



Research misconduct cases in Sweden

- now and next year

MLE Research integrity – country visit Norway, 2019-01-30

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Organisational changes in Sweden

In the beginning of 2016 an infamous misconduct case was uncovered in Sweden.

The after-math of this case resulted in several actions from the Swedish government:

- A new organisation for ethical vetting from 1 January 2019.
- A new organisation for investigating/decision of research misconduct from 1 January 2020.
 - New legislation for research misconduct.



Misconduct cases 2019

The current system for investigation and decision.

The **HEI** (higher education institute) **investigates** and **decide** each case of misconduct at the HEI.

- Investigation by staff at the HEI
- The accused makes a statement on the investigation
- (Optional: the HEI can request a second opinion made by the Expert group for misconduct in research.)
- Decision made by the vice chancellor.

Appeal: cannot be appealed.



Misconduct cases 2020

Hopefully!

The new, upcoming, system for investigation and decision.

Why does Sweden need a new organisation?

A new, **national agency investigates** and **decide** on all misconduct cases from all HEI in Sweden.

Appeal: to the Administrative court.

Why change the organisation:

- Equal and uniform handling of misconduct cases.
- Less risk of Conflict of interest.
- A more transparent handling of cases.
- Can be appealed.
- New legislaion: next slide...



Misconduct cases 2020

The new, upcoming, system for investigation and decision.

New legislation

”Scientific misconduct: serious deviations from good research practice in the form of fabrication, falsification and plagiarism, which are considered intentional or of gross negligence in the planning, implementation or reporting of research.”

- Serious deviations from good research practice
 - Fabrication, falsification and plagiarism (FFP)
- Intentional or of gross negligence
- Planning, implementation or reporting of research

Not yet tested or implemented..



Misconduct cases 2020

The new, upcoming, system for investigation and decision.

How is the new agency set up?

The Swedish research council have been commissioned by the Government to

- prepare the establishment of the new agency.
- which will be in place on January 1, 2019 .
- The work is led by EvaLis Fredriksson, former head of unit for HR at the Swedish research council.



Summary of the changes

An overview of the changes made in the organisation of misconduct cases and ethical review, 2018-2020.

