

The ESS ERIC privacy notice is available at : [www.europeansocialsurvey.org/about/privacy.html](http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/about/privacy.html)

## **About us**

The European Social Survey ERIC (European Research Infrastructure Consortium) is responsible for the European Social Survey (ESS). The ESS is run in around 30 other countries in Europe every two years. It asks questions about people's attitudes, life events, the area they live in, as well as factual questions. The information collected is joined together and the ESS results are compared across all the countries that took part. The ESS ERIC has agreements with all organisations involved in the ESS that cover how your personal information is used.

Protecting your personal information is important to us and this leaflet explains what we do and your rights.

If you are under 18 years of age at the time you complete the survey, a parent or guardian is asked for permission for you to participate. This person can ask to see the questionnaire in advance so that they know what questions are going to be asked

### **1. What information about you do we use?**

Anything that can identify you is considered 'personal data' and is protected by law. This includes your name, address and other contact details. Some types of information are known as special category personal data, such as, information about your health, trade union membership, political opinions). ESS collects all these types of personal data.

If you choose not to take part in the survey, information on the reason why may be collected, for example, if there is a language barrier.

An interviewer will ask you questions and your responses are recorded on a computer/device. If you stop completing the survey, we will continue to process the information you provide, unless you tell us not to. (See 6. Your Rights, below)

### **2. How did we obtain your contact details?**

Your name has been randomly selected from the National Registry to participate in the survey. We need to select adults aged 15 or over at random to participate in the survey. This helps to ensure we achieve a representative sample, that is, one includes the views of the range of different groups in Iceland.

### **3. When will your information be used?**

The ESS in Iceland takes place in 2025 and 2026. We will collect your information from the start of the ESS when preparing for the survey, when we invite you to participate, during the survey, when you are answering the questions and afterwards. Your contact information will be deleted once the survey is published by the ESS ERIC Data Archive, by December 2027 at the latest. Otherwise, the survey responses with all directly identifying personal information removed will be stored indefinitely at the ESS ERIC Data Archive at Sikt, Norwegian Agency for Shared Services in Education and Research, in Norway.

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If you agree that ESS ERIC may contact you again for later studies, your contact details will be held for a longer period, until the end of 2030. Note that if you agree to take part in later studies, we will combine your data from today's survey with any other surveys you complete for us in the future.

#### **4. What organisations have access to your information?**

A number of organisations are involved in the ESS and may access your information.

- In Iceland, Social Science Research Institute of the University of Iceland is asked to undertake the ESS. Árni Bragi Hjaltason and Ævar Þórólfsson at the SSRI are the National Coordinators (NC) in Iceland. They, along with other staff of the SSRI who work in this project, can access your contact details.
- Centerdata, an independent non-profit research institute located on the campus of Tilburg University in the Netherlands, is responsible for hosting the survey platform and can access your personal data, although this is not routinely done.
- NCs, staff of SSRI, with Centerdata, are the only organisations that can access your contact details. If you agree to be contacted again, Centerdata will store contact information for this purpose until the end of 2030.
- Contact information that we use to contact you is separately stored.
- The ESS ERIC Data Archive at Sikt stores your survey responses, without your name or contact details, indefinitely. The responses are sent from SSRI via a web platform hosted by the University of Pompeu Fabra (UPF) in Spain.

If information is transferred between the organisations involved in the ESS, this is done securely. Any transfer to the UK is based on the European Commission Adequacy Decision of June 2021 covering the transfer of personal data from the EU to the UK.

The published results are made available on the website ([www.europeansocialsurvey.org](http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org)).

Because of the questions we ask there is a slight possibility that your responses, when combined, may identify you. Methods to reduce the possibility of this occurring are used at all stages. The storage arrangements also cover the responses that are not published. For these, researchers in approved research institutions may apply for access to these unpublished results for use in scientific studies. Because the unpublished information may include more potentially identifiable information than the published results, there is a slightly higher possibility that these unpublished responses, when combined, may identify you. Due to this, special permission is needed for access to these results and we take particular steps to reduce the possibility of identification before researchers may access any of the unpublished results.

#### **5. The legal basis for our use of your personal data**

The ESS is undertaken every two years for the purpose of research and its legal basis is the performance of a task in the public interest and for scientific research purposes ([EU GDPR and UK GDPR] art. 6.1(e); 9.2 (J); 89,1.). All processing is for this purpose.

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## 6. Your rights and how to exercise them

You have rights to:

- access your personal data
- request the correction of any errors in the personal data we hold
- request deletion of your personal data
- request the restriction on processing of your personal data, that is, to ask us to stop processing while the accuracy of your personal data is checked
- to object to our processing of your personal data

As long as we can identify you, you have these rights. If you want to stop receiving information or have your data deleted, please contact the Social Science Research Institute (tel: 525-4545, email: [ess@hi.is](mailto:ess@hi.is)). If you have questions regarding your rights, you may contact the ESS ERIC Data Protection Officer.

Please note that as soon as details, such as your name and address, are removed, then it is unlikely that you can be identified with any certainty and therefore it will no longer be possible to delete the remaining information you have provided. You have a right to lodge a complaint with the UK Information Commissioner's Office or at the Data Protection Authority in Iceland (Persónuvernd).

When you contact the SSRI to exercise your rights, they might have a legal obligation to keep some of your data for other purposes for a longer period of time. For example, they may be obliged to keep a record of who contacted them and how their request was actioned.

### Contact us if you have any questions or you want to make a complaint:

- ESS National team tel: 525-4545, email: [ess@hi.is](mailto:ess@hi.is)
- Controller: ESS ERIC, c/o ESS ERIC HQ, City St George's, University of London, Northampton Square, London EC1V 0HB, UK. [ess@city.ac.uk](mailto:ess@city.ac.uk) (The Controller is the organisation who is responsible for the overall running of the survey.)
- Data Protection Officer, ESS ERIC : [dpo.esseric@europeansocialsurvey.org](mailto:dpo.esseric@europeansocialsurvey.org)
- ESS ERIC's GDPR Representative (EU): CESSDA ERIC, Solheimsgaten 16, 5058 Bergen, Norway: [ess-gdpr@cessda.eu](mailto:ess-gdpr@cessda.eu)

If you want to make a complaint, please contact either:

National Data Protection Authority: tel: 510-9600, email: [postur@personuvernd.is](mailto:postur@personuvernd.is)

UK Information Commission's Office: <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/email/> or by post Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF, UK

### How to find the results of the survey

You can find the results of the survey on the European Social Survey website. Go to [www.europeansocialsurvey.org](http://www.europeansocialsurvey.org) and you will be taken to the survey's homepage.