

Declaration of interests

(Please note that high quality of scientific expertise is by nature based on prior experience and that therefore having an interest does not necessarily mean having a conflict of interest)

Name : **Karen Hirsch-Ernst**

Title: **MS.**

Profession : -

Current EFSA Involvements

- Member - NDA Panel Experts (2018-2024)
- Member - WG/P/NDA/2018/02 - Novel Foods 2018-2024
- Hearing Expert - WG/U/SCER/2018/03 - Cross-cutting WG Genotoxicity

Interests

I. Financial investments

No interests

II. Managerial role

No interests

III. Member of a scientific advisory entity

Period: **03/07/2015 - 01/01/2019**

Organisation: **Expert Committee of the German BVL and BfArM on categorisation of "borderline" substances in food**

Impact on annual earnings: **0%**

Subject matter: The expert acted as a deputy to the representative of the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) for the Expert Committee of the German BVL and BfArM on categorisation of "borderline" substances in food (= "Gemeinsame Expertenkommission - Kommission zur Einstufung von Borderline-Stoffen, die als Lebensmittel oder Lebensmittelsutrat in den Verkehr gebracht werden, des Bundesamts für Verbraucherschutz und Lebensmittelsicherheit (BVL) und des Bundesinstituts für Arzneimittel und Medizinprodukte (BfArM)"). The remit of the advisory committee is to provide scientific advice (opinions) to the German Government on "borderline" substances that have been marketed in food. The subjects of interest included safety assessment and also assessment as to whether substances/products may be regarded as pharmaceuticals or discriminated from pharmaceuticals. The total time (office work and participation in meetings) devoted to this activity comprised about 3 days/year. The expert did not receive a financial compensation in her individual capacity for the expertise provided.

IV. Employment

Period: **01/06/2014 - now**

Organisation: **BfR, Federal Institute for Risk Assessment**

Impact on annual earnings: **>25%**

Subject matter: The central task of the BfR is the scientific risk assessment of food, feed, substances and products as the basis for the consumer health protection activities of the federal government. The Institute does not have any monitoring duties. However, it is involved in a number of reporting and authorisation procedures. To ensure that it can carry out its assessments without being influenced by political, economic or social interests, the Institute is independent by virtue of the Act establishing BfR. Thus, a major task of the BfR is to voice an opinion on the potential risks from food, consumer articles and chemicals, and to offer scientific advice to the federal ministries for their policy decisions. The BfR cooperates with a number of national and international, governmental and non-governmental agencies (FAO, WHO, OECD, etc.). It is the national Focal Point of EFSA and a partner of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). The expert is the head of the Unit "Nutritional Risks, Allergies and Novel Foods" within the Department of Food Safety at the BfR. The expert does not have an official responsibility to carry out risk management. The main task of the Unit is the nutritional-physiological/nutritional-medical assessment of nutrients and other substances with physiological action in conventional foods, including food supplements and fortified foods and foods for special medical purposes. Upon request of the German Federal Office of Food Safety (BVL), the Unit is involved in risk assessment of food from genetically modified organisms and traditional foods from third countries. Furthermore, the Unit prepares opinions on infant formula, follow-on formula and weaning food and addresses questions on selected food risks and allergies. For example, the Unit has published an opinion which discusses the possible influence of use of D-allulose as a sweetener on the composition of human microbiota. Moreover, the expert is responsible for the secretariat of the "BfR Committee for Nutrition, Dietetic Products, Novel Foods and Allergies" which is attached to the Unit. Main areas of research include: Risk assessment of botanicals and other substances with specific nutritional or physiological effects; scientific assessment concepts for micronutrients and other food ingredients.

V. Occasional consultancy

No interests

VI. Research funding

No interests

VII. Intellectual property rights

No interests

VIII. Other memberships or affiliations

Period: **01/03/1995 - now**

Organisation: **Membership within the DGPT (“Deutsche Gesellschaft für Experimentelle und Klinische Pharmakologie und Toxikologie”**

Impact on annual earnings: **0%**

Subject matter: The expert is a member of the DGPT. This society is a scientific non-profit registered association. Its aim is to bring forward and support the scientific and practical interests concerning the disciplines of pharmacology and toxicology. Within the DGPT, the expert is a member of the GT (“Deutsche Gesellschaft für Toxikologie” = German Society of Toxicology), which is a sub-society within the DGPT. The expert is a member of the scientific committee that is involved in the preparation of the scientific programme for the annual national meetings of the GT. The total time (office work and participation in conferences) devoted to this activity comprises about 4 days/year. The expert does not receive a financial compensation in her individual capacity for the expertise provided.

IX. Other relevant interest

No interests

User Agreement

I confirm that:

- I think I do not have a conflict of interest with respect to my activity(ies) at EFSA
- ~~I think I have a conflict of interest with respect to my activity(ies) at EFSA~~

Remarks:

I hereby declare that I have read the [EFSA Decision on Competing Interest Management](#) implementing EFSA’s Policy on Independence and that the above declaration is truthful and complete.

Doi submitted on: 20-07-2021 - 22:04 (UTC)

Signature: SIGNED

Note regarding the processing of personal data

EFSA processes all Declarations of Interests (DoIs) in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2018/1725. DoI processing is necessary in order to safeguard the independence of EFSA and enable the Authority to carry out its mission and comply with its obligations under Regulation (EC) No 178/2002.

The Executive Director of EFSA is the data controller with respect to the handling of Dols.

Concerned individuals have the right to access, rectify, erase and object to the processing of their ADol at any time. Nevertheless, for certain categories of individuals (e.g., experts), it may be a mandatory requirement to submit a Dol to EFSA so as to verify the absence of conflicts of interests and thus protect the independence of EFSA. Concerned individuals will be contacted if EFSA becomes aware of information that is not consistent with the declared interest such as on the occasion of compliance monitoring activities outlined in the relevant [Standard Operating Procedure](#).

Certain ADols shall be made publicly available in accordance with Article 38(1)(d) of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002. Furthermore, ADols may be transferred to bodies in charge of monitoring, auditing or inspection in conformity with EU Law.

The conservation period for ADols per category of data subjects is 10 years from the date of submission of the relevant ADol.

Concerned individuals may direct any queries regarding personal data processing by EFSA to the data protection officer DataProtectionOfficer@efsa.europa.eu. They are entitled to submit a complaint at any time to the European Data Protection Supervisor: <http://www.edps.europa.eu>

The legal basis for ADol processing is provided for in Articles 22, 37 and 38 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002.