

EU policies on plagiarism and academic integrity

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Plagiarism in Higher Education - awareness, threats and consequences

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What does the EU say about academic integrity and plagiarism?



COUNCIL OF EUROPE

ETINED

Council of Europe Platform on Ethics,
Transparency and Integrity in Education

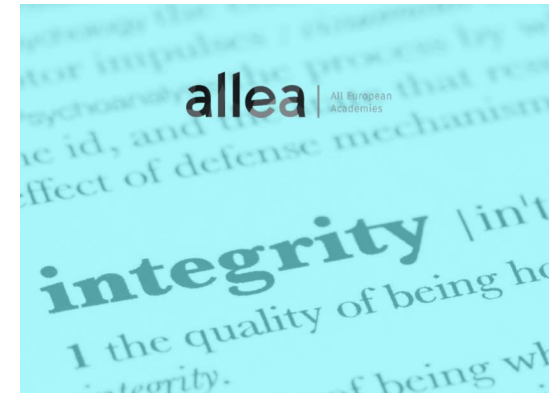


<https://www.coe.int/en/web/ethics-transparency-integrity-in-education>

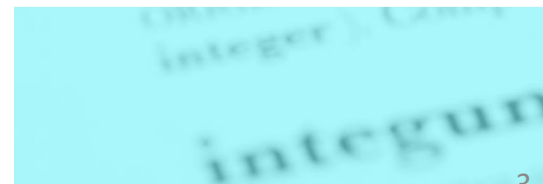
MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)18 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on countering education fraud

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 13 July 2022
at the 1440th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*



**The European
Code of Conduct for
Research Integrity**
REVISED EDITION 2023



<https://allea.org/code-of-conduct/>

The committee of ministers on countering education fraud, CM/REC

The committee have considered the following to issue their recommendations (1/3):

- The Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ETS No. 5) and its Protocol (ETS No. 9), in particular Article 2 of the latter on the right to education;
- The European Cultural Convention (ETS No. 18);
- The European Social Charter (revised) (ETS No. 163);

The committee of ministers on countering education fraud, CM/REC

The committee have considered the following to issue their recommendations (2/3):

- The Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region (ETS No. 165, Lisbon Recognition Convention);
- The Final Declaration of the 24th Session of the Council of Europe Standing Conference of Ministers of Education, which met in Helsinki on 26 and 27 April 2013;

The committee of ministers on countering education fraud, CM/REC

The committee have considered the following to issue their recommendations (3/3):

- Recommendations CM/REC (2007), (2012), (2019) on public responsibility for higher education and research; and ensuring ethics, transparency, and integrity for achieving quality in education
- The United Nations International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (1966)

What is Education Fraud?



CM/Rec(2022)18 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on countering education fraud

“Education fraud” is behaviour or action occurring in the field of education intended to deceive and obtain an unfair advantage.

Why education fraud is a threat to EU education systems? CM/Rec(2022)18



Why education fraud is a threat to EU education systems? CM/Rec(2022)18

Education fraud is:

- **Threat** to the right of quality education, both nationally and internationally
- **Threat** to the trust placed in the quality and professionalism of the educ. System
- **Threat** to the economy of each EU member state
- **Threat** to the credibility of professions
- And **Threat** to the EU education system reputation and trust in its democratic system, national security , and public safety

The objectives behind the recommendations by the COE on academic integrity

- **Promote and encourage** quality education by eliminating actions and activities which contribute to education fraud
- **Take the necessary measures to protect** pupils, students, researchers and staff from organisations and individuals who promote education services that constitute fraud
- **Provide support** for implementing protective measures to stop education fraud
- **Keep under review** technological developments which may add to the list of activities constituting education fraud
- **Ensure** that recommendation to prevent education fraud is translated to official languages of respective countries of each EU member state

