



# Summary

of the Secours  
populaire code  
of ethics







HUMAN ISSUES ARE OUR ISSUES

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# Intro- duc- tion

Day after day, at home and abroad, the Secours populaire association strives to make the world a fairer and more united place by empowering individuals and ensuring everyone has a role to play, wherever they live, work or study. Created by people and led by people, the Secours populaire supports the idea of a truly unique relationship of equals and extends an unconditional welcome to everyone.

It operates locally and internationally through its network of partners, and runs its operations as local initiatives. The association is deeply decentralised, and each volunteer facilitator-collector can therefore do their part. Whether emergency actions, long-term initiatives, global support with material, food, medical supplies, moral or legal support, training, social and professional integration, access to law, culture and leisure, digital, etc. there is always a way to help. Whether volunteer facilitators-collectors or partners, companies or donors, adults or young children, everyone is invited to take action, to find independence, and to experience solidarity day after day.

Through its determination to create a more united world, the Secours populaire has no political or religious leanings: it brings people together and forges connections based on shared values.

***“Human issues are our issues”***

Staying true to its motto “human issues are our issues” and in the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Secours populaire français strives to support from a material, health-related, medical, moral and legal standpoint, people and their families who are victims of arbitration, social injustice, natural disasters, poverty, hunger, underdevelopment and armed conflicts.

Its statutes, missions, initiatives and experience in France, Europe and around the world and its independence in the face of all political, economic, religious or philosophical power, allow the organisation to uphold and promote strict ethics, whose foundations were built on the certainty that every human on the planet is equal and deserves the same dignity. This certainty goes hand in hand with an objective analysis of people’s experiences, which is even more difficult with vulnerable people due to the life experiences in the countries where they live.

The Secours populaire français works through a network of over 90,000 volunteer facilitators-collectors and employees organised into committees, federations, and a national association. It works directly in France and through a network of partners in Europe, in overseas territories and around the world.

The development of the Secours populaire français mainly depends on the trust its network places in its initiatives. This trust is indissociable from the way in which the association conveys its essential values.

Given the rise in the number of partners, donors, volunteer facilitators-collectors, the Secours populaire français code of ethics is a key framework by which everyone should abide. The code groups together and lays out the main guidelines for behaviour to ensure that ethical principles are followed in terms of values and initiatives.

# Child protection policy in France, Europe and around the world

The SPF promotes the right of children to be protected, and to live and grow within their family and their environment. It also upholds the right to an education, to free expression and participation in society.

That is why anyone working with children must pay them special attention. The SPF, its employees, its volunteer facilitators-collectors and its partners must fully understand the risks incurred by children, and assume responsibility for protecting them against abuse and exploitation. The entire movement is committed to the principles of the International Convention on the Rights of the Child, in particular through the development of its children's movement "Copain du Monde".

***This policy is intended to protect children from intentional or unintentional abuse or mistreatment. It applies both to the SPF as an association and to employees, volunteer facilitators-collectors, local and expatriate staff, with regard to the children they come into contact with.***

The SPF also monitors the behaviour of its partners with regard to children's dignity.







# Humanitarian principles

As part of its social missions, the Secours populaire français endorses the four main humanitarian principles of international humanitarian law: **humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence**

The association brings the principle of humanity to life on a daily basis, in particular through its motto “Human issues are our issues”. It brings together motivated children, young people and adults of all backgrounds and conditions, regardless of their political, philosophical or religious opinions, taking care to work with them on developing solidarity and all the human qualities associated with it.

*Staying true to Article 1 of its statutes, and in the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Secours populaire français strives to support from a material, health-related, medical, moral and legal standpoint, people and their families who are victims of arbitration, social injustice, natural disasters, poverty, hunger, underdevelopment and armed conflicts.*

The SPF ensures that these principles are applied by its volunteer and salaried facilitators-collectors, in particular by informing them of this policy and by making the means available for them to apply behaviour that respects these principles within the framework of the actions and missions that they have to carry out within the association.

The Secours populaire français works with partners around with whom it shares its values. All these solidarity initiatives, carried out jointly and driven by common humanist values, make it possible to enrich everyone’s actions through mutual learning and the sharing of experiences. Secours populaire français and its partners are therefore showing an ever stronger commitment and growing and evolving together for a fairer and more united world.

The SPF focuses its training programme on the challenges of humanitarian principles for volunteer facilitators-collectors, at all levels of the course.



