



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

PROTECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA

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

Processing operation: *EU recovery stories*

Data Controller: Directorate-General for Communication, Directorate B, Unit B.1

Record reference: [DPR-EC-00077](#)

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1. Introduction

The European Commission (hereafter ‘the Commission’) is committed to protect your personal data and to respect 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 the processing operation EU recovery stories undertaken by Directorate General for Communication, Directorate B – Strategy and Corporate Communication, Unit B1 (COMM.B1) is presented below.

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

The purpose of the processing is to facilitate the communication activities of the EU Recovery stories – a series of publications presenting real stories about people who engage in EU response to COVID-19 or have benefitted from the EU support in order to weather the crisis.

The objective of the EU Recovery stories is to raise awareness of the EU response to the pandemic and the subsequent economic impact, and demonstrate the added value of EU support in various fields of action.

The stories show how the European Union is putting in place ambitious and unprecedented measures to combat the coronavirus, mitigate the impact of the crisis on lives and livelihoods, and to support Europe’s long-term social and economic recovery. All stories are published on the [website](#) and disseminated via social media.

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

In order to carry out this processing operation the Data Controller collects the following categories of personal data:

- **Personal data provided by EU staff members participating in the campaign:** first name, last name, function title, organisation name, e-mail address, image and voice recorded in videos and photographs
- **Personal data of journalists and stakeholders provided by DG COMM, EC Representations, local partners, or on publicly available records:** first name, last name, function title, organisation name, phone number, e-mail address
- **Personal data of EU recovery stories’ project owners, beneficiaries, and any other person related to examples depicted in the stories:** first name, last name, gender, nationality, place of residence, function title, organisation name, phone number, e-

mail address, social media account usernames, image and voice recorded in videos and photographs

When you access a Commission website, the Commission receives as an essential technical requirement the IP address and/or the device ID of the device used to access the website.

Without this processing you will not be able to establish a technical connection between your devices and the server infrastructure maintained by the Commission and therefore you will not be able to access the websites of the Commission. (Record [DPR-EC-00083](#) on the processing of personal data on European Commission web sites)

The Data Controller may share aggregate or de-identified information with other Commission Directorates and/or other EU institutions or third parties for archiving, scientific research, promotional or statistical purposes.

Your personal data will not be used for an automated decision-making including profiling.

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

We process your personal data, because:

(a) processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the Union institution or body

or,

(d) the data subject has given consent to the processing of his or her personal data for one or more specific purposes.

Processing is necessary for the performance of the European Commission's tasks carried out in the public interest, as foreseen in Article 11 and Article 13 of the Treaty on European Union and in Article 15 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

We ensure that adequate and specific safeguards are implemented for the processing of personal data, in line with the applicable data protection legislation.

5. How long do we keep your personal data?

The Data Controller only keeps your personal data for the time necessary to fulfil the purpose of collection or further processing.

5.1. Personal data collected for the EU recovery stories

Personal data will be kept for a maximum period of 12 (twelve) months after the 'EU Recovery stories' ends (the provisional end date is 31st December 2023). Data collected in the course of campaign will be automatically deleted at the end of this period. For transparency reasons, the recovery stories will, however, remain on the official website of the European Commission.

5.2. Documents (reports, correspondence, financial information etc.)

All paper and electronic documents containing personal data archived according to the Common Commission Level Retention List (SEC(2019)900/2) for a period of 10 (ten) years with the application of sampling and selection techniques.

5.3. Personal data available via audio-visual content

Selected audio-visual content may be archived for permanent preservation, in line with the provisions of the Common Commission Level Retention List (SEC(2019)900/2), for historical purposes to document, preserve and make available the history and audio-visual heritage of the Commission and the European Union.

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 on the servers of the European Commission. 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. 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.

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

Access to your personal data is provided to the Commission staff responsible in COMM.B1 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.

The general public will only have access to the name, surname, and – if applicable – job title, other details of their jobs and achievements, as well as any photos or videos created with a prior consent for the purpose of the recovery stories.

7.1. Third party IT tools, including Social Media

We may use third party IT tools to inform about and promote the ‘*EU Recovery stories*’ through widely used communication channels, including the social media. For detailed information about the use of social media by the European Commission, see the Record of Processing DPR-EC-00073 (Social Media Use by the European Commission).

You may be able to watch our videos, which may be also uploaded to one of our social media pages and follow links from our website to other relevant social media.

In order to protect your privacy, our use of third party IT tools to connect to those services does not set cookies when our website pages are loaded on your computer (or other devices), nor are you immediately redirected to those social media or other websites. Only

in the event that you click on a button or “play” on a video to watch it, a cookie of the social media company concerned will be installed on your device. If you do not click on any social media buttons or videos, no cookies will be installed on your device by third parties.

In order to view such third-party content on our websites, a message will alert you that you need to accept those third parties’ specific Terms and Conditions, including their cookie policies, over which the Commission has no control.

We recommend that users carefully read the relevant privacy policies of the social media tools used. These explain each company’s policy of personal data collection and further processing, their use of data, users’ rights and the ways in which users can protect their privacy when using those services.

The use of a third party IT tool does not in any way imply that the European Commission endorses them or their privacy policies. In the event that one or more third party IT tools are occasionally unavailable, we accept no responsibility for lack of service due to their downtime.

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. As regards this processing operation, you can exercise the following rights:

- the right to access your personal data (Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725);
- the right to rectification in the case that your personal data is inaccurate or incomplete (Article 18 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725);
- the right to erasure of your personal data (Article 19 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725);
- where applicable, the right to restrict the processing of your personal data (Article 20 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725);
- the right to data portability (Article 22 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725);
- and the right to object to the processing of your personal data, which is lawfully carried out pursuant to Article 5(1)(a).

If you have provided your consent the Directorate-General for Communication, Directorate B, Unit B.1. for the present processing operation, you can withdraw it at any time by notifying the Data Controller. The withdrawal will not affect the lawfulness of the processing carried out before you have withdrawn your consent.

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 Section 9.

Where you wish to exercise your rights in the context of one or several specific processing operations, please provide their description (i.e. Record reference(s) as specified under Section 10) 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, Directorate-General for Communication, Unit B.1. (COMM-B1@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-00077](#)