3 X

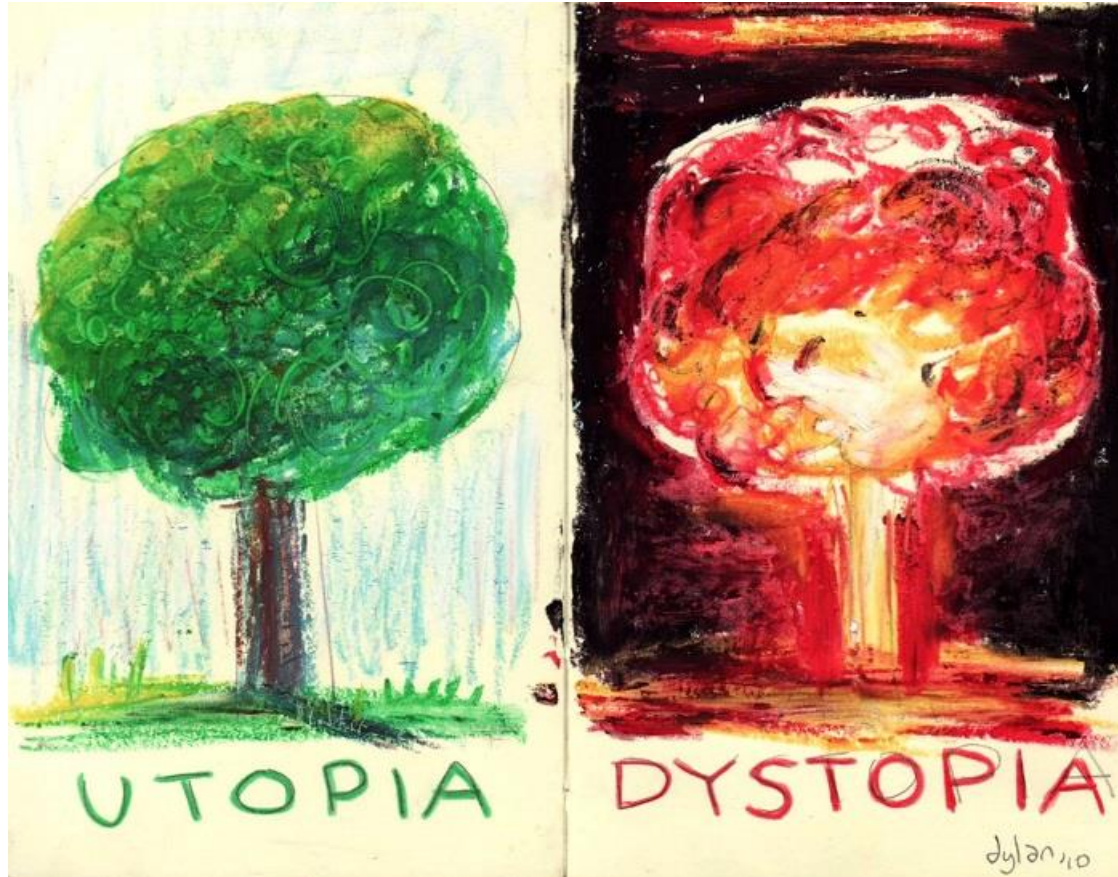


Image by Veronica Sicoe

Dystopia 1:

Plagiarism

Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)18 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on countering education fraud

“Plagiarism” means using work, ideas, content, structures or images without giving appropriate credit or acknowledgment to the original source(s), especially where originality is expected. The term “plagiarised” applies to the ideas, content, structures or images in question. – COE CM/REC (2022)

Actions (CM/REC 2022) – 1/3

To counter plagiarism and the use of plagiarised work:

- Pupils, students, researchers and staff should be supported by education institutions.
- This support is illustrated in developing appropriate skills in:
 - critical thinking
 - academic writing and research
- in accordance with the different stages of learning within the education systems of each member State

Actions (CM/REC 2022) – 2/3

To counter plagiarism and the use of plagiarised work:

- Ensure awareness of and increasing protection against education fraud.
- All curriculums, whether or not prescribed by law, should place strong emphasis on building students' confidence in their academic ability
- Take serious steps to preventing activities which constitute education fraud.

