

# A Framework for Examining Codes of Conduct on Research Integrity

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# "Code" from "Codex"



The origins of the word "code" suggest that a code is a set of rules written down (originally on a thin slice of wood covered with wax).



# Dimensions of Codes

## 1. Nature

**Code of Conduct**  
**Code of Ethics**  
**Guidelines**

## 2. Purpose

**Behavior**  
**Aspirational**  
**Regulatory**  
**Normative**  
**Educational**  
**Symbol**

## 3. Audience

**Internal**  
**External**



# Dimensions of Codes

## **4. Subjects**

**Institution**

**Discipline**

**Nation / Region**

## **5. Authors**

**Committee**

**Membership**

**Leaders**

**Government**



# Dimensions of Codes

## 6. Scope

**Topics**

**Expansive**

**Narrow**

**Details**

**General**

**Specific**

## 7. Grounding

**Values / Principles**

**Law / Regulation**

**Activities**



# Dimensions of Codes

## 8. Format

Definitions  
Principles  
Prescriptions  
Best practices  
Alternatives  
Instruction

## 9. Language

Should  
Must  
Do

## 10. Quality

Adequacy  
Effectiveness



# Challenges and Responses

## **1. Inadequacy of codes on research integrity**

- ▶ Build on best examples**

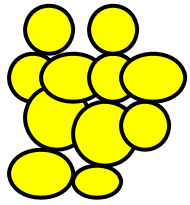
## **2. International research collaboration**

- ▶ Affirm fundamental principles of research integrity**

## **3. Dead codes**

- ▶ Living codes**



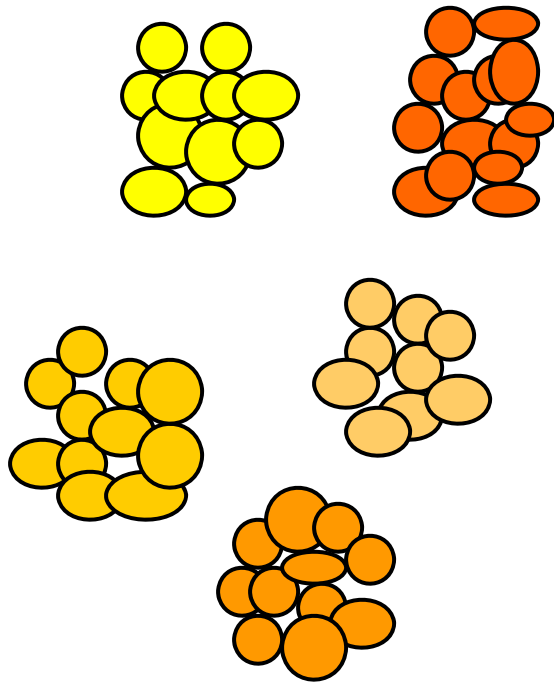


## **Institutional Code of Conduct**

**Researchers at a given institution may be covered by an institutional code of conduct, which may or may not include research integrity.**

