Privacy notice - FRA consultations with civil society organisations under Art. 10 FRA Founding Regulation

The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) processes the personal data of a natural person in compliance with Regulation 2018/1725 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.

This privacy notice explains FRA’s policies and practices regarding its collection and use of your personal data, and sets forth your privacy rights. We recognise that information privacy is an ongoing responsibility, and we will update this notice where necessary.

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1. Why do we collect personal data?

The Agency consults civil society organisations active in the field of fundamental rights on specific topics, mostly through online questionnaires. We understand civil society organisations active in the field of fundamental rights as defined per FRA founding regulation (EC) No 168/2007, article 10 a (“non-governmental organisations dealing with human rights, trade unions and employer’s organisations, relevant social and professional organisations, churches, religious, philosophical and non-confessional organisations, universities and other qualified experts of European and international bodies and organisations). The purpose of these consultations is to receive and assess feedback and suggestions provided by organisations registered in the FRP database, and other relevant non-FRP registered civil society organisations on a specific topic/issue (e.g. FRA Annual Work Programme, FRA Annual Report, Charter of Fundamental Rights, civic space, etc.). We also inform FRA’s stakeholders, including the Fundamental Rights Platform, about the results of consultations through the FRA website, through a publication (or per email in the case of organisations registered in the FRP database).

The questionnaires may occasionally ask you to identify the organisation that you are part of. However, with this type of information you could theoretically become indirectly identifiable. Therefore, we are protecting your personal data.

2. What kind of personal data does the Agency collect?

In the frame of a consultation, the Agency collects your answers from the questionnaires, and occasionally also the name of your organisation and/or background information on the organisation such as level of activity, country, type of organisation, type of activity, approximate number of staff and volunteers. If this is the case, you will be informed that these questions will be asked in the introductory text of the questionnaire or invitation email.

In case you use the “Save and resume later” function of the online survey, you can save your answers by giving a login, password and email address, in order to resume the survey later. The address, login and password are securely stored.

3. How do we collect your personal data?

We collect only the information you provide us in several ways, including by filling in the online questionnaire. In an online consultation, cookies may be used. The introductory text of each questionnaire will inform you whether or not cookies will be used and if yes, their purpose and how you can disable/delete them. It will mention as well which other information is captured from the device used to respond to the survey, if this is the case.

The questionnaires may occasionally ask you to identify the organisation you are part of, and/or background information about your organisation such as level of activity, country, type of organisation, type of activity, approximate number of staff and volunteers. If this is the case, you will be informed that these questions will be asked in the introductory text of the questionnaire or invitation message.
4. Who is responsible for the processing your personal data?
The Agency is the legal entity responsible for the processing of your personal data and determines the objective of this processing activity. The Head of Institutional Cooperation and Networks Unit is responsible for this processing operation.

5. Which is the legal basis for this processing operation?
The consultations with civil society organisations under Art. 10 FRA Founding Regulation are necessary for the management and functioning of the Agency. Therefore, the processing is lawful under Article 5(a) of the Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725.

In addition, since the participation in the consultation is not mandatory, the processing of the personal data is also in accordance with Article 5(d) of Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725.

6. Who can see your data?
The data is accessible by the FRA staff members dealing with a specific consultation. In addition, data is accessible to the external company contracted by the Agency to provide related technical web support services. Only aggregated (anonymous) answers from the questionnaire will be available publicly (for instance on FRA’s website). The online survey application is hosted within the EU.

7. Do we share your data with other organisations?
Personal data is processed by the Agency only. In case designated partner organisations share a questionnaire with their own networks, they will be able to have access to the aggregated questionnaire answers (but not to any personal data). In case FRA needs to share your data with third parties, you will be notified to whom your personal data has been shared with.

8. Do we intend to transfer your personal data to Third Countries/International Organisations?
In case personal data is collected, it will be not transferred to Third Countries/International Organisations. However, anonymous, or anonymous and aggregated data may be made available to them.

9. When will we start the processing operation?
The processing operation starts when you are submitting your responses to a consultation questionnaire.

10. How long do we keep your data?
The Agency will keep your individual organisational responses for a period of one year after the closure of the survey. Anonymised aggregated data will be kept for a period of 5 years after the survey closure. After these dates, FRA will delete the data in question.
11. How can you control your data?
This is not applicable as no personal data is collected in this respect.
The online questionnaire may include questions related to the organisation but not linked to any individuals.
The Agency may be able to identify the response of an organisation only via matching the organisational related questions with the information provided by the organisation during and after the survey closure. If this is possible, the Agency maybe in a position to allow the organisation delete, modify or access the submitted data (point 11.2. a) to f) below). You can access, modify or delete your personal data by sending an email request to frp@fra.europa.eu. More details are provided below.

11.1. How valuable is your consent for us?
Since the participation in the consultation is not mandatory, the processing of the personal data is also in accordance with Article 5(d) of Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725. Accordingly, you have the right to withdraw consent at any time.

11.2. Your data protection rights
Under data protection law, you have rights we need to make you aware of these rights. The rights available to you depend on our reason for processing your information. You are not required to pay any charges for exercising your rights.

a. Can you access your data?
Yes, you have the right to access your data at any time and free of charge, as well as obtain copies of your data undergoing processing, by sending an email request to frp@fra.europa.eu until one year from the date you submitted your answers to a consultation (after this date, your personal data will be deleted). You have the right to receive confirmation whether or not we processed your personal data.

b. Can you modify your data?
You have the right to ask us to rectify your data you think is inaccurate or incomplete at any time by sending an email request to frp@fra.europa.eu. The Agency will address the request within one month from the receipt of your request.

c. Can you restrict us from processing your data?
Yes, you have the right to block the processing of your personal data at any time by sending an email request to frp@fra.europa.eu when you contest the accuracy of your personal data or when the Agency no longer needs the data for completing its tasks. You can also block the processing activity when the operation is unlawful, and you oppose to the deletion of the data. The Agency will address the request within one month from the receipt of your request.

d. Can you delete your data?
Yes, you have the right to ask us to delete your data at any time by sending an email request to frp@fra.europa.eu when the processing activity is unlawful. The Agency will address the request within one month from the receipt of your request.
e. Can you request the transfer of your data to a third party?  
This only applies to information you have given us. You have the right to ask that we transfer the information you gave us from one organization to another, or give it to you. The right only applies if we are processing information based on your consent or under, or in talks about entering into a contract and the processing is automated.

f. Do you have the right to object?  
Yes, you have the right to object at any time by sending an email request to frp@fra.europa.eu when you have legitimate reasons relating to your particular situation. Moreover, you will be informed before your information is disclosed for the first time to third parties, or before it is used on their behalf, for direct marketing purposes.  
The Agency will address your request within 15 working days from the receipt of the request.

g. Do we do automated decision making, including profiling?  
No.

12. What security measures are taken to safeguard your personal data?  
The Agency has several security controls in place to protect your personal data from unauthorized access, use or disclosure. We keep your data stored on computer systems with limited access to a specified audience only.

13. What can you do in the event of a problem?  
a) The first step is to notify the Agency by sending an email to frp@fra.europa.eu and ask us to take action.

b) The second step, if you obtain no reply from us or if you are not satisfied with it, contact our data protection officer (DPO) at dpo@fra.europa.eu.

c) At any time, you can lodge a complaint with the EDPS at http://www.edps.europa.eu, who will examine your request and adopt the necessary measures.

14. How do we update our privacy notice?  
We keep our privacy notice under regular review to make sure it is up to date and accurate.

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