

Plagiarism between preventive measures and deterrent procedures -A study in light of ministerial decree No 1082 on the prevention and combating of plagiarism-

**Le plagiat entre mesures préventives et procédures dissuasives –
Étude à la lumière du décret ministériel n° 1082 relatif à la
prévention et à la lutte contre le plagiat**

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<i>Date of send:</i> 03/11/2025	<i>date of acceptance:</i> 27/12/2025	<i>date of publication:</i> 10/06/2026
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Abstract:

Especially with the technological development, the phenomenon of scientific theft has spread in Algerian university circles in recent times. Since it has started to seriously endanger the credibility of Algerian scientific research in university circles.

The goal of this work was therefore to discuss the idea of scientific plagiarism and its instances, as well as to investigate preventive actions, whether they are sensitizing or supervisory, and to clarify deterrent measures by notification of scientific plagiarism and the resulting penalties for students and professors in light of Ministerial Resolution No. 1082 of December 27, 2020 Which defines the guidelines governing preventing and combating scientific plagiarism issued by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research.

Keywords: Practical Honesty; Scientific Plagiarism; Preventive Measures; Deterrent Actions.

Résumé:

Avec le développement technologique, le phénomène du vol scientifique s'est largement répandu ces dernières années dans les milieux universitaires algériens, mettant gravement en péril la crédibilité de la recherche scientifique nationale.

L'objectif de ce travail est donc de discuter la notion de plagiat scientifique et ses différentes manifestations, d'examiner les mesures préventives mises en œuvre — qu'elles soient de sensibilisation ou de contrôle — ainsi que de clarifier les mesures dissuasives relatives à la constatation du plagiat scientifique et aux sanctions qui en découlent pour les étudiants et les enseignants, à la lumière de la Résolution ministérielle n° 1082 du 27 décembre 2020, définissant les lignes directrices relatives à la prévention et à la lutte contre le plagiat scientifique, émise par le Ministère de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche scientifique.

Keywords: Probité Académique; Plagiat Scientifique; Mesures Préventives; Actions Dissuasives.

Introduction:

Producing high-quality academic work depends much on the approach of scientific research, which differs from journalistic or literary writing because of the accuracy and organization it requires. One of the fundamental tenets of this approach is academic integrity, which calls for researchers to properly represent the ideas of others, credit information and data to their original sources, and provide a constructive critical assessment of the work of prior academics. Any violation of this tenet results in the proliferation of academic plagiarism, among the most grave ethical concerns confronting scientific research. Not just in articles and scientific papers but also in theses and books, academic circles have seen a marked increase in this issue, which has a negative impact on the reputation of research organizations and the caliber of scholarly output.

The importance of this work is in its investigation of the phenomenon of academic plagiarism from two complementary angles: preventive strategies

meant to limit its spread, and deterrent actions imposed by supervising authorities to fight it. This study emphasizes Ministerial Decision No. 1082 as a significant legal framework for controlling academic plagiarism and guaranteeing the integrity of scientific research since it relates to its prevention and fight.

By examining its idea and different manifestations, this paper hopes to clarify the phenomenon of academic plagiarism and show how it harms the quality of academic research and the reputation of academic institutions. With an eye toward the deterrent actions specified by Ministerial Decision No. 1082 and their efficacy in fighting this phenomenon, it also aims to evaluate the preventive actions that can be taken to help control its spread. Furthermore, the study intends to provide recommendations and tools to improve academic integrity and promote a culture of research honesty inside academic circles.

The issue of the study, therefore, based on the theme of this subject, is the following inquiry:

To what extent are the preventive measures and deterrent procedures stipulated in Ministerial Decision No. 1082 effective in reducing the phenomenon of academic plagiarism within Algerian universities?

Particularly Ministerial Decision No. 1082, the legal papers connected to academic plagiarism are examined in this study using an analytical method; a descriptive approach is also used to highlight the reality of academic plagiarism in the Algerian academic setting.

