



ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ
ΠΕΛΟΠΟΝΝΗΣΟΥ
UNIVERSITY of the PELOPONNESE

HELLENIC REPUBLIC
UNIVERSITY OF THE PELOPONNESE
SENATE SECRETARIAT

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SENATE DECISION

UNIVERSITY OF THE PELOPONNESE

Decision No. 18 / 30.06.2021 — 193rd Senate Meeting

Subject: *Approval of the University of the Peloponnese Anti-Plagiarism Regulation*

The **Senate of the University of the Peloponnese**,

Having taken into consideration:

1. **Law 4777/2021 (Government Gazette 25/A/17.02.2021)** – *Admission to Higher Education, protection of academic freedom, improvement of the academic environment, and other provisions.*
2. **Decision No. 3 / 19.07.2018** of the **132nd Senate Meeting** of the University of the Peloponnese.
3. The **proposed Anti-Plagiarism Regulation** of the University of the Peloponnese.
4. The discussion held during the **193rd Senate Meeting** (30.06.2021).

Decides:

To **approve** the *Anti-Plagiarism Regulation* of the University of the Peloponnese.

The text of the *Anti-Plagiarism Regulation* of the University of the Peloponnese is attached as an **annex** to this decision and constitutes an **integral part** of it.

The Rector
Professor Athanasios Katsis

ANNEX
to Decision No. 18 / 30.06.2021 — 193rd Senate Meeting

(University of the Peloponnese Senate)

REGULATION AGAINST PLAGIARISM

Tripoli, June 2021

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Definition

According to *The Dictionary of Modern Greek Language* by G. Babinotis, *plagiarism* (Greek: λογοκλοπή – from the foreign term *plagiarism*) is the “appropriation of another person’s intellectual property” (Babinotis, 1998). The word derives from the Latin *plagiarius*, meaning “kidnapper” (Merriam-Webster Unabridged, 2019).

In the academic environment and research, the term *plagiarism* refers to the incorporation into one’s intellectual work of ideas, excerpts, and/or individual phrases from another person’s work, without any reference to the source from which they originate.

2. Legislation

In Greece, legislation does not specifically define plagiarism as a distinct offense but includes it under the general framework for the protection of intellectual property. The relevant framework



is found in **Law 2121/1993 (Government Gazette A' 25)** on *Intellectual Property, Related Rights, and Cultural Matters*.

According to this law, the following are considered forms of intellectual works:

- Written texts (printed, electronic, or oral).
- Musical compositions (with or without lyrics).
- Theatrical works (with or without music).
- Choreographies and pantomimes.
- Audiovisual works.
- Works of visual arts (drawings, paintings, sculptures, engravings, lithographs, architectural works, photographs, works of applied arts, illustrations, maps, three-dimensional works relating to geography, topography, architecture, or science).
- Translations, adaptations, arrangements, and other transformations of works or expressions of folklore.
- Encyclopedias, anthologies, and databases, provided that the selection or arrangement of their content is original, as well as computer programs and their preparatory design material.

Articles **20** and **21** of Law 2121/1993 determine how excerpts of third-party works may be used for educational purposes (e.g., writing, teaching, etc.), while **Article 66** sets out the criminal penalties for those who violate the provisions of this law.

Plagiarism is not accepted in academia and constitutes a serious disciplinary offense for members of the academic community. Specifically, **Article 23** of the *General Internal Regulation of Higher Education Institutions (Government Gazette 220/A/3.11.2008)* states that:

“Disciplinary offenses for members of teaching and research staff (Δ.Ε.Π. or Ε.Π.), special teaching staff (Ε.Ε.ΔΙ.Π. or Ε.ΔΙ.Π.), technical staff (Ε.Τ.Ε.Π.), as well as for undergraduate and postgraduate students or PhD candidates, include the violation of the applicable laws governing higher education institutions, the violation of institutional decisions, and the violation of rules of conduct that members of the academic community must uphold so as not to disrupt democratic functioning or damage the institution’s integrity and reputation. In particular, disciplinary offenses include:

a) The deliberate concealment of the direct or indirect contribution of other persons to the subject of one’s scientific research or teaching.” Furthermore, **paragraph 2(b) of Article 23 of Law 4777/17.2.2021 (Government Gazette A' 25)** specifies: “For students, plagiarism or the concealment of the direct or indirect contribution of other persons to the respective subject of scientific work or research constitutes a disciplinary offense.”

3. Forms of Plagiarism

Plagiarism may be *intentional* or *unintentional*, and *partial* (copying part of a text without clear reference to its source) or *complete* (copying an entire source).

Below are indicative forms of plagiarism:



- Verbatim copying of a section or even the entirety of an intellectual work and presenting it as the author's own.
 - Copying exact text or part of it without using quotation marks or without providing the proper bibliographic reference.
 - Literal translation and appropriation of foreign-language texts, paragraphs, or phrases into Greek.
 - Copying illustrations, drawings, images, photographs, or other visual material without the appropriate bibliographic reference.
 - *Self-plagiarism* — reusing or reworking one's previous works and presenting them as new, independent work.
 - Appropriating a third party's directorial or performance approach to a work and presenting it as one's own creation.
 - Incorrect citation of sources.
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4. Ways to Avoid Plagiarism

Academic research and writing require the clear presentation of opinions, findings, or ideas drawn from the work of other scholars — with precise and accurate references, according to established citation rules.

It is the *individual responsibility* of each student or researcher¹ to follow the principles of academic integrity and to avoid practices that may lead to plagiarism.