Actions (CM/REC 2022) – 3/3

- Member States should:
 - Take measures within their national legislative frameworks to ensure, as far as reasonably possible, that education institutions
 - Prohibit and eradicate, through their internal regulations, education fraud through plagiarism and misuse of plagiarised, falsified or unverifiable materials
 - Promote procedures for, academic staff, teachers and other education professionals on education fraud and plagiarism

Plagiarism consequences advised by the EU?

- There is almost no direct action to be taken on cases of plagiarism, because:
 - Plagiarism severity **is subjective**
 - **Depends on institutions'** (colleges, universities, schools) **policies**
 - National ethics/research committee can help



Dystopia 2:

Milling



Milling activities

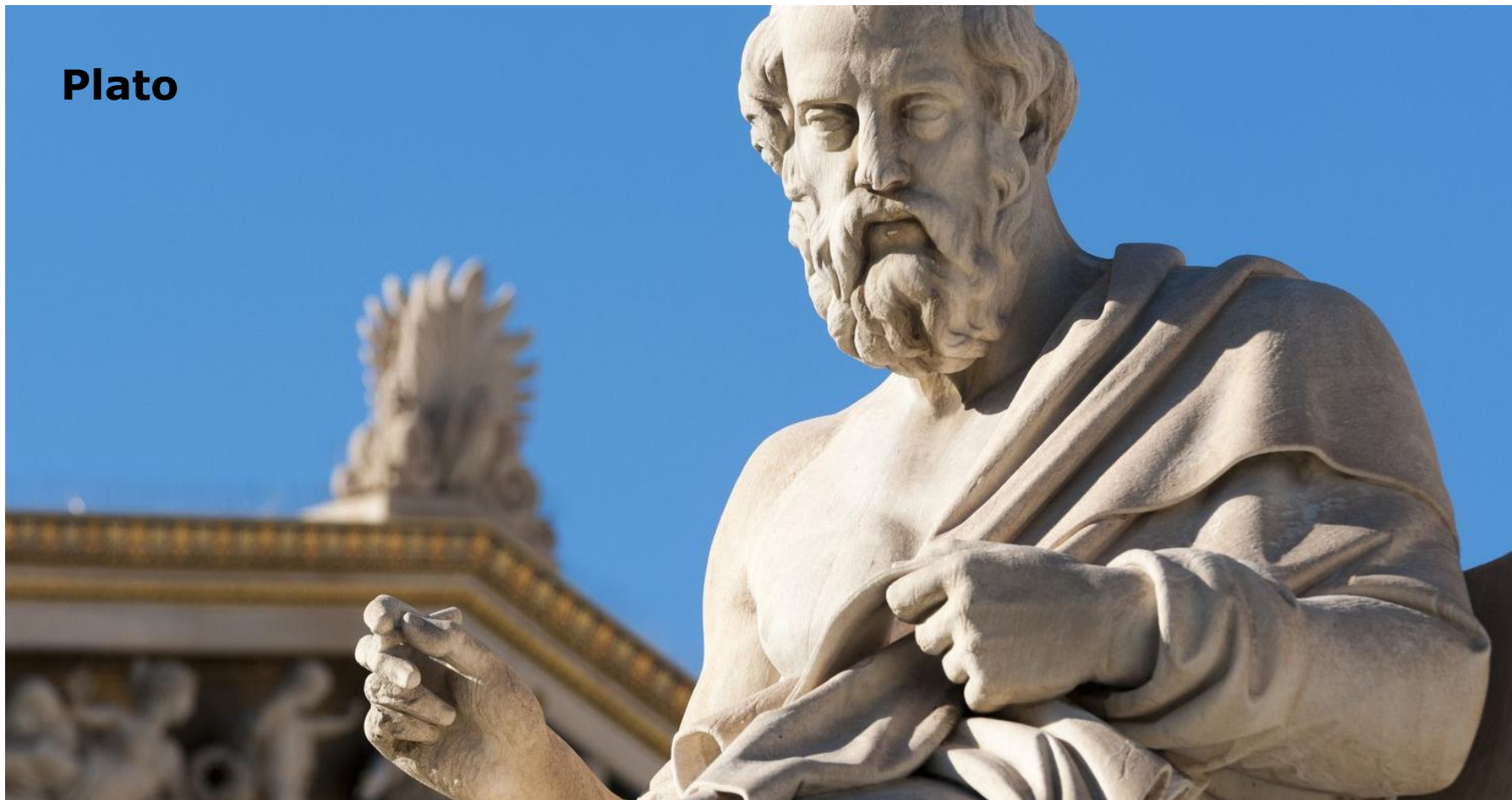
- Diploma mills
- Accreditation mills
- Visa mills
- Essay mills
- and essay banks



