

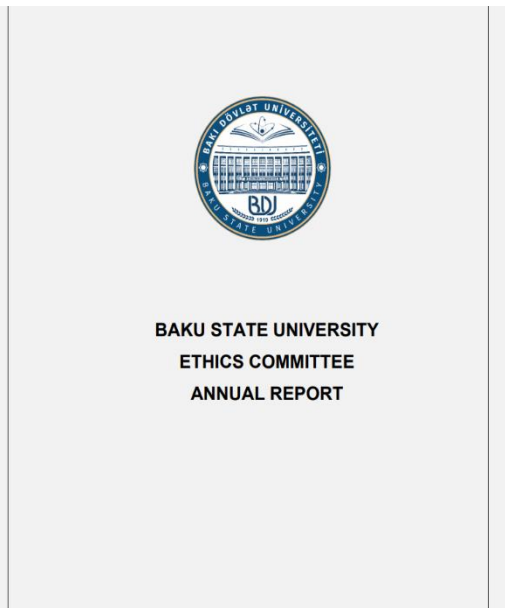


UI GreenMetric Questionnaire

University : Baku State University
 Country : Azerbaijan
 Web Address : <http://bsu.edu.az/en>
 SDG Focused Web Address: <https://sdg.bsu.edu.az/>

[7] Governance and Digitalization (GD)

[7.21] Written Code of Ethics that applies to university leaders, academic staff, administrative staff, and students (GD.13)

	<p style="text-align: center;">About Ethics committee</p> <hr/> <p>Baku State University (BSU) is a prestigious institution that emphasizes not only academic excellence but also upholding the highest ethical standards within its community. The university's Ethics Committee plays a vital role in fostering a culture of integrity, transparency, and accountability. This section outlines key aspects of the Ethics Committee, including its activities, regular meeting schedule, reporting practices, and accessible mechanisms for submitting claims and complaints. Additionally, it highlights the committee's commitment to consistent operations, including holding monthly meetings over the past year.</p> <hr/> <p>Activities of the Ethics Committee</p> <hr/> <p>The Ethics Committee at Baku State University focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting ethical behavior and fostering an organizational culture of integrity among students, faculty, and staff. • Addressing cases of ethical misconduct and ensuring compliance with the university's code of conduct. • Reviewing and resolving complaints or disputes related to unethical practices within the university. • Providing guidance on ethical decision-making and conducting awareness sessions or workshops on ethical policies and standards.
<p>Code of Ethics rule at Baku State University https://sdg.bsu.edu.az/ethics-committee</p>	

<i>Component</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Implementation Status</i>
Program Overview	A comprehensive LMS-enabled digital literacy program designed to enhance digital competencies of students and academic/administrative staff across the university.	Fully implemented, evaluated, and currently under revision
Integration with LMS	The program is fully embedded in the university's Learning Management System, providing centralized access to training modules, resources, assessments, and tracking tools.	Fully operational
Target Groups	Students, academic staff, and administrative personnel across all faculties and departments.	Institution-wide coverage



Student Skills Development	Focus on digital communication, online learning tools, information literacy, cybersecurity awareness, LMS usage, academic integrity, and digital collaboration.	Implemented and ongoing
Staff Capacity Building	Training in digital pedagogy, LMS-based course design, online assessment methods, student engagement strategies, and use of digital teaching tools.	Fully implemented and continuous
Learning Content Areas	Includes digital literacy, e-learning tools, data handling, information security, online collaboration platforms, and responsible use of digital technologies.	Structured and regularly updated
Monitoring & Tracking	LMS provides analytics and tracking of participation, completion rates, and learning outcomes for continuous monitoring.	Active monitoring system
Evaluation Mechanism	Program effectiveness is assessed through feedback surveys, usage analytics, and performance evaluations.	Regularly evaluated
Continuous Improvement	Program content and delivery methods are continuously revised based on evaluation results and evolving digital education needs.	Ongoing revision process
Institutional Impact	Strengthens digital transformation, improves teaching and learning quality, and enhances institutional digital readiness.	Positive institutional integration
Overall Status	A structured and sustainable digital literacy initiative embedded in institutional learning systems.	Fully implemented, evaluated, and continuously improved

Description:

The Ethics Committee of Baku State University represents a central pillar of institutional governance, ensuring that ethical values are embedded across all academic and administrative processes. The committee operates as both a regulatory and developmental body, balancing enforcement with education to cultivate a sustainable culture of integrity, accountability, and mutual respect within the university.

