



ICOM

CODE OF ETHICS
CONSULTATION THREE

ICOM

FARO

CODE OF ETHICS CONSULTATION THREE

ICOM Belgium Flanders
ICOM Vlaanderen vzw

Agenda

- **Welkomstwoord**
- **Code of Ethics – traject en stavaza**
- **Bespreking voorstel – stap voor stap**
- **Wat missen we nog?**
- **Afsluiting**
- **Lunch**



Welkomstwoord



Code of ethics

Traject en stavaza

Museumdefinitie

A museum is a not-for-profit, permanent institution in the service of society that researches, collects, conserves, interprets and exhibits tangible and intangible heritage. Open to the public, accessible and inclusive, museums foster diversity and sustainability. They operate and communicate ethically, professionally and with the participation of communities, offering varied experiences for education, enjoyment, reflection and knowledge sharing.

Een museum is een permanente instelling zonder winstoogmerk, in dienst van de samenleving, gericht op het onderzoeken, verzamelen, bewaren, interpreteren en tentoonstellen van materieel en immaterieel erfgoed. Musea zijn openbaar, toegankelijk en inclusief en bevorderen diversiteit en duurzaamheid. Ze werken en communiceren ethisch, professioneel en met participatie van gemeenschappen. Musea bieden een verscheidenheid aan ervaringen met het oog op educatie, genoegen, reflectie en kennisuitwisseling.

Algemeen

- Minimale professionele standaarden
- Waarden die door de internationale museumcommunity gedeeld worden
- Eerste versie 1986
- Aangepast in 2004
- Vertaal in 38 talen

Herziening

- 2019 (Kyoto) – plan voor nakijken code – is er een revisie nodig?
- 2022 (Praag) – stemming om voor revisie te gaan
- Proces gecoördineerd door ETHCOM (ICOM Standing Committee for Ethics)
i.s.m. ICOM Define (ICOM Standing Committee for the Museum Definition)

Herziening

Institutional life



The new museum definition

All you need to know about the process of defining the museum



General Assembly

Find information about ICOM decision-making organ



Revision of the ICOM Code of Ethics

Find information about the ongoing process of revising the ICOM Code of Ethics for Museums



Sustainability: Towards a 2030 Action Plan for ICOM

Read more about the role of museums in striving for sustainable futures for all



Advisory Council

Find information about ICOM's counselling and recommendation body



Executive Board

Find all the information related to the ICOM Executive Board, which implements the decisions of the General Assembly

Herziening

- Consultatie 1 – Wat ontbreekt er of moet nog meer uitgewerkt worden
 - Consultatie 2 – Specifieke aanbevelingen voor revisie
 - Consultatie 3 – Commentaren op voorstel
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- Feedback Vlaanderen samenvoegen
 - Vertalen naar Engels
 - Samen met feedback ICOM Wallonie-Bruxelles doorsturen



Bespreking voorstel

Stap voor stap

Herziening

1. A museum's primary responsibility is to its **communities** — past, present, and future. These include the communities whose objects it cares for, the communities in which it is located, and the communities that benefit from its activities. To serve society, a museum:
 - a. Contributes to the **development and strengthening** of communities.
 - b. Supports the right of everyone to **participate** in and **contribute** to cultural life.
 - c. Collaborates with the global museum community, encouraging mutual exchange and sharing, developing enduring **partnerships** and promoting cooperation.
 - d. **Safeguards and values** tangible and intangible cultural and natural heritage for the **benefit of society**.
 - e. Guarantees **accessibility** to all, promotes practices of social inclusion, and respects diversity.
 - f. Contributes to the **health and well-being** of the environment and society.

Herziening

2. To sustain the trust of the public, museums operate according to **professional standards**. These entail responsibilities on the part of the museum as well as on the part of the individuals and groups that work in and with the museum.

a. **Museums should:**

- i. Recruit staff and volunteers that reflect the **diversity** of the museum's communities.
- ii. Follow **equitable and inclusive** practices.
- iii. Ensure that individuals working for or with the museum have the **competencies** necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of their positions.
- iv. Provide for **training and support** for staff, volunteers, and governing bodies so that they can responsibly carry out their duties.
- v. Develop and publish **explicit expectations** for all roles.

