



Approved by the Academic Council  
non-profit joint stock company  
«S. Seifullin Kazakh Agrotechnical  
Research University»  
date of creation 12/11/2024  
date of revision 12/11/2026

# POLICY ON RESEARCH INDEPENDENCE AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM

## S. Seifullin Kazakh Agrotechnical Research University

IMPORTANT FOR  
GROUNDIN IN  
IMPORTANT FOR  
ALL FACULTY  
PROFESSIONAL  
TRAINING

FREEDOM  
OF INQUIRY  
FREEDOM  
IN TEACHING

ACADEMIC FREEDOM

BENEFITS MY  
STUDENTS

PROFESSIONAL  
TRAINING  
WHEN FACULTY  
LABOR HURTS  
ACADEMIC

I NEED TO LEARN MORE  
ABOUT ACADEMIC  
FREEDOM  
ACADEMIC

TOP PRIORITY  
OFF THE TENURE TRACK  
SHOULD BE



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## 1. General Provisions

1.1. This Policy on Research Independence and Academic Freedom (hereinafter referred to as the *Policy*) defines the principles, objectives, and mechanisms for ensuring academic freedom and the independence of scientific research at the non-profit joint-stock company “S. Seifullin Kazakh Agrotechnical Research University” (hereinafter referred to as the *University*).

1.2. The Policy has been developed in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Charter of the University, the **Academic Policy of the University**, the **Code of Ethics**, the **Rules of Academic Integrity**, and other internal regulatory documents governing educational and research activities.

1.3. This Policy applies to all members of the academic community, including academic staff, researchers, doctoral and master’s students, undergraduate students, and administrative personnel involved in educational and research activities.

1.4. The University recognizes academic freedom and the independence of scientific research as fundamental values essential for the development of science, education, innovation, and critical thinking.

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## 2. Fundamental Principles

The implementation of this Policy is based on the following principles:

- academic freedom in teaching, learning, and research;
  - independence in the choice of research topics, methods, and approaches;
  - academic integrity, research ethics, and scientific responsibility;
  - accountability for the quality and reliability of research outcomes;
  - respect for human rights, freedoms, and academic diversity;
  - prevention of discrimination, censorship, or undue influence;
  - transparency and openness of research activities;
  - compliance with national legislation and international academic standards.
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## 3. Academic Freedom

3.1. The University guarantees academic freedom to all participants in the educational and research process.

3.2. Academic freedom includes, but is not limited to:



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- freedom of teaching and the choice of pedagogical methods within approved academic programs;
- freedom of scientific discussion and expression of professional opinions;
- freedom to conduct research and disseminate research results;
- freedom to participate in scientific conferences, research projects, academic mobility programs, and international collaborations.

3.3. The exercise of academic freedom shall be carried out with due regard to academic responsibility, ethical standards, and respect for the rights and freedoms of others.

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## 4. Independence of Scientific Research

4.1. The University ensures the independence of scientific research from political, ideological, religious, commercial, or other improper influence.

4.2. Researchers have the right to independently:

- define research directions and topics;
- select scientific methodologies, methods, and tools;
- analyze, interpret, and present research findings.

4.3. Funding of research activities (grant-based, program-targeted, contractual, or other forms) shall not restrict academic autonomy or distort research outcomes.

4.4. The University guarantees the right of researchers to publish research results in accordance with applicable legislation, contractual obligations, and intellectual property regulations.

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## 5. Research Ethics and Academic Integrity

5.1. All participants in research activities are required to adhere to the principles of academic integrity, research ethics, and professional conduct.

5.2. The following practices are strictly prohibited:

- plagiarism, fabrication, or falsification of data;
- improper attribution or misappropriation of authorship;
- concealment or manipulation of research results;
- exerting pressure on researchers to alter scientific conclusions.

5.3. The University has established internal mechanisms and committees to address violations of academic integrity and research ethics (Ethics Committee).



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## 6. Institutional Guarantees and Implementation Mechanisms

6.1. The University creates favorable conditions for the implementation of this Policy by:

- developing and maintaining research infrastructure, laboratories, and research centers;
- supporting scientific initiatives, grant applications, and publication activities;
- providing access to international scientific databases and digital resources;
- promoting international cooperation and academic mobility.

6.2. The University's governing bodies may not interfere with the content of scientific research activities, except in cases stipulated by the obligations of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

6.3. The University protects its staff and students from retaliation, pressure, or sanctions related to the lawful exercise of academic freedom.

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## 7. Responsibilities

7.1. Academic staff, researchers, and students are responsible for compliance with this Policy.

7.2. Violations of academic freedom or research independence shall be reviewed in accordance with the procedures established by the University's internal regulations.

7.3. Heads of structural units are responsible for fostering an environment that supports free and independent academic and research activities.

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## 8. Final Provisions

8.1. This Policy shall enter into force upon its approval by the Academic Council of the University.

8.2. Amendments and additions to this Policy shall be made in accordance with the procedures established by the University's internal regulations.

8.3. This Policy shall be publicly available and published on the official website of the University.

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