

European Society for Paediatric Research (ESPR) Partner Policy

The ESPR is committed to maintaining the highest standards of integrity, independence, transparency, and data protection in all aspects of its operation¹. It relies on unrestricted grants from partner organisations to support its activities, including educational initiatives through the European School of Neonatology (ESN). This Partner Policy outlines its principles of cooperation:

1. **Independence and Autonomy:**
 - The ESPR retains full control and autonomy over its policies, content development, and programming decisions.
 - Partner organisations do not have the authority to dictate, influence, or interfere with any aspect of its operations.
2. **Unrestricted Grants:**
 - The ESPR's operation is supported by unrestricted grants from partners, ensuring that financial contributions do not come with any conditions or expectations that could compromise the organisation's independence.
3. **Transparency:**
 - The ESPR is committed to transparency regarding its partner relationships.
 - The ESPR discloses the names of partners on its website, publications, and promotional materials.
4. **Conflicts of Interest (COI):**
 - ESPR Council members, staff, and volunteers must adhere to strict COI policies.
 - Any individual involved in decision-making processes must disclose any personal or professional relationships with any partners that could be perceived as a COI.
5. **Content Integrity:**
 - The ESPR maintains editorial control over all content produced for its educational programmes, conferences, and materials.
 - The selection of topics, experts, and content is guided solely by educational objectives and the needs of the medical community.
6. **Non-Endorsement:**
 - The ESPR does not endorse specific products, services, or interventions as a result of partnerships with other entities.
 - The selection of partners does not imply an endorsement of their products or services. The ESPR remains neutral in its stance on commercial entities.
7. **Data protection:**
 - The ESPR does not share the personal information of members or course participants with partner organisations.

Compliance and Enforcement:

- The ESPR periodically reviews its partnerships and adherence to this policy.
- Any potential violations or concerns related to the independence and integrity of the ESPR shall promptly be addressed by the Council.

This Partner Policy has been approved by the ESPR Executive Council in the current version and serves as a minimal standard to ensure that the support received from partners enhances the quality of neonatal education and other ESPR activities without compromising the organisation's core values and mission.

¹ Based on [Regulation \(EU\) 2016/679](#) and [recommendations](#) of the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences.