

## Safeguarding Team

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# Safeguarding Code of Conduct for Events (Adult Participants/Delegates)

## Introduction

In keeping with its vision and values, the British Council is committed to maintaining the highest degree of ethical conduct amongst all its programme participants. We want to ensure a safe environment and that anyone attending our events feels welcome, safe, and comfortable. To help increase understanding, this Safeguarding Code of Conduct details the British Council's expectations of programme participants attending British Council events.

All British Council programme participants who attend British Council events must read and adhere to this Code of Conduct.

## Purpose

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to set out the conduct expected of programme participants attending British Council events.

Local laws and cultures related to safeguarding differ considerably from one country to another, therefore, this code of conduct is based on International and UN standards to reflect the British Council's global profile as an International Non-Governmental Organisation (INGO). British Council programme participants are expected to uphold local laws wherever they operate, except where the Code of Conduct is more stringent, in which case the Code applies.

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# Scope

This Code of Conduct applies to all British Council programme participants (grantees, delegates, or partners) those who we may have a contract or agreement with to provide goods, services, or collaboration and who we should expect to agree to work under the policy as a condition of their involvement with the British Council.

## British Council Values

The British Council has six corporate values arranged in three pairs which underpins what the organisation says and does, how the British Council works with people, behaves towards them and communicates:

- [Open and committed](#)
- [Expert and inclusive](#)
- [Optimistic and bold](#)

## Code of Conduct Standards

All British Council programme participants must uphold the integrity and reputation of the organisation whilst attending a British Council event by ensuring that their professional and personal conduct is consistent with the British Council Values and Standards.

### **British Council programme participants must always:**

- Treat all people fairly with respect, dignity, and non-discrimination
- Seek to ensure that your conduct during the programme does not bring the British Council into disrepute or impact on or undermine your ability to undertake the role for which you have been engaged to work or collaborate with the British Council
- Value the diversity of participants, their views, and opinions
- Observe and respect local laws and customs
- Report any concerns about the protection or wellbeing of a child/children or adult(s) at risk to the Safeguarding Focal Point, Programme Team or British Council Safeguarding Team
- Comply with the event health, safety, and security guidelines and procedures
- Behave in a manner such as to avoid any unnecessary risk to the safety, health and welfare of yourself and others

### **British Council programme participants must never:**

- Hit or otherwise physically assault or abuse children or adults.
- Behave in a way meant to shame, humiliate, belittle, or degrade children or adults.
- Use language or make suggestions which are inappropriate, offensive, or abusive
- Engage in abusive or exploitative conduct
- Pay for sexual services, of any kind at any time with anyone under the age of 18 years old, even if the age of sexual consent in a country is below 18

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- Take or post photos on social media of others participating at a programme event/activity without obtaining their consent
  - Allow allegations or disclosures of abuse to go unreported

This is not an exhaustive or exclusive list. The overall principle is, that programme participants should avoid any actions or behaviours that may be perceived as inappropriate or abusive.

You must read, understand, and fully adhere to these guidelines. Please keep a copy of this document for future reference. If you have any questions about the Safeguarding Code of Conduct, please email [visual.arts@britishcouncil.org](mailto:visual.arts@britishcouncil.org).