The study addresses the issue of academic plagiarism through two main sections:

- First Section: The conceptual framework of academic plagiarism in academic settings.
- Second Section: Preventive measures and the notification and punishment procedures related to academic plagiarism.

Section I: The conceptual framework of academic plagiarism in academic settings

Whether a student or a professor, a researcher is given the knowledge and intellectual ideas, regardless of their source, whether they come from books, journals, theses, dissertations, legal texts, or others. Academic plagiarism results from the researcher claiming this information as their own and transferring it into their intellectual ownership. In some nations, this event goes by various names including scientific imitation, literary theft, and intellectual theft. But since the phrase "academic plagiarism" is so commonly used, we will use it in the research to try to define it, investigate its origins, and eventually address the situations where we encounter academic plagiarism.

A) Definition of academic plagiarism

The most prominent synonyms for academic plagiarism are imitation ("Plagiarism")¹

Literary theft ("Literary theft"), intellectual theft ("Plagiarism"), and literary piracy ("Literary piracy").² Using these definitions, we can say:

- Whether deliberately or unintentional, it relates to any scientific copying from books, theses, journals, periodicals, or any intellectual work the researcher claims to own.³
- The definition given by the University of King Saud's Agency for Graduate Studies and Scientific Research says that "scientific plagiarism, in its simplest terms, is the unauthorized use of another person's ideas and work, whether intentional or unintentional."⁴ Within the context of enhancing learning and teaching at the university, the Guide of the Deanship of Evaluation and Quality at Imam Muhammad bin Saud Islamic University states that "scientific plagiarism or impersonation is a form of illegal transfer, meaning taking someone else's work and claiming it as your own."⁵
- It is a kind of unlawful transfer, or someone takes another person's work and asserts it as their own, something wrong whether deliberate or unintentional.⁶

- It refers to the idea ascribed to people who cheat and impersonate other people's creative and scientific work, therefore claiming it as their own. Though it also covers activities by researchers, particularly novices, that compromise academic integrity, scientific impersonation is the most obvious kind of academic fraud.⁷
- Rules concerning the prevention and fight against scientific plagiarism are covered in ministerial decree No. 1082, dated December 27, 2020. Scientific plagiarism under the terms of this decree is defined in Article 3 as⁸ "any act done by a student, researcher, academic researcher, or permanent researcher, or anyone engaged in falsifying results or cheating in required scientific works or in any other scientific or pedagogical publications."⁹
- Usually, scientific plagiarism is any kind of unlawful transfer in university theses, scientific research, and publications. Whether done deliberately or accidentally, it means stealing ideas, studies, and findings from academics in all disciplines without acknowledging the original source or reference. It is a criminal act, an unethical behavior, and against all research ethics.

B) Causes of Scientific Theft

There are many reasons that have contributed to the spread of this phenomenon, especially in recent times. It is rare for an academic year to pass without hearing or witnessing numerous cases of scientific theft at various educational levels. The most important of these reasons can be summarized as follows:

- Lack of ethical values: Scientific theft is an ethical crime before it is a scientific one. Scientific or intellectual theft is a violation of a moral right, sometimes called intellectual property.¹⁰
- Time limits and study challenges: Students or researchers under pressure to finish their work within limited, inadequate time face time constraints and research challenges. Though it does not in any way excuse the deed, it is still a significant element to take into account if we want to lower this trend.¹¹

- Lack of knowledge about appropriate research techniques: This covers insufficient research and language abilities as well as a lack of awareness of the appropriate approaches for carrying out studies.¹²
- The quest for academic promotions and higher degrees: A great motivation for engaging in scientific theft is the wish to acquire higher academic positions. The financial component also helps to some extent since it is usually regarded as the final objective of scientific research. Moreover, these deeds could help people get travel or academic internships.
- Lack of legal deterrents: The absence of legislative measures in this area and the lack of a culture of punishment, along with the prevalence of a culture of leniency, have contributed to the spread of this phenomenon.¹³

