



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

PROTECTION OF YOUR PERSONAL DATA

Processing operation: Application and selection process for the Global Covenant of Mayors Technical Support for Projects , January 2023 – September 2024

Data Controller: European Commission, Service for Foreign Policy Instruments, FPI.4 Industrialised Countries & Foreign Policy Support

Record reference: DPR-EC-1063

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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.

This privacy statement explains the reason for the processing of your personal data in the context of the Global Covenant of Mayors Technical Support for Projects, organised by the European Commission, Service for Foreign Policy Instruments, FPI.4 Industrialised Countries & Foreign Policy Support. 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 the specific program, organised by the services of the European Commission, is presented below.

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

Purpose of the processing operation: the European Commission collects and further processes your personal data to process the applications for the Global Covenant of Mayors Technical Support for Projects and to exchange information in relation to your application.

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 application and selection process of the Global Covenant of Mayors Technical Support for Projects are necessary for the management and functioning of the Commission, as mandated by the Treaties. Those provisions are in particular, based on Art. 1(2)(d) of the Regulation (EU) 234/2014 establishing a Partnership Instrument for cooperation with third countries (“Partnership Instrument Regulation”) as well as Article 11 of the Treaty on European Union and Article 15 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

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).

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

The following personal data may be processed in the context of the Global Covenant of Mayors Technical Support for Projects:

- Identification and contact details (name and last name, function/job title, name of division/department where you work, email address, phone number and signature); this information is used to process your application.

- The application form does not ask you to provide any data concerning racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, or trade union membership. In case you voluntarily include such data in the empty spaces to fill, they will not be taken into consideration during the selection process or at any point during the program.

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 Global Covenant of Mayors Technical Support for Projects (this includes the information given during the application process, before, during or after the program) will be kept for **five years** after the completion of the Global Covenant of Mayors Technical Support for Projects.

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 or of its contractors. The following contractor is used to assist the controller in the implementation of the processing operation 'Global Covenant of Mayors Technical Support for Projects in the context of the EU funded project PI/2020/418-375 Support to the Secretariat of the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy: DAI Global Austria GmbH & Co KG. 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 and by the confidentiality obligations deriving from the General Data Protection Regulation ('GDPR' - [Regulation \(EU\) 2016/679](#)). 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.

Third party IT tools, including Social Media

We may use third party IT tools to inform about and promote the Global Covenant of Mayors Technical Support for Projects 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.

International transfers

The Commission will not transfer your personal data to recipients in a third country or to an international organisation.

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.

For your complete information, the application form, with no personal data, will be shared with the Regional/National Covenant responsible for your city. More information about Regional/National Covenants can be found [here](#). The information shared with the Regional/National Covenant will only consist of:

- The city’s eligibility criteria,
- The project general information, except 1. Applicant’s general information,
- Criteria evaluation of the submitted project
- Additional documents (containing no personal data)

The Regional/National Covenant uses the shared information to assist the Global Covenant of Mayors’ secretariat in the evaluation of the applications for the Global Covenant of Mayors Technical Support for projects.

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 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 by sending an email to privacy@globalcovenantofmayors.eu and FPI-4@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.

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 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, Service for Foreign Policy Instruments, FPI.4 Industrialised Countries & Foreign Policy Support at FPI-4@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 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.