



**CA Approved,**

**25.10.2021**

**Approved,**

**Senate**

**16.12.2021**

**STRATEGY FOR THE PREVENTION AND  
FIGHT  
AGAINST THE PLAGIARISM  
PHENOMENA  
AT THE “CAROL DAVILA” UNIVERSITY OF  
MEDICINE AND PHARMACY IN BUCHAREST**



## **I. Legal framework of reference**

The herewith **Strategy** was drafted according to the provision of the following regulations:

- Law no. 8/1996 regarding copyrights and connected rights, published in the Official Gazette of Romania, Part I, no. 268 of March 27, 2018, according to art. III of law 74/2018
- Law no. 206/ 2004 regarding the good behaviour in scientific research, technological research and innovation
- National Education Law no. 1/2011, subsequently amended and supplemented
- Government’s Decision no. 681/2011 regarding the approval of Doctoral Studies Code, subsequently amended and supplemented
- The Regulation for the organization and operation of the National Certification Council for Titles, Degrees and University Certificates, approved with the Order of the minister of education and research no. 4621/2020
- The Order of the minister of education and research no. 5229/2020 for the approval of the methodologies regarding the grant of the certification, the grant of the doctoral title as well as the resolution of the complaints in relation to the failure to observe quality or professional ethic standards, including in relation to the existence of plagiarism, in a doctoral thesis
- The Order of the minister of education and research no. 5255/2021 for checking the observance of university ethics and deontology in the draft of doctoral theses between 1990-2016

## **II. Institutional vision and objectives in relation to the prevention and fight against the plagiarism phenomenon**

The training and improvement of qualified and highly qualified human resources, respectively, is the main objective of the mission to generate and transfer knowledge towards society, undertaken by the “Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest (U.M.F. “Carol Davila”) through its University Charter. For all academic programs, as part as ensuring academic quality according to the ARACIS regulations, U.M.F. “Carol Davila”

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promotes mechanisms to prevent the infringement of academic ethics, including the plagiarism phenomenon.

The principles, rights and obligations governing the professional activity of the members of the academic community within U.M.F. “Carol Davila” are included in the *Charter of the “Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy* and in the *Professional Ethics and Deontology Code of the “Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy*”.

According to the provisions of the *U.M.F. “Carol Davila” Charter*, from a professional point of view, the members of the university community have the following rights: grow and improve professionally, freely choose their scientific research themes in their field of competence, according to the academic freedom, to the observance of the ethical, deontological and legal regulations, to publish, communicate and discuss the results of their research within the University and outside it, to be promoted hierarchically, according to the legal provisions and standards established by the University’s Senate, to be warranted the intellectual and industrial property rights according to the legislation in force and to the provisions of the University’s Ethical and Deontology Code. The members of the university community have the obligation to observe the ethical standards of the University established by the Senate, the complaints and intimations regarding the deviations from the university’s ethics being solved by the Professional Ethics and Deontology Committee. [https://umfcd.ro/wp-content/uploads/2020/CLASAMENTE\\_SI\\_RAPOARTE/Carta-Universitatii-UMFCD-versiunea-VI.pdf](https://umfcd.ro/wp-content/uploads/2020/CLASAMENTE_SI_RAPOARTE/Carta-Universitatii-UMFCD-versiunea-VI.pdf)).

The values promoted by U.M.F. “Carol Davila”, described in the *Professional Ethics and Deontology Code* are: academic liberty, personal autonomy, justice and equity, merit, professionalism, honesty and intellectual correctness, transparency, responsibility, respect and tolerance. According to the provisions of the Code, U.M.F. “Carol Davila” respects the dignity of each of its members and promotes academic integrity, equal rights, intellectual partnership and cooperation, no matter political opinions or religious faith. The members of the university community are forbidden any type of intellectual fraud such as full or partial plagiarism, copying during exams and competitions, appropriating the papers of other people (including those from the internet), corruption and fraud attempts, replacing the examined works and persons, appropriating the research of other people. Intellectual fraud includes: a) cheating (using unauthorized support from some people, using prohibited materials or means of documentation



during the assessment, etc.); b) manufacturing data (using improvised data in a research or experiment, intentionally changing the data of an experiment or a research, quoting non-existent articles, etc.); c) plagiarism (fully or partially take over, without quoting the source, of a material prepared by another author and presenting it as belonging to oneself - either in a written paper, such as reports, articles, bachelor theses, experiments, or in an oral presentation). (<https://umfcd.ro/wp-content/uploads/Codul-de-etica-si-deontologie-profesionala.pdf>)

*The Strategy for the prevention and fight against the plagiarism phenomenon at the “Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy*” (The strategy) amends, through specific measures for the prevention and fight against the plagiarism phenomenon, the internal regulatory framework in relation to academic honesty and intellectual correctness.

The implementation of the *Strategy* at institutional level has as purpose reaching the following objectives:

- Consolidating and academic environment centred on ethics and integrity;
- Creating an institutional framework for the prevention of plagiarism by continuously informing the members of the academic community about the research and publication ethics;
- Identification and sanctioning of good behaviour deviations in research in drafting doctoral theses since 1990 until now;
- Creating a digital library to include all doctoral theses drafted by the university.

### **III. Directions of action regarding the prevention and fight against the plagiarism phenomenon**

In order to reach the objectives *of the Strategy for the prevention and fight of the plagiarism phenomenon in the “Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy* the existing mechanisms shall be consolidated and new directions of action shall be developed, to ensure a durable and perspective institutional framework to ensure academic ethics and integrity.



