

Resolution Concerning Professional Ethics in Psychology

The International Union of Psychological Science

- Which includes national psychological societies of 42 nations from all over the world;
- Which thus speaks in the name of over 70,000 professional psychologists who, because the subject of their science is behavior, are particularly concerned with any acts by which individuals in a systematic and deliberate way infringe upon the inviolable rights of human beings, regardless of race, religion or ideology, these rights being guaranteed by the Charter of the United Nations; and which is concerned with strict observance of professional standards of ethics in the practice of psychology;
- Therefore makes the following declarations:
- It proclaims that no psychologist, in the exercise of his or her professional functions, should accept instructions or motivations that are inspired by considerations that are foreign to the profession;
- It protests solemnly against any use of scientific data or of professional methods of psychology that impair the above-mentioned rights;
- It formally condemns any collaboration by psychologists – whether actively or passively, directly or indirectly – with the above-mentioned abuses, and it urges its members to oppose any abuses of this sort;
- It requests each member-society to make certain that it has enacted a code of ethics and to take those actions required by its code against any member guilty of such abuses against human rights;
- It declares that the Executive Committee of I. U. P.S. is ready to support, with all means at its disposal, any action undertaken by a member-society in order to carry out the terms of the present resolution;
- It recalls the following statement made by its Executive Committee on July 27, 1974: “The Executive Committee wishes to make clear that the International Union of Psychological Science denounces vigorously all practices that are contrary to the high level of morality that must regulate the scientific and professional roles assumed by psychologists in modern society”;
- It welcomes the United Nation’s Resolution, adopted by the General Assembly (Third Committee: A/10408; 2,423rd plenary meeting, 9 December 1975) on the Protection of All Persons from being subjected to Inhuman Treatment.

This resolution was approved by a unanimous vote of the I. U. P. S. Assembly, Paris, July 22, 1976.