

## Script Video Twelve: Yousuf is acknowledged

Yousuf asked Theodor if everyone contributing to the project would be acknowledged in the scientific publication.

It was a sunny Saturday morning, and the question came literally out of the blue for the project coordinator. He stammered for a bit. Yousuf was, however insistent, pointing out that by law all the volunteers must be acknowledged.

Theodor answered that there was not really a law as such regulating these things. There were a number of precedents and guidelines. And, of course, the contribution of all the volunteers is highly appreciated. Without them the research - and scientific paper - would not be possible. Naturally, the authors will acknowledge in the paper they were helped by citizen scientists.

However, Theodor said, there is the question of size. A scientific article is usually limited in pages that would be published by the journal. And there are over 350 volunteers - listing the names of all of them would take space from the core scientific message the paper wants to deliver.

Yousuf said that he understands and thanked Theodor for the explanation. However, Theodor was not happy. He thought it was truly unfair the paper not to mention the volunteers by name. So, he called the project's lead scientists, and they agreed a plan to rectify the situation.

Later that day the preliminary draft of the paper was circulated to the volunteers. In the first paragraph there was underlined link forwarding the reader to a dedicated webpage. On it all the names of the volunteers were listed with testimonials from the authors emphasizing how high the efforts of citizen scientists are valued.

Theodor was happy of the extra work he had to put in the weekend. The result was pretty good.