



INFORMED CONSENT FORM

‘Vulnerabilities Under the Global Protection Regime. How Does the Law Assess, Address, Shape and Produce the Vulnerabilities of the Protection Seekers?’ (VULNER)

Project Information

This *scientific research* is conducted in different countries by a consortium of partners coordinated by the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology¹. It is financed by the European Union’s Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 870845, and by the Canadian Research Council (SSHRC) through matching funding for the Canadian research partners. The project objectives are to study how migrants’ vulnerabilities are addressed in law and in practice, and to document the vulnerabilities experienced by migrants and refugees during the migration process. More information on the project can be found on www.vulner.eu.

You are invited to take part to the (country) national study, which is conducted by (researcher A) and (researcher B) etc under the leading of (WP leader) from (research institution).

The (research institution) and its scientific partners are performing scientific research exclusively. *They are not involved in the decision-making process regarding applications for a residence permit and/or resettlement in any ways whatsoever.*

Participation in the Project

Your participation in this project is *voluntary*. You understand that you will not be paid for your participation. You may withdraw and discontinue participation at any time without penalty. If you feel uncomfortable in any way during the interview session, you have the right to decline to answer any question or to end the interview. With your permission, the interview will be recorded with a digital device.

Confidentiality

Your confidentiality as a participant in this study will *remain secure at all times*, unless you explicitly waived your right to confidentiality. The interview transcript will be centrally stored in a secure and encrypted database located in the servers of the Max Planck Digital Library in Germany. Your identity will not be stored in the database and replaced with a pseudonym.

For example: Abdullah agrees to inform the researcher on his experiences of vulnerabilities. The researcher will collect relevant personal data on Abdullah (age, sex, nationality, etc), alongside his narrative of his personal experiences of vulnerabilities. His full identity won’t be collected and Abdullah will be awarded a number instead.

¹ The scientific partners of the research project include: the Max Planck Gesellschaft, the Catholic University of Louvain (UCL), the Martin-Luther Universität of Halle-Wittenberg, the Università Ca’Foscari Venezia, the Institut for Samfunnsforskning, the University of Ottawa, the Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning McGill University, the York University, the Education Development Centre in Lebanon. *Please note that the Education Development Centre in Lebanon is located in a non-EU country which legislation does not offer a similar protection to the EU one.* The University of Ottawa, the Royal Institution for the Advancement of Learning McGill University, the York University, the Education Development Centre in Lebanon committed contractually to respecting EU legal standards, including the including the ALLEA European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity and Regulation No 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data.

TO BE FILLED AND SIGNED BEFORE THE INTERVIEW IN TWO COPIES

The research results will be *communicated to the wider public through scientific publications, in a way which fully guarantees your anonymity.*

For example: Abdullah is the only male asylum seeker of 43 y.o. of Afghan origin in the refugee settlement, where many residents are of Asian origin and middle age. The scientific publication will refrain from indicating the age and nationality of Abdullah, and will rather refer to ‘Mr. X., a middle-aged male of Asian descent’.

Data Use

The collected data will be used *for the purpose of scientific research exclusively.* They may be communicated to the scientific partners of the research project and to the authorities upon their explicit request in case of a criminal investigation. They may also be reused by the research team of (research institution) for the purpose of ulterior scientific research, under the condition that they remain fully pseudonymized.

Incidental findings regarding serious offences, such as human trafficking, exploitation and other forms of severe human rights violations, will be reported to the relevant authorities.

Contact

This research project has been reviewed by the ethics review boards of the (research institution) and of all the research partners involved. For ethical problems or any other question regarding the research project, you can contact (contact details of the WP leaders).

Complaints on the data collection process and the use of your personal data may be addressed to the data protection officer of the (research institution)² and to the data protection authority of (relevant data protection authority).³

Consent and Signature

I, the undersigned participant, hereby confirm that:

- The content of this informed consent form was explained to me in a language I fully understand. I have had all my questions answered to my satisfaction, and I voluntarily agree to participate in this study;
- I have been given a copy of this informed consent form;
- I give my consent to the processing and storage of my personal data for the purpose of scientific research exclusively, according to the options I choose below:

I waive my right to confidentiality and give permission to be identified by name.

I do NOT waive my right to confidentiality.

I give permission to: _____

² (Contact details of the data protection officer of your Institution).
³ (Contact details of the relevant data protection authority).

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Date and place of the interview: _____

Participant name (or pseudonym): _____

Participant signature: _____

Researcher name: _____

Researcher signature: _____