**Ethics Application to the Ethics Committee of the German Sport University Cologne**

[*study title*]

Planned for the Year [*insert year here*]

**Date:** [*insert date*]

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
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# 1 Background, Objectives, Methods, and Expected Results

**Project Overview**

[Provide one to three sentences describing the type of data collection, methodology, and the study topic:

* **Type of Data Collection:** Qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-methods.
* **Methodology:** Video analyses, interviews, surveys, etc.
* **Topic:** What exactly will be investigated?]

**State of Research**

[Provide one to three sentences outlining the focus of relevant empirical studies on the study topic, describing the research gap/problem, and explaining how the project addresses this gap:

* **Current Research:** What are the main topics of existing empirical studies?
* **Research Gap:** What has not been adequately explored so far?
* **Contribution of the Study:** How will the approach enrich existing research?]

**Objectives of the Planned Study**

[Provide one to three sentences summarizing the study's objectives. Clearly list the research questions and define the key variables or central concepts:

* **Study Objectives:** What does the study aim to achieve?
* **Research Questions:** Clearly state the central questions guiding the investigation.
* **Key Variables/Concepts:** Define the study's target variables and concepts.]

**Methods used**

[Describe the data collection and analysis methods in a few sentences:

* **Data Collection:** How will data be gathered (e.g., interviews, observations, experiments, databases)?
* **Analysis Methods:** Which methods will be used for data analysis (e.g., qualitative content analysis, thematic analysis, quantitative analysis)?
* **Key Focus:** Highlight the central aspects of the analysis.]

**Expected Results**

[Describe the expected results. For deductive approaches or experiments/interventions, formulate hypotheses based on the theoretical framework. Relate the expected results to existing empirical literature:

* **Expected Results:** What results are anticipated?
* **Hypotheses (if applicable):** State the assumptions to be tested based on the theoretical framework.
* **Significance of Results:** Explain how the findings contribute to existing research or address gaps.]

# 2 Detailed Study Design

[Specify the timeline for study planning and highlight any unique aspects of the study design. Adapt the content in the task column to suit the context of the study.]

Tab. 1. Planned Study Timeline

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Task** | ***[Month/Year]*** | ***[Month/Year]*** | ***[Month/Year]*** | ***[Month/Year]*** |
| [*Study Preparation*] |  |  |  |  |
| [*Data Collection and Processing*] |  |  |  |  |
| [*Data Analysis*] |  |  |  |  |
| [*Publication/Conference Presentation*] |  |  |  |  |

# 

# 3 Sample Size

[Provide details of the analysis size and specify inclusion and exclusion criteria. Examples of analysis dimensions should be included:

* **Analysis Dimensions:** What specific aspects or variables will be analyzed?
* **Inclusion Criteria:** Which data or elements will be included in the analysis?
* **Exclusion Criteria:** Which data or elements will be excluded from the analysis?
* **Examples:** Provide concrete examples of analysis dimensions to be investigated.]

# 4 Justification of Sample Size

[State the planned sample size, the theoretical framework, or empirical data that support the justification of the sample size, explaining why this approach is relevant to the study:

* **Sample Size:** Indicate the planned number of datasets, participants, or cases.
* **Justification:** Explain the rationale behind the chosen sample size, e.g., based on theoretical or empirical saturation, exploratory objectives, or other scientific criteria (e.g., power analysis).
* **Relevance:** Explain why this specific approach (e.g., theory-generating research, empirical saturation) is appropriate and necessary for the study.]

# 5 Ris-Benefit Analysis

[According to the above explanation, participants are not explicitly informed. Instead, publicly accessible materials that were clearly recorded for publication purposes will be analyzed:

* **Physical Risk:** Will participants face any physical risks? If yes, what preventive measures will be taken?
* **Psychological Risk:** Could the study have psychological effects on participants? If yes, what measures are planned to mitigate these risks?
* **Preventive Measures:** Outline steps taken to minimize or eliminate potential risks.
* **Empirical Recommendations:** Describe best practices from the literature applied to address risks.]

# 7 Participant Information and Consent

[*Explain when and how participants will be informed about the study's purpose and objectives.*]

# 8 Rationale for Participant Selection Criteria

[*Provide the inclusion and exclusion criteria used to determine participant eligibility for the study.*]

# 9 References

[*List all sources cited in sections 1–7 according to current APA guidelines, using a hanging indent of 1.25 cm*.]