



Participant Information Sheet for non-identifiable participants

Name of department: Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance, Law School

Title of the study: RES: *Rights for Ecosystem Services. A framework to protect the environment and sustainable local communities in the EU*

Project website: www.res-project.eu

Introduction

My name is Giulia Sajeve and I am a Marie Curie fellow based at the University of Strathclyde, in Glasgow, UK. I am running a project funded by the European Union.

What is the purpose of this research?

I am researching on the environmental impact of the activities of local communities based on islands. My aim is to understand what people think about the environment, how they perceive their relationship with it and what they would like to do/not do with the environment of their islands. The themes that will be covered will be: a) perception of sustainable activity (in the Egadi: tuna fishing) in the past; b) perception of its importance in the present; c) desires concerning the future of the activity; d) fears and obstacles perceived on the relaunching of the activity; e) religious, spiritual practices connected with the activity

Do you have to take part?

Your participation in the project is completely voluntary, and you may withdraw from the research or stop the interview at any time without any negative effects whatsoever. Under your request, all material (recording and transcripts) of the interview will be destroyed. If any issues raised during the research is a cause for concern for you (including fear of negative implications for, or issues that may require alerting national authorities) please do let me know. You can contact me any time also after the interview.

What will you do in the project?

If you agree so, I will interview you. The interview will last about 20 minutes and it will be on the phone, via whatsapp app, via computer or, if COVID-19 restrictions allow, face to face. You are free to choose the modality that makes you most comfortable. We can then agree on a moment of your convenience to do the interview.

Your participation in the project will not be of personal monetary benefit to you, but that your perspectives and opinions are important as they could assist the increased understanding of the human-environment relationship in local communities and help to design future policies and laws. If you wish to, you may also discuss with me about which outputs you think may be most helpful to you or the island.

Why have you been invited to take part?

You were invited because you live in this island and take/took part to the activities related to the use of its natural resources.

I will interview about 30 people in total. I will not interview minors nor people that are unwell. And most important, I will not interview anyone that does not desire to be interviewed.

The place of useful learning

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What information is being collected in the project?

I will ask you about your activities on the island. What you do for living, what local natural resources you use, and what you think about them. I will also ask you about the island, about what you think of its nature, and of the protected area. I will ask you about the activities that were mostly used in the past and those that are more common now. I will also ask you if you think there were/still are religious meanings of the activities you do or whether there are religious manifestations that are related to nature.

If you give permission, I would like to record our conversation but I can also take notes while we speak.

I will take all possible measures to ensure that your name and identity will not appear in any publications or other project material.

Any recordings or pictures of you (if you agree they are taken) will be stored on a secure device and deleted at the end of the project.

You may have access to your own files should you request it.

Who will have access to the information?

I am the only person who will have access to this data. I will endeavour to keep your identity confidential and your (and others') safety is paramount.

Where will the information be stored and how long will it be kept for?

I will have control of, and exclusive access to, the data generated, which will be employed exclusively for the purpose of this project.

Data will be stored on the secure password-protected non-WAN University servers. Any hardcopy of transcripts will be kept in a locked cabinet. Audio files will be saved to the University of Strathclyde's secure I-Drive and deleted from the audio recording device as soon as possible. All data will be destroyed at the end of project.

Thank you for reading this information – please ask any questions if you are unsure about what is written here.

Please also read our [Privacy Notice for Research Participants](#).

What happens next?

If you want to know more about the project and its development you may visit my project website: www.res.eu

The results of my analysis will be published in the media, in scientific journals and will be written on the website. If you want, you can share with me your email address/whats app contact and I will share with you updates on the project and the results of the analysis of the interviews.

If you are interested to participate, and you would like further info or clarifications, you may reach out to me, please. If you agree to participate, I will ask you to sign a form to confirm all the things that are written here.

If you rather not participate, thank you for reading this form and wish you all the best.

Researcher contact details:

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This research was granted ethical approval by the University of Strathclyde Ethics Committee.

If you have any questions/concerns, during or after the research, or wish to contact an independent person to whom any questions may be directed or further information may be sought from, please contact:

Secretary to the University Ethics Committee
Research & Knowledge Exchange Services
University of Strathclyde
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