

Do you require an official statement on ethics review of the research project for a third party?

A third party may be a funder (e.g., NWO, ERC), a journal, or another party outside VU Amsterdam.

- No
- Yes - *Full ethics review will be required.*

Will you collect or analyze data in the course of your research project?

Data may include interview and survey responses, observations, registrations, social media content, and visual images.

- No - *This will end the self-check, no ethics review is necessary.*
- Yes

Are the data you use collected in the public or in the private domain?

Public domain data include a.o.: observations made during a public event, observations of public figures, or data extracted from public online sources (including publicly accessible social media data).

Private domain data include a.o.: observations made using (online) questionnaires, experiments, interviews, and focus groups as well as data extracted from private digital sources.

- Public domain
- Private domain
- Both

Will you ask participants in the research project for written, opt-in, informed consent?

Note that in the case of minors (participants below the age of 18), informed consent should be obtained from a parent or legal caregiver, as well as from the minor.

- No - *Full ethics review will be required*
- Yes

Do the data you use contain personal or sensitive information?

Personal data contain information that may identify a specific person, e.g. name, address, phone number, IP address, bank account number, social security number (BSN), video or audio recordings of persons.

Sensitive data contain information such as race, religion, sexual orientation, criminal record, and political preference.

Note that particular attention should be given to personal or sensitive data in your research data management plan. For resources and support on research data management, see [here](#).

According to the GDPR legislation all research with personal data needs to be registered. Registration is available in [DMPonline](#).

- No
- Yes

Will the research project involve merging multiple data sets on the same participants?

- No
- Yes - *Full review will be required*

Will you conduct your research, or collect data, outside the Netherlands?

- No
- Yes - *Note that in this case you should make sure that you are aware of, and comply with, local guidelines for research ethics*

The questions below are about potential risks envisioned for your research participants. Note that the term "participant" refers to any human subject about whom observations are being made, regardless of whether this happens in the public or private domain.

Does the research you plan to conduct pose potential risks to the participants during or after the research?

Risks may include physical and psychological harm or discomfort.

- No
- Yes - *Full ethics review will be required.*

Does the research you plan to conduct pose potential risks to a population or group from which your participants are drawn?

Risks may include stigmatization, reputational or economical damage.

- No
- Yes - *Full ethics review will be required.*

Are your participants individuals who are vulnerable?

Participants may be vulnerable when they depend on others for assistance in daily life, or when they experience threats or danger or situations that negatively affect their health, emotional stability, or cognitive ability.

- No
- Yes - *Full ethics review will be required.*

Will participants be exposed to material, social, or psychological recruitment incentives that are stronger than usual?

E.g., are payments made that are higher than the minimum wage? Are individuals exposed to strong social or psychological pressure to participate?

- No
- Yes - *Full ethics review will be required.*

Will participants be exposed to research stimuli (e.g., pictures, video, text) that may be distressing, offensive, or age-inappropriate?

For minors, age guidelines for media content (e.g., de Kijkwijzer) apply. For participants over 18, research stimuli may be considered distressing or offensive if they are stronger than what participants would normally be exposed to in daily life.

- No
- Yes - *Full ethics review will be required.*

Does the research you plan to conduct pose potential risks to the researchers?
Risks may include physical and psychological harm or discomfort.

No

Yes - *Full ethics review will be required.*

Will you deceive participants in the research?

Deception means that you deliberately give participants information that is false.

While withholding information is not considered deception in the code of ethics, note that you can never withhold information on potential risk, harm or discomfort.

- No
- Yes. No harm or discomfort will result from the deception. Participants will be debriefed.
- Yes. No harm or discomfort will result from the deception. Participants will not be debriefed.
- *Full ethics review will be required*
- Yes. Harm or discomfort may result from the deception.
- *Full ethics review will be required.*

Do you guarantee anonymity or confidentiality to your participants?

Anonymity means that the identity of participants will remain unknown, also to the researchers.

Confidentiality means that you know the identity of participants, but it will be unknown to others.

- *For more information regarding definitions, please see [here](#)*
- *Note that in case confidentiality is guaranteed, particular attention should be given to your research data management plan. For resources and support on research data management, see [here](#).*
- No – *Full ethics review will be required*
- Yes, participants will be anonymous
- Yes, participant data will be kept confidential