Ethical Approval Form for Secondary Data Analysis

**Department of Psychology, University of Warwick**

**Name:** Piotr Bogdanski

**Project Title:** **The** **Dynamics of** **Political Polarization on Polish Twitter**

**Supervisor:** Lukasz Walasek

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**PROJECT OVERVIEW**

1. Give a BRIEF summary of the project (in lay terms), including the scientific benefit. What do you plan to do with the secondary data?

The purpose of the project is to analyze the data gathered from a sample of accounts following leading Polish politicians on Twitter over a period of two months, in order to examine the impact of the presidential campaign and the COVID-19 pandemic on the dynamics of political polarization in partisan social networks. As a result, this will allow to verify the accuracy of various accounts of political polarization, such as homophily and social cascades, as well as the relationship between political polarization and previously hypothesized social reactions to crises, described for example by the behavioural immune system theory.

**MATERIALS**

1. Please provide a description of the data source that you plan to use, specifying the era the data relate to and, if possible, how the data were originally collected:

The source of the collected data is the social networking site Twitter. The dataset consists of Tweet text and associated metadata. It was collected through the official Twitter API from users following Polish political figures.

1. Please explain how you will access these data. Will approval from another organisation be required in order to gain access to the data? If so, please provide the details:

The data will be accessed on my personal computer. No approval from another orgianisation is required to gain access to the data.

1. Please provide details of any ethical review that has taken place regarding the initial collection of data:

N/A

*Please confirm that the providers of these data have consented to the relevant future uses of their data:*

I confirm that the providers of these data have consented to the relevant future ueses of their data.

**RESEARCHER**

1. Are there any possible risks for the researcher in working with these data? NO

***If YES***

1. *Describe possible risks for the researcher:*

N/A

1. *Explain how you plan to handle these risks:*

N/A

**DATA**

1. How will you ensure the continued confidentiality and anonymity of personal data?

The data is anonymized, as the users can be only recognized by their Twitter names, which cannot be directly linked to any confidential information.

1. Who will have access to the data extracted for the secondary analysis?

Me and my supervisor.

1. Where will the data extracted for the secondary analysis be stored?

The data will be stored on my personal computer.

1. For how long will the data extracted for the secondary analysis be kept and how and when will it be destroyed?

It will be kept for the duration of the research project and then destroyed.

1. Is it anticipated that there will be any future use of the data extracted for the secondary analysis? YES

***If YES***

1. *Specify the future use:*

The data can be used for further research on the dynamics of partisan social networks.

**ANY FURTHER INFORMATION**

1. Please provide any further information that might be important with regard to ethical approval:

N/A

1. Please confirm which of the relevant materials you are including with your application:

Copies of any relevant authorisations NO

Copies of prior ethics review NO

Copies of any questionnaires/surveys/interview schedules where relevant YES OR NO

**DECLARATION**

Please read the following statements and then sign (type name) and date below to indicate you understand and agree with them.

I am familiar with the BPS ethical principles for human participants. I have read and understood the current BPS Code of Human Research Ethics

I understand that I must not begin my project without full approval from Psychology’s Department Research Ethics Committee (DREC).

I understand that any changes that I would like to make to this study after receiving approval from the DREC may require further review. As such they must be submitted for approval to [K.Messenger@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:K.Messenger@warwick.ac.uk) (DREC Chair) before such changes are implemented.

Name: Piotr Bogdanski Date: 07/07/2020

**ADDITIONAL MATERIALS:**

**Please copy and paste your documents into this file if possible.**

Copies of any relevant authorisations

Copies of prior ethics review

Copies of any questionnaires/surveys/interview schedules where relevant

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**When all sections of this form have been completed, please email it to their supervisor, who will complete their part and submit the form online.**

**You should review this form with your supervisor prior to submission**

**SUPERVISOR**

The supervisor should review this form with the student before completing this section and submitting the form.

Please note, it is the supervisor’s responsibility to ensure the student has fully responded to all questions and provided sufficient details regarding potential ethical issues before this form is submitted. Incomplete forms will be returned to the supervisor for completion *prior* to review. This may result in a delay in the project receiving ethical approval.

Please confirm that you have reviewed this form with the student and that they have include all relevant information for their project. **Delete this text and insert your confirmation here**

Name of Supervisor: Date:

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When you are sure that the form is complete, please upload it (and any additional materials) via the link on the department ethics page: <https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/psych/students/ethics>

Thank you 

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