

ON-MERRIT Review, Promotion, Tenure survey participant information and informed consent form

Participant information sheet

Upon clicking the link to the survey, respondents were first presented the following information sheet to advise on survey aims, requirements and duration.

Understanding academic researchers' views on career progression

We are conducting an international survey to better understand the **criteria related to research activities** used to assess researchers in promotion processes at higher education institutions. This survey is part of the Horizon 2020 project ON-MERRIT (<https://on-merrit.eu>).

You will be asked questions relating to the promotion policies of your institution, faculty, department, college, etc. Please answer all questions according to your knowledge and views of the policies related to your current career stage. Some questions will ask for your perception of what your institution values in this respect, while others will ask for your personal opinion of what should be important.

By participating in this survey, you have an opportunity to help us better understand this landscape and shape policy recommendations. These will be communicated to a range of stakeholders, including funders and higher education institutions.

The estimated completion time for this survey is 10 - 15 minutes.

There are 37 questions in this survey.

Participant information sheet and consent form

We next presented respondents with information to obtain informed consent. Respondents were required to read and respond to the below information and questions.

If a participant responded no to any of the four questions, an error message was presented "WARNING: You need to agree to all four statements, otherwise you will not be able to continue with the survey." Hence, all respondents who continued to complete the survey had given their explicit informed consent in line with the below:

Participation

Please read the following information before deciding whether to participate in our study. Please ask us any questions you may have about the process or project before completing the consent form (see contact details below).

Informed Consent

You are invited to participate in this study on a voluntary basis and you are free to withdraw from the study at any time without providing any reason for doing so, before completing the survey.

You won't be asked to provide any personally identifying information. All the information you provide will be anonymised and treated confidentially and will be used for research purposes. It will not be used in a manner which would allow identification of you as an individual. This applies to all outputs that might stem from the project, including academic papers and other reports, conference presentations and published datasets. The data and the survey itself will be stored on the internal servers of [Know-Center](#) GmbH (Austria). All data will be deleted five years after project completion.

Contact: nancy.pontika@open.ac.uk, Open University, UK.

* To save the survey in case you want to continue at a later time, please use the **"Resume later"** button, located on the top right hand side of each survey page.

Please choose the appropriate response for each item:

- I confirm that I have read the participant information (Yes/No)
- I understand that my participation in this survey is voluntary and all the information will be anonymised (Yes/No)
- I agree that any data collected may be published in anonymous form in books, reports or journals and shared in presentations (Yes/No)
- I agree to take part in this survey (Yes/No)