

## **Meetings of the Scientific Board (SB) on Conflict of Interests**

With the aim of ensuring impartial decision-making, the Scientific Board of the MFF UK at its meeting on 4/5/2023 decided that it is the duty of its members to observe the below-mentioned principles of conduct in the case of conflict of interests.

**A member of the Scientific Board is in a conflict of interest if a matter is discussed concerning a person who was involved with the member in such matters:**

1. They have at least 3 common articles in the last 10 years or at least 1 article published, sent for publication/ in preparation in the last 3 years (the exception is for publications of large collaborations)
2. Member cooperates or has cooperated on a joint project in the past 3 years
3. Member is or was in a professional relationship with applicant, for example Ph. D. student – supervisor.
4. Member is in a direct superior or direct subordinate position
5. Member is in a relationship in which doubt about impartiality may arise (relative or otherwise close relationship, etc.)
6. There is a scientific rivalry or professional enmity
7. There is a common economic interest, e.g. co-ownership of a company, etc.

### **Behavior in the event of a conflict of interest**

SB members:

1. If they learn that they are in a conflict of interest, they must inform the SB of this fact
2. Inform the SB if they feel that there is a failure to declare a conflict of interest
3. Consider whether it is adequate to leave the meeting for the duration of the discussion in which a conflict of interest may occur
4. In the event of any conflict of interests, they enter the discussion only to the necessary extent
5. In the event of a conflict of interest, they vote only if a certain proportion of positive votes is required for the decision votes of all SC members (usually in Habilitation and Professor Appointment procedures)

6. They do NOT vote for themselves, in this case the point 5 is irrelevant

Conflict-of-interest rules of conduct 1-3 also apply to other participants of the SC meetings. At the beginning of the meeting/presentation the member in charge will point out the obligation to inform about possible conflict of interests and state its definition.