# Environmental policy

The Secours populaire français undertakes a sustainable and united approach to its development: *“A way of developing that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs”*.

This environmental policy fits with the broader issues of sustainable and inclusive development. The association endorses sustainable and solidarity-based practices that strengthen people's capacity for resilience. It also participates in shared efforts to limit the effects of the climate crisis and preserve the ecosystems that are so crucial to humans.

The SPF ensures that these principles are applied throughout its entire solidarity network by its volunteer and salaried facilitators-collectors, by informing them of this policy and making the means available for them to apply and implement it. Internationally, the SPF invites its partner organisations to take this dimension into account in the initiatives they take.

# Anti-harassment and discrimination policy

*The Secours populaire français is committed to maintaining an environment free from harassment and discrimination, in which each person is treated with respect and dignity, and can contribute fully to the association's undertakings on an equal basis.*

For this, the SPF neither tolerates nor accepts any form of moral or sexual harassment or discrimination. It is committed to creating and maintaining a climate of respect for human rights and promoting equality.

The Secours populaire français undertakes to disseminate this policy in such a way as to make it accessible to everyone involved, in particular by making it available in writing, and to prevent or, as the case may be, put an end to situations of discrimination or harassment by :

**a) promoting respect between individuals,**

**b) ensuring that everyone understands and complies with the policy,**

**c) setting up a procedure for handling complaints and reports related to situations of moral or sexual harassment or discrimination.**

# Fraud and corruption prevention policy

As part of its mission and activities in France, Europe and around the world, the Secours populaire français must protect itself against fraud and corruption. It therefore takes all the measures in its power to prevent the risk of loss or misappropriation of the materials and financial resources entrusted to it, and undertakes in particular to:

***a) promote a culture that works to combat fraud and corruption within its network,***

***b) facilitate the reporting of suspected fraud and corruption,***

***c) analyse and capitalise on experiences,***

***d) carry out internal checks and audits.***

# Conflict of interest prevention policy

The trust and respect of the association depends not only on its solidarity efforts in France, Europe and around the world, but also on the integrity of its employees and volunteers.

*The SPF therefore takes preventive measures to safeguard against conflicts of interest concerning the members of its organisation. These measures concern:*

***a) employment,***

***b) performance of duties,***

***c) gifts,***

***d) financial commitments,***

***e) relationships with partners and suppliers,***

***f) relationships with people receiving support.***

If the existence or appearance of a conflict of interest is established, the person in question must cease all connection with the case.

# Data protection policy for the SPF national union

The Secours populaire français processes the personal data entrusted to it with regards to its social projects and the development of its network and resources.

It undertakes to protect personal data and keep it confidential and secure

as well as to respect the privacy of the members of its network and its funders and partners.

The data is collected by the Secours populaire français for specific, explicit and legitimate purposes. It is not transferred, rented or sold to third parties.

It is intended for volunteer facilitators-collectors and employees of the association within the framework of the missions entrusted to them.

It may be processed by partners or subcontractors within the framework of agreements or contracts signed with the Secours populaire français.

Each person has the right to access, rectify and delete their data.

*The Secours populaire français has appointed a data protection officer who can be contacted at:  
[dpo@secourspopulaire.fr](mailto:dpo@secourspopulaire.fr)*





# Gift policy

The Association nationale du Secours populaire français, an association under the 1901 law, recognised as a public utility institution, is authorised to receive bequests, life assurance policies and donations with full exemption from duties.

*To allow anyone wishing to bequeath with confidence, the Secours populaire français has adopted ethical rules relating to the quality of the relationship, the protection of persons, respect for intent and confidentiality. The Secours populaire français ensures that each person who wishes to bequeath is fully capable of making a free and informed choice.*

It undertakes to remind people of their rights in all the communication documents it produces on donations and invites them to seek advice from a solicitor.

The Secours populaire français undertakes to scrupulously respect all the wishes of its testators or donors when it accepts a donation. For each new bequest, it verifies that the association is able to carry out the wishes expressed in the will.

In order to advise people in their choice and to avoid any subsequent difficulty, the Secours populaire français provides them with a point person. All members of the Secours populaire français who have been in contact with a potential testator or who are working on their bequest undertake not to receive compensation from them, and in particular bequests, unless they can prove a previous emotional bond with this decision, or even a family link with the person.

The Secours populaire français prohibits any mass prospecting, specific to the bequest, in retirement homes, hospitals and care centres. Only individual contacts, following a request from the person concerned, are authorised in this type of structure.





# Human issues are our issues.

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