Herziening

2. To sustain the trust of the public, museums operate according to **professional standards**. These entail responsibilities on the part of the museum as well as on the part of the individuals and groups that work in and with the museum.

b. The **people who work in and with** museums should:

- i. **Act professionally** at all times, demonstrating courtesy, respect, and objectivity.
- ii. **Avoid discrimination.**
- iii. Respect **collegial decision making.**
- iv. Maintain the **confidentiality of information.**
- v. **Disclose any conflict of interest** or apparent conflict of interest and refrain from engaging in any activities that might compromise professional responsibilities or the reputation of the museum.

Herziening

3. To fulfill their **educational role** (including programs, exhibitions, and publications), museums:
 - a. Conduct all **activities in accordance with their missions**.
 - b. Preserve the **integrity of all information** presented.
 - c. Collaborate and develop **sustained partnerships with communities**.
 - d. **Consult** with **represented groups**.
 - e. Recognize and are **sensitive to diverse beliefs**.
 - f. **Respect sensitive materials** (including ancestral remains, materials of sacred significance, intangible cultural knowledge, etc.) and strive to use them appropriately in virtual or in-person exhibitions, programs, publications, etc.
 - g. Promote **reflection** and **knowledge sharing**.

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4. To responsibly **steward and safeguard the collections** (tangible and intangible heritage, archives and digital collections), museums:
 - a. Create and maintain a **collections policy**.
 - b. Observe the **duty of care/stewardship**.
 - c. Follow **professional accessioning procedures**, including requiring valid title, carrying out due diligence and provenance research, and require thorough documentation.
 - d. Provide for **accessibility of collections for research, study, exhibition, and programs**.
 - e. **Maintain, preserve, and conserve the museum's collections**.
 - f. Appropriately **store and maintain sensitive materials** (including ancestral remains, materials of sacred significance, intangible cultural knowledge, ...).
 - g. Carry out **research** to further understanding.
 - h. Create **exhibitions**, both **physical and virtual, long-term and temporary**.
 - i. Develop procedures for responsible **deaccessioning and disposal**, including the return and **restitution** of cultural objects.
 - j. Do not knowingly support **illicit trafficking** of natural or cultural heritage.

Herziening

5. To protect the museum's resources and ensure that the museum operates in a sustainable manner, serving its communities in perpetuity, a **museum's governing body and leadership**:
- a. Maintain **documentation of the museum's legal status, not-for-profit nature, and permanence**.
 - b. Ensure the fulfillment of the **mission statement and objectives**.
 - c. Maintain **professional standards** of integrity and quality.
 - d. Promote **museum independence/autonomy**.
 - e. Secure adequate human, physical, and financial **resources** (duty of care).
 - f. Appoint the **Director or Head** with appropriate professional knowledge and skills.
 - g. Demonstrate **mutual respect** and ensures clear division of roles among leadership, staff, volunteers.

Herziening

5. To protect the museum's resources and ensure that the museum operates in a sustainable manner, serving its communities in perpetuity, **a museum's governing body and leadership:**
- h. Establish **written policies for personnel** (staff and volunteers), **collections, fundraising, emergency response**, and other museum-wide matters.
 - i. Monitor the **composition of the governing body** so that reflects the museum's communities and includes individuals with the **range** of competencies that allow it to support the museum's mission.
 - j. Commit to **transparency in communications** — internally (with the director, staff, and volunteers) and externally (with key stakeholders — e.g., core audiences and community members as well as supporters) — and take all contributions into consideration.
 - k. Are **accountable** to the museum's stakeholders and protect against any conflict of interest or the appearance of such conflict

ICOM F&RO

Wat missen we nog?

ICOM F&RO

Afsluiting



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