

FIVE ETHICS PRINCIPLES FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

1. Social science is fundamental to a democratic society and should be inclusive of different interests, values, funders, methods and perspectives.
2. All social science should respect the privacy, autonomy, diversity, values, and dignity of individuals, groups and communities.
3. All social science should be conducted with integrity throughout, employing the most appropriate methods for the research purpose.
4. All social scientists should act with regard to their social responsibilities in conducting and disseminating their research.
5. All social science should aim to maximise benefit and minimise harm.

GENERIC ETHICS PRINCIPLES FOR SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

In March 2015 the Academy's Council formally adopted five guiding ethics principles for social science research and commended them to its member Learned Societies and the community of social science researchers.

These principles are the outcome of a series of discussions at symposia, a conference and meetings that have been taking place since 2013. The five principles have evolved during the course of the discussions. They are offered as a stimulus to future conversations among Learned Societies, the social science research community, and, potentially, as the foundation for the development of a common framework for research ethics across the social sciences.

Further information about the Academy project 'Developing Generic Ethics Principles for Social Science Research,' can be found at www.acss.org.uk/developing-generic-ethics-principles-social-science/

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