

# Steps

## to understand whistleblowing in academia

<https://academicwhistleblower.eu/>

1

### Know what whistleblowing is

Whistleblowing is the act of reporting unethical, illegal or improper behavior within an organization (e.g. academic dishonesty, corruption or misconduct)

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### Recognize when whistleblowing is needed

Whistleblowing becomes necessary when you witness significant ethical breaches, like plagiarism, data falsification or violation of institutional policies.

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### Understand the reporting channels

Most organizations, including academic institutions, have designated channels (ethics offices or hotlines) for reporting misconduct confidentially or anonymously.

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### Know the protection for whistleblowers

In many regions, laws protect whistleblowers from retaliation, such as losing their job, harassment, or other negative consequences.

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### Be aware of consequences

Be aware of risks on personal and professional level (including retaliation), but **don't forget** that whistleblowing can lead to reform and greater integrity within your institution.

