

INFORMATION SHEET



UCC

Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh, Éire
University College Cork, Ireland

Privacy and Blockchain: a boundary object perspective

Purpose of the Study. As part of the requirements for the degree of MSc, at University College Cork, a research study will be carried out. The study is concerned with privacy and blockchain technology.

What will the study involve? The study involves being interviewed by the researcher. There will be between 10-20 questions and the interview will focus on your perspectives of privacy as you, or your organisation, engages with blockchain technology. The interview is expected to take approximately 60 minutes.

Why have you been asked to take part? You have been asked to take part because you or your organisation are involved in the blockchain industry while your perspective of privacy informs your involvement and interaction with the technology.

Do you have to take part? You do not have to take part. If you agree to take part, you will be asked to acknowledge consent through your chosen interview platform (Wire, Skype, Telegram, Telephone). You may keep a record of this if you so wish. After giving consent, you are free to withdraw it at any point in the interview. During the interview you may stop at any point, and you do not have to answer any further questions. You also have the right to ask for your data to be withdrawn and destroyed for up to two weeks after the interview concludes.

Will your participation in the study be confidential? Every effort will be made to ensure confidentiality and anonymity throughout the research process. I will ensure that no clues to your identity appear in the thesis, or in any other publication or presentation arising from the collected data. Any extracts from what you say quoted in the thesis or any other publication/presentation, either by the researcher or colleagues, will remain entirely anonymous. This includes changing any pseudonym that you may use to conduct the interview with, or any other pseudonym that you may engage with that is known to me.

What will happen to the information which you give? The data will be kept confidential for the duration of the study, available only to me and my research supervisors. Transcripts will be stored securely as encrypted and password protected files on the researchers personal laptop, and the researchers university designated computer. On completion of the project, your data will be retained for a minimum of a further ten years, and then destroyed by the university. This is per the university guidelines on data collection.

What will happen to the results? The results will be presented in the thesis, and any publications based on the thesis. They will be seen by my supervisors, and any peers

within the publication peer review process. The thesis will also be read by an internal and external examiner. The study may be published in part, or in whole, in research journals, book form, or presented at conferences. Excerpts from the study may also form part of public presentations given by the researcher.

What are the possible disadvantages of taking part? Negative consequences for you in taking part are not anticipated. All efforts will be made to ensure that you do not suffer any stress or anxiety whilst taking part in the study.

What if there is a problem? At the end of the interview, I will discuss with you how you are feeling. If you are feeling any distress, anxiety, or worry, suitable action will be taken, or information passed on to you to aid any anxiety that you may feel.

Who has reviewed this study? Approval must be given by the Social Research Ethics Committee of University College Cork before studies like this can take place. This information sheet, interview questions, and the process for dealing with all information has been reviewed by the Social Research Ethics Committee at the university.

Any further queries? If you need any further information, contact is available at:

Researcher:

Dr. Robin Renwick: rrenwick01@qub.ac.uk

Supervisor:

Dr. Rob Gleasure: r.gleasure@ucc.ie

If you agree to take part in this study, I would ask you to give consent over the text based platform on which the interview will take place.