
UK and German International Criminal Co-operation – the Multi-jurisdictional and Federal Impact

A Data Management Plan created using DMPonline

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Project abstract:

This research project examines how the federal and multi-jurisdictional nature of Germany and the UK affect the nature and degree of the international criminal co-operation undertaken by each

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Data Summary

The research will create data in the form of replies to interview questions. It will therefore be survey data. This will be in digital form. It will be transcribed and written-up into Word documents.

This data type was chosen because it elicits the information sought. This information comprises the views of key stakeholders in the systems of criminal co-operation within the multi-jurisdictional UK and federal Germany.

The research will also involve the collection and analysis of existing secondary material [in the public domain] on the subject matter of the project. Usage of existing knowledge and insight is an important element of the approach taken.

Data Collection

The data will be created by the persons directed by the project's two PIs engaging in either face-to-face or remote interviews with identified stakeholders. The responses to the questions asked will be either recorded orally and then transcribed into digital documents or submitted by the interviewee as a digital document.

The RAs who will be recruited to the project will be trained in order to ensure they are digitally literate and aware of the data management plan and responsibilities, as well as the GDPR.

The quality of the data will be ensured through the project team producing thoroughly considered and standardised questions together with specific training and advice for the RA(s) on interview protocol, including the importance of clear and standardised vocabulary. The project team will work to ensure the data is of high quality and comparable as between the jurisdictions.

The project team is aware of possible linguistic nuances and subtleties resulting from the set interview questions being posed in both English and German. Efforts will be made to ensure the interview questions are as closely aligned in meaning as the languages allow.

Naming conventions and formatting templates will be used to standardise the information acquired.

The project team has the assistance and advice of the research offices of the Universities in which the staff are employed.

The project team has the support of IT specialists with their institutions, and will endeavour to avail themselves with the best available recording techniques and technology, including automatic cloud storage.

Short-term Data Storage

The data will be stored in the short term within the central and secure research drives of the institutions in which the research project's PIs are based. The storage systems are compliant with the with GDPR.

RGU has secured networked drives available for research to facilitate day to day management and sharing of research data during the lifetime of the project. Some of this data may be held in "cloud" based servers, all of which will be within the EU and compliant with GDPR.

All RGU network drives are backed up on a 4 hourly basis. Data will not be stored on laptops or other mobile devices, but copied immediately onto RGU storage (as detailed above).

No data will be stored on other devices such as laptops, phones etcetera.

Long-term Data Storage

The data engendered by the project will be compiled into a data-set, and will be stored as open-data on a publically accessible repository. The repository will be either based within the institutions of the project PIs, eg RGU's own repository, Openair, and/or within a national repository such as the UK data service,

[check with Stephanie re facilities in her University, they seem to have their own repository for research data, which is open access and it might be worth saying something like the data will be made available in both universities concurrently <https://www.uni-marburg.de/de/ub/forschen/forschungsdaten>

See above.

There is no set timeline for storage. It will be held as long as it retains some relevance.

The costs of storage are minimal, and a part of the institutional responsibilities of the project PI's employers.

Data Sharing

It will be shared through publication and via the repository. It will be of value to persons working in criminal justice in a international and co-operative sense. The data should help those working towards maximising the efficient and effective nature of international criminal co-operation in multi-jurisdictional and federal states.

Outputs of the project include country-specific reports on the nature of international criminal cooperation in light of their multi-jurisdiction or federal structure and a manual of best practice identified across the jurisdictions. These are designed to have specific and practical value to professionals working in the area.

There is a dearth of data addressing the effect of multi-jurisdictional and federal states on international criminal co-operation. The project aims to uncover the position and views of leading stakeholders working in the area. The data may inform both policy and legislative changes as well as institutional working practices to ensure that co-operation is effective and efficient and that the human rights of accused, convicted and other persons affected by international criminal justice are fully respected.

Subsequent to the project, future research in the UK and Germany or in other jurisdictions in the area of the project would undoubtedly benefit from the insights unearthed, recorded and analysed.

The data acquired will be published as soon as possible and practicable. It will be lodged on the open access repositories of the PI's universities.

The data may have value to different audiences. The dissemination plans of the project take this into account. They include conference papers, academic and professional journal article publications and country-specific reports of the nationally focused findings. The audiences include criminal justice professionals, criminal justice NGOs and advocates, inter-governmental liaison professionals and members of co-operative organisations including Europol and Eurojust.

It is not envisaged that the data would need to be updated.

This may change, however, dependent upon the timing and nature of any Brexit settlement that be finalised. In a scenario where the outcome of the co-operative relationship is not concluded until well after the commencement of the project in January 2020 then a need to revisit the position and update the data may arise.

The data will be open access, available free of charge.

N/A

Ethical and Legal Considerations

The data will be collected only subsequent to the agreement of the interviewees, signing a consent form

addressing all the relevant aspects of data management. This include the anonymisation of the date, intimation of the uses to which the data will be put, stipulation of whether an individual response can be referred to verbatim etcetera.

The research project team will receive assistance and advice on the applicable ethical and legal aspects of the data collection.

See above.