

Privacy policy for the study „Exploration of the Use of Gaming For Post-Work and Post-Study Recovery for Neurodivergent University Students“

Dear participants,

We thank you for your willingness to participate in the study "Exploration of the Use of Gaming For Post-Work and Post-Study Recovery for Neurodivergent University Students" conducted by the Institute for Anthropomatics and Robotics – Human-Machine Interaction and Accessibility at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT).

The study investigates the role of gaming in recovery after work and studies for neurodivergent students, as well as the game design elements perceived as supportive or hindering in this process. The purpose is to develop strategies for inclusive game design to support mental health.

The following information provides an overview of the processing of your personal data within the framework of this study and your rights under data protection law.

1. Personal Data

During participation, we process personal data concerning you. According to Art. 4 No. 1 of the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), personal data includes all information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person.

In this study, the following personal data are collected:

- Age
- Gender
- Form of Neurodivergence: Only the general category is requested (e.g., Autism).
- Other (suspected) disabilities or personal characteristics relevant to your gaming experience.
- Education level

2. Responsible body

Responsible for data processing within the meaning of the GDPR and other data protection regulations is:

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)
Kaiserstraße 12
76131 Karlsruhe
Germany
Tel.: +49 721 608-0
Fax: +49 721 608-44290
E-Mail: info@kit.edu

The Karlsruhe Institute of Technology is a public body. It is represented by Prof. Dr. Oliver Kraft, as the acting president of KIT.

The KIT data protection officer is:

Ass. jur. Marina Bitmann
Postal address: Kaiserstr. 12
Building 10.11, Room 233
76131 Karlsruhe
Germany

Postal address: Postfach 6980
76049 Karlsruhe
Germany
Tel.: 0721/608-41057
Fax: 0721/608-41059
E-Mail: dsb@kit.edu

3. Purpose of data processing

KIT processes your personal data solely for specified, explicit and legitimate purposes. The purpose of the data processing in question is to conduct the study

4. Legal basis for data processing

The legal basis for the processing of your personal data is your consent in accordance with Art. 6 para. 1 subpara. 1 lit. a GDPR.

The granting of consent is voluntary. Consent can be withdrawn at any time with effect for the future. Effect for the future means that the withdrawal of consent does not affect the lawfulness of processing based on consent before its withdrawal.

There are no disadvantages if consent is refused or withdrawn.

5. Description of data processing

After granting your consent, participation in this study consists of three consecutive steps: (1) online pre-survey on socio-demographic data, (2) a two-week diary study and (3) online exit survey.

Step 1: Pre-Survey – You fill out a short online questionnaire about yourself, e.g., age, gender, form of neurodivergence and gaming behavior.

Step 2: Diary Study – In this two-week phase, you will keep a daily (if possible) online or paper-based (according to your preference) diary of your gaming behavior. Data will be collected on daily playing times, game titles, your perceived mental load from your studies or work, and your emotional and sensory experiences before and after playing. The goal is to understand how gaming influences your recovery after studying.

Step 3: Exit Survey – You fill out a final online questionnaire. In this questionnaire, you will be asked in particular about the connections between your neurodivergence, your gaming preferences and your psychological recovery.

Online data collection takes place via KIT's own instance of SoSci.

Data Recording and Anonymization – All entries from the diary study and the online questionnaire will be pseudonymized. To this end, all identifying features (e.g., last names, email addresses) are removed and replaced by pseudonyms (e.g., "Adil" becomes the code "Participant_01"). Direct identification of your person is not possible for third parties after data cleaning.

Data Storage and Publication – All research data is stored in encrypted digital form on secure servers at KIT. A correlation table linking your pseudonym with your contact details is kept separately from the research data and is only accessible to the study management. The results of the study will be published in aggregated form. Qualitative responses from the free-text fields of the questionnaire or the diaries may be quoted in anonymized form, ensuring that you cannot be identified as an individual.

Any artifacts created during the study, e.g., paper-based diaries, will be stored in the rooms of the Institute for Anthropomatics and Robotics (IAR) – Research Group Human-Machine Interaction and Accessibility for further analysis and treated confidentially.

The study results are published only in aggregated form. As the data is also analyzed qualitatively (thematic analysis), individual quotations may also be published. These quotations will be selected and redacted before publication to ensure you will not be identifiable.

Participation in the study is voluntary. You will not suffer any disadvantage if you decide not to take part in the study. Even if you have given your consent, you can withdraw your participation at any time without giving reasons. If you wish, the data collected will be deleted in full or in part. This is only possible until the data has been anonymized. After that, it is no longer possible to assign the data to individuals.

6. Transfer of information

Generally, your personal data will not be transferred to third parties.

If, in exceptional cases, it should be necessary for external service providers to process personal data on our behalf, they will be carefully selected by us and contractually obligated. The service providers in question work exclusively in accordance with our instructions. We ensure this through strict contractual regulations, technical and organizational measures and additional controls.

Personal data is not transferred to third countries outside the EU or the EEA or to an international organization. Automated decision-making, including profiling, does not take place.

7. Storage duration

The mapping table including the contact details and the consent forms will be destroyed right after conclusion of the study. The research data will be stored for a period of ten years.

8. Your rights

You have the following rights in relation to personal data concerning you:

- Right to confirmation as to whether data concerning you is being processed and to information about the processed data, to further information about the data processing and to copies of the data (Art. 15 GDPR),
- Right to rectification or completion of incorrect or incomplete data (Art. 16 GDPR),
- Right to immediate deletion of the data concerning you (Art. 17 GDPR),

- Right to restriction of processing (Art. 18 GDPR),
- Right to receive the data concerning you and provided by you and to transmit this data to other controllers (Art. 20 GDPR).

You also have the right to complain to the supervisory authority about the processing of your personal data by the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) (Art. 77 GDPR). The supervisory authority for KIT within the meaning of Article 51 (1) GDPR pursuant to Section 25 (1) LDSG is:

The State Commissioner for Data Protection and Freedom of Information of Baden-Württemberg

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70173 Stuttgart
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