Its mandate encompasses not only the review and resolution of ethical cases but also the proactive strengthening of ethical awareness, policy frameworks, and institutional trust. Through systematic operations, inclusive mechanisms, and transparent reporting, the committee contributes significantly to the university's long-term sustainability and reputation.

Code of Ethics: Foundation of Institutional Integrity

At the core of the university's ethical ecosystem lies a comprehensive **Code of Ethics**, which serves as a binding framework for university leadership, academic staff, administrative personnel, and students. This code defines expected standards of conduct while reinforcing shared institutional values.



The Code of Ethics is built on the following foundational principles:

- ❖ **Integrity and Academic Honesty** – ensuring originality in research, fairness in assessment, and avoidance of misconduct such as plagiarism or falsification
- ❖ **Respect, Equality, and Inclusion** – promoting a non-discriminatory environment regardless of gender, ethnicity, religion, or social background
- ❖ **Accountability and Responsibility** – requiring all members to take ownership of their actions and decisions
- ❖ **Professional Conduct and Fairness** – ensuring ethical behavior in teaching, administration, and interpersonal relations
- ❖ **Transparency and Ethical Governance** – supporting openness in decision-making processes and institutional operations



The application of the Code of Ethics is tailored to different stakeholder groups:

- ❖ **University Leadership** is expected to demonstrate ethical governance, strategic responsibility, and role-model behavior in decision-making, ensuring that institutional policies align with ethical and legal standards.
- ❖ **Academic Staff** are responsible for maintaining academic integrity, delivering unbiased education, ensuring fair evaluation, and adhering to ethical research standards.
- ❖ **Administrative Staff** must uphold impartiality, confidentiality, and professionalism while providing efficient and ethical support services.
- ❖ **Students** are required to adhere to principles of honesty in academic work, respect university regulations, and contribute to a respectful and inclusive campus culture.



The Code of Ethics is actively integrated into university life through orientation programs, training sessions, and awareness campaigns, ensuring that it is not merely a formal document but a living framework guiding everyday behavior.

Operational Activities and Case Management

During 2024, the Ethics Committee maintained a structured operational model, holding regular monthly meetings to ensure continuous monitoring of ethical issues. A total of 32 cases were reviewed, including matters related to workplace ethics, professional misconduct, and internal disputes.



The committee achieved a high-resolution rate, demonstrating efficiency and procedural fairness. Importantly, the case management process prioritizes:

- ❖ Confidentiality and impartiality
- ❖ Timely resolution of complaints
- ❖ Evidence-based decision-making
- ❖ Protection of all parties involved

The introduction of categorization systems for complaints has further improved analytical capacity, allowing the committee to identify recurring issues and implement preventive strategies.



Preventive Approach: Education and Awareness

A distinguishing feature of the committee's work is its strong emphasis on prevention through education. In 2024, several training sessions and awareness programs were conducted for both staff and students, focusing on:

- ❖ Ethical decision-making
- ❖ Anti-discrimination and inclusivity
- ❖ Workplace conduct and conflict prevention



These initiatives aim to reduce the occurrence of violations by fostering a shared understanding of ethical responsibilities and encouraging proactive compliance.

Policy Development and Continuous Improvement

The Ethics Committee plays an active role in reviewing and strengthening institutional policies to ensure alignment with international best practices. During the reporting period, key policies were updated, including:

- ❖ Anti-Harassment and Anti-Discrimination Policy
- ❖ Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Policy
- ❖ Ethical Organizational Culture Policy
- ❖ Policy on Prevention of Human Trafficking and Protection of Victims



These policy updates reflect the university's responsiveness to emerging ethical challenges and its commitment to maintaining a safe and inclusive academic environment.

Accessible and Inclusive Complaint Mechanisms

To ensure fairness and accessibility, the committee has established multiple channels for submitting complaints:

- ❖ **Online submission platforms**, enabling fast and confidential reporting
- ❖ **Email communication**, providing direct access to the committee
- ❖ **Physical submission options**, ensuring inclusivity for all stakeholders

Clear procedural guidelines support these mechanisms, outlining submission requirements, review processes, and expected timelines. The recent introduction of digital systems has significantly enhanced efficiency, transparency, and user trust.

Innovation, Mediation, and External Collaboration

In addition to formal case resolution, the committee has introduced a **mediation mechanism** aimed at resolving minor disputes through dialogue and mutual agreement. This approach promotes a constructive resolution culture while reducing procedural burden.

Furthermore, collaboration with external ethics organizations has enabled benchmarking against international standards, strengthening institutional credibility and continuous improvement.



