



V.C.M.W. Sigma

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Social Responsibility document

V.C.M.W. Sigma is a study association in which we try to create and maintain a safe and pleasant environment for everyone. To maintain a pleasant atmosphere, it is important that a code of conduct is drawn up, which everyone tries to adhere to as much as possible.

This document holds several guidelines about social responsibility that we encourage within our study association. These guidelines are not only aimed at people and their values and rights, but also at the environment. This document applies to the whole study association, which includes the board, the members, benefactors and alumni. In this code of conduct, when the term 'member(s)' is used, this includes benefactors, alumni and members.

This document is intended to create awareness towards social responsibility. In this document the term social responsibility covers the following subjects; code of conduct, sustainability and internationalisation.

Love,

The 46th board of V.C.M.W. Sigma



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Code of conduct

V.C.M.W. Sigma could not be the beautiful association it is without her many members. Every member has the right to feel socially safe and comfortable. To establish a safe environment, the effort of the board and members is necessary. The maintained values in this environment include, but are not limited to, respect, honesty and an alert attitude towards undesirable behaviour. A violation of the code of conduct will result in consequences. These consequences are dependent on the seriousness of the violation and in any case the member will be talked to first. The acting Board at times of the violation will decide on these consequences.

In this code of conduct undesirable behaviour means: (sexual) harassment, discrimination, bullying and violence.



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Code of conduct members

Openness: When members experience undesirable behaviour or see it happening they can report 115 this (anonymously) to the confidants, board or the university trust contact person.

No discrimination: Members will not discriminate against others based on religion, belief, political affiliation, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation or any other ground.

Respect: Members will respect one another. They will respect each other's boundaries and give each other the feeling they are welcome and safe. Members can point other members out if they do 120 not show respect towards others.

No (sexual) harassment: Members will not touch each other without permission. Implicit and explicit boundaries have to be respected. This includes not making unwanted sexual comments, not making someone uncomfortable.

No violence: Any form of violence, which includes but is not limited to physical, verbal or mental 125 violence, will not be tolerated.

Alcohol and drug use: Members who use illegal substances will be sent away from activities. At all times, the acting board or committee members with a Borrel Brevet are allowed to refuse anyone their request for more drinks when they feel this person has had enough. During an activity where alcohol is served, there are at least 2 members of the organising party that will be responsible 130 for that activity. Here, we trust these committee and board members to drink responsibly, meaning they drink less or nothing. Alcohol will not be served to minors.



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Code of conduct Board

Safe environment: Board members create an environment where members feel safe and comfortable. They do this by being open, talking with everyone and having an approachable attitude. Internationalisation, as discussed on page 7 of this document, also plays a role in this.

Alertness: Board members stay alert for signs of undesirable behaviour and report this if they see it happening. They will point out this behaviour if it happens and talk to members who cross boundaries.

Power position: A Board member is aware of the power position they could be in and will not abuse their power. Even though the Board members do not stand above the members, they can be regarded highly, which could create this position.

Exemplary role: The board members are an example for other members. They should behave respectfully and they won't insult other members. Do not exclude members.



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Trust contact persons

V.C.M.W. Sigma has multiple trust contact persons to improve social safety. Members and can talk to them privately and will be helped discreetly. The university offers confidential advisors and the Board is available to talk to as well. The trust contact persons and Confidential advisors have followed a course on how to handle this kind of information. The Trust contact persons are appointed at the GM every year and can be found on the website.



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Sustainability

Sustainability is becoming increasingly important and V.C.M.W. Sigma wants to deal with it responsibly. It is important to consider all the little things that can be adjusted, but can still have a big impact. This part of the social responsibility document is intended to make our members aware of their influence on the environment.

Waste: As an association we try to use sustainable options to reduce waste. This is done by making use of reusable plates, cups and cutlery which can be borrowed via the umbrella association Olympus.

Food waste: The association tries to prevent food waste as much as possible. This is done by having members register for activities where food is made or food has to be ordered. If there is still food left over, it will be distributed amongst members.

Transport: For transport of items like groceries and for transport to and during activities or a trip, we prioritize sustainable options, including but not limited to the cargo bike, public transport, biking and walking.



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Internationalisation

V.C.M.W. Sigma is an international association with members from all over the world. As an association we try to include everyone. To include everyone as much as possible, there are some norms in our association. These norms are the following:

Language: English is the main language of V.C.M.W. Sigma. This means that members are expected to speak English as much as possible at activities, even when they are not directly talking to an international person.

Open culture: We strive to be as open as possible to everybody, member or not. We do this by respecting other cultures and traditions, but also by inviting people to our own.