

# General Privacy Policy

Version 2, 28<sup>th</sup> of November 2017

## 1. Scope

The University of Augsburg, Eichleitnerstraße 30, 86159 Augsburg provides as an accompaniment to the EU-funded research project "iHEARu" a browser-based game "iHEARu-PLAY" (herein referred to as the service) under the domain <https://www.ihearuplay.eu> for consumers (herein referred to as the users). The users have the opportunity for free data recording and data annotation (herein referred to as the offers).

These General Privacy Policy outlined below contain all information about the data recording and data usage; as well as the privacy of user data by iHEARu-PLAY. By registration, you agree to the regulations of the following General Privacy Policy.

## 2. Data Collection and Usage

The providers of the service take the protection of personal data very seriously. The data will be treated as confidential in accordance with the, relevant German, data protection legislation and this General Privacy Policy.

iHEARu-PLAY can be tested by interested users as part of a non-binding trial mode (try-it version). No registration or submission of personal data is required and any created annotations are stored anonymously.

To fully use the functions of iHEARu-PLAY, those interested must register as a user first. For this purpose, it is necessary to provide information, such as specifying a **username**, an associated **e-mail address** and a **password**. In addition, other data can be disclosed **voluntarily** in the context of iHEARu-PLAY in a personal profile and are marked as optional information. These voluntarily data can also be applicable otherwise, for example in the context of use of the game, in contact with the provider or by participating in surveys and feedback polls.

iHEARu-PLAY stores the username along with the specified e-mail address of the user for which only selected team members of the service, the project team at the University of Augsburg, have access to. This mapping is used only to identify the user data if the deletion of the data is required at a later date. Data collection which takes place through the use of the iHEARu-PLAY is voluntarily and conducted in accordance with the applicable data protection regulations. The aggregated data is not used to personally identify the user over the aforementioned purposes.

During the game, users will be asked to listen to audio files and classify them into predetermined categories (annotation). In addition, the user has the opportunity to perform a variety of tasks using the speech generation tool (recording). Each performed annotation or generated speech recording is automatically stored by iHEARu-PLAY and internally connected

to the user account. The data is always used in anonymous or pseudonymous form, for subsequent operations, actions and/or processes, in particular:

1. User data is electronically stored in anonymous or pseudonymous form and used exclusively for scientific research purposes.
2. The anonymous or pseudonymous data will be shared with research groups within and outside the EU, but always only on a written license basis.
3. The user has at any time the right to obtain information with which research groups the data has been shared with.
4. Individually selected examples of pseudonymised audio data will be played back to users randomly in listening tests and for the purpose of subjective data annotation - either at the University of **Augsburg**, or via the internet using crowdsourcing sites such as iHEARu-PLAY.
5. Selected examples of the audio data, resulting generated abstract representations and statistically processed anonymous metadata can be used for presentations in scientific publications or for illustrations in online publications.
6. The performed annotations, generated recordings and voluntarily submitted data such as age, sex, country of origin, etc., will be stored after the project in order for use in research and subsequent projects and will possibly be shared with other research groups (even outside EU). With this, the user implicitly supports future research and helps international teams of researchers in the long term to obtain reproducible results.
7. Only the administrators of the platform, the project team at the University of **Augsburg**, has access to the user profile (e-mail address and username). The administrators will never voluntarily disclosure the contents of a user's profile.
8. Personal profile data (e-mail address and username) will be deleted with the deletion of the user's account or if an account remains inactive for a period exceeding three years.

Unregistered, as well as registered, users have the possibility to record their own speech data and to have it reliably recognized and evaluated by our developed speech recognition methods on speaker traits and states such as age, gender, fatigue, or emotional mood. For registered users, the speech data is stored automatically according to our data protection regulations, while non-registered users have the option to save their data with explicit consent. If this is not explicitly permitted, the collected data will be stored only for the time of the analysis.

### **3. Server-Log-Files**

The provider of the service automatically collects and stores information in what are referred to as server-log files, which your browser automatically sends to iHEARu-PLAY. These server-log data can contain computer and connection information such as the IP address, browser type and version, operating system used, previous and directly elected following URLs, and the date and time of the server inquiry.

This data is not assignable to specific individuals. This data is not compiled with any other data sources collected by the service. However, iHEARu-PLAY reserves the right to examine these data retrospectively if concrete evidence of unlawful usage are known. The deletion of server-log data is automatically performed after seven days.

