

Institutional Declaration of the UNIVERSITY OF VIGO on the Fight against Fraud (Approved by the Government Council on 21st December 2021)

The University of Vigo is a public law institution, whose main function is to provide public service of higher education through research, teaching and study. In order to carry out its mission, it has autonomy and is endowed with its own personality, legal capacity and patrimony.

Among its sources of funding, the University of Vigo is a beneficiary of funds from the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan, financed with funds from the European Recovery and Resilience Facility. The new applicable legislative framework regulating such funding - essentially composed of the Regulation (EU) 2021/241 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), the Resolution of April 29 2021, of the Undersecretariat, which publishes the Agreement of the Council of Ministers of April 27 2021, approving the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan, the Royal Decree-Law 36/2020 of December 30 2021, which approves urgent measures for the modernization of the Public Administration and for the implementation of the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan, and the Order HFP/1030/2021, of September 29 2021, which sets up the management system of the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan - foresees the adoption of all appropriate measures to protect the financial interests of the Union, and to ensure that the use of these funds is in accordance with the law, in particular regarding the prevention, detection and correction of fraud, corruption and conflicts of interest.

For this reason, the University of Vigo, through this institutional declaration, wants to express its determination to combat fraud, corruption and conflicts of interest in the management of public funds in general, and those coming from the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan, pledging to implement the highest standards in compliance with legal, ethical and moral standards, and to respect the principles of integrity, impartiality, objectivity and honesty.

The aim of this declaration is to promote and consolidate at the University of Vigo a culture that has a dissuasive effect on any type of fraudulent activity, and that ensures that the actions of the University of Vigo are perceived, by all agents related to it, as being opposed to fraud and corruption in any of its forms. Additionally, this declaration also aims at promoting and developing policies and processes for the investigation of fraud and its related crimes, to ensure

that such cases are addressed at the right time, in an appropriate mode, and to enable their prevention, facilitate their detection, prevent their achievement, and promote their correction and prosecution.

It is expected that all the people who are part of the university community, and especially those who will participate directly or indirectly in the management of European funds, as well as contractors and beneficiaries of aid in which they materialize, assume and share all the commitments stipulated in this institutional declaration.

The University of Vigo will implement effective, efficient and proportionate measures to combat fraud, using its own resources and appropriate procedures. Its implementation is doubly based on the experience gained in previous periods and on the recent fraud risk assessment carried out for this purpose, and its structure is shaped according to the elements that make up the "anti-fraud cycle", also taking into account the corresponding periodic updates and the proper monitoring of its results.

In this regard, the University of Vigo already has a specific section on its website dedicated to anti-fraud measures (<https://secretaria.uvigo.gal/uv/web/transparencia/pagina/show/57? locale=es>), which will publish the measures implemented for this purpose. From there, the reporting channels to communicate any irregularity or suspected fraud to the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) can be accessed ([https://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/home es](https://ec.europa.eu/anti-fraud/home_es)), when they affect the financial interests of the European Union, or to the National Anti-Fraud Coordination Service (AFCOS) (<https://www.igae.pap.hacienda.gob.es/sitios/igae/es-ES/snca/Paginas/ComunicacionSNCA.aspx>), responsible for coordinating actions aimed at protecting the financial interests of the European Union against fraud, in collaboration with OLAF.

In conclusion, the University of Vigo ratifies in this institutional declaration its firm commitment in the fight against fraud, and its policy of zero tolerance on fraud, corruption and conflicts of interest, which puts into effect with a robust system designed, to the extent possible, to prevent, detect, correct and prosecute acts of fraud or any practice that departs from ethical behavior in the use of public funds, as well as to correct its impact, should it occur.

Vigo, 21st December 2021

The President

M. Joaquín Reigosa Roger