

# DATA CONFIDENTIALITY MATTERS

## EXAMPLES FROM TIMSS 2019 IN DENMARK



# TIMSS 2019: OUR FIRST EAST STUDY WITH GDPR

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- We completed the Field Trial without parents consent, before the ‘new’ rules were in effect, but for the main study they were.
- Together with the legal department at the university, we realised that in our case the realization of GDPR in Denmark meant:
  - 1) that we would need signed consents from parents, for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade students to participate.
  - 2) that country-specific amendments of the law meant that just linking to the Data Protection Declaration, as proposed from IEA, was not sufficient when parents, teachers and school leaders answer the Early Learning Survey online. A check box as seen below was needed.



# COLLECTING SIGNED CONSENTS FROM PARENTS

Well ahead of time, we supplied participating schools with information and materials to collect the signed consents.

We sent reminders, and did check-ups with school coordinators to secure as many as possible.

In a few cases, the need for consents meant that classes were not able to participate in the study (less than 50% participation rate within classes).

## Samtykke til elevdeltagelse i TIMSS 2019

(Skriv dit navn) \_\_\_\_\_ bekræfter at have modtaget, læst og forstået samtykketeksten, som baggrund for mit samtykke til behandling af mit barns personoplysninger til det beskrevne formål.

Med den underskrevne samtykkeerklæring giver jeg også tilladelse til, at mit barn:

(Skriv barnets navn) \_\_\_\_\_ må deltage i TIMSS 2019.

Dato \_\_\_\_\_

Underskrift \_\_\_\_\_

*Hele denne side skal afleveres*

### 1. Forskningsprojektet TIMSS

I forbindelse med forskningsprojektet Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), AU løbenummer 852, har vi brug for dit samtykke til, at vi må behandle dit barns personoplysninger i overensstemmelse med Databeskyttelsesforordningen.

### 2. Projektbeskrivelse

TIMSS er et internationalt uddannelsesforskningsprojekt som sponsoreres af IEA (the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement). I Danmark varetages denne undersøgelse af Danmarks institut for Pædagogik og Uddannelse (DPU) ved Aarhus Universitet.

Du kan læse mere om undersøgelsen og DPU på [www.dpu.dk/timss](http://www.dpu.dk/timss).

### 3. Dataansvarlig og projektleder

Aarhus Universitet, CVR nr. 31119103, er dataansvarlig for behandlingen af dine personoplysninger. Christian Christrup Kjeldsen er leder af projektgruppen, som kan kontaktes via informationerne nedenfor.

### TIMSS

Danmarks institut for Pædagogik og Uddannelse (DPU)  
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8000 Aarhus C, Danmark  
Tlf: 28 99 25 60 / 87 16 32 92  
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### 4. Databeskyttelsesrådgiver

Aarhus Universitets databeskyttelsesrådgiver kan kontaktes på:  
[miklund@au.dk](mailto:miklund@au.dk), tlf. 93 50 90 82

### 5. Personoplysninger der behandles om barnet

Vi behandler de personoplysninger om barnet,

som dit barn afgiver via spørgeskemaet. Det er tilladt for dit barn at undlade at svare på individuelle spørgsmål.

### 6. Formål

Vi indsamler og behandler data fra elevernes deltagelse i forskningsprojektet med 2 formål:  
1) En faglig test som har til formål at kortlægge de danske eleveres faglige færdigheder i fagene matematik og natur/teknologi.  
2) Et spørgeskema som har til formål at tilføre projektet viden om elevernes køn, alder, fødeland, deres forældres/værgers fødeland, ressourcer i hjemmet, sprog der tales i hjemmet samt holdninger til skolemiljøet og undervisningen i matematik og natur/teknologi.

### 7. Andre modtagere

TIMSS administreres af IEA, som også foretager analyser af det indsamlede data. IEA modtager og behandler det indsamlede datamateriale i anonymiseret form. Dine personoplysninger bliver ikke delt med nogen anden 3. part.

### 8. Opbevaringstid

Vi opbevarer dit barns personoplysninger frem til udgangen af oktober 2019, hvor dataindsamlingen er færdig.

**9. Mulighed for at trække samtykke tilbage**  
Deltagelse er frivillig, og du kan til enhver tid trække dit samtykke til behandling af personoplysninger tilbage. Dette kan ske ved henvendelse til projektgruppen, som fremgår af punkt 3. Hvis du tilbagetrækker dit samtykke, får det først virkning fra dette tidspunkt og påvirker ikke lovligheden af vores behandling op til dette tidspunkt.

### 10. Godkendelse

Denne samtykkeerklæring godkendes ved at du, på vegne af dit barn, udfylder og underskriver formularen øverst.



# HOW DID IT GO?

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Out of 5991 eligible students;

- 5140 participated = 85,8% (Including participation with special accommodation)
- 282 were absent of the day of testing = 4,8%
- **564 were excluded because of missing parental permission = 9,4%**



# AN UNPLEASANT ENCOUNTER WITH GDPR

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During our data entry of the student questionnaires, one of our punchers noticed a handwritten message in the cover of a questionnaire. The student had written, that he/she was frequently having thoughts of suicide, and that we (the test administrators, ed.) should not tell it to anyone.

At the time we found this message, it had been weeks since the day of testing. We contacted our legal department right away to ask what our options to notify parents would be.

We found out that our only legal option was to contact the school, and get information on the parents from them.

The school decided not to give us this information. They would not be allowed to pass this information to us, because information about parents was not mentioned in the disclosure agreement between us and them.



# PARTICIPATION WITHOUT CONSENT?

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Interpretation of GDPR legislation is like a pendulum, now:

- Consent from parents may if we draw the 'research card' only be needed for students to participate in student questionnaire if no school lists etc. are kept anywhere
- Students would be allowed to participate in the math and science test without consent.
- It raises questions: If the study is completed without the context questionnaire, the study would merely be relevant for estimating participating countries mean scores
- I think that the test results, without the background information, can not be used for much.
- On the positive side: Asking all parents, made us inform all well, and we have full support from the participating parents → a form of outreach activity





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