

**Acts/Crimes of solidarity: an ethnographic study of illegalisation and criminalisation amongst pro-migration activists and other citizens in France and Morocco**

**Participant Information Sheet (PIS)**

You are being invited to take part in a research study (Acts/Crimes of Solidarity) which aims to examine criminalizing and illegalizing processes targeting pro-migration activists and other citizens (e.g. volunteers, practitioners) in Morocco and France. Before you decide whether to take part, it is important for you to understand why the research is being conducted and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully before deciding whether to take part, and discuss it with others if you wish. Please ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

**About the research**

➤ **Who will conduct the research?**

Dr Sébastien Bachelet is a researcher in Social Anthropology at the School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester. He is the principal investigator of this project.

Dr/other title X [*Insert Name of Research Associate Once Hired*], Social Anthropology, School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester

➤ **What is the purpose of the research?**

This study aims to explore illegalisation and criminalisation processes amongst volunteers, activists, practitioners and other citizens in Morocco and France, where civil society organisations have denounced forms of repression and intimidation from authorities against 'irregular' migrants and those providing assistance to them (e.g. in the form of humanitarian aid). We want to explore debates over solidarity and illegality. The study will generate qualitative data on how citizens are subjected to and navigate illegalisation and criminalisation processes. We examine these processes in a European country (France) and one of its partners from the Global South (Morocco) for the 'management of migration' through a participatory research project in partnership with two organisations supporting migrants in Morocco (GADEM) and France (PSMigrants).

You have invited you to take part because of your engagement on migratory issues as either a volunteer, activist, NGO practitioner, artist, journalist, civil servant, policy-maker, and/or politician involved in migratory issues in France/Morocco. There will be approximately 30 participants from Moroccan civil society and 30 from French civil society.

➤ **Am I suitable to take part?**

We would love to hear from you if you are:

- At least 18 year-old
- Happy to talk about topics (e.g. migration, solidarity etc.) relevant to the study.

➤ **Will the outcomes of the research be published?**

Research project outcomes will be reported in scientific conferences and in peer-reviewed academic publications and non-academic outputs (policy-briefs and online blogs).

➤ **Who has reviewed the research project?**

The project has been reviewed by The University of Manchester Proportionate Research Ethics Committee

➤ **Who is funding the research project?**

The project is funded by the UK ESRC (Economic and Social Research Council). Grant Number ES/T016485/1

**What would my involvement be?**

➤ **What would I be asked to do if I took part?**

You are invited to take part in a semi-structured interview. This typically lasts between 1 and 2 hours. This will take place at a safe and convenient location mutually agreed with the researcher. There are no immediate risks to the research participants although we recognise that it might be difficult and potentially upsetting to discuss some of those issues such as pressure and intimidation you may have experienced because of your engagement and/or work. If you begin to feel this way, we can take a break, arrange the interview for another time or stop altogether. You can also let us know if there's any questions or subject areas that you don't want to talk about. Mitigating measures have been set up to address ethical issues such as confidentiality, safeguarding, and consent. We anticipate that the research participants will directly benefit from the research findings and project outcomes (e.g. enhance capacity, knowledge and access to rights amongst those under risks of prosecution for providing assistance to 'irregular' migrants). If you are interested, you will also be invited to take part in a participatory, creative exercise with the researcher – details will be discussed and decided by yourself and the research team as this is a participatory exercise. It will involve taking photographs to reflect on your views and experiences related to the scope of the study (e.g. migration, activism, solidarity). You will retain copyright of those images and agree to the research team using them in publications and for teaching purposes.

➤ **Will I be compensated for taking part?**

No compensation are offered for taking part in this study.

➤ **What happens if I do not want to take part or if I change my mind?**

It is up to you to decide whether to take part. If you do decide to take part you will be given this information sheet to keep and will be asked to answer yes to a clear oral consent request. If you decide to take part you are still free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason and without detriment to yourself. However, it will not be possible to remove your data from the project once it has been anonymised as we will not be able to identify your specific data. This does not affect your data protection rights. If you decide not to take part you do not need to do anything further.

