

## INFORMATION SHEET FOR CLEER-ACCURATE RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS

Dear Sir or Madam,

We would like to invite you to participate in our research study conducted by EPFL in collaboration with the European Society for Engineering Education (SEFI) and SEFI Annual Conference 2026. Before you decide whether to take part, it is important that you understand why this research is being carried out and what your participation would involve.

### General information about the project

This study analyses anonymised conference submission and review data from the SEFI Annual Conference 2026 to evaluate how locally deployed large language models (LLMs) for curating peer-reviewed resources align with human reviewers.

Your participation does not require you to complete questionnaires, perform tasks, or change how you submit or review papers. The study will be conducted retrospectively, using existing conference data after final acceptance decisions have been made. As such, your participation in the study will have no effects on the outcome of the peer reviewing process. Furthermore, only the anonymised full text submissions and reviewer comments will be processed. No personal identifiable data will be used for data analysis regardless of your participation in the study.

### Aims of the project

The CLEER-ACCURATE project aims to assess the suitability and limitations of large language models (LLMs) for curating research papers. The study focuses on identifying realistic use cases for and evaluating the accuracy of LLM-powered curation while ensuring transparency, fairness, and respect for established peer-review practices.

This project is carried out in accordance with the requirements of Swiss law, GDPR, and EPFL ethical standards.

### Your participation in the study

Participation in CLEER-ACCURATE is voluntary and open to authors, co-authors, and reviewers involved in the SEFI Annual Conference 2026. **You do not need to participate in the study to be able to present at SEFI Annual Conference 2026** as your participation in the study has no influence on peer review or potential acceptance. Similarly, **participation in the study does not guarantee submission acceptance**. Additionally, participation in the study does not offer any financial compensation.

If you choose to participate, anonymised versions of your submission and related review information may be included in the analysis. If you choose not to participate, your data will not be used for research purposes.

If you wish to withdraw your consent, contact the principal investigator ([anja.kranjchorvat@epfl.ch](mailto:anja.kranjchorvat@epfl.ch)) or the representative in the local organizing committee ([patrik.mottl@cvut.cz](mailto:patrik.mottl@cvut.cz)). If withdrawal occurs before data anonymisation, your data will not be included. After anonymisation, it may no longer be possible to remove your data, as it will no longer be identifiable.

## Participants' rights

You can exercise the following rights with the Principal Investigator (Anja Kranjc Horvat):

- **Right to withdraw your consent:** If you wish to withdraw your consent, contact the principal investigator (anja.kranjchorvat@epfl.ch) or the representative in the local organizing committee (patrik.mottl@cvut.cz). If withdrawal occurs before data anonymisation, your data will not be included. After anonymisation, it may no longer be possible to remove your data, as it will no longer be identifiable. Please note that the data will be anonymised on the day of the final acceptance notification.
- **Right to be informed:** You may at any time request further information about the project and about the use of your personal data.
- **Right of access:** You have the right to know what personal data we hold about you.
- **Right to object:** You can object to the processing of personal or intellectual data in the context of the study at any time before the data anonymisation (data will be anonymised on the day of the final acceptance notification).
- **Right to modify or delete:** Your personal data may be modified or deleted, unless otherwise provided by law.
- **Right to lodge a complaint:** If you consider that we have made improper use of your personal data, you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Swiss Federal Data Protection and Information Commissioner or with the supervisory authority in your country or residence.

## Data protection

For the purposes of this study, we will process the following data:

- **Directly and indirectly identifying personal data** (processed only within the conference management system, ConfTool): full name, affiliation, ORCID, email address, and role in the conference (author, co-author, reviewer)
- **Other research data** (stored on secure EPFL servers): anonymised full-text conference submissions, non-identifiable peer-review metadata (e.g. scores, recommendations)

No directly identifying personal data are transferred to EPFL, associated with the research dataset, or processed with the LLM. All personal data remain within ConfTool and are used exclusively for consent and participation management.

Research data are anonymised prior to transfer. The term “anonymised” means that personal information has been sufficiently aggregated and protected, preventing anyone from re-identifying you. It should be noted, however, that absolute anonymity cannot be guaranteed. Furthermore, some papers may later be published and become identifiable through normal academic dissemination; however, the research dataset contains no identifiers and cannot be linked to individuals by the research team.

As a result of anonymisation, you cannot withdraw your consent or request deletion of your data after the anonymised dataset has been transferred for analysis.

Finally, we take appropriate technical and organisational measures to protect your personal data as much as possible. The anonymised research data will be deleted maximum two years after the end of the study.

Participants' conference submissions will not be published or reproduced; any illustrative material will be anonymised and non-identifiable.

**Dissemination of results**

The results of the study will be disseminated in aggregated and anonymised form through academic publications and presentations, including presentations at future SEFI conferences. Publications resulting from this study will be made open access where possible. In addition, a summary of the results may be published on the CLEER project website ([cleer.euroteq.eu](http://cleer.euroteq.eu)).

If you would like more information about the results, you may contact the principal investigator (anja.kranjchorvat@epfl.ch).

**Contact persons**

Principal investigator: Anja Kranjc Horvat, EPFL (anja.kranjchorvat@epfl.ch)

Research collaborators: Patrik Mottl, CTU and SEFI 2026 organizing committee (patrik.mottl@cvut.cz)

Johann Groll, EPFL (johann.groll@epfl.ch)

Roland Tormey, EPFL (roland.tormey@epfl.ch)

**INFORMATION SHEET FOR RESEARCH PARTICIPANTS****A copy of this information sheet should be given to you**

Name of the project: **CLEER-ACCURATE**

This research project has been reviewed by the EPFL Human Research Ethics Committee, who concluded that the project **adheres to the Swiss and European data privacy laws and requires no ethics approval** due to no transfer and analysis of personal data.

The research project is conducted by: **Anja Kranjc Horvat** (anja.kranjchorvat@epfl.ch)

Institution: **EPFL AVP-E-CAPE** (Teaching Support Centre), Station 20, Lausanne, Switzerland