



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
DIRECTORATE B – SUSTAINABILITY  
B.4 – ORGANICS

## **PROTECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA**

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

**Processing operation:** Processing of personal data linked to meetings and events

**Data Controller:** European Commission, Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development / Unit B4, Organics , hereafter AGRI B.4

**Record reference:** DPR-EC-1063

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## 1. Introduction

The European 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 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.

This privacy statement explains the reason for the processing of your personal data in the context of the EU Organic Awards/EU Organic Day ceremony, organised by the European Commission. It explains 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 of personal data linked to meetings and events, organised by AGRI B.4, is presented below.

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

Purpose of the processing operation: AGRI B.4 collects and further processes your personal data to provide you with information about the EU Organic Awards/EU Organic Day ceremony, (before, during and after) and to process your application for participation in that meeting or event.

Live web-streaming and audio-visual recording at the ceremony of the speakers, organisers and participants, as well as photographs of the speakers and panoramic photographs of participants and organisers will be taken and published in the context of the ceremony on the European Commission website. As indicated in the privacy statement linked to the EU organic awards, Partners (the European Economic and Social Committee (hereafter referred to as 'EESC'), the Committee of the Regions (hereafter referred to as 'CoR'), COPA-COGECA (hereafter referred to as 'COPA-COGECA') and IFOAM Organics Europe (hereafter referred to as 'IFOAM OE')). should receive photos and videos of applicants/winners and publish them on their websites of the partners.

The audience or non-speaker participants are not photographed individually or in groups. They may however appear on panoramic photographs of the whole event/audience.

Participants that do not wish to be part of the above web-streaming and recording/publishing activities have the possibility to object to processing. They can object by sitting in back rows which are not recorded/photographed.

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

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

The processing operations on personal data, linked to the organisation, management, follow-up and promotion of the meeting or event (including web-streaming, photos, audio-visual recording) are necessary for the management and functioning of the Commission, as mandated by the Treaties. Those provisions are in particular, Article 11 of the Treaty on European Union and Article 15 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. The ceremony is linked to the Action Plan for the Development of Organic Production (COM (2021) 141).

Consequently, those processing operations are lawful under Article 5(1)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 (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).

Your consent is required for the following actions during the meeting or event:

- the processing of your personal data relating to your dietary requirements and/or access requirements;
- the processing of your personal data for inviting you to future events the data controller may organise;

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 withdrawing consent that you have provided in order to benefit from other services, please contact the controller of the meeting/event at [agri-organic-action-plan@ec.europa.eu](mailto:agri-organic-action-plan@ec.europa.eu)

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

The following personal data will be processed:

- contact details (function/title, first name, last name, name of organisation, city, country, e-mail address, telephone number);
- nationality, passport or identity card number and its date of issue and expiry date may be collected, so that the data subjects may obtain access to the premises where the ceremony is held.
- financial information (such as a payment card number or bank account) may be collected for the payment of fees of the meeting/event or for possible reimbursements
- dietary requests or specific access requirements (if any)

#### **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.

For each of the categories of personal data that may be processed, please find below the retention details and the reference to the relevant record of processing: Personal data related to the organisation and management of the ceremony (this includes the information given during the registration, before, during or after the event) will be kept for **two years** after the meeting or event.

- Sensitive personal data relating to dietary and/or access requirements will be deleted as soon as they are no longer necessary for the purpose for which they have been collected in the framework of the meeting or event, but no later than within **1 month** after the end of the meeting or event.

- Recordings from the web-streamed meeting or event will be kept for **2 years** before being deleted. More information is available in the Record of Processing DPR-EC-00306 (Web-streaming of Commission events).
- In case of audio-visual recording of the meeting or event, the recordings will be kept for **3 months** after the meeting or event before being deleted. More information is available in the Record of Processing DPR-EC-01937 (Audio-visual recording of meetings).
- Personal data shared with the Directorate-General for Human Resources and Security of the European Commission for the participants to gain access to Commission buildings is kept **for 6 months** after the termination of the link between the data subject and the Commission. More information is available in the Record of Processing DPR-EC-00655 (Commission Physical Access Control System (PACS)).
- Personal data shared with the controller for future mailing purposes (e.g., invitations to similar events) 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.
- Selected service providers for organisational purposes (such as caterers, travel agents or event management organisations) are contractually bound to process personal data on behalf of and in line with the instructions of the data controller, keep confidential any data they process and protect it from unauthorised access, use and retention.

