ECSEL JOINT UNDERTAKING – ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS PRIVACY POLICY

The ECSEL JU, like other EU institutions, bodies, agencies and offices (EU institutions), established by Council Regulation (EU) No 561/2014 of 6 May 2014 (hereinafter “Regulation”), may process your personal data also known as personal information for a number of reasons, from dealing with public requests for information, staff matters, procurement contracts, grant agreements etc.

The ECSEL JU is committed to user privacy. This privacy statement concerns the requests regarding access to documents in accordance with Regulation (EC) 1049/2001.

Although you can browse through most of the pages of our website without giving any information about yourself, in some cases, personal information is required in order to provide the e-services you request, such as registration for participation in events organised by the ECSEL JU, or signing up for its newsletter.

The pages that require such information treat it according to the policy described in Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 (Regulation on the processing of personal data by the Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies).

In this respect:

- for each e-service, the purposes and means of the processing of personal data are specified in their corresponding privacy statement;
- within the ECSEL JU, the Data Protection Officer ensures that the provisions of the Regulation are applied and advises controllers on fulfilling their obligations;
- as for all the institutions, the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) will act as an independent supervisory authority.

This policy is based on the above-mentioned Regulation. It may be modified by the ECSEL JU from time to time, on its own initiative or on the advice of the EDPS.

The ECSEL JU’s website may provide links to third-party sites. Since we do not control them, we encourage you to review their privacy policies.

1 - WHICH PERSONAL DATA DO WE PROCESS?

1.1 - When you file a request, we process all information included in the official request form, such as:

- Identity information you provide us with, such as your first name and last name and organization;
- Contact details you provide us with, such as your e-mail address and postal address;
- Any other personal data you provide us with (non-compulsory);
1.2 - We receive most of your personal data directly from you. If we receive personal data about you from a third party, we will inform you about this or ask the third party to inform you about this.

2 - WHY DO WE PROCESS YOUR PERSONAL DATA AND WHAT IS THE LEGAL BASIS FOR THIS?

2.1 - The purposes and legal bases justifying the processing operations carried out by the ECSEL JU vary. Our processing operations may be based on:

- Your consent;
- A contract or grant agreement with you, in order to perform that contract or in order to take steps prior to concluding a bilateral agreement with you;
- A legal obligation we must comply with;
- The public interest.

2.2 - We process your personal data to respond to your request to perform a task carried out in the public interest (in particular art. 16 of the Regulation) and to comply with legal obligations (in particular under Regulation (EC) 1049/2001) that we have to comply with, or to comply with any reasonable request from competent law enforcement agents or representatives, judicial authorities, governmental agencies or bodies, including the EDPS, or to transfer your personal data to the police or the judicial authorities upon our own initiative as evidence or if we have justified suspicions of an unlawful act or crime committed by you through your use of our website, our social media channels or other communication channels. For these purposes, we rely on a legal obligation that we have to comply with.

3 - WHOM DO WE SHARE YOUR PERSONAL DATA WITH?

3.1 - We may share your personal data with third parties if necessary to comply with our request. Third parties are allowed to process your personal data on our behalf on our explicit written instruction, only. We ensure that third parties are committed to observing the safety and integrity of your personal data.

3.2 - We may be legally obliged to share your personal data with competent law enforcement agents or representatives, judicial authorities, governmental agencies or bodies.

3.3 - We do not send your personal data in an identifiable manner to any other third party than the ones mentioned in Articles 3.1 and 3.2 without your explicit consent to do so. However, we may send anonymised data to other organisations that may use those data for improving our activities or services.

4 - WHERE DO WE PROCESS YOUR PERSONAL DATA?

4.1 - In principle, we process your personal data within the European Economic Area (EEA). In order to process your personal data for the purposes outlined in Article 2 above, we may also transfer your personal data to third parties who process on our behalf outside the EEA. Each third party outside the EEA that processes your personal data will be bound to observe adequate safeguards with regard to the processing of your personal data.
5 - WHAT QUALITY ASSURANCES CAN BE EXPECTED?

5.1 - We do our utmost to process only those personal data which are necessary to achieve the purposes listed under Article 2 above.

5.2 - Your personal data are only processed for as long as needed to achieve the purposes listed under Article 2 above. In particular, your personal data will not be kept longer than 5 years after closure of the access procedure. We will delete your personal data when they are no longer necessary for the purposes outlined in Article 2 above, unless there is:

- An overriding interest of the Joint Undertaking, or any other third party, in keeping your personal data identifiable, or;
- A legal or regulatory obligation or a judicial or administrative order that prevents us from deleting them.

5.3 - We will take appropriate technical and organisational measures to keep your personal data safe from unauthorised access or theft as well as accidental loss, tampering or destruction. Access by our personnel or third parties’ personnel will only be on a need-to-know basis and be subject to strict confidentiality obligations.

6 - WHAT ARE YOUR RIGHTS?

6.1 - You have the right to request access to all personal data processed by us pertaining to you.

6.2 - You have the right to rectification, i.e. to ask that any personal data pertaining to you that are inaccurate, be corrected.

6.3 - You have the right to withdraw your consent for processing of your personal data.

6.4 - You have the right to erasure, i.e. to request that personal data pertaining to you be deleted if these data are no longer required in the light of the purposes outlined in Article 2 above or if you withdraw your consent for processing them.

6.5 - You have the right to restriction instead of deletion, i.e. to request that we limit the processing of your personal data.

6.6 - You have the right to object to the processing of personal data if the processing by us is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest, unless if we demonstrate compelling legitimate grounds which override your interests, rights and freedoms or for the establishment, exercise or defense of legal claims.

6.7 - You have the right to data portability, i.e. to receive from us in a structured, commonly-used and machine-readable format all personal data you have provided to us if the processing is based on your consent or a contract with you and the processing is carried out by automated means.

6.8 - In light of article 25(1) of the EUI-GDPR as implemented in the Governing Board Decision 2020.143, we may restrict some of the above rights in duly justified cases. These justified cases entail processing operations in the performance of:
• administrative inquiries;
• disciplinary proceedings;
• preliminary activities related to cases of potential irregularities deported to OLAF;
• whistleblowing procedures;
• procedures of harassment;
• processing internal and external complaints;
• internal audits;
• investigations carried out by the Data Protection Officer; or
• security investigations.

These situations can create the necessity of a restriction on the right to information, the right of access to your processed data, or the right of rectification. The restriction shall continue to apply as long as the reasons justifying it remain applicable.

6.9 - If you wish to submit a request to exercise one or more of the rights listed above, you can contact us by sending an e-mail to dpo@ecsel.europa.eu. An e-mail requesting to exercise a right will not be construed as consent with the processing of your personal data beyond what is required for handling your request.