Milling Services

- Issuing of certificates, diplomas, and qualifications from non-accredit institutions
- Sell essays to students from a bank of of-the-shelf essays
- Write essays for particular topics for those of need
- Issue documents to secure a visa, or extend visas

Plato



Source: ThoughtCo

Diploma and Certificates Milling



EDUCATION HEALTH CARE

Another Iowa nurse loses her license in national diploma-mill scandal

BY: CLARK KAUFFMAN - JANUARY 8, 2024 1:45 PM



Mamie Soa Paye of Marion is currently seeking judicial review of the Iowa Board of Nursing's November 2023 decision finding her guilty of fraud in procuring a license by falsifying her application, credentials. (Diploma photo from Iowa District Court filings; DOJ seal courtesy of the U.S. Department of Justice)



OPINION

Opinions | Poverty and Development

Serbia's degree mills

A recent scandal over plagiarism involving PhD theses of top politicians has exposed a collapsing education system.



Zorana Suvakovic

Zorana Suvakovic is a Belgrade-based journalist, columnist and editor-in-chief for the Serbian newspaper, Politika.



In April, in a long expose outlining his planned reforms as incoming prime minister, Aleksandar Vucic [pointed out](#) that many young Serbians are leaving the country, while those who remain acquire diplomas of dubious quality from a “collapsed education system”. He promised that the new government will facilitate the return of Serbian graduates from abroad and strengthen the education system.

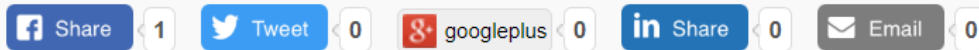


In April, Serbian Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic promised to reform the education system [EPA]

[Home](#) » [Local](#) » JMC discovers doctors with fake medical specialisation degrees

JMC discovers doctors with fake medical specialisation degrees

By Mays Ibrahim Mustafa - May 18,2023 - Last updated at May 18,2023



AMMAN — The Jordan Medical Council (JMC) has discovered that a number of doctors are holders of fake medical specialisation degrees acquired from foreign countries.

Speaking with The Jordan Times, JMC Secretary-General Mohammad Al Abdallat noted that this occurrence “isn’t cause for concern”, as the JMC is responsible for verifying the validity of foreign medical board certificates and will take the necessary legal steps based on its findings.

Maha Fakhoury, a board member at the Jordan Medical Association (JMA), said that the association will publish a list with the names of practising doctors on its website to help citizens verify that the physicians they’re dealing with are licensed in their fields.

Essay Milling

WORKLIFE

Struggling students are paying writers for essays they can pass off as their own. But what can be done to tackle this cheating epidemic and the ‘essay mills’ who profit from it?

T

*his story is from **The Essay Cheats**, an episode of Business Daily on BBC World Service. It was presented by Ed Butler and produced by Edwin Lane. To listen to more episodes of Business Daily, please [click here](#). Adapted by Philippa Fogarty.*

The first time Chris wrote an essay for someone else, he was paid in food. A friend said his student girlfriend needed help, so Chris agreed to proofread her essay. But it needed more than an edit – “the logic was too messy” – so he rewrote the whole thing.

