MEXT's Approach for Ensuring Research Security at Universities (Overview)
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1. Background and Purpose

o Internationally, G7 and OECD have highlighted **the growing significance of research security as a foundation for international collaboration**. Domestically, **the importance of preventing leakage of technologies sensitive for economic security** has been emphasized.

o This document outlines **MEXT's basic principles and initial measures for ensuring research security in universities, developed with reference to practices in other countries.** These principles and measures are subject to ongoing discussions.

2. Basic Principles

o **Ensuring research security is essential** not only for addressing economic security concerns but also **for fostering international collaboration among universities and protecting open research environments grounded in shared values**—such as academic freedom, independence, openness, reciprocity, mutual benefit, and transparency.

o When addressing research security, the goal is not to eliminate all risks or impose broad restrictions, but **to mitigate risks to an appropriate level** that allows research and international collaborations to proceed securely.

o The research security measures **must not lead to any form of discrimination,** such as based on race, nationality, or other factors.

3. Policy for Ensuring Research Security

(1) New Measures for Ensuring Research Security When Providing Research Funding to Universities

o **In the following R&D programs, necessary risk management measures will be implemented based on the nature and content of each program:**
  - International collaborative **R&D programs with like-minded countries that are expected to adopt equivalent research security measures with their counterparts.**
  - **R&D programs critical to economic security, where ensuring research security is especially vital.**

o The measures will first be applied to certain programs and research fields as a **trial, and then gradually expanded to other areas after revisions.**

o **Risk assessments will be conducted for each R&D project** within these programs. Once high-risk projects are identified, **tailored risk-mitigation measures** will be implemented.

o **The costs associated with implementing research security measures can be covered through R&D program funding.**

  ※These measures will be further elaborated based on the forthcoming risk-management procedure guidelines from the Science, Technology and Innovation Promotion Office and Economic Security Division at Cabinet Office, and the National Security Secretariat.

(2) MEXT's Initiatives to Support Universities in Ensuring Research Security

o **Supporting inter-university collaboration platforms** to improve the overall research security capabilities of universities.

o Launching a **research security advisory desk service** for universities within MEXT and **establish a coordination system with other relevant government institutions.**

o **Developing research security training materials and programs** to raise awareness among researchers and universities.