

DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTERESTS

POLICY

It is ICNIRP's aim to provide guidance and recommendations on protection from non-ionizing radiation exposure based on thorough professional evaluation of the published scientific literature. To achieve this goal, ICNIRP relies on the scientific knowledge and judgment of independent experts. For ICNIRP it is imperative to avoid that personal interests of its members affect the independence of ICNIRP's guidance. In this view, the ICNIRP Commission and Scientific Expert Group (SEG) members are asked to declare any personal interests in relation to the activities of ICNIRP.

The declaration of interests is to be completed at the time of acceptance of nomination for an election, updated after election, annually, and each time a change of personal interest occurs. The declarations of personal interests are requested from all:

- candidates to an ICNIRP position
- ICNIRP Commission members
- ICNIRP SEG members
- ICNIRP Scientific Secretary

Upon completion and signature, the declaration is to be sent electronically to the ICNIRP Secretariat at info@icnirp.org.

Declarations of all elected members of ICNIRP and its SEG will be posted on the ICNIRP website. All publications of ICNIRP shall contain an acknowledgement with regard to the online availability of the declaration of personal interests.

The declarations are evaluated by the Commission. If there is any conflict of interest, the Commission decides in accordance with the ICNIRP provisions entailed in the Charter and Statutes (see below), about the action required. The general principle of ICNIRP's approach is that neither the personal, nor the professional life, of its members should depend on NIR-relevant commercial entities or any other NIR interest groups. It is recognized that scientific expertise implies a wide range of professional and academic experiences and activities, called personal interests, which however do not per se automatically lead to a conflict. The evaluation of personal integrity is very complex and might be difficult to achieve to the satisfaction of all parties. It is the responsibility of the ICNIRP Board and Commission to carefully consider and decide if the declared interests potentially constitute a conflict of interest.

As per the ICNIRP Statutes, "no member of the Commission shall hold a position of employment that in the opinion of the Commission will compromise its scientific independence. (...) When a change occurs in a member's employment which, in the opinion of the Commission members, may compromise the Commission's scientific independence, the Commission shall decide whether this member can continue to serve". The Commission decision shall be taken by a simple majority vote, either by a formal letter ballot, at a special Commission meeting called for that purpose, or at its Annual General Meeting (ICNIRP Statutes, §6(2)).

Where an elected member's declaration of interest has been evaluated and ICNIRP has concluded that it does not represent a conflict of interest, the reasons for ICNIRP's determination are provided below.

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LAST NAME, First name: LAAKSO, Ilkka		POSITION (SEG, Commissioner, Sc. Secretary, incl. nominee): Commissioner	
ACTIVITIES AND ASSETS relating to the years 2021-2024 Please report activities, relationships and assets below, including any current application or negotiation for future activities, relationships and assets, as well as anything else that could be perceived as potentially representing a conflict of interest in relation to the activities of ICNIRP. Please provide explanation for acronyms. If you want to report more than one item in a specific category, insert a new line by copying and pasting the cell of the concerned category.			
EMPLOYMENT			
Employer(s), function, title: Aalto University, Associate Professor in Electromagnetics in health technologies Dates – Start/End-Ongoing: 1.4.2023-			
UNPAID CONSULTANCY, ADVISORY POSITIONS AND SERVICES <i>These include unpaid consultancy and service as a scientific or other advisor for any commercial or non-commercial organization with an interest in NIR (including membership in scientific councils, associations, etc.) or as part of a regulatory, legislative or judicial process concerning NIR.</i>			
Name and description of the activity: Member, IEEE International Committee on Electromagnetic Safety Dates - Start/End-Ongoing: 2015- Name and status of the contractor: Name and description of the activity: Member, Task Group on Radiofrequency Fields and Health, World Health Organization Dates - Start/End-Ongoing: 2023- Name and status of the contractor:			
Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/>			

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PAID CONSULTANCY, ADVISORY POSITIONS AND SERVICES

These include paid consultancy and service as a scientific or other advisor for any commercial or non-commercial organization with an interest in NIR (including membership in scientific councils, associations, etc.) or as part of a regulatory, legislative or judicial process concerning NIR.

Name and description of the activity:

Dates – Start/End-Ongoing:

Name and status of the contractor:

Recipient of Income: [Select unit receiving income](#)

Income (percentage of the above mentioned unit's income):

Not applicable

RESEARCH SUPPORT RECEIVED FROM COMMERCIAL ENTITIES

These are research support, grants, collaborations, sponsorships, other funding and in-kind support valued at more than EUR 1000 overall (including equipment, facilities, staff, paid travel to meetings, etc.).

Name and description of the activity: [Research grant, "Accessible magnetic resonance imaging". The funding is from the Future Makers 2019 -funding programme: <https://techfinland100.fi/future-makers-funding-program-2019/>. The research project is related to the development of a new magnetic resonance imaging \(MRI\) technology.](#)

Dates – Start/End-Ongoing: [2020-2023](#)

Name and status of the contractor: [Jane and Aatos Erkko Foundation and Technology Industries of Finland Centennial Foundation \(private foundations\)](#)

Unit receiving and managing the income: Department

Income (percentage of the above mentioned unit's income): [~1% of Department income \(30% of laboratory income\)](#)

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Are you free to publish whatever results your research shows without the influence from the entity funding your research?