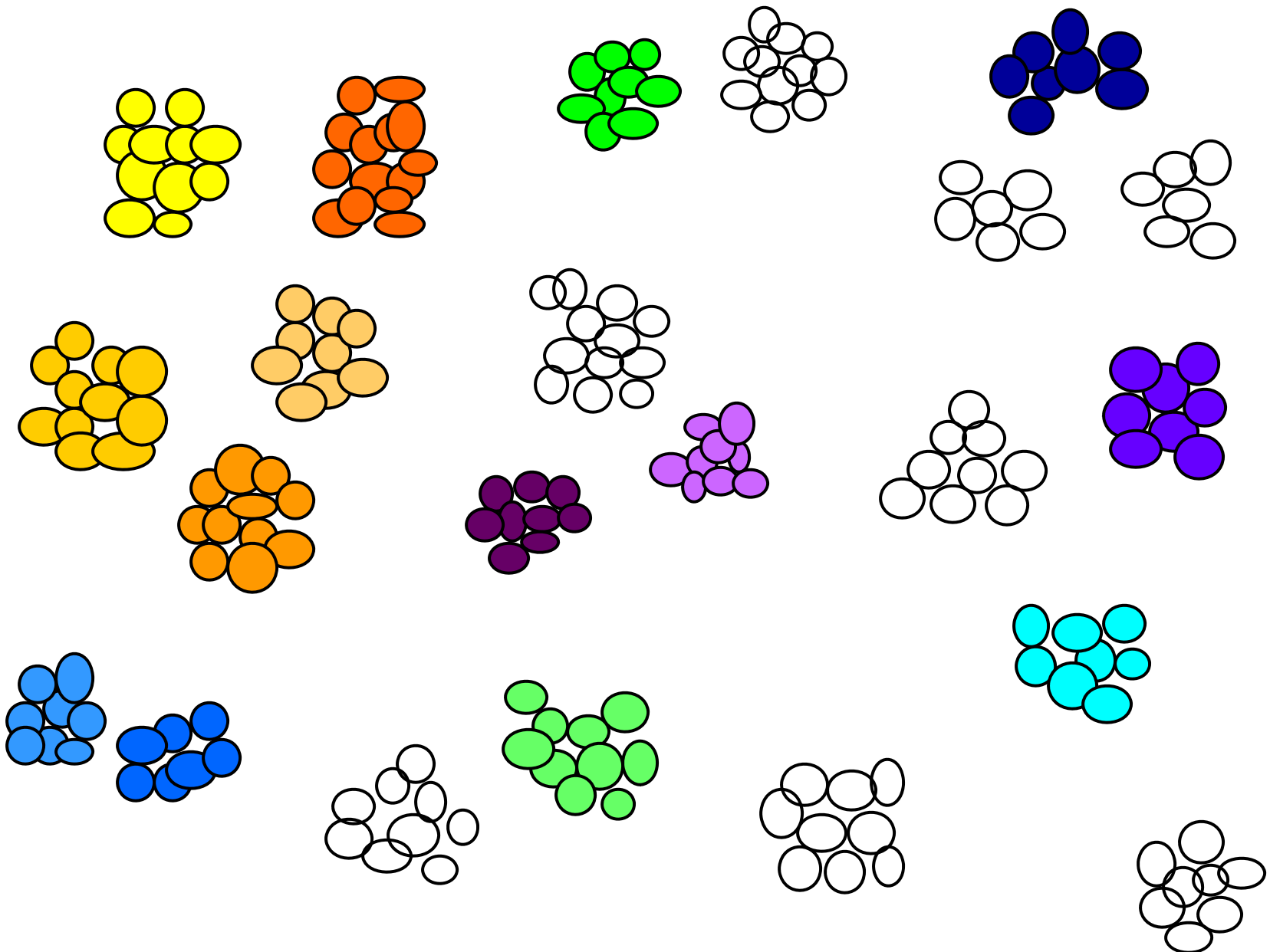


# Institutional Codes of Conduct



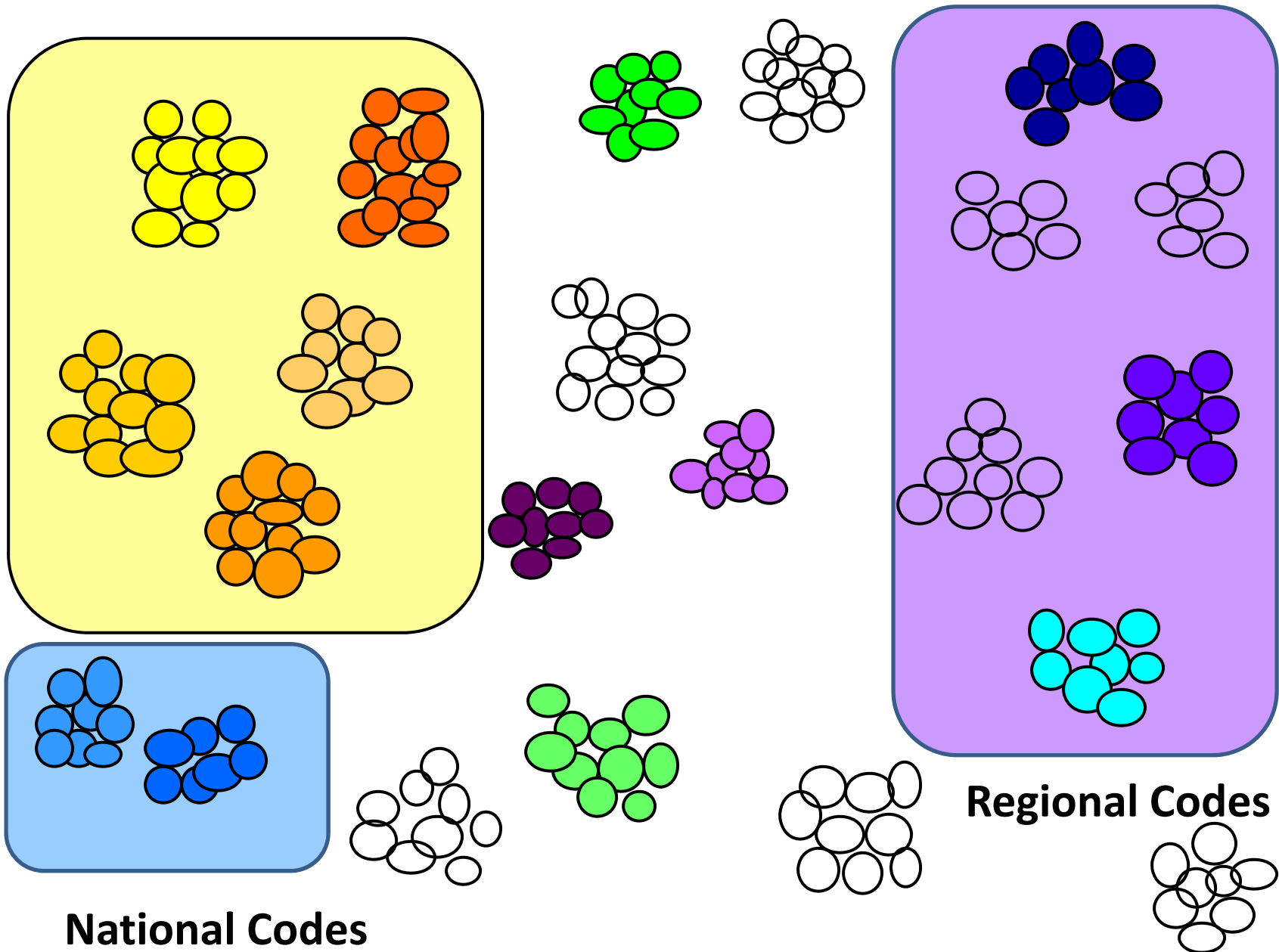
Researchers at other institutions within a country may or may not be covered by institutional codes of conduct,





and researchers at institutions in other countries may or may not be covered by institutional codes, which may look quite different from each other.