Fake universities and visa milling

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **University of Farmington** was a fake university set up in 2015 in [Michigan](#) by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's [Homeland Security Investigations](#) (HSI) to expose [student visa fraud](#) in the [United States](#).^[1] The [sting operation](#),^{[2][3]} which was code-named "Paper Chase", was overseen by the [United States Department of Homeland Security](#). Over 600 individuals were identified in the operation, many of whom face deportation from the United States for visa violations.^[4]

The sting was disclosed to the public on January 30, 2019, with [The Detroit News](#)^[5] reporting about the Dept. of Homeland Security and ICE HSI arresting eight "recruiters" of Indian nationality and charging them on grounds of visa fraud and harboring aliens for profit. They allegedly made more than \$250,000 from the university, in exchange for recruiting students.^{[6][7]} By early February 2019, 130 students (129 of whom were from India)^[8] from multiple cities were also arrested for violation of immigration laws and might be subject to deportation, on a successful conviction.^{[9][10]} In March, ICE announced that the total number of students arrested was 161.^[11]

According to the prosecutors, the students enrolled in the university status and lengthen their stay in the U.S.,^[9] despite being aware "th classes, earn credits or make academic progress towards an actual university was listed as a legitimate school on the Department of Hc

University of Farmington



Motto Latin: *Scientia et labor*

Type Fake university



THIS SERVER HAS BEEN TAKEN OFFLINE

The University of Farmington has been closed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Affected student should contact their local Homeland Security Investigations office.
<https://www.ice.gov/contact/hsi>

Degree sold for
£2,500 and £4,000

Bogus college sold fake diplomas to help migrants stay in Britain


By [NICK MCDERMOTT FOR MAILONLINE](#) and [DAN NEWLING FOR MAILONLINE](#)

UPDATED: 01:12 GMT, 4 June 2009



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 View comments

A bogus college sold thousands of post-graduate diplomas to foreign students allowing them to work in Britain, a tribunal heard.

Immigration officials were alerted after the Home Office received 2,542 applications for post-study visas in just two months from Cambridge College of Learning 'graduates'.

When police raided the now-closed college premises in East London in December they discovered it had just three classrooms and 11 desks.

Colleges

🕒 This article is more than 14 years old

Pakistani gang 'pocketed millions' in bogus college scam

Businessman arrested for enrolling young men from al-Qaida heartland in fake UK colleges

Jessica Shepherd

Thu 21 May 2009 12.50 CEST

Share

A Home Office investigation is under way today into a Pakistani gang alleged to have pocketed millions of pounds enrolling hundreds of men from the militant heartland of al-Qaida into bogus UK colleges.

One of the young businessmen thought to have helped mastermind the scam, Mir Ahmad, was arrested yesterday, according to a [report on Times Online](#). A subsequent report on the site says he is also alleged to be [linked to two murders](#) in Pakistan.

Hundreds of men paid at least £1,000 to the gang to be admitted into sham colleges, it is alleged. Some paid £2,500 for fake diplomas, attendance records and degrees.

This allowed the students to extend their stay in Britain and enabled the fraudsters to make almost £2m in less than two years.

Actions (CM/REC 2022) – 1/4

To counter Milling activities, the COE policies recommend:

- Member States should take **appropriate measures** to ensure **adequate training, on a continuing basis**, on the prevention of education fraud and on fostering ethics, transparency and integrity for all professionals in the education, recruitment and employment sectors.

Actions (CM/REC 2022) – 2/4

To counter Milling activities, the COE policies recommend:

- Member States should, in accordance with national legislation, **take steps to prohibit the advertising and promotion of fraudulent education services**, whether in printed form or via online media, including through social media and the internet.

Actions (CM/REC 2022) – 3/4

To counter Milling activities, the COE policies recommend:

- Member States should take all necessary and appropriate action **to use existing legislation, guidelines or practices to eradicate** education fraud and the activities of fraudulent education service providers.

