Background: TLC Project

The overall aim of this project is to improve our understanding of the ways in which diaspora populations embrace, subvert and refine ideas, narratives and practices of citizenship and establish different forms of political belonging in their homeland, their place of residence and the wider transnational social field.

The Research Questions:

- Q1: What acts of citizenship do recent migrants engage in at different levels (from institutional to quotidian; and from visible to furtive) and orientated towards different political spaces (homeland, hostland, transnational)?
- Q2: What forms of political belonging are produced, performed or contested through these acts of citizenship?
- Q3: How, when and why do recent migrants act out their diasporic political belonging through engagement in homeland, hostland, and/or transnational politics using different means (for example institutional, everyday, surreptitious)?

Pre-Interview phase – Planning the move to virtual

The first step was to identify:

1. Repercussions for our research questions & analysis

2. Equipment and software

3. Potential security issues of personal sensitive information

4. Recruitment: who to map

5. How to get participant consent remotely

6. Secure private and uninterrupted space/time for the interview

Lessons learned pre-interview pahse

Make sure:

- Plan logistics of recruitment and data gathering

- Have contingency plan

- Be patient and clear when approaching participants
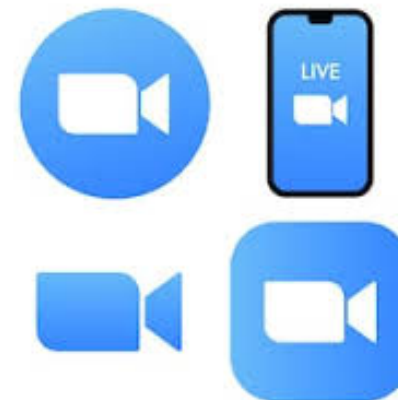
- Use layman language

Useful

If you coordinate interviews across different time zones

https://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/meeting.html

The interviews virtual

Basically is not different from the in-person except:

- The relative anonymity - - → increase presentation of self and authenticity

- Less secure: needs

- Unstable or unreliable internet was a challenge

- Setting clear expectations; and

- Make effort in creating a comfortable atmosphere

- Interruptions from background noises

Lessons learned interview phase

- Disruptive environment may affect

    - Interviewee concentration

- *Mobile data* and Internet connection dropouts

- Relative anonymity gave the options to express freely

- Challenges on getting non-verbal clues

What to take from this….

The basics remain the same plan in advance

- **how to make the interview session easy for the participant**

- **Moderation & Facilitation: be patient and never stop**

- **Technology: think of affordances of the platform**

- **Methods**

- **Accessibility & Usability**

- **ethical issues**

Summary Lessons learned

Challenges	Opportunities
The remote mapping process offered unique opportunities for learning.	Easy of use of the technology allows to conduct interviews from the luxury of your home
hard to find the right gatekeepers	Flexibility of the technology allows easy rescheduling of interviews
Current political atmosphere in the region and country of origin complicated the mapping of willing participants to agree to take part	Using only audio allowed participants to free express their views
Building trust from afar	
Quite and safe place for participants, background noises	
Not been able to read non-verbal clues	

Thank you

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