



Participant information sheet: Human-Centred Explainable Fact Checking

Research Team:

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2. Irina Shklovski, University of Copenhagen
3. Isabelle Augenstein, University of Copenhagen (Principal Investigator)

You are invited to take part in a research study about fact checking, fact checking tools and how to improve how they work. If you would like more information about the project please visit [our website](#).

1. What is the project about and why do we collect personal data?

The aim of this project is to study explainable automatic fact checking, which involves developing Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems that can detect and correct false information as well as produce explanations about how a system arrived at its prediction that a particular piece of information is true or false.

Our goal is to understand what kinds of explanations people require when using or when impacted by automated fact-checking systems, and how these information needs may differ between different stakeholders. We seek to ensure that the explanations that these systems provide are truly useful to the people that interact with them.

As part of this research, we are conducting recorded interviews and online surveys with professional fact-checkers, members of the general public, and other stakeholders in the fact-checking sector. This involves the collection of some personal data for research purposes, which will be kept confidential within the project team and always anonymised for publications and presentations.

2. What does participation entail?

You can choose whether you want to take part in an interview, a survey, or both.

The researcher(s) will conduct semi-structured, individual interviews with participants who agree to be interviewed. The interviews will take place remotely (on Zoom) and will last for about 60 minutes. All participants who participate in the interviews will be offered an online gift voucher to the value of 50 USD. The interviews will be recorded and transcribed. If at any point you are uncomfortable with the recording, please let us know and we will stop the recording.

Participants who agree to take part in the survey will receive a link via email to an online survey. The survey will take about 20 minutes to complete. All participants who complete the survey will be offered [an online gift voucher](#) to the value of 15 USD.

There is no cost to you for participating. You may refuse to participate or discontinue your involvement at any time without penalty. You can choose to skip a question at any time. You can request that your data are removed from the project data corpus at any time during the interview or up to 2 months after the interview.



3. Source of funding

This project has received funding from the ERC (European Research Council) Starting Grant on [Explainable and Robust Fact Checking](#) under grant agreement ID no. 101077481.

4. Consenting to participate in the project and withdrawing from the research

You can consent to participating in the project and in any of the activities outlined above by completing the consent form provided by the research team conducting the study and acting as the representative of the data controller. Participation in the study is completely voluntary. Your decision not to consent will have no adverse consequences. Your consent can be withdrawn at any time up until 2 months from today's date, at which point the data will be anonymised and will no longer be able to be linked to you.

5. Possible benefits and risks to participants

By participating in this study you will be contributing to research related to understanding what kinds of explanations are useful to people who use or who are impacted by automated fact checking systems. This is a long-term research project, so the benefits of the research may not be seen for several years. It is not expected that taking part will cause any risk, inconvenience or discomfort to you or others.

6. What personal data does the project process?

The project processes the following information about participants. All personal data will be kept confidential within the research team and will be anonymised 2 months after data collection.

- ✓ Name (interviews only)
- ✓ Age
- ✓ Gender
- ✓ Country of residence
- ✓ Name of employer (interviews only)

7. For how long is personal data stored?

Your data will be stored at the University of Copenhagen in personally identifiable form for 2 months after the collection date in order to allow participants to withdraw their data should they wish to do so. After this date, your personal data will be anonymised unless you explicitly request that you are credited for your statements in publications and reporting conducted by the project.

8. Will personal data be passed on to others, such as researchers at other universities?

No, your personal data collected for the project will not be passed on to others.



9. Personal data is obtained from:

We only obtain data from you, and not from any other party.

10. What is the lawful basis for processing personal data?

We are obliged to inform you of the rules that apply to our work with your data. We are permitted to process your data in accordance with the rules in the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): Article 6 (1) (a), which gives the University of Copenhagen the right to process non-sensitive personal data about you on the basis of your consent.

11. Participants' rights under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

As a participant in a research project, you have a number of rights under the GDPR. Your rights are specified in the University of Copenhagen's privacy policy.

<https://informationssikkerhed.ku.dk/english/protection-of-information-privacy/privacy-policy/>

12. Person responsible for storing and processing of personal data

University of Copenhagen, CVR no. 29979812, is the data controller responsible for processing personal data in the research project.

The research project is headed by Prof. Isabelle Augenstein who can be contacted via email:

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Greta Warren is the contact point for this project and can be contacted via email: grwa@di.ku.dk, phone: +45 20 69 33 76, address: Øster Voldgade 3, 1350 Copenhagen, Denmark.