

- **Date sent:** 9 December 2020, 04:17
- **From:** Julia Heuritsch
- **To:** Division J Galaxies and Cosmology
- **Subject:** Survey invitation

Dear astronomer,

Apologies in advance if you have already received this survey. It has been sent out to several Divisions and therefore if you are a member of more than one of these Divisions you may receive it more than once.

This survey was designed by a former astronomer to study the *research culture* in Astronomy. This includes your aspirations in research, your experience of the publication culture and your perceptions with respect to research behaviour, including scientific misconduct.

Your experiences are vital to better understand the factors that *enable or constrain your research*.

By taking this survey, you will help *improve working conditions* in research: the results of this survey will lead to recommendations for policy makers on the practical structural initiatives needed to *support astronomers* conduct research in the best conditions.

This survey will take you approximately 20-30 minutes, depending on your answers. For optimal functionality please use a laptop/ PC.

Please click on this link to participate in the survey: <https://umfrage.hu-berlin.de/index.php/853818?lang=en>

Since it's important that astronomers of all career stages are represented, **we would like to ask you to forward this email to early-career researchers**, who are underrepresented in the IAU. These could be PhD candidates that you supervise or teach, for example. We apologise for any cross-posting.

Thank you very much in advance, your participation is very much appreciated! Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. Your query will be answered as quickly as possible and will remain confidential.

Best wishes,
Julia

Julia Heuritsch, MSc
PhD Candidate at Humboldt Universität zu Berlin
Faculty of Social Science; Department of Science Studies
julia.heuritsch@hu-berlin.de

Anonymity & Data protection

This survey is *completely anonymous*. In particular, it will not be possible to infer identity

from the results, which will be published in a scientific journal article. If you, however, want to be informed about the results, you may add your email address in the comment section on the last page of the survey or write an email to julia.heuritsch@hu-berlin.de.

The data collection is in compliance with the European data protection regulation (GDPR). You can find more information on the university's data protection policy here: https://www.hu-berlin.de/en/hu-en/imprint/data-protection-statement?set_language=en

Since this survey is also *completely voluntary*, you may withdraw from the survey at any time. However, for the sake of this study we hope that you will complete the survey.

More information on the project

Julia is a member of the junior research group "Reflexive Metrics" located at Humboldt Universität zu Berlin. Reflexive Metrics is a relatively new field in science studies, which combines the two strands, the sociology of quantification and the sociology of evaluation, in order to study what effects indicator use in research evaluation (e.g. publication and citation rates) has on research and researchers themselves. It is important to question the use of quantitative measurements in evaluation processes as an established practice in order to inform policy makers what effects their policies have on science and what they need to consider to encourage quality research and motivated researchers.

Please find more information on the junior research group (in German)

here: <https://www.sowi.hu-berlin.de/de/lehrbereiche/wissenschaftsforschung/Forschung/reflexivemetrics>

Please find more information about Reflexive Metrics

here: https://www.dzhw.eu/en/forschung/projekt?pr_id=605