



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

PROTECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA

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

Processing operation: Collection of interest in joining EBSI.

Controller: *European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT), Unit F.3*

Record reference: [DPR-EC-01011](#), [DPR-EC-03928](#)

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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.

This privacy statement concerns the processing operation “**Collection of interest in joining EBSI**”, undertaken by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT), Unit F.3, as presented below.

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

Purpose of the processing operation: The Commission collects and uses your personal information within the framework of targeted consultation activities to obtain your interests concerning either piloting (and by extension participating in the Early Adopters Programme) or implementing the European Blockchain Services Infrastructure (EBSI).

More specifically, the processing operation concerns the following processing activities and purposes:

- to obtain the views of stakeholders to explore a subject for which very limited information is available. This exploratory targeted consultations activity (hereafter, 'targeted consultation') will provide further information to the Commission necessary to take basic conceptual decisions;
- to manage your subscription to one or several mailing lists for receiving certain types of information related to EBSI and its use cases (such as information related to upcoming events, information on the possibility to complete surveys, or information distributed via newsletters).

The personal data processed may be reused for the purpose of procedures before the EU Courts, national courts, the European Ombudsman or the European Court of Auditor.

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

3. 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 (Article 5.1(a) of Regulation 2018/1725);

b) it is based on your consent (Article 5.1(d) of Regulation 2018/1725), for of the following purposes:

- Managing your subscription to receive information from the controller about the possibility to pilot and/or implement an EBSI use case;
- Managing your subscription to the EBSI newsflash, in order to receive the latest news about the programme.

If you opt-in, you are giving us your explicit consent under Article 5(1)(d) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 to process your personal data for those specific purposes. You can give your consent via a clear affirmative act by ticking the box(es) on the online registration form.

Your consent for these services can be withdrawn at any time:

- for unsubscribing from the newsletter, please click on the unsubscribe button in any of our newsletters or contact our mailbox EU-EBSI@ec.europa.eu;
- for unsubscribing from other types of communication or for withdrawing consent that you have provided in order to benefit from other services, please contact the controller by writing an email to EU-EBSI@ec.europa.eu.

The Union law which is the basis for the processing based on Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 is the Treaty of the European Union, and more specifically its Articles 1 and 11, Article 298 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, read in conjunction with Recital 22 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725), as well as the Protocol 2 on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality. The processing operations on personal data, linked to this targeted consultation, are a part of the EBSI activity based on Regulation (EU) No 2021/694.

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

In order to carry out this processing operation Unit F.3, CNECT, collects the following categories of personal data:

- *Company or organisation name;*
- *Email address; and*
- *Interest concerning piloting or implementing EBSI.*

Furthermore, you may spontaneously provide other, non-requested personal data in the context of your reply to the targeted consultation.

Please note that the Data Controller does not request nor expect that data subjects provide any special categories of data under Article 10(1) of Regulation 2018/1725 (that is “personal data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, or trade union membership, and the processing of genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health or data concerning a natural person’s sex life or sexual orientation”) related to themselves or to third persons in their contributions to the targeted consultation activity. Any spontaneous inclusion of these types of personal data is the responsibility of the data subject and by including any of these types of data the data subject is considered to provide his/her explicit consent to the processing, in accordance with Article 10(2)(a) of Regulation 2018/1725.

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, namely for a maximum of five years after the closure of the file to which the present targeted consultation belongs. A file is closed at the latest once there has been a final outcome in relation to the initiative to which the targeted consultation contributed.

This administrative retention period of five years is based on the retention policy of European Commission documents and files (and the personal data contained in them), governed by the common Commission-level retention list for European Commission files [SEC\(2019\)900](#). It is a regulatory document in the form of a retention schedule that establishes the retention periods for different types of European Commission files. That list has been notified to the European Data Protection Supervisor.

The administrative retention period is the period during which the Commission departments are required to keep a file depending on its usefulness for administrative purposes and the relevant statutory and legal obligations. This period begins to run from the time when the file is closed.

In accordance with the common Commission-level retention list, after the 'administrative retention period', files including (the outcome of) targeted consultations (and the personal data contained in them) can be transferred to the Historical Archives of the European Commission for historical purposes (for the processing operations concerning the Historical Archives, please see record of processing 'Management and long-term preservation of the European Commission's Archives', registered under reference number [DPR-EC-00837](#)).

Personal data shared with the controller for future mailing purposes (e.g., for receiving newsletters or other types of information) are processed in line with the Record of Processing [DPR-EC-03928](#) (Management of Subscriptions to Receive Information) and the specific privacy statement prepared by the organising Commission service. Data will be kept until the data subject unsubscribes from the mailing list.

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 Commission. All processing operations are carried out pursuant to Commission Decision [EU, Euratom](#) of 10 January 2017 on the security of communication and information systems in the 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 for carrying out this processing operation and to authorised staff according to the "need to know" principle, in particular to follow-up on the targeted consultation. 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 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. Under certain conditions, 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), on grounds relating to your particular situation.

Insofar you have consented to the certain processing of your personal data to the Data Controller for the present processing operation, you can withdraw your consent at any time by sending an email to EU-EBSI@ec.europa.eu. The withdrawal will not affect the lawfulness of the processing carried out before you have withdrawn the 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 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.

In accordance with Article 14(3) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, your request as a data subject will be handled within one month of receipt of the request. That period may be extended by two further months where necessary, taking into account the complexity and number of the requests. In such case you will be informed of the extension of the time limit, together with the reasons for the delay.

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: European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT), Unit F.3 (EU-EBSI@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 references: [DPR-EC-01011](#) (Targeted consultation activities (including surveys, interviews and focus groups)), [DPR-EC-03928](#) (Management of subscriptions to receive information).