



Participant information sheet

Study title:

**Exclusion amid Inclusion: Power-Sharing
and Non-Dominant Minorities**

School of History, Anthropology, Politics and
Philosophy

Queen's University Belfast
25 University Square
Belfast
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Invitation Paragraph

Our names are Timofey Agarin, Allison McCulloch and Drew Mikhael. We are researchers at Queen's University Belfast and Brandon University, Canada and we would like to invite you to take part in our research study. Before you decide if you would like to take part we would like you to understand what the research is about and what we would be asking you to do.

Please read this information sheet at your leisure and contact us if you have any questions.

What is the study about?

The purpose of this project is to explore the relationship between power-sharing practices, such as those adopted as part of the Taif-Agreement and the political inclusion of various minorities in society who are not explicitly included in the agreement. We are interested in getting your opinion on the nature of the peace process and the use of power-sharing practices in Lebanon and their impact on these communities. Specifically, you will be asked to share your views on the effects of power-sharing practices on these groups, such as the electoral law and the confessional prescription of the Parliament and on how these groups might become better engaged with and included in the political system in Lebanon.

What is our motivation to do this research?

Our research aims to advance knowledge and understanding of the experiences of minorities who are not explicitly included in power-sharing agreements. It seeks to benefit policymakers and those working at community level to address this issue. Through our research we hope to promote better understanding amongst stakeholders of the engagement of these groups in the political process and of the potential reforms that could further their inclusion.

What is going to come out of this?

We hope to produce a number of reports and publications based on this research, potentially including articles in peer-reviewed journals and books.

Will your taking part in this study be kept confidential?

Confidentiality and anonymity will be maintained during this study and it will not be possible to identify you from any publications unless you agree for your name to be used in the outputs of this project.

What if you are not happy with any aspect of the study?

Your participation in this study is voluntary and you are free to withdraw at any time, without giving any reason. You may also make a complaint if you are unhappy with any part of the study, as outlined below.

Who has reviewed the research?

This research has been reviewed by the Economic and Social Research Council and the Research Ethics Committee at the School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy, and Politics, Queen's University Belfast.

What if you want to make a complaint?

If you are not happy with any aspect of the study and wish to speak with someone other than us, you can contact

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Thank you for taking the time to read this information leaflet. I look forward to working with you should you choose to take part in this study. If you wish to ask any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.