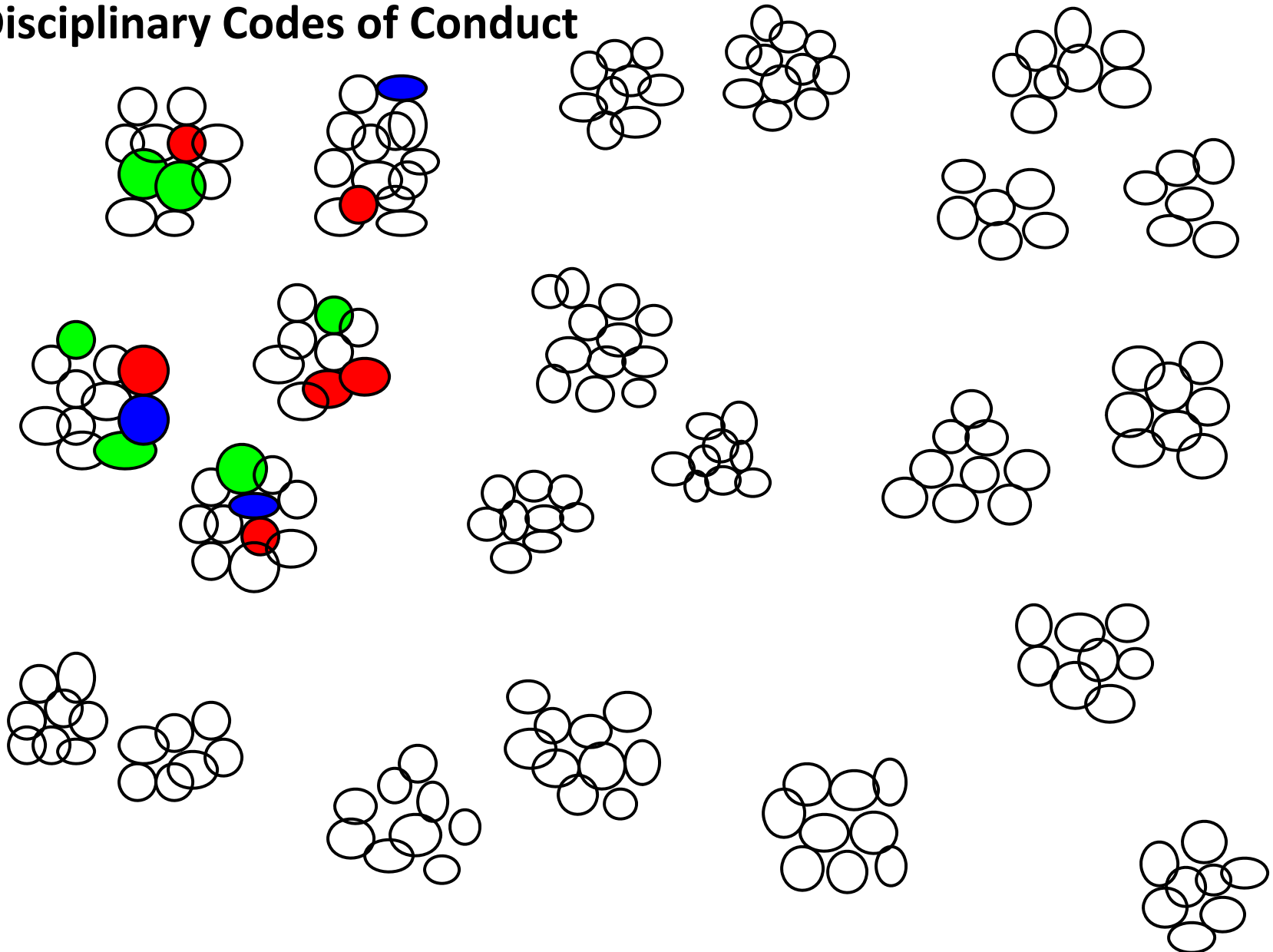




National or regional codes may cover all researchers within a country or region of the world.



