

The privacy statement contains the information that must be provided to research subjects when processing personal data in scientific research, as well as the details of the record of processing activities. The obligation to inform is regulated by Articles 12–14 of the EU General Data Protection Regulation (EU 2016/679) and the record of processing activities by Article 30.

The privacy statement describes the processing of personal data and demonstrates that the research complies with data protection legislation. The privacy statement can also serve as a basis for preparing the information to be provided to research subjects.

1. Name of the Study

The privacy statement concerns the study "Interactive Promotion of Sustainability Transitions in the North Karelia Biosphere Reserve: A Case Study on Network-Based Environmental Governance

2. Data Controller and Contact Information

- Contract research/project with supplementary funding.

University of Eastern Finland, PL 1627, 70211 Kuopio, 0294 45 1111, kirjaamo@uef.fi

- Research conducted with basic funding or personal grant

- Thesis

The data controller for the study is Doctoral Researcher, Niko Nesterinen, niko.nesterinen@uef.fi, +358294455477

- Joint data controllership

3. Parties Involved in the Study and Division of Responsibilities

The study is conducted by Doctoral Researcher Niko Nesterinen from the University of Eastern Finland (Department of History and Geography Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences and Business Studies).

4. Supervisor, Principal Investigator, or Responsible Group

The study is a doctoral dissertation supervised by Professor Irmeli Mustalahti (irmeli.mustalahti@uef.fi, +358 29 445 5006) and University Lecturer Marja Alastalo (marja.alastalo@uef.fi, +358 294 455 018).

5. Researchers Conducting the Study

The doctoral dissertation is conducted by Doctoral Researcher Niko Nesterinen. Additionally, the dissertation supervisors, Professor Irmeli Mustalahti and University Lecturer Marja Alastalo, are authorized to handle the research data.

6. Contact Information of the Data Protection Officer

Doctoral Researcher Niko Nesterinen, niko.nesterinen@uef.fi, +358 294 455 477, Department of History and Geography, Faculty of Social Sciences and Business Studies

7. Contact Person for Matters Related to the Processing of Personal Data

Doctoral Researcher Niko Nesterinen, niko.nesterinen@uef.fi, +358 294 455 477

8. Nature of the Study

One time study

Longitudinal study 

9. Storage, Disposal, or Archiving Research Data

Storage period of research data for research purposes (storage period according to the intended use):

The storage period of research data for research purposes is 15 years (starting from 2024). The storage period includes the collection, analysis, reporting, and publication of research data, as well as the validation period. The storage period also considers potential scientific research by the doctoral researcher after the dissertation work (e.g., postdoctoral research).

Processing of personal data after the completion of the study:

- Research data containing personal data will be destroyed
- Research data containing personal data will be archived
 - without identifying information
 - with identifying information

10. What is the purpose of processing personal data?

The purpose of processing personal data is scientific research aimed at investigating the promotion of sustainability transitions within the environmental governance practices of the North Karelia Biosphere Reserve. The target group for data collection consists of individuals who, based on their roles or experiences, have knowledge of the activities of the North Karelia Biosphere Reserve. Individuals connected to the activities of the North Karelia Biosphere Reserve will be interviewed, or their participation in the daily activities of the biosphere reserve will be observed using participatory methods. The researcher conducting the study has the contact information (name, email address, phone number) of the participants. Consent to participate in the study will be requested from all participants.

11. On what basis is personal data processed?

The processing of personal data always requires a legal basis found in the law. In this study, the legal basis is:

- Task carried out in the public interest/exercise of official authority vested in the controller, specifically:
 - Scientific or historical research or statistical purposes
 - Archiving research data and cultural heritage materials
 - Performance of a task carried out in the public interest
- Pursuit of the legitimate interests of the controller or a third party What legitimate interest is involved:
 - Consent of the data subject
 - Compliance with a legal obligation to which the controller is subject

12. What personal data does the research data contain?

Name, email address, phone number, job title/role, organization, association membership, voice, traditional signature, given position (e.g., chairmanship).

13. From which sources are personal data collected?

Personal data is collected for the study from the following sources:

- Directly from the research participants
 - Interview
 - Video recording
 - Electronic questionnaire (Webropol, Redcap, or equivalent)
 - Postal questionnaire
 - Other method, specify: Participatory observation
- From sources other than the research participants, specify and what data: Publicly available contact information from various organizations (e.g., online), including name, phone number, email address, and job title/role.
- The research participant is not obligated to provide the required personal data; participation is voluntary.

