COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

18 December 2025 MONEYVAL(2025)33

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE EVALUATION OF ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING MEASURES AND THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM

MONEYVAL

Principles of conduct for MONEYVAL Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts

The Council of Europe has established a comprehensive internal ethics framework designed to uphold the highest standards of integrity, impartiality, professionalism, and accountability among its staff and representatives. This internal framework is articulated through a range of ethical texts, including: (i) the Code of Conduct; (ii) the Speak Up Policy; (iii) the Policy on Respect and Dignity; (iii) the Policy on Diversity, Equality and Inclusion. Both Council of Europe secretariat's staff members and all those involved with the Organisation's activities are expected to uphold the values and respect these standards, to the extent that they are applicable to them.

In addition to the afore-mentioned Council of Europe ethical standards, by accepting their role as MONEYVAL Chair, Vice-Chair, Bureau member, Working Group on Evaluations co-chair and scientific expert, post-holders agree to respect and follow the requirements set out in this document.

PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT FOR MONEYVAL CHAIR, VICE-CHAIRS, BUREAU MEMBERS, CO-CHAIRS OF THE WORKING GROUP ON EVALUATIONS AND SCIENTIFIC EXPERTS

a. Professionalism and general values

1. Throughout their entire term in office, the Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts of MONEYVAL represent both the Council of Europe and MONEYVAL. As such they are expected to uphold the highest standards of **professionalism, integrity, respect** and conduct themselves in accordance with these core values and with the values that underpin them, namely independence, trustworthiness, responsibility, dignity, diversity, and discretion.

2. MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts are expected to apply their **experience and expertise** at all times, including during MONEYVAL Working Group and Plenary discussions and discussions in other fora and bodies (e.g. FATF Plenary and working groups; Council of Europe Committee of Ministers).

3. MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts should promptly inform the Executive Secretary of any **personal circumstances that** may affect their ability to carry out their duties (e.g. mobility limitations, accessibility needs), so that appropriate arrangements can be considered.

4. The Council of Europe upholds certain **fundamental values and principles** such as gender equality, non-discrimination, prohibition of sexual and other forms of harassment, and prohibition of ill-treatment of human beings. These should be adhered to at all times by MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts.

b. Impartiality, objectivity, neutrality

5. MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts should **act in an impartial manner, and be seen to be doing so**, **during** the exercise of their duties.

6. MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts should assess the information and facts presented to them in the context of exercising their duties **objectively, without bias or prejudice, or considerations of a political nature.** When MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts participate in missions for and on behalf of MONEYVAL, they should not accept any **external instruction** (for instance from their employing institution, government or head of delegation) and should not be influenced by considerations which are unrelated to the mission. Any attempt or conduct aimed at influencing the work of MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts, including through pressure or intimidation - should be promptly reported to the Executive Secretary.

7. As a general rule, the Executive Secretary should be informed of any **communication between** MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts **and MONEYVAL delegations, the FATF, or other bodies** when such communication pertains to their responsibilities within MONEYVAL.

c. Conflicts of interest and incompatibilities

8. When taking on their role as Chair, Vice-Chair, Bureau member, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs or scientific expert, **individuals must disclose any potential conflict of interest[1] or incompatibility[2]** that may affect, or be perceived as affecting their role. This requirement also applies at any later stage of their term if a change in circumstances occurs, for example, if the official is offered a consultancy contract by, or in connection with MONEYVAL member states or territories. All such declarations shall be submitted promptly to the Executive Secretary.

9. For the duration of their term, MONEYVAL's Chair and Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts are expected not to engage in the provision of technical assistance to MONEYVAL member-states and territories. This prohibition does not apply to training or research activities organised by MONEYVAL itself, or to assessment work carried out by International / European Financial Institutions and bodies (e.g. IMF, World Bank, European Banking Authority, European Commission, etc.). On an exceptional basis, scientific experts may engage in the provision of technical assistance with the prior approval of MONEYVAL's Executive Secretary and such approval must be reported to the Bureau[3]. In cases where scientific experts are engaged in technical assistance, they must refrain from participating in any MONEYVAL discussions related to the states or territories to which they are providing or have provided such assistance.

d. Personal benefits and gifts

10. **The Council of Europe has a no-gift policy. As a principle, MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts cannot seek or accept gifts, favours or advantages of any kind for themselves or others in the performance of their duties with MONEYVAL**. They are expected to refrain **from promoting actively certain professional, academic and other personal activities** when acting in their official capacity, in particular during official missions or MONEYVAL meetings.

