



## CALL FOR PAPERS

### **Conducting social research online and offline: opportunities, risks and challenges**

23–24 November 2022, Warsaw (Poland)

An international conference organised by the Middle East and Central Asia Unit,  
SGH Warsaw School of Economics

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the world and human life in every possible aspect, in a plenty of spheres causing irreversible changes – one of them being social sciences. In order to mitigate the negative impact of the pandemic on their research, many scholars turned to solutions that enabled them to conduct their explorations online. Although online tools had been applied in social research long before the outbreak of the pandemic, changing dynamics of professional life in times of coronavirus broadened the scale of their use in a significant way.

The use of online tools in conducting social research can be perceived as an opportunity of crossing the borders of time and space as it gives a plenty of possibilities of exploring the unknown without actually leaving one's office. It can also turn out to be helpful in collecting and analysing data, both quantitative and qualitative, or serve as means of supplementing conventional research. Nevertheless, there are potential risks and challenges that need to be identified before starting explorations online. Certain challenges may materialise in the course of research and they also need to be addresses in a proper way.

Although online environment offers many advantages in carrying out social research, some scholars prefer to stay offline and conduct their investigations in a “traditional” form that enables them i.a. to conduct interviews face-to-face or participate in various events in person. These researchers, too, encounter risk and challenges to overcome. Facing a plenty of obstacles created by the COVID-19 pandemic, new solutions had to be applied in social research.

Researchers and scholars representing various disciplines of social sciences are invited to share their experiences in terms of finding opportunities, identifying risks and responding to challenges faced while conducting their research both online and offline – in a “traditional” form. Papers addressing methodological problems of online/offline explorations within the scope of social sciences are welcome as well as articles describing practical aspects of conducting such research.

During the conference we would like to reflect i.a. upon the following issues:

- How has the COVID-19 pandemic changed the way of carrying out social research and what conclusions can we draw from this experience?
- How can online tools supplement explorations conducted in a “traditional” (offline) way?
- How to plan and conduct fieldwork using online tools in social sciences?
- What kind of risks and challenges are faced by researchers who carry out online or offline investigations within the scope of social sciences?
- What opportunities do online research tools offer in terms of their use in other academic spheres, e.g. teaching or supervising diploma dissertations?
- How to overcome challenges of conducting social research offline in the times of the pandemic?

Participants of the conference will also have an opportunity to take part in **methodological workshop** conducted by experienced researchers.

### ***Practical information***

The conference is organised within a framework of the project *Navigating Social Worlds: Toolbox for Social Inquiry* financed within the framework of Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships in Response of the Covid-19 Situation – Partnerships for Digital Education Readiness, the European Union.

Other activities that have so far been organised are listed on the project's website: <https://socialworlds.sgh.waw.pl/>

### ***Language***

The language of the conference is English, however, abstracts in Polish will also be accepted.

The language of the papers which are to be published as outcomes of the conference proceedings can be either English or Polish.

### ***Publication***

Participants are welcome to submit papers presenting their experiences in conducting social research or addressing methodological issues. The articles will be published in a Special Issue of a social science journal.

The papers (in either English or Polish) should not exceed 20 000 characters (between 2 800 and 5 000 words).

### ***Deadlines***

- 20 September 2022 submission of abstracts and bios
- 30 September 2022 notification about acceptance of abstracts
- 23–24 November 2022 **the conference**
- 31 December 2022 submission of final papers
- Spring/summer 2023 publication of the Special Issue of a social science journal

### ***Venue***

SGH Warsaw School of Economics, al. Niepodległości 162, 02-554 Warsaw, Poland

### ***Financial issues***

There is no conference fee. The organisers provide snacks during coffee breaks, and conference materials. The rest of expenses (esp. accommodation and travel) are paid by the participants.

### ***What to do next?***

Please submit your abstract (around 300 words) with a short bio until 20 September 2022 to Agnieszka Syliwoniuk-Wapowska, PhD – assistant professor at [asyliw \[at\] sgh.waw.pl](mailto:asyliw@sgh.waw.pl).



## **Information on processing of personal data**

### **1. Controller**

The controller of personal data is SGH Warsaw School of Economics with its seat in Warsaw, al. Niepodległości 162, hereinafter referred to as Controller or SGH.

### **2. Data Protection Officer**

You may contact the Data Protection Officer designated by SGH via e-mail [iod@sgh.waw.pl](mailto:iod@sgh.waw.pl).

### **3. The purposes and legal basis of processing of personal data**

Your personal data will be processed for the purposes of registration for the conference *Conducting social research online and offline: opportunities, risks and challenges*, maintaining contact with you in connection with this conference.

The legal basis for processing of personal data is point (e) of Art. 6 (1) GDPR<sup>1</sup> (necessity for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest) and The Act of 20 July 2018 – Law on Higher Education and Science.

### **4. Voluntary data provision**

Providing personal data is voluntary, however necessary to participate in the conference.

### **5. The recipients or categories of recipients of the personal data**

If the controller uses the services of other entities, personal data may be disclosed to them on the basis of contracts entrusting them with the processing of personal data, and these entities will be obliged to preserve the confidentiality of the processed data.

The conference is organised within a framework of a project *Navigating Social Worlds: Toolbox for Social Inquiry* financed within the framework of Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships in Response of the Covid-19 Situation – Partnerships for Digital Education Readiness, the European Union. In order to comply with conditions of the financing, the list of individuals who took part in the conference (i.e. the list containing their name, surname and handwritten signature) will be attached to the final report. The report will be submitted to Fundacja Rozwoju Systemu Edukacji (FRSE).

We inform that during the conference photos may be taken. In such case, some of them will be posted on the website of SGH Warsaw School of Economics.

### **6. The period for which the personal data will be processed**

Your personal data will be processed for the duration of conference's organization.

### **7. The rights of data subject**

You have the right to access and rectify your data or restrict the processing thereof.

You have the right to object to processing. Your data will not undergo profiling and no automated decision-making will be conducted based on these data.

### **8. The right to lodge a complaint**

You have the right to lodge a complaint with a supervisory authority, i.e. the President of the Personal Data Protection Office, if you consider that the processing of your personal data infringes upon GDPR.

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<sup>1</sup>Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (Official Journal of the European Union, L 119, 4 May 2016, p. 1 as amended).