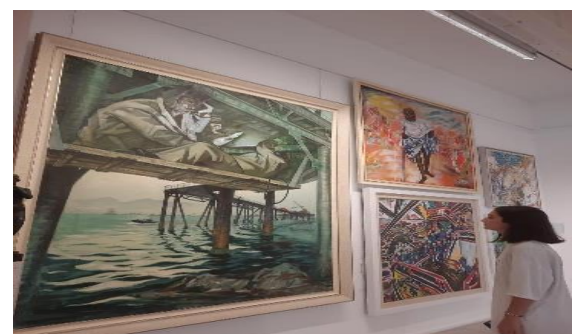
and Accountability

Transparency is a defining principle of the committee's operations. Annual reports are published and made accessible to the university community, providing detailed insights into:

- ❖ Committee activities
- ❖ Case statistics and outcomes
- ❖ Policy developments
- ❖ Strategic priorities

These reports function as both accountability tools and strategic resources for institutional learning and development.

Transparency





Strategic Vision and Future Priorities

Looking ahead, the Ethics Committee aims to:

- ❖ Expand the scope and frequency of ethical training programs
- ❖ Achieving faster and more efficient case resolution processes
- ❖ Monitor the real-world impact of updated policies
- ❖ Strengthening digital tools for reporting and case tracking
- ❖ Further integrate ethical principles into institutional governance



The long-term vision is to establish a fully embedded ethical culture where integrity is not only enforced but inherently practiced by all members of the university community.



Mission

The mission is to foster and promote behaviors considering ethical values, including diversity, honesty, respect, and fairness by making framework and guidance on ethical organizational culture.

Conclusion

The Ethics Committee of Baku State University continues to play a vital and evolving role in strengthening institutional integrity. Through its comprehensive **Code of Ethics**, structured operations, preventive education, and transparent governance, the committee ensures that ethical standards are upheld consistently across all levels of the university.



Additional evidence link:

- ❖ The Holistic Ethical Organizational Culture Policy of Baku State University promotes integrity, respect, fairness, and inclusivity across the university. It integrates ethical principles into academic and administrative life and supports accountability through training, awareness activities, and ethics reporting mechanisms. For more information click the link below:
<https://sdg.bsu.edu.az/holistic-ethical-organizational-culture-policy>
- ❖ The Holistic Ethical Organizational Culture Policy of Baku State University promotes integrity, fairness, and respect across the university community. It sets clear ethical standards for students and staff, supports awareness and training, and ensures accountability through established ethics mechanisms and reporting systems. For more information click the link below:
<https://sdg.bsu.edu.az/uploads/files/Holistic%20%20Ethical%20Organizational%20Culture%20the%20last%20version.pdf>
- ❖ The Anti-Harassment and Anti-Discrimination Policy of Baku State University ensures a safe and inclusive environment by prohibiting all forms of harassment and discrimination. It provides clear



reporting mechanisms, protects complainants, and promotes equality, accountability, and respectful behavior across the university. For more information click the link below:

<https://sdg.bsu.edu.az/anti-harassment-and-anti-discrimination-policy>

- ❖ The Anti-Harassment and Anti-Discrimination Policy of Baku State University promotes a safe and equal environment by prohibiting harassment and discrimination, ensuring clear reporting mechanisms, and enforcing accountability for violations. For more information click the link below:
<https://sdg.bsu.edu.az/uploads/files/Anti-harrasment%20and%20anti-discrimination%20policy.pdf>
- ❖ The main purpose of this policy is to create a respectful, safe, and equal environment for all individuals at the university. According to the policy, discrimination or harassment based on race, colour, religion, gender, age, national origin, marital status, disability, or other characteristics is strictly prohibited. For more information click the link below:
<https://sdg.bsu.edu.az/policy-on-prevention-of-human-trafficking>
- ❖ This policy defines the protection and promotion of academic freedom at the university as its main objective. Academic freedom includes the university's right to determine its intellectual priorities without external interference and ensures that all participants can freely exchange ideas and supports the development of knowledge and contributes to society by fostering an open academic environment at BSU that protects freedom of thought, research, and expression. For more information click the link below:
<https://sdg.bsu.edu.az/policy-on-academic-freedom>
- ❖ This policy aims to protect and promote academic freedom at the university, ensuring the right to learn, teach, conduct research, and express ideas freely without external interference. Students and faculty are free to engage in teaching, research, writing, and speaking without censorship. Academic staff can choose their research topics and share their results openly. The university supports open dialogue and diverse perspectives, recognizing academic freedom as essential for the development of knowledge and the exchange of ideas. For more information click the link below:
<https://sdg.bsu.edu.az/uploads/files/Policy%20on%20Academic%20Freedom.pdf>
- ❖ The opening ceremony of the First International Conference and Autumn School of the Turkic World on Artificial Intelligence Ethics was held at Baku State University. The event gathered international experts to discuss ethical issues in AI and promote responsible, human-centered development of artificial intelligence. For more information click the link:
<https://sdg.bsu.edu.az/news/opening-ceremony-of-the-first-international-conference-and-autumn-school-of-the-turkic-world-on-artificial-intelligence-ethics-held-at-bdu>
- ❖ The Chairperson of “BSU Volunteers” presented a project on artificial intelligence ethics during a meeting with the Minister of Youth and Sports. The project focused on responsible and ethical use of AI technologies, emphasizing transparency, accountability, and the importance of educating young people about potential risks and benefits of AI. The initiative highlights the active role of BSU students in contributing to discussions on emerging technologies and ethical standards at national level. For more information click the link: [Chairperson of “BSU Volunteers” presented project on AI ethics during meeting with Minister of Youth and Sports](#)



