

LEGAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE RESEARCH PROJECT:

“European Polarisation Observatory” (“EPO”)

Objectives : The project seeks to develop a joint workgroup or unit within CIVICA, dedicated to producing a proof of concept for a European Polarisation Observatory of ideologies and attitudes towards issues of public debate (e.g., taxation, immigration, European integration, perception of elites). Such a unit would study the ideological dynamics of users and media outlets to measure polarization on various issues, and investigate the role of algorithmic recommendations on user access to ideologically diverse news.

In order to develop a proof of concept, this project includes multiple activities: data collection of social networks across Europe, the application of network scaling procedures, the use of political science datasets for attitude inference in conjunction with scaled data, and research in social psychology and algorithmic recommendation. Overall, this project will be instrumental in further developing an interdisciplinary European network of research in the computational social sciences.

The research project “EPO”, is supported and financed by the CIVICA consortium. Participating is completely voluntary.

Data controller :

- The médialab (EA 7033) of Sciences Po (the Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques and the Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris)
- The Centre d’études européennes et de politique comparée - CEE (UMR 8239 Sciences Po and CNRS)
- The Department of Network and Data Sciences, Central European University.
- The School of Public Policy and the Data Sciences Institute, London School of Economics.

Principal investigators : The project is led by Pedro Ramaciotti Morales (Research Scientist) and Jean-Philippe Cointet (Associate Professor) of medialab at Sciences Po (the Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques and Institut d’études politiques de Paris), and Gerardo Iñiguez (Assistant Professor) from the DNDS at the Central European University.

Data recipients :

- Pedro Ramaciotti Morales (Research Scientist) and Jean-Philippe Cointet (Associate Professor), from médialab, Sciences Po, Paris
- Emiliano Grossman (Professor), from the Centre d’Études Européennes, Sciences Po, Paris
- Gerardo Iñiguez (Assistant Professor) and Marton Karsai (Associate Professor), from the Department of Network and Data Sciences, Central European University, Vienna
- Vanessa Rubio (Professor of Practice), Andrés Velasco (Dean), from the School of Public Policy, London School of Economics, London
- Anton Boychenko (Research Assistant), from the Data Sciences Institute, London School of Economics, London
- Nicolò Cavalli (Assistant Professor), from the Department of Social and Political Sciences, Bocconi University, Milan

Category of data processed :

- Identification data, connexion or access data
- Political opinions

- Image, video or sound records, contents shared through social medias

Transfer of personal data outside the European Economic Area : YES

- Objective of the transfer : Temporary data storage and analysis
- Third country of the recipient of the data : UK (country classified “adequate country” by the European Data Protection Authorities”)
- Country of location of the data hosting servers: USA (country classified “adequate country” by the European Data Protection Authorities”)

Legal basis : Research in public interest

Data protection measures :

- Collection and access to personal data is limited to the exclusive use of the EPO research team, within the framework of the project objectives specified above;
- None of the personal data collected by the research team can not be published or made public such kinds that data subjects can be identified;
- The personal data of the data subjects will be pseudonymized maximum 7 days after the end of the data collection;
- The access rights to the data will be:
 - limited and only accessible to the research team.
 - secured by a personal identifier and a password.
- The search data is encrypted from the collection of the data and throughout the project, until their final anonymization).

Risk for participants : No risk identified

Data archive and duration : The data will be treated for 2 years in our current archives until publication, then for 5 years, in a proper and sufficient manner for obtaining minimized, secured and definitely anonymized dataset or with strict limited right of access. Then the data may be stored on a European research repository (Open Science).

GDPR rights : In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679, any person will be able to access their data, as well as remove it if possible. To do so, I can send an email to the laboratory contact.cce@sciencespo.fr and medialab@sciencespo.fr. In case of difficulty, please contact the Sciences Po Data Protection Officer of each CIVICA partner working on the EPO project (cnil@sciencespo.fr, dpo@unibocconi.it, R.E.Maguire@lse.ac.uk, szeli@ceu.edu). If your question is not answered properly, you can address a complaint to the Belgium data protection authority (the *Autorité de protection des données*).

CIVICA partners are committed to ensure the respect of the European and National data protection principles by their current and future employees, researchers or eventual processors associated with the data.