

COLLECTION OF DECISIONS AND ORDINANCES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH BOHEMIA IN ČESKÉ BUDĚJOVICE

Annexe No 2 on the Rector's Decision No R 253

Date 6 September 2023

Addendum No 2 to the USB Rector's Decision on the establishment of the Ethics Committee of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice

Pursuant to Section 10(1) of Act No 111/1998, on Higher Education Institutions and on Amendments and Supplements to Other Acts (the Higher Education Act), as amended, I issue this addendum:

In the Rector's Decision No R 253 of 31 July 2013 on the establishment of the Ethics Committee of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice, the following text is added:

11. EC USB and issuing statements and recommendations on proposals for research projects or studies:

(a) The main role of the EC USB is to review submissions on compliance with the USB Code of Ethics. The EC USB does not issue opinions and recommendations on research project proposals or studies that require such opinions and recommendations. The concerned cases are particularly projects or studies involving research involving human participants or identifiable biological material or data.

(b) The assessment of the relevant ethical aspects of such projects or studies is carried out by the existing ethics committees of individual USB faculties. The composition and activities of these faculty committees are determined by the respective ordinances of the Deans of the respective faculties.

(c) The list of USB faculties that currently have ethics committees issuing statements and recommendations on proposals for research projects or studies, together with a reference to the relevant ordinances of the Deans of the respective faculties, is specified in the 'Methodological guideline for issuing statements and recommendations on proposals for research projects or studies at the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice'.

(d) Any USB academic staff member or student, regardless of faculty affiliation, may request an opinion or recommendation on their research project or study proposal from any faculty ethics committee, taking into account the subject area of the research. Requests for such reviews, including the information the applicant is required to submit with the request, are made available by the ethics committees of the respective faculties.

(e) The scope of the ethics committees of individual faculties of USB, i.e. the thematic areas covered by each committee, is specified in the 'Methodological guideline for issuing statements and recommendations on proposals for research projects or studies at the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice'. In the event that the faculty ethics committee selected by the applicant concludes that it is not competent with regard to the subject area, it shall inform the applicant accordingly. Only one faculty ethics committee may issue a statement or recommendation in a single case.

(f) The statement or recommendation on a research project or study proposal shall be issued in writing by the relevant committee, shall be recorded in the minutes of the committee meeting and shall be assigned a reference number. Such a statement or recommendation of the selected faculty ethics committee shall have University-wide validity.

(g) The faculty ethics committee may set a fee for issuing a statement or recommendation on a research project or study proposal. Specific rules are set out in the 'Methodological guideline for issuing statements and recommendations on proposals for research projects or studies at the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice'.

(h) The USB Ethics Committee is not an appeal body against the statements or recommendations of the ethics committees of individual USB faculties. However, the issuance of a statement or recommendation by a faculty ethics committee does not preclude a later review of the matter by the EC USB for compliance with the USB Code of Ethics.

This decision shall take effect on 1 October 2023.

prof. PhDr. Bohumil Jiroušek, Dr.
Rector

Distribution list: members of USB management, Deans of USB faculties, Vice-Deans with the science remit of USB faculties

Prepared by: USB Vice-Rector for Science