## **4. Security**

Access to the personal profile data (e-mail address and username) is limited to the administrators of the platform, the project team at the University of Augsburg, that need to know that information to provide, develop and improve the services of iHEARu-PLAY. iHEARu-PLAY indicates that data transmission over the internet (for example, when communicating via e-mail) can have security gaps. The complete protection of data against unauthorized access by third parties is not possible.

## **5. Right to Information and Changes or Deletion of Data**

Users of the service will always have the right to freely receive the information relating to the data stored about them by iHEARu-PLAY and to have that data rectified or deleted. According to current laws, the user upon request is promptly notified on whether and which data exist and are stored about themselves at iHEARu-PLAY. Users, at any time, can also access, modify or remove the respective voluntarily submitted data, under "Profile". iHEARu-PLAY strives to implement changes to entries in the iHEARu-PLAY database as soon as possible. However, not all databases are immediately updated and old data can remain in archives for a short time.

In the event of cancellation of the user account the users e-mail and its associated username will be immediately deleted. A deletion of the generated recordings and performed annotations can be done at any time prior to the deletion of a user's account. However, the deletion of anonymous or pseudonymous data already used and published is not possible at any time. After deletion of the user account an assignment to the existing recordings and annotations, as well as on the anonymous profile data is no longer possible, therefore the deletion of this data is no longer feasible.

## **6. Contradiction and Termination**

If a user disagrees with this General Privacy Policy or no longer wishes to use the service of iHEARu-PLAY they can have their account deleted at any time, without giving notice or reason, using the contact form. The aforementioned data protection regulations will apply in such a case.

## **7. Cookies**

iHEARu-PLAY partially uses cookies; small text files that are stored on the user's computer and saves the browser. Set up on the computer they do not harm and do not contain viruses. Most of the cookies used by iHEARu-PLAY are known as "session cookies" which are automatically deleted at the end of each visit of service. Other cookies remain stored on the device until the user deletes them. These cookies allow the service to recognize the user's browser on the next visit and to determine the user's score in the game. By adjusting their browser features the user can block cookies at any time. However, this may have the result that certain options by iHEARu-PLAY can no longer be provided. To successfully register as a user of iHEARu-PLAY, the browser should accept cookies.

## **8. Links to external Webpages**

iHEARu-PLAY provides information of the partners within the usage of service. iHEARu-PLAY and its partners operate their respective websites independently. iHEARu-PLAY explicitly dissociates itself from the websites, which can be accessed on iHEARu-PLAY's operated or hosted websites links. The provider, partner or operator is always responsible for the topicality, correctness, completeness or quality of the content provided on the linked sites; iHEARu-PLAY has no influence here. The linked sites were checked at the time of linking for possible legal violations. Illegal contents were not found at the time of linking. A permanent control of the linked pages is unreasonable without concrete evidence of a violation. Upon notification of rights violations, such links will be promptly removed.

## **9. Anti-Spam-Guideline**

iHEARu-PLAY neither supports nor tolerates the generation of spam. The use of the services' published contact email address for sending unsolicited advertisements and information materials is hereby explicitly prohibited. As complete spam prevention is not feasible, iHEARu-PLAY asks users to forward any unsolicited e-mail they receive, which specifically refers to iHEARu-PLAY, to the service for so the circumstance of its generation can be examined. The providers of the website reserve the right to take explicitly legal steps in case of unsolicited promotional information, such as spam e-mails.

## **10. Contact Request**

Whenever a user contacts the service via the contact form, the details of the request, including the contact details given, will be stored for the purpose of processing the request and in the case of follow-up questions to iHEARu-PLAY. This data will not be passed to third parties without a user's consent.

## 11. Notification of Change

These General Privacy Policy can change over time. In this case, the user will be informed about the planned changes immediately. The changes will also be freely accessible on the website of the service. The amended terms will take effect for all new users immediately and for existing users 30 days after they have been communicated to the registered e-mail address, unless the user disagrees on the new terms and request deletion of their account.

If there are still questions about these General Privacy Policy of iHEARu-PLAY, users can contact the administrators of the service at any time via the contact form [or via e-mail \(contact@iHEARu-PLAY.eu\)](#).

\*Only the German version of this document is legally binding; this translation is only intended to assist your understanding.