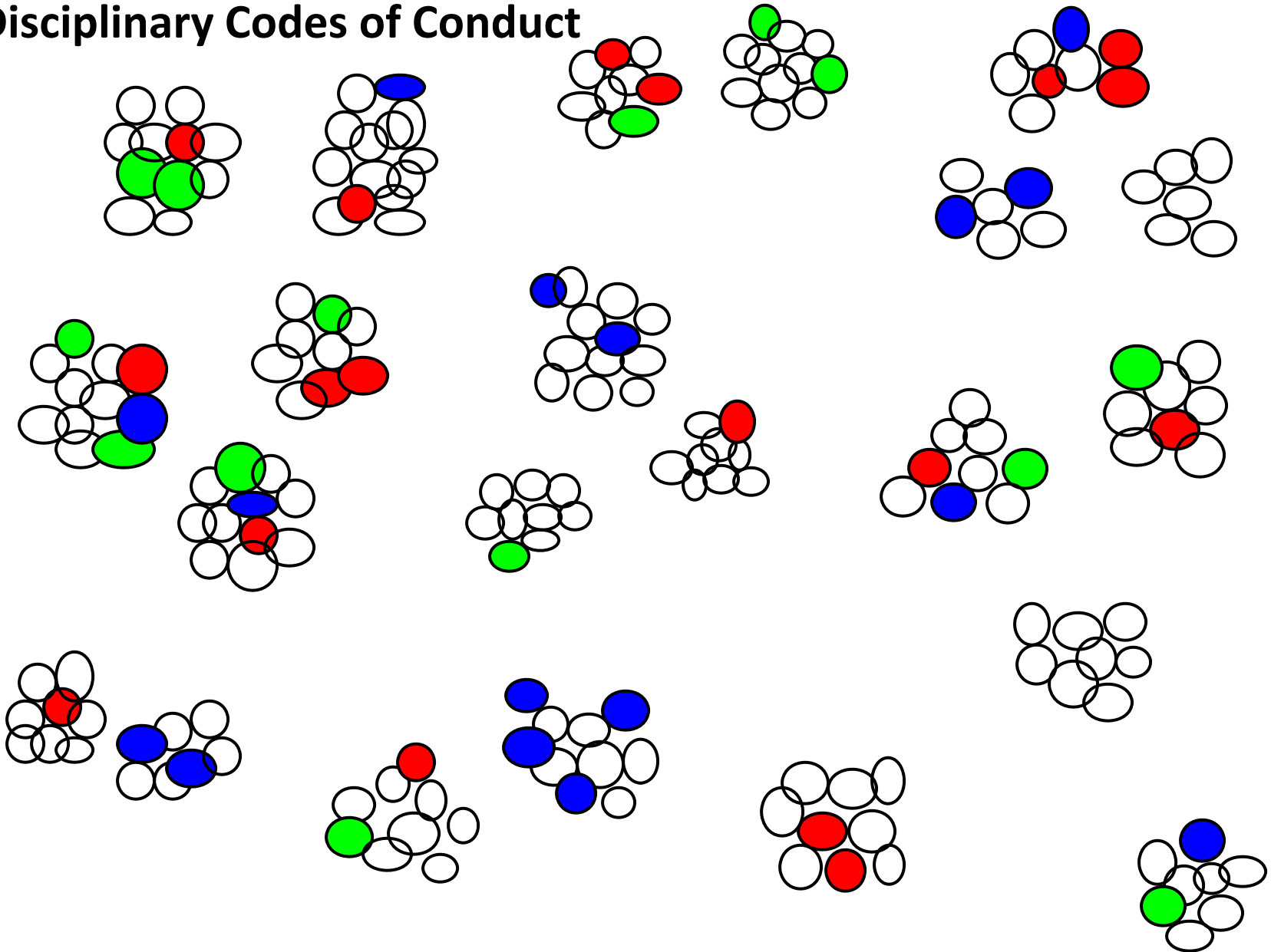
# Disciplinary Codes of Conduct



Disciplinary codes of conduct (covering, for example, chemists, statisticians or biomedical researchers) are typically national in scope,



