
Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

Title: Social Representations of European history

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Affiliation: London School of Economics and Political Science

Template: Data Management Plan for masters & undergraduate students

Project abstract:

The present thesis seeks to explore the social representations of European history across different European countries.

Theoretically, this thesis is situated between collective memory and social representations, namely representations of history.

The present thesis presumes the existence of supranational collective memory, being aware that this idea has been contested. Aksu for instance rejects the idea of a global collective memory in favour of an institutionalised global memory (2009)

To cover a variety of circumstances, France, Germany, Spain, Greece, Poland and Hungary will be considered. France and Germany are among the founding members of the European Communities in the 1950s. Greece became part of the EU in 1981, followed by Spain in 1986. Hungary and Poland both joined in 2004 as part of the Eastern enlargement of the EU.

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Social Representations of European history

Cyber Security Awareness

Can you confirm that you have completed the cyber security awareness course?

- Yes

Overview

Name

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Department:

Psychological and Behavioural Science

Supervisor name:

Dr. Cathy Nicholson

Project Details

Dissertation/ project title:

Social Representations of European history. Evidence from a cross-country survey in six European countries

Please summarise your research question in no more than three sentences:

How do citizens of European countries narrate and represent European history?
Do these social representations of history differ across countries?

Data Collection

Will you be using any secondary data for this project? Please outline what kind of secondary data you will be using below:

Potentially, data from the Eurobarometer or the ESS will be used.

The Eurobarometer is a Public Opinion survey in the European Union conducted regularly on different issues. The raw data is anonymised and accessible via the Open Data Portal for free.

The ESS, European Social Survey, investigates the social structure, research standards, but also political and moral convictions in Europe. The raw data is anonymised and accessible for free after registration.

Self-funding the survey and aiming to split the datasets into subgroups, the survey for primary data will have to be very brief and thus limited to a small number of questions and topics. Therefore,

See online:

Eurobarometer: <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/screen/home>

ESS: <https://www.europeansocialsurvey.org/about/>

Will you require access to any secure datasets i.e. datasets to which LSE Library does not have a subscription, which will need to be requested directly from the supplier:

- No

Will you require access to any internal LSE datasets for this project?

- No

Will you be collecting primary data from research participants?

- Yes

What research methods will you use for data collection (You can select as many as apply)

- Questionnaires/ surveys
- Interviews

You ticked 'Other.' Please can you explain what research method(s) you plan to use for data collection below:

I did not tick 'Other'. (only interviews and survey)

Please can you describe how you plan on conducting data collection using these methods:

The interviews will be conducted 3x with women & 3x with men aged 45-60. Semi-structured interviews with open questions will be used. For this part of the study, snowballing sampling will be employed, asking only contacts not personally known to participate (second snowballs).

For the survey, participants will be recruited via qualtrics, from the same six countries (France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Spain, Poland) and age range (40-60 years of age). Nonetheless, these will not rely on personal contacts, but availability on the platform. Ideally, gender and, if possible, education, will be balanced.

The sample size for the interviews will be 6 (= n countries).

For the survey, the expected sample size is 90 per country, i.e. $6 \times 90 = 540$.

Research Ethics

Please explain how you will collect informed consent:

For participants in the interviews:

I will email them a copy of the informed consent form and accompanying information sheet (with translation if the interview is conducted in a language other than English) and ask them to sign it and send it back to me.

For participants in the survey:

I will put the informed consent form and accompanying information sheet as introduction to the survey on Qualtrics and ask them to tick boxes if they understand and agree the conditions of participation. Moreover, I will emphasise that they may contact me any time to ask questions or withdraw before the thesis is submitted.

Once you have collected proof of consent, you will need to store it safely. Please can you explain below how you plan to do this:

To ensure that the personal data will be stored safely, the collected proof of consent will be stored separately from the anonymised data. The signed consent forms for the interviews will be stored in a protected folder on a local device (tablet).

The anonymised data for the analysis will be stored in a protected folder on a different local device (laptop).

Have you submitted a research ethics review for this project?

- Yes

If you are collecting primary data from research participants, you are required to anonymise the dataset so that individuals are not identifiable. How do you plan to do this?

For the interviews, consent forms will be equipped with codes used for the primary data set in case a person decides to withdraw at a later stage. The names won't appear in any stage of the data analysis. Any identifiable cues in the transcript will be deleted (e.g. family names, locations). Demographic information will be limited to country (not concrete location), gender and age, as these might be relevant to the hypotheses. Particularly, the balance of representations across nationality and genders will be checked for the survey. Thus, anecdotal in-depth insight might be used.

Given the size of each country's population, it will not be possible to identify a person's identity based on the information in the present research, knowing just their nationality, gender and age. Moreover, for most participants, English will not be their first language and, considering their age-group, none or few of their acquaintances are expected to access scientific articles in English.

In the survey, participants will generate a participant-ID based on their birthyear and parents' names. If they decide to withdraw, this ID will be used. They will not be asked to state their names or concrete location. For balance-checks, their nationality, age, gender and education (as proxy for socioeconomic status as wealth is more sensitive in many countries) will be asked for. Nonetheless, only the aggregate data will be analysed, not an individual person's demographic information.

Despite including contextual clues, the concern for survey participants to be identified is minimal as the individual answers will be visible only to the researcher and not considered in the analysis.

As none of the interviewees will be personally known to me, it will not be possible to draw conclusions on a person's identity based on my identity.

Are there any circumstances where you will not anonymise research participants?

- No

Data Protection

Do you believe your research will require you to fill in a [data protection impact assessment?](#)

- No

Data Storage & Security

Are you the lone researcher on this project or do you have collaborators?

- I am the lone researcher

Will you require any additional research tools to complete your project?

- Yes

Please can you supply details/ links to any additional research tools you'll be using below:

- Qualtrics - survey tool (account activated via LSE) <https://www.qualtrics.com>
- NVivo - qualitative data analysis (account via LSE) <https://www.qsrinternational.com/nvivo-qualitative-data-analysis-software/home>
- RStudio - quantitative data analysis (free license) <https://www.rstudio.com/>

What hardware will you require to complete this project (you can select more than one option):

- Other

- Personal laptop/ desktop PC

You selected 'Other.' Please can you explain what other hardware you will use on this project:

Tablet - as mentioned above, separating the consent forms from the anonymised data without uploading either to the cloud. (Consent forms will be on tablet, processed data on laptop)

Do all personal devices used on this project meet the LSE's [minimum standards for device level security](#)?

- Yes

Are all personal devices used on this project secured with passwords that meet the standard of the LSE [password policy](#)?

- Yes

Where will you store your dissertation/ research project while you are working on it:

- Other

You selected 'Other.' Please can you explain below where you will store your dissertation/ research project while you are working on it:

Password-protected folder on local device (laptop) and hardware (USB)

Where will you store any primary data you collect during the research process:

- Other

You selected 'Other.' Please explain below where you will store any primary data you collect:

Password-protected folder on local device (laptop) and hardware (USB)