

Processing of Personal Data in Dr. Philos. Projects

In Dr. Philos. projects, it is the candidate's responsibility to adhere to ethical research standards throughout the research process. This includes safeguarding data privacy from the moment data collection begins. The University of Oslo (UiO) cannot award degrees for work that fails to comply with legal requirements and does not assume data controller responsibilities for the projects. Candidates must therefore document that their project has operated in accordance with scientific and ethical standards as well as relevant legislation.

Unless a data protection assessment has been conducted by Sikt or a private entity, applicants must provide a detailed account of data protection measures in a separate attachment when submitting their application. Applications that do not include a comprehensive explanation or other relevant documentation will be rejected.

The following points must be addressed:

1) Type of personal data in the project

What types of personal data have been processed in the project? Does the project involve [special categories of personal data](#), i.e., data considered sensitive?

2) Data collection

Describe how the personal data was collected. Was it obtained directly from informants, or were other sources used?

3) Legal basis and information provided to informants

What legal basis was used for the processing of personal data, for example, [consent or public interest](#)? How were informants informed of their rights? Copies of consent forms and information sheets must be appended to the thesis or submitted upon request.

4) Data storage

How were personal data stored during the doctoral project? Describe the storage solutions used and how they were adequately secure given the level of protection required for the data.

5) Data sharing

Have any individuals or institutions had access to the personal data? If so, were agreements established regarding the processing of the data?

6) Anonymisation and related measures

What has been done or will be done with the personal data after the thesis is submitted? Describe the process for anonymisation, secure long-term storage, or similar measures.

In addition, for medical and health sciences research: Pre-approval from the Regional Ethics Committee (REK) and/or any exemption from confidentiality obligations must be appended.