

Privacy notice for the research participant in “Endings - Refuge, Time, and Space”

You are participating in a project applying both research and art methods conducted by researchers and artists from the Migration Institute of Finland. You can participate in the research or the art, or in both of them. This privacy notice contains information about the usage and storage of your personal data during and after the project, and about your rights in regards to such personal data.

1. Controller of the personal data file

The controller of the personal data file is the Migration Institute of Finland (independent research institute).

2. Description of the research and purpose of processing your personal data

One of the most urgent issues related to forced migration and refugeehood is how to end them. Examining endings is also important because an ending is often a prerequisite or enabler for a new beginning. But does refugeehood ever end? If so, how, when, and where? With the Endings project, we seek answers to these burning questions by combining research and arts through four case studies, which will examine respectively 1) the end of refugeehood as an experience, 2) the end of refuge as a legal status, 3) the end of reception centres, and 4) the end of life in refuge.

The Endings project addresses both theoretical and empirical gaps connected with refugeehood, time, and endings. Through research and arts, this project explores possible closures, ends, finishes, cancellations, afterlives, ‘post-’s, ‘no more’s, or terminations - and the spaces related to them. To capture the broad range of human experiences and interrogate legal categorisations, this project focuses on various groups of people who have self-identified as forced migrants and/or refugees, whether this has been formally recognised through a legal status or not.

Our working methods include interviews, participant observation, document analysis, and visual, audio and textual arts. The main outcomes of the project will consist of a book integrating all the main elements of the project, a poetry book, four peer-reviewed scientific articles, two art exhibitions, two co-creation events, a podcast episode, and texts for popular consumption.

The grounds for processing personal data as part of the research part of this project are based on public interest. In the art part of the project, the lawful basis for processing personal data is consent from the participant. Collecting personal information about the participants’ background (for example ethnic origin, immigration status, language, religion) will help us to understand their overall situation. We will collect as little sensitive data as possible, but it is possible that participants will talk about their personal issues, such as political opinions, sexual orientation, or health during the interviews.

3. The contact details of the project’s principal investigator

Name: Eveliina Lyytinen

Address: Migration Institute of Finland, Hämeenkatu 13, 20500 Turku

Tel: +358-400 219184

E-mail: eveliina.lyytinen@migrationinstitute.fi

4. People who will take part in processing your personal data

All the researchers (Erna Bodström, Eveliina Lyytinen and Camilla Marucco Al-Mimar) and the artists (Ahmed Zaidan and Rewan Kakil) working for this project are collecting and processing personal data as part of this project. In addition, interns/research assistants from the Institute, interpreters and transcribers may process personal data. Everyone who works for the project or handles the data is bound by confidentiality.

As a participant in the project, you can send any inquiries or requests regarding your personal data to the contact person: Endings project's principal investigator Eveliina Lyytinen, eveliina.lyytinen@migrationinstitute.fi, +358-400 219184, Migration Institute of Finland.

5. Name and duration of the research project

The name of the research project: "Endings - Refuge, Time, and Space"

The schedule of processing personal data: The research project starts in April 2023 and the aim is to finish it in May 2026 (an extension may be possible, for instance, due to parental leave or working part-time, but the project cannot continue after the end of 2027). The processing of personal data will end by 2030 at the latest.

6. Grounds for processing of personal data

According to the European Union (EU) regulation, there needs to be a lawful basis for processing personal data. In the research part of this project, the lawful basis is scientific research based on the public interest. This basis can be found in the law: European General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679), article (6)(1)(e). In the art part of the project, the lawful basis for processing personal data is consent from the participant in accordance with Articles 6 and 9 of the General Data Protection Regulation.

7. Personal data as part of the research material and the ways to protect this data

Personal information will be asked as part of the formal and informal interviews for both research and arts, and when the contact is established with the participants for the first time. Participant's personal data is not given to anyone outside the research group. The project's researchers and artists may share among each other the anonymised interview transcripts via data-protected means. During the transcription phase, all direct personal data (for example your name(s) and surname(s), identifiable places, birth date, possible places of work and study, and such) will be removed from the interview transcripts.

The interviews that have been audio recorded can be transcribed by the Migration Institute of Finland's interns/research assistants or by a company providing transcription services. Research interviews will be conducted mostly in Finnish, Swedish, or English, but if needed, interpreters can be used. For the informal interviews for arts, the languages of the artists can be used (e.g., English, Arabic, Kurdish). A separate agreement on how to process data in a confidential manner will be made with all transcribers and interpreters.

The Endings project will also utilise a dataset of decisions concerning the revocation and cessation of international protection. This dataset, which the project requested from the Finnish Immigration Service, will include confidential decisions and related interviews conducted by the Service and courts. The dataset will be anonymised by the Service by removing the names, dates and cities of birth of the people concerned by the decisions. This set of data can only be accessed by the project PI (Eveliina Lyytinen) and the responsible researcher (Erna Bodström). Using this data is limited to the premises of the Service and of the Migration Institute of Finland (where the data would be only accessible in a locked room on a computer without an internet access).

