**INFORMATION ABOUT THE RESEARCH**

Version for participants

**Publishing research output continuously (PROCess): The case of modular publishing**

Data collection takes about 30-60 minutes.

Please ask questions if you are unsure.

Participation is voluntary.

You can stop at any time.

All data will be pseudo-nymised

There are no known or expected risks.

Data is stored securely, and only the research team has access.

**Key Information and Rights**

*Ethical approvals by:*

Research ethics committee (REC), Faculty of behavioural and social sciences, University of Groningen

*Principal Investigator:*

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* **Purpose of the research**

This is a scientific research study focused on identifying the limitations that prevent academics from adopting alternative publishing methods and developing solutions to overcome these barriers. Additionally, this project explores how modular thinking and publishing can enhance academic practice and contribute to its advancement.

In this study we will investigate this issue by asking you to discuss modular publishing in a focus group discussion. Additionally, you will be asked to answer a short feedback survey at the end of the workshop and fill out a follow-up survey a few weeks after the workshop has taken place.

* **Your key rights as a participant**
1. Participation in the research is consensual and voluntary. Your explicit informed consent is needed for the collection of any of your personal data. If you decide to not participate, you do not need to explain why, and there will be no negative consequences for you. We will also keep this decision confidential. You have a right to access, change, or remove your own data at all times, including after you have consented to participate in the research.
2. You have the right to be fully informed about what kind of data is being collected.
3. You have the right to be fully informed how your data is being stored and processed.
4. You have the right to be fully informed how your data is being shared and used.

In the following sections these rights are laid out in more detail. Please ask all the questions you might have, for example because you do not understand something. Only afterwards you decide if you want to participate.

* **What types of personal data will be collected?**

Note that you can always skip any question you do not feel comfortable answering.

**Directly identifiable personal data**

* + - * + email address, name

**Indirectly identifiable personal data**

* + - * + gender, employment status, country of residence

**Sensitive personal data** (a.k.a. [special categories of personal data](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-topic/data-protection/reform/rules-business-and-organisations/legal-grounds-processing-data/sensitive-data/what-personal-data-considered-sensitive_en))

* **How will data be collected?**

This is a mixed-method study, which typically takes about 30-60 minutes.

* 1. You will be asked to actively give consent for participation in this study.
	2. The main part of the data gathering consists of focus group discussion, a short feedback survey, and a follow-up survey. Please know that you can skip any question you feel uncomfortable answering.
* **How will your data be processed and stored?**

Please note that focus group discussions are never completely anonymous. However, we have taken the following steps to protect your privacy:

1. We will only record and store your data after we received your consent. Please make sure to read this information and sign the consent form before you start with this interview.
2. You can always change or decline your participation in the project, also after the data collection is finished.
3. The data will be stored at a safe university server.
4. The data will be deleted after 10 years.
5. In the transcription, we will remove all (directly identifiable) personal data such as your name, and sensitive personal data (e.g. religious beliefs or union status).
6. If you choose to request a language interpreter, our interview interpreter will sign a confidentiality agreement to not share any information received during the translation process.
* **How will your data be shared and used?**

Your data will be used solely for scientific and public information purposes. This means that your data will not be used for commercial purposes. This also means that only members of the research team will have access to your interview data.

* **What else should you know?**

You may always ask questions about the research: now, during the research, and after the end of the research. You can reach us via email (j.schmidt@rug.nl).

Do you have questions or concerns regarding your rights as a research participant? For this you may also contact the Ethics Committee of the University of Groningen: ec-bss@rug.nl

Do you have questions or concerns regarding your privacy, or regarding the handling of your personal data? For this you may also contact the Data Protection Officer of the University of Groningen: A.R. Deenen a.r.deenen@rug.nl (or privacy@rug.nl)

As a research participant you have the right to a copy of this research information. You also have the right to a copy of your active informed consent.

 If you agree with the below statement, please sign the consent form.

*"I have read the above information. I agree to participate in this study and to the processing of my personal data as described above. I understand that my participation is entirely voluntary and that I may withdraw at any time. I know that I can ask to have my data accessed, changed, or erased."*