Some basic principles to prevent plagiarism include:

- Avoid copying and pasting text verbatim (even in part).
- Identify all sources and record full bibliographic details.
- Acknowledge the originality of each idea.
- Use quotation marks for direct excerpts and cite the source.
- Paraphrase text while still citing the original source.
- Use quotation marks for any directly quoted material and cite the source.
- Analyze and evaluate all sources (especially online material).
- When translating foreign-language texts, always include a reference to the original source.
- Seek guidance from your supervising professor.
- Include a bibliography at the end of the text.

It should be noted that personal opinions, original ideas, and widely known facts (“common knowledge”) do not require citation.

5. Plagiarism Detection Tools

The **University of the Peloponnese**, by decision no. 1/22.06.2018 of its 129th Senate Session,



secured access to the *Turnitin* plagiarism detection software (www.turnitin.com), in implementation of decision no. 2/06.02.2017 of the 83rd Rectors' Council Meeting, which assigned the **HEAL-Link (Hellenic Academic Libraries Link)** the responsibility for procuring plagiarism detection software for Greek Higher Education Institutions.

¹ Throughout this text, masculine grammatical forms (e.g., researcher, student) are used generically to include the corresponding feminine forms (e.g., researcher, student) unless a distinction is explicitly required. *Applicable in Greek*

Turnitin is an online service designed to prevent and detect plagiarism and identify documents containing non-original content. The results can be used to detect similarities with existing sources or as a formative assessment tool to help users learn how to avoid plagiarism and improve their writing.

Access to *Turnitin* is provided online to all members of the teaching and research staff (Δ.Ε.Π.) and other teaching personnel of the University of the Peloponnese using institutional login credentials.

It should be noted that *Turnitin*'s similarity reports are **indicative only**; the evaluation and interpretation of results rest with the supervising instructor or relevant committees (e.g., the seven-member doctoral examination committee).

At the University of the Peloponnese, to prevent improper source use and plagiarism, all submitted **undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral, and postdoctoral theses or dissertations** must include an attached *Turnitin* similarity report. This report, generated under the supervision of the thesis advisor, must be submitted to the department's secretariat along with the final work.

6. Code of Ethics and Good Practice – University of the Peloponnese

By decision no. 4/19.07.2018 of its 132nd Senate Session, the University of the Peloponnese approved and adopted a **Code of Ethics and Good Practice** for academic, administrative, and research activities.

This Code is a set of guiding principles designed to raise awareness among members of the academic community, encouraging all to act in accordance with the principles of academic integrity, scientific reasoning, and research, following international standards.

Regarding plagiarism, the Code explicitly states that **members of the academic community are prohibited from using the ideas, opinions, or words of others without clear and explicit acknowledgment of the source** (through citation or reference). Any failure to acknowledge a



source — even unintentionally — is considered plagiarism and constitutes a breach of ethical conduct.

The Code of Ethics and Good Practice is not a manual of disciplinary penalties. However, its violation may trigger the initiation of disciplinary procedures and the imposition of sanctions under applicable laws and the University's internal regulations.

7. Consequences / Academic Sanctions

Plagiarism constitutes both a moral and disciplinary offense and must be strictly avoided. If, during the preparation of any written assignment, textual similarity is detected — either through the plagiarism detection software *Turnitin* and/or by the instructor — **a similarity percentage below 20%** is considered acceptable, provided that the sources of the matching text are properly acknowledged.

However, **failure to cite sources always constitutes plagiarism**, regardless of percentage.

Disciplinary measures and penalties for higher degrees of plagiarism, depending on the nature and seriousness of the offense, include the following:

- **If the similarity index ranges from 20% to 30%** of the total “*clean*” text², the paper is returned to the student for correction of the identified sections and must be resubmitted.
- **If the similarity index ranges from 30% to 35%**, the paper must be rewritten on a **different topic**.
- **If the similarity index exceeds 35%**, the paper must be rewritten on a different topic, and **one grade point is deducted** from the final score.
- **In cases of repeated incidents** of extensive textual similarity or plagiarism, the student is **referred to the University's Ethics Committee**, in accordance with the *Code of Ethics and Good Practice* of the University of the Peloponnese.
- **If extensive textual similarity or plagiarism is discovered after the fact** in the work of a **graduate, diploma holder, PhD, or postdoctoral researcher**, the competent collective body is required to examine the case and may **revoke the awarded degree**, in accordance with applicable legislation.
- Plagiarism and the appropriation of others' achievements constitute **violations of ethical conduct** and must be referred to the appropriate disciplinary bodies for the actions prescribed by regulation.

It is particularly emphasized that plagiarism and the appropriation of others' intellectual achievements **do not require an extensive percentage of textual similarity** to be considered offenses.

A plagiarism violation may concern **any of the forms listed in Chapter 3 (“Forms of Plagiarism”)**, while the **appropriation of others' achievements** is judged based on a substantive evaluation of the content of the work, according to the standards of the relevant scientific field.



² “Clean text” refers to the text of a paper **excluding** the table of contents, cover page, abstract, bibliography, quotations, and appendices.

Further Information

- **Merriam-Webster Unabridged** (n.d.). Available at: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/plagiary> (Retrieved on 14/03/2019).
- **Plagiarism.org** (n.d.). Available at: <https://www.plagiarism.org/> (Retrieved on 10/01/2019).
- **Library and Information Centre of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (A.U.Th.)** (2018). Available at: lib.auth.gr/el/πνευματικά-δικαιώματα-λογοκλοπή-λογοκλοπή (Retrieved on 20/03/2019).
- **Babiniotis, G.** (1998). *Dictionary of Modern Greek Language*. Athens: Centre for Lexicology.
- **Presidential Decree 160:** *Model General Internal Regulation for the Operation of Higher Education Institutions* (Government Gazette 220/A/3.11.2008).