rules, to build and strengthen dedicated networks, and to raise public awareness of the ability of the scientific community to implement tools and procedures to safeguard honesty, methodological rigor, reliability, objectivity, impartiality, transparency, and social responsibility;
3. draw inspiration from the principles and values contained in the declarations promoted by the *World Conferences on Research Integrity (WCRI)*, including the *Singapore Statement on Research Integrity*, the *Montreal Statement on Research Integrity in Cross-Boundary Research Collaborations,* the *Hong Kong Principles* and the *Cape Town Statement on Fostering Research Integrity through Fairness and Equity*, as well as those contained in the *Declaration of Helsinki (WMA, 2024)*, the *European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity (ALLEA)*, the *CNR Guidelines for Research Integrity* and the charters of national universities and research institutes;
4. commit themselves to the highest scientific, methodological and ethical standards in their field in the planning, proposing, reviewing, execution, evaluation and communication of research, and to promote research integrity in their institutions first and foremost through training initiatives in undergraduate and doctoral programmes, and, in general, for young researchers and colleagues at all levels,

including members of ethics committees for clinical trials and committees for ethics and integrity in research;

5. facilitate the development of a working environment favoring respect for research integrity and supportive of the internalisation and tangible application of guiding principles and values, in particular by guaranteeing the scientific freedom of researchers, protecting them from the risk of coercion and discrimination, and encouraging a responsible and cooperative attitude among colleagues;
6. apply correct and responsible conduct at every stage of the research: in the design and planning of experimental and study activities; in the conduct of research, in the recruitment and definition of roles and tasks of the researchers involved, and in the management of available funds; in the handling and preservation of materials and data; in the attribution of authorship to scientific publications and, in general, in the publication of research results; in the description of scientific credentials and in the preparation of the curriculum vitae; in the disclosure and management of potential and actual conflicts of interest; in the activities of peer review and evaluation of studies, curricula, and researchers; in the reporting of any cases of alleged misconduct, including the fabrication, falsification and plagiarism of images, data and texts, and in the correction or retraction of any publications that prove to be erroneous or fraudulent;
7. agree to contribute ideas and proposals and to participate in scientific initiatives such as workshops, conferences, congresses, training initiatives, as well as to actively cooperate and promote joint research on research integrity at the national, European, and international level.



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