

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.

Upon completion and signature, the declaration is to be sent electronically to Dr Gunde Ziegelberger, ICNIRP Scientific Secretary at g.ziegelberger@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.

DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTERESTS 2020



LAST NAME, First name: KUHNE, Jens	POSITION WITHIN ICNIRP (SEG or Commission Member, incl. nominee):				
<p>ACTIVITIES AND ASSETS relating to the years 2017-2021</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Always mention the title of the activity, function, asset listed, and the name of company, organization, or institution involved.</p>					
EMPLOYMENT					
Employer(s), function, title: Ruhr-University Bochum, Department of Biophysics, Post-Doc	Period: 2017				
Employer(s), function, title: German Federal Office for Radiation Protection, Radiation and Health, Scientific Officer	Period: 2017-present				
UNPAID CONSULTANCY, ADVISORY POSITIONS AND SERVICES					
<p><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></p>					
<p>Not applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If applicable:</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%;">Name and description of the activity:</td> <td style="width: 40%;">Period:</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Personal advantages (specify):</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		Name and description of the activity:	Period:	Personal advantages (specify):	
Name and description of the activity:	Period:				
Personal advantages (specify):					
PAID CONSULTANCY, ADVISORY POSITIONS AND SERVICES					
<p><i>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.</i></p>					
<p>Not applicable <input type="checkbox"/></p>					

DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTERESTS 2020



If applicable:

Name and description of the activity: WHO Systematic Review SR6: exposure to radiofrequency fields and cognitive impairment (human experimental studies)
Period: 2020-2021

Name and status of the contractor: World Health Organisation

Income (percentage of yearly laboratory/working group/personal income): Agency income: <0.1% of yearly budget of the German Federal Office for Radiation Protection

Name and description of the activity: WHO Systematic Review SR9: exposure to radiofrequency radiation on biomarkers of oxidative stress
Period: 2020-2021

Name and status of the contractor: World Health Organisation

Income (percentage of yearly laboratory/working group/personal income): Agency income: <0.1% of yearly budget of the German Federal Office for Radiation Protection

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.).

Not applicable

If applicable:

Name and description of the activity: _____ Period: _____

Name and status of the contractor: _____

Unit receiving and managing the research funding from the above activity (University/Unit/Laboratory/Personal Research Fund/Other): _____

Income (percentage of yearly laboratory/unit/personal income): _____

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

Yes Please specify the wording used in the contract: _____

DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTERESTS 2020



No Please describe how your independence is safeguarded:

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.

Not applicable

If applicable:

Name of the investment/share:

Period:

Income (as a percentage of yearly personal income):

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

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

Not applicable

If applicable:

Designation of the property:

Period:

Income (as a percentage of yearly personal income):

DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTERESTS 2020



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION*

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.

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)?

Yes Please provide a description of the others' interests that are potentially affected by your ICNIRP activities: Period:

No

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?

Yes Please provide a description of the other aspects that are potentially affecting your objectivity or independence: Period:

No

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: **15.02.2021**

Name: **Kuhne**

Signature: *Signature Covered by ICNIRP*
Signature Covered by ICNIRP
Signature Covered by ICNIRP
Signature Covered by ICNIRP

* Information provided here may be protected by privacy rights. ICNIRP will anonymize this field before DOI disclosure.

COMMENTS FROM ICNIRP ON THIS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:

As Dr. Kuhne's advisory activity is for an independent organization whose function is to provide independent advice/knowledge, as the income generated by Dr. Kuhne's advisory activity is to the agency rather than the person, and as this represents only a small proportion of the agency's funding, ICNIRP does not consider that this activity represents a conflict of interest. Approved.