

## CONSENT FORM – HUM00206077

You are invited to participate in a research study named “Censorship Data User Study” about investigating a user’s process of using and understanding censorship data.

If you agree to be part of the research study, you will be asked to participate in a ~60 minute online interview over Zoom.

**Benefits of the research:** This study aims to understand how and why users interact with censorship data, how existing tools meet or fail to meet their needs, and where improvements towards usability of censorship data can be made. Participants will not benefit directly from participating in this research.

**Risks and discomforts:** The inherent risk of working on sensitive areas related to Internet censorship applies to this study. You will be asked to discuss your thought processes from past investigations into censorship data. You will be asked further questions on your usage of censorship data and needs related to censorship data. To assess the background knowledge of participants, you will be asked to self-report a numeric rating of your knowledge of technical content and Internet censorship and your profession. You may optionally provide demographic information: gender identity, age range, country of residence, level of education; these demographics are not linked to any other information you provide. For participants located in the US, you may optionally choose that the session audio be recorded. Session audio will not be recorded for participants located outside the US.

**Data storage and management:**

If *you are located in the US*, you will be verbally asked for consent to record the session audio immediately before beginning the interview. If you consent and your interview is audio recorded, a researcher will transcribe your responses, excluding personally identifiable information, within 150 days of your interview. The audio recording will be deleted immediately after the transcription is complete.

If *you are in the US and do not consent to the audio recording OR you are located outside of the US*, a researcher will transcribe your responses, excluding personally identifiable information, during the session using the Zoom live transcription feature.

The audio recordings and/or transcriptions will be stored in the University of Michigan on a secure server that only the research team has access to until the end of their research project. Under freedom of information legalization, you are entitled to access the information you have provided at any time while it is in storage as specified above. The data will be labeled with a randomized, unique participant ID; during the interview, you will be provided with the ID that you can use to request access to your data.

All information you provide for this study will be treated confidentially. We will protect the confidentiality of your responses by strict identity and access management. Only study team members will have access to the data. Disguised extracts from your interview may be quoted in a published research paper, conference presentations, and research reports.

**Compensation:** We are not offering compensation for your participation in this study.

**Participation:** Participating in this study is completely voluntary. During the session, a researcher will verbally ask if you agree to the terms in this document and for your consent to participate in the study before beginning the interview. Even if you decide to participate now, you may change your mind and stop at any time. You may choose not to answer any questions for any reason. All demographic questions have a “prefer not to disclose” option.

**Contact:** If you have any questions about this study, please contact the study team at [censoredplanet-ux@umich.edu](mailto:censoredplanet-ux@umich.edu).

As part of their review, the University of Michigan Health Sciences and Behavioral Sciences Institutional Review Board (IRB) has determined that this study is no more than minimal risk and exempt from on-going IRB oversight.