

**Policy** 

**PL-01** 

# **SNAS POLICY ON QUALITY AND IMPARTIALITY**

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Effective from: 26.02.2024	Edition:	Document label: PL - 01
20.02.2021	Updating: 2	11 01

This document was created electronically -



PURPOSE: This document determines SNAS policy on quality and impartiality.

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Date of elaboration: 20.02.2024

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By coming into force of this PL - 01 expired the validity of PL - 01 from 15.12.2022.

Effective from:	Edition:	Document label:
26.02.2024	2	PL - 01
	Updating:	
	2	



## Content

1	SNAS POLICY ON QUALITY AND IMPARTIALITY	4
2	RELATED DOCUMENTS	5
3	Annexes	6



## 1 SNAS POLICY ON QUALITY AND IMPARTIALITY

- To aim to lasting acceptance of SNAS abroad based on international agreements and arrangements on mutual recognition in all accreditation fields to which SNAS is a signatory.
- **2.** To recognize equivalence of accreditation systems of the other MLA/BLA/MRA signatories and to promote the acceptation of reports and certificates of conformity assessment bodies accredited by these signatories.
- **3.** To create conditions for fulfilment of all obligations, duties and tasks arising from the status of EA, ILAC, IAF, FALB member and signatory to the agreements on mutual recognition EA MLA/BLA, ILAC MRA and IAF MLA. To ensure, upon changes to requirements, conformity with the new requirements within the period specified by the EA General Assembly.
- **4.** Not to compete with other accreditation bodies and to encourage cooperation with them focused to mutual exchange of information and practical experience, dealing with complaints, mutual provision of experts in specific fields and to abide by policy and principles on cross border providing of accreditation services.
- **5.** To accomplish mission and lasting development of accreditation in Slovakia in voluntary and regulated spheres in compliance with needs of the Slovak national economy, relevant standards, legislative regulations and mandatory application documents.
- **6.** To participate in asserting the state policy of quality in the Slovak Republic (Board for the National Program for Quality of the Slovak Republic).
- **7.** To develop the communication with national authorities SR in the field of accreditation for the purpose of notification in compliance with the policy of European Accreditation.
- **8.** To provide accreditation services competently, of high quality, non-discriminatory, objectively and impartially at all levels with the ensuring of confidentiality of information gained in such a way that the end users of conformity assessment services will have confidence in the results of conformity assessment bodies accredited by SNAS.
- **9.** To identify, analyse, evaluate, treat, monitor and document on an ongoing basis the risks to impartiality and conflicts of interest arising from SNAS activities (including its external relationships, internal relationships of its personnel).
- **10.** To follow consistently provisions of the ISO/IEC 17011 standard, Regulation (EC) No 765/2008, to monitor and promptly implement relevant international standards, mandatory application documents of EA, ILAC, IAF (including resolutions of their General Assemblies), IAF/ILAC A series, FALB, relevant European and national legislation, related to the accreditation fields where SNAS operates.

Effective from:	Edition:	Document label:
26.02.2024	2	PL - 01
	Updating:	
	2	



- **11.** To ensure that internationally valid requirements for conformity assessment bodies accredited in the particular fields of accreditation will be accessible on <a href="https://www.snas.sk/">https://www.snas.sk/</a> and respected by them.
- **12.** To respect confidentiality of the information obtained in the process of accreditation activities at all SNAS levels.
- **13.** To implement continuously measures to increase the level of information security and eliminate information security risks for sensitive information from both external and internal environments.
- **14.** Not to offer or provide activities or services which are provided by the conformity assessment bodies and not to provide consultancy on the Slovakia territory nor in EA region.
- **15.** Not to possess a share or to have any financial or managerial interests in conformity assessment bodies.
- **16.** To maintain and improve SNAS management system and to ensure its understanding and application on all levels of SNAS management.
- **17.** To cultivate relation of personal honour and internal engagement of SNAS staff members to the quality of accreditation services provided and to adhere to the principles of Code of Conduct of SNAS employee.

## 2 RELATED DOCUMENTS

ISO/IEC 17011	Conformity assessment. Requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies
ILAC-P4	ILAC MRA: Policy and Management
ILAC-P5	ILAC Mutual Recognition Arrangement
IAF PL 6	IAF Memorandum of Understanding
EA-1/06	EA Multilateral Agreement
EA-1/17	EA Rules and Procedures (including EA-1/17 S1)
EA 2/02	EA Procedure for the evaluation of a National Accreditation body
PL-02	Code of conduct of a SNAS staff member
765/2008	Regulation EP and C (EC) No 765/2008
53/2023	Act No. 53/2023 Coll. on accreditation of CABs

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	Updating:	
	2	



### 3 ANNEXES

#### **ANNEX 1: SNAS TOP MANAGEMENT COMMITMENT**



#### **SNAS Top Management Commitment**

#### Hereby I undertake that:

- · I will ensure impartiality, independence and credibility at all levels of SNAS,
- I will ensure the application of the "SNAS Policy on quality and impartiality" and "Quality objectives" and increase the effectiveness of the SNAS management system,
- I will ensure the continuous fulfilment of quality requirements at all levels entrusted to me.
- · I will ensure continuous improvement of the information security management system,
- I will ensure that SNAS policies are understood, implemented and maintained at all levels of SNAS,
- I will ensure the consistent compliance of SNAS activities with the requirements of all
  documents and standards binding for the accreditation body,
- · I will ensure effective communication with interested parties,

 apart from my employment I do not engage in any activity that would be in conflict with the SNAS activities and mission.

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Effective from:	Edition:	Document label:
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	2	