

Declaration on the performance of animal experiments and use of data or materials from animal experiments at the Department of Physics

I) The Department of Physics is committed to the 3Rs (Replace, Reduce, Refine) principle, according to which i) animal experiments are to be replaced, ii) animal experiments are to be reduced, and iii) animal experiments - insofar as they cannot be replaced or reduced - are to be improved in their informative value and carried out as gently as possible. In the consistent implementation of the 3Rs principle, the Department of Physics strongly supports the strengthening of methods that represent alternatives to animal experiments and thus follows the recommendations of the DFG's Standing Senate Commission on Animal Experimental Research on the planning and description of animal experimental research projects of July 2019.

II) The persons in charge at the Department of Physics inform students and staff members who are to use data or materials from animal experiments or participate in animal experiments in teaching or research activities in advance about the nature and extent of this involvement. They clarify in particular the 3Rs principle, its application and the relationship to animal-free research in the respective context. Upon request, students and staff will be offered an alternative, if possible, without the use of data or materials from animal experiments.

III) Project leaders as well as students and staff members of the Department of Physics use data or materials from animal experiments from non-EU countries only if these data or materials were obtained in compliance with rules that at least correspond to the standard of the German Animal Protection Act.

IV) No animal experiments should be carried out at the Department of Physics itself, corresponding projects should only be carried out in cooperation with external scientists who have the necessary infrastructure and permits and who ensure compliance with I)-III).

The principles laid down in this declaration are to be incorporated into the strategic orientation of research priorities and the associated appointment procedures in the sense of a voluntary commitment.