



**MERU UNIVERSITY INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH & ETHICS REVIEW COMMITTEE
(MIRERC)**

Email: mirerc@must.ac.ke **Website:** <https://research.must.ac.ke/research-ethics/>

REF: MU/1/39/28 Vol.3 (181a)

Date: 16th May, 2025

Kevin Arcenau (PI - Sciences Po (France))
Caleb Gichuhi (Build Up (Kenya),

Dear Sir/madam

RE: Joint study of social media and affective polarization in Kenya.

This is to inform you that **MIRERC** has reviewed and approved your amendment request as attached. Your amendment approval number is **MIRERC(A) 019/2025**. The approval period is **16th May, 2025 – 15th May, 2026**.

This approval is subject to compliance with the following requirements;

- i. Only approved documents including (informed consents, study instruments, MTA) will be used
- ii. All changes including (amendments, deviations, and violations) are submitted for review and approval by **MIRERC**.
- iii. Death and life-threatening problems and serious adverse events or unexpected adverse events whether related or unrelated to the study must be reported to **MIRERC** within 72 hours of notification
- iv. Any changes, anticipated or otherwise that may increase the risks or affected safety or welfare of study participants and others or affect the integrity of the research must be reported to **MIRERC** within 72 hours
- v. Clearance for export of biological specimens must be obtained from relevant institutions.
- vi. Submission of a request for renewal of approval at least 60 days prior to expiry of the approval period. Attach a comprehensive progress report to support the renewal.
- vii. Submission of an executive summary report within 90 days upon completion of the study to **MIRERC**.

You may also be required to obtain a research license from National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI), visit: <https://research-portal.nacosti.go.ke> and also obtain other clearances that your study may require.

Yours sincerely

Prof. Peter Masinde, Ph.D.
Chairperson, MIRERC



MUST IS ISO 9001:2015 and ISO/IEC 27001:2013 CERTIFIED



Your amendment request was approved as follows:

1. **Transparency:** Ensures participants are only consented for activities relevant to their recruitment stream.
2. **Compliance:** Aligns with dual ethics reviews (Sciences Po + Meru University).
3. **Participant Equity:** Compensation reflects equivalent time investments across groups.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of stylized, overlapping loops and lines.



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