The Endings project has received a favourable decision on the ethical review from the University of Turku. The project has also made a Data Management Plan (DMP) and conducted a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA). This means that the project has estimated the risks that the handling of personal data may entail. The assessment also includes the procedures to prevent these risks.

8. Processing of special categories of personal data

A personal data file may include information that is considered as belonging to special categories of personal data. This could be sensitive information, such as a person's ethnic origin, grounds for residence permit, sexual orientation or religious beliefs that you and the research participants in general may bring up during the interviews. During the interviews, the researcher will probably ask questions about your age, country of birth, language, employment and education background, time of living in Finland, immigration status, and family situation. The researcher will not ask any information regarding your health and political opinion, but you are free to bring them up during the research process. The researcher will store the information concerning the language in which the interview was conducted. Your direct personal contact information will be kept separate from your interview data: both will be safely destroyed once the research project has ended.

The processing of personal data belonging to the special categories requires specific provisions by virtue of the EU regulation. In this research, the specific provision is scientific research. This provision can be found in the law: European General Data Protection Regulation (2016/679), article 9(2)(j). For the art part of the project, the legal basis for processing special categories of personal data is consent from the participant.

9. The sources of collecting personal data

Releasing of personal data is voluntary, meaning that you can share with the researcher only the personal data you wish to share, or again you can remove any of your direct personal data from your interview transcript. The researchers collect personal data directly from the research participants. The research project also utilises as data authorities' documents, such as decisions and interviews conducted by the Finnish Immigration Service and courts. Most of the direct personal data, such as people's names, dates and cities of birth, will be removed from the Immigration Service's dataset before its use in the project. This dataset is collected based on research permission from the given authority (in this case, Finnish Immigration Service).

10. Transferring and sharing personal data to third parties

Personal data can be only transferred to these recipients outside the Migration Institute of Finland/research group: The service provides for transcribing and translating.

11. Transferring personal data outside the EU or the EEA

The project will not release any personal data outside of the EU or the European Economic Area (EEA).

12. Automatic decision making and safety procedures

The project does not use automatic decision making for the personal data generated in the project. The project protects personal data by classifying it as confidential. Possible data material that has been printed/is not in electronic format will be stored at a locked cabinet at the Migration Institute of Finland. The doors to the Institute are locked at all hours. Only those people who have been named as processors of personal data can access this printed data. When personal data is processed electronically, passwords, usernames, two-stage identification, and control of access is used. The dataset received from the Finnish Immigration Service can only be accessed at the office space of the Service and/or at the Migration Institute of Finland. The data protection guidelines given by the Finnish Immigration Service will be followed carefully throughout the project cycle.

All the audio recordings and transcribed interviews are saved to a data-protected, encrypted folder in the secure Seafile online storage. The possible audio recordings of your interview will be safely destroyed after they have been transcribed, you have had a chance to read and comment on the transcript, and the project has ended. Your contact information is kept separately from your interview data. To protect your anonymity, only the researcher or the artist who has been collaborating directly with you can connect your contact information with your interview data by using a code system. Only the researchers and artists of the project can access your personal data during the project.

13. Storing of personal data after research

Most of the research data will be destroyed after the completion of the project. This includes, for instance, the decisions by the Finnish Immigration Service. Destroying this data set will be done in compliance with the given authorities' guidelines. The interviews conducted for this project will be stored at the archive of the Migration Institute of Finland for 3 years after the completion of the project, and they will be destroyed in 2030 at the latest. No one else than the project team members shall access this stored anonymised data. Only non-sensitive data regarding the case study on the closure of reception centres (case study number 3) may be openly stored at the Migration Institute of Finland or at the Finnish Social Science Data Archive (FSD) archive with your informed consent. The art products will be stored at the archive of the Migration Institute of Finland for possible new rotating art exhibitions; parts of them may also be digitalised and an online art exhibition created. Those art products with identifiable people can only be stored and used with an explicit permission granted by the participant.

14. Registered person's right of access to personal data and any possible exceptions

As a participant, you can request information about your personal data file and about your rights by contacting the project's principal investigator Eveliina Lyytinen. In this project, no exceptions to the registered persons' rights are applied: this means that you have:

- the right to access your personal information
- the right to correct your personal information
- the right to erase your personal information
- the right to restrict the use of your personal information
- the right to oppose the use of your personal information.

As a participant, you have the right to file a complaint to the Data Protection Ombudsman if you think that your personal data has been used against the data protection regulations. The contact details of the Office of the Data Protection Ombudsman are:

Office of the Data Protection Ombudsman
Visiting address: Lintulahdenkuja 4, 00530 Helsinki
Postal address: PL 800, 00531 Helsinki
Tel: 029 566 6700
E-mail: tietosuoja(at)om.fi