### **III.1 Mechanisms for the prevention and fight against the plagiarism phenomenon implemented for bachelor and master studies**

The students of bachelor and master programs are informed about the observance of the ethics and integrity principle in the Academic Ethics and Integrity class (with optional status), of the Scientific Research methodology class, which includes relevant themes for good behaviour in scientific research, as well as during the draft of the bachelor/master thesis by their scientific coordinators.

### **III.2 Mechanisms for the prevention and fight against the plagiarism phenomenon implemented for doctoral studies**

1. Doctoral students are informed about the scientific, professional and university ethics regulations since the first year of studies, by forming specific competences in the training program through advanced university studies, as well as by the doctoral coordinator and the guidance committee. The training program based on advanced university studies includes four subjects that contribute to learning the ethics criteria in scientific research and intellectual property:

- Academic Ethics and Integrity. Scientific Research Bioethics on human subjects*
- Scientific Research Legislation*
- Research Ethics on Laboratory Animals (optional).*
- Intellectual property. Drafting the doctoral thesis (optional)*

2. Regulation for the organization and performance of the doctoral study within IOSUD U.M.F. “Carol Davila” in Bucharest includes specifications in relation to ethics in doctoral research (<https://umfcd.ro/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Regulament-IOSUD.pdf>). The doctoral school provides to doctoral students a guide for drafting the doctoral thesis, which includes regulations for the observance of the best practice rules regarding the use of the data in the thesis (<https://umfcd.ro/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/UMFCD-Ghid-de-redactare-a-tezei-de-doctorat.pdf>).



3. Starting from 2016, after the entry in force of the Order no. 3482/24.03.2016 regarding some measures for the organization and operation of the National Certification Council for Titles, Degrees and University Certificates, approved with the Order of the minister of education and research no. 4621/2020, the defence of doctoral theses is performed only after the prior check of its content using the anti-plagiarism program purchased by the university.

4. Before arguing the thesis, the doctoral students submits the statement signed by the doctoral student and the PhD supervisor on undertaking responsibility for ensuring the original content of the doctoral thesis, as well as observing the professional quality and ethics standards, according to art. 143 paragraph. (4) and art. 170 of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, subsequently amended and supplemented, and of art. 65 paragraph. (5)—(7) of the Doctoral Studies Code, approved by the Government’s Decision no. 681/2011, subsequently amended and supplemented ([https://umfcd.ro/wp-content/uploads/2020/SCOALA\\_DOCTORALA/Metodologie-UMFCD-sustinere-teza-de-doctorat-2020.pdf](https://umfcd.ro/wp-content/uploads/2020/SCOALA_DOCTORALA/Metodologie-UMFCD-sustinere-teza-de-doctorat-2020.pdf)).

### **III.3. The implementation of new mechanisms for the prevention and fight against the plagiarism phenomenon**

1. In order to reach the objectives of the herewith *Strategy* at the “Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy” an administrative department subordinated to the Rector is established, connected to the IOSUD activity, with responsibilities regarding the digitalization and check of all doctoral theses between January 1990 - June 2016k, as well as the training of ethics and integrity trainers. The type of organizational structure (office or service), the position in the institution’s organizational chart, the job structure are approved according to the internal procedures, upon proposal of the Board of Directors.

The newly established office/services shall manage the reports resulting from the check of doctoral theses and shall organize the training of ethics and integrity trainers with the role to train the members of the academic community in this respect (teachers, students).

2. The draft of an *anti-plagiarism guide* at Doctoral school level, which is made available to all members of the academic community.



3. The organization by the university of access to training classes and workshops in relation to academic ethics and integrity.

#### **III.4. Checking the observance of university ethics and deontology in the draft of doctoral theses between 1990-2016**

For the performance of the checking activity in relation to the observance of university ethics and deontology in the draft of doctoral theses between 1990-2016, the following stages are gone through:

1. The Academic Documents Bureau drafts the inventory of all PhD diplomas issued by U.M.F. “Carol Davila” between January 1990 - June 2016, which it submits to the Library of U.M.F. “Carol Davila”.

2. The library performs the digitization and optical recognition of characters for the doctoral theses defended between January 1990 - June 2016 and prepares the electronic database, which it submits to the Office/service in charge of digitalising and checking the doctoral theses.

3. CSUD proposes the establishment of committees to check and analyse the doctoral theses between 1990-2016. The UMFC D Rector appoints the check and analysis committees, upon proposal of the CSUD Manager.

5. The analysis committees analyse the digitalized doctoral theses and draft reports regarding the possible deviations for the university ethics and deontology regulations, which are submitted to CSUD, for validation. The activity of the analysis committees is supported by the Doctoral School, which provides the committees with any necessary information or software during the check and analysis process.

6. In case of noticing deviations from the university ethics and deontology, CSUD notifies the University Ethics and Deontology Committee (CEDU) for the analysis according to specific procedures.



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7. At the end of the process for checking the doctoral theses, the CSUD director drafts a detailed report about the observance/failure to observe the university ethics, quality and deontology in the checked doctoral theses, which she submits for approval of the U.M.F. “Carol Davila” Rector, report which shall be sent to the Ministry of Education, according to the legal provisions.

**CSUD director,**

**Prof. univ. dr. Valentina UIVAROSI**