



Answers: Data access and licensing

Explore these datasets and identify:

1. Which access conditions apply to each of the datasets?
2. Which licence was used to publish the dataset for reuse?

Datasets

1. Kasybekova, Kanykei; Kessell, Steven; Mateeva, Kamila; McCormack, Meghan; Nogoibaeva, Elida; Toktogazieva, Saniya (2018) Fair Trials in the Kyrgyz Republic - Perceptions among Justice Officials and the Public. Harvard Dataverse, V1. doi:[10.7910/DVN/JENNW0](https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/JENNW0)

Access conditions: Open access; proper credit via citation asked for

Licence: CC0 - Public Domain Dedication

This is described in the 'Terms' in the metadata record.

2. Population Council (2017) Survey for Young People in Egypt (SYPE). Harvard Dataverse, V2. doi:[10.7910/DVN/89Y8YC](https://doi.org/10.7910/DVN/89Y8YC)

Access conditions: Access upon request (documentation files are open access); to request access the user is asked to submit:

- Name
- Email
- Institution
- What is your intended use of the files that your requesting?
- What is your position at your institution?
- Are you downloading the file(s) for use as part of coursework?
- May staff at the Population Council contact you if we conduct research on the use of data from our repository?

Licence: CC0 - Public Domain Dedication

This is described in the 'Terms' in the metadata record.

3. Wolczuk, Kataryna and Delcour, Laure (2017) Group discussions on the relations between the EU and its eastern neighbours Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. [Data Collection]. Colchester, Essex: UK Data Archive. [10.5255/UKDA-SN-851568](https://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-851568)

Access conditions: The Data Collection is available for download to users registered with the UK Data Service. This is described in 'Notes on access' in the metadata record and in the file-level metadata (safeguarded data).

Licence: UK Data Service End User Licence. This is described in the file-level metadata of each data file.

Further details: <http://reshare.ukdataservice.ac.uk/legal/index.html>



4. University of Sussex. Institute of Development Studies, Columbia University (New York). Earth Institute. (2017) Millennium Village Impact Evaluation in Northern Ghana, 2012-2015: Special Licence Access. [data collection]. 3rd Edition. UK Data Service. SN: 7734.
<http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-7734-3>

Access conditions: registration with UK Data Service is required; due to disclosure risk additional special conditions of use also apply: Special Licence (SL). This requires the completion of an additional application form, agreement to the conditions of the SL, the signature(s) of the researcher(s), and the explicit permission of the data owners to release the data to the researcher(s). This is described in 'Access conditions' in the metadata record. Further details: <https://www.ukdataservice.ac.uk/get-data/how-to-access/conditions/special-licence>

Licence: not clear in metadata record.

Discussion

It is important that access conditions or access restrictions are clearly described in a metadata record for a dataset, so users know how they can or cannot use the data. It is also important to indicate which procedures users may need to follow to gain access to a dataset.

Datasets that contain no information related to people can usually be openly (publicly) accessible. Datasets that contain information about individuals may contain sensitive or potentially disclosive information that gives a risk of the individuals being identified. In such cases, access restrictions may be applied.

Many data repositories operate a three-tiered approach to data access:

- Open access: Data that can be accessed by any user whether they are known (via registration with the repository) or not.
- Access for registered users (safeguarded): Data that is accessible only to users who have registered with the repository; they are then usually asked to agree to certain use conditions
- Restricted access: Access is limited and can only be granted upon request.

A license agreement is a legal arrangement between the creator/depositor of the dataset and the data repository, signifying what a user is allowed to do with the data. Stating clear reuse rights is like having a warm 'Welcome' on the doormat of your dataset.