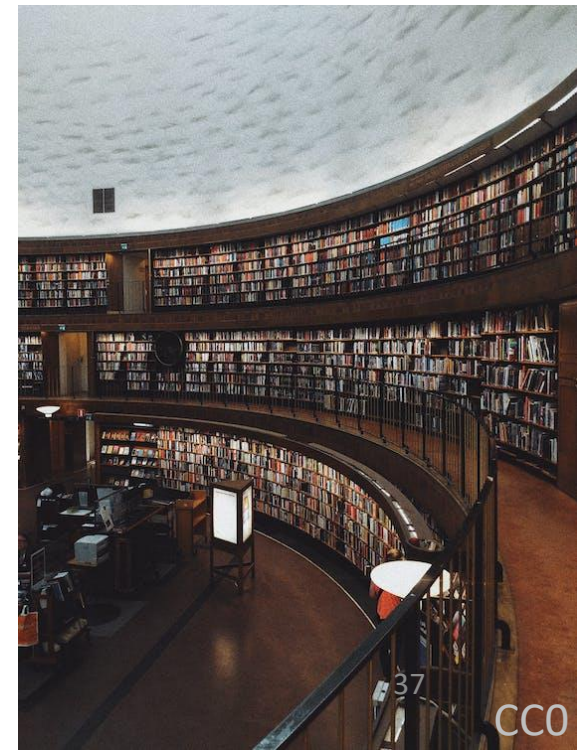
Actions (CM/REC 2022) – 4/4

To counter Milling activities, the COE policies recommend:

- Member States should also consider **introducing new legislation or policy measures** where required and **encourage all education institutions to adopt regulations** consistent with that aim. In doing so, member States and education or training organisations should take appropriate steps to protect the rights of pupils, students, researchers and staff.

Dystopia 3:

