



European Research Council
Executive Agency

Established by the European Commission

Brussels, 2 October 2019.
ERCEA

SPECIFIC PRIVACY STATEMENT ERCEA Communication Survey of Communication Stakeholders

This statement concerns the processing operation called “Survey of Communication Stakeholders”. This processing requires the handling of personal data and is therefore subject to Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 (Data protection regulation)¹.

1. What personal information do we collect, from where and for what purpose?

The European Research Council Executive Agency (ERCEA) regularly conducts surveys to improve its work processes and contribute to the achievement of the ERC's mission and objectives.

This survey of ERCEA key communication partners, planned by the European Research Council External Communication Strategy 2019², will help the Agency to gauge the current level of knowledge and understanding of the ERC's funding opportunities in different countries. The survey will also collect stakeholders' views on ERC's communication initiatives to reach potential applicants to its grant schemes.

Feedback received will inform the ERC's communication strategy to reach potential applicants across Europe and internationally.

1.a) Personal data

The following personal data will be collected: respondents' residence country, current professional role and environment, opinions, suggestions and satisfaction rates.

If they agree to be contacted by the ERCEA for follow-up questions, respondents' names, telephone numbers and email addresses will be collected.

1.b) Purposes of the processing

The survey results will feed into the future external communication strategy of the ERC, in particular as concerns its objective to attract the best ideas and the brightest minds.

¹ 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, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 and Decision No 1247/2002/EC.

² ERC External Communication Strategy 2019 https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/ERC_CS2019.pdf

1.c) From where the data is collected

Respondents will be asked by email to answer a number of questions by means of the survey management system 'EUSurvey'³. The survey will be open for a defined period after which no further answers are possible. Data will subsequently be transferred to a database in form of an excel table for further analysis (including manual analysis).

Participation in the questionnaire is voluntary.

2. Who has access to your information and to whom is it disclosed?

The raw data and information gathered in this survey is accessible only to a limited number of members of ERCEA staff as well as members of the ERC Scientific Council on a need to know basis.

The results of this survey will only be disclosed in an aggregated format.

In addition, certain administrative details may be disclosed, in compliance with the relevant current legislation and established case law and on a temporary basis, to legislative or supervisory bodies of the ERCEA, as well as auditing bodies.

3. What are your rights?

You are entitled to access the personal data the ERCEA holds about you and to have them rectified where necessary. In certain cases, you also have the right to have your data erased, the right to object to processing or the right to data portability.

To exercise any of these rights, you should apply to the Communication Head of Unit, who is responsible for such processing (i.e. the Controller), by sending an e-mail specifying your request to the mailbox indicated in point 5. Please note that in some cases restrictions under Article 25 of the Data protection regulation may apply.

As this processing of your personal data is based on your consent [point (d) of Article 5(1) or point (a) of Article 10(2)], please note that you can withdraw it at any time, and this will have effect from the moment of your retraction. The processing based on your consent before its withdrawal will remain lawful.

4. How long do we keep your data?

Personal data will be deleted from ERCEA files at the latest 2 years after the launch of the survey, in line with the Common Commission Retention List (SEC(2019)900), to which the ERCEA adheres.

This includes survey's individual responses, as well as personal data of persons who agree to be contacted by the ERCEA for follow-up questions.

³ EUSurvey is the European Commission's official survey management tool: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/home/welcome>

Personal data of respondents will be deleted from EUSurvey as soon as the results of the survey have been analysed.

5. Contact information

If you would like to receive further information, you can contact the responsible person (the Controller), ERCEA Communication Head of Unit via the mailbox: ERC-INFO@ec.europa.eu.

The ERCEA Data Protection Officer is at your disposal for any clarification you might need on your rights under Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 at the following e-mail address: ERC-DATA-PROTECTION@ec.europa.eu

In case of conflict, complaints can be addressed to the European Data Protection Supervisor: EDPS@edps.europa.eu

6. Legal basis

The legal bases applying to these processing operations are the following:

- Article 5(1) of the Data protection regulation:

(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,

(d) the data subject has given consent to the processing of his or her personal data for one or more specific purposes⁴;

- Commission Decision 2007/134/EC establishing the ERC, as amended by Commission Decision (2011/12/EU) of 12 January 2011.

- Commission Decision C(2013)8915 of 12 December 2013 establishing the European Research Council, as last amended by Commission Decision C(2015)58/04 of 17 February 2015

- Commission Decision C(2013)9428 of 20 December 2013 on delegating powers to the European Research Council Executive Agency with a view to performance of tasks linked to the implementation of Union programmes in the field of frontier research comprising, in particular, implementation of appropriations entered in the general budget of the Union, as last amended by Commission Decision C(2014)9437 of 12 December 2014

- the ERC annual External Communication Strategy 2019⁵.

⁴ Participation in the questionnaire is voluntary.

⁵ https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/ERC_CS2019.pdf