

We are exposed to a multitude of surveillance measures in our everyday lives

Increasing Resilience in Surveillance Societies (IRISS) is a European Commission funded research project involving 16 universities throughout Europe that seeks to question the impact of surveillance. The project aims to better understand attitudes toward surveillance and monitoring in contemporary Europe.

There are a myriad of forms of watching, recording and analysing being use in Europe today, for example, activities on the internet. Web-generated data, GPS, Wi-Fi based location determination and communications surveillance all play an important role in the collection of information, data mining and social sorting. Included in these types of web based activities can also be our consumption habits. The proliferation of credit cards and loyalty cards has undoubtedly produced new possibilities to analyse the buying activities of individuals. Moreover computerisation has created new opportunities for electronic surveillance and systems, such as, workplace surveillance where staff's movement and actions are traceable. Other major impacts include the many measures introduced in the fight against crime and terror.

How UK residents live, work and think about surveillance measures such as those mentioned and others is of interest to IRISS.

We would like to hear some of your views on how surveillance may impact on your everyday life and how you feel about that.

If you would like to participate in a 30 minute research interview at a place and time of your convenience, please contact Keith Spiller at the Open University for more information (k.spiller@open.ac.uk). IRISS would greatly appreciate any input you can offer.

Further details about IRISS, its aims and objectives can be found at www.irissproject.eu.