

World Economic Forum Annual Meeting Code of Conduct

The Annual Meeting in Davos-Klosters has many stakeholders that ensure its success; among them are the Members, Partners and constituents of the World Economic Forum and the citizens of Switzerland. For all stakeholders, what is most important is to preserve the powerful expression of global community and to continue the “spirit of Davos” in a non-commercial, impartial and sustainable manner. However, concern is growing that the unique and special nature of the Annual Meeting is being jeopardized by behaviour and activities contrary to the “spirit of Davos”.

Therefore, to preserve the “spirit of Davos”, we ask all Annual Meeting participants to adhere to a Code of Conduct. The Code describes five simple behaviours that we want to promote. All participants in the Annual Meeting are requested to know and to observe the Code. Breach of the Code may result in cancellation of your participation in the Annual Meeting.

1. Do not engage in predominantly commercial activities during the Annual Meeting. The World Economic Forum is a not-for-profit Swiss foundation. As such, Annual Meeting participants are expected to respect the non-commercial nature of the event and prevent it from becoming too commercial in style. Your contact person at the Forum can provide you with further clarification on this important point.
2. Observe the Chatham House Rule in all situations. All sessions of the Annual Meeting of the World Economic Forum abide by the Chatham House Rule, unless otherwise specified and notified as “on the record” or “open to the press.” The Chatham House Rule stipulates that: “When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.” We must ask all participants to respect “zero tolerance” with regard to violating this important community rule.
3. Avoid organizing private events or functions that conflict with the programme of the Annual Meeting. The sessions in the programme form the core of the Annual Meeting. Participants are expected to make every effort to participate in the sessions and to respect the Forum’s scheduling guidelines for outside events (your contact person at the Forum can provide them to you).
4. Do not extend invitations to guests who are not registered participants in the Annual Meeting. Davos is not a large town. To avoid overcrowded streets, venues and hotels, invitations should not be extended to individuals who would not otherwise be participating in the Annual Meeting.
5. Support the “Towards a Greener Davos” initiative. It aims to reduce the amount of pollutants released into the environment by participants and staff travelling from Zurich to and within Davos-Klosters, as well as traffic congestion during the Annual Meeting. We encourage you to do the following when possible:
 - Travel to Davos-Klosters via public transport or by Forum-organized means
 - Walk or use public transport or Forum shuttle buses within Davos-Klosters
 - Avoid the use of rental vehicles or hired cars during the Annual Meeting

Examples of behaviour and activities that would be construed as violating the Code of Conduct:

- Organizing events or activities in Davos-Klosters during the Annual Meeting which serve only a promotional or branding purpose.
- Privately hosting events or activities in Davos-Klosters during the Annual Meeting outside the time periods permitted by the World Economic Forum and in conflict with the official Annual Meeting programme.
- Organizing events or activities which mainly comprise invitations to individuals that are not registered participants in the Annual Meeting.
- Paying honoraria to speakers at private events or activities organized during the Annual Meeting regardless of whether or not they are participants in the Annual Meeting. The World Economic Forum never pays honoraria.
- Any actions which could be considered as business solicitation or promotion, such as distributing marketing materials to participants, including those in communications after the Annual Meeting.