



## Why might I need to think about export controls for my international field research?

- The fundamental research exclusion applies only to research conducted in the United States and not to physical exports of items. In addition, international travel can raise data security and safety issues. If you intend to travel to a sanctioned country/region (e.g., Iran, Cuba, Syria, North Korea, or the Crimea region and Sevastopol, the self-proclaimed “Donetsk People’s Republic” and “Luhansk People’s Republic,”), or to a country with increased export restrictions (e.g., Belarus, Russia, China), please contact the Office of Culture, Ethics and Compliance (OCEC) for guidance prior to travel.

## What are some examples of sophisticated research equipment or tools?

- Specialized research equipment might include any items beyond “tools of the trade” (e.g., a laptop containing only standard off-the-shelf commercial software). Examples would include items such as geological studies equipment, GPS devices, Inertial Measurement Units, infrared cameras, spacecraft systems and associated equipment, drones, or night vision equipment. Taking any of these abroad in connection with international travel may require governmental authorization in the form of a license. Please engage with OCEC prior to undertaking any international travel with sophisticated research equipment or tools.

## I have heard there are export exceptions for temporary exports. How does that work?

- With respect to the Export Administration Regulations (EAR), certain items on the Commerce Control List (CCL) may be eligible for temporary export to certain countries under a license exception. In order to determine if an export is eligible for export to a particular country, researchers should engage with OCEC for an export analysis.

## I’m not sure about the export classification of the research equipment I will be bringing abroad, or what kind of insurance I will need. What should I do?

- If you plan to travel abroad with research equipment, please reach out to Export Controls Manager Emily Pender ([epender@usc.edu](mailto:epender@usc.edu)) in the Office of Culture, Ethics and Compliance (OCEC) for an export analysis, ideally at least 30-60 days prior to travel.

For questions about insurance for your research equipment, please reach out to USC Risk Management ([uscrisk@usc.edu](mailto:uscrisk@usc.edu)) for guidance.

## What kinds of Customs forms might I need to complete for my temporary export/import abroad?

- Please engage with OCEC for guidance on paperwork required for traveling abroad with research equipment. Completion of necessary paperwork may allow an individual traveler to temporarily export or import goods for commercial purposes to and from a country without having to pay duty or value-added taxes on the goods.

## I’d like to learn more about international travel and export controls. Where can I find additional information?

- The Office of Culture, Ethics and Compliance (OCEC) provides [International Travel guidance](#) that applies regardless of destination. You can also view USC’s [International Collaborations and Export Controls policy](#). For questions, please contact Emily Pender, Manager of Export Controls, at [epender@usc.edu](mailto:epender@usc.edu).