Telefonica’s code of ethics
Our Business Principles
Compliance with our Business Principles helps us to take decisions and to act with integrity and professionalism.
Letter from the Chairman

In recent years, Telefónica has undergone substantial changes. We have witnessed growth hitherto unseen in our Company, incorporating many new customers, employees, suppliers and other social representatives into our team. This is undoubtedly a good moment to strengthen our commitment to acting in accordance with the most stringent ethical principles, and to promote “trust” as our Company’s core value.

Being part of Telefónica involves a commitment to respecting and caring for our brand in all its forms, since the trust that we are capable of inspiring will be based on our own attitudes and expressions. Our reputation is built on and affected by the decisions and actions each and every one of us takes. Compliance with our Business Principles helps us to take decisions and to act with integrity and professionalism, both in the design and implementation of our work processes, and in the manner in which we interact with our customers, shareholders, employees, suppliers and society at large. Thus, it is important that our employees are aware of both the spirit and the content of our Business Principles.

Professionals have to deal with difficult situations in their work and the Business Principles will help them to take the correct decisions. It is impossible to describe all the ethical dilemmas that we may come across; therefore, a training course has been prepared on the Business Principles, the aim of which is to help in their understanding and to strengthen their commitment to our values.

Our Business Principles are applicable at all times to all Telefónica professionals and to the Company in general. In addition, given that the activities of partners and suppliers may also affect our reputation, we expect that they will comply with the same Business Principles as us, and we encourage them to do so.

Additionally, Telefónica’s Business Principles Office can help to answer any queries that may arise, as well as examine and resolve any non-compliance with the Business Principles.

Thank you in advance for your commitment to our Business Principles.

Yours sincerely,

Executive Chairman, Telefónica, S.A

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Our Business Principles: Telefonica’s Code of Ethics

Our Business Principles are the basis of our **strength and prestige**.

Thanks to them, we gain the **confidence** of our interest groups and **maximise long-term** value for our shareholders and for society in general.

They inspire and define how we work.

We must all **share them**, in order to share one, single vision.

We work with **partners and suppliers whose Business Principles** are similar to our own, so we can grow together.

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*Our Principles define our ethical behaviour in everything we do.*
General principles

Honesty and trust
We prove our integrity and trustworthiness by meeting all the commitments we take on.

We protect the confidentiality of any information we're given. Whether it's about our people, our company, our customers, our shareholders or our suppliers.

We let our customers, our people, shareholders, suppliers and partners know how we use and store their personal information. We also tell them how they can access it if they need to change it.

We do what we can to keep that information secure. If the security is ever compromised, we'll act quickly and responsibly.

Respect for the law
We comply with all legislation, regulations and regulatory obligations, nationally and internationally, while also considering our own internal policies and regulations.

We provide truthful, comprehensive, appropriate and clear information in the reports that we submit to the pertinent Securities Market Supervisory Authorities, as well as in the Company's other public communications.

We compete fairly in our markets. We believe that consumers and society in general benefit from free, open markets.

Integrity
We prohibit all forms of bribery. We do not permit promising, offering or giving any benefit or advantage of any nature to persons, to influence any kind of decisions (including official, administrative or judicial decisions) or obtain improper advantages for the Company. It is also prohibited to accept any benefit or advantage that might result in a failure of the duties and obligations of a Telefonica employee.

We do not offer or accept gifts, hospitality or other types of incentives which may reward or influence a business decision.

We avoid or declare any conflict of interest which may lead to divided personal loyalties.

We act honestly. We don't abuse our position or contacts to benefit ourselves or third parties. At an institutional level, we're politically neutral. We don't take a position, directly or indirectly, for or against any political parties.

We do not make donations of any type, either in cash or in kind, to political parties, organisations, factions, movements, bodies, of either a public or private nature, whose activity is clearly linked with political activity.

Human rights
We respect the principles of the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as the declarations of the International Labour Organization.

We promote equal opportunities and we treat all individuals fairly and impartially, without discriminating with regard to race, colour, nationality, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, civil status, age, disability or family responsibilities.
We engage and look after our employees so that we can move forward together more rapidly.
**Professional development**

We communicate our goals and strategies to our people so they’re committed to and enthusiastic about our vision.

We support our people’s personal and professional development, we encourage our people to get involved in improving their own skills and knowledge.

Our selection, recruitment, training and internal promotion policies are based on clear criteria relating to skills, competencies and merit.

We keep our people informed on how we evaluate their contribution at work. We expect them to actively take part in the evaluation process so they can keep improving their performance.

**Remuneration**

We reward our people fairly, in line with the labour markets where we work.

**Human rights**

We do not tolerate, either directly or indirectly, any type of child labour, forced labour, threats, coercion, abuse, violence or intimidation in our work environment.

We respect our people’s right to belong to the trade union of their choice and we do not tolerate any type of retaliation or hostile action towards those people who participate in union activities.

