

FIG WORKING WEEK 2019

22-26 April, Hanoi, Vietnam

Presented by the FIG Working Week 2019,
April 22-26, 2019 in Hanoi, Vietnam

"Geospatial Information for a Smarter Life
and Environmental Resilience"



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Raising the Importance of Ethics for the Surveying Profession (9759)

Nigel Sellars FRICS and
Gary Strong FRICS, 24 April 2019



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Background

Commission 1 have been a member of the International Ethics Standards (IES) Coalition representing FIG since the inception of the Coalition, and have recommended adoption of the 10 ethical principles of IES by FIG and all member associations of FIG.

Taking the work of the past 4 years further, and the growing interest each year at the Working Weeks and Congress, Commission 1 wish to write guidance for member associations which will help them implement the IES and make it mandatory in their association for all their members.

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Background continued

Commission 1 recognise the challenges of this in many different countries with scarce resources in associations, and wish to draw out the ethical issues and challenges which exist in countries in order to be able to publish a first working draft.

This paper and the following associated workshop/seminar will go hand in hand to be able to develop these FIG guidelines.



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International Ethics Standards Coalition

Creating an ethics standard for global land, real estate, construction and related professions

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International Ethics Standards Coalition (IESC)

- As the land, construction & real estate profession changes and becomes **increasingly international**, so must our approach to developing and reinforcing professional ethics.
- Land, construction & real estate is integral to whole societies and economies, it shapes and influences the world we live in and represents a **significant proportion of all global wealth**.
- For this reason, **professionals have a duty** to uphold the highest standards throughout the world.
- Growing body of evidence suggests **transparency and ethics are increasingly important** in the global business market. Perception that professions are not generally trusted.
- Many bodies have ethics standards but **no single standard unlike medical and accountancy professions**. This leads to confusion and potential damage.

www.ies-coalition.org

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International Ethics Standards Coalition (IESC)

- The IESC was set up October 2014 at the UN and agreed to work to harmonise existing ethics standards and create a **single overarching high level international standard**.
- Over **110 member associations already in the coalition** - all not for profit and working in land, construction & real estate or related professions.
- Over **100 'supporting partner' organisations** - all working in land, construction & real estate or related professions.
- **Independent Standards Committee** produced a draft for consultation by the end 2015.
- **Final document** published Dec 2016.

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IES

Purpose

The aim of the International Ethics Standards Coalition (IESC) of professional organisations is to assert and sustain the critical role of ethics in professional practice to meet the needs of the global market and to maintain public trust and confidence.

Mission

The independent Standards Setting Committee (SSC) was appointed by the IESC to research, write and maintain principle-based International Ethics Standards to be implemented by IESC professional organisations, IESC supporters, and other interested stakeholders.

Vision

To promote and strengthen the ethical conduct of professional practice for the benefit of clients, third parties, current and future stakeholders, and the public.

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The IES 10 Ethical Principles

Accountability

Practitioners shall take full responsibility for the services they provide; shall recognise and respect client, third party and stakeholder rights and interest; and shall give due attention to social and environmental considerations throughout.

Confidentiality

Practitioners shall not disclose any confidential or proprietary information without prior permission, unless such disclosure is required by applicable laws or regulations.

Conflict of Interest

Practitioners shall make any and all appropriate disclosures in a timely manner before and during the performance of a service. If, after disclosure, a conflict cannot be removed or mitigated, the practitioner shall withdraw from the matter unless the parties affected mutually agree that the practitioner should properly continue.

Financial Responsibility

Practitioners shall be truthful, transparent and trustworthy in all their financial dealings.

Integrity

Practitioners shall act with honesty and fairness and shall base their professional advice on relevant, valid and objective evidence.

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The IES 10 Ethical Principles

Lawfulness

Practitioners shall observe the legal requirements applicable to their discipline for the jurisdictions in which they practice, together with any applicable international laws.

Reflection

Practitioners shall regularly reflect on the standards for their discipline, and shall continually evaluate the services they provide to ensure that their practice is consistent with evolving ethical principles.

Standard of Service

Practitioners shall only provide services for which they are competent and qualified; shall ensure that any employees or associates assisting in the provision of services have the necessary competence to do so; and shall provide reliable professional leadership for their colleagues or teams.

Transparency

Practitioners shall be open and accessible; shall not mislead or attempt to mislead; shall not misinform or withhold information as regards products or terms of service; and shall present relevant documentary or other material in plain and intelligible language.

Trust

Practitioners shall uphold their responsibility to promote the reputation for their profession and shall recognise that their practice and conduct bears upon the maintenance of public interest and confidence in the IESC professional organisations and the professions they represent.

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FIG Member Associations signed up to IESC;

CICES
CIREA
GhIS
ISK
NIS
NIQS
NIESV
NSPS
RICS
SAGI

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Case Studies discussion



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Case study

A surveyor reports that the boundaries to the land are not fixed and under dispute – but he argues that the boundaries he sets out are correct to maximise his clients advantage.....

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Case study

A surveyor obtaining tenders for construction works knows one of the tenderers, a family connection. The firm are the lowest bid. The surveyor knows they have not priced some elements correctly.....

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Case study

A surveyor is asked to quote a fee in another country. He knows the fee quoted by another surveyor. He deliberately undercuts that fee as he would quite like to visit the country.....

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CLOSE

Thank you !

**Please ensure your organisation is signed up to the IES
www.ies-coalition.org**

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