

P.13 Increase of Knowledge

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The GDPR mentions in various provisions that the processing of personal data may lead to an increase in knowledge and understanding and that this must be taken into account as a public interest:

Rec. 113 (4) GDPR: *“For scientific or historical research purposes or statistical purposes, the legitimate expectations of society for an **increase of knowledge** should be taken into consideration.”*

Rec. 157 (1) GDPR: *“By coupling information from registries, researchers can obtain **new knowledge of great value** with regard to widespread medical conditions such as cardiovascular disease, cancer and depression.”*

Rec. 157 (2) GDPR: *“On the basis of registries, **research results can be enhanced**, as they draw on a larger population.”*

Rec. 157 (3) GDPR: *“Within social science, research on the basis of registries enables researchers to obtain **essential knowledge** about the long-term correlation of a number of social conditions such as unemployment and education with other life conditions.”*

Rec. 157 (4) GDPR: *“Research results obtained through registries provide **solid, high-quality knowledge** which can provide the basis for the formulation and implementation of knowledge-based policy, improve the quality of life for a number of people and improve the efficiency of social services.”*