## 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 of its contractors. All processing operations are carried out pursuant to [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.

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?

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

Where necessary, we may also share your information with service providers for the purposes of organising the ceremony:

**Service provider 1: Tipik Communication Agency S.A.,  
Avenue de Tervueren 270 • B-1150 Bruxelles  
Tel. +32.2.235.56.70 • Fax +32.2.235.56.99**

The applicants have already received a privacy statement for the processing of their personal data in the context of the awards and the ceremony indicating that the controller foresees also the publication of the names of the winner : the name and contact details of the winner organisations/individuals implementing the initiative, project or programme, will be posted on the controller's website and on partners' websites for a period of 1 year in the form of photos and videos related to the award. Press and social media activities will also be organised regarding the awarded projects. The winners have given consent to the publication of their names by accepting the privacy statement linked to the awards.

## Cookies

Cookies are short text files stored on a user's device (such as a computer, tablet or phone) by a website. Cookies are used for the technical functioning of a website (functional cookies) or for gathering statistics (analytical cookies).

If registration for the meeting/event takes place via a Commission website, the cookies employed by the Commission on the registrant's device for that purpose will be covered by the cookie policy of the Commission, which is available here: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/cookies\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/cookies_en).

When you visit the website(s) of the meeting/event and when you register, we will indicate in the specific privacy statement how long we will keep the browser history of your visit. This information will then be deleted. The collection, aggregation and anonymising operations are performed in the data centre of the European Commission under adequate security measures.

Cookies are stored by Europa Analytics, the corporate service which measures the effectiveness and efficiency of the European Commission's websites on EUROPA. More information is available in the Record of Processing DPR-EC-00685 (Europa Analytics).

Enabling these cookies is not strictly necessary for the website to work but it will provide you with a better browsing experience. You can delete or block these cookies, but if you do that, some features of the meeting/event website may not work as intended.

The cookie-related information is not used to identify data subjects personally and the pattern data is fully under the Commission's control. These cookies are not used for any purpose other than those described here.

Should you wish to opt your personal data out of our anonymised, aggregated statistics, you can do so on our cookies page. In particular, you can control and/or delete those cookies as you wish.

If the data controller employs cookies, which serve to ensure and improve the website experience, but are not listed among the Commission's cookies [please check: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/cookies\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/cookies_en)], then the data controller should identify and explain those cookies here.

## Third party IT tools, including Social Media

We may use third party IT tools to inform about and promote the meeting/event 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 can watch our videos, which we also upload to our website ([https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/farming/organic-farming/organic-action-plan/eu-organic-awards\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/farming/organic-farming/organic-action-plan/eu-organic-awards_en)) and social media network( twitter, facebook, instgram, youtube) pages.

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 read the relevant privacy policies of [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#) carefully before using them. 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, 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, on the spot by indicating a non-web streamed seat if requested.

You have consented to provide your personal data to the data controller for the present processing operation. You can withdraw your consent at any time by notifying the data controller to the following address: [agri-organic-action-plan@ec.europa.eu](mailto:agri-organic-action-plan@ec.europa.eu). The withdrawal of your consent 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.

## **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, [agri-organic-action-plan@ec.europa.eu](mailto:agri-organic-action-plan@ec.europa.eu).

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

You may contact the Data Protection Officer ([DATA-PROTECTION-OFFICER@ec.europa.eu](mailto: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](mailto: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.

<b>10. Where to find more detailed information?</b>
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The Commission Data Protection Officer (DPO) publishes the register of all processing operations on personal data by the European 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-1063.