



Code of Conduct of the International Rail Freight Business Association (IBS)

Principles of the association

This Code of Conduct describes the ethical principles and general principles by which the IBS organises its association activities and the essential elements of its association culture.

It applies to the Executive Board and the members of the International Rail Freight Business Association.

The aim of this Code of Conduct is not to conclusively cover every possible constellation, but rather to provide guidelines to which IBS members must orientate themselves.

This Code of Conduct is published on the IBS website and is confirmed by the applicants for membership when they become new members.

In all areas of the association's activities, the laws, ordinances and internal association regulations from the applicable statutes that are relevant to the IBS must be complied with. These include, in particular, standards for the prevention of corruption, white-collar crime and competition law offences. Requirements from embargoes and sanctions must be strictly adhered to.

Any breaches of this Code of Conduct identified by members in the course of their association work must be reported to a representative of the Executive Board as soon as possible.

Standards of behaviour for IBS association events

IBS events are not intended to deal with topics that violate antitrust or competition law or to create or promote opportunities for agreements or decisions that violate antitrust law. The companies organised in the IBS are required to support the association in these efforts.



The IBS Executive Board ensures that at least one IBS member is present at every event organised by the association and that agendas, meeting documents and minutes do not knowingly contain any topics that violate antitrust law or can be misunderstood as agreements, resolutions or appeals that violate antitrust law. During the events, all participants shall adhere to the agenda.

In the event of spontaneous actions or statements that appear questionable from an antitrust law perspective, each meeting participant is obliged to react immediately and inform the conference chairperson of the antitrust law violation they believe has occurred. The chair of the meeting should prevent further actions or statements that are questionable from an antitrust law perspective and, in cases of doubt, postpone the discussion on this point in order to obtain antitrust law advice.

If the antitrust violations do not cease at this meeting, the meeting must be cancelled. A note to this effect must be made on the minutes of the event.

In preparation for and during the meetings, market and business-related topics that violate antitrust law must be consistently avoided, such as

- Agreements on specific pricing, pricing strategies and future market behaviour (e.g. sales and payment terms, discounts, credit notes and credit terms)
- Division of markets or sources of supply (according to prices, customers, quotas, territories)
- Influencing relationships with individual customers or service providers, especially if this can lead to them being squeezed out of the market.
- Restrictions on market supply in certain relations or for certain sectors.
- Calls to boycott customers, competitors or service partners.

This Code of Conduct will be adapted in the event of relevant changes to laws and regulations.

Board of the International Rail Freight Business Association (IBS)