Privacy statement for the online public debate on the review of the EU economic governance

Protection of your personal data

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 personal data processing activities undertaken by the Directorate – General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN) of the European Commission.

2. Why do we process your data?

Purpose of the processing operation:

DG ECFIN (referred to hereafter as Data Controller) collects and uses your personal information to collect the views on how to strengthen the implementation of the economic governance framework.

Lawfulness

The processing operations on personal data for the purpose of collecting stakeholders’ views on how to strengthen the implementation of the economic governance framework are necessary and lawful under the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725.

We process your personal data, because:

- processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest (Article 5 (a));
- processing is necessary for compliance with a legal obligation to which the Data Controller is subject (Article 5 (b)).

The Union laws that are the basis for such processing are:

- Articles 1 and 11 of the Treaty of the European Union.
- Protocol 2 on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality (in particular, its Article 2).
No restrictions under Article 25 of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 apply.

3. Which data do we collect and process?

Only data necessary for the participation in the public debate are collected and processed, namely: first name, family name, e-mail address, affiliation (or none) to a type of institution, name of organisation, country.

4. How long do we keep your data?

Your personal data is kept for the time necessary to fulfil the purpose of collection and further processing.

Most of your personal data will be deleted from databases at the latest 5 years after the closing of the online survey related to the economic governance review.

Nevertheless, where needed, after the lapsing of this period, some of your personal data will be part of a list of contact details shared internally amongst the European Commission services for the purpose of contacting data subjects in the future in the context of the Commission's activities.

If data subjects do not agree with this, they may contact the Data Controller by using the Contact Information as mentioned in this Privacy statement and also contact the Data Controller later on at any time to be removed from the mailing lists in question.

Reports containing personal data will be archived according to the Commission's legal framework.

5. How do we protect your data?

All data in electronic format are stored on the servers of the European Commission; the operations of which abide by the European Commission’s security decision of 10 January 2017 (EU/Euratom/2017/46) concerning the security of information systems used by 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.

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

Authorised staff of DG ECFIN will be permitted to access your data, without prejudice to a possible transmission to the bodies in charge of a monitoring or inspection task in accordance with Union legislation. If need be, your data will be shared with other Commission services. Your data might also be shared with external translation services and/or consultants if deemed necessary for smooth processing of the submissions.

DG ECFIN does not share personal data with third parties for direct marketing.
7. Access-to-documents requests

Replies received may become subject to a request for access to documents under the “Access to document provisions” of Regulation 1049/2001.

Your reply will be considered a third party document according to Article 4 paragraph 4 of Regulation 1049/2001. In the event of an access to document request we undertake to consult you before releasing any information in order to assess whether an exception to release applies.

In submitting your reply to the questionnaire, if you consider certain parts to be confidential, you may declare this with reference to Article 4 paragraph 2 of Regulation 1049/2001 (i.e. protection of commercial interests, including intellectual property).

Please specify which data is confidential and substantiate in how far a disclosure would, in your view, undermine the protection of your commercial interests or intellectual property rights.

With regard to protection of personal data you are also invited to declare whether you agree with the release of your identity as a contributor (name of a person), or whether you consider that it would undermine the protection of the privacy and integrity of the individual (Article 4 paragraph 1 (b) of Regulation 1049/2001).

Please also note that if access is requested, the application of the exceptions laid down in Regulation 1049/2001 is subject to a case by case analysis of the appropriate substantiation and it is within the competence of the Commission, in its capacity as the institution to whom the request is addressed, to reply to the request.

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

According to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725, you are entitled to access your personal data and rectify, block or delete it in case the data is inaccurate or incomplete, to erase data concerning you (the right to be forgotten), or to restrict processing of your data. You can exercise your rights by using the contact information below, or in case of conflict the Data Protection Officer and if necessary the European Data Protection Supervisor using the contact information given at point 9.

9. Contact information

If you have comments or questions or if you wish to exercise your rights please contact ECFIN Unit A.1:

• E-mail address: ECFIN-A1@ec.europa.eu

Recourse: Complaints, in case of conflict, can be addressed to the European Data Protection Supervisor via edps@edps.europa.eu.

You can also contact the Data Protection Officer (DPO) of the Commission: DATA-PROTECTIONOFFICER@ec.europa.eu.

10. Where to find more detailed information?

The Commission Data Protection Officer publishes the register of all operations processing personal data. You can access the register on the following link: http://ec.europa.eu/dpo-register
This type of processing has been notified to the DPO with the following reference: DPR-EC-00596.1 (DPO-2758.7).