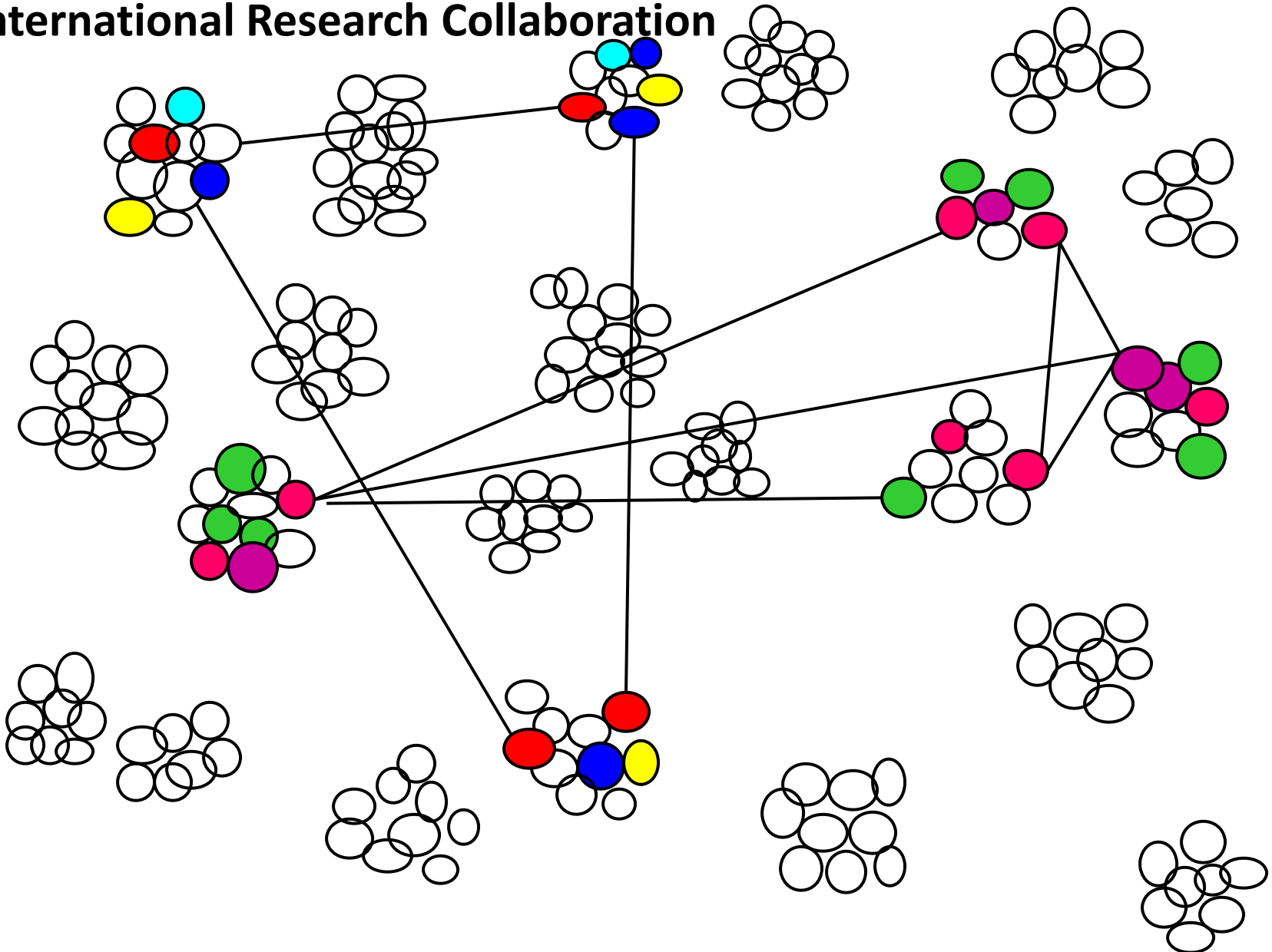
# Disciplinary Codes of Conduct



but sometimes they are international in scope, within the disciplines.