C) Cases of Scientific Theft

Although there are many different categories of plagiarism and theft, it is important to note that the majority of them are similar to those listed in Article 3 of Ministerial Decision No. 1082, which was issued by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research on December 27, 2020. The situations that qualify as scientific theft are delineated in this ruling. The following cases are listed in Article 3 of the ruling:¹⁴

- Quoting concepts, details, text, paragraphs, or passages in whole or in part from a published article, book, journal, study, report, or website, or rewording it without giving credit to the original authors and sources. Citing sections of a document without providing source attribution or quotation marks.
- Using particular data without naming its source and original writers.
- Using a particular argument or rationale without citing its source and original writers.
- Releasing a report, publication, article, or text finished by an organization or institution and claiming it as personal work.

- Using a particular artistic production or incorporating maps, photographs, graphs, statistical tables, or diagrams into a text or article without acknowledging their source and original authors.
- Translating from one language to the language spoken by the student or researcher, either completely or partially, without naming the translator or source.
- A professor or permanent researcher, or any other individual including university hospital researchers, adding their name to a research or scientific work without involvement in its preparation.
- The main researcher helping to publish the work depending on their scientific reputation by adding the name of another researcher who did not contribute to the work, with or without their consent.
- A professor or permanent researcher, or any other individual, designating students or other entities to perform scientific work to be included in a research project, or to compile a scientific book, pedagogical publication, or report.
- A professor or permanent researcher, or any other individual, publishing scientific papers in journals and periodicals, or using students' works and theses as contributions in national and international conferences.
- Including the names of experts as members of scientific committees for national or international conferences, or in journals and periodicals, to gain credibility without their knowledge, consent, or written commitment, or without their actual involvement in the work.

Section II: Preventive Measures and Notification and Punishment

Procedures Related to Academic Plagiarism

Academic plagiarism can be addressed in a variety of ways, including through technical and technological mechanisms that rely on digital techniques, as well as legal measures and procedures established by intellectual property laws and regulations governing universities and scientific research. Furthermore, there is the ethical component that is upheld by

scholarly customs, university conduct codes, and generally acknowledged social ethics. Three mechanisms are introduced in Ministerial Decision No. 1082 to combat this phenomenon: procedures for addressing academic plagiarism, preventive measures, and punitive measures.

A) Preventive Measures

Reducing the incidence of academic plagiarism depends on not depending just on deterrent and punitive actions, regardless of their intensity. One has to act preventively as well. Ministerial Decision No. 1082 classifies these actions into three groups: awareness-raising and educational projects, control of doctoral training and scientific research activities, and last, monitoring actions.

1- Awareness-Raising and Educational Initiatives

Higher education and scientific research institutions are to carry out awareness-raising and educational projects as specified in Article 04 of this decision, especially emphasizing the following:¹⁵

- Arranging training courses on the foundations of scientific documentation and ways to prevent academic plagiarism for students, faculty researchers, university hospital researchers, and permanent researchers.
- Planning study days and seminars for faculty researchers, university hospital researchers, permanent researchers working on doctoral theses, and students.
- Including a course on research ethics and documentation at every level of higher education training.
- Preparing informational guides on documentation techniques and preventing academic plagiarism in scientific research.

2- Organization of Doctoral Supervision and Scientific Research Activities

These processes are described in Article 05 of Ministerial Decree No. 1082, which states that scientific bodies in research and higher education institutions are in charge of the following:

- When assigning professors or permanent researchers to oversee research projects and activities, please respect their area of expertise.
- Especially for theses, dissertations, research projects, papers, and pedagogical publications, forming discussion and scientific knowledge committees from among qualified professionals in their respective domains.¹⁶
- Choosing the subjects for doctoral dissertations, master's theses, and graduation theses from a database of past theses, dissertations, and topics covered to prevent internet plagiarism and academic theft.
- Requiring doctoral students to sign a thesis charter. Requiring professors, students, academic researchers, university hospital researchers, permanent researchers, and others to submit an annual progress report on their research work to the scientific bodies for monitoring and evaluation under the procedures described in the relevant rules.¹⁷

