

Information Consent Form for Participants in Research Studies

Please complete this form after you have read the Information Sheet and received an explanation about the research.

In case you do not meet a researcher in person during the challenge, please send a scanned/photographed version of the Information Consent Form (pages 1-2) to Daniel Gatica-Perez (daniel.gatica-perez@epfl.ch).

Project Title: Multimodal Linguistic Crowdsourcing: Tracing Swiss Heritage Speakers in North America

Principal Investigator/s: Daniel Gatica- Perez (PI EPFL)
Anita Auer (PI UNIL)
Aris Xanthos (PI UNIL)

Participant (Name and First Name): _____

Thank you for your interest in taking part in this study. Before you agree to take part, the person organising the research must explain the project to you.

If you have any questions arising from the Information Sheet or explanation already given to you, please ask the researcher before you decide to join in. You will be given a copy of this Consent Form to keep and refer to at any time.

Participant's Statement

I

- agree the research project named above has been explained to me to my satisfaction and I agree to participate in this study on a voluntary basis.
- understand that only people of Swiss ancestry living in North America can participate in the challenge, except people below 21 years old or over 95 years old, and people with health problems that could result in a negative health impact due to their participation in the study.
- understand that if I decide at any time that I no longer wish to take part in this project I can notify the researchers involved and withdraw from the study without giving reasons and without any negative consequences.
- have read the Information Sheet for participants and I have received a copy of the Information Sheet and Consent Form.
- have been informed that all data will be collected and stored safely and reported in an anonymous form, in accordance with the CH Federal law on data protection ("Loi fédérale sur la protection des données" – RS 235.1).
- consent the use of the material as part of the project.
- agree that the principal investigators and the project student assistants have access to the original data under strict confidentiality.

- agree to be contacted in the future by EPFL / UNIL researchers who would like to invite me to participate in follow-up studies.
- understand and agree that the information/data I have submitted will be published (on paper as well as online) in peer reviewed journals, as open access reports, that the researchers will present findings at conferences, they may share data with professional organisations, peer researchers, policy makers, with the participants (thus you), as well as other interested parties.
- have been informed that any injury or damage occurring during or following my participation in the above-mentioned research project and for which the responsibility of the EPFL can be established, is covered by the general liability insurance of EPFL (insurance policy no. 501 402430.002 of La Mobilière Assurances), in accordance with the terms and conditions of the insurance. To complement the above-mentioned insurance, it is my responsibility to have adequate health insurance and accident insurance coverage. In case of doubt, just like in case of discomfort/undesirable effects related to my participation in this study, I will contact the researcher directly.

Signature:

Date:

Details of the study:

This project aims to capture the language use and cultural practices of Swiss migrants in North America by way of a multimodal crowdsourcing app. The reflections of Swiss identities abroad - from the nineteenth century to the present day - can be found in different modes such as emigrant letters, early printed newspapers, diaries, recordings of mid-20th-century interviews as well as interviews carried out today, and the surroundings/landscape, e.g. Swiss German signs, Swiss architecture.

With the help of a purpose-built app that you can install on your mobile phone, you can capture different aspects of your Swiss heritage, for example by filling in a questionnaire, by taking geo-localized pictures, and by recording yourself or others. The researchers will, with your help, label the data collected so that your view and interpretation is directly represented (rather than the researchers' interpretation of the data).

The study has been funded by the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) and the Université de Lausanne (UNIL) as part of the CROSS research collaboration scheme.

Who can take part in this study?

Every person of Swiss ancestry living in North America can participate in the challenge, except people below 21 years old or over 95 years old, and people with health problems that could result in a negative health impact due to their participation in the study.

What will my participation in the research involve?

We will ask you to download the app to your mobile phone (with the help of instructions). Once the app is successfully installed on your mobile device, we ask you to answer the general questions on the app, to fill in the questionnaire, to take pictures that represent your Swiss identity, and to record yourself and/or others.

All of these rather brief tasks should be carried out over the period of 32 days (August/September 2017), part of which the researchers will be in Wisconsin (27 August to 2 September 2017).

The data will be automatically transferred from your phone to our data servers in Switzerland. The data will be stored in Switzerland indefinitely for research purposes. The research team will label and annotate the data, which will allow them to analyse the results. The researchers will describe the findings regarding the construction of cultural identity of Swiss heritage speakers in North America and will publish the findings (on paper as well as online) in peer-reviewed journals and open access reports. Furthermore, excerpts of data and the corresponding findings might be presented at conferences and meetings involving professional organisations, peer researchers, policy makers, the study participants (thus you), as well as other interested parties.

Importantly, the collected dataset is meant to be made available to other qualified researchers in the spirit of open science. Any data distributed to other researchers (outside our research team) will be treated in an anonymous manner.

Will there be any benefits in taking part?

We will share our research results with you if you like and will thus tell you about our observations regarding the Swiss identity in North America.

Will there be any risks in taking part?

There are no risks at all in taking part.

What happens if I decide I don't want to take part during the actual research study, or decide that I do not want the information I have given to be used?

You will be able to withdraw from the study at any time. In this case, please inform Daniel Gatica-Perez via the address and contact details given above.

How will you ensure that my contribution is anonymous?

The app challenge is anonymous, which means that you do not need to provide a name. In case you use names when describing your pictures taken, recordings made, we will replace the names with codes to ensure anonymity.

Please ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like to receive more information.

It is up to you to decide whether you will take part or not; choosing not to take part will not disadvantage you in any way. As a participant you have the right to withdraw from the study at any time without giving a reason or facing negative consequences.

All data will be collected and stored safely and reported in an anonymous form, in accordance with the CH Federal law on data protection (“Loi fédérale sur la protection des données” – RS 235.1). Only the principal investigators and the student assistants have access to the original data under strict confidentiality. Any injury or damage occurring during or following the participation in the above-mentioned research project and for which the responsibility of the EPFL can be established, is covered by the general liability insurance of EPFL (insurance policy no. 501 402430.002 of *La Mobilière Assurances*, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the insurance.

To complement the above-mentioned insurance, it is your responsibility to have adequate health insurance and accident insurance coverage. In case of doubt, just like in case of discomfort/undesirable effects related to your participation in this study, please contact the researcher directly.