**Data Protection and Confidentiality**

➤ **What information will you collect about me?**

In order to participate in this research project we will need to collect information that could identify you, called “personal identifiable information”. Specifically we will need to collect:

- Name
- Contact details

➤ **Under what legal basis are you collecting this information?**

We are collecting and storing this personal identifiable information in accordance with UK data protection law which protect your rights. These state that we must have a legal basis (specific reason) for collecting your data. For this study, the specific reason is that it is “a public interest task” and “a process necessary for research purposes”.

➤ **What are my rights in relation to the information you will collect about me?**

You have a number of rights under data protection law regarding your personal information. For example you can request a copy of the information we hold about you.

If you would like to know more about your different rights or the way we use your personal information to ensure we follow the law, please consult our [Privacy Notice for Research](https://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=37095).  
<https://documents.manchester.ac.uk/display.aspx?DocID=37095>

➤ **Will my participation in the study be confidential and my personal identifiable information be protected?**

In accordance with data protection law, The University of Manchester is the Data Controller for this project. This means that we are responsible for making sure your personal information is kept secure, confidential and used only in the way you have been told it will be used. All researchers are trained with this in mind, and your data will be looked after in the following way:

The study team at The University of Manchester will have access to your personal information and they will anonymise it as soon as possible. Your name and contact details will be kept separate. To ensure confidentiality, each participant will be assigned a pseudonym within two days of the interview taking place. Physical notes from the interview will be transcribed within two days of the interview taking place and securely stored on the University of Manchester secure servers – physical copies of the interview notes will be safely destroyed. The data will be pseudonymised and the pseudonymisation key will be kept separate from transcripts. Only the research team will have access to the key that links this pseudonym to your personal information. Once all the data has been analysed, we will destroy the key, anonymising your data. Fieldnotes used to record your name and the fact that you consented to taking part in this study will be kept securely on the University secure server (accessed only by the research team) for a period of 5 years for auditing purposes only in line with existing legislation – they will then be destroyed securely. Raw data collected in the study will be kept on the server for up to 10 years after which it will be safely disposed of by the university. Data will not be shared with other organisations. Data will not be archived in a repository with the exception of a small selection of visual outputs (where people will not be identifiable).

Please also note that individuals from The University of Manchester or regulatory authorities may need to look at the data collected for this study to make sure the project is being carried out as planned. This may involve looking at identifiable data. All individuals involved in auditing and monitoring the study will have a strict duty of confidentiality to you as a research participant.

**What if I have a complaint?**

➤ **Contact details for complaints**

If you have a complaint that you wish to direct to members of the research team, please contact:

**Dr Sébastien Bachelet, 0044 (0)1612753488,**  
[sebastien.bachelet@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:sebastien.bachelet@manchester.ac.uk)

**If you wish to make a formal complaint to someone independent of the research team or if you are not satisfied with the response you have gained from the researchers in the first instance then please contact**

The Research Ethics Manager, Research Office, Christie Building, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL, by emailing: [research.complaints@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:research.complaints@manchester.ac.uk) or by telephoning 0161 306 8089.

If you wish to contact us about your data protection rights, please email [dataprotection@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:dataprotection@manchester.ac.uk) or write to The Information Governance Office, Christie Building, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, M13 9PL at the University and we will guide you through the process of exercising your rights.

You also have a right to complain to the [Information Commissioner's Office about complaints relating to your personal identifiable information](https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/) Tel 0303 123 1113 <https://ico.org.uk/make-a-complaint/>

# Additional information in relation to COVID-19

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, we have made some adjustments to the way in which this research study will be conducted that ensures we are adhering to the latest government advice in relation to social distancing as well as taking all reasonable precautions in terms of limiting the spread of the virus. You should carefully consider all of the information provided below before deciding if you still want to take part in this research study. If you choose not to take part, you need to inform research team. If you have any additional queries about any of the information provided, please speak with a member of the research team.

**Are there any additional considerations that I need to know about before deciding whether I should take part?**

You should not take part if you have symptoms or have recently tested positive to Covid 19. The interview can be postponed.

**What additional steps will you take to keep me safe while I take part?**

The project will follow local guidance and restrictions in France/Morocco.

**Is there any additional information that I need to know?**

Non applicable

**What if I have additional queries?**

Contact the research team.

### **What do I do now? And Contact Details**

If you have any queries about the study or if you are interested in taking part then please contact the researcher(s):

**Dr Sébastien Bachelet** [sebastien.bachelet@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:sebastien.bachelet@manchester.ac.uk)

**[contact details for the Research Associate to be added]**