3- Control Measures

In addition to awareness-raising measures and the organization of doctoral supervision and scientific research activities, Articles 06 and 07 of Ministerial Decree No. 1082 outline a series of preventive measures, requiring higher education and research institutions to implement the following control measures:

- Creating a database for all work done by students, professors, academic researchers, university hospital researchers, and permanent researchers on the websites of higher education and research institutions. In particular, this database should contain graduation theses, master's theses, doctoral dissertations, fieldwork reports, research projects, and pedagogical publications.¹⁸
- To help in assessing research activities and works, create a digital database for all higher education institutions and research institutions including the names of academic researchers, university hospital

researchers, and permanent researchers organized by their fields and specialties together with their CVs, scientific and research interests.¹⁹

- Buying the rights to use software in Arabic and foreign languages that identifies scientific theft (plagiarism detection software), or using free internet-based software,²⁰ or creating an Algerian software tool for spotting scientific theft.²¹
- Every student, academic researcher, university hospital researcher, or permanent researcher must also sign a commitment to scientific integrity when registering a research topic, thesis, or dissertation. This will be filed with the appropriate administrative departments of the teaching and research unit.²²

B) Procedures for Addressing Scientific Theft

A set of guidelines for reporting scientific theft is provided by Ministerial Decision 1082, which applies to both students and researchers or faculty who are involved in scientific theft. These processes fall into two groups: those pertaining to students and those pertaining to academic researchers, university hospital researchers, and permanent researchers.

1- Procedures for Students

As stated in Article 3 of the decision, the following procedures pertaining to the reporting of scientific theft are detailed in Articles 8 to 17 of Ministerial Decision 1082:

- Any notification of a student committing scientific theft as defined in Article 3 of this decision must be made in writing and sent to the head of the teaching and research unit along with supporting documentation.²³
- Within thirty (30) days from the date of notification of the incident, the Ethics and Conduct Committee of the institution²⁴ sends its final report to the Head of the Teaching and Research Unit following the required investigations and inquiries.²⁵

- When the report of the Ethics and Conduct Committee of the institution verifies academic plagiarism, the Head of the Teaching and Research Unit forwards the matter to the disciplinary council of the unit.²⁶
- Within the deadlines set by the relevant rules, the Head of the Teaching and Research Unit notifies the student charged with academic plagiarism in writing about the alleged facts and material evidence, including the referral order to the disciplinary council, including the date and location of its meeting.²⁷
- The Disciplinary Council of the Teaching and Research Unit meets to rule on the submitted facts within the deadlines set by the relevant rules.²⁸
- The members of the Disciplinary Council of the Teaching and Research Unit hear the report given by a member of the Ethics and Conduct Committee of the institution, which should include the facts ascribed to the student, the evidence supporting the occurrence of academic plagiarism, and then hear the accused student to present their defense.²⁹
- Except in cases of force majeure, the accused student mentioned to the Disciplinary Council must appear personally. The accused student may bring any person to help in their defense; for that reason, they must notify the Head of the Teaching and Research Unit in writing naming those accompanying them for defense at least three (3) days prior to the Disciplinary Council meeting.³⁰
- The minutes of the hearing must include the facts ascribed to the accused student as stated in the Ethics and Conduct Committee report, together with the student's comments and justifications, recorded by the Disciplinary Council.³¹
- Within the timeframes set by the relevant rules, the Disciplinary Council of the Teaching and Research Unit determines the facts ascribed to the accused student.³²
- In accordance with the terms of Decision No. 371 dated June 11, 2014, the student may contest the Disciplinary Council of the Teaching and

Research Unit's decision before the Disciplinary Council of the institution.³³

2- Procedures for Faculty Researchers, University Hospital Researchers, and Permanent Researchers

