



Photography consent guidelines

The IGC's photography consent guidelines are lifted predominantly from the [LSE's Photography guidelines](#). See the section "Model release forms and consent".

If we're using someone's image or words in our communications and marketing, then we must have their permission.

Different situations require different approaches to acquiring consent:

For photoshoots and interviews

If you are planning a photoshoot or interview, visit the [model release form FAQ](#) for a full guide to gaining consent, copyright and GDPR. Use the linked model release forms [for adults \[PDF, 76KB\]](#) and [under 18s \[PDF, 77KB\]](#). You can print copies of these forms or create an online version for your own use.

Offer parties (organisations and individuals) featuring heavily in our work the ability to review it before it is published.

For ad hoc photography

Individuals: Use a model release form for the commercial use of images in which a person is clearly identifiable – this includes body parts, tattoos, identifiable jewellery, and silhouettes.

Groups: You do not need permission to take photos of a group where:

- 1) there is a large group of people with no one standing out *in a place where photography is expected* (e.g. workshop, conference, awards ceremony, public space), **or**
- 2) there is a large group of people where individuals cannot be clearly identified. For example, spectators at a football match.

For vulnerable groups/individuals, please see the section to come.

For events

If you are planning to photograph large events or occasions rather than specific individuals, let attendees know so that they have the opportunity to opt out where possible. You can do this by:

- 1) including a line on any website listing, ticket or invitation email,

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- 2) displaying posters on the day ([Photography notice template](#)),
- 3) including a line in any chair's briefing or introductory notes.

For vulnerable groups/individuals

When photographing or filming individuals from vulnerable groups, special care should be taken to ensure their dignity, privacy and rights are respected:

- 1) **Obtain informed consent.** This may require a translator to communicate the content and implications of the model release form.
- 2) **Obtain explicit consent and consent that is given freely (not coerced),** particularly from individuals who may feel pressured to agree due to social or economic factors.
- 3) **Ensure ethical representation** of these communities, avoiding capturing images or recordings that could exploit or misrepresent them.
- 4) **In cases involving children** or those unable to provide informed consent, secure permission from a parent, guardian or legally authorised representative.

Please note:

- It's a good idea to have some **model release forms** with you in case they are needed. Complete forms should be stored in a secure place, kept as long as the photo/video is kept, and only made available to those who need access.
- **Staff** have the same data protection rights – these guidelines apply to them.
- If you are inside a building or **private grounds** you must obtain written permission of the owner of the property before taking photographs.
- **Removal requests:** Even if you have followed these guidelines, an individual may get in touch to request the removal of their photograph from our image library and wherever else we may have used it. This process is covered by [LSE's data protection guidance - website takedown policy](#).