

# New Law for Handling Scientific Misconduct Adopted

The Danish Parliament has unanimously decided that a new board will handle the most serious instances of scientific misconduct in the future. Private research will also be included in the board's supervisory area.

In the near future, a clearer framework for handling cases of scientific misconduct and questionable research practice will be introduced. The legislation takes place after the Danish Parliament unanimously approved a new law on scientific misconduct.

A central board, *The Board for the Prevention of Scientific Misconduct*, will handle cases of scientific misconduct, and affected research institutions will be more involved than previously.

In connection with the legislative process, a request was made to include purely private research on, for instance, businesses, in the board's supervision – a request that has been granted by the minister.

Instances of scientific misconduct will be handled by the board. Less serious cases of questionable research practice will be handled by affected research institutions. The objective is to increase the focus of the institutions on a high degree of research credibility and integrity.

In 2014, a Danish code of integrity in research was developed. In 2015, an expert committee commissioned by the Minister for Education and Research submitted 12 specific recommendations on how to accommodate the framework for the committees regarding scientific misconduct. The new law is based on the committee's recommendations.