As stated in Article 3, which was covered in the first section of this study, several procedures pertaining to the notification of academic plagiarism are covered by Articles 18 to 26 of the Ministerial Decision under study. The ministerial decision states that these procedures are as follows:

- Any notification from any person regarding the occurrence of academic plagiarism, as defined in Article 3 of this decision, committed by a faculty researcher, university hospital researcher, or permanent researcher, must be submitted in a detailed written report, accompanied by supporting documents and physical evidence, to the head of the education and research unit.³⁴
- Within a period not exceeding forty-five (45) days from the date the plagiarism incident is reported, the institution's Ethics and Conduct Committee must submit its final report to the responsible authority of the institution following the required investigations and inquiries.³⁵
- When the report of the institution's Ethics and Morals Committee confirms the occurrence of academic plagiarism, the Director of the institution shall notify the Joint Administrative Committee within the deadlines specified in Article 166 of Ordinance No. 06-03 dated 19 Jumada al-Awwal 1427, corresponding to July 15, 2006^{36, 37}
- Within fifteen (15) days from the start of the disciplinary proceedings, the faculty researcher, university hospital researcher, or permanent researcher has the right to be officially notified in writing of the allegations against them, to examine their complete disciplinary file, and to be informed of the date they are to appear before the Equal Administrative Committee via registered mail with an acknowledgment of receipt.³⁸
- The Equal Administrative Committee hears the report of a member of the Ethics and Conduct Committee of the institution, which should

include the alleged facts and the evidence supporting the occurrence of academic plagiarism. The accused is then allowed to defend himself or herself about the claimed facts.³⁹

- Unless there is a force majeure, the faculty researcher, university hospital researcher, or permanent researcher referred to the Equal Administrative Committee must appear in person.⁴⁰
- The Equal Administrative Committee must note in the hearing minutes the facts ascribed to the accused as described in the report of the institution's Ethics and Conduct Committee, together with any observations or defenses given by the accused.⁴¹
- The decision imposing the disciplinary penalty is communicated to the relevant party within a maximum of eight (08) days from the date the decision is rendered;⁴² it is maintained in their administrative file. Article 26 of the ministerial decree under study states that the academic researcher, university hospital researcher, or permanent researcher may, subject to the applicable law's conditions and time limits, appeal the equal-member administrative committee's decision to the competent appeals committee.

C) Disciplinary Procedures

In Articles (27 to 30), Ministerial Decree No. 1082 governs the disciplinary processes following established scientific plagiarism or its absence under Section 3 of Chapter 4 of this decree. It sets apart the penalties for students from those for academic researchers, university hospital researchers, and permanent researchers as follows:

1- Disciplinary Procedures for Students

Article 27 of the decree reads: "As previously stated, any act that constitutes scientific plagiarism under Article 3 of this decree and relates to the scientific and pedagogical work required by the student in their graduation theses at the bachelor's, master's, or doctoral levels, whether before or after defense, will expose the individual to annulment of the defense and revocation of the awarded degree, without affecting the penalties stipulated in

the applicable laws and regulations, particularly those specified in Decree No. 371 dated June 11, 2014."⁴³

2- Disciplinary Procedures for Academic Researchers, University Hospital Researchers, and Permanent Researchers

Article 28 of the same decree addresses this category, which reads: "As previously stated, any act of scientific plagiarism within the meaning of Article 3 of this decree relating to scientific and pedagogical work required from academic researchers, university hospital researchers, or permanent researchers in pedagogical and scientific activities, master's theses, doctoral dissertations, other research projects, or academic qualifications, or any other scientific or pedagogical publications, and legally proven, during or after defense, publication, or evaluation, will expose the individual to annulment of the defense, revocation of the awarded degree, suspension of the publication of the work, or withdrawal of the work from publication. This is in addition to the penalties outlined in Order No. 06-03 dated 19 Jumada al-Awwal, 1427 (July 15, 2006)."⁴⁴