Yes Wording used in the contract: **There are no contract terms to limit publishing. The funder’s instructions state that: "According to the rules of the Centennial Foundation, results of the projects funded by the foundation are public and thus IP cannot be protected."**

No Please describe how your independence is safeguarded:

Name and description of the activity: **Research project: "Refinement of dosimetric models for exposure assessment." Aalto University is a sub-contractor of Seibersdorf Labor GmbH in a project funded by the German Federal Office for Radiation Protection (tender FKZ 3621SNA201).**

Dates – Start/End-Ongoing: **11/2021-12/2024**

Name and status of the contractor: **Seibersdorf Labor GmbH, Austria, who have a contract with the German Federal Office for Radiation Protection**

Unit receiving and managing the income: **Department**

Income (percentage of the above mentioned unit’s income): **<1% of Department income (10% of laboratory income)**

Are you free to publish whatever results your research shows without the influence from the entity funding your research?

Yes Wording used in the contract: **"8.1. Aalto shall be entitled to publish the scientific Results of the project." and "8.3. The Client shall be entitled to review any publications which incorporate Results or Background of the Client. The Client shall be deemed to have approved publication unless it notifies in writing to the contrary latest within thirty (30) calendar days of having received a written request for publication. In its written response, the Client may require the publication to be modified if) the intended publication includes Client’s Confidential Information defined in Section 7 herein or b) the publication prevents patenting or registering other intellectual property rights which are grounded in Results or Background owned by the Client. The Client shall explicitly indicate the required changes. The parties undertake to cooperate to remove the reason for justified withholding of consent and to ensure publication without undue delay. In case the publication is required to be modified because of the abovementioned protection of intellectual property, the material may be published when the protection has been applied, however latest after four (4) months from the publication request. The materials that have been approved for publication can be published again without the publication review procedure."**

No Please describe how your independence is safeguarded:

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Not applicable

INVESTMENTS AND COMMERCIAL INTERESTS

Investment and commercial interests mean investments in a commercial entity, in a trust or holding company. This includes any commercial business interests (e.g., proprietorships, partnerships, joint ventures) and indirect investments such as a trust or holding company, stocks, bonds, stock options, or other securities. Broadly diversified mutual funds, pension funds or similar investments that are broadly diversified and on which the member does not exercise control are excluded. Members shall declare any current, past or planned investments and commercial interests they hold in the NIR area, when such an interest is valued at more than EUR 1000.

Name of the investment/share:

Dates – Start/End-Ongoing:

Income (percentage of yearly personal income):

Not applicable

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Intellectual property is patents, trademarks and copyrights (also pending applications) and proprietary know-how in a substance, technology or process.

Designation of the property:

Dates – Start/End-Ongoing:

Income (percentage of yearly personal income):

Not applicable

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION* <i>This includes information concerning the interests of a person with whom the member has personal or professional ties (such as a family member or close colleague) when that person's interests (professional activities or financial engagements in the NIR area) may be impacted positively or negatively by the work of ICNIRP.</i> <small>* Information provided here may be protected by privacy rights. ICNIRP will anonymize this field before DOI disclosure.</small>
To your knowledge, would the outcome of your activities within ICNIRP benefit or adversely affect interests of others* with whom you have substantial common personal, financial or professional interests (such as family members or colleagues)? Please provide a description of the others' interests that are potentially affected by your ICNIRP activities: Dates – Start/End-Ongoing:
Not applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Is there any other aspect of your personal background or present circumstances not addressed above that might be perceived as affecting your objectivity or independence? Please provide a description of the other aspects that are potentially affecting your objectivity or independence: Dates – Start/End-Ongoing:
Not applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

I hereby declare that the disclosed information is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. Should there be any change to the above information, I will promptly notify the ICNIRP Secretariat and complete a new declaration of interests which takes the changes into account.

I hereby provide my consent that my declaration of interest will be made available publicly via the ICNIRP website as per the condition stated under “policy”.

Date: 21st September

Name: Ilkka Laakso

Signature:

covered by ICNIRP
covered by ICNIRP
covered by ICNIRP

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COMMENTS FROM ICNIRP ON THIS DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTERESTS:

AS DR. LAAKSO'S RESEARCH FUNDING IS TO THE DEPARTMENT RATHER THAN THE PERSON AND IS FOR AN INDEPENDENT ORGANIZATION WHOSE FUNCTION IS TO PROVIDE INDEPENDENT ADVICE/KNOWLEDGE, AS THE RESEARCHERS ARE FREE TO PUBLISH THE RESULTS UNHINDERED, AND AS THE INCOME GENERATED BY DR LAAKSO'S REVENUE FROM SHARES REPRESENT ONLY A SMALL PROPORTION OF THE PERSON'S FUNDING, ICNIRP DOES NOT CONSIDER THAT THESE REPRESENT A CONFLICT OF INTEREST. APPROVED.