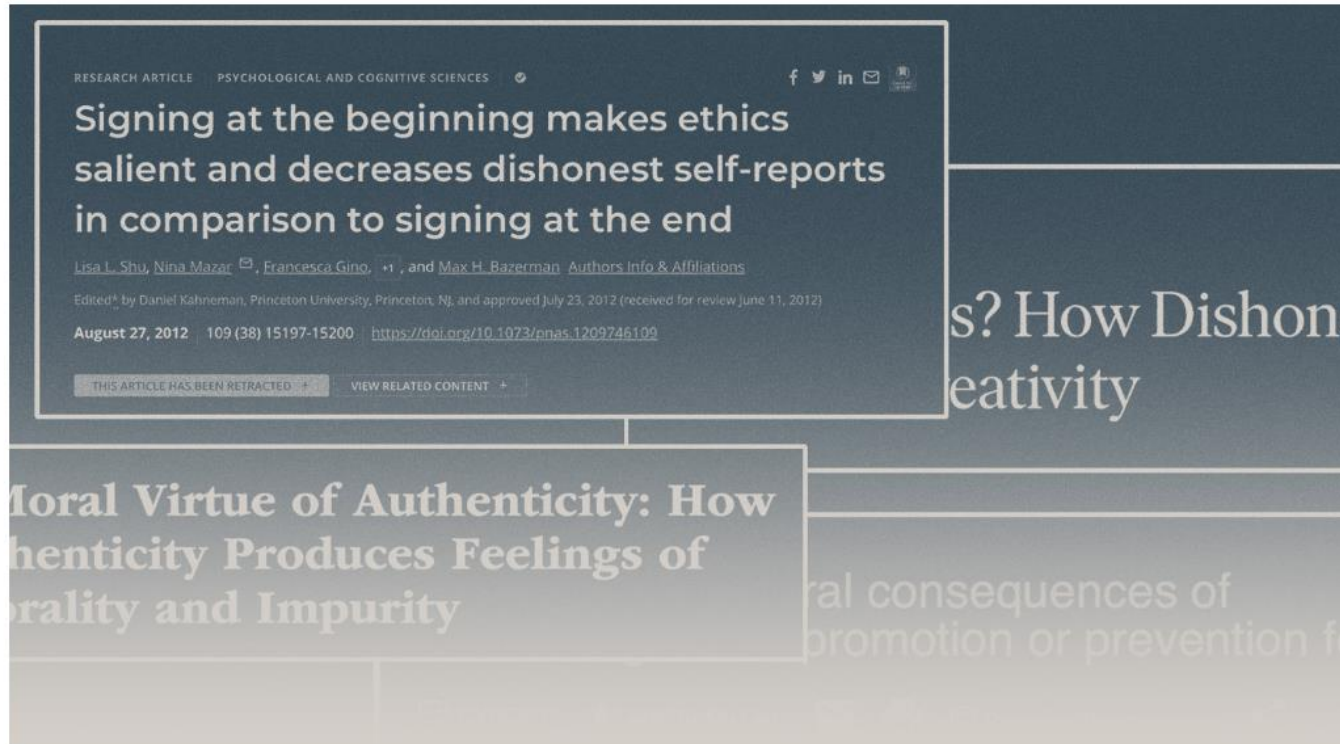
Research



Harvard Professor Under Scrutiny for Alleged Data Fraud

By **Evan Nesterak**

July 5, 2023



Harvard University professor Francesca Gino, whose research frequently focused on dishonesty, is under scrutiny for allegedly fabricating data in at least four studies. The news was [first reported](#) by Stephanie M. Lee in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* on Friday, June 16.

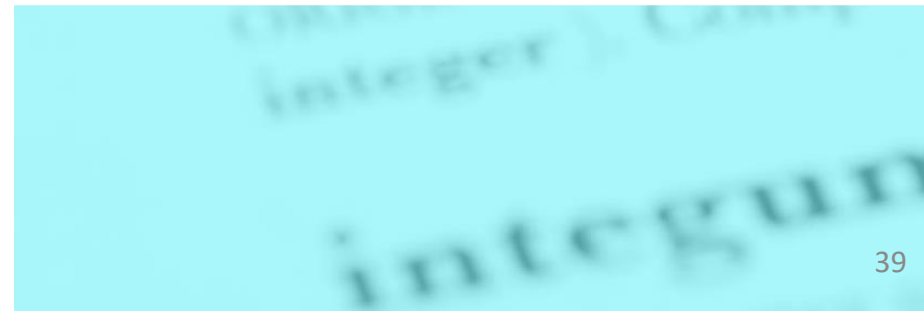
Research Principles

- **Reliability** in ensuring the quality of research, reflected in the design, methodology, analysis, and use of resources.
- **Honesty** in developing, undertaking, reviewing, reporting, and communicating research in a transparent, fair, full, and unbiased way.
- **Respect** for colleagues, research participants, research subjects, society, ecosystems, cultural heritage, and the environment.
- **Accountability** for the research from idea to publication, for its management and organisation, for training, supervision, and mentoring, and for its wider societal impacts.



The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity

REVISED EDITION 2023



Actions (CM/REC 2022) –

The COE policies recommend:

- Member States should facilitate and encourage **research on education fraud** in order to study its causes and effects, as well as the efficacy of measures taken to prevent and/or address it, and co-operate with individuals, organisations and member states undertaking international research in this area.

**Other important
recommendations
by the Council of
Europe**

Actions (CM/REC 2022) –

Other important recommendations:

- Member States **should take all necessary measures to ensure the accessibility and integrity of data** relating to students, qualifications and awards through digital solutions compliant with privacy laws, including secure digital records for students' use and secure document exchange.

Actions (CM/REC 2022) –

Other important recommendations:

- Member States should **co-operate** in the fight against education fraud and the prosecution of offences, or regarding any other forms of legal redress
 - This includes international collaboration within the EU
 - And the systematic collection of statistical data on the activities of fraudulent education service providers internationally

Final Remarks

While quantifying certain forms of corruption in the education sector may present challenges, it is hard to deny that there is no country today can assert itself as entirely free from such issues.

- *The Council of Europe Platform on Ethics, Transparency and Integrity in Education (ETINED)*

To access the recommendations



https://search.coe.int/cm/Pages/result_details.aspx?ObjectId=0900001680a73b90

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Thank you!

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threats and consequences

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@TuMohdKhalil