Insufficient evidence or facts not addressed in Article 3 of this decision will cause all disciplinary actions against any individual to be suspended,⁴⁵ according to the ministerial decision. Furthermore, under the terms of Ordinance No. 03-05, dated 19 Jumada al-Awwal 1424, corresponding to July 19, 2003, any party harmed by a verified act of scientific theft may bring legal action against the offenders as stated above.⁴⁶

Conclusion:

Due to its direct influence on the credibility of the Algerian university system and the quality and originality of higher education and scientific research, scientific theft is regarded as one of the most dangerous negative phenomena undermining the values and foundations of scientific research. Our paper "Scientific Theft Between Preventive Measures and Deterrent Procedures - A Study Based on Ministerial Decision No. 1082 on Preventing and Combating Scientific Theft" sought to highlight the legal framework set up by the Algerian legislator to handle this issue and its efficacy in limiting its spread.

The study concluded with a set of findings, the most notable of which are:

- The lack of ethics and values, low religious drive, and the student's ignorance of the repercussions of this crime help explain the spread of scientific theft in university environments.
- Retaining most of its provisions, Ministerial Decision No. 1082 did not add significantly over prior decision No. 933. Moreover, its definition of scientific theft was vague since it widened the range of activities and behaviors deemed scientific theft.
- Ministerial Decision No. 1082 included monitoring procedures meant to reduce scientific theft as well as preventive actions meant to increase awareness in the academic community about the idea. It also contained deterrent policies defining reporting systems and penalties differentiating between students on one side and academic researchers, university hospital researchers, and permanent researchers on the other.

In order to reduce the spread of this phenomenon and promote scientific integrity, we propose the following:

- Revisiting the terms of Ministerial Decision No. 1082, especially Articles 3 and 5, to guarantee a more exact definition of scientific theft and to strike a balance between preventive actions and deterrent processes.
- Due to the particular character of social sciences, which often have comparable theoretical material and reference sources, differentiating between scientific theft in exact scientific research and social research.
- Awareness programs and strategies aimed at both students and faculty will help to raise knowledge and education on the need of academic integrity by stressing the risks of breaching academic honesty.
- Including a course on "Research Methodology and Ethics" in all phases of university education, to educate students the appropriate scientific techniques for developing research and theses following their particular fields.

- Using modern electronic tools to detect scientific theft, by examining research papers and theses prior to publication or defense, to guarantee they follow academic integrity criteria.

Combating scientific theft calls for the concerted efforts of all academic system stakeholders—students, faculty, and administrators—together with the evolution of laws and monitoring tools guaranteeing the promotion of original scientific research and the preservation of the reputation of Algerian universities on both national and international levels.

Citations:

1 - The word Plagiat – plagiarism in this sense corresponds in Arabic to the word “intihāl” (انتحال), which means the claim of something without justification, i.e., claiming what belongs to someone else. It is said, “intahala al-shay’ watanahalahu” when one claims something as their own while it belongs to someone else. Similarly, it is said, “so-and-so intahala or tanahhala the poetry, poem, or saying of another person” when he claims to be its author while it is not his. Some linguists distinguished between the words “intahala” and “tanahhala” by saying: “ intahala such-and-such,” if he claimed it rightfully, and “tanahhala it” if he claimed it falsely.

See: Saad Ajoud, Scientific Theft and Ways to Combat It, Al-Ustadh Al-Bahith Journal for Legal and Political Studies, Faculty of Law, Mohamed Boudiaf University, 2017, p. 196.

2- Taha Issani: Proper Academic Practices and Methods for Avoiding Plagiarism, Proceedings of the Symposium on Strengthening the Literature of Scientific Research, First Joint Scientific Symposium with the Algerian National Library, Jil Center for Scientific Research, Algiers, 29 December 2015, p. 139.

