

# Study Information Sheet

**Study Title:** *Human Robotic Interactions and Charitable Donations – Are you more inclined to give to charity if the interaction is with a robot rather than a human?*

PLEASE READ THIS SHEET IN ITS ENTIRETY

You are invited to take part in research taking place at the University of the West of England, Bristol. It is carried out as assignment for module UFMFHP-15-M Human-Robot Interaction. Before you decide whether to take part, it is important for you to understand why the study is being done and what it will involve. Please read the following information carefully and if you have any queries or would like more information please contact **Sam Beach, Siddharth Suresh, Pranav Naik , Jiajun Guo, Satwik Pallerla , Pratheek Sudi** Faculty of Environment and Technology, Bristol Robotics Laboratory, University of the West of England, Bristol, [samuel2.beach@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:samuel2.beach@live.uwe.ac.uk), [siddharth2.suresh@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:siddharth2.suresh@live.uwe.ac.uk), [Pranav2.Naik@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:Pranav2.Naik@live.uwe.ac.uk), [Jiajun2.Guo@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:Jiajun2.Guo@live.uwe.ac.uk), [satwik2.pallerla@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:satwik2.pallerla@live.uwe.ac.uk), [Pratheek2.Sudi@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:Pratheek2.Sudi@live.uwe.ac.uk).

## Who is organising the research?

The project is led by **Sam Beach, Siddharth Suresh, Pranav Naik , Jiajun Guo, Satwik Pallerla , Pratheek Sudi**, University of the West of England. Manuel Giuliani is the supervisor for this research. Please find their details at the end of this document.

## What is the aim of the research?

The overall aim of the research is *'Are participants more likely to give to charity if the interaction with a charity representative is human or robotic'*.

The purpose of this study is to *compare the willingness of participants to donate to charity between whether they are asked by a human or a robot, configuring the robot to interact with ideal parameters of speech and action patterns that are documented in prior research studies to be the most convincing.*

## Why have I been invited to take part?

We are recruiting participants who are already working at the University of the West of England and are aware of the current risk and safety procedures due to COVID-19 restrictions.

## Do I have to take part?

You do not have to take part in this research. It is up to you to decide whether or not you want to be involved. If you do decide to take part, you will be given a copy of this information

sheet to keep and will be asked to sign a consent form. If you do decide to take part, you are free to stop and withdraw from the study at any time without giving a reason.

## **What will happen to me if I take part and what do I have to do?**

You will first be asked to sign a consent form, read a privacy notice, and provide some basic demographic information. You will then follow the following steps:

- No money (donation) belonging to you will be requested during the experiment. At the start of the experiment, you will be given a £2 coin. At the end of the experiment, you will be given a choice how to use the money.
- You will take part in the experiment individually.
- There will be two experimental conditions, one where the robot gives the presentation for the charity. The second group will have the same presentation done by a human representative. At the end of these experiments, you will have to make a choice.

The study will take approximately 10 minutes.

Data will be gathered using the following methods:

### **Questionnaires**

You will be given a questionnaire to fill in the following categories:

- *Questionnaire – subjective responses of how they felt the study went.*
- *Likability Scale: "How much did you like interacting with the robot?" (Likert scale)*
- *Convincibility: "How persuasive did you find the robot's arguments?"*
- *User Comfort: "How comfortable did you feel during the conversation?"*
- *Naturalness: "Did the robot's responses feel human-like?"*
- *Trust in Responses: "Did you trust the robot's responses?"*
- *Engagement: "How interesting or engaging was the presentation?"*

### **Written Feedback/Comments**

- *A short writeup on how you think the study went in the interaction with the robot.*

### **Task Performance**

- *The total duration of the experiment.*
- *The final decision that you make.*

## **What are the possible risks of taking part?**

*Discussing around the context of charity could be distressing to certain people.*

## **What will happen to your information?**

All the information we receive from you will be treated in the strictest confidence.

All the information that you give will be kept confidential and anonymised. You will be assigned a participant ID that you can use to request the removal of your data from the study up to 7 days after completion of the experiment. After this point, the anonymised data will be analysed, and we will ensure that there is no possibility of identification or re-identification from this point.

Hard copy material (the consent form) will be kept in a locked and secure setting to which only the researchers will have access in accordance with the University's and the Data Protection Act 2018 and General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) requirements.

## **Where will the results of the research study be published?**

The results of this usability study will be reported in the coursework report for UWE module UFMFHP-15-M Human-Robot Interaction.

## **Who has ethically approved this research?**

The project has been reviewed and approved by University of the West of England University Research Ethics Committee. Any comments, questions or complaints about the ethical conduct of this study can be addressed to the Research Ethics Committee at the University of the West of England at: [Researchethics@uwe.ac.uk](mailto:Researchethics@uwe.ac.uk)

## **What if something goes wrong?**

If you have any questions about the ethical conduct of this research, have any complaints or concerns, or are uncertain about any aspect of your participation please contact the project supervisors or the University's research ethics committee.

### **Project Supervisor:**

Mr Emanuel Nunez Sardinha

## **What if I have more questions or do not understand something?**

If you would like any further information about the research please contact in the first instance:

Sam Beach([samuel2.beach@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:samuel2.beach@live.uwe.ac.uk)), Siddharth Suresh([siddharth2.suresh@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:siddharth2.suresh@live.uwe.ac.uk)),  
Pranav Naik([Pranav2.Naik@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:Pranav2.Naik@live.uwe.ac.uk)), Jiajun Guo([Jiajun2.Guo@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:Jiajun2.Guo@live.uwe.ac.uk)),  
Satwik Pallerla([satwik2.pallerla@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:satwik2.pallerla@live.uwe.ac.uk)) , Pratheek Sudi( [Pratheek2.Sudi@live.uwe.ac.uk](mailto:Pratheek2.Sudi@live.uwe.ac.uk))

Thank you for agreeing to take part in this study.

You will be given a copy of this Participant Information Sheet and your signed Consent Form to keep.