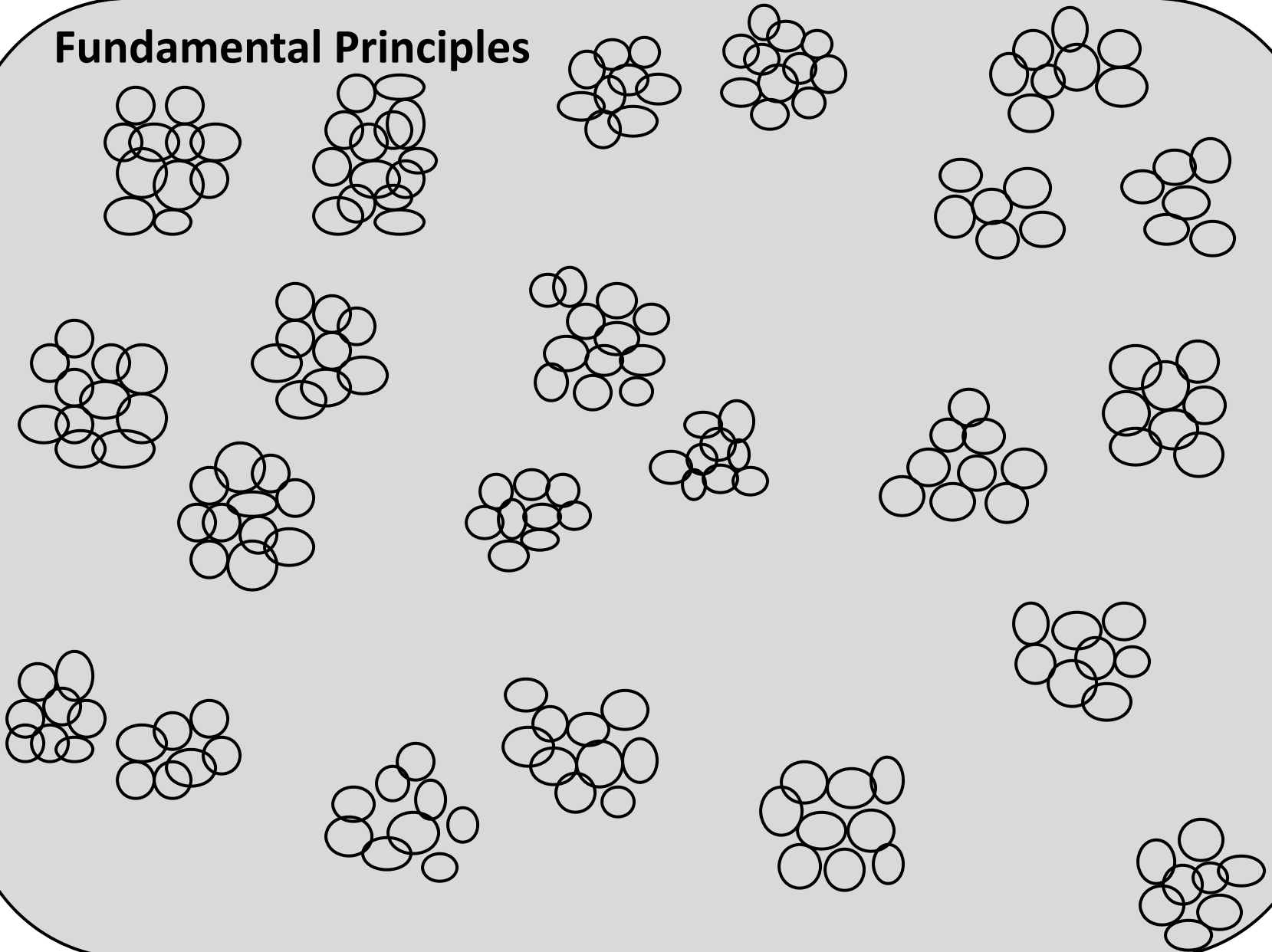
# International Research Collaboration



The problem with these institutional, national, regional and disciplinary codes is that they do not adequately address the reality of how research is done in collaborations, which are often cross-institutional, cross-national and interdisciplinary all at once.



## Fundamental Principles



What is needed is agreement on fundamental principles and responsibilities underlying research integrity worldwide., as in the Singapore Statement under consideration at this conference.



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