3- Soumia Ben Ammar: Scientific Plagiarism and Its Relation to the Researcher's Level: A Field Study on a Sample of Second-Year Master's Students – The Case of Tlemcen University, Proceedings of the Symposium on Strengthening the Literature of Scientific Research, First Joint Scientific Symposium with the Algerian National Library, Jil Center for Scientific Research, Algiers, 29 December 2015.

4- Deanship of Graduate Studies, Scientific Research, and the National Science, Technology and Innovation Plan, King Saud University: Citation and Plagiarism in Scientific Research from an Ethical Perspective, p. 3, <https://2u.pw/V4KwM8i>.

5- Deanship of Skills Development, Vice-Rectorate for Development and Quality, King Saud University, How to Help Your Students Avoid the Mistake of Committing Plagiarism, paper published within the series Tips on University Teaching, 2012, available at: www.dsd.edu.sa.

6- Rafidah Hariri, Hussein Al-Wadi, and Faten Abdul Hamid: Fundamentals and Skills of Educational and Action Research, Amjad Publishing and Distribution House, Jordan, 1st ed., 2017, p. 78.

7- Gamal Ali Dahshan: Combating Plagiarism as an Approach to Achieving the Quality of Arab Educational Research in the Information Age, Arab Universities Union Journal for Education and Psychology, University of Damascus, Syria, Issue No. 4, 2018, p. 99.

8- Article 03: Ministerial Decree No. 1082, 27 December 2020, setting out the rules concerning the prevention of and fight against plagiarism, Official Gazette.

9- Scientific plagiarism was defined in Chapter Two, Article No. 03 of the repealed Ministerial Decree No. 933 dated 28 July 2016, as:

"Plagiarism, within the meaning of this decree, is any act committed by a student, research professor, university hospital research professor, permanent researcher, or anyone involved in a deliberate act of appropriation, falsification of results, or fraud in required scientific work or in any other scientific or pedagogical publications."

10- Dalila Bouzghar: The Jurisprudential Qualification of Scientific Plagiarism and the Necessity of Reporting It, Faculty of Sharia and Economics, Emir Abdelkader University of Islamic Sciences, Constantine, Algeria, p. 29.

11- Hicham Farroum: Manifestations of Scientific Plagiarism in Algerian Universities and Ways to Combat It, Al-Maydān Journal for Sports, Social, and Human Studies, Vol. 2, No. 7, June 2019, p. 342.

12- Yassine Taleb: The Crime of Scientific Plagiarism and Mechanisms to Combat It in Algerian Universities in Light of Ministerial Decree No. 933, Proceedings of the Scientific Integrity Symposium, held in Algiers on 11 July 2017, p. 85.

13- Massoud Maamri and Abdessalam Beni Hamed: The Phenomenon of Scientific Plagiarism: Its Concept, Causes, and Methods of Addressing It, Afaq Journal of Sciences, University of Djelfa, No. 9, September 2017, pp. 3–4.

14- Article 03: Ministerial Order No. 1082, op. cit.

15- Article 04, ibid.

16- It is worth noting here that the repealed Ministerial Decree No. 933 dated 28 July 2016 stipulated that each professor was to supervise six theses and dissertations in the field of science and technology, compared to nine in the field of humanities and social sciences—something that was not specified in Decree No. 1082.

17- It is also worth noting here that Ministerial Decree No. 1082 introduced the designation “university hospital research professor”, which was omitted in Article 5 of the repealed Ministerial Decree No. 933.

18- Ibid, Article 06.

19- Ibid.

20- The most prominent plagiarism detection programs include:

- Turnitin: This program is specifically designed for university students due to its ability to compare students' research papers and identify instances of plagiarism among them. At the same time, it performs comparisons between research papers and content indexed in search engines, in addition to offering numerous other features.

- iThenticate: This program is capable of searching through 3,880,000 papers, documents, and books from over 80,000 academic journals. It also compares the target research with 920 million research abstracts and billions of pages available online. It is adopted by many well-known global publishing houses.

