Annex to NCN Council Resolution No 19/2026 of 12 February 2026

NCN EXPERT TEAM FORMATION

§1. Whenever this document refers to:

1) NCN, it shall mean the National Science Centre (NCN);
2) Director, it shall mean the Director of the National Science Centre;
3) Council, it shall mean the Council of the National Science Centre;
4) grant, it shall mean NCN funding for research projects, post-doctoral fellowships, doctoral scholarships and research activities;
5) proposal, it shall mean a grant proposal submitted to an NCN call;
6) Council Committees, they shall mean the main Council Committees, i.e. Committee for Humanities, Social Sciences and Art Sciences Committee (HS), Committee for Physical Sciences and Engineering Committee (ST) and Committee for Life Sciences Committee (NZ);
7) disciplines or groups of disciplines, they shall mean the NCN panels covering the whole research domain in three research fields: Humanities, Social Sciences and Art Sciences (HS); Physical Sciences and Engineering (ST); and Life Sciences (NZ); and
8) Expert Team, it shall mean the expert team elected by the Council in charge of evaluation of proposals submitted in response to NCN calls and evaluation of research fund settlement.

§2. Members of the Expert Teams shall evaluate proposals and correct settlement of research grants. Experts must include eminent Polish and/or foreign researchers holding at least a PhD degree, including NCN grant winners.

§3. Expert Teams evaluating proposals shall be elected for each call in individual disciplines or groups of disciplines. Expert Teams settling research grants shall be elected in specific research fields (i.e. HS, ST or NZ) for a particular term of office.

§4. Candidates to the Expert Teams shall be proposed on the basis of the number and topics of proposals submitted to an NCN call, candidate’s skills, conflicts of interests and experience in the work of the Expert Teams or other teams evaluating research proposals.

§5. A person may serve as an Expert Team member for no more than three successive call editions and no more than five times over a period of two years. A person may serve as an Expert Team member in a call for a research activity for no more than

four successive call editions, and only after a break of at least one call edition. A person may serve as an Expert Team member evaluating research fund settlement for no more than three successive terms, and only after a break of at least one term.

§6. An Expert Team member shall not serve as a principal investigator, research team member, researcher performing a research activity or NCN Mentor of the researcher performing a research activity in any call where they act as an expert.

§7. A person whose relations with a Council member, Director or Discipline Coordinator may trigger a conflict of interest shall not act as an Expert Team member.

§8. The Council members shall name the candidates to the Expert Teams and candidates for Chairs of the Expert Teams. Expert Teams evaluating proposals in a call for a research activity shall have no Chair.

§9. When electing the Expert Teams, Council members shall avoid the conflict of interest, namely:

1) a Council member shall not participate in the election of an Expert Team to evaluate proposals if they are aware that a proposal has been or will be submitted by:
   - their relative within the first or second degree of kinship (lineal or collateral kin), spouse or life partner,
   - a person they consider to be close, or
   - a person who supervises them or to whom they report.

2) When electing the Expert Teams, a Council member shall report a potential conflict of interest if they are aware that a proposal has been or will be submitted by their current or former co-worker.

3) Any situation requiring exclusion from the Expert Team formation shall be reported to the relevant Council Committee (for HS, ST or NZ). In the situation referred to in §9 (2), the Chair of the Council Committee for HS, ST or NZ shall order voting to establish whether a Council member should be excluded from the Expert Team formation in that situation.

§10. Pursuant to the recommendations of the Council members, the Scientific Coordinators shall contact the candidates to the Expert Teams. If a candidate refuses to work in an Expert Team, the Council members shall suggest a new candidate until such time as the Expert Team is complete.

§11. The Scientific Coordinators shall deliver lists of candidates to the Expert Teams and their Chairs to the Council Committees for their approval.

§12. The Council Office shall provide the President of the Council with the lists of candidates to the Expert Teams and their Chairs, as approved by the Council Committees.

§13. The Council shall elect the Expert Teams and their Chairs by way of a resolution.

§14. Once the resolution has been adopted, the President of the Council shall request that the Director appoint experts elected by the Council and Chairs of the Expert Teams.

§15. If necessary, the Council may decide to appoint auxiliary Expert Team members during a call or Expert Team's term.

§16. In well-justified cases, the Director may dismiss an Expert Team member at any stage of the evaluation process pursuant to separate provisions.

Prof. dr hab. Tomasz Dietl
President of the Council
of the National Science Centre
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The English version of this Resolution does not constitute a sworn translation and has been prepared as an auxiliary document for your convenience. In the event of any doubts as to the interpretation of its provisions, the Polish version shall prevail.