Secure & Global Research, International Travel Advisory Office of the Vice President for Research

Dear Traveler,

With the rewards of international travel come several hazards, including technology and identity theft. The theft of personal information may damage you personally or financially and allowing sensitive information or research to be disclosed while abroad may violate U.S. export control laws. When a CSU traveler carries information or software to another country on a laptop, tablet, or phone, federal agencies consider the information or software exported to that country, even if not actively used in a presentation, discussion, or research. Violations can subject both you and the University to possible criminal and civil penalties. The following tips will help minimize your risk. If you have any questions about these guidelines, please contact Secure and Global Research at +1 (970) 491- 2927 or rich.wright@colostate.edu.

# Must consider:

* Are you taking or shipping any specialized equipment or materials that might have military or dual military-civilian use?
* Are you taking any export-controlled technical data?

If so, please contact CSU export control as you may need prior federal approval.

# Best practices:

* When taking a laptop or tablet, ask your IT group if they can loan you a clean machine that they can scrub upon your return.
* If possible, send your presentation ahead, access materials through a secure browser on your device, or take a flash-drive containing relevant information.
* Update all software and apps before you go. Do not update apps or allow changes to your computer through internet connections abroad.
* Be wary of Wi-Fi connections. As a rule, avoid Wi-Fi hotspots and connect only at your hotel or conference facility. Disable the auto connect function on your device and log into the computer network manually.
* Use password protection on devices.
* Disable Bluetooth on all devices.
* Some licensed software on your laptop or accessible through a virtual machine may be restricted for use when traveling abroad.
* Be aware that laptops and phones are subject to search at international borders.
* Prevent physical theft. Travelers are targets – make sure all of your devices are secured and not left unattended.

# For more information about travel to your destination, please consult these resources:

State Department country information: <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country.html> Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP), register with the US embassy: <https://step.state.gov/> Commerce Department Country Commercial Guides: <https://www.export.gov/ccg>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Travel Health: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel>

*If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Secure and Global Research at +1 (970) 491-2927 or* [rich.wright@colostate.edu.](mailto:rich.wright@colostate.edu.)

*For more information, consult https://*[*www.research.colostate.edu/sgr/.*](http://www.research.colostate.edu/sgr/)