

**Informed Consent Form for user study on social media data quality assessment based on journey reconstruction.**

This informed consent form is for participants in a user study for a thesis research about an assessment of the quality of social media data.

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**This Informed Consent Form has two parts:**

- **Information Sheet (to share information about the study with you)**
- **Certificate of Consent (for statements if you choose to participate)**

**Part I: Information Sheet**

**Introduction**

My name is Betty Kronemeijer, and I am enrolled in the GIMA MSc programme at the Universiteit Utrecht. I am currently working on a master's thesis research on the quality assessment of data that has been derived from personal social media accounts. This informed consent form is intended to inform you about the parts of the research that are important for your participation. If you do not fully comprehend the terms that will be used on this consent form, please contact me.

**Purpose of the research**

The purpose of this research is to assess the extent to which social media data is of enough quality to reconstruct journeys with. In the process, also privacy risks linked to social media usage will be identified. For this reason, the research needs participants that are willing to share the contents of their social media web profiles.

**Type of Participation**

This research will involve your participation in a user study that will take about 5 minutes initially, after which a questionnaire is to be filled out. This questionnaire will take about 15 minutes of your time.

Participation consists of granting me access to your Instagram and/or Facebook account by following the guidelines on this website: <https://refugeestorymaps.sites.uu.nl/> . From your social media account, the following information will be retrieved:

- 1) User ID
- 2) Created time of all available shared posts
- 3) Location tag of all available posts, including location name, latitude and longitude
- 4) Text of all available posts

Granting permission to your social media account does not involve permission to make any changes to your account and/or like and comment something on your behalf. I will only be able to view your public social media content.

Sometime after giving permission to access your public social media content, you will receive an automated reconstruction of the places you have visited and geotagged, and a questionnaire that is intended to evaluate your satisfaction of this reconstruction. This evaluation will then form the foundation of the data quality assessment.

**Voluntary Participation**

Your participation in this research is entirely voluntary. It is your choice whether to participate or not. You can always stop participating even if you agreed earlier.

**Duration**

Participation takes less than half an hour in total.

**Risks**

There are no risks involved for you. Any personal information that is provided through your social media account will be anonymised and stored in a secure location.

**Benefits**

For the purpose of the research, you will receive a map of the places you have tagged on your social media account.

**Reimbursements**

You will not be provided any incentive to take part in the research.

**Confidentiality**

I will protect your personal information, so no one will be able to identify you from the information that will be included in the eventual report. Furthermore, your social media data will be stored on a secured drive, so that only I will be able to access the information. After finishing the project, your information will be deleted.

**Sharing the results**

The aggregated analysis results, insights and tools that are obtained based on this research will be made available to the public. We will publish these results so that other interested people may learn from the research. Note that the personally identifiable data that we collect about you (recordings) will not be shared with persons outside of this project and that we will make sure you will not be identified in any publication from this study.

**Contact**

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask. You may contact me via e-mail: [b.n.kronemeijer@uu.nl](mailto:b.n.kronemeijer@uu.nl).

## Part II: Certificate of Consent

I have been invited to participate in an MSc thesis research about geographic social media data.

*Please tick the appropriate boxes to confirm your consent:*

**Yes**   **No**

### **Taking part in the study**

I am 18 years or older

 

I have read and understood the foregoing study information, or it has been read to me. I have been able to ask questions about the study and my questions have been answered to my satisfaction.

 

I consent voluntarily to be a participant in this study and understand that I can refuse to answer questions and I can withdraw from the study at any time, without having to give a reason.

 

I understand that taking part in the study involves granting access to my social media content and filling out a questionnaire. I also understand that my personal data will be anonymised and stored in a secure location.

 

### **Use of the information in the study**

I understand that the information I provide will be used for assessing the quality of social media data, and for the eventual thesis research report.

 

I understand that personal information that can directly identify me, such as my name or where I live, will not be stored or shared, and that I will not be identifiable in any published study results.

 

I do give permission for the social media content and questionnaire answers that I provide to be stored on a secure drive so it can be used for the entire duration of the project.

 

I understand that all social media content and questionnaire answers will be deleted after they have been analysed, and that personally identifiable information will be removed from the thesis report.

 

After removal of my personally identifiable data, I give permission that my social media content and the results of the evaluation questionnaire may be used to draw conclusions from, and that they may be used in the thesis report.

 

### **Permission**

By accepting the API request, you automatically agree to the statements above. You may however always withdraw from participation.