14. Transfer/Disclosure of Data Outside the Research Team

Data will not be disclosed outside the doctoral researcher and the supervisors of the doctoral dissertation. A data protection agreement will be made with any research support services (e.g., transcription or translation services) that may be utilized in the study. Audio files of interviews or translation materials without identifying information will be provided to external research support services. The data collected in the study may be used in the doctoral researcher's post-dissertation scientific research projects. Personal data will not be transferred to any potential collaborators on these possible research projects.

15. Transfer/Disclosure of Data Outside the EU or EEA

Data will not be transferred.

16. Automated Decision Making and Profiling

Automated decision-making refers to a decision intended to evaluate certain characteristics of an individual, made solely through automated data processing, which results in legal effects for the data subject or otherwise significantly affects them. Examples of automated decision-making include creditworthiness decisions and profiling. In scientific research, the processing of personal data is not used for decision-making or profiling concerning participants.

17. Principles of Personal Data Protection

An ethical pre-assessment has been conducted for the study:

Yes

Supporting statement provided by the research ethics committee:

No

Data processed in information systems is protected as follows: Username Password Usage logging Access control (physical space) Other method, specify: Two-factor authentication

Pseudonymization and Anonymization: In scientific research, it is necessary to retain research data to verify research results and to use already collected research data for further research and new scientific studies. Research data is anonymized or pseudonymized whenever possible. Research results are published in a form that does not allow individual people to be generally identified. In special cases, e.g., when interviewing visual artists about their works, it may be justified to disclose the authors.

In this study:

Data is anonymized (all identifying information is completely removed, so there is no return to identifiable data and no new data can be linked to the dataset)

Direct identifiers are removed (pseudonymization)

Identifiability can be restored and new data can be linked to the dataset (using a code key or equivalent)

Data is analyzed using only indirect identifiers

Data contains only indirect or pseudonymous identifiers

Data is analyzed with direct identifiers because (reason for retaining direct identifiers):

Safeguards for sensitive data:

Research plan

Responsible person for the study, who: Niko Nesterinen

Personal data is processed and disclosed only for research purposes, ensuring that specific personal data is not revealed to outsiders

Data protection impact assessment (PIA) has been conducted for the study

Data protection impact assessment (DPIA) has been conducted for the study

18. Rights of the Research Participant and Their Limitations

According to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the data subject has the right to:

- Receive information about the processing of personal data, unless there is a specific legal exception
- Access their own data
- Rectify their data
- Delete their data (not applicable if the legal basis is statutory or a task carried out in public interest)
- Restrict the processing of their data
- Object to the processing of their data if the legal basis is public interest or legitimate interest
- Request the transfer of their personal data provided by them from one system to another if the legal basis is consent
- Withdraw their consent
- Notification obligation of the data controller regarding rectification/deletion/restriction of processing of personal data
- Not be subject to automated decision-making (the data subject can allow automated decision-making with their consent)
- File a complaint with the Data Protection Ombudsman if they believe that the processing of their personal data violates applicable data protection legislation

The data subject can exercise their rights by contacting the contact person for the study or the data protection officer. Additional information about the rights of the data subject is provided by the contact person for the study and/or the data protection officer.

If the processing of personal data in the study does not require the identification of the data subject without additional information and the data controller cannot identify the data subject, the right to access, rectify, delete, restrict processing, notification obligation, and transfer of data does not apply.

Deviation from the rights of the research participant is necessary and justified if the study has purposes in the public interest and the rights of the research participant are likely to prevent or significantly hinder the achievement of these purposes, and such deviations are necessary to fulfill these purposes.

No deviation from the rights of the data subject in this study

The following rights of the data subject under the GDPR are likely to be deviated from in this study:

- Right of the data subject to receive information about the processing of personal data (the obligation to inform can be deviated from in scientific research based on Article 14(5)(b) of the GDPR, in which case a data protection impact assessment must be conducted, and the study information must be made publicly available)
- Right of the data subject to access their own data
- Right of the data subject to rectify their data
- Right of the data subject to restrict processing
- Right of the data subject to object to the processing of their personal data

Justifications for deviation from the rights of the data subject:

The following safeguards have been implemented in this study to allow deviation from the rights of the research participant:

- The research notice has been made publicly available, and a data protection impact assessment has been conducted (when deviating from informing the participants)
- Processing of personal data is based on the research plan
- The study has a responsible person or responsible group
- Personal data is used and disclosed only for historical or scientific research or other compatible purposes, and otherwise ensuring that specific personal data is not revealed to outsiders
- The study involves processing sensitive data, and a data protection impact assessment has been conducted, which has been submitted to the Data Protection Ombudsman before the processing begins (when deviating from the rights to access, rectify, restrict, and object)