



THE OMBUDSMAN FOR ACADEMIC ETHICS AND PROCEDURES OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

DECISION

REGARDING VIOLATIONS OF ACADEMIC ETHICS IN THE SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS BY RAMUTE GAUCAITE, AUSRA KAZLAUSKIENE, ERIKA MASILIAUSKIENE, RASA POCEVICIENE AND KRISTINA RUDYTE “AUTONOMOUS LEARNING – STUDYING FOR LIFE

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Vilnius

The **Ombudsman for Academic Ethics and Procedures of the Republic of Lithuania** (hereinafter – Ombudsman), <...> completed the investigation regarding possible violations of the principle of academic ethics committed by Ramune Gaucaite, Ausra Kazlauskiene, Erika Masiliauskiene, Rasa Poceviene and Kristina Rudyte, examined the complaint of Arkadijus Kiseliovas, information submitted by Rasa Poceviene, Siauliai University, Siauliai University Press, and European Social Fund Agency, as well as documents of R. Poceviene of the complaint No. AS-25 of 05 June 2014 delivered to the Office of Ombudsman for Academic Ethics and Procedures of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter – Office of Ombudsman), and **determined that:**

The Office of Ombudsman started the investigation on the possible violations of the principle of academic ethics in the series of 13 publications “Autonomous Learning – Studying for Life” of R. Gaucaite, A. Kazlauskiene, E. Masiliauskiene, R. Poceviene and K. Rudyte on the ground of the letter No. K-211/01/33-109 of the Chancellery of the Republic of Lithuania of 30 January 2015 following the application of Arkadijus Kiseliovas received on 27 January 2015.

<...>

As the experts determined that the authors R. Gaucaite, A. Kazlauskiene, E. Masiliauskiene, R. Poceviene and K. Rudyte had not indicated sources and authors in their publications “Recognition of the Learning Person”, “Motivation and Provision of Possibilities for Learning” and “Manual of Autonomous Learning for Pupils”, it should be stated the violation of the principle of academic ethics consolidated in the paragraph 2 of the clause 1 of the article 3 of the Law on Higher Education and Research of the Republic of Lithuania and in the subparagraph 7 of the paragraph 9 of the Statute of Siauliai University approved by the Resolution No. XI-1241 Of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania of 21 December 2010 “Regarding approval of the Statute of Siauliai University” (edition of 01/01/2011), and violation of the research activity defined in the subparagraph 4.1.5 of the Code of Ethics of Employees and Students of Siauliai University approved in the meeting of the Senate of Siauliai University on 18 April 2007 (minutes No. 14),¹, based on the

¹ The review of literature through footnotes and/or bibliography is characteristic to scientific publications, methodical tools, textbooks, and other tools meant for studies, thus when the indication/omission to indicate the sources and authors in their publications “Recognition of the Learning Person”, “Motivation and Provision of Possibilities for Learning” and “Manual of Autonomous Learning for Pupils” of the authors R. Gaucaite, A. Kazlauskiene, E. Masiliauskiene, R. Poceviene and K. Rudyte is assessed, the analogy of ethical norms of research activity is applied.

honest research and endeavour at truth by “Plagiarism, i.e. presentation of the text of other person <...> as own”.

The Ombudsman decided:

1. To inform Siauliai University and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania about the Ombudsman’s decision.

2. To make public the cases about the violation of academic ethics and procedures, i.e. to inform R. Gaucaite, A. Kazlauskiene, E. Masiliauskiene, R. Poceviciene, K. Rudyte, A. Kiseliovas, Siauliai University Press, European Social Fund Agency, Lithuanian National Library of Martynas Mazvydas, and the Department of Copyrights of the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Lithuania about the Ombudsman’s decision.