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[1] This is to be understood broadly and as referring to any material and other interest of a personal or private nature (including those of spouses / partners and close relatives of the official), which they may have in relation to a member-state or territory of MONEYVAL other than the home jurisdiction of the official. Since this is not limited to purely material interests, a conflict may also arise, for instance, from membership in an organisation or club pursuing the objective of developing political / commercial and other relations a member state or territory of MONEYVAL.

[2] For instance, an expert being involved in technical cooperation projects, the negotiation of inter-agency agreements with the country under evaluation etc.

[3] Terms of reference, length and any other relevant details should be communicated by the scientific expert in advance to taking up any technical assistance assignment.

11. When circumstances make it impossible to refuse a gift or advantage (work-related, gifts of a value of less than 50€ or conventional hospitability such as attendance of an official event or meal) , they should declare it to the Executive Secretary.

e. Confidentiality

12. **Confidentiality of MONEYVAL information must be preserved throughout the term in post of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Bureau member, Working Group on Evaluations co-chair and scientific expert and following its completion**. This applies to information submitted via the Secretariat, information obtained during missions, and information linked to the mutual evaluation process, including draft mutual evaluation reports, and other confidential papers. The content of a mutual evaluation report, follow-up report or any other document adopted by MONEYVAL can only be referred to in public, once it has been published. This practice equally applies to other MONEYVAL documents and workstreams in the pipeline.

13. Discussions with governmental/public bodies and representatives of private sector and non-profit organisations during MONEYVAL missions or meetings, shall remain confidential and MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts are bound by confidentiality requirements in relation to any information exchanged pursuant to these interactions.

14. No personal data shall be publicly disclosed, and MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts shall abide by Council of Europe data protection requirements, as applicable.

15. The obligations contained in this document are not intended to override or supersede any existing obligations that officials may already be subject to concerning the handling of information or conflicts of interest, as a result of their employment with a national authority or an international organisation.

f. Precautionary measures for missions and engagement

16. The Executive Secretary shall inform the Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts about **specific precautions** that may need to be taken in relation to meetings or missions.

17. MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts should **remain alert at all times during missions** – including outside of official activities - to avoid any intentional or unintentional actions that could have reputational or other adverse consequences. for themselves, MONEYVAL and the Council of Europe. Particular caution should be exercised with respect to potentially illegal activities, politically sensitive situations, and any questionable solicitations or d offers encountered in the country visited.

g. Adherence to the principles of conduct

18. Upon taking up their duties, MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts are deemed to accept, respect and comply with requirements set out in this document in their capacity as MONEYVAL officials. Guidance (including on matters related to inappropriate conduct) may be sought from the Executive Secretary at any time, including on a confidential basis.

19. The Executive Secretary shall be notified by MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts of any conduct in breach of the requirements set out in this document during their term in office.

20. Decisions regarding the possible removal of MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chair, Bureau member and Working Group on Evaluations co-chair on the grounds of conflict of interest, incompatibilities or breaches of ethical standards as prescribed in this document shall be made by the Bureau and are subject to confirmation by the Plenary. Plenary discussions on such matters shall take place in a closed session.

21. In case of possible removal, the officer concerned shall be given the opportunity to state his or her view to the Bureau but shall not be present or participate in the final discussion and decision on removal.

22. Decisions on the possible removal of a MONEYVAL scientific expert on the grounds of conflict of interest, incompatibilities or breaches of other ethical standards as prescribed in this document shall be taken by the Executive Secretary.

23. As a further measure, in appropriate cases, the Bureau may decide to inform the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and/or the Permanent Representation to the Council of Europe of the country concerned of the removal, and request that they take appropriate measures, including preventing a person from participating in future MONEYVAL activities.

h. Guidance and support

24. MONEYVAL's Chair, Vice-Chairs, Bureau members, Working Group on Evaluations co-chairs and scientific experts shall receive guidance and support from the Executive Secretary in exercising their duties throughout their mandate. Whenever the Chair, Vice-Chair, Bureau member, Working Group on Evaluations co-chair or scientific expert has a question on issues related to the aforementioned principles, their duties, rules and procedures, they should raise the matter with the Executive Secretary. The Secretariat will endeavour to provide all the necessary guidance and support.