

Information sheet for research participants

Thank you for considering participating in this research project! Before you agree to take part, here you can find some further information about the project and what it means to contribute to my research.

What is the project about?

The topics of migration and crime are often interlinked. There are different perspectives on how human mobility and criminality relate to one another; The EU, for example, often legitimizes its migration control policies with combating crime. Academic scholars and migration solidarity activists in turn have criticized such reasoning, emphasizing how this has contributed to the criminalization of migration. This project aims to analyze and compare such differing perceptions, considering how migration and crime are perceived to relate to one another in the context of clandestine cross-border mobility into and out of external EU borders in Croatia. For this, different perspectives on the crime-migration nexus are studied, including those (1) on EU policy level, (2) in legal scholarship, and (3) among people who are involved in the border context. Regarding the latter, ethnographic fieldwork and interviews are planned with different actors involved in the border context between Croatia, Serbia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina, investigating how they perceive clandestine cross-border mobility and whether they see a link between such mobility and crime.

What does it mean to participate?

Participation is entirely voluntary. You can decline or withdraw from participation at any time, without any negative consequences. Participation means that I may ask you some questions, take notes about our interaction, and use the information for my analysis.

What happens to the information you provide?

All information is treated confidentially and will only be used for the described research purposes. No third parties will get access to this data and no information will be shared with the authorities. During the research, the notes about our conversation will be stored on an encrypted and password protected data storage platform used at Tilburg University. When processing the data, all information will be anonymized or pseudonymized and will no longer be traceable to you. After the analysis, the anonymized / pseudonymized data will be stored for 10 years (which is the required duration for research data storage in the EU).

Who is responsible for the project?

My name is Irina Fehr, I am originally from Switzerland, and currently employed as a PhD candidate at Tilburg University, in the Netherlands. I have a background in political science and law and conduct socio-legal research on the topics of EU migration and border control, crime, as well as access to justice. When participating, you make an important contribution to my research!

How can the researcher be contacted?

The researcher can be contacted by phone (+31 314 66 2254/8553) or by email at i.i.fehr@tilburguniversity.edu in the following languages: English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Dutch. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have further questions.

Are you interested in the results of the study?

The anonymized/pseudonymized results of the study will be shared on the project website – you are more than welcome to have a look!

Further project information

- **Title:** The crime-migration nexus in mobility-gatekeeping at external EU borders in Croatia
- **Funding:** Tilburg University and Catherine van Tussenbroek Fonds
- **Ethical clearance:** This research was approved by the Ethics Review Board at Tilburg University, in case of questions please contact erb-tls@tilburguniversity.edu