- Plagiarisma: One of the best-tested tools for detecting plagiarism, this program allows content originality verification in approximately 190 languages, including Arabic. It does so by pasting the text into the check box, uploading the file, or inserting the URL in the designated field. It can also verify content through Google Scholar, which contains a significant number of articles, patents, legal opinions, bulletins, and Google Books. For more on this subject, see: Youssef Azroual and Laila Laâjal, Measures to Combat Plagiarism and the Ethicalization of Scientific Research in Accordance with Decree No. 933 of 28 July 2016, Journal of Legal and Political Sciences, Faculty of Law and Political Science, Martyr Hama Lakhdar University – El Oued, pp. 387–388.

21- Ibid.

22- The model of the declaration of commitment to scientific integrity was defined according to the annex attached to this decree. See: Article 07 of the same decree.

23- It should be noted here that the term Head of the Teaching and Research Unit, as stated in Article 02 of Decree No. 1082, refers to the Dean of the Faculty, the Director of the Institute at the University, or the Director of the Institute at the University Center. Article 08, in its second paragraph, clarifies that the Head of the Teaching and Research Unit shall immediately forward the aforementioned report to the institution's

Ethics and Conduct Committee for the necessary investigations and inquiries. See: Article 08 of Ministerial Decree No. 1082.

24- A Council for Ethics and Professional Conduct in Higher Education Institutions is established within each higher education and research institution. This council is tasked with reviewing all reports of plagiarism, conducting the necessary investigations and inquiries, assessing the degree of non-compliance with professional ethics and scientific integrity in each case presented to it, and evaluating the extent of damage caused to the reputation of the institution and its academic bodies. It is also responsible for referring all cases of plagiarism to the competent administrative authorities within the institution, accompanied by a detailed report outlining the instances of appropriation and plagiarism in the work under review. Additionally, the council prepares an annual report on its activities, which it submits to the head of the institution along with its recommendations. See: Youssef Azroual, op cit, p. 386.

25- Ibid, Article 09.

26- Ibid, Article 10.

27- Ibid, Article 11.

28- Ibid, Article 12.

29- Ibid, Article 13.

30- Paragraph 2 of Article 14 further states that: If the accused student is unable to attend for justified reasons, they may submit a written request to the Head of the Teaching and Research Unit to be represented by their defender and to present their remarks and arguments in writing at least three (3) days before the Disciplinary Council convenes. See: Article 14 of the same decree.

31- Ibid, Article 15.

32- Ibid, Article 16.

33- Ibid, Article 17.

34- Paragraph 2 of Article 18 of the same decree states: "The Head of the Teaching and Research Unit shall immediately forward the aforementioned report to the institution's Ethics and Conduct Committee in order to carry out the necessary investigations and inquiries."

35- Ibid, Article 19.

36- stipulates: "The disciplinary council must be notified, by a justified report from the authority vested with appointment powers, within a period not exceeding forty-five (45) days from the date the offense is observed."

37- Article 166 of Ordinance No. 06-03, dated 19 Jumada al-Awwal 1427 (corresponding to July 15, 2006), which sets forth the General Statute of the Civil Service. See also Article 20 of Ministerial Decision No. 1082.

38- Ibid, Article 21.

39- Ibid, Article 22.

40- It should be noted here that the research professor, university hospital research professor, or permanent researcher may present their observations either in writing or orally, and they are entitled to be assisted by a qualified defender or any staff member of their own choosing. In the event that they provide a valid justification for their absence, they may request the competent Joint Administrative Committee to allow their defender to represent them. In both cases, they must notify the Joint Administrative Committee in writing of the names of the individuals chosen to defend or represent them at least three (03) days prior to the committee's meeting. See: Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 23 of the same decree.

41- Ibid, Article 24.

42- Ibid.

43- Ibid, Article 27.

44- Ibid, Article 28.

45- Ibid, Article 29.

46- Ibid, Article 30.