



UNIVERSITY OF
LATVIA



Ministry of
Foreign Affairs
Republic of Latvia

RESEARCH ON DIASPORA INVESTMENTS IN LATVIA

Participant Information Sheet: Data Protection and Use of Personal Data

This document provides information on how personal data will be collected, processed, and protected within the scientific study “Diaspora Investments in Latvia”, conducted by the University of Latvia (hereinafter – the Research Institution).

Who is conducting the study? The study is implemented by the University of Latvia, in collaboration with experts in diaspora engagement and investment research. The research is led by the Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, under the direction of *PhD cand.* Līga Brasliņa and Tenured Professor Inta Mieriņa.

What is the aim of the study? The study aims to analyze the investment potential of the Latvian diaspora in the context of national economic development and sustainability, identifying key motivating and constraining factors for investment.

How will data be collected? Data collection will include in-depth interviews with diaspora members, government representatives, and sectoral experts. Interviews will be recorded only with the respondent’s explicit consent. All data will be transcribed and analyzed solely for academic purposes.

What will be expected of me as a participant? If you agree to participate, you will be asked a series of questions related to the objectives of the study. There are no “right” or “wrong” answers — we are interested in your professional views and experiences.

How will the collected data be used? All information provided will be used in aggregated and anonymized form and only for research purposes. Individual responses will never be presented in a way that allows identification.

Will my privacy be protected? Yes. Confidentiality and data protection are a core priority of the project. Before any publication, data will be thoroughly anonymized to ensure no individual can be identified.

Can I withdraw from the study? Participation is entirely voluntary. You may withdraw at any time without providing a reason. If you withdraw, all associated personal data will be deleted and excluded from further analysis. Your participation implies informed consent regarding the terms of data processing described in this document.

Will the study results be published? Yes. The results will be published in aggregated, anonymized form in a public report. Findings may also be disseminated through academic publications.

Are there any risks involved? There are no known risks associated with participation. This study does not impose any financial, legal, or reputational obligations on participants.

What is the legal basis for data processing?

The data is processed in accordance with Article 6(1)(a) and Articles 156, 159, and 162 of the **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)** (EU Regulation 2016/679). The processing is based on your explicit consent and is carried out in the public interest for academic and statistical purposes.

Who will have access to the data? After the study is completed, data will be securely stored by the Research Institution. Only anonymized and pseudonymized data will be available to researchers for academic analysis. Contact information, if provided, will be encrypted and stored separately from survey responses, accessible only to the lead researchers and data protection specialists.

Will the data be shared with other organizations? Anonymized and pseudonymized data may be shared with third-party researchers for academic purposes only. Any future research use of this data must comply with the same or stricter data protection standards.

When and for how long will the data be stored? Data analysis will begin in July 2025. Anonymized and pseudonymized survey data will be retained indefinitely for scientific use. Video recordings of focus groups and expert panels will be deleted upon project completion (by 31.12.2025). Contact data will be retained only as long as necessary for research communication.

What security measures are in place? The Research Institution employs a range of organizational and technical safeguards, including encryption, pseudonymization, and access controls. All data is stored on servers within the European Union. Researchers are granted access only to pseudonymized datasets and are bound by written confidentiality agreements. Survey answers are additionally coded to ensure that open responses (e.g. profession, organization) cannot inadvertently reveal the respondent's identity.

Who is responsible for data protection?

- **Data Controller:** University of Latvia, Reg. No. 3341000218
Raiņa Blvd. 19, Rīga, LV-1586, Latvia
Phone: +371 67034444, Email: lu@lu.lv
- **Contact for Data Protection Matters:**
Email: lietvediba@lu.lv (Data Protection Officer)
- **Responsible Unit for the Research Project:**
Faculty of Social Sciences and Economics, University of Latvia

What to do if I have concerns?

1. First, contact the research project leader – **Līga Brasliņa** at: liga.braslina@lu.lv
2. If unresolved, contact LU's data protection specialist at: datu.specialisti@lu.lv
3. If necessary, you may submit a formal complaint to the **Data State Inspectorate of Latvia**:
Tel. +371 67223232, Email: info@dvi.gov