



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

PROTECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA

This privacy statement provides information about the processing and the protection of your personal data.

Processing operation: Selection of external fact-checking organizations applying to become members of the EDMO network of fact-checkers

Data Controller: European Commission, Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CONNECT), Unit I.4: Media Convergence and Social Media

Data Processors:

- 1) European University Institute , Via dei Roccettini 9, 50014 San Domenico di Fiesole – Firenze, Italy;
- 2) Athens Technology Center SA, 10 Rizariou street, Chalandri, 15233, Athens, Greece;
- 3) Pagella Politica (now The Fact Checking Factory S.r.l.), Via Bernardino Zacchetti 31, 42124 Reggio Emilia, Italy.

Record reference: DPR-EC-18048

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1. Introduction

The European Commission (hereafter ‘the Commission’) is committed to protecting your personal data and to respecting your privacy. The Commission collects and further processes personal data pursuant to [Regulation \(EU\) 2018/1725](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2018 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies and on the free movement of such data (repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001).

This privacy statement explains the reason for the processing of your personal data, the way we collect, handle and ensure protection of all personal data provided, how that information is used and what rights you have in relation to your personal data. It also specifies the contact details of the responsible Data Controller with whom you may exercise your rights, the Data Protection Officer and the European Data Protection Supervisor.

The information in relation to processing operation “Selection of external fact-checking organizations applying to become members of the EDMO network of fact-checkers” carried out on behalf of DG CONNECT Unit I.4, is presented below.

2. Why and how do we process your personal data?

Purpose of the processing operation: if you are:

- the **contact person for an application to become a fact-checker**, DG CONNECT Unit I.4 processes your personal data in order to assess the application of your organization to become a member of the EDMO network of fact-checkers;
- a **member of the external Assessment Committee**, DG CONNECT Unit I.4 processes your personal data in your capacity as assessor;
- a **member of the committee of the Advisory Body**, DG CONNECT Unit I.4 processes your personal data in your capacity as assessor.

3. On what legal ground(s) do we process your personal data

We process your personal data because:

- processing is necessary for the **performance of a task carried out in the public interest** (Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725);
- processing is necessary for the **performance of a contract to which the data subject is party** or in order to take steps at the request of the data subject prior to entering into a contract (Article 5(1)(c) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725);

The Union law which is the basis for the processing based on Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 is the [Digital Europe Work Programme 2021-2022](#).

4. Which personal data do we collect and further process?

In order to carry out this processing operation, DG CONNECT Unit I.4 collects the following categories of personal data:

- If you are the **contact person for an application to be become a fact-checker**:
 - your name and surname;
 - your e-mail address;
 - the name of the organization for which you work;
 - your role within the organization;
 - written articles;
- If you are a **member of the external Assessment Committee**:
 - Name;
 - Signature on the Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Statement
- If you are a **member of the committee of the Advisory Body**:
 - Name.

5. How long do we keep your personal data?

DG CONNECT Unit I.4 only keeps your personal data for the time necessary to fulfil the purpose of collection or further processing, namely for the whole duration of the program (**30 months** from 01/06/2020).

6. How do we protect and safeguard your personal data?

All personal data in electronic format (e-mails, documents, databases, uploaded batches of data, etc.) are stored either on the servers of the European Commission and those of its contractors. All processing operations are carried out pursuant to the [Commission Decision \(EU, Euratom\) 2017/46](#), of 10 January 2017, on the security of communication and information systems in the European Commission.

In order to protect your personal data, the Commission has put in place a number of technical and organisational measures in place. Technical measures include appropriate actions to address online security, risk of data loss, alteration of data or unauthorised access, taking into consideration the risk presented by the processing and the nature of the personal data being processed. Organisational measures include restricting access to the personal data solely to authorised persons with a legitimate need to know for the purposes of this processing operation.

The Commission’s processors (contractors) are bound by a specific contractual clause for any processing operations of your personal data on behalf of the Commission. The processors have to put in place appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure the level of security, required by the Commission.

7. Who has access to your personal data and to whom is it disclosed?

If you are the **contact person for an application to be become a fact-checker**:

- Access to your personal data is provided to the Commission staff responsible for carrying out this processing operation and to authorised staff according to the “need to know” principle. Such staff abide by statutory, and when required, additional confidentiality agreements;
- Access to your personal data is also provided to the processors mentioned above.

If you are a **member of the external Assessment Committee**: upon request, access to your personal data is provided to the Commission staff responsible for carrying out this processing operation and to authorised staff according to the “need to know” principle. Such staff abide by statutory, and when required, additional confidentiality agreements;

If you are a **member of the committee of the Advisory Body**: upon request, access to your personal data is provided to the Commission staff responsible for carrying out this processing operation and to authorised staff according to the “need to know” principle. Such staff abide by statutory, and when required, additional confidentiality agreements.

Please note that pursuant to Article 3(13) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, public authorities (e.g. Court of Auditors, EU Court of Justice) which may receive personal data in the framework of a particular inquiry in accordance with Union or Member State law shall not be regarded as recipients. The further processing of those data by those public authorities shall be in compliance with the applicable data protection rules according to the purposes of the processing.

The information we collect will not be given to any third party, except to the extent and for the purpose we may be required to do so by law.

8. What are your rights and how can you exercise them?

You have specific rights as a ‘data subject’ under Chapter III (Articles 14-25) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, in particular the right to access, your personal data and to rectify them in case your personal data are inaccurate or incomplete. Where applicable, you have the right to erase your personal data, to restrict the processing of your personal data, to object to the processing, and the right to data portability.

You have the **right to object to the processing of your personal data**, which is lawfully carried out pursuant to Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, on grounds relating to your particular situation.

You can exercise your rights by contacting the Data Controller, or in case of conflict the Data Protection Officer. If necessary, you can also address the European Data Protection Supervisor. Their contact information is given under Heading 9 below.

Where you wish to exercise your rights in the context of one or several specific processing operations, please provide their description (i.e. their Record reference(s) as specified under Heading 10 below) in your request.

9. Contact information

- The Data Controller

If you would like to exercise your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, or if you have comments, questions or concerns, or if you would like to submit a complaint regarding the collection and use of your personal data, please feel free to contact the Data Controller, CNECT-I4@ec.europa.eu

- **The Data Protection Officer (DPO) of the Commission**

You may contact the Data Protection Officer (DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu) with regard to issues related to the processing of your personal data under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

- **The European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS)**

You have the right to have recourse (i.e. you can lodge a complaint) to the European Data Protection Supervisor (edps@edps.europa.eu) if you consider that your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 have been infringed as a result of the processing of your personal data by the Data Controller.

10. Where to find more detailed information?

The Commission Data Protection Officer (DPO) publishes the register of all processing operations on personal data by the Commission, which have been documented and notified to him. You may access the register via the following link: <http://ec.europa.eu/dpo-register>.

This specific processing operation has been included in the DPO's public register with the following Record reference: DPR-EC-18048.