- ❖ Rector of Baku State University (BSU), Elchin Babayev, participated as a speaker in a panel session at the EduData Summit – 2025, where he discussed the transformation of higher education in the era of digitalization and artificial intelligence. In his speech, he highlighted BSU’s strategic vision for developing a flexible, innovation-driven, and digitally advanced learning environment, as well as the university’s efforts in expanding international cooperation and integrating AI ethics into education and research. His participation reflected BSU’s active role in global discussions on the future of universities and data-driven education systems. For more information click the link:
[Rector of BSU Elchin Babayev speaks at a session during EduData Summit – 2025](#)
- ❖ The First Youth Forum on Artificial Intelligence Ethics was held at Baku State University (BSU), bringing together students, young researchers, and experts in the field of technology and ethics. The forum focused on the responsible development and use of artificial intelligence, discussing key issues such as data privacy, algorithmic fairness, transparency, and the social impact of AI. Participants shared ideas and presented innovative approaches to ethical challenges in emerging technologies. The event aimed to raise awareness among young people and encourage their active involvement in shaping ethical standards in the field of artificial intelligence. For more information click the link:
[The First Youth Forum on Artificial Intelligence Ethics held at BSU](#)
- ❖ The **2nd Eurasian Forum on Artificial Intelligence and Data Science** was held in Baku, bringing together international experts, researchers, and industry representatives. The forum focused on the latest developments in AI and data science, discussing innovation, digital transformation, and the role of these technologies in sustainable development and future education. For more information click the link:
[The 2nd Eurasian Forum on Artificial intelligence and data science held in Baku](#)
- ❖ The Dean of the Faculty of Biology represented Azerbaijan’s food safety sector on an international scientific platform, highlighting the country’s ongoing research and developments in this field. During the event, she presented key scientific approaches related to food quality, safety standards, and public health, emphasizing Azerbaijan’s contribution to ensuring safe and sustainable food systems. Her participation strengthened international scientific cooperation and promoted the visibility of Azerbaijan’s expertise in food safety research. For more information click the link:
[Dean of the faculty of Biology represents Azerbaijan’s Food Safety Sector on an international scientific platform](#)
- ❖ The winners of the “Creative Media – Baku” content competition were officially awarded at a special ceremony. The competition brought together young creators who demonstrated their skills in producing innovative and impactful digital media content. Participants were evaluated on creativity, originality, and the social relevance of their work. The event aimed to support youth talent in the field of media and encourage the development of modern digital communication skills. For more information click the link:
[Winners of “Creative Media — Baku” content competition awarded](#)
- ❖ The opening ceremony of the First International Conference and Autumn School of the Turkic World on Artificial Intelligence Ethics was held at Baku State University (BSU). The event brought together researchers, academics, and experts from Turkic countries to discuss ethical issues related to artificial intelligence, including responsible innovation, data governance, and the social impact of AI technologies. The conference and autumn school aim to strengthen international cooperation



and promote shared ethical standards in the development and application of artificial intelligence within the Turkic world. For more information click the link:

[Opening ceremony of the First International Conference and Autumn School of the Turkic World on Artificial Intelligence Ethics held at BDU](#)

- ❖ The Second Eurasian Forum on Artificial Intelligence and Data Science was held in Baku, bringing together international experts, researchers, and industry representatives. The forum focused on the latest advancements in AI and data science, discussing topics such as machine learning, digital transformation, and the ethical implications of emerging technologies. The event served as a platform for knowledge exchange, fostering regional and international cooperation in the development of innovative and data-driven solutions. For more information click the link:

[Second Eurasian Forum on artificial intelligence and data science held in Baku](#)