



REGULATION ON THE PREVENTION, DETECTION, AND RESPONSE TO PLAGIARISM

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Article 1. General Provisions

1. The purpose of the Regulation on the Prevention, Detection, and Response to Plagiarism (hereinafter, the “Regulation”) is to promote scholarly and academic activities at Sulkhan-Saba Orbeliani University (hereinafter, the “University”) and to safeguard the principles and standards of academic integrity.
2. The requirements of this Regulation apply to University staff and students, as well as to any person participating in scientific and research events conducted under the auspices of the University or publishing work in University publications.

Article 2. Forms of Plagiarism

1. Direct plagiarism is the appropriation of another person's work—including an idea, written text, image, graph, or data—without properly identifying or acknowledging the author.
2. Paraphrased plagiarism is the presentation of another person's ideas in paraphrased form without an unambiguous attribution to the original author. It includes making only minor changes to the author's wording during paraphrasing in a manner that creates ambiguity concerning authorship.
3. Mosaic plagiarism occurs when ideas taken from different sources are combined in such a way that the individual authors of those ideas are not identified or acknowledged.
4. Unintentional plagiarism refers to incorrect citation practices in which significant information concerning authors or sources is omitted or inaccurately presented.
5. Self-plagiarism is the submission or publication of the same work, or substantial portions thereof, on two or more occasions without appropriate citation of the author's own previous work and/or without obtaining the requisite permission or rights.
6. Translation plagiarism occurs when text or portions of text from a foreign-language source are translated verbatim or with only minor modifications and incorporated into a work without appropriate acknowledgment of the source.
7. Structural plagiarism occurs when the structure of another person's work, either in its entirety or in a substantial part, is reproduced without meaningful modification in one's own work.
8. Unethical collaboration occurs when, in a jointly produced work, the contributions of individual group members are not appropriately acknowledged. It also includes failure to identify and acknowledge assistance—such as consultation, recommendations, advice, or other forms of support—that contributed to the author's work.

Article 3. Awareness and Prevention of Plagiarism

1. University academic staff are informed about plagiarism through orientation meetings and through this Regulation, which is published on the University's official website.

To prevent plagiarism, the University operates an electronic anti-plagiarism system (StrikePlagiarism), which is used to examine qualification papers—including bachelor's and master's theses/projects, dissertations, and similar works—as well as works submitted for publication under the University's affiliation.

2. Students are informed about plagiarism through this Regulation, the Student Code of Conduct, the Regulation on the Planning, Completion, and Assessment of Master's Theses, and the Regulation on the Planning, Completion, and Assessment of Master's Projects. The University organizes orientation meetings to inform students and academic staff.

3. To prevent plagiarism, educational programmes at all levels include courses addressing issues of academic integrity. From the first year of study, students are assigned written tasks—including papers, presentations, and essays—which develop their writing and research skills while fostering an ethical and responsible attitude toward the intellectual property of others.

4. Individuals seeking to publish in University publications are provided with information on plagiarism-prevention requirements through the regulations governing the relevant publication or event, as well as through the procedures for submitting manuscripts for consideration.

Article 4. Mechanisms for the Detection of Plagiarism

The principal mechanisms for detecting plagiarism are the findings of lecturers, thesis supervisors, and reviewers, together with the electronic anti-plagiarism system.

Article 5. Electronic Anti-Plagiarism System

1. The University operates the electronic anti-plagiarism system “StrikePlagiarism.com.”

2. The electronic anti-plagiarism system is an information-technology-based electronic tool designed to assess the authenticity of technical documents. The system identifies information extracted from other sources, facilitates the assessment of texts, and indicates the location of identified matches. It detects identical fragments in the document under analysis that are available in various databases and Internet resources.

3. The anti-plagiarism system compares every uploaded document against the following sources and databases:

3.1. Data and documents contained within the electronic anti-plagiarism system;

3.2. Documents contained in the University's database;

3.3. Documents contained in databases of other universities;

3.4. Internet resources;

3.5. The RefBooks database;

3.6. Legal databases.

4. Works are checked through the StrikePlagiarism.com system using accounts specifically created by the University, as a rule by the relevant dean's office or the Manager of Academic Research Planning and Development.

5. The proportion of properly cited direct quotations shall not exceed 10% of the total work. The presence of uncited text is not permitted (0%). The use of the text of legal acts and court decisions, where appropriately

cited, shall not exceed 20% of the total work. A work that fails to comply with these standards shall be considered plagiarized.

Article 6. Examination of Qualification Papers

1. An electronic report generated by the anti-plagiarism system shall be sent, no later than two working days after registration of the work in the system, to the thesis supervisor and the head of the relevant educational programme, who shall jointly review and assess the report. The student shall be informed of the results no later than seven working days after registration.

2. If plagiarism is confirmed in a master's thesis/project or dissertation, the work shall not receive a passing grade, and the student shall be given an opportunity to resubmit the work in the following semester. If plagiarism is confirmed in a bachelor's thesis/project, the student shall be given an opportunity to submit a revised version during the same semester, within a deadline determined by the faculty and no later than the commencement of the main examination period. These matters may be regulated in greater detail or differently by the relevant regulatory documents (for example, the Doctoral Regulations or the Regulation on the Planning, Completion, and Assessment of a Master's Thesis).

3. The electronic report concerning a scientific work submitted by academic staff shall be reviewed by the Dean of the relevant faculty together with the Head of the University's Quality Assurance Service and the Vice-Rector. If plagiarism is confirmed, the University shall not support publication of the work. The detection of plagiarism in a work constitutes grounds for disciplinary responsibility.

4. Research articles, publications, conference papers, books, and other scholarly works shall be uploaded to the electronic anti-plagiarism system at least one month prior to publication.

Article 7. Appeal

1. In the event that plagiarism is detected, the person concerned shall have the right to appeal to the Faculty Council within two working days of publication of the results or notification of the results.

2. The Dean of the Faculty, together with the Faculty Council, shall consider the appeal and issue a final decision within ten days.

3. An appeal may be considered only once.