**Health and safety**

We provide our people and partners with a safe working environment. We will establish suitable mechanisms to avoid workplace accidents, injuries or diseases associated with our work activity through strict compliance with all relevant regulations and the preventive management of workplace hazards.
Our customers can trust us

Products and services

We offer our customers high-quality products and services, which are innovative, reliable and reasonably priced.

We verify and ensure that our products, and those that we distribute, comply with manufacturing standards on safety and quality. We will disclose and resolve any instances in which health risks are detected.

Communications and advertising

We are honest with our customers, always providing them with truthful, clear, practical and precise information when marketing our products. We make sure those products comply with all the required and advertised specifications.

We provide all the information needed to satisfy our customers if they are ever unhappy with our products and services.

We offer our customers innovative products and the highest quality.
Corporate governance
We manage the Company in line with the highest standards and best practices in corporate governance.

Value and transparency
We focus the Company’s management on creating value for our shareholders.

Internal control and risk management
We ensure that appropriate controls are in place to assess and manage the risk to our business, our people and our reputation.

We prepare our business, financial and accounting records accurately and reliably.

We collaborate in and facilitate the work of the internal auditing and inspection units, and other internal control units, as well as that of external auditors and competent authorities.

Company assets
We maintain and protect our physical, financial and intellectual assets, and use them in the best and most efficient ways.

We do not tolerate the use of any IT material that could damage our assets or productivity. That includes any material that could be used to commit illicit, fraudulent or illegal activity, or threaten our reputation.

Our shareholders can trust us
Our communities can trust us

Development of society

We contribute to the social, technological and economic development of the countries where we operate, investing in telecommunications infrastructure, creating jobs and developing products and service that contribute to the development of society.

We collaborate in civic, community and not for profit organizations and with public initiatives aimed at eradicating social problems in those local communities in which we operate by providing our capabilities and our technology.

Environment

We are committed to sustainable development, protecting the environment and reducing any negative impact we might have on our surroundings.

We respect and help those communities and societies in which we live and work.
Our suppliers can trust us

Conflicts of interest

We establish controls to ensure that no person with a significant economic interest (through employment, investment, contract or similar) in a supplier or potential supplier is involved, either directly or indirectly, in any purchasing process or in any decision associated with that supplier.

Supply chain responsibility

We require our suppliers to conduct their business applying principles similar to ours, as well as demanding from them compliance with the laws and regulations of each country.

We fulfill the payment commitments agreed with suppliers.

Equality and transparency

We encourage competition wherever possible, guaranteeing transparency and equal opportunities for all suppliers and potential suppliers.

We employ corporate purchasing systems for awarding contracts objectively based solely on merit, buying products and services at the best possible terms.
How we guarantee compliance

Business Principles Office

Our business principles are the basis for making decisions rigorously and professionally.

To make sure we all comply with the principles, we have a Business Principles Office that includes Human Resources, Internal Audit, Secretary General and Legal Affairs, the Chairman’s Secretary’s Office and Public Affairs. Each of our regions is represented.

The office is in charge of:

• Communicating the Business Principles throughout the Group.

• Reviewing processes and controls to make sure they are proportionate and suitable for compliance with legal requirements, the Business Principles and the established best practices.

• Reading and responding to queries, complaints or allegations made by employees, suppliers or partners.

• Guaranteeing that the Business Principles are suitable for and adapted to legal requirements and best business practices.

The Office works to identify and develop the policies needed to define the Groups global positioning that uphold our Business Principles.
How we guarantee compliance

**Business Principles Channel**

We have a confidential help channel on our intranet. This is where our people can ask questions, get advice and raise issues about complying with the business principles (and any related policies).

Suppliers and other interested parties can also use our website to ask questions, make suggestions or lodge complaints. They can do this anonymously, although giving their name and details will allow us to investigate the issue more thoroughly and give a better response.

Whether someone’s looking for advice or reporting an incident, we'll treat everyone with respect and dignity in line with the following principles:

**Respect**

In any instances of potential non-compliance with our business principles, we take into consideration the rights of the individuals concerned at all times. Before we assess the reported situation, we'll give those individuals the chance to explain the matter as they think appropriate.

**Confidentiality**

We examine the data and declarations made in the strictest confidence.

**Reasoning**

We take all decisions in a reasonable, proportionate and suitable manner, taking the circumstances into consideration.

**Thoroughness**

We conduct a detailed investigation of the veracity of the information received about potential instances of non-compliance with our Business Principles.

For further information, consult the Business Principles website available on your Intranet, or contact us at: businessprinciples.intranet.telefonica
About this document

Our Business Principles have been drawn up based on the opinions of our stakeholders, including employees, social representatives, customers, suppliers, local communities and shareholders.

For any questions or concerns about our Business Principles, please contact us at:

businessprinciplesoffice@telefonica.es