

2018-1

November 2018

Topic: Exclusion from participation to a paper of and from data available to the research project  
Decision: unfounded

The CWI received a complaint concerning the exclusion from a project. The CWI reviewed the complaint, and considered the complaint partly admissible since some items were not sufficiently founded in relation to the domain of the committee on scientific integrity. It was declared admissible for the parts: exclusion of finalization and writing up of the research of paper, and exclusion of access to data generated in the project.

The CWI assessed the complaint substantially. Regarding the complaint of exclusion from finalization and writing up of the paper the CWI concludes that exclusion indeed has taken place but in the context of the existing labour conflict this does not constitute a violation of scientific integrity. Therefore the CWI finds this complaint ungrounded. Regarding the complaint of exclusion of access to data, the CWI concludes that in principle the Complainant has been offered access to data and in principle can still access data of the project other than through the Accused. Therefore the CWI finds this complaint unfounded. The CWI declared both complaints of violation of the Netherlands Code of Conduct for Academic Practice (version 2014) unfounded; the CWI has not been able to conclude that on the issue of the complaints there was such a violation.

The CWI submitted their report to the Executive Board. In its meeting on June 11th, the Executive Board has taken the preliminary decision to declare the complaint unfounded. Both parties are entitled to request the National Body for Academic Integrity (LOWI) to give advice about the initial opinion of the Executive Board.

A request was submitted to the LOWI. The LOWI has declared the request admissible and the Executive Board of the UT was requested to submit a written rebuttal. The Executive Board concluded that substantially no significant new arguments or evidence supported the request to the LOWI, and gave a brief response to LOWI. The party who submitted the request to LOWI retracted the request before LOWI came to a decision whereupon LOWI closed the case and the preliminary decision of the Executive Board became final.